



## USCA Florida Regional Golf Croquet Tournament 2019

National Croquet Center  
West Palm Beach, Florida  
January 11-13, 2019

White Repeats as Florida Regional Champion!



A record 36 players, and, arguably the strongest field ever for this 6th annual event, descended upon the National Croquet Center in West Palm Beach for three days of exceptional singles and doubles play January 11-13 for the Florida GC Regional. Players traveled from throughout Florida, the Midwest, the eastern part of the U.S., and included international players from Toronto and England.

Players were divided into two divisions, Championship and First Flight based on their WCF grades, and then were placed into six singles blocks for the initial singles stages.

Day one began with timed doubles knockout play of 1-hour, 15-minute matches in the morning followed by singles block play in the afternoon. In Championship Flight Doubles, after two rounds of play, the seeded teams of Danny Huneycutt and Matt Griffith, Jeff and Eileen Soo, and Sherif Abdelwahab and Sandra Knuth all advanced as predicted, however the UK's Helena Jansson and Mike Fensome took out Ahab Dincer and Hal Denton in a tight 7-6 match to head into the semi-finals.

In First Flight Doubles action, Jim Teel and partner Pat Colt, along with Steven Mednick and Julia Johnston, Tim Cavers and William Simmons, and Rich Dell and Clint Dawkins secured their spots in the semi-finals.

After two days of exciting play, four players from each of the singles blocks advanced to the knockout rounds with remaining players moving into Plate matches. World-renowned players, Sherif Abdelwahab, Danny Huneycutt, Jeff Soo, and Ahab Dincer headed into the quarterfinals with Macey White, Matt Griffith, Cheryl Bromley, and Stephen Jackson winning their opening Knockout matches to advance.



Amr Hamdy



Danny Huneycutt

First Flight Singles qualifiers who advanced into their quarterfinal Knockout included Robert Clark, John Fox, Rich Dell, Pat Colt, Clint Dawkins, Jim Teel, Ellie Griffith, Tom Howell, and Rich Dell.

Doubles matches were interwoven into day two with eventual finalists Jeff and Eileen Soo meticulously disposing of opponents Cheryl Bromley and Amr Hamdy and Danny Huneycutt and Matt Griffith enroute to their place in the final. On the other half of the draw, Sherif Abdelwahab and Sandy Knuth took out George Cochran and John Warlick as well as Helena Jansson and Mike Fensome to next face the Soos in the Championship match.

This thrilling Championship final started in the mid-afternoon and battled into the early evening under the lights. Playing with surgical precision, the Soos were able to take the first of three games 7-3. Sherif and Sandy amped up their games and synched together to close out the second game 7-6. It was never certain who would make the final hoop of the last game until Sherif and Sandy closed it out 7-6 to win the title. Spectators were treated to an incredible display of long-distance clearing shots as well as precise placement and tactics.

First Flight doubles action saw Rich Dell and Clint Dawkins ease their way into the finals with Jim Teel and Pat Colt pulling ahead to win the final matchup 7-1, 7-3.



Above left: Championship Doubles Finalists Jeff and Eileen Soo with 2019 Champions Sandy Knuth and Sherif Abdelwahab. Above right: First Flight Doubles Champions Jim Teel and Pat Colt.

There were many singles matches yet to be played on the final day of the tournament beginning with the Quarterfinals. In Championship flight, Danny Huneycutt was able to get past Matt Griffith, Sherif eliminated Steve Jackson, and after an incredible battle at the 13th hoop, with Cheryl Bromley having three opportunities to put it away, Ahab Dincer polished off the game with a 7-6 win. Macey White came roaring through with a 7-6 upset over Jeff Soo and then proceeded to remove Sherif in three games in the semi-finals 7-5, 1-7, 7-5 to clinch a spot in the finals. In the other semi-final, Dincer moved past Huneycutt after the match was tied at one game each and Huneycutt had to withdraw due to a time constraint.

John Fox and Rich Dell battled their way through the knockout to reach the First Flight final. Rather than playing a two-out-of-three game match, they opted to play one 19-point game (first to 10 points). Their match went the distance with Rich Dell capturing the Regional title on the 19<sup>th</sup> hoop, 10-9.

Plate Winners included Amr Hamdy in Championship Flight and Bill Taber in First Flight.

The Grand Finale singles matchup of Ahab Dincer and Macey White got underway with spectators seated under the veranda to watch the action on court 6. Steady play by White allowed him to methodically take apart the incredible shot-making of Dincer in the first game 7-5 and then without delay, the second game got underway. White was “dialed in” and maintained his form and composure to play a solid final game to win the title 7-2. This is White’s second back-to-back Florida regional singles title.



Left:  
Spectators were captivated by the action on the lawns throughout the event.

Right:  
2019 Singles Champion Macey White with Finalist, Ahab Dincer



## FINAL STANDINGS

### CHAMPIONSHIP DOUBLES

- 01 Sherif Abdelwahab & Sandra Knuth
- 02 Jeff Soo & Eileen Soo
- 03 Danny Huneycutt & Matthew Griffith
- 04 Michael Fensome & Helena Jansson
- 05 Macey White & Bo Prillaman
- 06 Stephen Jackson & Ellie Griffith
- 06 Ahab Dincer & Hal Denton
- 06 Peter Carlin & Robert Clark
- 09 Cheryl Bromley & Amr Hamdy
- 09 George Cochran & John Warlick

## **CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT SINGLES**

### **01 Macey White**

02 Ahab Dincer  
03 Sherif Abdelwahab  
03 Danny Huneycutt  
05 Jeff Soo  
05 Stephen Jackson  
05 Cheryl Bromley  
05 Matthew Griffith  
09 George Cochran  
09 Bo Prillaman  
09 Eileen Soo  
09 Helena Jansson  
13 Amr Hamdy (Plate Winner)  
14 Peter Carlin  
15 Hal Denton  
15 John Warlick  
17 Sandra Knuth  
17 Michael Fensome

## **FIRST FLIGHT SINGLES**

### **01 Rich Dell**

02 John Fox Jr.  
03 Clint Dawkins  
03 Jim Teel  
05 Robert Clark  
05 Pat Colt  
05 Ellie Griffith  
05 Thomas Howell  
09 Peggy Fox  
09 Richard Sullivan  
09 Bill Simmons  
09 Tim Cavers  
13 Bill Taber (Plate Winner)  
14 Verna Buchs  
15 Cindy Howell  
15 Steven Mednick

## **FIRST FLIGHT DOUBLES**

### **01 Jim Teel & Pat Colt**

02 Rich Dell & Clint Dawkins  
03 Tim Cavers & Bill Simmons  
04 Julia Johnston & Steven Mednick  
05 Bill Taber & Richard Sullivan  
06 Cindy Howell & Thomas Howell  
07 Peggy Fox & John Fox Jr.

Submitted by: Cheryl Bromley (TD)

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