

Dorothy Fosse Invitational 2016

April 20-24, 2016



The setting was outstanding, the weather was fine, the players were gracious, and the Fifteenth annual Dorothy Fosse Invitational played April 22nd to April 26th 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.

The big news was that at the conclusion of the tournament, the courts would be ripped up and reset as three courts. These courts will be ready for next year's tournament.

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 Dorothy Fosse, at 97 years young, and who won her flight three years ago. The committees have evolved, and for the last several years are 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, and others

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 Jackie Jones with a -1 handicaps, and topped by Rich Watson with a 2.5 handicap. Block play was the order of the day Thursday and Friday, with a double elimination ladder on Saturday and Sunday for all flights. Play was compatible with championship play, but there were few long breaks. Macey White played well above his handicap, losing only one game in the block, and going undefeated in the double elimination ladder, to take the honors for the flight. Jackie Jones was second and Rich Watson came in third.

To be noted: The winner of the Championship and First flight will have their names added to two permanent trophies at the club.

First flight consisted of eight players, with Lynda Sudderberg leading with a 4 handicap, with handicaps from 4 to 7. The old adage of not giving up until the game is over proved itself for Lynda. Placing eighth in block play with only one win; she came alive in the ladder, going undefeated in four games to win the flight. Bob Crouch, winning five games in the block, lost his first two in the ladder and was eliminated. Tom Shelko made a good showing, wandering through the ladder to end up in the finals losing to Lynda. Final: Lynda Sudderberg winner; Tom Shelko second; and Art Thomasson third.

Second flight, handicaps of 9 and 10 saw Terry Philcox and Jack Barlow lead the way out of the block play. Gail Rubin tried was not too successful in the block. The ladder re-arranged the players, with Jack Barlow, in his first tournament, go undefeated in ladder play to win the flight.

Terry Philcox had worked his way through the loser side of the ladder, but stumbled when he met Gail Rubin, whose game had definitely improved, ending up third, while Gail who had now defeated Terry twice in the ladder went on the take second place, losing to Jack in the finals.

Saturday evening saw us at the Creek Clubhouse for cocktails and a buffet dinner

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 stained glass hangings designed and assembled by Ted Knopf 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. This is a great tournament, with a great venue. Consider making plans to attend.

Fred Jones
Tournament Director

**CHAMPIONSHIP
FLIGHT**

1 Macey White
2 Jackie Jones
3 Richard Watson
4 Bill Hartmann
5 John Warlick
5 Jack Montgomery

FIRST FLIGHT

1 Lynda Sudderberg
2 Thomas Shelko
3 Art Thomasson
4 Vincent Marmo
5 Stephen Grassburgh
5 Thomas Campagnola
7 Joseph Zilligen
7 Bob Crouch

SECOND FLIGHT

1 Jack Barlow
2 Gail Rubin
3 Terry Philcox
4 Paul Beaulieu
5 Nadine Sidawi
5 Marilyn Heberling