

# 14<sup>th</sup> Dorothy Fosse Invitational

## April 23-27, 2014

### Palm Coast, FL

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The setting was outstanding, the weather was fine, the players were gracious, the food was superb, and the Fourteenth Annual Dorothy Fosse Invitational played April 23rd to April 27th at Hammock Dunes, Palm Coast, Florida was a huge success.



The grass on both courts was perfectly green and smooth, and the competition was keen. The courts are situated just outside the clubhouse, between the club and the Atlantic Ocean; a nice ocean breeze kept everyone cool. The two additional courts that were used became available through the generosity of the golf course superintendent utilizing an unused practice tee area

on the driving range at the Creek Course. The generosity and co-operation of the golf course personnel was deeply appreciated. This is the seventh year that these lawns have been available. The golf personnel maintain them to croquet quality. First, Second, and Third Flights each spent one day on the Creek courts, and the remainder of the time at the Dunes courts.

With players from North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, the total of thirty-two players ended up in four flights of eight.

Following a superb Wednesday evening opening party at the Main Club, consisting of cocktails and heavy hors d'oeuvres, play began Thursday morning in earnest. Unique at this club, at least in my experience, was the assignment of deadness board keepers, for each board for every game during the tournament. All were club members and croquet players, not playing in the tournament. What a wonderful way to learn the game. Also the committee serving ice-cold bottled water both to the players and the board keepers throughout the tournament was a unique experience. Everyone involved appreciated both.

Championship Flight played on the south full size court. The flight was led by Jackie Jones and Steve Johnston, each with a handicap of -1.0, and topped by Jack Montgomery with a handicap of 2. Block play was the order of the day Thursday and Friday with a double elimination ladder on Saturday and Sunday for all flights.

Steve Johnston lost one game in the block, while Jackie Jones lost two. Ron Huxtable took a respectable third while Jack Montgomery ended block play in fourth. Saturday started sunny and warm, as is the rule at this time of the year, but the play was mixed. Steve started strong but after two wins was defeated by Ron Huxtable, who had just defeated Jackie to knock her down to the lower side of the ladder. Jackie then coasted along on that side until meeting Steve. Steve, still smarting from his loss to Ron played a close game with Jackie, winning by one wicket in last turn, then going back to face Ron in the finals game. Another close game, but two last minute wickets game Steve a 14 to 10 win over Ron. Final standings: Steve Johnston first, Ron Huxtable second, and Jackie Jones third.

There are two permanent trophies at the Hammock Dunes Club. Steve Johnston will have his name engraved on the Championship Trophy, while Rich Watson, as First Flight winner will have his name engraved on the Dorthy Fosse Trophy.

Joe Zilligen of Grand Haven and Rich Watson led First Flight block play with five wins each. With eight players with handicaps from 3.5 to 6 it was a well-matched flight. In the ladder Joe Zilligen was quickly dispatched by Jim Pagano, while Rich Watson worked his way through the ladder without a loss, meeting Jim in the finals. Rich appeared to be in control, and finished with a score of 15-10 Final standings Winner Rich Watson, Second Jim Pagano, and Third Don Smith.

Second Flight also with eight players, (Handicaps 6 to 9) followed the same format as the other flights. With John Donohue and Lynda Sudderberg leading the block with five wins while David Owen had trouble getting going and was still looking for his first win at the end of block play. The ladder took on a new life when David seeded 8<sup>th</sup> defeated #1 seed John Donohue. David continued winning until the quarterfinals, losing to Lee Anderson, who went into the finals undefeated. Meanwhile Donohue plugged along in the lower ladder to emerge in the finals. Lee and John battled it out for 75 minutes, with John surviving 19-13. Final standings: First John Donohue, Second Lee Anderson, and third David Owen.

Third Flight with the standard eight players (Handicaps 9 to 12) saw Linda Dos Santos lead the block with five wins. Paul Beaulieu close behind with four wins. There were no surprises in this flight Linda went without a loss to the semi-finals, defeated by Paul who went undefeated to the finals, and then bested Linda for a second time to take the trophy 11-10. John Fitterman was third.

Friday evening saw us sat the Le Jardin for casual potluck and beverages, followed by a barbeque dinner at the Creek Club on Saturday evening.

Sunday, following the finals that were scheduled to wrap up at 1:00 PM (and did) a delightful buffet luncheon was served, with strawberry sundaes for desert, culminating with the awards ceremony. Trophies this year, were lost wax castings of manatees and were awarded to the top three finishers in each flight.

Plans are in the works for next years Invitational, scheduled for the last week in April 2015.

Fred Jones  
Tournament Director

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## Championship Flight Singles 1. Steve Johnston



2. Ron Huxtable
3. Jackie Jones
4. Bill Hartmann
5. John Curington
5. Jim Hall
7. Bill Grimsdale
7. Jack Montgomery

## First Flight Singles 1. Rich Watson



2. Jim Pagano
3. Don Smith
4. Mijai Pagano
5. Joe Zilligen
5. Ian Harshman
7. Pam Johnston
7. Rich Burns



Jackie Jones, Ron Huxtable, Nadine Sidawi-Club President, and Steve Johnston



Jim Pagano, Don Smith, Nadine Sidawi, Rich Watson



Lee Anderson , Nadine Sidawi, and John Donohue

Second Flight Singles

1. John Donohue
2. Lee Anderson
3. W. David Owen
4. Steve Grassbaugh
5. Lynda Sudderberg
5. Terry Philcox
7. Ray Dacey
7. Gary Anderson



John Fitterman, Nadine Sidawi, Linda Dos Santo, Paul Beaulieu

Third Flight Singles

1. Paul Beaulieu
2. Linda Dos Santos
3. John Fitterman
4. Marilyn Heberling
5. Peter Stirrup
5. Gerry Lancto
7. Peggy Steck
7. Leland Markley