

Sarasota County Croquet Club Fall Invitational 2013

November 22-24, 2014

Venice, FL

Sarasota County Croquet Club's first Invitational Tournament of the season was held November 22-24 on four croquet courts in Venice, Florida. With a total of 42 players competing, the courts were busy and double banked throughout the weekend. Thirty-six games were played early on Wednesday to allow the out-of-town players full use of the courts during the weekend

In a singles only, four-flight tournament, the flight handicap spread was fairly close. Championship Flight with handicaps from -1.5 to 4.5, with an average of 1.0 demonstrated some fine play for the rest of the players. As the club is noted for encouraging beginners and higher handicap players to compete, First Flight consisted of 5 to 8 range, Second Flight consisted of 8 and 9 handicaps, and Third Flight twelve players with 9 to 12 handicaps.

The Florida weather co-operated with warm sunshine laced days. The two new permanent shelters, added to the two existing shelters at the ends of the courts added to the comfort of the players. Lunches, put together by the fabulous red apron ladies (the approved kitchen crew) as usual, were served buffet style under the new shelters, followed at the end of play by "attitude adjustment" courtside. The lawns remained in excellent shape. Great playing on level courts.

The opening party, Thursday, was held at the Manasota Beach Club, fronting on the Gulf of Mexico. The sunset was spectacular as usual, but no green flash this year. Saturday, the players were invited to join the club monthly potluck dinner at the Bird Bay community clubhouse. Included were cocktails and a buffet dinner for seventy-five guests.

In Championship Flight, four of the top five seeds made it out of the block, with Colin Irwin winning the block, Jackie Jones second, Alan Cottle third and Hans Peterson fourth. At the end of ladder play on Sunday, the same order of finish, with Alan and Hans sharing third place. Jackie came back from a 14-1 deficit to best Alan 17-16, but Colin dominated the finals to win 26-9.

First Flight, with twelve players, in two blocks went a little differently. The bottom two seeds in block one were seeded in the ladder with the top two seeds from block two. The strength prevailed with Frank Buzerak and Richard Palmer from block two taking first and second place in the Sunday ladder.

Second flight, with eight players; all local, played half their games on Wednesday, the rest during the week-end. Ron Truman was first out of the block, and first in the ladder. Jim Feorino was the competition in the finals, followed by Richard Schworm and Norm Mulroney.

Third Flight, with twelve players, six from clubs other than Sarasota, primarily Grand Haven at Palm Coast, Florida was set as a six player cross block so that

the players did not compete against their own club during block play. Due to good distribution the ladder was seeded by straight standings in the block allowing four from each club to participate in a single elimination ladder on Sunday. Bill Todd from Grand Haven took the final honors winning over Steffie Robertson of SCCC and The Oaks clubs 17-16.

The club schedules three invitational tournaments a year, along with club championships in singles and doubles. Currently with a membership of 150 players, there is activity most every day on the courts. If in the area, call ahead and join the fun.

Submitted by,
Fred Jones
Tournament Director

Championship Flight

1. Colin Irwin



Charlotte Neagle, Colin Irwin

2. Jackie Jones
3. Alan Cottle
3. Hans Peterson
5. Webster Bull
6. Jack Montgomery
7. Russ Cuccia
8. Bill Cole
9. Avril Rangoni-Machiavelli
10. Dawn Jupin

First Flight

1. Frank Buzerak



Charlotte Neagle, Frank Buzerak

2. Richard Palmer
3. Lee Anderson
3. Tom Shelko
5. Charlotte Neagle
6. Dolores Gallagher
7. Patricia Duncan
8. Christine Irwin
9. Richard Zeck
10. Dean Hewitt
11. Sis Courtsal
12. Andrée Bothe

Second Flight

1. Ron Truman



Charlotte Neagle, Ron Truman

2. Jim Feorino
3. Richard Schworm
3. Norman Mulrone
5. Bob Lentz
6. Gary Anderson
7. Julie Schworm
8. Hedy Stoy

Third Flight

1. Bill Todd



Charlotte Neagle, Bill Todd

2. Steffie Robertson
3. Bob Worrell
3. Bob Crouch
5. Michael Kline
5. Roger Measel
5. Paul Beaulieu
5. John Fitterman
9. Cynthia Skinner
10. Barbara Caiafa
11. Daniele Todd
- DNF. Olaf Maly