

Press Release

Greenwich Croquet Club

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Immediate release

Greenwich Croquet Club play "Golf" Croquet

No, this isn't golf nor is it backyard croquet familiar to many people. Rather it's a spirited and very precise game of croquet played on a pristine flat bent grass court the size of a tennis court. The one pound balls are only 1/8" smaller than the steel wickets where players literally propel the across the court at speeds near 60 miles per hour. While played wearing traditional English whites, this distinctly American game is gaining popularity among croquet devotees, especially members of the U. S. Croquet Association.

Golf Croquet is played with six wickets and four balls: blue, red, black, and yellow played in that order. Two teams oppose one another. In doubles, partners play alternate colored balls, whereas in singles, each opponent plays two alternating balls. Each player gets one shot per turn, and the first player to score a wicket earns one point, and which point, the game moves to the next wicket. Play is fast and aggressive. We played short games, where the first player or team to score 7 wickets with a 2 point lead, wins.

President Barbara Leeming asked Sherif Abdelwahab (see photo), one of America's top Golf Croquet players, to direct a weekend tournament in early September in Greenwich CT at Bruce Park. Watching this astounding player proved to be a real treat for the members of the Greenwich Croquet Club, in which eight players participated in a mix of singles and doubles games. Singles players finish in descending order:

Francis Palasieski

Bill Duncan

Jeff Sharpe

Suzanne Spangenberg

Maryholt Maxwell

Ian Sidey

Lee Kennedy

Paul Duvivier

Doubles teams finish in similar order:

Maxwell & Sidey

Duncan & Spangenberg

Palasieski & Kennedy

Sharpe & Duvivier

photo follows...



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Why Does it look so easy when you do it?

Tournament Director Sherif Abdelwahab (left) shares the secret with Lee Kennedy (right): practice more. Sherif ranks among the best in United States Golf Croquet, and Lee is a member of the Greenwich Croquet Club on the court at Bruce Park. (Photo courtesy of Sherif Abdelwahab)

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