

# 2013 Lake Toxaway Golf Croquet Tournament

## September 19-21, 2013

### Lake Toxaway Country Club, NC

For the second year the Lake Toxaway Mallet Club, part of Lake Toxaway Country Club, has hosted an invitational Golf Croquet tournament. Oakley Woods Croquet returned as tournament sponsor.

Social events included daily lunches and evening parties, plus boat tours of Lake Toxaway on the "Miss Lucy".

This year's event featured 38 players playing more than 100 games, double-banked on four 3/4-size courts, over two and a half days. All 38 players, a mix of locals and visitors, tournament veterans and tournament novices, started in a single qualifying flight in the flexible Swiss format. The top eight then advanced to the "Mallet Flight" knockout, while the second eight played the "Wicket Flight" knockout.

With less than half the field advancing to the knockout ladders, a winning record would not guarantee making the cut. Players who won three of their four first games faced the decision of whether to play a fifth game in the Swiss, where a win would guarantee a spot in the top bracket, but a loss might mean elimination. Jack Talley and Gary Harden both tried their luck in the extra round, winning to secure the 3rd and 4th seeds in the Mallet Flight knockout.

In the Wicket Flight knockout, Toxaway member Grady Price advanced to the final with wins over Wildcat Cliffs member George Wiemer and Hillsboro Club (FL) pro Cheryl Bromley. Cedar Creek player Peter Carlin won against fellow club member Karen Connery Albert and Burlingame pro Henner Lenhardt to earn the other finalist spot. Carlin won the final 7-1.

Michael Albert (Cedar Creek) and Jim Estes (Highlands Falls) earned top seeding in the Mallet Flight with 4-0 records in the Swiss. Estes had given defending champ George Bagwell (Lake Toxaway) his only loss in the Swiss, and they met again in the quarterfinals. This was a tight match featuring many great shots, Bagwell winning 7-5. Albert beat Lake Toxaway member Don Molitor, 7-4, to also advance to the semi-finals. There they were joined by Dana and Brenda Quanstrom, from Bald Head Island. A pair of hard-fought 7-5 games put Albert and Bagwell in the final.

In a steady rain with gusty winds, the two finalists entertained the crowd with frequent lead changes and excellent shooting. The game ended in a long battle at hoop 13, Bagwell prevailing 7-6 to repeat as champion.

The players received a special treat on Saturday afternoon as they watched Stephen Mulliner from UK, Ben Rothman reigning US champion, Sherif Abdelwahab and Rich Lamm, compete in Golf Croquet and Association Croquet rules as part of the Toxaway Mountain Challenge IV. The matches were moderated for the crowd by Damon Bidencepe. Thanks to the guest players for donating their time for the promotion of croquet in the mountains with the Exhibition and the conduct of Clinics at several mountain Clubs.

-- Jeff Soo, TD

#### A "Mallet" Singles

1. George Bagwell
2. Michael Albert
3. Dana Quanstrom
4. Brenda Quanstrom
5. Jim Estes
6. Jack Talley
7. Gary Harden
8. Don Molitor

#### B "Wicket" Singles

1. Peter Carlin
2. Grady Price
3. Henner Lenhardt
4. Cheryl Bromley
5. Dick Boger
6. Karen Connery Albert
7. George Wiemer
8. Brenda Ham

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Also Played

Cathy Baillis  
Jeff Baillis  
Bill Bromley  
Nancy Buebendorf  
Paul Cooper  
Jan Crocker  
Susie Day

Armand DeLaPerriere  
Gil Flowers  
Carol Harden  
Bunny Jones  
Fred Jones  
Sandy Knuth Walsh  
Cheryl Melton

Gene Melton  
Claiborne Minor  
George Olson  
Dick Stevens  
Judy Talley  
Diane Walker  
John Walker  
Jill Wiemer



Michael Albert, Cedar Creek Racket Club - Runner-up, A Singles Flight  
George Bagwell, Lake Toxaway Mallet Club- Winner, A Singles Flight  
Grady Price, Lake Toxaway Mallet Club - Runner-up, B Singles Flight  
Peter Carlin, Cedar Creek Racket Club - Winner, B Singles Flight