

Boca Grande Invitational 2018
Gasparilla Mallet Club – Boca Grande, FL
(American Rules-Singles)
March 1-4, 2018

CHAMPIONSHIP

1. Jackie Jones
2. Bob Worrell
3. Mark Masselink
4. Colin Irwin
5. Oakley Johnson
6. Gene Raymond
7. Donald Parker
8. Robert Bake
9. Sheila Davis
10. Missy Ramey

FIRST FLIGHT

1. Ralph Curtis
2. Nancy Hart
3. Charles Perry
4. James McLaughlin
5. Laurien Trowell



**BOCA GRANDE INVITATIONAL
2018**

The Boca Grande Invitational Tournament was held on the three croquet courts at the Gasparilla Inn in Boca Grande, Florida on March 1-4, 2018.

The setting was ideal. Three smooth, green lawns set by a model clubhouse overlooking the fairways of the golf course, and the Gulf of Mexico for a background.

The tournament was divided into two flights, with Championship having ten players in two blocks and first flight having five players. Four days of play consisted of the first two in block play, leading to weekend play in a double elimination ladder.

Championship play started with two blocks seeded by handicaps. Jackie Jones who had five wins, and Mark Masselink with four wins dominated block one. Block two had three players with four wins, namely Colin Irwin, Bob Worrell

and Oakley Johnson. From there the blocks were re-seeded by standings and a double elimination ladder carried each group through to the winner on Sunday. There was some very strategic play as well as well aimed strokes with Colin and Mark falling by the wayside and Bob Worrell and Mark Masselink playing it out to the final game. Worrell won the semi-final to meet Jackie, who was still undefeated for the tournament. In a close and very interesting game Jackie edged out Bob 12 to 11 to take the trophy.

In Championship-B Gene Raymond worked his way through the entire ladder to meet Don Parker in the finals. Gene played extremely well to beat Don 12 to 10 in the finales

First flight consisting of five players went according to schedule with the top three players ending the block in that order, Ralph Curtis, Chuck Perry and Nancy Hart. The ladder saw Nancy grab hold of the tempo, and go through to the finish, but was bested in the finals by Ralph 20-9

As usual, the social side was well done, under the direct supervision of Oakley Johnson and Bob Worrell. An opening get together after play on Thursday gave us a chance to tell croquet stories of

the day and to test the spirits as well as goodies. Friday night the Inn outdid itself, with a choice of filet or salmon plus all the fixings. Their key lime pie is uniquely different, and delicious,

Of local note: Johnson, Worrell, Masselink, Sheila Davis, Bob Bake, Ralph Curtis and Laurien Trowell are members of the Gasparilla Inn Mallet Club, while Jackie Jones, Colin Irwin, Gene Raymond, Nancy Hart and Jim McLaughlin are members of the Sarasota Croquet Club. Many of the players had dual memberships in the Gasparilla, Sarasota, and Sorrento, Maine Croquet clubs

Saturday, we watched the sun go down into the Gulf of Mexico at the Boca Bay beach house, with drink in hand, and tables of hors d'oeuvres. We all gathered together on Sunday to see the series of games leading to the finals at 11:00 AM. Finished off with a wonderful luncheon in the Pelican Room at the Inn.

Finals winners: Championship-A Jackie Jones, Championship-B Gene Raymond, and First flight Ralph Curtis.

Fred Jones,
Tournament Director