

SAINT TITUS

This year our team has grown to 6 players, we have regained Alan Mould (who was on our team last when we won it in 2016) and for the first time we have been joined by John Holland, following the withdrawal of Isolated Menaces.

This has provided us with much more flexibility as our team of 6 has this year featured at least 8 different partnerships!

We started late (as usual, the end of the summer is a very busy time for the match secretary!) with a 28-2 win over Cheshire Cheeses, I was sitting out and pleased to hear the news.

Next we played the North Star, once again I sat out and we won 25-5, clearly I had found the winning formula!

In the third match we played Grasshoppers (champions in 2014-15) although they haven't troubled us in the past few years. This time I did play and was carving away, we won 21-9 in a generally sloppy match with points flying all over the place.

We then played Team Mayhem and I sat out once more, once more we won heavily 27-3. The formula continued as I played my second match against the League Secretary's team and we managed an 18-12 win after another sloppy performance by me. (In fairness the brownies were fantastic which was the main thing)

After Christmas we played the newly promoted Rejuvenated, and played our first ever league match on a Saturday at the new Manchester bridge club. We threw away an easy 30-0 this time and managed 28-2 after conceding 35 imps from nowhere.

With 4 matches left the league was ours but we still had a job to do and managed to avoid losing our winning streak by scraping home 16-14 against the Blakeys, in a very enjoyable and free spirited encounter. (Both Joy and I were competing to see who could carve an easy slam and I'm ashamed say I won and managed to find a way to go down to lose 17 imps.)

The ante-penultimate match was against Mutton Madras and I sat out and let my team win by 50 imps.

Our final two matches were against Tempo whom we had beaten by 4 imps in the Cup the previous week, this time we managed a more respectable 23-7 win.

In the final match we were playing Tracy and I was pleased to see David Stevenson and Liz Commins play in the match, as they are both great fun and play a very interesting system. We were keen to crush them to try and make sure Team Mayhem didn't get relegated but sadly beating them by 48 imps doesn't seem to have been enough (correct at time of writing!).

It was a pleasure to captain my team who not only answered their emails, turned up on time and were nice to the opponents but also were occasionally nice to me as well.

I am told our winning score of 240 from 10 matches is a record in modern times, hopefully next year I can sit out a few more matches and set another one!

Michael Byrne