

Team Lightning 2009

Eight teams entered the annual team lightning event. The three top seeds looked closely matched and this was shown to be true as the competition developed. Idle Knights the league champions started with a whitewash and were early pacesetters. Bradford and South Bradford A also started with big opening round wins. Shipley beat Bingley in the toughest first round match up.

These top rated teams had to take each other on from round 2. Bradford faced Idle Knights and a tight battle took place with 3 hard fought draws agreed. Chris Wright won for Bradford and Tony Youngs was a winner for Knights which tied the match. South Bradford narrowly defeated Shipley 3-2 to share the lead with Idle.

South Bradford A took the sole lead by defeating Idle Knights with good wins from Andy Drabble, Dave Barlow and Paul Solomons. Bradford defeated Shipley by a similar 3½-1½ score.

In round 4 South Bradford took on Bradford and were narrowly defeated 3-2 with wins from Richard Archer, Chris Wright and Simon Watson. Dave Barlow and Paul Solomons replied for South Bradford and all the wins came with the white pieces.

Although Bradford remained the only undefeated team in the competition the title is decided on game points accumulated on the night. The leadings scores at the end of round 4 couldn't be closer. Bradford 13½, South Bradford A and Idle Knights 13. Bradford would not be caught as they won their remaining two matches by 5-0 to retain the title.

Bradford A	23½
South Bradford A	22
Idle Knights	21
Shipley	14
Dark Horses	11½
Bingley	10
South Bradford B	10
Undercliffe C	8

Best Individual Scores:

Board 1

Rich Archer	Bradford	5/6
Andy Drabble	South Bfd A	5/6
Peter Shaw	Idle Knights	4/6
James Dannenberg	Shipley	3½/6
Mike Bramson	South Bfd B	3½/6

Board 2

Ihor Lewyk	Bradford	4½/6
Dave Barlow	South Bfd A	4½/6
Matty Webb	Idle Knights	4½/6
Gawain Ako	South Bfd B	3½/6

Board 3

Chris Wright	Bradford	6/6
Mike Ashdown	South Bfd A	4½/6
Fazal Rabbi	Shipley	3

Board 4

Paul Solomons	South Bfd A	6/6
Gary Corcoran	Idle Knights	4/6
Keith Marsh	Dark Horses	3½/6
John Madden	Shipley	3½/6

Board 5

Tony Youngs	Idle Knights	6/6
Simon Watson	Bradford	5/6
Georges Honore	Bingley	4/6