

2014 USCA Florida Regional Nine Wicket Championship December 5-7, 2014 West Palm Beach, FL

The 3rd annual USCA Florida Regional Nine Wicket Championship was held December



Ian Harshman, John Warlick, Gail Rubin, Craig Danna, Jeanne Branthover, Harry "Spinner" Ketchum, Stephen Morgan

5-7, 2014 at the National Croquet Center. The weather was perfect for both singles and doubles competition in two flights.

Although the turnout was modest due to short scheduling notice - both flights were very competitive. The event started Thursday evening with happy hour and appetizers at the NCC lounge. Friday was devoted to a "double round robin" singles play for each flight on three of the club's seven "Back Nine" courts. The grass was fairly short and proved to be relatively fast and challenging. A Friday evening reception at "Jack's" in Lantana concluded the first day of play.

Saturday was reserved for "best of five" doubles play in both flights. The finals were concluded Sunday.

No player went undefeated in the Championship Flight Singles. Stephen Morgan beat John Warlick in the flight final. Gail Rubin did go without a loss in First Flight. In a replay of last year's final Gail was able to beat Harry Ketchum (last year's winner) in the singles final.

In doubles - Stephen Morgan and Ian Harshman were victorious over Bill Mead and John Warlick to win Championship Flight Doubles. Congratulations to Ian and to Stephen Morgan for his wins in both singles and doubles!

First Flight Doubles saw another repeat of last year's final as Craig Danna and Harry Ketchum (last year's winners) took on Jeanne Branthover and Gail Rubin. However, this year the women turned the tables on the men and won the contest. Congrats to Jeanne and to Gail for her wins in both singles and doubles!

Special thanks go to the entire USCA office staff (Shereen, Erica and Ursula) for all their work and support - before and during the tournament. The NCC Club hosting, along with the kind assistance and contribution from the Croquet Foundation of America, made this tournament possible. Thanks also, to Associate Tournament Director Bill

Mead for all his help and court setup. Gail Rubin was not only a winner in both contests - she also provided all sorts of assistance (including financial support) for this tournament. The lunches and happy hour service provided by Sandy James Fine Foods at the Center were roundly appreciated.

We all had fun and are excited about the prospects for next year's Florida Regional before the Nine Wicket Nationals. Every player seemed excited that Washington, DC is being considered as a possible host city for the 2015 USCA Nine Wicket Croquet Nationals.

John Warlick, TD

Championship Flight:

Singles:

- 1) Stephen Morgan
- 2) John Warlick
- 3) Bill Mead
- 4) Ian Harshman

Doubles:

- 1) Stephen Morgan/Ian Harshman
- 2) Bill Mead/John Warlick

First Flight:

Singles:

- 1) Gail Rubin
- 2) Harry 'Skinner' Ketchum
- 3) Craig Danna

Doubles:

- 1) Gail Rubin/Jeanne Brantover
- 2) Craig Danna/Harry 'Skinner' Ketchum



Ian Harshman, John Warlick, Stephen Morgan



Gail Rubin



Craig Danna, Harry 'Skinner' Ketchum, Gail Rubin, Jeanne Brantover



Stephen Morgan