



Pétanque Times

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Sept.-Oct. 1995

Harvest Tournament Time



'Boules' in Provence

Jeremy Barlow

SUMMER LEAGUE STANDINGS IN SPECIAL INSERT

Mixed Random Triplets Scheduled for Sept. 24 In Valley of the Moon

SONOMA VALLEY grape growers say the quality level for this year's crop is running extraordinarily high, up and down the valley. So everybody's celebrating. And we're joining the party, with a big, fall harvest tournament Sunday, September 24, at our Valley of the Moon pétanque courts.

This will be a happy, mixed triplets event—with one or two women on each team, by random draw.

Coordinated by Pierre Joske and Chuck Fleming, the registration runs 9:30-10:30 a.m. Tournament play starts at 11 a.m. And we'll have a picnic break at about 1 p.m. following the initial *barrage*. Entry fee is \$5 per person. Cash prizes go to the winners.

Boule D'Or Team Wins VOMPC Championship

AT the 1995 VOMPC Championship tournament on August 27, the final match was a hard-fought battle between a Boule D'Or triplets team and one from the VOMPC. In the end the Boule D'or team won, 13-10. So Gerard Canabou, Jacques Biscay and Pat Vaslet went home with the 1995 championship and top prize money.

VOMPC team in second place

VOMPC's own Chuck Fleming, Jon Des Pois and Bob Bosco came close to scoring an upset—but finally had to settle for a well-earned second place.

Third place went to a Marin threesome, Louis Toulon, Jean Leveau and Armand Squitieri.

Peter Mathis, Claude Berthoud and Vladimar beat the all-Italian entry, Renato Sotille, Sal Troia and Frank Barsocchini, 13-8, in what turned out to be an exciting Consolante final.

Forty-five players on 15 select triplet teams entered this annual championship, sponsored by MaTelle Systems, Int'l. Steve Katz coordinated the event. And the playing courts were in good condition, thanks to Chuck Fleming and the help of Bob Bosco and Frank Barsocchini.

Nominating Committee Named for Fall Elections

ANOMINATING committee recently appointed by VOMPC president Byron Mayo is now working on plans for the October 28 election of the club's 1996 board of directors.

The committee, which includes Pierre Joske, Mike Norton and Frank Pipal, is developing a slate of potential 1996-97 directors to fill what will be three vacancies on the VOMPC board. The two-year terms of Mike, Pierre and Byron expire at the end of 1995. (The two-year terms of Chuck Fleming, Steve Katz, J. Mathieu and Frank Pipal continue to the end of 1996.)

In taking on the job, all three members of the committee said that they welcome nominations from the members at large.

If you would like to nominate a current club member for a two-year seat on the board of directors, contact Pierre Joske, Mike Norton or Frank Pipal with your nomination by September 22.

The committee's full report, with a list of nominations and voting instructions plus a ballot, will be sent to members well-ahead of the October 28 election and annual dinner meeting that will be held at Zino's Ristorante, Saturday evening, October 28. *More about this later.*

Willits Challenge Ahead

A gang of select triplet teams from the Willits Pétanque Club is coming into town on Sunday, September 17, looking for some action. It's the annual 'Willits Challenge'. And the Willits gang say they're ready to take on any and all VOMPC teams that are up to it.

John Bouldt is coordinating this rough-and-ready event for the VOMPC. If you have a select triplet team that wants to play, (VOMPC members only), call John at 938-8395 for further details.

From the president...

CITY OF SONOMA officials are not happy about overflow refuse from our tournaments, litter left around the courts, and parking in the gravel walkway..

In a recent meeting with the City, we agreed to arrange for a dumpster to be used on tournament weekends. And we agreed to ask our members to be more thoughtful in their use of the facilities at all other times, too. *Enough said, for now.*

All of us in the club can take pride in the Valley of the Moon Pétanque Courts, which our club created with the permission of the City. It's a beautiful environment for the game we all enjoy. Let's do our best to keep it that way.

—Byron Mayo

Club Roster Still Growing

Five new members joined our club during July and August, bringing the total membership up to 93—another new record. Please welcome our newcomers: Bob Boelen, Kim Field, Noah Katz, P.J. Mallette and Lesley Whitman.

At 10½ years of age, P.J. Mallette is our youngest full-fledged member. And he already has three solid tournament performances under his belt.

Another new record was set last month, too, when Noah Katz joined the club. Noah, along with his dad, Steve, and his grandfather, Morris, represent three generations from one family in the club at the same time.

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Officers and Directors:

Byron Mayo, president—Jacques Mathieu, vice president
Mike Norton, treasurer—Steve Katz, secretary
Pierre Joske, director of sports
Chuck Fleming, director—Frank Pipal, director

Grand Concours Beats Record Summer Heat

July 16 was a sizzling, hot day in Sonoma. But it didn't stop 57 pétanque enthusiasts from enjoying the club's 7th annual *Grand Concours de Pétanque and Bastille Day Barbecue*, sponsored by Ravenswood Winery.

Nineteen teams competed in the big random triplets tournament—and feasted on an array of Sonoma foods and fine Zinfandel from Ravenswood cellars.

At the end of the long and lazy afternoon, Louis Toulon, Barbara Saleh and Will Welliver emerged the *Grand Concours* winners, with Pat Vaslet, David Ogaz and Mike Johnson in second place. Third place went to Jon Des Pois, Susan Garcia and Jake Martin. The Consolante was captured by Peter Mathis, Pam Stephens and Fernand Navez.

The entire production was coordinated by Frank Pipal and Byron Mayo.

Joske, Norton and Mayo Retiring from the Board

Three senior members of the VOMPC board of directors have announced they are not running for re-election in October. Pierre Joske, former president and a founding member, Mike Norton, treasurer, former president and current FPUSA West Coast Counselor, and Byron Mayo, current president, will step down at the end of the current year.

All three board vacancies will be filled at the club's annual meeting, October 28.

Bulletin Board Mounted

A new bulletin board at the court with plexiglass cover now helps us to keep up to date.. It was a team project: Plywood from J. Mathieu, plexiglass from Garrick Clayton, gold lettering from Byron Mayo, and careful construction by Bill Carter and Bruce Frigard.

The Umpire's Box...

Q. In the middle of a round, we had a point about to be measured, when a player on the opposing team accidentally kicked the cochonnet two feet away from its position? How do you handle a situation like this?

A. If it was truly an accident, you put the cochonnet back in its place and continue the game. To avoid any possible ensuing argument, of course, the position of the cochonnet would have to have been marked.

(If you have a question about pétanque, ask the Umpire, PO Box 863, Sonoma, CA 95476. Answers are certified by our Director of Sports, FPUSA Umpire Pierre Joske.)

VOMPC Takes Action On Tournament 'Walk-Outs'

"Once tournament play begins, any player who withdraws from the competition without umpire permission may be declared ineligible for participation in the next scheduled VOMPC tournament—following review of the incident by the VOMPC board."

This is the wording of a resolution adopted unanimously by the club's board of directors at its July 11 meeting.

The board's action follows up on an unfortunate incident that took place during the newcomers tournament in June. One player on a random triplets team in the semifinals refused to play further. He walked off the court, leaving his two teammates stranded without a third.

The player involved in the incident was not a member of the Valley of the Moon Pétanque Club.

**VOMPC
SEPT.-OCT.
CALENDAR**

17 SEPT.
Willits Challenge:
Select Triplets
(Members Only)

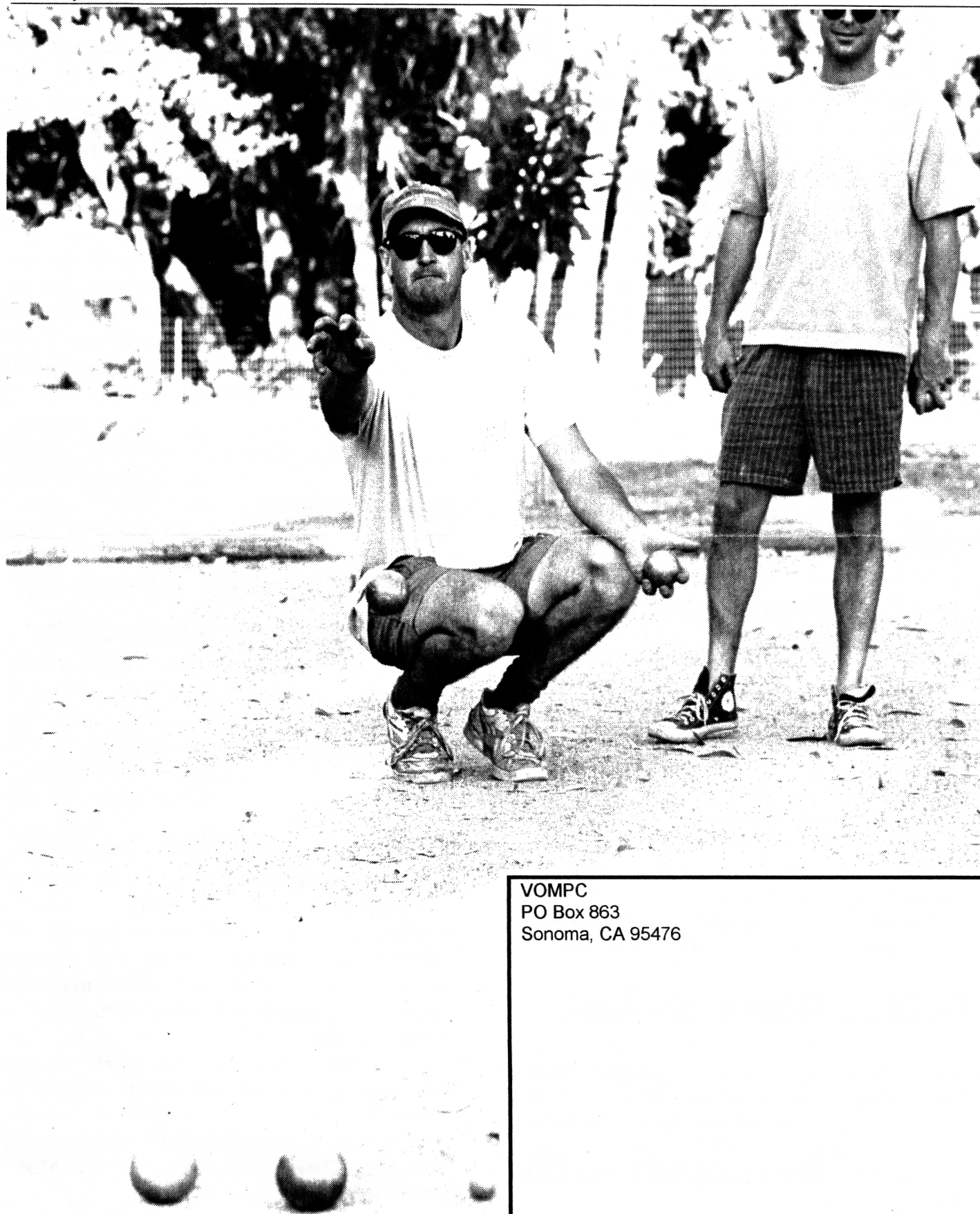
22 SEPT.
Summer League:
Final Deadline
For All Reports

24 SEPT.
Harvest Tourney:
Random Triplets
(Mixed)

22 OCT.
Select Doubles
With Special
Events TBA

28 OCT.
Annual Meeting
Board Election
VOMPC Dinne

Photo: by Tom Noonan



VOMPC
PO Box 863
Sonoma, CA 95476