

Hawthorns Invitational Hawthorns golf and croquet club 8-27-16 to 8-28-16



The first invitational croquet tournament at the Hawthorns Golf & CC, and maybe the first sanctioned event ever in Indiana, was held August 27-28, 2016. Conditions were soggy - Indianapolis in the summertime - but playable for the 9-15 handicappers, with three of the eight playing their very first sanctioned event. The weather was much better on Sunday and we had to pay close attention to **hydration**. Enthusiasm was high as evidenced by a 50% increase in the number of USCA members in Indiana - all signed up on the spot. Each player had three games and, as expected, Mike Leaming and Charlotte Hapak, the two 9's, contested the final.

Michael prevailed, his relative strength and the excessive "character" of the lawn perhaps factors in the outcome. Mark Townsend took third, gaining 11 tracking points in his three games and even pegging out in one! He's made great strides since his only other tournament, the Steuber in 2015.

The rest of the field played very well at times, with close games and plenty of experience to build on.

Millie Gillett came over from Cincinnati and scored one victory. Scott Reed, representing the Hawthorns, played his first games in at least a year and had one victory in hand, but for Tim Kraabel's championship level hit in and rush to the winning hoop in last turns. The Battle of the Bryans was won by Bryan Gregor, as these two beginners played much better than the 15 hcps they were assigned.

As our facilities expand, we'll add more flights. In the meantime, the quest to drag Indiana out of Croquet Wasteland has officially begun!

Final Results

1. Michael Leaming
2. Charlotte Hapak
3. Mark Townsend
4. Non-Member
5. Non-Member
5. Mildred Gillett
7. Scott Reed
7. Non-Member



(L-R) Charlotte Hapak, Russell Dilley, Michael Leaming

Russ Dilley, TD