



# Hertfordshire Bowls

## Johns Trophy 2019

### Johns Trophy vs Norfolk At Wymondham Dell BC on Saturday 22nd June at 13.30hrs

A nice smooth and trouble-free coach journey saw the squad and spectators arrive two hours before the match time and whether this was a contributing factor or not, it certainly didn't do the team any harm. Our opponents, Norfolk, had had a trouble free first away game against Bedfordshire winning 19-3 so they were not going to be pushovers. The team starting quickly and won five of the six first ends meaning an instant 7-2 start – a 22 shot turnaround from the Leicestershire game.....and things continued to improve.

A slight stumble, not unsurprising, after the euphoria of the first end, saw the first session (5 ends) being pretty even. It was then that the Hertfordshire ladies showed their true worth and ends 6 – 15 were sublime and saw the team move to a 37 shot advantage. Not unusually, the wobble came and ends 16 – 18 saw the advantage drop to just 19. Previous seasons might have seen a further collapse and panic setting in but these girls, along with the raucous support from the travelling Barmy Army, dug in and ran out a fantastic 17 shot win.

Alison's rink continues to be a foundation for success, taking the newly coveted "highest winning rink" prize for the second game, steaming ahead and staying there. Mavis's rink pushed them hard for that title, just missing out by one shot. They also got an early lead and managed the game well despite losing nine shots in four consecutive ends. The other rinks were generally a lot closer and to have two rinks well out in front is confidence building for the others. Dymphna's rink bounced back from Leicestershire with a very hard fought and well deserved win. Their five consecutive winning ends moved the score from 12-12 to 21-12 and they hung on impressively to win by two. Pat's rink was nip and tuck when, losing 4-7 after eight ends, winning five of the next six ends moved the score to 19-8 and game management did the rest. Rachel's rink had a narrow loss but the whole team did not get their just deserts. On another day they would have probably been the highest winning rink but the opposing skip kept saving brilliantly. However, in the context of the game, this was a great result. Despite winning the first end, Sue's rink found themselves down 14-3 after five ends. It would have been so easy to just crumble but anyone who knows Sue would not be at all surprised to see her back to within one on the 16th end. Despite that, she needed a three on the last for a draw and this was achieved. Well done to the whole rink for never giving up and just being bloody minded.

The coach, coming back, was a happy place. Even more so when, on just arriving back at Hatfield, a whoop went up from Marcia saying Beds had beaten Leicestershire meaning it was still possible that the Leamington dream, that had seemed so far away three weeks ago, was still alive.

Spectators make for a great atmosphere and the final group game against Beds at Hatfield on 6<sup>th</sup> July at 13:30 is a game that is pivotal for the team. So much so that I would encourage anyone who is free and wants to see class bowling to come and cheer on the team. A win still may not be at enough but a great win possibly will. You really can make that difference!

Alan Spicer  
Johns/Walker Team Manager

Joan Welch

Lesley Tutt

Sue Bard Bodek

Sue Maynard

DREW 20-20

Sarah Marshall

Liz Temple

Becky Maynard

Mavis Hendry

WON 21-14

Pauline Taylor

Lesley Moylette

Carol Brown

Dymphna Whybrow

WON 23-21

Megan MacKinnon

Marion Smedley

Valerie Challacombe

Pat Hilson

WON 20-16

Devon Cooper

Ann Dix

Marcia Dunstone

Rachel Tremlett

LOST 14-18

Joanne Hollister

Natalie Chalcraft

Jess Eley

Alison Hall

WON 21-13

OVERALL 119-102

19-3

	<b>2019 Johns Trophy</b>	<b>Pl</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Pts</b>
1	Hertfordshire	2	1	0	1	211	237	23
2	Norfolk	2	1	0	1	235	224	22
3	Bedfordshire	2	1	0	1	242	243	22
4	Leicestershire	2	1	0	1	245	229	21