

# THE NEW JERSEY STATE TOURNAMENT

## July 26-27, 2014

### at Green Gables Croquet Club

### Sea Girt, NJ

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The Green Gables Croquet Club of Sea Girt, NJ graciously hosted the 2014 New Jersey State Championship again this year over the course of 1.5 days. The additional half of a day made a big difference over last year when a block and a playoff schedule was crammed into one day. However, players still found a lot of croquet to be had with 4 games on Saturday and 1-3 matches on Sunday. Weather ran the gamut this weekend with coastal winds, summer squalls, cloudy skies, intense heat, humidity-fogging glasses and midday sunshine, just in time for the finals.

This year, the Championship spiced things up with some out of state players and a combined Waterford Doubles with First and Second Flights. Newcomer William Schwarz won all three doubles matches with the highest net points, which earned him a spot in next year's tournament. Will is just 19 years old and has been playing croquet for a year. The inclusion of doubles in a mainly singles championship was helpful, especially for Second Flight players to get warmed up and get the ball rolling, so to speak.

With a broken arm, last year's champ Jodie Rugart didn't play, but wore many hats. She was the co-director, official referee, host for overnight guests, provider of lunches (catered by the Spring Lake Bath & Tennis Club) and general entertainer. She and Conrad also welcomed everyone into their home Saturday night for a Championship BBQ Dinner. The croquet, meals and sportsmanship were just delightful.

Pictures from the tournament can be found in Flickr at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/29148507@N06/sets/72157645994845244/>

#### **Results:**

##### Championship Singles

1. Stuart Lawrence
2. Justin Berbig
3. Timothy Rapuano
4. Thomas Cooper
5. Conrad Rugart
6. Jack Montgomery

##### First Flight Singles

1. Ralph Charles
2. Bob Lowery
3. Ron Shiftan
4. Loretta Cooper

##### Second Flight Singles

1. Tim Mullen
2. Donald McLaughlin
3. William Schwarz
4. Ronald Rapuano

##### Waterford Doubles

1. William Schwarz
2. Loretta Cooper
3. Ron Shiftan
4. Tim Mullen
5. Bob Lowery
6. Don McLaughlin
7. Ralph Charles
8. Ronald Rapuano