

KubbnationTM

the magazine for the game of kubb



Old Line Kubb
The Colors Of Kubb
Interview: The Lone Wolf
4,000 Shots For A Special Cause

Kubb Mirow
Dallas Oktoberfest
Virtual 8 Meter Tournament
Tips and Practice Games

- and more -

Det Första Kastet 2021 LFG!!	03	Virtual Kubb 8m Tournament True Innovation in 2020	20
Old Line Kubb Building Kubb In Maryland	04	Kubb Mirow A Total And Fresh Commitment To Kubb	23
Interview: The Lone Wolf Alone They Train; In Competition They Succeed	08	Dallas Oktoberfest Who We Are. What We Do. How We Do It.	27
4,000 Shots: World Records For A Good Cause KCUA released its biggest video production for a relief project in Mozambique	15	Wisconsin Kubb YouTube Tips, Practices Games, and More	30
The Colors Of Kubb Kubb Clubs And Their Communities	18	Det Sista Kastet Tack För Allt	31



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Distribution:
wisconsinkubb.com
the worldwide web



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Kubb unites people and creates peace on Earth.
Kubb förenar människor och skapar fred på jorden.

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Cover Photo: 2020 KCUA CUP (Leuggern, Switzerland)
Above: 2020 Dallas Oktoberfest Tournament (Dallas, Wisconsin, USA)

DET FÖRSTA KASTET

2021 LFG!!

responses can help all of us become better players. You will find some other great articles in the 2021 edition as well.

I have been wanting to learn more about Kubb Mirow for awhile, and in this edition, it finally happened. I thought I knew the whole story, but what they did with their kubb grounds, even installing a watering system, is unreal.

One thing I feel passionate about is the opportunity for us as a kubb community in 2021. Over the past 15 years, I have lost track of the number of clubs and tournaments that have come and gone across the country. However, I do know that the number that have come and gone is more than what exists now and that is the natural cycle of most things. As with everything in life, there are different reasons and factors for each one, but it shows me that if we want to keep this game growing or at least keep what we have, we need to invest and reinvest into the game and sport.

I think 2021 is a huge opportunity for us as a kubb community to build the game and sport. The main way is volunteering our own time to introduce new people to the game, and not just our close friends and family, but people outside of our circles. Some of the most energetic and passionate kubb players I know here in Eau Claire were introduced at random events where we were introducing kubb to people. People are going to be hungry for new things in 2021, really hungry, and we need kubb to be that new thing. We can all be kubb ambassadors in 2021. Make a goal to introduce a certain number of people to the game and/or to volunteer at a certain number of events. Play at your local farmers' market and invite people to try the game or just see the game being played. Invite yourself to attend other events in your community or a work group or church group or a local youth sports team/program. The options are endless...2021 Kubb LFG!!

Thanks again for checking out this KubbNation Magazine. It is crazy to say, but it is number 11.



The year 2021 is here, I am super excited about the new version of Tyr's Tre (above), and a new KubbNation Magazine is fresh off the press. It is safe to say that 2020 was the year of virtual kubb. It was amazing to see the innovation in 2020, and we highlight a couple of them in this issue. Also, we are finding more and more lone wolves in the wild. These wolves are in communities that don't have a large kubb following. They often play with different people in tournaments that are usually at least a half-day drive and many times even farther. These players are having more and more success, and we interviewed four American lone wolves in this edition. Regardless if you don't have anyone to play or practice against or if you live in a town with a super active club, kubb is a game that you can practice by yourself, and their

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Photos: Joe Harbert

OLD LINE KUBB

BUILDING KUBB IN MARYLAND

By: Joe Harbert - North East, Maryland

Old Line Kubb was created in the Summer of 2019 prior to the Pennsylvania Kubb Championships. We selected the name Old Line Kubb because Maryland is known as the Old Line State, a name bestowed by General George Washington during the Revolutionary War, nice little history and connection to our name. A friend, Gary Wasielewski asked me if I had heard of kubb? He and another friend Mike Thatcher were looking for a third teammate to play in the PA Championships. I played kubb a couple of times in the past with my neighbor but not with tournament rules. Literally on the ride to the tournament, I was watching a video on how to play kubb with tournament rules.

Well needless to say after the tournament I was hooked and saw a great opportunity for the game to be added to our Elementary and Middle School Physical Education Curriculum, I supervise Elementary and Middle School Physical Education and Health. I loved the aspect of teamwork and sportsmanship along with strategy and thought it would fit perfectly in our content. I reached out to Bob Hickee of Keystone Kubb about the possibility of assisting in a Professional Development for my Physical Education teachers on the game of kubb.

Other than the weather being a brisk, windy day the PD led by Bob Hickee and Jake Leavitt to over 110 teachers was a great success! I had several teachers inquire about the possibility of getting Kubb sets for their schools. In all we ordered 70 sets for our schools looking to add kubb to our cooperative games unit

I loved the aspect of teamwork and sportsmanship along with strategy and thought it would fit perfectly in our content.

OLD LINE KUBB

BUILDING KUBB IN MARYLAND



to be played starting in the Spring of 2020. Like everyone else the unfortunate timing of COVID-19 shut down our schools and the opportunity to introduce this great game to our students.

While COVID-19 may have shut down our schools and delayed the opportunity to introduce kubb to our students, for me with all after-school sport activities being cancelled in the early spring gave me plenty of time to practice and play. We created a Facebook and Twitter account and really tried to generate interest in the game here locally in Maryland. I have really enjoyed the people I have met, and friendships made while playing this game. In the Pennsylvania Championship, I absolutely loved how experienced players helped newcomers like me with tips on ways to improve. The kubb community has been so helpful and welcoming to me during my first year playing. I have met so many great people all over this Country and World who really love playing and supporting each other with a focus on growing the sport.

The emergence of virtual kubb has really been a blessing for me, with limited people to play in person here locally I have had the

opportunity to play against high level competition in the Keystone Kubb Spring and Fall 2020 Virtual Leagues, I participated in the North American Virtual Kubb Championship and the Virtual "Allround" Kubb Tournament. Along the way I was able to join a great group of friends from the Northern Illinois Kubb Alliance to play in multiple team competitions. Each experience has taught me something about my game from my play or feedback from opponents to help me improve as a player.



We are excited to be hosting the East Coast Kubb Championship at Hopkins Brewery in Havre de Grace Maryland. The Brewery is just as excited to be the location of the tournament. I think teams will be excited to play on the grounds. The Brewery has cleared a long, flat area with lush grass and plenty of space for pop up tents and areas to play comfortably.

OLD LINE KUBB

BUILDING KUBB IN MARYLAND

This summer Old Line Kubb was able to take 2nd in the Silver Bracket and in the Pennsylvania Kubb Championships, I teamed up with Jim Fravel to take 1st Place in the Silver Bracket in the East Coast Kubb Championship in Raleigh, North Carolina. During all of this time Bob Hickes has been a huge help to my game, giving me feedback and offering suggestions for ways to grow the game in Maryland. When Old Line Kubb was selected as the host for the East Coast Kubb Championship for the 2021-2022 years, we were ecstatic for the opportunity. Chris Jones created the amazing logo that fits perfectly for the tournament. Incorporating the Maryland Flag on the King along with a crab is a perfect design, Maryland and crabs are forever connected and the logo captures this. I had narrowed down potential sights to host and Bob and I spent the day at all of the locations before finalizing our selection.

We are excited to be hosting the East Coast Kubb Championship at Hopkins Brewery in Havre de Grace Maryland. The Brewery is just as excited to be the location of the tournament. I think teams will be excited to play on the grounds. The Brewery has cleared a long, flat area with lush grass and plenty of space for pop up tents and areas to play comfortably. I hope teams are willing to make the trip out to Maryland during the weekend of

June 5th. It's going to be a great experience! We hope to get some kubb sets to the Brewery introducing more people to the game. My hope is that eventually we can start a weeknight Kubb League, it's a win-win situation. People get to play kubb and enjoy the atmosphere at the Brewery.

My personal goals are to continue to improve my game and get the opportunity to play in more face to face tournaments in 2021 and beyond. I'm hopeful to travel to more events on the East Coast and to ultimately venture out west and play in U.S. National Kubb Championship in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. My hope here locally is that we continue to grow and that the momentum and excitement created from the ECKC will bring more people to the game. From that interest, we hope to host our own tournament that the kubb community will support and help us grow.

"The Old Line" nickname was given during the Revolutionary War, when 400 soldiers in the First Maryland Regiment fought a British force of 10,000 and helped General George Washington's army to escape.



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Matt Green

INTERVIEW: THE LONE WOLF

Alone They Train; In Competition They Succeed

For those of us that live in communities with leagues, clubs, and/or neighbors that play, it is easy to take for granted the ability and opportunity we have to play kubb with and against other people. It is in these communities where most of the top players and teams come from. However, throughout KubbNation, outside of these communities, roam lone wolves. They have found a way to not only stay active in the kubb community, but succeed in competitive kubb. We reached out to four of the best American lone wolves to hear firsthand what it is like to live in communities where kubb is not overly accessible, or maybe not at all, and still play at an extremely high level of play.

Name and City:

Jesse Fraim: Kalamazoo, Michigan

Kyle Weakland: Norfolk, Virginia

Matt Green: DePere, Wisconsin

Phil Goetstouwers: Hinton, Iowa

How long have you been playing kubb?

Jesse Fraim: Since the Summer of 2013.

Kyle Weakland: Since 2015.

Matt Green: About 8-9 years.

Phil Goetstouwers: 10 years

How long have you been a Lone Wolf?

Jesse Fraim: The group started in 2013. Members of group were close friends, but many were establishing young families, so by end of 2014, there was just Christopher Jones and myself as the active members of the group. Then in April 2015, Jones moved to Minneapolis and I've been running solo ever since.

Kyle Weakland: 2015.

Matt Green: 3 years.

Phil Goetstouwers: Most of those 10 years

How many tournaments do you average playing in during the typical year?

Jesse Fraim: Playing: 5 to 6 per year. That doesn't include being a referee for the U.S. Kubb Open and directing my own tournament in Kalamazoo, MI (Michigan Kubb Championship). I play in a couple majors each year like Eau Claire and Rockford, but I find it very important to support our growing and emerging clubs in Michigan and out East.

Kyle Weakland: At least 5.

Matt Green: I typically compete in roughly 6 tournaments in a typical (non-covid) year.

Phil Goetstouwers: 7

INTERVIEW: THE LONE WOLF

Alone They Train; In Competition They Succeed

Do you think being a Lone Wolf is a strength and/or weakness when it comes to improving your kubb game? Has your opinion on this changed over the years?

Jesse Fraim: I do believe that being a lone wolf is overall a weakness when compared to other players. When I first started playing you could see all the very strong players coming from the Des Moines Kubb Club and Eau Claire. Chaska was just growing then and they have had years of dominance from players coming out of their club. Ric Flair always said to be the man, you have to beat the man. When you have a competitive club like Eau Claire, or Chaska, or St Paul Kubb Society, that's a breeding ground for success. You see the best of the best competing and pushing each other and you normally see someone rise each year and start raising their level of skill because they are going against the best each year. Another prime example is J.R. and Joe Hrejsa up in Indian River, Michigan. They came up in this sport training, practicing, and playing with Phil Dickinson. There were very few players in the game as good as Phil at that time. Joe and J.R. trained with the best and when it was time to go play at tournaments, they were ready for the big stage. Phil never took it easy on them, he taught them they have to take advantage of every opportunity and take the victory from Phil. They all of a sudden show up at tournaments and start ending up on the podiums and I'm sure the kubb world was asking, "who are these guys?" Having a

strong club or a core group of players that get together all the time is definitely an advantage.

That being said, being a lone wolf has made me focus on my entire game. When I first started, I was the first blaster or clean up guy. I wasn't good at drilling. I was horrendous at eight meters. Every team I played on early in my playing career, they kept me away from my weaknesses and had me focus on my strengths. Winning strategy but it didn't help me grow. If I was with a consistent team or a club, maybe I would have been forced to become a more well-rounded player? All I know is that I feel as if I have reached a level that I can be asked to fill any role on a team and I feel like I will find success. I still have areas that need to get better and skills that need to be more consistent, but that's all of us.

Kyle Weakland: It depends on the person; I'm a very introverted and self-motivated person so I really enjoy playing against myself and practicing on my own. I enjoy pushing myself in practice and trying to get better and better. I'm able to steadily improve my game this way, a more extroverted person might not be able to keep themselves as motivated. So, for me I would say it's not that much of a weakness, but I definitely do think I could have gotten better faster if I was near other players or a league.



Jesse Fraim



INTERVIEW: THE LONE WOLF

Alone They Train; In Competition They Succeed

Kyle Weakland

At first it was a big disadvantage because I didn't have anyone to learn from. At my first tournament I had no idea how to inkast and I didn't know a lot of the rules or any strategy. I went home after the tournament and worked all year to get better, and I did get better, but it wasn't until the year after when I started going to more tournaments that I really started to get good.

Matt Green: Being a Lone Wolf for Kubb in my area has had its challenges. But like anything else, you have to adapt. When I started playing kubb, we, in the Appleton area, had the Fox Valley Kubb and roughly about 7 active members. For various reasons the numbers slowly decreased until basically it was just me. I loved playing with my teammates and club during that time. The bonus---always had someone to practice with and pair up with for a tournament. But in hindsight, it also pigeon holed you into a particular role. I found that I let myself get into a comfort spot (short game) and I excelled at it. I didn't put much time into the 8m or drill. I had no real commitment to either because, I had someone on my team that was better at it. Advantage---really I can play with anyone---no ties to any one particular teammate. This really allowed me to see many different outlooks from other players and made me want to be a more complete player. When all you have to practice with is yourself, it forced me to become a better all-around player. I had to be a better inkaster, otherwise, I'm chasing field kubbs all over the pitch. I had to get better at 8m because I had no one else to hit them. Long story short---being a lone wolf, made me become a better all-around player, made me more flexible for

whoever I get to team up with in any particular tournament. We all know that in today's kubb, to be competitive, each player has to be able to perform at any given task/situation on any given turn. Playing as a lone wolf as made me want to strive for this flexibility, to be able to slide into any role and excel.

Phil Goetstouwers: I think it depends on the goals and level of motivation or drive by the Lone Wolf. Personally, I would say overall it's a weakness, but there are definite pros to it. Many of us feel we have limited time to practice without making too many other sacrifices. If a kubb player only gets a night away from the family to practice and the group of kubb friends get together once per week, chances are the kubb player with play with his/her friends that night. That's great for the competition, comradery, and fun components, but limits your ability to hone in your skills and specific components of the game. Being a lone wolf allows me to choose what I want to practice on. Nowadays, virtual kubb is a great option for the competition and has that similar adrenaline feel you would get in a tournament. My drive is to be successful at this game. With that said, since I try to attend about a half dozen tournaments per year, I want to make sure the trip is worth it. I really enjoy seeing my club members and the different kubb friends I've made over time, but I also go to a tournament to do my best. It's difficult for me to justify to myself and my family to leave for the weekend, spend money on registration fees, hotel, etc., if I don't strive to win. Being a lone wolf gives me that focus and



INTERVIEW: THE LONE WOLF

Alone They Train; In Competition They Succeed

Jesse Fraim and Matt Green



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INTERVIEW: THE LONE WOLF

Alone They Train; In Competition They Succeed

continuous drive to practice in order to continue sacrificing time away from family for tournaments. That usually means my practices are in the early mornings or later at night when the kids are busy with something else. Again, it's a strength in these situations to be a Lone Wolf because that nearly guarantees each solo practice is focused.

What is it about kubb that makes you want to practice, without opportunities to play with other locals?

Jesse Fraim: Winning. It's addicting. I like it. When I first started, I just wanted to make the tournament's playoffs and see if we could push the good teams to 3 games in the playoffs. Then the focus was to try to win a trophy. 3rd place, consolation, I'd take anything. Now it's about identifying goals based on my personal performance and an understanding that I want to be in the finals. Anything worse than that is a disappointment and is extra motivation to get better.

Kyle Weakland: At first it was all about getting better and for the love of the game. Once I got better, practice for me became more like mental therapy. Whenever I need to de-stress, I just get the set out and start knocking down some wood. When you can inkast a great pile and knock it down in one or two batons

and finish the king, there is nothing more satisfying. Obviously, some days it can add some stress when you're not playing the way you want.

Matt Green: Kubb is, has and always will be my zen place. It is the one thing in my life that I truly do for myself—none of the rest of the world's issues—large or personal, matter when I'm throwing. I have made many wonderful friends, some, just like family, through this wonderful sport. It's like a huge family reunion when we all get together. When I'm throwing, IT is where I'm at. It gives me peace.

Phil Goetstouwers: I have a strong passion for the game because what it offers. Theoretically it seems like a game one can master. Yet, there are so many elements to the game that makes it difficult to replicate time and time again. Some of those elements are related to the environment (i.e., wind, temperature, pitch conditions, cowbells, etc.) while other elements are related to the person, both intrinsic and extrinsic (i.e., adrenaline, fatigue, motivation, type of clothing worn at the time, etc.).



Phil Goetstouwers

INTERVIEW: THE LONE WOLF

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Do you have any practice tips for anyone out there that does not have kubb players to play against and/or practice with in person?

Jesse Fraim: I'm probably not the best person to discuss practice tips with. Phil Dickinson has an entire section of his book that talks about all the different games and skill builders you can do to grow your game. Other players like Bob Hickes have created games that help you push yourself and keep yourself in competitive situations. I'm boring. I'm all about repetition and practicing the basics. I typically play a game against myself with me playing on both sides of the pitch. Nothing special. I used to use my skinny side yard to practice at our old house. I would have a staked kubb at my feet, one pin 4 meters away, and then another staked kubb 8 meters away. I would start with 3 kubbs and toss them in using the stake as the mid-field corner pin. I would see how many batons it took to clear and use the remainder of my batons on practicing 8 meters. I would just go back and forth from end to end adding in kubbs until I got to 10 kubbs in play and then I would clear that and try to hit the mid-field stake as the King.

Kyle Weakland: Find what works best for you and try to get out and practice at least a few times a week. Set up situations that challenge you to get better. I like to inkast piles of ten and clear it with three or less batons, hit an eight meter with one try and then the king. Challenging enough but attainable.

I'd also encourage you to make friends with other players online. I am actively texting with 5-10 other player at any given times, playing with them virtually or generally picking their brains. They help keep me motivated. If you don't know anyone yet, feel free to reach out to me or any of the big name players, everyone is very supportive and will do whatever you need to help you out.

Matt Green: As far as practice tips—I don't know that I have any particularly special practice routines. Repetition, put in the work, put yourself out of your comfort zones and challenge yourself. Put throwing percentages that you want to hit and strive for those. For me, it was setting goals and documenting those---8m percentage hit rate of 60% or more, decrease the number of batons used in the short game, a particular area to strive for to drill your field kubbs.

Phil Goetstouwers: Collect data and set goals. Figure out how successful you are at drilling blasting, hit 4 m, 5 m,...up to 8 m. Identify with a percentage what your baseline is. Then set goals to improve. After you set goals, create activities (drills) that will allow you to practice that specific skill. I recommend creating a staked kubb or two. Stake that kubb where you want to practice and throw batons at it in increments so it's easy to figure out your percentages. Personally, I have roughly 50 usable batons. That allows me to throw 50 batons at a staked kubb without exerting the extra energy in picking up 6 batons at a time. I could throw 50 batons at a staked kubb in a short period of

time. Without the staked kubb, I would lose a lot of time raising the kubbs each time.

With the increase in virtual tournaments and friendlies over the past year, how has that helped your game and get you connected with other kubb players?

Jesse Fraim: It has given me the opportunity to play with some of the best players in the US and the world. It has been incredible, humbling, and frustrating rolled all into one. As the year went on, I got better and better. I played into the top 8 of John Oman's Spring League and then this fall I lost in the Finals to Matt Green (another lone wolf) in the Keystone Kubb Virtual Kubb League. When virtual leagues first started, it was frustrating because I just didn't have consistency with my 8-meter game to stay competitive with the best players. There really wasn't any way I could win unless I got better. So, through many friendlies, practice sessions, and other league matches, I was able to see more consistency and that lead to better results. In two of the kubb tournaments I played this year, I earned the right to be the eight-meter player for the team. I'm no Mark Oman or Eric Anderson but I was proud of the growth my game saw in 2020.

Kyle Weakland: It's helped me out so much. I'm now able to play with other kubb players around the world. If you think you're getting good, it's great to play one of the best players in



Kyle Weakland

INTERVIEW: THE LONE WOLF

Alone They Train; In Competition They Succeed

the world and get your butt handed to you from time to time. It also gets me into high pressure situations that feel like a tournament championship minus the spectators. Getting better in the mental aspect of the game is one of the more important parts to becoming a championship level player. This past summer I made a lot of new friends here in the U.S. and in Europe, so the whole world kubb community feels more together than ever before.

Matt Green: The world of virtual has been interesting and a breath of fresh air. It will never take place of playing in person or with teammates. Again, it has forced me to have to be better at all aspects of the kubb game. In the current state of our world, virtual was the only way for most of us to play competitively. We all found different ways to communicate during matches. And frankly, it didn't matter that I was isolated from everyone—we all were—haha. I think that virtual kubb continuing is a good thing. It allows players, like myself, to play against other players from the world and for once it does not matter that we don't have a club or another player anywhere around us. That being said, I like everyone else wants live kubb!!!

Phil Goetstouwers: It's helped and hurt me this year. For the most part it's helped me stay motivated to get out there and practice. There is a virtual 2 vs 2 tournament coming up and I'm re-motivated to practice to be successful at it.

Would you like to see virtual kubb continue in the coming years?

Jesse Fraim: I remember playing virtual kubb with John Oman through text message a couple years ago when "virtual kubb" was still in the testing phase. I enjoyed it then and I enjoy it now even more. Not having my own club, it is a vital lifeline to the rest of the kubb world that keeps me connected to all my friends in kubb. I can't imagine it just fading away, even when we put COVID in the rear-view mirror. The enhancements Keystone Kubb has made with Kubb Tracker, it is so easy to get involved in virtual kubb. I really like how there are many new players to the game that are reaching out through social media and setting up matches, challenges, and get involved in leagues. It has been a lot of fun to interact with these new players and I got the opportunity to meet some of them face-to-face this fall when I attended the Illinois Kubb Championship and East Coast Kubb Championship.

Kyle Weakland: Absolutely, as someone who can't go to tournaments easily and doesn't have a league or club nearby, virtual kubb helps keep me motivated. Hopefully we get to the point that we don't necessarily need it anymore because there are leagues all around the world but until then, the virtual leagues and tournaments keep us lone wolves closer to the kubb community and growing the sport across the country.

Matt Green: Absolutely I think the continuation of virtual kubb is great. It gives the opportunity to literally play anybody in the

world. I got to play people from Sweden, the Czech, Arkansas, Cali. How else do you do these people. I will always lean towards in person, but had it not been for virtual—I would have never played the European players, unless I ever get to go to Worlds, etc. Besides, more kubb is never bad.

Phil Goetstouwers: Yes! As a kid, I remember being asked, if you could have one food every day, what would it be? The reality is, for most of us, we wouldn't enjoy eating the same food day after day for a long time. Being a Lone Wolf has advantages, but after so many years of being a Lone Wolf, it's nice to have other options to play competitively and virtual kubb allows for that. Especially now that I moved further away from most kubb tournaments, travel for kubb tournaments might become less frequent. Don't get me wrong, my preference will still be in-person tournaments.



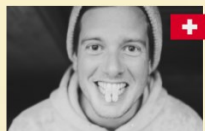
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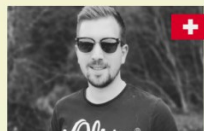
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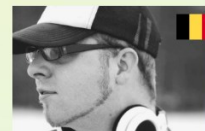
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4,000 SHOTS: WORLD RECORDS FOR A GOOD CAUSE

KCUA released its biggest video production for a relief project in Mozambique

By: Oliver Spiess and Christoph Fischer - Basel and Baden, Switzerland

“Kubb unites people and brings peace on earth”: the popular kubb slogan came to its best with the newest project of the [“Kubbclub Unteres Aaretal”](#) (KCUA). It was a hard year for the international kubb community. Some nations like Belgium weren’t able to play a single tournament during the regular season in 2020.

Switzerland, home country of the KCUA, had the chance to host the second half of its season at least, but with a lot of restrictions concerning for example the number of participants. Anyway, the annual charity tournament “Kubb for Africa” would have taken place in May, so the KCUA looked out for a Covid-friendly alternative and launched something even bigger: the “800m for Africa” challenge!

Solidarity during a tough year

13 shining stars from Belgium, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland and the USA were asked to be role models for other competitors to participate in the event. The idea behind the challenge: every player had to hit as many kubbs as possible out of a hundred consecutive shots and donate one dollar (or euro / Swiss franc) per hit. To promote incentive, the additional participants got the chance to be part of a final movie, showing the 16 best players in a live rally simultaneously throwing their hundred batons.

The responses were incredible: exactly forty players followed the

call and sent in a video of their hundred throws. More than sixty donors collected nearly 5300 Swiss francs (about 6000 US dollars) for the relief project [“Tundane”](#) of “JAM Schweiz”. The organization helps to rebuild a school in Mozambique that was destroyed by a storm in 2019.

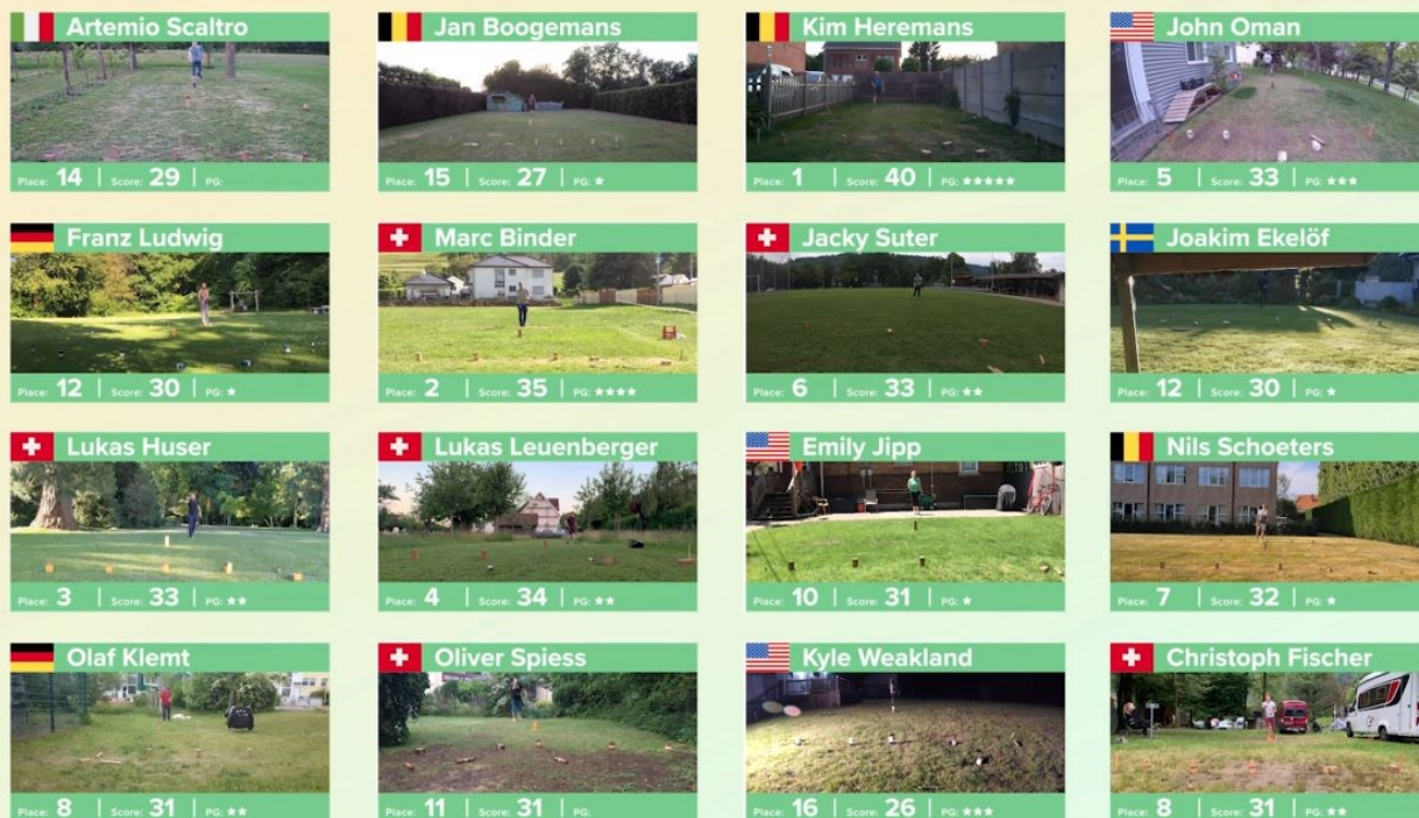
World kubb records caught on video

After the KCUA had shown an Advent calendar consisting of perfect games of the participants, the great release of the final video took place in a live watch party on Facebook on the 26th of December. We won’t spoil it here, but the kubb level of the participants was unreal: three additional players out of 27 made it to the top 16; and the lowest score (!) of theirs was seventy hits out of hundred throws. Just imagine the score of the first ranked player!

The world kubb records broken by the competitors are as incredible as the donation support is: two players were able to do nine perfect games out of twenty rounds of five sticks (nearly every second round). Do you remember your first perfect game? Or did you once even hit ten kubbs in a row? Peanuts! One well-known participant accomplished to hit unbelievable 25 kubbs in a row. If you want to find out who won the kubb challenge and rewatch the 800m for Africa rally: the final video, including interesting statistics, can be reviewed on [Facebook](#).

4,000 SHOTS: WORLD RECORDS FOR A GOOD CAUSE

KCUA released its biggest video production for a relief project in Mozambique

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RANKING ROUND 10

NO.	→	FLAG	NAME	HOMETOWN	SCORE	HIT RATE	PGS
1.	→		Kim Heremans	Westerloo, Belgium	45	90%	5
2.	→		Marc Binder	Baldingen, Switzerland	41	82%	5
3.	→		Lukas Leuenberger	Olten, Switzerland	41	82%	4
4.	→		Lukas Huser	Baden, Switzerland	40	80%	3
5.	↗		Olaf Klemt	Berlin, Germany	37	74%	3
6.	↗		Christoph Fischer	Baden, Switzerland	37	74%	2
7.	↘		Jacky Suter	Brugg, Switzerland	37	74%	2
8.	↗		Joakim Ekelöf	Landskrona, Sweden	37	74%	2
9.	↗		Emily Jipp	Minneapolis, USA	37	74%	1
10.	→		John Oman	Chaska, USA	36	72%	3
11.	→		Franz Ludwig	Baden, Switzerland	36	72%	2
12.	↘		Nils Schoeters	Koningshooikt, Belgium	35	70%	1
13.	↗		Oliver Spiess	Turgi, Switzerland	35	70%	0
14.	↗		Kyle Weakland	Moyock, USA	33	66%	4
15.	→		Jan Boogemans	Heist-op-den-Berg, Belgium	32	64%	1
16.	↘		Artemio Scaltro	Vicenza, Italy	32	64%	0

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By: Erik Linge - Superior, Wisconsin

THE COLORS OF KUBB

Kubb Clubs And Their Communities

Photos: Erik Linge

What goes into the design of a kubb club logo or color scheme? Lake Superior Kubb is fairly new to the kubb scene and when we first started the club we decided to paint our kubbs deep blue and white. After all, Lake Superior is the largest freshwater lake in the world – so blue just seemed like a natural choice. However, we soon came to realize that that particular color scheme was already taken when we competed at the 2019 US National Kubb Championships! We eventually settled on a light blue and white kubb with a dark blue band in the middle, and we really like the look of a tri-color kubb! Since then we've become acquainted with many different kubb clubs, organizations, leagues, societies, alliances, teams, and tournaments, and thus discovered a whole world of different logos, designs, and color schemes.

For the 2020 Christmas season I decided to make a mini-kubb fridge magnet set for Lake Superior Kubb member Jenny Linge. I wanted to paint all the mini-kubbs to represent the various

clubs, so I started reaching out to confirm the color schemes I already associated with them. It wasn't long before this project sort of snowballed into a mini history lesson of the various club logos, color schemes and the communities that those clubs represent.

Many clubs have taken extra effort to incorporate nuanced details in their logos and names that pay homage to the communities they live in. Here are a handful of examples that really stood out:

Most of us are familiar with the blue/white kubbs at Nationals, but only a select few teams have played with the red/white kubbs that complete the red, white, and blue colors of Old Glory. Only those who make it to the semi-finals get to play with those red/white kubbs.

The Dallas, WI Oktoberfest Kubb Tournament's kubbs are not just a light blue version of Natty's. No, they are quite literally

THE COLORS OF KUBB

Kubb Clubs And Their Communities

the flag of Bavaria (traditional home of Oktoberfest), Bavarian blue and white.

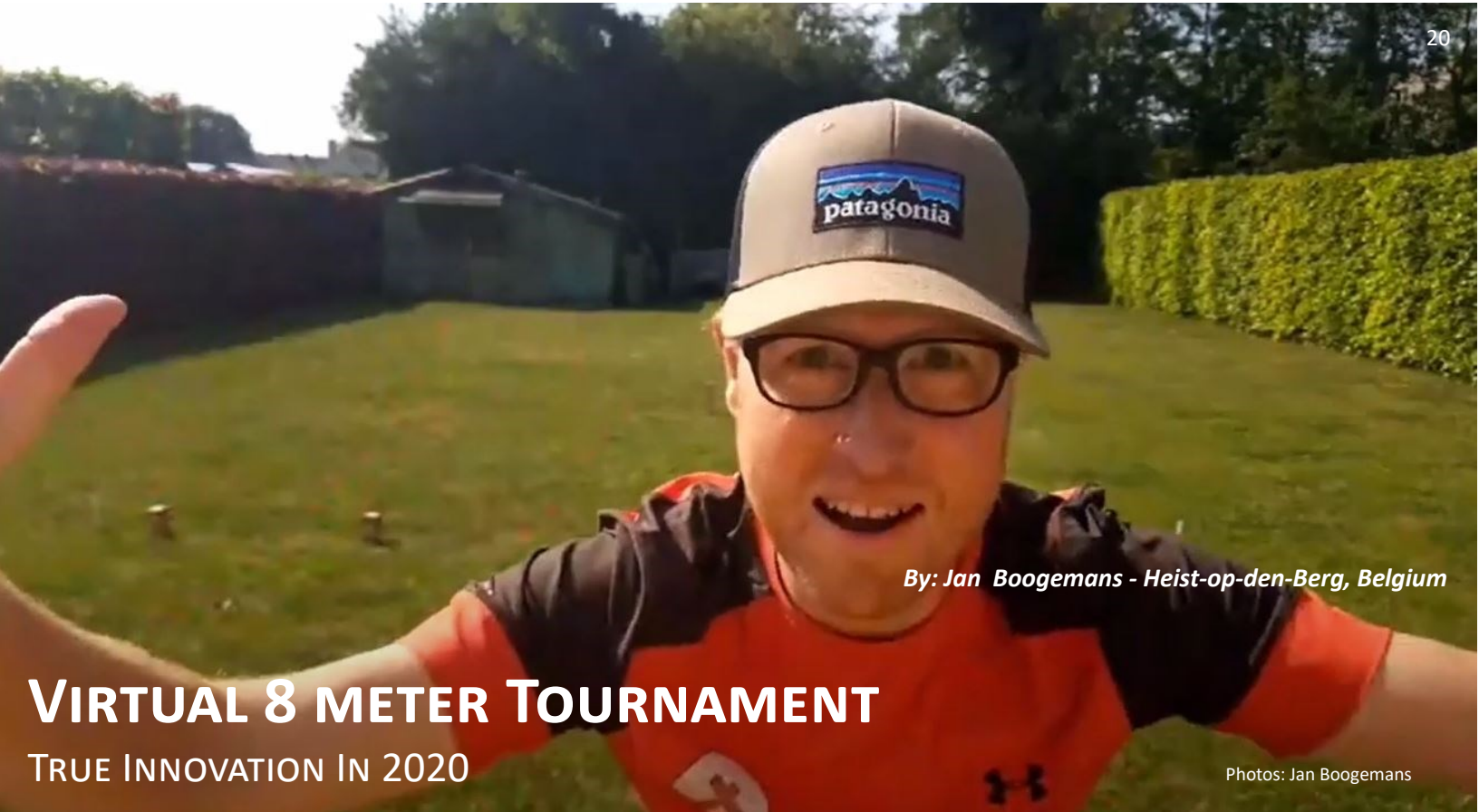
The very recognizable Eau Claire Kubb League logo is rife with fun details. Have you noticed the E and C in the design? How about the six batons and the small shape of Wisconsin?

Dallas, WI Oktoberfest Kubb Tournament

L.A. Kubb definitely pays tribute to the L.A. Dodgers, with their “Dodger Blue” and white colors, the red accented batons, even right down to the style of font. Go compare the logos!

Keystone Kubb gets its name from the State of Pennsylvania’s nickname “The Keystone State”, derived from its critical role in the development of the United States. What about Great Lakes Kubb? The blue isn’t just for the lakes, it’s also the local High School colors. Portland Kubb incorporates the PDX airport identifier. Minnesota Kubb (represented by an iconic kubb snowflake design) is the proud home of Loppet, the largest winter kubb tournament in the United States. Raleigh Kubb, Central Arkansas Kubb, and New Mexico Kubb all incorporate their State Flag themes into their designs. The red and yellow of Energy City Kubb isn’t random either, it’s the colors of the Batavia High School. Old Line Kubb pays tribute to the Maryland Line, a regiment that fought bravely during the Revolutionary War. Burning River Kubb? Look up the history of the Cuyahoga River and you’ll see where their name is derived from. Kalamazoo Kubb? A shield and crossed batons pay tribute to the Viking heritage of kubb, and the beer colored shield isn’t random either! And the list really goes on and on with each club I researched. Simply put, kubb clubs are proud of their communities, and those communities should be proud of kubb. Kubb on!





By: Jan Boogemans - Heist-op-den-Berg, Belgium

VIRTUAL 8 METER TOURNAMENT

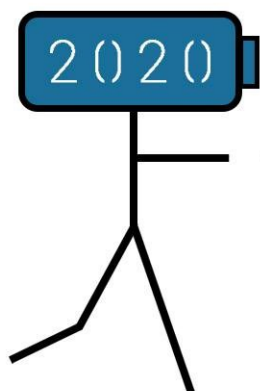
TRUE INNOVATION IN 2020

Photos: Jan Boogemans

Since 2012 Dissers kubteam (www.dissers.be) organizes a yearly kubb tournament called "Dissers Kubb Trophy". On this international kubb tournament you can collect points for the Belgian Kubb competition organized by the Belgian Kubb federation (www.kubbfederatie.be). This competition takes place between April until September each year and entails approximately ten kubb tournaments in Flanders. The Dissers Kubb Trophy is also part of the 3 Nations kubb (www.kubbmaister.com/cup/), a separate smaller event with three tournaments, one in Belgium, one in Swiss and one in Germany. Next to a lot of fun playing against international kubb players, you can also earn several gadgets such as hoodies and T-shirts if you participate in all three tournaments.

In 2020 however, because of the Covid-crisis, we had to cancel our 9th edition of the Dissers Kubb Trophy. Because we really

like the competition and nice atmosphere during these tournaments, we were determined to organize an alternative virtual tournament. These virtual tournaments are not new in the big world of kubb. John Oman, the pioneer of the virtual kubb, already organized the Virtual World Kubb League before corona came into our lives. As a passionate kubb player, I already participated a few times in this seasonal competition. For me this was the ideal way as a European to broaden the borders and also play against American kubb players. Simply explained, via this virtual kubb league you play against other players in your own garden by using Facebook messenger as a medium to communicate about your throws and results. At the start of the game, the players need to conduct a king toss and send a picture to the opponent. The winner can start the game. During the game players communicate the number of blocks that are overthrown via chat messages. Each match consists of



15-16-17 may 2020

VIRTUAL KUBB

8 m TOURNAMENT

Info and registration @ www.dissers.be

VIRTUAL 8 METER TOURNAMENT

TRUE INNOVATION IN 2020

five games and afterwards the scores are communicated to the organizer of the pool. The first phase of the virtual competition is organized in pools, thereafter a knock-out phase was organized to determine the winner of the competition. Already at the beginning of the Covid-pandemic in Belgium several similar initiatives popped up, such as the “Belgium Virtual Knock Down Kubb League” organized by Jan Danckaerts. Naturally the foundation of these competitions are based on fairplay, because in the end, you are not able to see your opponent playing. But in the end, it was a fun way to keep on kubbing and have some social interactions in a rather difficult and isolated period.

We wanted to organize something similar during the weekend our Dissers Kubb Trophy would take place. Hereby our main goal was to create a virtual competition with straightforward and accessible rules. This meant that the tournament would only last two to three days instead of spreading the games over several months. Another condition was to make sure as many people as possible were able to participate. We wanted to be accessible for beginning kubb players and pro-players all over the world. Finally we wanted to create more interaction by introducing live-streams in our virtual format. This would make it fun for everyone to watch the game, but would also give the participants more excitement because they knew they had some audience watching. Next to this, we also organized a virtual kubb cafe, an online meeting environment where all the players and sympathizers could interact and connect with each other during the tournament. By doing this we wanted to emphasize the social part of kubbing and bringing people together in covid-



times.

After a couple of days brainstorming and a test phase with Kim Heremans of the kubbing team Ne Kubbing Saté, we decided on the formula of the tournament. More concretely every participant had to throw 30 sticks to the 8 meter kubbing within a timeframe of 15 minutes. Each attempt was live streamed on the facebook group “Virtual Kubbing 8m Tournament” so that other participants and supporters could watch the partaking live. As a guidance for the participants, we made a short how to-movie (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HAzivwPCQg>) that further explained the rules of the competition. You can still see all the videos of the participants if you want in the facebook group.

Initially we didn’t have a lot of registrations probably because of the fact that this concept was totally new and people had to livestream their actions. By making a promotion campaign for the tournament as well as a lot of word of mouth the number of participants started to increase. The tournament was spread over three days, it officially kicked off on Friday the 15th of May and the final kubbing was thrown Sunday 17th of May in the late afternoon. The tournament was divided in eight sessions, resulting in play-offs on Sunday afternoon in which the top eight competed for a place on the virtual stage. The points of this play-off were added to the score of the first attempt of the participants, resulting in a final ranking (<http://www.dissers.be/ranking.html>). More information on the scoring can be found on the how to-movie. At the start of the tournament we still had

Ranking Virtual Kubbing 8m Tournament

* The top-8 players have played a second round (the finals), so they have thrown 60 sticks in total.

↓	P	Player	#Kubbs	#Kings	#Kubbs in a row	Time
1	🇧🇪	Jan Boogemans*	47	3	11	n/a
2	🇧🇪	Jürgen Mommerency*	44	3	9	n/a
3	🇺🇸	Mark Oman*	43	1	10	n/a
4	🇧🇪	Kim Wallaert*	42	1	11	n/a
5	🇸🇪	Joakim Ekelöf*	39	0	8	n/a
6	🇨🇭	Lukas Huser*	38	1	7	n/a
7	🇨🇭	Christoph Fischer*	38	0	4	n/a
8	🇺🇸	Grant Scott*	35	0	8	n/a
9	🇧🇪	Kim Heremans	20	0	4	n/a
10	🇺🇸	Phil Goetstouwers	19	1	8	n/a
11	🇨🇭	Marc Binder	19	0	3	n/a
12	🇩🇪	Olaf Klemt	18	1	5	n/a
13	🇧🇪	Stijn Sloomans	18	0	6	n/a
14	🇧🇪	Alex Eeckhout	18	0	5	n/a
15	🇩🇪	Andreas Thor	17	1	9	n/a
16	🇧🇪	Annabel Georges	17	1	6	n/a



VIRTUAL 8 METER TOURNAMENT

TRUE INNOVATION IN 2020

some open spots, but after seeing the first games of the Friday session, a lot of people started showing a lot of interest to participate in the tournament. On Saturday we even had to disappoint some additional players because all the spots were booked.

Behind the scenes, we needed to register the final scores of each participant and update the ranking on the website. Hereby I got the support from my girlfriend Annabel Georges and kubb colleague Gert Verhaegen of the kubbteam Pirates of the Kubbibian who provided extensive statistics of the tournament. As an organizer the tournament was very intensive, nevertheless we really enjoyed all the positive reactions and interactions.

On Friday Night we experienced a lot of buzz regarding the tournament. Some people also noticed that I didn't register to participate myself. Initially I wasn't eager to participate but after some kubb friends pushed me to participate and I also wanted to experience the stress related to playing on livestream, I decided to introduce a surprise guest (myself) to wrap up the eighth round. It seemed that I really had a surprisingly good day because I ended up with amazing scores both in my first session and in the play-off session, this made me win my own tournament. Looking back, it gave me a rather strange feeling to win my own tournament, however by introducing the

livestreaming to the virtual competition, everyone could follow the scoring and see that the game was played in a fair way.

Ultimately, the first Virtual Kubb 8m Tournament was an unexpected success. The livestreams were watched by a lot of people and the comments were very positive. Over the whole tournament 70 players (62 male and 8 female) from nine different countries participated. The youngest player was thirteen years old and the oldest was 64 years old. 2100 sticks were thrown in total, from which 958 were successful hits, resulting in a hitting percentage of 45,61%. In total 10 perfect games were registered. We also had two players located in New Zealand, approximately 18.275 kilometers away from the Dissers headquarter. Some livestreams were also very entertaining: nice introductions, funny or dressed-up players, everything was possible. More extensive statistics can be found on the facebook group of the event ("Virtual Kubb 8m Tournament").

At this moment it is not sure yet if there will be a second edition of the tournament. Nobody knows or can predict what the future will bring, we keep our fingers crossed to play competitive games in 2021 in real-life. However, when the covid-crisis will thwart the 9th edition of the Dissers Kubb Trophy, we might organize a second edition of this event.



Mait Zily
PHOTOGRAPHY

KUBB MIROW

By: Sebastian König and Mailin Thode, Plate and Schwerin, Germany

A FRESH, TOTAL COMMITMENT TO KUBB

Photos: Kubb Mirow

In the small village of Mirow near the capital Schwerin of the German federal state Mecklenburg Vorpommern, there is a 34,000 square meters large club property. Many competitions for the wooden king have been held here since 2016. Kubb is often called “Rasenschach” or “Wikingerschach” in Germany. This sport is attracting more and more interested people from the region and the registered association KUBB MIROW E.V. already has 30 members between the ages of 18 and 70. In 2015 a small group started to play this fun game and evolved into a division after the first smaller tournaments.

The team found a new home in a neighbor village where the big tournaments with up to 100 participants could take place. Sometimes teams from all over Germany come together for having fun in the tournaments. Since 2020 the club has its own internal league, as well as regular & weekly training sessions to have fun of the game and increase the personal handicap. The club is one of the few kubb teams which has their own playing area of 2,250 square meters. This area was recently extended with impressive floodlights masts. The official foundation of the association was in December of 2020. Next to the sport, the community cohesion is very important to our members as well

as the joy of playing in the nature. Every new member has the opportunity to get a welcome starter pack of stylish & practical club clothing by the committee - so you always remain easily recognizable with the club logo on your T-shirt or warm hoodie when the sun goes down. KUBB MIROW E.V. is growing - more projects will follow this year. Among other things, a new clubhouse will be built on the site.



Mait Zily
PHOTOGRAPHY



KUBB MIROW
A FRESH, TOTAL COMMITMENT TO KUBB



KUBB MIROW

A FRESH, TOTAL COMMITMENT TO KUBB

KUBB MIROW

A FRESH, TOTAL COMMITMENT TO KUBB





DALLAS OKTOBERFEST

WHO WE ARE. WHAT WE DO. HOW WE DO IT.

By: Eric Anderson - Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Photos - Eric Anderson

One could say that the Dallas Oktoberfest Kubb Tournament started on a hot August day in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. The Dallas brewery, Viking Brewery (later changed name to Valkyrie Brewery), was a sponsor at the first U.S. Championship in Eau Claire in 2007. After the Championship, they invited us to the Dallas Oktoberfest to introduce people to kubb. That first Saturday in October was unseasonably hot. So hot, one looked for shade. During that day, we set up two kubb pitches next to a Viking reenactment camp. The day was a success in that we introduced kubb to dozens of people at the Oktoberfest.

Move forward to 2009, and the Oktoberfest organizers invited us to have a tournament at the Oktoberfest. That year, eight teams of two or three players played on a crisp and windy day in the village of roughly 400 people. It wasn't nearly the biggest and most impressive tournament, however, it was fun and it had great atmosphere with all the other Oktoberfest events happening, and the proximity of the kubb pitches to the food and beer booth. Word spread and it spread quick. In 2010, we had a full tournament of 16 teams, with some teams travelling four or more hours to play. In 2011, we opened it up to 20 teams, which is all we could handle, due to the area not being big enough for more than 10 pitches.

The year 2011 was a big year for me personally with kubb, as I traveled to Gotland to play in the World Championship with a team from Stockholm. There I experienced the strategy, fun, and beauty of six-person kubb. After returning, I realized that I needed to introduce others to six-person kubb and also needed to paint the kubb sets for Dallas and the U.S. Championship. So at the 2011 Dallas Oktoberfest Tournament, I asked people if they would be interested in playing six-person kubb in 2012, and the overwhelming response was yes. With that, I painted all of the kubb sets white and Bavarian blue and promoted the 2012 Dallas Oktoberfest Kubb Tournament as a six-person tournament. In 2012, we had 12 six-person teams, and it was amazing. It was so amazing that in 2013 we filled up the tournament with 16 teams. In 2013, we also incorporated a rule that each team had to have at least two inkastares, which people loved. For the next couple years, we had 16 teams, with often one or two on a waiting list.

Soon we created a rule that gave each team the opportunity to sign up early to allow them to come back. The spot is so valuable, that in the past if a team is not able to play, they will sign up and sell their spot to another team for the year, then return the following year. With more and more teams on the



DALLAS OKTOBERFEST

WHO WE ARE. WHAT WE DO. HOW WE DO IT

waiting list and the Village redesigning part of the park, we decided to increase the number of teams to 24, which we did in 2018. In 2018 and 2019, we had 24 six-person teams. We held the tournament in 2020 and had 11 teams, and expect the number to return to between 20 and 24 this year.

The tournament is run with traditional pool play in the morning and early afternoon. The pool play is followed by bracket play that includes a Championship, Silver, and Bronze bracket. Players on the top four teams in the Championship Bracket and players on the top team in both the Silver and Bronze brackets get custom medals. In addition, each of the winning teams get a large jar of my homemade pickles. Last but not least, the winning team gets a unique mug made by a local artist at Losse Clay in downtown Dallas. A different mug has been given out since 2009 and the winners can fill up the mug at the brewery after the tournament is over.

Over the years, the weather has ranged from frigid, to rain, to sleet, to snow, to beautiful and sunny. And no matter the weather, people keep coming back. Dallas really is what kubb is all about.

Dallas really is....

Who we are. What we do. How we do it.



DALLAS OKTOBERFEST

WHO WE ARE. WHAT WE DO. HOW WE DO IT



Dallas Oktoberfest:
 2nd oldest tournament in the U.S.
 With 144 players, often the 2nd or 3rd largest tournament in the U.S.
 First tournament with painted sets in the U.S.
 Requires at least two inkastares.

Dallas, Wisconsin: Population 401
Dallas Oktoberfest Tournament: Players 144+

WISCONSIN KUBB YOUTUBE

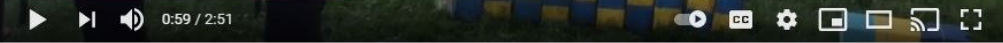
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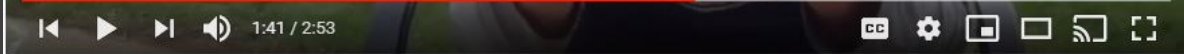


THE DRILL TECHNIQUE



MENTAL FOCUS AND PREPARATION

BATON ROTATION



DET SISTA KASTET

TACK FÖR ALLT

Back in 2010 when I started working on the first Kubbnation Magazine, it ended up being a 16-page magazine, but the biggest and only publication for the game. Even though it was only 16 pages, it had an interview with a 10-time world champion (more championships came later), article about people playing kubb and raising money for charities in their barn loft in New York, promoted kubb tournaments and showcased tournament results, and even had legit ads from Icelandair and a couple other companies. There is even an ad for an idea I had for a podcast called Kubb Radio (which never happened). From there, the magazine really took off and it would often be over 40 pages of articles written by people from around the world telling their stories in their own words. Over the years, the magazine interviewed over 20 people, had a kubb set review, three exclusive articles about how to use the drill technique for inkasting kubbs, and even kubb player cards, which took me dozens of hours to do. I think it is safe to say that for awhile, it was the one way that people could learn what others in the kubb community were doing across the globe.

However, as time went on, social media became more and more prevalent in our society and with that, people started connecting with others more easily and learning what others are doing more than just once a year from Kubbnation. It is almost impossible for me to imagine that when I made the trip to the World Championship in 2011, the only way for me to communicate with my family was by calling them with a (very expensive) calling card. I will never forget calling from a payphone by the ferry terminal trying to describe the journey to Gotland and the beauty of Visby, hanging up and knowing I would not talk to them again for days. Even in 2014 when our team Claire Mni made the trip to the World Championship, the only way my family knew how we were doing was waiting for the World Championship website to update results and then in the playoffs if someone posted a post on Facebook. A couple years later, I remember watching and cheering for Chaska Kubb play live at the World Championship, while sitting in a friend's living room here in Eau Claire. Soon, through social media, we were all connecting and talking, watching live matches, and now playing virtually. Times have changed so much between 2010 and now.

With that...with all the other forums and venues for people to follow each other, connect, and learn, it is time for *det sista kastet* (the last throw). It has been an amazing journey to say the least. I have learned so much, and I hope many of you have as well.

Time flies and other things take precedent for time, so I seldom look at old Kubbnation editions, but getting ready to write *Det Sista Kastet*, I did. I realized that time flies faster than I even thought. Did we interview Bibbi and Towe seven years ago and the first Spain article was five years ago? Our exclusive interviewing 12 female players is really four years old?

All over there are articles that I thought were a few years old are actually eight or nine. The Kubbsicles won the U.S. Championship in back-to-back years closer to when we started the U.S. Championship in 2007 than now. Reading some of the stories, I cannot help but wonder what many of these people are doing ...the people that wrote the articles and also the people in the photos. In the 2013 magazine, I wonder if anyone from Aperi Kubb still plays, can't believe the Des Moines Tournament was going to have their 4th tournament already and Madison 2nd, I wonder do any of those kids in Bulgaria who are now young adults still play, Planet Kubb had done their scoring sheet, and I had been going to St. James School here in Eau Claire to teach kubb for so long already. That was eight years ago.

When I started this magazine, I was curious about what others were doing and wanted to ask questions and hear their answers. It is crazy to think that after all these years, I have even more questions now. One thing I do know after looking at all the magazines, there are countless smiles in all the magazines. Regardless if someone has only played a few times, only played in one tournament, or hasn't stopped playing since they started, they smile while they play, talk, and live kubb. Kubb really is a beautiful and wonderful game.

Lastly, I want to say thank you to everyone that took time to write an article over the years. I hope you enjoyed writing it and seeing your story for kubb players around the world to read as much as I enjoyed reading and learning. Also, thank you to everyone that has read any of the magazines. I hope they provided you with some insight, knowledge, and enjoyment. I will keep all the magazines on the website for future generations of players to read.

Thank you, thank you, thank you.
Eric Anderson

Wisconsin Kubb

Dallas, WI Oktoberfest Tournament

Kubbnation Magazine

Playing tips and more

wisconsinkubb.com



KUBBNATION MAGAZINE PRESENTS: DALLAS, WI OKTOBERFEST KUBB TOURNAMENT OCTOBER 2ND

- THE ONLY 6-PERSON TEAM TOURNAMENT IN U.S. -
music, brats, homemade lefse, chili, food trucks,
Valkyrie beer, cannon blasts, and more.