



THE ROVER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CHICAGO CROQUET CLUB

A Busy 2007 Season

Your Club enjoyed a very successful 2007 Season. From Opening Day in

early June to the final games of the three leagues, the courts were very active.

Windy City Classic by Jeff Lee

The Windy City Classic 2007 (Bare-Bones version) was held August 10-12 at the Chicago Croquet Club's Hyde Park greens while, due to time and space constraints, the Championship Flight games took place at the Prairie Lights Croquet Club in Manhattan, Illinois. The tournament was also able to dodge the rains which made it one of the wettest Augusts in Chicago history.



Even though some competitors from past years were unable to participate in 2007, the schedule was filled with a number of veteran attendees and few new faces. Competition within the flights was fairly well matched with many games which could have gone either way but for the

ticking of the clock. The most unlikely hoop was scored by Jeff Lee against David Van Osdol in the championship match, as a partner-dead yellow was blasted from alongside wicket 3, traveling 62 feet over treacherous terrain dead-on into wicket 4 and proceeding all the way out of bounds. Jeff won the match by one hoop. Marshall Dahlstrom likewise prevailed in the 2nd flight championship match, squeezing out a one point victory over Rick Cooper. Marshall left his mallet in California and played most of the tournament with one of the CCC's \$12 homemade specials!

In order to relieve Saturday's busy tournament schedule in Jackson Park, the championship flight traveled to the Prairie Lights Croquet Club. On a bright and sunny day with a mild breeze, the four championship players started three games of block play followed by a mid-afternoon first place playoff between Mike Zuro and Mickey Huttenhoff. Mike took the lead early and played a masterful game to win the first place trophy.

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Bare-Bones Trophy created by Jeff Lee

Final Results:

Championship

- 1) Mike Zuro
- 2) Mickey Huttenhoff
- 3) Jonathan Kirby
- 4) Mike Weimerskirch

1st Flight

- 1) Jeff Lee
- 2) David Van Osdol
- 3) Dan Whalen

Trophy presentations were made near the northeast corner of the West Green, atop Anderson Knoll in the midst of the Burial Grounds, where many a break has come to a bitter end. The awesome, hand-crafted, tiny trophies were inspired by the spare, bare-bones format of the tournament: spectral skeleton warriors taking in a few rounds of croquet.

- 4) Barney King
- 5) Flash Kingsley
- 6) Judith Dahlstrom

2nd Flight

- 1) Marshall Dahlstrom
- 2) Rick Cooper
- 3) E.J. Brumder
- 4) Tom O'Laughlin
- 5) Barbara O'Laughlin
- 6) Jason Jarchow

Golf Croquet League

The Golf Croquet League for 2007 was again organized and run by Marie Trankina. She states that the league was hotly contested with the final winner only determined after the final games. This years Golf Croquet League was open to players with a handicap of eight

or above and there was one flight with ten players. Congratulations to Barbara O'Laughlin who won all but one of her matches. Despite the one loss she was able to preserve her first place position by four wickets over second place winner Marie Trankina.

Final Results

Barbara O'Laughlin	63
Marie Trankina	59
Diana Iacono	29
Judy Busch	24
Russell Iacono	23

Gil Rosenberg	19
Gerald Bauman	17
Karen Truitt	12
Kevin Truitt	6
Jan Viscum	5

Six-Wicket League

The 2007 Six-Wicket League included two flights with six participants in each flight. First Flight consisting of

handicaps 1-7 and Second Flight was for handicap 8 and above. Bisques were also used unless the players in a match

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agreed otherwise in advance of a match. While a number of handicap games were played in Second Flight, there were none played in First Flight. Barney King was the winner of First Flight with four wins. Tom O'Laughlin was the winner of

Second Flight. Both Tom and Jason Jarchow had the same number of victories. Using gross total points as the tie breaker, Tom won with 36 total points.

First Flight

	W	L	Points
Barney King	4	0	59
Jeff Lee	2	2	62
Alexis Gagne	1	1	24
Flash Kingsley	0	2	27
Dan Whalen	0	2	19
Doug Johnson	0	0	0

Second Flight

	W	L	Points
Tom O'Laughlin	2	2	36
Jason Jarchow	2	0	19
Barbara O'Laughlin	1	2	28
Laura O'Laughlin	1	0	10
Judy Busch	0	2	16
David Van Osdol	0	0	0

Doubles League

This year saw the introduction of a Doubles Six-Wicket League run by Dan Whalen. The Doubles League paired up high and low handicapped players with partners being changed for each match. Dan explained that the intent of the league was to introduce high handicapped players to different aspects of the American Rules six-wicket game in a fun, low pressure atmosphere. Participants included Judy Busch, Brent Harmon, Barney King, Jeff Lee,

Barb O'Laughlin, Ed O'Laughlin, Tom O'Laughlin, Marie Trankina, and Dan Whalen. The doubles games were played over three nights in August and September with Dan treating all the participants to pizza on the kickoff night. The participants all agreed that the League was a lot of fun and a great success. Dan reports that the winners of the League were 1) Tom 2) Barb and 3) Marie.

Miscellaneous

2008 Kickoff Party

The Board has decided to move the date for the 2008 Kickoff Party from late January to mid-March. The Board felt it was more appropriate to initiate the

Croquet Club's annual calendar a little bit closer to the time when play is actually possible. Look for an announcement of the date sometime in February.

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USCA Schools

Anyone who wishes to improve his or her croquet skills should consider enrolling in the schools offered by the United States Croquet Association (USCA) which are held at the National Croquet Center in West Palm Beach Florida. These schools not only offer an

opportunity to improve your skills but a chance to escape Chicago winter weather for a few days. For further information check the USCA's web site at www.croquetamerica.com/calendar/schools/

Clubhouse Repairs

The Club and its members owe a debt of gratitude to Jeff Lee for the repairs he made to the Clubhouse. You may have noticed the large ladder in the Clubhouse which Jeff used to repair the roof and the wall with the fireplace. He also painted the main room with paint supplied by the

Lake Side Lawn Bowling Club. The Club also owes its thanks to Mike from the Lawn Bowling Club for his work on the lawns and the Clubhouse gutters. Thanks also to Tom & Barb O'Laughlin for their donation of an air conditioner for the Clubhouse.

New Members

The Club would like to introduce the following new members:

E.J. Brumder
Judith and Marshall Dahlstrom
Brent Harmon
Jason and Wendy Jarchow

Please welcome these new members when you have the opportunity.

All current members should continue to try to sign up new members. It brings new people into the sport and you can also reduce your dues. You will receive a 25% reduction in your dues for each new member and a 10% reduction for each year after the first year that the new member renews his, her or their membership.

Board Members

The Board is always pleased to hear from any of the members regarding ideas for the Club. Please feel free to contact

any of the Board members. Their names are on the Club's Web site and below:

Jeff Lee, President	708-579-1180
Marie Trankina, Treasurer	708-246-6709
David Van Osdol, Secretary	312-446-7926
Jan Viscum, Social Chair	312-440-9811

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