

Croquet Club of VT Invitational

July 19 - 22, 2012

Woodstock, VT

The 2012 Croquet Club of Vermont Invitational was held July 19 - 22 at the Woodstock Health and Fitness Center in Woodstock, VT. This singles only tournament in three flights (Championship Flight, First Flight and Second Flight) had players ranging from 3.5 handicap to 16. The format was six games for each player leading to a semi-final followed by the final game. A feature of this event was a dedicated boardkeeper and time keeper with a 45 second shot clock in effect at all times. In this author's opinion, this is the way to go to eliminate the worry that your opponent is exceeding the shot clock. Most participants really liked this feature.

Championship Flight had the most players with nine. Rich Watson (5) went undefeated throughout the tournament beating top seed Bill Hamilton (3.5) in the finals. Rich is now a well-deserved 4 handicap as he picked up 45 tracking points for his excellent play.

First Flight had six players. Here, John Dainton (8) played superbly with his very steady style beating top seed Jim McLaughlin (6) in the finals. John picked up 32 tracking points and is now a 7 with +13 points. The highest handicap in this flight Tad Richardson (9 handicap and Croquet Club of VT president) played really well making the semi-finals. After the event, Tad had picked up 32 points and is now an 8.

There were seven players in Second Flight. Here, 2010 finalist Ted Hilles (10) battled it out in a hard fought final losing a close game to rapid improver Richard Scherf (10). Richard picked up 19 tracking points and was undefeated as well.

The weather was BEYOND SPECTACULAR and social events included the opening party and the Saturday night buffet at the Woodstock Country Club and a Thursday night cocktails/dinner at the beautiful home (a stunning Vermont country home!) of Terry and Susan Moor. Trophy presentations and brunch were at the Woodstock Inn and Resort. Tournament Chair was Eph Shulman with considerable help from fellow club members. Bob Kroeger was TD and Scheduler.

Championship Singles

1. Richard Watson
2. Bill Hamilton
3. Harvey Geiger
4. Jim Dushek
5. Pat Colt
6. Robert Coleman
7. Ephraim Shulman
8. Skip (Kent) Babcock
9. Lloyd Hadden

Second Flight Singles

1. Richard Scherf
2. Ted Hilles
3. Kathleen Dainton
4. Terry Moor
5. Jane Osgood
6. Pam Geiger
7. Martha Ann Coleman

First Flight Singles

1. John Dainton
2. Jim McLaughlin
3. Tad Richardson
4. Keppy (Katherine) Babcock
5. Tina Theurkauf
6. Bob Theurkauf