



## **Dorthy Fosse Invitational 2015**

### **April 22-26, 2015**

### **Palm Coast, FL**



The setting was outstanding, the weather was fine, the players were gracious, and the Fifteenth annual Dorthy Fosse Invitational played April 22<sup>nd</sup> to April 26<sup>th</sup> at Hammock Dunes, Palm Coast, Florida was a huge success.

The grass on both courts was perfectly green, and the competition was keen. The courts are situated just outside the clubhouse, between the club and the Atlantic Ocean. A nice breeze keeps everyone cool, although the sun can be hot, and a five minute downpour on Saturday tended to cool it down a bit.

The two additional courts that were used became available through the generosity of the golf course superintendent utilizing an unused practice tee area at the Creek golf course. This is the eighth year that these lawns have been available. The golf course personnel maintain them to croquet quality. First, Second, and Third Flights all spent one day on the Creek courts, and the remainder of the time at the Dunes courts.

It is appropriate to recognize several members of the Croquet Club who have devoted many hours over many years planning and executing this wonderful tournament. Started by, and named for Dorthy Fosse, who flew in from Chicago, at 96 years young, and who won her flight two years ago. The committees have evolved, and currently (including several years) is headed by Maureen Villiotte, who, in addition to planning and organizing the tournament, is the first on the courts every morning. Maureen spends the day doing deadness boards, and is the last to leave in the evening. Assisting, in making things run smoothly are Sandy Rhodes, Nadine Sidawi, Pat Green, Pat Williams, Beverly Farber and Diane Leifer.

Following a Wednesday evening opening party at the main club, consisting of cocktails and heavy hors d'oeuvres, play began on Thursday morning in earnest. Many of the club members that were not playing, showed up to keep deadness boards for all flights.

Championship Flight players played on the south full size court. The flight was led by Ted Knopf, with a -1.5 handicap, followed closely by Linda Huxtable and Jackie Jones with -1 handicaps, and topped by Geoffrey Mattison with a 2 handicap. Block play was the order of the day Thursday and Friday, with a double elimination ladder on Saturday and Sunday for all flights.

Linda Huxtable lost only one game in the block to Ted Knopf. Tied with four wins and two losses were Ted Knopf, Jackie Jones, and Ron Huxtable. As they were the top four seeds in the flight, it looked like the ladder would only determine the best of the best, but the opening of the ladder saw Geoffrey Mattison upset Linda Huxtable and Jim Hall win over Ron Huxtable. Jackie and Ted won their matches, and then faced each other. Ted managed to outlast Jackie to win 14-13, who in turn lost to Jim Hall 15-9. We now have the Huxtables playing each other in the loser's side, with Linda winning 13-12 to lose to Jackie 17-15. Jackie then bested Bill Grimsdale 13-12, to meet Ted Knopf for the second time. This time she was successful with an 18-17 win over Ted to meet Jim Hall in the finals. This match was not as close, as Jackie took the honors 18-9 over Jim Hall. Jackie's name will be inscribed on the perpetual championship trophy held by the club. She previously won the tournament in 2005. Ted was third.

In First Flight, the seeding was not as dominate, as four players ended up with four wins in the block. Net points separated Cassandra Gaisor, Mijai Pagano, Richard Palmer and Charlotte Neagle. Rich Watson, seeded #5 in the ladder took out Charlotte, then Cassandra, then losing to Richard Palmer. The only player fairly successful in the loser's side was Cassandra who worked her way to the semi-final, only to lose to Rich Watson, who then went to the finals and this time was victorious over Richard Palmer to win the Dorthy Fosse perpetual trophy for First Flight. Cassandra was third.

In Second Flight Ralph Curtis, appearing in his first tournament, took five wins to win the block play. Tony Dos Santos and Tom Shelko each did well with four wins each. Ralph played well in the ladder, had a couple of wins, but lost to Betty Crisler, and finally to Tony Dos Santos. Betty had defeated Tom Shelko, who in turn lost to Tony, who re-appeared in the finals to challenge Betty. Tony took the match 20-15, leaving Betty in second place with Tom Shelko coming in third.

Third Flight saw Tom Campagnola run the only undefeated six-win block play of the tournament. Linda Dos Santos lost only to Tom for a five-win block. What looked like an easy win, was shattered when Tom was defeated by Bill Todd in the second round of the ladder. While Bill Todd went on undefeated to the finals, Tom was in the loser's side, having to take out John Fitterman, Paul Beaulieu, and Nadine Sidawi to meet Bill in the finals. Tom Campagnola took the honors 18-12 over Bill Todd. Nadine Sidawi was third.

Friday evening saw us at the LaJardin for casual potluck and beverages, followed by a barbeque dinner at the Creek clubhouse on Saturday evening.

Sunday, following the finals that wrapped up at 1:00 PM a delightful buffet luncheon was served, culminating with the awards ceremony. Trophies this year were lost wax castings of dolphins and were awarded to the top three finishers in each flight.

Plans are in the works for next year's invitational, scheduled for the last week of April 2016.

Fred Jones  
Tournament Director



Fred Jones, Ted Knopf, Jackie Jones, Jim Hall, Ron Huxtable

#### CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

1. Jackie Jones
2. Jim Hall
3. Ted Knopf
4. Bill Grimsdale
5. Linda Huxtable
5. Geoffrey Mattison
7. Ron Huxtable
7. Jack Montgomery



Fred Jones, Cassandra Gaisor, Richard Palmer, Rich Watson, Ron Huxtable

#### FIRST FLIGHT

1. Rich Watson
2. Richard Palmer
3. Cassandra Gaisor
4. Mijai Pagano
5. Lynda Sudderburg
5. Vincent Marmo
7. Charlotte Neagle
7. Jim Pagano



Fred Jones, Thomas Shelko, Betty Crisler, Antonio Dos Santos

**SECOND FLIGHT**

- 1. Antonio Dos Santos
- 2. Betty Crisler
- 3. Thomas Shelko
- 4. Ralph Curtis
- 5. Gary Anderson
- 5. Lee Anderson
- 7. Stephen Grassbaugh
- 7. Terry Philcox



Bill Todd, Nadine Sadawi, Ron Huxtable, Thomas Campagnola

**THIRD FLIGHT**

- 1. Thomas Campagnola
- 2. Bill R Todd
- 3. Nadine Sidawi
- 4. Paul Beaulieu
- 5. Linda Dos Santos
- 5. John Fitterman
- 7. Marilyn Heberling
- 7. Leland Markley

Rich Watson, Ron Huxtable with Dorothy Fosse Trophy

