

**The 2013 Mar-a-Lago Club Doubles Invitational**  
**The Mar-a-Lago Club, Palm Beach, FL**  
**February 14-16, 2013**

Celebrating the 15th edition of such a wonderful event, and after 14 years of spectacular weather, this year's tournament was faced with a climate unfamiliar and previously unseen upon the spectacular grounds of The Mar-a-Lago Club. For the first two days, rain came in waves, its intensity ranging from gentle to torrential. While one round of play was canceled due to lightening, great credit goes out to all of the 24 participants for battling through all of the elements, keeping a smile throughout and enjoying the company of such a wonderful group.

In general, the field was split into two groups and competed within a Waterford format. Each player had four matches held over Thursday and Friday with the top half of the players in both Flights moving to the permanent-partners Playoffs. (The First Flight were left with but three games.) Matches were times at one hour and fifteen minutes and there was no double-banking. Playoff determination was decided by: Record, Net Points and then Gross Points. The two lawns, as expected and appreciated, were in top notch shape and drained with style despite the inches of rain offered.

In the Championship Flight, top seeds George Mathys and Bill Trower were upset (13-15) by the stubborn team of Ken Whitfield and Lyn Hamer, also victorious in the Semis over Lou Fusz and Ralph Curtis by the same 15-13 score. In the First Flight, Hildegard Jones and Warren Phillips survived their Semi-Final match with a nail biting 11-10 victory over Mary Anne Mathys and Warren Hammer, only to then fall (12-16) to the dynamic duo Dave Spivey and Mary Shields. Dave and Mary both went undefeated throughout the event.

As always, The Mar-a-Lago Club offered a magical venue, great hospitality and was honored by the spirited play and attitude of all of their honored guests. It is hoped that everyone will return next year, and that their experience was enjoyable no matter how the ball rolled. It's special at Mar-a-Lago, and those in attendance made it even more so. Until next year, please find below the Final Order of Play:

**CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT:**

1. Ken Whitfield-Lyn Hamer
  2. George Mathys-Bill Trower
  3. Lou Fusz-Ralph Curtis
  4. John Croddick-Charlotte Hapak
  5. Sandra Feeney-Gerald Shugar
  6. Robin Sweet
- dnf: Anne Licursi (Made Playoffs but could not compete.)

**FIRST FLIGHT:**

1. Dave Spivey-Mary Shields
2. Hildegard Jones-Warren Phillips
3. Mary Anne Mathys-Warren Hamer

4. Eileen Fell- Rhind Ridley
5. Peggy Matthews-Carla Rueck
6. Lisa Brown-Noriko Horie Shugar

-John C. Osborn  
TD and Director of Croquet  
The Mar-a-Lago Club