

Sarasota County Croquet Club
Fall Invitational
December 12-14, 2014
Venice, FL

Sarasota County Croquet Club held its Fall Invitational on December 12-14, 2014 on the three courts in Venice, Florida. It was COLD. Morning temperatures were in the mid forties each day, reaching the low 60's by afternoon. No rain, standard for Florida at this time of year. The courts were without a blemish, level and fast (Reading eight plus on the speed meter).

With a field of 32 players, divided into four flights, several (19 in fact) games were played early on Wednesday by local participants, allowing those from out of town to play three games a day on Friday and Saturday.

Championship Flight A (Handicaps -1 to 2) consisted of seven players led by Colin Irwin who went undefeated through the block and the single elimination ladder on Sunday to win the flight. Linda Huxtable lasted through the finals to take second, while Jackie Jones and Jack Montgomery tied for third.

Championship Flight B (Handicaps 4-6) comprised the largest group with thirteen players, divided into two blocks. Christine Irwin led one block while Frank Buzerak was the top player in the second block, but they were not to shine in the combined ladder. Both faulted on the first round, and the finals played off between Bill Cole and Steffie Robertson, with Steffie taking the honors 13-11.

First Flight (Handicaps 7-9) with eight players saw Gerald Shugar lead through the block, and through the ladder to win the flight, beating out Gary Anderson in the finals 11-10.

Second Flight (Handicaps 10-12) with five players, the competition was spirited with Paul Beaulieu winning over Camelia Monteforte 23-9.

Socially, the tournament was a success, with a combined opening party and a club pot-luck dinner held at the home of Fred and Jackie Jones, and a wonderful evening at the Manasota Beach Club including a cocktail and social hour followed by a five course meal consisting of roasted wild mushrooms, lobster bisque, salad, choice of prime rib, pan seared sea scallops, stuffed flounder, or chicken breast, and to finish off the meal, coffee and a selection of several desserts.

And of course, continental breakfast each morning, nice lunches, and attitude adjustment every afternoon. With the finals starting at 1:00 PM Sunday and finishing with the awards, all were on their way by 3:00 PM, looking forward to the next tournament.

Submitted
Fred Jones
Tournament Director

Championship Flight A

1. Colin Irwin
2. Linda Huxtable
3. Jackie Jones
3. Jack Montgomery
5. Ron Huxtable
5. Geoffrey Mattison0
7. Ted Kemp

Championship Flight B

1. Steffie Robertson
2. Bill Cole
3. Joe Zilligen
3. Richard Palmer
5. Bob McQuinn
5. Frank Buzerak
5. Chris Irwin
5. John Donohue
9. Ronnie Brazell
9. Betty Crisler
9. Richard Zeck
9. Lee Anderson

First Flight

1. Gerald Shugar
2. Gary Anderson
3. James Feorino
3. Richard Schworm
5. Bob Lentz
5. Roger Measel
7. Norm Mulronev
7. Julie Schworm

Second Flight

1. Paul Beaulieu
2. Camelia Monteforte
3. John Fitterman
3. Theodore Thelin
5. Noriko Shugar