

USCA Southeast Regional Championship

May 15-19, 2013

Pinehurst, NC

Several states from Virginia to Mississippi of the Southeast Region were well represented but a special note of recognition has to be given to Jack Chase and the Virginia boys. Jack is a great promoter who has a wonderful passion for the game of croquet. It was obvious that his recruits share his enthusiasm for the game as the ten Virginians invaded Pinehurst, North Carolina.

We were fortunate the pine pollen had cast its yellow clouds weeks prior to the event, so warm, clean, fresh air was the norm. Mix in the beautiful surroundings of the world renowned Pinehurst Resort and the gracious hospitality of the Pinehurst Croquet Club and you have one of the best settings in America for a croquet tournament.

3rd Flight Singles – For four days Arthur Thomasson and Rick Darnell were without a doubt the most dominant and best players of the flight. Mary Stewart Regensburg is a believer in timing, as she saved her best croquet for the playoffs and pulled off the upset, besting Arthur in the finals to become the SE Region flight winner.

2nd Flight Doubles – Mike and Anne Boozell were seeded 1st after a strong showing during block play but fell just short as Ward Lefler and Rick Darnell were the 2nd flight doubles winners.

2nd Flight Singles – Robert Byrd and Arthur Olsen led the way during block play, outdistancing their competitors by at least two wins. What most people did not realize was that after a one point game between two players lower in the block standings, made a promise and kept it. Danna Huneycutt and Ward Lefler enjoyed competing against each other so much; they promised each other they would see each other in the finals. They kept their promise as Ward etched another 1-point win in the finals.

1st Flight Doubles – The teams of Donald Smith & Robert Byrd and Marge Cramer & Avril Nicholson (Tournament Manager) appeared to be on a collision course to the finals. Bob and Judy Porter played short of their normal standards during the singles portion of the tournament. They definitely saved their best for the doubles playoffs as they became the doubles winners, while Donald Smith and Robert Byrd were runner-ups.

1st Flight Singles – Russ Hanson and Alan Langley were determined to be in an all Pinehurst finals as they moved through block play with ease. But fate and determination from another player would upset their plans. Becky Essick, never winning a singles event in over ten years of play, took out tournament favorite Russ Hanson in the first round of the playoffs. The entire tournament field celebrated with Becky as she bested Alan Langley in the finals.

Championship Flight Doubles – On their way to the finals, the team of Rodney Lassiter & Russ Hanson built momentum throughout the tournament. Near the end of their semifinal win over Horace Hayworth & Simon Jenkins, Rodney made the play of the tournament to secure a victory. Going for wicket 3 he had to make an angled jump shot over his partner to score the point. It did not appear he would have enough room to get the ball high enough to make the jump shot. He succeeded and

proceeded to roquet his opponent from 18 yards near wicket 2. He then rolled the two balls 25+ yards to a wicket shooting position, promptly score wicket 4 from 4 yards away. The play continued on the way to victory and a spot in the finals. Danny Huneycutt & Steve Summer repeated their 2011 feat, becoming the SE Regional Champions.

Championship Finals Singles – Fairly new to championship flight, Rodney Lassiter and Simon Jenkins played very well. Bob Whitmore, not too far from 90 years old played one of the strongest tournaments of his career. Yet it was favorites Horace Hayworth and Danny Huneycutt who battled in the finals, Danny successfully defending his title.

Championship Singles

1. Danny Huneycutt



Horace Hayworth, Danny Huneycutt

2. Horace Hayworth
3. Bob Whitmore
3. John Knott
5. Chris Christian
5. Rodney Lassiter
7. Simon Jenkins
8. Bill Hartmann
9. Bob Roth
10. Steve Summer
10. Jack Stevens
12. Jack Chase

First Flight Singles

1. Becky Essick



Alan Langley, Becky Essick, Danny Huneycutt

2. Alan Langley
3. Elaine Moody
3. Marge Cramer
5. Russ Hanson
6. Mark Fields
7. Donald Smith
8. Robert Sasser
9. Bob Porter
9. Soup Campbell
11. Lloyd Hadden
12. Judy Porter

Second Flight Singles

1. Ward Lefler



Danny Huneycutt, Ward Lefler, Danna Huneycutt

2. Danna Huneycutt
3. Ken James
4. Ed Becker
5. Arthur Olsen
5. Robert Byrd
7. Anne Boozell
8. Bill Rinaman
9. Tom Schick
10. Mike Boozell

Third Flight Singles

1. Mary-Stewart Regensburg



Mary-Stewart Regensburg, Art Thomasson, Danny Huneycutt

2. Arthur Thomasson
3. Henry Wallace
4. Marilyn Long
5. Rick Darnell
6. Dennis Koziol
7. Carl Johnson
8. George Olson
9. Gene Horne

Championship Doubles

1. Danny Huneycutt & Steve Summer



Steve Summer, Mike Taylor, Danny Huneycutt

2. Rodney Lassiter & Russ Hanson
3. Horace Hayworth & Simon Jenkins
4. John Knott & Chris Christian
5. Bob Whitmore & Jack Chase
5. Bob Roth & Soup Campbell
7. Jack Stevens & Bill Hartmann

First Flight Doubles

1. Bob Porter & Judy Porter



Judy Porter, Bob Porter, Danny Huneycutt

2. Donald Smith & Robert Byrd
3. Marge Cramer & Avril Nicholson
4. Robert Sasser & Johnson
5. Marie Haas & Ken James
6. Conrad Haas & Alan Langley
7. Mark Fields & Ed Becker
8. Becky Essick & Elaine Moody

Second Flight Doubles

1. Ward Lefler & Rick Darnell



Ward Lefler, Rick Darnell

2. Mike Boozell & Anne Boozell

3. Marilyn Long & Arthur Thomasson

4. Tom Schick & Bill Rinaman

5. Arthur Olsen & Dennis Koziol

6. Danna Huneycutt & Rhonda Summer

6. Henry Wallace & Carol Wallace

8. Gene Horne & George Olson