

Sarasota County Croquet Club Fall Invitational December 2-4, 2016

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

1	ALAN	COTTLE
2	COLLIN	IRWIN
3	HANS	PETERSON
3	RUSS	CUCCIA
5	JACKIE	JONES
5	BOB	WORRELL
5	JOHN	WARLICK
5	JACK	MONTGOMERY
9	AVRIL	RANGONI-MACCHIAVELLI

FIRST FLIGHT

1	OAKLEY	JOHNSON
2	JIM	COLING
3	BOB	MCQUINN
3	GENE	RAYMOND
5	LYNDA	SUDDERBERG
5	JIM	SAUNDERS
5	STEVE	GRASSBAUGH
5	TED	THELIN
9	SHEILA	DAVIS
10	MARK	MASSELINK

SECOND FLIGHT

1	MICHAEL	KUKLA
2	GAYLE	RUBIN
3	JACK	BARLOW
3	MARK	CLAFF
5	GARY	ANDERSON
5	MAC	MCDERMOTT
5	JUDY	DAHISTROM
5	BILL	HOFFMAN
9	ROGER	MEASEL
9	LARRY	BEATON
9	DIANE	SAUNDERS
12	BOB	LENTZ
13	JIM	MCLAUGHLIN
13	ROXANNE	ROSETTO

Sarasota County Croquet Club held its Fall Invitational on December 2-4, 2016 on the three courts in Venice, Florida. The weather was sunny and warm. No rain, standard for Florida at this time of year. The courts were without a blemish, level and fast (Reading eight plus on the speed meter). With a field of 33 players, divided into four flights, several (23 in fact) games were played early on Wednesday and Thursday by local participants, allowing those from out of town to play three games a day on Friday and Saturday.

Championship flight (Handicap -2 to 1.5) consisted of nine players, three with minus handicaps, Colin Irwin, Alan Cottle, and Jackie Jones. Colin's game was coming back, and Hans Peterson was playing well, so at the end of block play Colin, Hans, and Alan stood in that order. Due to dropouts, Jackie only played three games, not too successfully. The ladder quickly deleted Jack Montgomery, Jackie, John Warlick and well as Bob Worrell. Next went Russ Cuccia and Hans, leaving the final game between Alan and Colin. It would be nice to say that it was a close game, but Alan as he is wont to do pegged out for the second time in the tournament taking the trophy 26 to 3 in a time of 43 minutes. Russ Cuccia and Hans Peterson tied for third.

First flight (Handicaps 3.5-7) comprised of ten players, with Jim Coling and Gene Raymond taking the #1 and #2 spots in the block, while Oakley Johnson was third. In the ladder Jim Coling took out Bob McQuinn while Oakley defeated Gene. In the finals Oakley Johnson narrowly edged out Jim Coling 14-13 to take the trophy.

Second flight (Handicaps 7-10) with fourteen players, divided into two blocks of seven saw Michael Kukla and Mark Claff lead through their block, while Jack Barlow and Gail Rubin controlled the second block. The ladder saw Rubin take out Barlow, while Kukla defeated Claff to face off in the finals. In a well-played game Michael Kukla defeated Gail Rubin 17-13 to win the flight.

Socially, the tournament was a success, with an opening party at the Manasota Beach Club including a cocktail and social hour followed by a five-course meal including a choice of entrée of beef, grouper, chicken, or scallops, and to finish of the meal Coffee and a selection of several deserts. In addition a Pot Luck dinner on Saturday evening at the Bay Indies clubhouse added to the festivities.

And of course, continental breakfast each morning, nice lunches, and attitude adjustment every afternoon. With the finals starting at 1:00 PM Sunday, and finishing with the awards all on our way by 3:00 PM, looking forward to the next tournament.

Many thanks go to all the volunteers from the club who made the event a success. Including, but not limited to, Colin and Jim Coling for setting wickets, Lula and Anne Kukla and all the kitchen help, Nancy Hart and Mare for helping Bob Lentz at Bay Indies, Mac McDermott for delivering the refreshments to Manasota Beach, and numerous others who I may have missed.

Submitted

Fred Jones, Tournament Director