



2015 Coastal Croquet Clubs Invitational October 21-23, 2015

The 2015 CCC Invitational was played at Palmetto Bluff and Dataw Island under ideal conditions. The weather was perfect, the lawn courts in excellent condition, and most important, the conduct of the participants epitomized what croquet is all about. In the preliminary rounds all players in a flight played one match against each other to determine seedings in the double elimination playoff. Most matches were very close.

In the First Flight Tom Campagnola won all of his matches in the preliminary rounds and thus was seeded number one in the double elimination finals. Russ Rymer lost only one match to be seeded number 2. Number 3 seed, Art Thomasson defeated number 6 seed Bruce Anderson and followed this up by beating Rymer, thus moving Rymer to the losing bracket. Rymer was not able to recover and was eliminated by June Ryan. Thomasson continued by beating number 1 seed Campagnola for Campagnola's first loss in the tournament. The final matches were played by Campagnola and Thomasson. Was Thomasson going to win the flight by beating Campagnola for the second time or could Campagnola recover and win two matches against Thomasson? Campagnola prevailed and readily beat Thomasson two matches in a row to become the 2015 First Flight Champion.

There was a great deal of similarity of the First and Championship Flights. Macey White won all of his matches in the preliminary rounds to garner first seed in the double elimination finals. Al Sutton lost only one match, against White, to gain second seed in the double elimination finals. The number 1 & 2 seeds didn't fare well in their first match of the double elimination finals. Number 3 seed Robert Byrd beat John Ryan and followed up with beating number 2 seed Sutton, thus moving Sutton to the losing bracket. Similarly, 4 seed Harvey Geiger beat Donald Smith and went on to beat number 1 seed White. Thus, in suffering his first loss of the tournament White was moved to the losing bracket. Both Sutton and White were able to win their next match. But on their subsequent match Sutton lost again to White. The last two players in the playoff were Geiger and White. After suffering his first and only loss of the tournament to Geiger, was White going to come back and win the next two matches as Campagnola had done in the First Flight? In what was a close-well played match, Geiger won the match to become the 2015 Championship Flight winner.

Results:

First Flight

1. Tom Campagnola
2. Art Thomasson
3. Mike Farnham
4. June Ryan
5. Russ Rymer
6. Bruce Anderson

Championship Flight

1. Harvey Geiger
2. Macey White
3. Rob Byrd
4. Al Sutton
5. Don Smith
6. John Ryan