

Trent Valley Darts League

Weekly Report – Week 5 – 10th November

By Martin Gallimore
TVDL Secretary

The league season resumed after a break for the first competition of the winter season. The Premier League's Andy Brown and Division Two's Dean Wilkins teamed up to become the new Blind Draw Pairs Champions after another tremendous night at the Anchor. The return to League competition provided a far less than average total of tons scored, and not just because the most prolific scorers were having a week off with a bye.

The Joiners Arms are enjoying their best ever start to a Premier League Season and remain unbeaten in their first three games. Two wins and a draw put them into third position going into their game with the Wheel Inn 'A' who are yet to put a point on the board. The Joiners started with an early lead when the first doubles game went the distance and Ant Griffiths & Graham Cowley came out on top against James Wigley & Ray Gould. The second game also went the distance but this time it was the Wheel that won the odd leg through Tony Glover & Frank Davis. The Wheel then took the lead through Frank Davis as he won in four legs against Ant Griffiths but Graham Cowley pulled the Joiners level again as he hit 14 tons, including a maximum, and won three of the four legs from James Wigley. Rob Frisby had a 127 checkout and won by the same scoreline against Ray Gould and then yet another 3-1 game was won by Ben Smith who had a 110 checkout as he defeated Tony Glover. The match finished 4-2 for the Joiners and they stay secure in fourth place.

With the Anchor Inn 'A' sitting the week out with a bye, the Loaf & Cheese were guaranteed to stay on top of the table. They played host to the Victoria Inn 'C' hoping to maintain their 100% record and open up a gap at the top. The first doubles game proved that it wasn't going to be all plain sailing for the Loaf as they lost in straight legs, Mark James & Glen Cullen getting the better of Paul Bailey & Rick Sudale. The second game went to three legs and the Vic came out on top again as Martin MacAulay & Keith Osman won the odd leg from George Beckett & Stuart Lilley. Rick Sudale pulled a game back for the Loaf with a straight leg win over Mark James but Keith Osman (100 c/o) restored the Vic's lead with a 3-0 win over George Beckett. Paul Bailey and Glen Cullen fought out a five leg contest in the third singles with the former failing to save the game for the Loaf. Russ Mason had a four leg win over Martin MacAulay in the final game but was purely a consolation for the Loaf as they suffered their first loss of the season.

The Rising Sun Willington travelled to Anglesey Road to take on the New Talbot 'A'. Both the doubles games went to three legs. The first was taken by the Talbot's Tim Broadhurst & Allan Martin and the second by the Rising Sun's Chris Jacob & Roy Marshall. Steve Redfern put the Talbot ahead when he got his revenge for his doubles defeat by taking three of the four legs against Roy Marshall. Chris Jacob pulled the Sun level again when he beat Paul Redfern and then Mark Walker had the same 3-1 scoreline against Allan Martin to put the Sun ahead. Tim Broadhurst's 3-0 win over Nathan Marshall in the final game was enough to see that the points were shared.

The Victoria Inn 'B' moved into fourth place following their victory over the New Talbot 'B'. Steve & Rich Shenton and Cliff Biggs & Colin Smith had 2-0 victories for the Vic in the doubles over Roy Hughes & Barry Keable and Pete Wright & Terry Smith. Steve Shenton then had a 3-1 win over Terry Smith to put the Vic 3-0 up. Barry Keable had a 14 dart leg in his 3-1 win over Cliff Biggs to give the Talbot the glimmer of a hope for a point but Rich Shenton took just three legs in his game against Royston Hughes to put that idea to rest. Pete Wright finished the night off for the Talbot with a five leg win over Colin Smith.

An eventful game between the Dart Inn and the Rising Sun Woodville saw the Dart jump to the top of Division One pending a result from the Waterloo A. Martin Moreton hit a maximum and teamed up with Ady Asprey in the first doubles to take an early lead following their 2-0 win over Lee Ward & Dennis Taylor. Ady Gibbs & Nas Lee couldn't consolidate on the lead and lost out by the odd leg to Mick Taylor & Dave Bowman. Nas Lee got his win in the first singles. The 3-0 win over Dennis Taylor included a 105 checkout. Martin Moreton then weighed in with the Dart's highest checkout of the season so far, 130, as he allowed Dave Bowman just a single leg. Ady Asprey had a 15 dart leg and a 104 checkout as he put the game beyond the away team's reach with a straight leg win over Mick Taylor. Lee Ward hit a 100 checkout for the Sun as he won a consolation game in three legs against Chris Moreton.

The pairing of Andy Doughty & Alan Champion got the Anchor under way against Stretton Social Club. Ady Potts & Adam Billings on the end of a 2-1 defeat by the seasoned campaigners. Ady Billings & Daz Potts pulled it level with a two leg win over Colin Hodgett & Rob Lee. Stretton went ahead following the first singles game when Adam Billings (13 tons) needed all five legs to see off Andy Doughty despite the Anchor landlord finishing one leg in 16 darts. Daz Potts hit 15 tons on the night, two of them maximums, but lost out in the deciding leg to Colin Hodgett. Ady Billings had a 100 checkout and an 18 dart leg as he overcame Rob Lee in four legs. Alan Champion (96 checkout) rescued a draw for the Anchor when he beat Ady Potts in the final game of the night in four legs.

Both the Great Northern 'A' and the Crown 'A' have struggled find their legs so far this season. The Northern have won one and drawn one in their first four games but the Crown have lost every one. On their home board the Northern got the upper hand in the doubles by taking both in straight legs. Nigel Hamnett & Steve Upton and Graham Astbury & Chris Tucker getting the better of Tracey Sherratt & Derek Adams and Simon Oakley & Richard Butcher. Steve Ffrench made it 3-0 with a 3-1 win over Derek Adams and Chris Tucker made it 4-0 with a five leg win over Simon Oakley. With the game already won, Steve Upton went on to make it 5-0 with a straight leg win over Tracey Sherratt and Nigel Hamnett's five leg win over Richard Butcher gave the Northern a 6-0 victory.

Another team struggling to get into winning ways is the New Inn 'A'. After being relegated from the Premier League the Stapenhill crew have won just one of their four games. Their hosts this week and fellow relegation sufferers, the Hawk & Buckle, have fared slightly better despite finding it difficult to field a full team for most of the season to date. The Hawk got the better start by taking both doubles games but the New Inn pushed them to a deciding leg in each. Paul Harrison & Chris Walker and Tony Redfern & Clive Gregory hitting the decisive doubles ahead of Karl Whetton & Gary Vernon and Phil Maddocks & Phil Boam. Clive Gregory's 3-0 win over Karl Whetton gave the Hawk a minimum of a point. Phil Boam prevented the Hawk from getting the second point by beating Tony Redfern in four legs. Phil Maddocks had a five leg win over Chris Walker which gave Gary Vernon his opportunity to complete a fabulous comeback with his 3-0 beating of Paul Harrison.

The Crown B started the week on top of Division Two and had to entertain the third place team. The Hollybush are unbeaten but have dropped two points, both in games on their home board. Shane Donkin & Rex Evans won the opening doubles for the Crown with a 2-1 win over Simon Bryant & N Hall. Chris Fleeman & Mark Williams put the Crown 2-0 ahead when they also win in three legs, Roy Fern & John Haywood their victims. John Haywood hit 20 tons on the night and got a game back for the Hollybush but Chris Fleeman pushed him all the way to the final leg. Roy Fern levelled the score when he took just two legs to defeat John Patterson. Shane Donkin restored the lead for the Crown when he beat Simon Bryant tot he double in the final leg. Paul Clarke maintained his 100% record in the singles with his fifth win when he beat R Hutchinson 2-0 to give the Crown a 4-2 win.

The Bulls Head travelled across the Trent to Barton to take on the Red Lion with a 100% record. The Red Lion started the season as one of the favourites to win promotion after narrowly missing out last season. The Bulls Head failed to win either of the doubles games as the Red Lion got to the double first in the deciding legs of each. Andy Hough & Craig Osbourne getting the better of Martin Gallimore & Steve Moreton and then Neil Farr & Dean Wilkins beat Steve Smith & Danny Edwards. Steve Moreton played his first singles game of the season and failed to hit a winning double as Any Hough came out a 2-0 winner. Matt Taylor got a mark on the board for the Bull with his 2-0 win over Lee Wilkins but brother Dean secured the points for the Red Lion by taking just two legs to beat Danny Edwards, despite the Bulls Head captain hitting his third maximum of the season. Steve Watson finished off a 5-1 win for the home team when he got the deciding leg against Martin Gallimore.

The unfortunate Waterloo 'B' were unable to field a full side when the Star & Garter 'A' paid a visit. After giving away one game of doubles, Nigel Lakin & John Page won the other with a 2-0 win over Mark Thompson & John Davies. The first game of singles went to the Star by default and the next was won by Tony Pellecchia when he had a straight leg win over Pete Rookyard. Ali Bates made it 4-1 with a two leg win over Nigel Lakin and Gareth Edwards won in three legs to complete the 5-1 win for the Star and move them up into third place.

The Roebuck continue to struggle towards the bottom of the table after failing to gain a point so far this season. Their visitors the Victoria Inn 'A' have had a win, a loss and a draw. It was the Roebuck that started in the front foot by taking the first doubles game in two legs. Steve Bunn hit a 68 checkout when he teamed up with Lee O'Brien to be the victors over Martin Lay & John Stewart. The lead lasted only until the next game when Joe Clarke & Tim Allen were beaten to the double in the deciding leg by John Hawksworth & Gordon McLoughlin. Tris Vernon failed to hit a winning double in his game with Martin Lay and Tom Allen lost by he same 2-0 score line to Gordon McLoughlin. John Hawksworth sealed the win for the Vic with another 2-0 game, this time Steve Bunn the unlucky loser. Lee O'Brien' three leg victory against Maggie McLoughlin in the final leg came too late to change the outcome.

Division Three leaders the Black Horse 'B' were at home to the unbeaten Jubilee who occupy the second place spot. Pete & Dave Goddard lost out by the odd leg to Mark Goddard & P Seagrave in the opening doubles but Jason Boam & Mick Cartwright won their deciding leg against S Boam & D Worthington to make it all square going into the doubles. Mick Cartwright lost both legs to S Boam in the first singles but Dave Goddard won the next two against D Worthington to pull the Black Horse level again. Jason Boam and P Seagrave fought out a three leg game ion the third singles and it was the Stanton Road captain that came out on top. Pete Goddard won one of the three legs against A Kerr but it was the Jubilee anchorman that came out on top to end the game in a draw.

Third placed Crescent travelled out to Repton to take on the British Legion knowing a win would lift them into at least second place and Eric Fordham & Graham Dainty set them on their way with a straight leg win over Dave Astle & Ben Elson. Chris Keating & Dale Spedding could not extend the lead as Steve Hall & Andy Astle reversed the score from the previous doubles. Eric Fordham played his captain's role and won the first singles game in three legs from Steve Frost. Dale Spedding hit a maximum and took both legs from Steve Frost in the second singles. Chris Keating couldn't get the decisive leg as Martyn Groom delayed the defeat and put the Legion within sight of a draw. However, Graham Dainty's 2-0 win over Ben Elson was enough to get the win for the Crescent.

The New Inn 'B' team became South Stapenhill Social Club when they made the move over to the 'Cabbage' Club when the New Inn closed. Their first home game was to the Great Northern 'B' and it turned out to be far from a winning start. Pat Holmes & Sue Dudgeon lost by the odd leg to Sam Wesson & Ed Hamnett and the Lin Walker and Evelyn Thomas lost both legs to Lisa Smith & Jean Holmes. Sue Dudgeon's first singles game of the season ended with a 2-0 reversal at the hands of Rob Ellerington. Evelyn Thomas won just a single leg in her game with Ed Hamnett. Pat Holmes lost out by the odd leg to Sam Wesson and Lin Walker lost both legs against James Last. The 6-0 win for the Northern moved them up into third place just a single point behind the leaders.

Two draws for the Gate had moved them off the bottom of the table but the Wheel Inn 'C' proved too stern a test for them when they went on their travels to Midway. Sue & Rocky Hurst and Joe & Nick Pitt won the doubles in straight legs for the Wheel against Danny Johnson & Chris Maher and Tracey Charles & Andy Hornby. Nick Pitt put the Wheel 3-0 up when he beat Danny Johnson 2-1. Sue Hurst's two leg game provided a maximum and a 19 dart leg as Chris Maher suffered a rare defeat. Kev Mayer made it 5-0 to the Wheel with a straight leg win over Andy Hornby and Joe Pitt finalised the 6-0 win for the Wheel when he beat Tracey Charles 2-0.

	100	140	180	100+	140+	Total Tons	Total Legs	Tons per Leg
Premier	157	62	1	57	3	280	83	3.37
One	130	37	4	41	0	212	83	2.55
Two	76	6	1	29	1	113	54	2.09
Three	52	6	2	23	0	83	58	1.43
Total	415	111	8	150	4	688	278	2.47

Premier

Joiners Arms	4 (13) - 2 (9)	Wheel Inn 'A'
Loaf & Cheese	2 (9) - 4 (11)	Victoria Inn 'C'
New Talbot 'A'	3 (11) - 3 (10)	Rising Sun Willington
Old Talbot	0 - 0	New Inn Tutbury
Victoria Inn 'B'	4 (13) - 2 (7)	New Talbot 'B'

One

Anchor Inn 'C'	3 (11) - 3 (12)	Stretton Social Club
Dart Inn	4 (12) - 2 (6)	Rising Sun Woodville
Great Northern 'A'	6 (16) - 0 (5)	The Crown 'A'
Hawk & Buckle	3 (10) - 3 (11)	New Inn 'A'

Wheel Inn 'B'	0 - 0	Waterloo 'A'
Two		
New Talbot 'C'	0 - 0	The Grange
Red Lion Barton	5 (10) - 1 (5)	Bulls Head
Roebuck Hotel	2 (5) - 4 (9)	Victoria Inn 'A'
The Crown 'B'	4 (9) - 2 (7)	Hollybush
Waterloo 'B'	1 (3) - 5 (10)	Star and Garter 'A'
Three		
Black Horse 'B'	3 (8) - 3 (8)	Jubilee
Repton British Legion	2 (5) - 4 (9)	Crescent
South Stapenhill S.C.	0 (3) - 6 (12)	Great Northern 'B'
Star and Garter 'B'	0 - 0	Railway Inn
Wheel Inn 'C'	6 (12) - 0 (1)	Gate Inn

Premier Division

Loaf & Cheese	5	4	0	1	23	7	68	32	36	8
Anchor Inn 'A'	4	4	0	0	19	5	56	24	32	8
Joiners Arms	4	3	1	0	19	5	56	29	27	7
Victoria Inn 'B'	5	2	2	1	18	12	63	45	18	6
Victoria Inn 'C'	3	2	1	0	11	7	35	29	6	5
Rising Sun Willington	4	1	2	1	11	13	41	49	-8	4
New Talbot 'A'	5	0	3	2	13	17	51	54	-3	3
New Talbot 'B'	4	1	0	3	8	16	32	54	-22	2
Old Talbot	4	0	2	2	6	18	29	56	-27	2
New Inn Tutbury	4	0	1	3	3	21	19	60	-41	1
Wheel Inn 'A'	4	0	0	4	7	17	34	52	-18	0

Division One

Dart Inn	5	3	1	1	16	14	54	52	2	7
Black Horse 'A'	4	3	0	1	15	9	48	36	12	6
Waterloo 'A'	3	3	0	0	12	6	38	27	11	6
Hawk & Buckle	5	2	2	1	17	13	51	45	6	6
Great Northern 'A'	5	2	1	2	17	13	53	50	3	5
Rising Sun Woodville	4	2	1	1	15	9	45	36	9	5
New Inn 'A'	5	1	3	1	15	15	56	47	9	5
Stretton Social Club	5	1	3	1	15	15	52	49	3	5
Anchor Inn 'C'	4	1	1	2	12	12	44	45	-1	3
The Crown 'A'	5	0	0	5	6	24	34	71	-37	0
Wheel Inn 'B'	3	0	0	3	4	14	21	38	-17	0

Division Two

The Crown 'B'	5	4	0	1	18	12	41	32	9	8
Red Lion Barton	5	3	1	1	21	9	44	30	14	7
Star and Garter 'A'	4	3	0	1	17	7	38	22	16	6
Bulls Head	4	3	0	1	13	11	32	26	6	6
Hollybush	5	2	2	1	16	14	41	34	7	6
Victoria Inn 'A'	4	2	1	1	12	12	27	27	0	5
Plough Inn	4	1	1	2	12	12	27	27	0	3
The Grange	3	1	0	2	5	13	17	26	-9	2
New Talbot 'C'	3	0	1	2	6	12	17	29	-12	1
Roebuck Hotel	4	0	0	4	7	17	19	36	-17	0
Waterloo 'B'	3	0	0	3	5	13	13	27	-14	0

Division Three

Black Horse 'B'	5	3	1	1	18	12	43	32	11	7
Crescent	4	3	1	0	16	8	35	23	12	7
Great Northern 'B'	5	3	0	2	19	11	41	31	10	6
Wheel Inn 'C'	4	3	0	1	16	8	34	22	12	6
Jubilee	4	2	2	0	17	7	39	19	20	6
Repton British Legion	5	1	2	2	14	16	33	37	-4	4
Railway Inn	4	1	1	2	9	15	24	33	-9	3
Duke of York	4	1	0	3	8	16	22	35	-13	2
South Stapenhill S.C.	3	1	0	2	6	12	16	25	-9	2
Gate Inn	5	0	2	3	9	21	23	45	-22	2
Star and Garter 'B'	3	0	1	2	6	12	19	27	-8	1