

Worthing retained the Sussex Mens Winter Super League Championship for the third season running, in a playoff, which featured 102 tons, 36 ton pluses and 8 maximums together with five ton plus game shots at the Roffey Social Club, defeating the East Division winners Hastings by 5-4. The Broadwater based team had previously won the West Division by four points from Littlehampton and they now hope to go one better in August, when they again represent Sussex in the British Champions Cup, after losing in the semi-finals to Surrey, the eventual area winners at the Roffey Club, last season.

The Millers Arms side lost only twice in this season's Super league and they won their Division by twenty three points from Newhaven.

Mick Evans started the ball rolling for the Hastings side with a free scoring 3-0 win against Lee Gladman which included a 123 checkout, the best finish of the evening .

Pete Stoner levelled the score for Worthing in the first of the five leg games in the match, defeating Simon Smith 3-2.

County "A" team player Dave Creasy needed all his skills to come back from 2-0 down against Worthing's Ant Morley to win 3-2.

Mick Doabe was next up for Worthing and his 3-2 win over Andy Derrick in a game that featured twenty five tons levelled the match score at two all.

Richard Stanford defeated Ray Tutin 3-2 to put Worthing in the lead but Paul Hepton's 3-1 win against Ron Clarke kept Hastings' hopes high with three games to go.

Worthing's James Greenfield showed why he is top of the West Division's averages this season in a match award winning performance to defeat Dean Watson 3-1 with a 30.47 average, which included ten tons, a maximum and two fifteen dart legs.

The eighth game was crucial for Hastings at 4-3 down but their man Mark Stafford continued his unbeaten record this season for the Millers Arms team, defeating Paul Paice 3-1 with a 26.45 average, the best of the night for Hastings.

With the match score level and everything to play for in the final game, Worthing's Andy Stanford faced the experienced John Ferrell and found himself 2-1 down after missing doubles. However, the Broadwater man fought back to take the fourth leg to level the game. In the deciding leg John was down to a 64 finish after twelve darts with Andy looking at 160. But John, the winner of two England Grand Prix events last year, missed four attempts at a double and it was Andy who clinched the match, finishing on seventy five after eighteen darts to win 3-2 and secure the Championship, the "Dave Miles" Cup and the £700 prize money.

The final 5-4 result reflects the closeness of the two teams performances with Worthing hitting 67 tons and five maximums and Hastings scoring 71 tons and 3 maximums.

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