2013 U.S. Midwest Kubb Championship

Hosted By: Swedish Historical Society of Rockford May 04, 2013. Rockford, IL.

Low 50s, wind, and rain. Mid-week, that was the weather forecast for Saturday. On Saturday, the sun came and went, and by mid-day it was in the 60s and later approached 70 with sunshine. Close to 20 tents surrounded Ingersoll Centennial Park in downtown Rockford, IL with players from four different states, including many that it was their first trip to play kubb in Rockford. There were 36 teams that played at the 2013 U.S. Midwest Kubb Championship.

The morning consisted of the three Group Play matches with the seeded team winning six of the eight groups that had a seeded team. A light sprinkle came down for a few minutes in the morning, but nothing that impacted play or tournament operations.



The Playoffs started at 1230 with eight teams battling to play in the Championship Bracket of 32. At 130, the Round of 32 started. Soon it was down to 16 teams with match-ups of some high level kubb teams with Kubb'd (Des Moines, IA) playing Kubb Snipers (Appleton, WI), Team Knockerheads (Des Moines, IA) playing King Pin (Chaska, MN), and Team Kubboom (Eau Claire, WI) playing Wolfpack (Mahtomedi, MN).

The new, yellow-painted kubbs and Swedish flag kings were put out for the quarterfinals. All four matches were played on pitches 1-4.

The match between Team Knockerheads and Kubb Snipers was a rematch from their Sweet 16 meeting at the 2012 US Championship, although each team has one new team member. The Ringers were playing with, yet again, players they have never played with in a tournament before, as The Ringers father/son tandem teamed up with their fellow Eau Claire Eastside Hill neighborhood friends, the husband/wife team Throw Storm for this tournament. The Ringers played King Kung (previously Pitch Wizards) and their greatly improved inkasting position. The Dark Side of the Kubbsicles (two players from each the Kubbsicles and Dark Side of the Kubb) and Goofy Kubbers 1.2.3 was a match-up of two of the top inkastares in the U.S. Pitch 3 was home to the Rad Kubbler and Team Kubboom match. Rad Kubbler which consisted of perennial US Championship quarterfinalist and beyond Tad Kubbler and one additional player to round out a four-player teams versus the Team Kubboom team which consists of next door neighbors and the third living across the alley behind the other two (which has to be every kubbers dream).

After close to 90 minutes all four matches were complete. Next, the semifinals. Another rematch occurred. This time between Team Knockerheads and Rad Kubbler, who met in the 2012 US Championship quarterfinals. The other match consisted of the two Eau Claire teams that made it to the semifinals, and ended with a 2-1 victory for the university students (came from three different cities to play in Rockford) over the 2010 U.S. Champions and their Throw Storm teammates.

The 2013 Midwest Championship Final was, yet again, another rematch for Team Knockerheads. In the Final they played two of the three Kubbsicles teamed up with two players from the Eau Claire team Dark Side of the Kubb. Game 1 lasted longer than some would have thought as both teams could not close the other out. Both teams had one baseline kubb remaining. DSOTK had three chances to get it and then the king, but came up empty. On the other end Team Knockerheads also had their opportunities. At the end of the game, it was Team Knockerheads who were able to eliminate their last baseline kubb and then win the game. Game 2 was as quick as the other one was long. Early in Game 2, DSOTK left field kubbs in play. Team Knockerheads knocked over the three field kubbs in two throws, went two for two at the baselines, and won the 2013 U.S. Midwest Kubb Championship with their first king throw.

The feeling at the park was the first day of spring. It was a long winter for many of the teams and some had left winter conditions to make the trip. There was an assortment of teams that have played in Rockford one, two, three, or all four years. Six of the top eight teams from the 2012 U.S. Championship played, and there were a good number of new teams as well. As always old friends were seen and new friends were made.

Congratulations to all the teams.

Group Play Results

All Groups ended with records of 3-0, 2-1, 1-2, and 0-3. Teams are listed in order of finish.

Group A

Dark Side of the Kubbsicles Kingpin Sjo-Time Stormkubbers

Group B

Kubbacca The Deadeyes Ophir Gophers Kubb Scouts

Group C

The Ringers
The Mad Tossers
KUBbAR
Hardwood Kubbers

Group D

King Kung Wolfpack Skelekubbers Chicks With Sticks

Group E

Team Knockerheads Kubb Med Robert's Retreads Kubbtastic

Group F

Kubb Snipers
Rhymes With Tube
Sticks, Blocks, and Beer
Kubbawockeez

Group G

Goofy Kubbers 1.2.3 Ice Kubbs Jesus, Joseph, and Bloody Mary Gubber Kubbers

Group H

Rad Kubbler Pitch Slap Skipping Stones Team R.U.K.U.S

Group I

Team Kubboom Kubb'd iKubb Dalsland KUBBheads

Consolation Bracket

1st: Kubbacca (Des Moines, IA) 2nd: Kubbawockeez (Rockford, IL)

3rd: The Deadeyes (Rockford, IL)

4th: Pitch Slap (Des Moines, IA)

Quarterfinals

Dark Side of the Kubbsicles (Eau Claire, WI)
Goofy Kubbers (Rockford/Roscoe, IL / Beloit, WI)

The Ringers (Eau Claire, WI) King Kung (Hartford, WI) Team Knockerheads (Des Moines, IA) Kubb Snipers (Appleton, WI)

Rad Kubbler (Minneapolis, MN) Team Kubboom (Eau Claire, WI)

Semifinals

Dark Side of the Kubbsicles (Eau Claire, WI) The Ringers (Eau Claire, WI)

Team Knockerheads (Des Moines, IA) Rad Kubbler (Minneapolis, MN)

3rd Place

The Ringers (Eau Claire, WI) def. Rad Kubbler (Minneapolis, MN)

Championship

Team Knockerheads (Des Moines, IA) def. Dark Side of the Kubbsicles (Eau Claire, WI)



Top Left Clockwise: Rad Kubber, Team Kubboom, The Ringers, Dark Side of the Kubbsicles