

34TH ANNUAL TEXAS CLASSIC

Dallas Croquet Association, Richardson, TX – Sept 29-Oct 2, 2016

Some folks came out for early practice, Wednesday September 28th, the day before the beginning of the four day event known as the Texas Classic Croquet Tournament. 2016 represents the 34th edition of the local sporting activity which is sponsored by the Dallas Croquet Association.

Lake Hubbard Mallet Club and Lake Tawakoni Mallet Club were the lawn venues for these rounds of croquet competition. We were blessed with absolutely gorgeous weather throughout the weekend. The participants were thrilled to embrace cool brisk mornings with temps in the mid 50 degree range then saw the day unfold to brilliant sunshine amid highs in the 80's. Locals were happy for the arrival of Fall considering previous months, enduring a HOT ... HUMID ... Summer.

In the early 1980's the DCA (Dallas Croquet Association) began hosting play according to American 6-Wicket Croquet Rules. During the initial years, DOUBLES ONLY competition allowed the local and out of town guests to increase their knowledge and skills of this version of our sport. Singles play was introduced to the tournament format several years later. Registrants in our tourney were provided an historical record of the Texas Classic from the previous 33 years. Full details of Doubles and Singles rankings for each yearly occurrence also reveal specific accolades earned. Trophies of numerous designs were awarded in several levels of skill and strategy involving the Sport of Croquet.

2016 represented a year in which the Championship level of play did not come to fruition. However, the 1st Flight and 2nd Flight participants exhibited masterful shot making skills and impressed the gallery with various moments of strategy as well. Of course there were occasions when individuals seemed to go into a fog ... we all know the disappointing feeling of forgetting to clear deadness. During segments of play a few folks paid little attention to the deadness board and thus both players failed to notice the hitting of a dead ball. Such is the nature of a long and stressful day in croquet. Yet with these minor infractions ... people laughed at themselves and each other as spectators recalled certain events of a game. It seems inevitable to hear the better judgement of an armchair quarterback from time to time ... hee hee.

During the playoffs, some competitors continued their winning ways while others seemed to be sleepers and knocked off block winners. The phenomenon of making it to Sunday is a road of challenges. Many will display their skills from day one, while other folks their prowess with each succeeding day. Our format for determining playoffs allows for a majority participating in the progression of the tournament rounds.

Our SINGLES winners in both flight levels not only won their block but also were victorious in the FINALS.



Frank Vuitch

Frank Vuitch of Dallas, TX won the 1st Flight Singles and Doubles trophies.

Conner Helms of Oklahoma City, OK mirrored the same accomplishment and also took home trophies for Singles and Doubles 1st Place in the 2nd Flight level of play. Rob Franks of Shreveport, LA was the Runner-Up to



Conner Helms

in 1st Flight and Huston Huffman of Oklahoma City, OK was the Runner-Up in 2nd Flight. Doubles trophies for 2nd Place went to Bob Bozeman and Michael Harris both of Dallas, TX.

These names will be added to the HISTORY of TEXAS CLASSIC Trophy Winners.

Adios from the Great State of TEXAS ... and HAPPY CROQUET TRAILS Y'ALL ...



Joe Steiner, Rob Franks, Suzan Copeland, Bill Copeland



Lisa Maddox, Missy Chilton, Huston Huffman, Jane Helms, Conner Helms, George Blackburn



Michael Harris



Harold Menzel, Bill Copeland, Tad Cassidy, Frank Vuitch

Singles 1st Flight

1. Frank Vuitch (Trophy)
2. Rob Franks Jr. (Trophy)
3. Harold Menzel (tied)
Joe Steiner (tied)
5. Bill Copeland
6. Suzan Copeland
7. Bob Bozeman
8. Tad Cassidy

Singles 2nd Flight

1. Conner Helms (Trophy)
2. Huston Huffman (Trophy)
3. Missy Chilton
4. Jane Helms
5. Lisa Maddox
6. George Blackburn

1st Flight Hi-Low Doubles

1. Frank Vuitch (Trophy)
2. Bob Bozeman (Trophy)
3. Harold Menzel
4. Joe Steiner
5. Tad Cassidy
6. Rob Franks

2nd Flight Hi-Low Doubles

1. Conner Helms (Trophy)
2. Michael Harris (Trophy)
3. Huston Huffman
4. Jane Helms
5. Lisa Maddox
6. Missy Chilton
7. George Blackburn