

SARASOTA COUNTY CROQUET CLUB
CLUB DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP
FEBRUARY 19-21, 2016
Venice Florida

The Sarasota County Croquet Club held its annual Club Doubles Championship on its three full size courts in Venice Florida on the weekend of February 19-21, under clear, blue sunny skies. Everything and everybody co-operated to make this a wonderful weekend.

With a turnout of 54 players paired into 27 teams the tournament was divided into four flights, the top three with seven teams and Third flight with six. As we were able to schedule a complete round-robin for each flight, there was to be no playoff ladder, but a provision was provided to play an extra game so that a flight winner would not be decided by net points if there was a win-loss tie.

The team of Bob and Gillian Merritt who proceeded to win all five matches to take their flight, followed closely by Barbara Caiafa and Linda Zeck who lost only to Bob and Gillian, controlled third flight.

Second flight was the same story with the team of Douglas Ledgett and Bob Lentz taking all six matches, with their nearest competitors Jeannine and Randy Bedard taking four wins and two losses.

First flight saw the first break in the undefeated flights. The team of Charlotte Neagle and Richard Palmer lost their last match of the tournament, but held to a 5 win, 1 loss to become their flight champions. Team Jim Coling and Jim McLaughlin with a record of 4 and 2 came in second.

Championship, as always, saw some great play with Team Russ Cuccia and Dale Poszgai finishing with a record of five wins, one loss, and as of Saturday night, having finished the block early, looked to be the team to take the trophy; but with determination, the Team of Jackie Jones and Colin Irwin, having lost the first game of the series sneaked by to end up with five wins as well, amassing a total of one net point.

At the conclusion of the block play, and after the presentation of the awards for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners, the play-off game for the Club Championship was played at noon on Sunday. Being the only game "in the park" it gained a sizable gallery. Both teams played well, and there were examples of excellent strategy, but Russ and Dale were not up to the match of Jackie and Colin. Russ and Dale settled for second while Jackie and Colin took the honors 17-10

The club's thanks go out to all who helped make the tournament a success, including the off the court continental breakfasts and "Attitude adjustment" each afternoon, also to Colin Irwin for supervising the court set-up

The second half of the tournament Club Singles Championship will be held on two weekends in March

FINAL STANDINGS

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

- 1 Colin Irwin & Jackie Jones
- 2 Russ Cuccia & Dale Poszgai
- 3 Hans Peterson & Michael Albert
- 4 Alan Cottle & Avril Rangoni
- 5 Ken Northrop & Jack Montgomery
- 6 Webster Bull & Bob Worrell
- 7 Blaine Davis & Sheila Davis

FIRST FLIGHT

- 1 Richard Palmer & Charlotte Neagle
- 2 Jim Coling & Jim McLaughlin
- 3 Frank Buzerak & Doug Johnson
- 4 Roni Brazell & Richard Zeck
- 5 Ken Deaso & Oakley Johnson
- 6 Sis Courtsal & Joy Bandy
- 7 Ralph Curtis & Dick Schleiter

SECOND FLIGHT

- 1 Douglas Ledgett & Bob Lentz
- 2 Jeanine Bedard & Randy Bedard
- 3 Mac McDermott & Maryann McDermott
- 4 Camelia Monteforte & Leanne (Lulu) Rodick
- 5 Michael Kukla & Anne Kukla
- 6 Gene Raymond & Nancy Hart
- 7 Bill Hoffman & Connie Demming

THIRD FLIGHT

- 1 Bob Merritt & Gillian Merritt
- 2 Barbara Caiafa & Linda Zeck
- 3 Connie Coling & Jane Koziol
- 4 Dean Ricci & Shirley Ricci
- 5 Rita McNamara & Maria Petrola
- 6 Virginia Combs & Harry Brown

Submitted
Fred Jones
Tournament Director