

BOULDER, CO - The Les Shumate / Jim Costigan Colorado State Doubles 3-Wall Tournament wrapped up on Saturday, August 6th. Mother Nature provided some challenges throughout the tourney but with incredible teamwork (i.e., top notch Handballer Grounds Crew manning the tarps, torches, and blowers), and player's flexibility, it was still a giant success! A huge shout out to Tom for his masterful bracketology work and coordination under duress as well as Stan Dunlavy and Donna Mosely for helping to run the tourney desk on Saturday.

Chef Jeff Gregory with the aid of Ron Bronner and Don Stewart did a masterful job with cooking and coordinating the BBQ on Saturday providing delicious and abundant food for players and spectators during the exciting finals matches. Rockin live music from Donnie Young and Paul Waldmiller "Waldo" definitely added to the exceptional overall tournament experience. Muchas Gracias to Jorge Sanchez for supplying the industrial grade lights and huge canopy not to mention running countless errands during the tourney.

Our gratitude extends well beyond the people previously mentioned. It takes a community of people supporting a tournament of this magnitude to make it successful. Here are more contributors we would like to recognize: Arne Arnesen, Brett Nickal, Sherwin Beck, Mike Kearney, Stan Wolpoff, Bruce Green, George Blocker, Gene Schneider, Spence Prahal, Ed Telgenhoff, Steve Nieczkowski, Marty Mercer, Mark Hammond, Dan Knollenberg, Pete Tyson, Jim Cosentino, Lisa Meiring, Matt Caruso, & Mike Korpela as well as True Value and Jabra for the outstanding raffle prizes.

And now, without further ado, here are the tournament results...

The Open division semifinal matches provided some competitive and exciting handball. Armando Ibarra Jr. and Alex Ibarra Jr. squaring off against the California gunslingers Mando Ortiz and Shorty Ruiz. The gunslingers had too much firepower for Armando and Alex defeating them 21-18, 21-7. The other semifinal match paired Mark Hammond and Tom Marzilli vs. Jonathan Iglesias and Bear Meiring. Jonathan's precise front court execution led the way for 21-7, 21-13 victory.

The semifinals action paved the way for a Mando / Shorty vs. Jonathan / Bear finals. That match was filled with exceptional rallies, kill shots, pass shots, and serves. In the end, Mando Ortiz and Shorty Ruiz emerged as Open Champions. They defeated Jonathan Iglesias and Bear Meiring 21-9, 21-15 to take the Open Title and cash prize. Congratulations to the Dynamic CA Duo Mando Ortiz and Shorty Ruiz!

In the Open consolation bracket, Luis Perez and Thomas Lyle prevailed with a victory over Oliver Boyd and Joel Barber.

We had another CA out of towners take home a 1st place finish in the Contender division. Ashley Moler teamed up with a CO local, Brett Nickal to edge out a 15-21, 21-8, 11-6 tiebreaker victory over up-and-coming team of Juan Serrato and Mike Spier.

There was a good old fashion "Family Feud" in the Contender consolation bracket with 3 of the 4 finalists being related. When all of the dust settled, the DAC team of Donna Mosely and Anthony Delgado were able to beat out Garret Rose and Mircea Mosley to claim the victory.

The always popular 100+ division finals featured a knock-down, drag-out battle between Tom Marzilli and Lance Huegi vs. Lloyd Garcia and Bob Paulsen. This match was settled in two games as Marzilli and Huegi were able to take it home 21-10, 21-20.

Ron Sedlock and Matt Caruso cruised to the victory over Ted Watson and Matt Valdez in the 100+ Consolation.

Two games were just not enough to crown a champion in the 40+ Masters Division. In the end, Lane Feingold and Bear Meiring were able to get by Mike Kearney and Mark Hammond 21-14, 8-21, 11-7 in the tiebreaker. Both teams fought hard to the end.

In the 40+ consolation, Armando Ibarra Sr. and Jesus Ibarra Sr. took first place over Bob Paulsen and Matt Valdez.

A Round Robin format was implemented in the 50+. Prevailing on Saturday was the team of Lloyd Garcia and Steve Nieczkoski as they were able to take the win in total points. Mike Kearney and Brett Nickal took the runner up prize.

The solid and crafty team of Steve Bauer and Fred Sycuro defeated last year's champion team of Geoff Dolan and Lance Huegi in the finals 21-6, 21-11 to claim the 60+ division.

In the 60+ consolation finals, Dan Knollenberg and Jeff Gregory WBF.

The 70+ division featured a solid 7 teams. In the end, Dewey Mroska and Don Stewart cruised to a finals victory over Jim Cosentino and Lewie Lambert 21-6, 21-10.

Jim Reitmyer and Tim Clemons defeated Bob Hammond and Ron Sedlock in the 70+ consolation finals.

A HUGE Thank You to everyone that played in, contributed towards, and supported this fantastic Colorado Handball Tournament. We are already in the works to make next year's festivities even better!

Thanks,

Bear & Tom

