Royal Palm Yacht & County Club Invitational November 5-9, 2014 Boca Raton, FL

The Florida weather was beautiful clear, sunny days and temperate temperatures found this time of year, for the eighteenth Royal Palm Yacht and County Club Invitational Tournament held at Boca Raton, Florida November 5th to the 9th. Sunday let us down, with rain plus lightning throughout the morning, causing the cancellation of the final matches of all three flights, but more about that later.

Socially the tradition carried on, when we gathered at the Two Georges at the Cove restaurant, on the Intercostal for cocktails and dinner Thursday, we gathered at the 19th hole of the Golf Club for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. (The Yacht Club clubhouse, where we usually meet, is being demolished, and will be replaced with a new building.) Saturday was an evening dinner at the Snead Patio in the Golf clubhouse. Sunday, the courtside barbecue was shifted to the 19th hole, as the weather report indicated that it would be a soggy lunch if held outside. A wise decision.

The tournament was completely subscribed with twenty-four players, playing on three two-thirds size courts. Play consisted of three flights, preceded each day with one game of Waterford doubles. The doubles games were not double banked, nor were most of the 2nd flight singles games. In singles, block play preceded a double elimination ladder. Everyone played well, and the wins were well deserved.

Championship Flight, eight players (handicaps –1.5 to 3.0, with 5 players 1.0 or better) became a wide-open field of play. The standings coming out of the block mostly followed handicap lines. Jackie Jones was not up to her usual play, winning only half of her block games. David Ekstrom, playing a strong game, with few mistakes, led the block play with only one loss. Blaine Davis was close behind. As we played the ladder, Jackie's game had improved enough for her to challenge David in the final match. As mentioned, Sunday was a rainy day, and as the game started we received our second lightning warning, and players left the courts. Next problem was the beginning of the courts flooding. At this point, the play was cancelled for the tournament, and the two players were listed as co-winners. The TD remarked that in 25 years of directing tournaments, this was the first time that he had been rained out on a Sunday. David Ekstrom and Jackie Jones are the co-winners, with Bill Hartmann third.

First Flight, eight players (handicaps 4.5 to 7) saw Michael Albert lead the field with Chuck Perry and Calvert Chaney close behind. Through the ladder the same three held their own, and the race to the finals. Chuck was defeated in the semi-finals finishing third, while; again, due to the weather Michael Albert and Calvert Chaney were declared co-winners.

Second Flight (handicaps 8 to 14) saw a block of five, move through the block pretty much as seeded, with Roxanne Rosetto getting a double bye in the ladder. However, the trophy was not to be hers. She lost to Anne Licursi, and then to Byron Hicks, ending up third, while, again the weather, Anne and Byron were the co-winners in Second Flight.

Waterford Doubles was closely contested, with net points determining the final placement in most cases. In Championship the trophy winners were Bill Hartmann, winner, with David Ekstrom and Pat Colt, second and third; First Flight – Calvert Chaney winner with Michael Albert and Chuck Perry taking second and third; and Second Flight – Byron Hicks winner, with Roxanne Rosetto second, and Marilyn Perry third.

Trophies were beautiful crystal pitchers, and bowls, and were presented by Commodore Patricia Reese of the Royal Palm Yacht Club and Tournament Chairperson Roxanne Rosetto.

Upon finishing a delicious Sunday barbeque, and congratulations to the trophy winners, the players departed, looking forward to next year's tournament.

Submitted, Fred Jones Tournament Director

Championship Singles

- 1. Jackie Jones
- 1. David Ekstrom
- 3. Bill Hartmann
- 4. Blaine Davis
- 5. Jack Montgomery
- 5. Pat Colt
- 7. Murray Pollock
- 7. Dawn Jupin

First Flight

- 1. Calvert Chaney
- 1. Michael Albert
- 3. Chuck Perry
- 4. Ray Liberti
- 5. Sheila Davis
- 5. Martie Ekstrom
- 7. Brenda Pollock

Second Flight

- 1. Anne Licursi
- 1. Byron Hicks
- 3. Roxanne Rosetto
- 4. Sharon Blackington
- 5. Liddy Chaney

Waterford Doubles

- Championship Flight
- 1. Bill Hartmann
- 2. David Ekstrom
- 3. Pat Colt
- 4. Dawn Jupin
- 5. Murray Pollock
- 6. Jackie Jones
- 7. Blaine Davis
- 8. Jack Montgomery

First Flight

- 1. Calvert Chaney
- 2. Michael Albert
- 3. Chuck Perry
- 4. Brenda Pollock
- 5. Sheila Davis
- 6. Martie Ekstrom
- 8. Ray Liberti

Second Flight

- 1. Byron Hicks
- 2. Roxanne Rosetto
- 3. Marilyn Perry
- 4. Liddy Chaney5. Nan Dona Nenner
- 6. Anne Licursi
- 7. Rosemary Faulconer
- 8. Sharon Blackington