

2015 USCA Selection Eights October 22-25, 2015 West Palm Beach, FL



The USCA Selection Eights took over the National Croquet Center for four very full days of croquet in late October, using all 12 lawns and playing well into the night on the newly-lighted lawns #1 through #3. A few games remained unfinished, but each Eight (and the Sixth Group) had a clear winner.

Ben Rothman won the First Eight with a 10-4 record, the sixth time since 2009 he has won at least a share of first place and the third time he has won the event outright. He clinched the win in the 12th round of play, reaching 10-2 with no other player having fewer than five losses. Danny Huneycutt and Brian Cumming each won their final two games (including a game for each against Rothman) to tie for second at 9-5. Stephen Morgan made an impressive debut in the top group, tying with David Maloof for fourth place.

Stuart Lawrence won the Second Eight, 12-2 with three triple peels. Doug Grimsley finished a game behind for second place. With no time limits and many unexpectedly long games, this group spent many hours playing under the lights.

In the Third Eight, Sherif Abdelwahab withstood a late charge by Derek Wassink, finishing one game ahead at 11-3. Matt Smith recorded a triple peel, his first either in practice or a tournament match.

The Fourth Eight turned into a Seven due to a withdrawal just after the tournament started. Harper Peterson and Zack Watson led from the start, Peterson finishing 10-2 and Watson 9-3. Watson finished two triple peels, his first in a tournament. After the first one, he got some advice from Robert Hurst on a helpful sequence to use for the penult peel; Watson made immediate use of this in completing his second triple.

Bill Daigle won the Fifth Eight with a perfect 13-0 record. The 2:30 time limit was shortened to 2:15 for the second round robin, resulting in lower scores but all players finishing 13 or 14 games. Russell Dilley, Donna Dixon, and Richard Schiller tied for second at 7-6.

The Sixth Group had seven players, time limit 2:15 and all games finished. Richard Sullivan won with 11-1. Dawn Jupin took second place at 9-3.

In all there were 30 triple peels, 19 of them in the First Eight. David Maloof led with 5 triples.

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The Results:

First Eight

- 1 Ben Rothman 10/14
- 2 Danny Huneycutt 9/14
- 2 Brian Cumming 9/14
- 4 David Maloof 8/14
- 4 Stephen Morgan 8/14
- 6 Jeff Soo 7/14
- 7 Jim Bast 4/14
- 8 Robert Hurst 1/14

Second Eight

- 1 Stuart Lawrence 12/14
- 2 Doug Grimsley 11/14
- 3 George Cochran 6/12
- 4 Simon Jenkins 6/14
- 5 Paul Billings 5/12
- 6 Rory Kelley 4/12
- 7 Robert Van Tassell 5/14
- 8 Mike Taylor 4/14

Third Eight

- 1 Sherif Abdelwahab 11/14
- 2 Derek Wassink 10/14
- 3 Bill Mead 9/14
- 4 Matt B. Smith 8/13
- 5 Martyn Selman 8/14
- 6 Tom Yates 7/13
- 7 John Osborn 1/14
- 7 Mike Todorovich 1/14

Fourth Eight

- 1 Harper Peterson 10/12
- 2 Zack Watson 9/12
- 3 Nick Mitchell 8/12
- 4 Ian Harshman 6/12
- 5 Daniel Pailas 5/12
- 6 Michael Gibbons 2/12
- 6 David Druiett 2/12
- 8 Peter Just (WD)

Fifth Eight

- 1 Bill Daigle 13/13
- 2 Russell Dilley 7/13
- 2 Richard Schiller 7/13
- 2 Donna Dixon 7/13
- 5 Robert Roth 5/13
- 5 Steve Summer 5/13
- 7 Dylan Goodwin 5/14
- 8 Bill Hartmann 4/14

Sixth Group

- 1 Richard Sullivan 11/12
- 2 Dawn Jupin 9/12
- 3 Rodney Lassiter 8/12
- 3 Christophe Bergen 8/12
- 5 Mary Rodeberg 3/12
- 5 Matthew Harders 3/12
- 7 Tony Reaves 0/12

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Jeff Soo

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Ben Rothman