# **CROQUET WEEK GOLF CROQUET CHAMPIONSHIPS**

## The National Croquet Center Palm Beach, Florida March 13-15, 2011

In what seems to be one of the best kept secrets in the croquet world, each year, just prior to the USCA Club Team Championship, the Croquet Week Golf Croquet Championships is held. It lasts a short three days, but the competition is always fierce, fascinating to watch and more than exciting to play within.

The format is simple. Played within two Flight, a round robin of single games leads to the Playoffs, the top four finishers in each Flight moving onto the Best-of-Three format. Matches are all of the 13-Point version, meaning the first player to score 7 wickets wins. Some games may take a half an hour while other can run three times that duration.

This year the competition was exceptionally competitive. In the Championship Flight Finals, David McCoy defeated Dick Brackett (6-7, 7-5, 8-6) to take honors. The Finals, which one assumed would take approximately two hours, lasted well beyond that! Well beyond! Many of the spectators had left to dress for dinner while even the Tournament Director was forced to move on and set wickets for the following day's action. Each hoop was contested with a 'life or death' attitude and congratulations go out to both players for a well fought battle!

In the First Flight, Bill Bromley out-dueled Anders Theiste (7-6, 3-7, 9-7) in another exciting Final. Bill, who had never won a match in this event during previous experiences, showed amazing improvement during the event. Cheryl Bromley and first-timer Bob Chilton also exhibited strong showings.

Overall, this is a wonderful Tournament, laid back in nature but serious within the boundary lines. I encourage everyone to participate in next year's adventure and to tone up upon the skills needed to make Golf Croquet so special!

### **GOLF CROQUET RESULTS**

### **CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT**

- 1. David McCoy
- 2. Dick Brackett
- 3. Cheryl Bromley
- 3. Bob Chilton

#### FIRST FLIGHT

- 1. Bill Bromley
- 2. Anders Theiste
- 3. Sue Anne Olsen

3. Julia Valentine

-JCO (TD)