

THE COUNTRY CLUB OF JACKSON

3rd Annual Croquet Invitational



The Country Club of Jackson's 3rd Annual Invitational, American Croquet tournament was contested October 13-15, 2017 in beautiful, radiant sunshine! The Club rolled out its finest for fabulous player comfort including, a cocktail party reception, gourmet lunches, court-side snacks and refreshments, a spectacular Saturday Night Banquet and the club's signature Sunday Brunch Awards event. Additionally, players and their guests gained access to the club's spa and fitness facilities!

The challenge was all singles with seven players in Championship Flight and four each in First and Second Flights. **Mark Fields** served as Tournament Director, and CCJ Director of Croquet, **Joe Moore**, was referee. Both were assisted and backed up off-sight by **Bob Kroeger**. Moore utilized slow motion video in judging possible crush shots, double taps and the like. The videos proved remarkably reliable for providing absolute certainty of referee calls.

Results

Championship Flight played a round robin block with players playing 3 games each on Friday and Saturday. George Cochran exited RR with 5 wins and one loss, to Ed Becker. Mark Fields, also 5-1, lost to Cochran on RR. Although Becker topped the #1 seed in RR, two defeats netted him 4-2. Three players tied with 3-3 results, but Calver Chaney topped the group with more net points.

Championship Playoffs on Sunday saw 1 vs 2; 3 vs 4 and 5 vs 6. Cochran and Fields fought to the wire. Cochran was characteristically managing end-of-game time, but stuffed the number five wicket with black. That being yellow's wicket, Fields, first ball last turn, hit in from the south boundary to begin a four-ball break that broke down only a wicket later. With a good-spirited, guttural "Hoo-ah", Cochran split the remaining balls to the boundaries to assure his 13 – 11 victory. Meanwhile, Becker topped Chaney for the second time to secure third place.

Championship Flight

- 1 George Cochran
- 2 Mark Fields
- 3 Ed Becker
- 4 Calvert Chaney
- 5 Scott Kennedy
- 6 Mike McRee
- 7 Mal Wall



George Cochran, Joe Moore, Mark Fields

First Flight played two round robin blocks followed by playoffs of 1 vs 2 and 3 vs 4. Second seed, David Trigiani, emerged from RR with the best record of 4-2. Top seed, Edward Erlich, and Warwick Alley each netted 3-3, and Eddie Guillot was 2-4. But the tide turned in playoffs. Erlich reclaimed top billing with a 17-14 win over Trigiani, and Guillot bested Alley to finish 3rd.

First Flight

- 1 Edward Erlich
- 2 David Trigiani
- 3 Eddie Guillot
- 4 Warwick Alley



Edward Erlich, Joe Moore & David Trigiani

Second Flight also played two round robin blocks followed by playoffs of 1 vs 2 and 3 vs 4. Top seed Frank Alley and up-and-comer 4th seed, Jeremy Birdsall each dominated round robin play with records of 5-1. That left only two possible wins for Linda Trifone and Eugenia Wilkie, and they split those to emerge from round robin with 1-5 records, each.



Frank Alley, Joe Moore, Jeremy Birdsall

In playoffs, Birdsall bested F. Alley in a hard fought 14-13 match for the flight's top honors. Trifone found her game and bested Wilkie 18-10 to claim third place.

Second Flight

- 1 Jeremy Birdsall
- 2 Frank Alley
- 3 Linda Trifone
- 4 Eugenia Wilkie