

## [Dallas, WI Oktoberfest ... Fun, Learned, and Will Remember](#)

Posted by eric anderson on Monday, October 8, 2012

What a wonderful day in Dallas, WI. It is always so beautiful to drive into the town from the east, down the hill, and see the little village of 350 people, with the church steeple hanging high over the town and the assortment of colors on the trees in the background.

Well, for those of you that don't know, this was the first required six-person team tournament in the U.S., and I think the first tournament with painted kubbs. 14 teams registered, and 12 teams ended up making the trip. Yes, that is well over 70 people playing on six pitches (eight were set up). It was so much fun to hear the sounds throughout the day. I found myself always turning my head to see what was happening after a scream, laugh, moan, and/or celebration.

For me, I learned a lot of new things from Saturday. Both thoughts I had during the day and thinking about things the day after. Here they are:

First and foremost, this tournament now needs its own tournament director for not only before the tournament, but on the day as well. We had closer to 80 people than 70 people playing Saturday. The days of 2009 Dallas are over. This is now 2012, and next year is 2013. Who knows how many teams sign up next year. Perhaps it is eight, or perhaps it fills up with 16. Regardless, the mindset is that one can only do one thing. Organize and facilitate or play. For me, looking at facilitation, I felt like I gave it only 50 percent of the attention it deserved on tournament day. As a player/teammate, answering questions, changing brackets, talking to people, trying to figure out what to do when the sun is going down, that takes away from my team and to an extent the enjoyment of being a player. I have a personality where I want to give either 100%. Not one 50% and the other 80 or so percent. Also waking up the next day, I realized that I probably, well actually, did get perhaps a little "short or testy" with people once or twice during the day/evening. If you were one of them, I apologize.

Looking back, our team never lost two games in a match. Yet our record was 3-2 in the round-robin and lost in the semifinal. At the same time, we beat a team in the quarterfinal without winning two games. Looking at all the matches and seeing a lot of 1-0 and even a 0-0, a better balance between allowing matches to finish and getting a lot of kubb in for teams. A 1 hour and 15 minute time limit is probably needed in the round-robin. If your match gets done in 20 or 30 minutes, there is so much to do and watch in Dallas. The round-robin can be a match or two shorter, and then we can get the Final played without turning the lights on in the park. Was it cool? Heck yeah it was cool, and it will be something to talk about like the US in 2011. However, it is so much better to get the Final played and completed before 6pm. More people can watch it, and if the weather would have cooperated, well, we would have had a lot of random spectators watching us like last year.



Sweden's Amateur Ringers - we used a word from our three regular teams. Thanks Mike Jackelen for the photo.

Did you know this? The teams that made it to the semifinals played eight matches. At the WC, teams play three matches in their group. Top team goes on to Final 16. So, teams that make it to the semifinal play seven matches. Teams in Dallas played a lot of kubb.

How many times did I hear people say, gosh we let them move up and they beat us. It seemed even more than at

other tournaments. I think both games in the Final were lost with the other team moving up. And, I didn't see anyone tossing long all day. Heck, I think the the two games we lost in the round-robin and the one in the semifinal were from the other team moving up, or that played a role in it. Hmmmm, I remember sitting down with Scott and Aaron and listening to Terry Ekelöf from Team Ekeby talk about making sure you don't lose and the idea of tossing some kubbs long, if there are a lot in play. I do wonder how many of us are now thinking what would have happened if we would have tossed one or two kubbs long just once or twice. I know I am. But GOSH is it hard to do that, especially when you are stacking them up really well on a turn.

I am not sure what people thought of the kubbs being painted, but the pictures that are out there, WOW, they are cool. It continues to amaze me how a kubb being drilled is not fuzzy in a picture. I have to wonder if/when another tournament will paint some kubbs, even if it is just for a quarterfinal, semifinal, or Final.



Not a big fan of posting a picture of myself here, but people are taking amazing pictures. If it wasn't me, I'd consider this on the cover of KubbNation Magazine. Thanks Jamie Thingelstad for the photo.

I know six-person teams are not for everyone, just like one-person teams are not for everyone, and some people don't even like three-person teams. But holy wow, do I like six-person teams. I really hope the kubb community can continue to support a six-person team tournament. It also really makes me hope that the kubb community can support another one or two three-person team tournaments. This is perhaps for another day, but I would love for another tournament outside the US Championship to go to three-person teams, and we as a community do everything we can to help support that tournament and make the trip.



I love six player teams. Also, whoever said you cannot look fresh and cool as all getout in the colder months has never met the [MN Kubb crew](#). If the MN Kubb crew has some tips for me, my ears are open.

One thing I am really looking forward to is new people in the kubb community as well, and we have seen more and more this year. I really enjoy playing the EC, Appleton, DM, and Minneapolis, etc. of the kubb world, so don't take this that I think the is getting old or I don't like playing them, or anything, but I do think it will be even more fun when more newer teams start making it to the quarterfinals and beyond. Obviously that will result in some of us not making it to the quarters and beyond, but we do need new blood, and this is the one reason why I am really excited about the newer teams like Goofy Kubbers, Team Kubboom, and others, and the younger generations. Plus, just as much, some of the teams that have been around awhile that are making it farther and/or travelling more like Kubbsicles, Kastpinnar Kings, etc.

Oh yeah, perhaps one of my top two or three highlights of the day, was I loved watching young Sam (4th grade) and little Max (1st grade) from Team Kubboom drill against Josh Feathers late in the round-robin. Then Sam wanting ot give Josh the wooden king keychain that his dad Pat made. You see, when I ride my bike home from work in the summer and ride by their house (I live three blocks away), often, those two little ones are out there just drilling and drilling and drilling, and sometimes their sister is out with them. And when I go over there to play, it is the same way. You have to drag those kids off of the pitch. And right next door to them is Scott and his family. That gave me a great big smile Saturday. And that is how I am going to remember Dallas 2012.



That's right Sam. Don't forget it. And, you will never know how glad I am that you and Team Kubboom found kubb.