

West Indies Croquet Championship

October 26-28, 2012

Tennis Club of St. Croix, USVI

The 7th Annual West Indies Croquet Championship was played October 26 -28, 2012 on two three-quarter size courts at the Tennis Club of St. Croix. The tournament was doubles only, assigned partners, block play leading to a single elimination seeded ladder. While the number of players was down, enthusiasm was high and a fantastic time had by all.

The Commissioner, a/k/a Les Kelley, and Cynthia Taylor beat "Bernie the Attorney" Pattie and Dan Lawrence in the final, 15 – 11, to take first. Kelley/Taylor beat Bob Morgan and Flavia Logie in one semifinal while Pattie/Lawrence beat Doug Moore and Linda Pike, the number one seed out of block play, in the other.

Weather was sunny and hot with players taking advantage of cooling bottles of Dasani water and Heineken beer. The Welcoming Party was also the traditional Shepherd's Pie Dinner with Karen Heckman providing a delicious feast. Lunches included smoked brisket and barbeque chicken one day, pizza the next. Halloween candy was available throughout the tournament. Players met for a post-tournament brunch beachside at Duggan's Reef restaurant. A small gang continued the party with a charter afternoon and sunset sail to Buck Island.

Due to the effects of Hurricane Sandy and flight cancellations, New Yorker Doug Moore's Monday departure was delayed until Thursday (three more days in the Caribbean – too bad!). Needless to say, the party continued.

Next year's West Indies already is forecast to have increased numbers of players and the usual sun, sand and sea!

1. Les Kelley/Cynthia Taylor
2. Bernard Pattie/Dan Lawrence
3. Doug Moore/Linda Pike
4. Bob Morgan/Flavia Logie
5. Norm Pike/Karen Heckman
6. Patrick O'Laughlin/Tamara Toles