

# The Berkshire Invitational 2013

## June 6-9, 2013

### Lenox, MA



First row (l to r): Fred Beck, John Woodside, Francis Palasieski, Victoria Tootino, Martie Ekstrom, Jim Turner, Gerry McCauley  
Second row: David Ekstrom, Dick Scherf, Ken Northrup, Sidna Mitchell, Sandy Turner, Chris Loat  
Third row: Don Parker, Abbott Combes, Nancy Fremont, Webster Bull, Tom Gilbert, Peter Oleson

Although early arrivals brought predictions of dire weather to practice and to the traditional opening cocktail gathering at the Comeaus, the first day dawned with sun and cool temperatures. By the end of the day clouds were darkening the greens. True to Berkshire weather, Friday was played in mist and drizzle. The greens did not begin to pool, however, until late afternoon. The WaterHog was brought out and the pools held at bay. Only the last games of the day needed to be called and rescheduled. Thanks to the can-do and willingness to play on of all the players every game was played. Truly a valiant bunch, they battled the weather and formidable opponents with grit and always with good humor.

The blocks were tight, -1 to 2 ½, 3 ½ to 5, 6 to 8, and 9 to 13, so competition was even and the final ladders did not go to just the lowest handicaps. As usual, the New Paltz contingent acted as spoilers, taking first in two flights. Fortunately for the rest of us there were only two of them.

In Second flight, Brian Davidson, a New Paltzer, won six of seven games played to defeat Peter Wood, who won five of seven. In First, the fifth seed Webster Bull came out of the blocks to face Dick Scherf, the USCA most improved player of the year, who had lost only one game. In victory Webster became the only undefeated player in the tournament.

In Championship B, Francis Palasieski, the other New Paltzer, rode four wins out of the blocks into the ladder, pegging out with abandon along the way. There he won a close match against Gerry McCauley. The final block game in this flight may have been the best of the tournament, however. It took seven last turns before Martie Ekstrom finally prevailed over Peter Oleson as darkness and dinner approached. It was not enough to carry her to the ladder, but she deserves special recognition for spirit and a fabulous win.

Championship A went to Ken Northrup who lost only one game against opponents, all with lower handicaps. He beat David Ekstrom in the final walking away, as David was unable to two-ball a long come-back. With Gerry McCauley, David did win a second runner-up trophy in doubles, coming in behind Chris Loat and Peter Oleson. First Flight doubles went to Webster Bull and Tom Gilbert, while Dick Scherf got his second runner-up trophy with Peter Wood.

Thanks to all who made this one of the most fun and memorable Berkshires in many a moon.

John Woodside, TD

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**Championship A Singles**



1. **Ken Northrop with John Woodside, TD**
2. David Ekstrom
3. Chris Loat
4. Jim Turner
5. David McCoy
6. Jack Montgomery

**Championship B Singles**



1. **Francis Palasieski with John Woodside**
2. Gerry McCauley
3. Peter Oleson
4. Dan Thomas
5. Martie Ekstrom
6. Pat Colt

**First Flight Singles**

1. **Webster Bull**
2. Richard Scherf
3. John Woodside
4. Fred Beck
5. Peter Broderson
6. Ron Atkins

**Second Flight Singles**



1. **Brian Davidson**
2. Peter Wood
3. Don Parker
4. Tom Gilbert
5. Nancy Fremont
6. Sidna Mitchell

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#### Championship Doubles



1. Peter Oleson & Chris Loat
2. David Ekstrom & Gerry McCauley
3. Ken Northrop & Francis Palasieski
4. Jim Turner & Dan Thomas
5. Jack Montgomery & Pat Colt
6. David McCoy & Martie Ekstrom

#### First Flight Doubles



1. Webster Bull & Tom Gilbert
2. Richard Scherf & Peter Wood
3. John Woodside & Don Parker
4. Fred Beck & Brian Davidson
5. Ron Atkins & Betsy Atkins
6. Pete Broderson & Sidna Mitchell

John Woodside & David Ekstrom



John Woodside & Dick Scherf



John Woodside & Gerry McCauley

