Minneapolis, MN Saturday February 04, 2012

City of Lakes Loppet Tournament - Presented By Minnesota Kubb http://minnesotakubb.com/

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From a WI Kubb look at things:

The Ringers and half of Sweden's Sons got up early, left the Kubb Capital of North America and headed to River Falls to pick up the other half of Sweden's Sons. The drive into the big city was enjoyable as we talked about kubb and family. Going into the Twin Cities is quite the culture shock compared to Eau Claire. We realized that outside of Dallas, WI (although EC actually hosts Dallas), perhaps EC is the smallest city to host a kubb tournament and right now, Minneapolis is the largest. That is ok though, as we like to take our games anywhere and everywhere.

Both teams finished their round-robin Group Play with 3-0 records and 6-0 in matches. As is normal, The Ringers always ended their matches quicker than Sweden's Sons. The atmosphere was awesome with three six-person teams and it seemed half of the players were playing in their first tournaments. The sun came out and it warmed things up a bit. We played on grass during Group Play and the rounds of 16 and quarterfinals. We played against a lot of fun teams, but six-person team Show Us Your Horns really made it enjoyable.

The Ringers met Des Moines' Los Padres in the quarterfinals and both teams won quick games. In the third game, The Ringers left a field kubb up and Los Padres were able to end the game in their second turn. Two top-notch teams that played three games in less than 15 minutes. Kubbs were falling down everywhere. Sweden's Sons beat Loki's Crew (Chaska, MN) in the quarterfinals and advanced to the semifinals. The semifinals were moved to a snow covered area next to the Finish Line of the City of Lakes Loppet. It was lit by lamps hanging next to the pitches. We wanted to get out of the gate quick, but we were not able to mount any pressure in the first game. We battled hard but the Appleton, WI team Kubb Snipers were able to impose their will and win the first game. The second game was more evenly matched, but Kubb Snipers eight meter game was too much for Sweden's Sons. In the third place game against Los Padres, Sweden's Sons came out strong and continued until the match ended 2-0. The first round was 1-3 and then 3-3 at eight meters. The second game saw eight meter turns of 2-3 in the first turn and a 3-3 after a 5-3 in the second turn.

The tournament was amazing. Being part of the City of Lakes Loppet created an amazing environment and this tournament is easily a premier tournament in the Midwest. Can it get to 48 or 64 teams next year? After Sweden's Sons experience in Appleton last summer, it did not surprise us at all that Appleton won the tournament. They will be a team/club to deal with in the future. If an Eau Claire team could not win, we were happy to have a Wisconsin team win. All three WI teams finished in the top five.

FINAL RESULTS:

- 1. Kubb Snipers (Appleton, WI)
- 2. 2 Pump Chumps (Chaska, MN)
- 3. Sweden's Sons (Eau Claire/River Falls, WI)
- 4. Los Padres (Des Moines, IA)

Quarterfinals Sweden's Sons Loki's Crew (Chaska, MN)

Kubb Snipers Suk Face (St. Paul, MN)

Los Padres The Ringers (Eau Claire, WI)

2 Pump Chumps Team Fjädrar (Des Moines, IA)

Consolation:

- 1. NW MN Kubb (Thief River Falls, MN)
 2. Zorbaz On The Lake (Park Rapids, MN)
 3. Show Us Your Horns (Minneapolis, MN)
 3. Alltid Voltom (Twin Cities, MN)



Top 4 teams



Champion: Kubb Snipers (Appleton, WI)



2nd: 2 Pump Chumps (Chaska, MN)



3rd: Sweden's Sons (Eau Claire/River Falls, WI)



4th: Los Padres (Des Moines, IA)



Show Us Your Horns - Minneapolis, MN