

Knockout 2009 – Match Details

08 October 2009 16:21:52

Preliminary Round

Played 2nd July 2009

Brentwood 2	R1	R2	Thurrock
John Thompson (W, B)	½-½	1-0	Malcolm Crane (B, W)
Greg McPherson	0-1	½-½	Len Whittaker
David D'Cruz	½-½	0-1	Robin Smith
Russell Fisher	½-½	0-1	Rebecca Swestun
Dean Ellis	1-0	1-0	Andy Swestun
Peter Hughes	0-1	0-1	John Ellis
Total 5	2½-3½	2½-3½	7 Total

Round 1

Played 15th July 2009

Writtle	R1	R2	Upminster
Ivor Smith (W, B)	½-½	1-0	Robert Gill (B, W)
David Millward	1-0	½-½	Les Crane
Robin Slade	½-½	½-½	Andy Robertson
Kerry Chilvers	½-½	½-½	Jim Howson
Robert Rodie	½-½	1-0	Aidan Corish
Andrew Forrester	0-1	0-1	David Brock
Total 6½	3-3	3½-2½	5½ Total

Report by Ivor Smith

Russell White and John Moore had to withdraw at short notice due to illness which meant that Upminster, with a grading advantage, started this match as slight favourites. This was confirmed when Writtle were fortunate to escape with a first round 3-3 draw when Les Crane blundered badly in what appeared to be a winning position. More misfortune for Upminster followed in round 2 when the result of the match came down to the outcome of the board 1 game. Robert Gill who had played outstandingly well in both his games managed to find the only losing move in a position where he was ahead in material terms and indeed on the clock. A lucky escape for Writtle.

Second semi-final overleaf...

Played 21st July 2009

Wanstead & Woodford	R1	R2	Roding & Loughton
Ian Hunnable (W, B)	½-½	1-0	David Faulkner (B, W)
Mark Murrell (sub)	0-1	1-0	Oliver Finnegan
David Spearman	1-0	1-0	Ken Groce
Terry Whitton	1-0	1-0	Alistair Clark
Paul Barclay	0-1	1-0	John Campbell
Steve Gilmour	1-0	1-0	Simon Moth
Total 9½	3½-2½	6-0	2½ Total

Report by Ian Hunnable

The home side had one hiccup when Larry Marden failed to appear and Mark Murrell was put in on Board 2 as the match started. The first round gave the impression that Wanstead had a fight on their hands, despite being the higher graded side. Indeed, scores might have been level as Ian Hunnable, having captured a poisoned piece should have lost, but was rescued by the clock when down to a lone king.

The second round reflected Wanstead's half time team talk when the answer to the question "what's the plan?" was "must do better". David Spearman, Terry Whitton and Steve Gilmour each completed a double, Mark Murrell and Paul Barclay both reversed their first round results. This left David Faulkner who, having defended resourcefully against Hunnable's lasting initiative, then benefited from another error from the home player who carelessly shed a piece. Faulkner, however, had little time left and was unlikely to have survived the clock so resigned; he might have had two wins, but ended with just a draw. Harsh, but it completed a 6-0 second round for the visitors and an overall win by 9½-2½.

Played 30th July 2009

Bd	Brentwood	R1	R2	Ilford
1	Bob Hammond (W, B)	0-1	0-1	John Hodgson (B, W)
2	David Lewis (sub) - R1	0-1		Tom Barton - R1
2	Malcolm Kingsley - R2		0-1	Tom Barton - R2
3	Rob Davies	½-½	0-1	Ron Franklin
4	Chris Phillips	0-1	1-0	Jeff Page
5	Colin Tyrell - R1	½-½		George Gooding - R1
5	Jean-Louis Fargier - R2		0-1	George Gooding - R2
6	Jean-Louis Fargier - R1	1-0		Default R1
6	Colin Tyrell - R2		1-0	Default R2
	Total 4	2-4	2-4	8 Total

Report based on comments from Gavin Strachan

Brentwood "got stuffed", but apparently it could have been worse.

Ilford defaulted the bottom board as their player had swine flu, so Brentwood alternated Colin and Jean Louis to take the bottom board default. Also Malcolm Kingsley was very late for R1 (he

thought it was an 8.00 pm start) so Brentwood drafted in David Lewis as a R1 sub. Malcolm duly arrived played in the second game, without improving the result!

Chris Phillips managed a magnificent win in the second round against Jef Page, and Colin and Rob, both managed draws in the first round.

Iford won both rounds 4-2 for an overall win by 8-4.

Played 4th August 2009

Thurrock	R1	R1	Barking
David Haydon (W, B)	1-0	½-½	David Sands (B, W)
David Payne	0-1	0-1	Jeff Goldberg
Ian Woodward	½-½	½-½	Bill Stirling
Ashley Haydon	0-1	0-1	John White
Len Whittaker	0-1	0-1	Ray Purse
Andrew Offord	1-0	½-½	Ken Clow
Total 4	2½-3½	1½-4½	8 Total

Report by John White

Having exchanged team lists, it was clear that with the exception of board 1 (where any possible result was equally likely), Barking held a significant grading advantage on the remaining boards.

Barking took an early 2-0 lead on account of quick wins on boards 4 and 5 but Thurrock fought back to leave themselves only a point behind - their win on board 6 definitely not being in my script.

As the Barking captain, at half-time I was slightly worried as the Barking board 2 had been in serious danger of losing and the scores would have been reversed had this happened.

However, normal service was resumed in round 2 and Barking won by a more convincing margin.

Semi-Finals

Played 25th August 2009

Wanstead	R1	R2	Writtle *
Ian Hunnable (W, B)	0-1	½-½	Ivan Myall (B, W)
David Spearman	1-0	½-½	John Moore
Larry Marden	0-1	0-1	Ivor Smith
Gerry Hayes	1-0	½-½	David Millward
Terry Whitton	0-1	1-0	Robin Slade
Mark Murrell	½-½	1-0	Andrew Forrester
<i>(Board count 17) Total 6</i>	<i>2½-3½</i>	<i>3½-2½</i>	<i>6 Total (Board count 12)</i>

* Writtle win on board count

Comment by Ian Hunnable

Writtle have reached the Final of the Rapidplay Knockout with a board count win away to Wanstead. Matches between Writtle and Wanstead are always close and this one was no exception. The teams shared one round each, by the same score, but Writtle won on board count.

The first round was notable for all the wins being with black, except Board 6 which was drawn. Since Wanstead were White on odds, this gave Writtle a narrow first round lead.

In the second round, Wanstead allowed Writtle only one win, but won only two themselves. This levelled the scores, but the fact that Wanstead's wins came on the bottom two boards, spelled a board count win to Writtle.

Congratulations to Writtle who await the winners of Ilford v Barking.

Played 7th September 2009

Ilford	R1	R2	Barking
Andrew Lewis (W, B)	0-1	0-1	David Sands (B, W)
Syd Kalinsky	0-1	0-1	Jeff Goldberg
Tom Barton	0-1	½-½	Bill Stirling
Jason Klimach	0-1	1-0	John White
Jef Page	0-1	1-0	Colin Ramage
Anthony Kent	1-0	½-½	Ken Clow
Total 4	1-5	3-3	8 Total

Report by John White

An exchange of team lists revealed that Barking had a grading advantage on all boards except board 1. However, the grades were close enough that if Barking did not perform to their best, Ilford could emerge as victors.

Barking took a 5-1 lead in Round 1 with Ilford managing to claw back a point on board 6 but it still meant Ilford had a hard task ahead of them if they were to turn things around as Barking only needed a single point from the top 5 boards.

In round 2, by the time Ilford managed to pull back points with wins on boards 4 and 5, Barking had scored more than enough points elsewhere. The last game to finish was on board 1 and Barking somehow managed to win this to deny Ilford the consolation of winning round 2.

So Barking play Writtle in the Final.

Final

Played 7th September 2009

Barking	R1	R2	Writtle
David Sands (B, W)	1-0	1-0	Russell White (W, B)
Jeff Goldberg	1-0	1-0	Ivan Myall
John White	1-0	½-½	Ivor Smith
Bill Stirling	½-½	½-½	John Moore
Colin Ramage	½-½	½-½	David Millward
Ray Purse	0-1	1-0	Kerry Chilvers
Total 8½	4-2	4½-1½	3½ Total

Report by John White

Before this match, none of the Barking squad remember beating Writtle in a match when the result affected the tournament result!

The Barking captain, having won his game, was pleased to see that his team had secured a clear lead at half-time.

In Round 2, board 5 was an early draw. The Barking captain on board 3, forced his Writtle counterpart to take a draw by perpetual check. This meant that if the scores were tied, Barking were almost guaranteed to win on board count.

Not long after, Ray Purse got his revenge when his strong king-side pressure led to a winning rook sacrifice. With the match decided, Bill Stirling drew and this meant Barking would no longer need to rely on a tie-break.

Jeff Goldberg was a pawn up but over 12 minutes behind on the clock at one point but had enough time to win. David Sands also managed to do the double against strong opposition.