

6th Annual New York Croquet Club Championship August 11th and 12th, 2012

I feel like I am experiencing déjà vu. I said it last year and I am going to say it again this year. There is one thing that is consistent with the NYCC Club Championship...upsets. What this tournament does not lack is excitement (which can be rare in croquet). The weather was spectacular and we had a lot of last minute schedule changes, but in the end we had a great turn out, what has proven year after year to be a very unpredictable event. The format is a modified double elimination bracket with the Plate Event as competitive as the Championship Event. The USCA sanctioned play starts on Sunday.

Early in the Plate Event Peter Timmins had knocked David Isaacs down to the loser bracket with a solid 20 – 8 victory. That was not the last time these two would see each other. Peter stayed on top of the winner's bracket all the way until the finals with some very narrow escapes over Rookie Jim Collins and a past Club Champion Rebeca Bergofsky. Back to the losers bracket...I guess that earlier loss to Peter proved to serve as a wake up call to David. He won straight through Sunday morning and early afternoon (without a break) to make it to the finals to face Peter yet again. Would things turn out differently this time? Well, on a beautiful Sunday afternoon in Central Park in August David Isaacs (handicap 13) would pull off the serious upset by defeating Peter Timmins (handicap 7) 13-10, thus capturing the 2012 NYCC Plate Event (as well as a handicap adjustment).

The Championship Event...I don't even know where to begin. All I can say is that the first flight players ended up destroying the majority of the championship flight. It's almost like we had committed some sort of crime. Norris Settlemyre, Simon Male, Doug Moore and Tim Rapuano all were "banished to the dungeon" of the loser bracket, ultimately we all would be delivered "death sentences" by our tormentors of the first flight. Who were these Torquemada's of this First Flight Inquisition you ask? None other than Ralph "The Merciless" Charles and Templeton "The Executioner" Peck. They ended up offing all of the championship flight players save one...Stuart Lawrence the Meek (I like to crack myself up). Temp had to slay his cohort Ralph 5 – 4 in order to play Stuart in the finals (you can see the Inquisitors were reluctant to do each other in). In the end, Temp was put down by Stuart 19 – 9 and saved a tiny bit of respect for New York Croquet Club's championship flight membership. Chris Patmore...why did you forsake your championship brethren?

All kidding aside, many hands make light work. Big thanks to Norris, Temp, Peter (sorry about your back), David, Jim and Tim for your help all weekend long. Forgive me if I forgot anyone. I could never pull off these events without your generous help. Congrats to David Isaacs the 2012 NYCC Plate Event Winner and to Stuart Lawrence the 2012 NYCC Club Champion. Prizes for David and Stuart were steins my great Uncle Fred brought back from Germany in 1945 where he served at the end of World War II. (You can pretend they came from 1480's Spain, if you want).

Douglas P. Moore, Tournament Director

RESULTS

Club Championship

1. Stuart Lawrence
2. Templeton Peck
3. Ralph Charles
4. Tim Rapuano
5. Doug Moore
5. Simon Male
7. Sara Low
7. Norris Settlemyre

Plate Event

1. David Isaacs
2. Peter Timmins
3. Rebeca Bergofsky
3. Carla Rueck
5. Jim Collins
5. Wendy ward
7. Larry Kelly
7. Rita Kay
9. Nina Lampen



David Isaacs, Doug Moore, Stuart Lawrence