

The Pétanque Times

Vol. 1 #3

May-June 1994

Newcomers Tourney

The 1994 season gets into full swing on May, 22 when the VOMPC hosts their annual "Newcomers" tournament at the Sonoma pétanque courts.

Director of sports, Pierre Joske, has planned an enjoyable day of fun with this random triplets event with each team assigned a first time player.

Registration is 10-11 A.M. play will commence at 11:30.

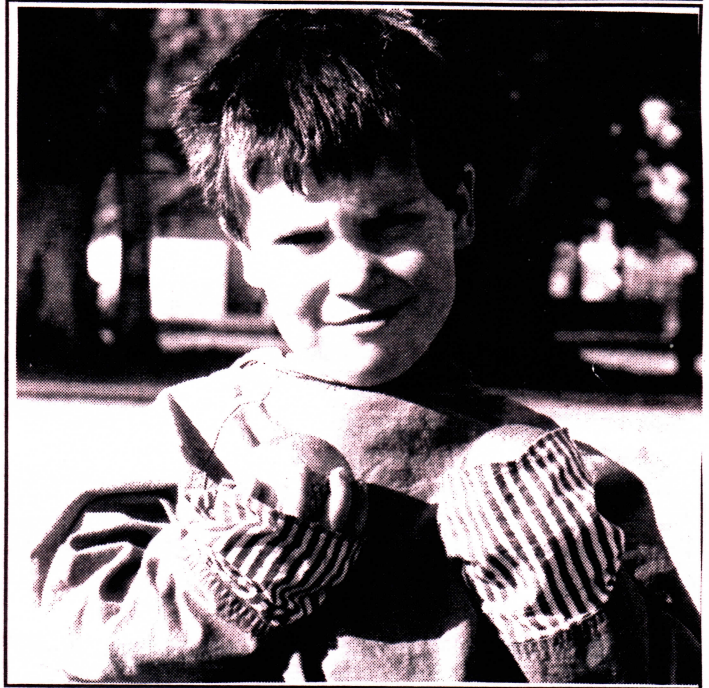
There is a \$5.00 entry fee but there is no charge for newcomers and each person who brings a new player will receive a \$1.00 discount on the days event.

There will also be a pétanque clinic held on Saturday, May 21, in order to introduce the basics of the game to anyone interested in learning more about our favorite sport.

This free instruction will be held from 10 A.M. until 1 P.M. at the VOMPC grounds.

John Bouldt, and other volunteers will have extra boules on hand to help those interested in honing their skills before the Sunday tourney.

The Sunday event is one of the best tournaments of the year, so bring a lunch and a friend and be prepared to have a good time.



June Travel

VOMPC members will be on the road in June as we show our appreciation to our fellow boules clubs to the south.

June 5th will be the day for a random triplets tourney at Boule D'or in Golden Gate Park.

Take 19th Ave. and turn right on Fulton to the 36th Ave. entrance to the park.

Start time is 9:30.

The following week is a trip to Pétanque Mariniere, for their annual picnic and another random triplets event at Marin Civic Center. Cost is \$15. This includes a New York steak meal with all the trimmings as well as your playing fee.

This is a very popular event and promises to be well attended.

Start time is 10:30.

Both clubs have extended an invitation to all VOMPC members to participate and have some fun.

John Bouldt is organizing car pools for both events. Call him at 938-8395 for more details.

Presidents Message

As we begin our tournament season, we should stop to reflect on recent accomplishments. Since the inception of VOMPC six years ago, we have grown to become one of the largest pétanque clubs in the U.S.

Through the generosity of the city and diligent efforts of many volunteers we have successfully established our own tree lined courts that provide the opportunity for pétanque players throughout Northern California to enjoy the game.

All of our many accomplishments have not come without a price. Disenchantment with the operation of our club among several members has led to the establishment of a second Sonoma club. I strongly believe that this is not in the best interest of Sonoma, inter-club goodwill or our national federation. I would say to all that it is not too late to reunite rather than be divided by unresolved grievances. We must consider what is best for the organization as a whole.

As president, I want to be on record as offering to do whatever is necessary to resolve our differences and to continue on a path that is determined by the consensus of all club members. Many people have spent much time and energy to develop our club, and there should continue to be only one club in Sonoma. Let's work to bring things back together and to make Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club the best it can be.

Mike Norton



The Pétanque Times is the newsletter of the Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club, PO Box 863 Sonoma, Ca. 95476

Tom Noonan, Editor

VOMPC Officers:

Mike Norton, President
Byron Mayo, Vice President
Pierre Joske, Director of Sports
Tom Noonan, Treasurer
J. Mathieu, Secretary
John Bouldt, Member at Large
Myron Reece, Member at Large

Nationals results

It was boules at their best on April 23-24, when the FPUSA held the National doublets championships at Pétanque Mariniere.

The weather was, to say the least, interesting. With rain most of the day interspersed with monsoon like downpours, it took a real lovers of the game to stick it out on Saturday.

With a three hour rain delay and a record number of umbrellas sold, the first half of the weekend event concluded just before dark. This was made bearable only by the complimentary coffee and Croissants provided by the club.

Sunday, however was a different story, as the weather improved so the level of play. And for those who chose to say and watch it was a real lesson in pétanque.

The Los Angeles team of Jeannot Zenalla and Felix Legrande put on a show and took the honors and the money home to the southland. They defeated a team of local boys, Armand Squietera and Albert Lucas, to become the new U.S. champions.

The women's division was kept in the neighborhood though as the prizes went to the team of Jane Miramon and Denise Branah, of the Sacramento club, who went the distance against another L.A. club team, Dolores Bush and Leana Ringstad. It should be noted that two of Sonoma's finest made it to the quarter finals on Sunday by going undefeated on Saturday. Chuck Fleming and J. Mathieu, played brilliantly all day, through adverse conditions, to show everyone that we can play the game in the north as well.

Our two stalwarts didn't fair as well on Sunday, however, and wisely chose to watch the final match from the sidelines rather than playing in it. Nice going guys.

VOMPC MEMBERSHIP

Last NameFirst.....
Spouse.....Tele.....
Street.....City.....
State.....zip.....Sex.....
Nationality.....Birthdate.....

Dues are \$20 per year per person, family membership is \$30 per year.
Please complete this form and send it along with your payment to:

VOMPC
PO Box 863
Sonoma, Ca. 95476

Summer League Sign-ups

It's Back!!

The VOMPC summer league that is. The event that was so well received last year is back and better than ever.

Sign-ups are now underway for the 1994 version of this popular mano-e-mano style of play. League director, Byron Mayo, has changed the rules some what this year and it promises to be even better than last season.

The new rules provide that the two divisions will be decided by a random draw rather than the "rated" system the the previous league.

Full details will be forth coming but here is the basic format:

- * Entry fee. \$10 per person
- * Matches, best 2 out of 3, 13 points per game.
- * Each player must complete 4 matches by July, 31.
- * Results will be submitted to Byron Mayo.
- * Sign-up by May, 31. NO LATE ENTRIES.
- * Prizes and trophies to be awarded.
- * Play-off tourney at the end of season.

Send your registration fee today!

Willits Wins!

The first "Willits challenge" was held April, 17, on the Willits courts and the outcome was not good for our brave VOMPC combatants.

The team of Louis Rohlicek, Bill Bruneau and Jeff Crawford, a Willits trio, took home the bragging rights from the first ever Willits/Sonoma head-to-head competition.

They defeated another north country team of Eldon Moilanen, Jean Chavez and Woody Woodyatt.

The closest a Sonoma team could come to a win was the John Bouldt, Ken Stieper, Mike Norton combo who beat another of Sonoma's finest, the team of Frank Pipal, Roger Poli and Tom Noonan to take third place.

Five teams from Willits and three Sonoma teams entered the fray and the competition was fierce from the start.

The next challenge will be held on June 26, at the Sonoma courts, as five Willits teams venture south to attempt to wreak havoc on our local players.

If you would like to join forces in order to show these people who the real players are, call John Bouldt, at 938-8395.

Phase 1 complete

With the planting of six sturdy sycamore saplings, work was completed last month on the first phase of court upgrades here at VOMPC.

Pierre Joske, and crew deserve a hand for the magnificent job they have done in finishing the job on time and under budget.

Pierre, who developed the plans and had them approved by the City of Sonoma, guided his crew with precision and perseverance in order to expand and beautify the VOMPC home courts.

The playing surface was extended by 20 feet to allow for a total of 16 courts. and new and improved gravel walkway was also installed as well as the grading of the field to the east of the courts. This field may be used for future expansion when the need arises.

Of course this job wasn't done single handedly. Pierre, was assisted by club members Yves Cassabonne, Chuck Fleming, J. Mathieu, John Bouldt, Phil Leveau, Myron Reece and Byron Mayo.

The club would also like to thank Steve Ledson, who graciously donated the services of a tractor and an operator for several hours to grade the east field and walkway, thanks again Steve, great job.

Little Switzerland Invitation

If you have never danced to the sounds of lively European music, sipped your beer in a leafey, outdoor biergarten or cut into a savory sauerbraten, then you have never been to Annette and Yves Casabonne's Little Switzerland. Celebrating the summer season, Annette and Yves are offering a limited number of free admissions to their friends in the Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club. Show your 1994 card at the door. For VOMPC members only.



Upcoming Events:

May 22...Newcomers Tournament VOMPC

May 31...Last day to sign-up for summer league.

June 5... Travel to Boule D'or in S.F.

June 12 Travel to Marin

June 26.. Willets Challenge II VOMPC

July 10 Grand Concourse de Pétanque
VOMPC



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