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## KENT BA v MIDDLESEX BA BALCOMB TROPHY 1<sup>ST</sup> RD

### **EXTRA END HEARTACHE AS MIDDLESEX STARS PUSH KENT ALL THE WAY**

(Report by Team Manager Darren Gosnell)

Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup> saw a very early start for all of the players as Middlesex's Balcomb squad travelled to Marden Bowls Club to play Kent BA in the first round of the Trophy.

Middlesex started slowly but quickly grew into the game showing that they were not daunted by the task facing them. At 15 ends Middlesex, underdogs at the start of play, only trailed by 6 and sensing an opportunity to secure an upset victory the players pushed on. At 18 ends across the board Middlesex led by 1.

Leading by 5 at 18ends, Nick Edwards's rink were unfortunate to give up those shots and finish 17-17.

Matt Larman's rink therefore went into their last end needing a count of 4 to force an extra end. Chris Dunkley moved the jack to lay 3, Matt added with his bowls to lay 4 with a measure for 5. Shaun McCaughan, the Kent ship, drew 5<sup>th</sup> and the game went to a tense extra end.

Unfortunately Middlesex were unable to win the extra end and lost the match by 1 shot, 34-35.

It was a wonderful performance from both rinks away from home not only on a tricky surface but a green with a tricky pace to judge.

It was pleasing to see all the Middlesex players supporting each other during the game. They never gave up, continuing to fight all the way until the last bowl bowled had come to rest.

Well done to all involved. Scores:-

Ashley Tanner (Ashford), Rob Hackwell (Ashford), Chris Dunkley (Poplar) & Matt Larman (Ashford) drew 17-17.

Glen Adams (Hendon), Jason Lyttle (Hendon), Norman Worley (Hendon) & Nick Edwards (Bounds Green) drew 17-17.

#passion #desire #commitment #movingintherightdirection #wellplayedmiddlesex