

2017 Meranto Memorial 3 Wall Doubles Handball Tournament Wrap-Up

The largest field of players in the thirty-eight year history of this event enjoyed perfect weather, great hospitality and watching Sean Lenning play three-wall.

Except for three years since 1980 this three-wall doubles tournament has been held each summer. The event was renamed to honor Philip Meranto shortly after his passing in 1985. Phil was an avid three-wall player and, in his capacity as professor of Political Science and social activist, was a champion of oppressed people everywhere. Two of Phil's adult children, two grand-children, their grand-mother and other family members joined the players, their friends and families at the courts in Kent, WA to honor the memory of this good friend.

Two flights of sixteen, eight A and eight B players, played a round-robin section to begin the competition. After seven games, each ideally against a different team and with a different partner, an order of finish was established based on total points. The top A and B players from each flight then joined to play a final match to determine the tournament champions. Sean Lenning and Maxx Bennett were the A winners of the round robin play neither having lost a game. The top B players, Jesse Braman and LeRoy Gmazel, partnered with Lenning and Bennett respectively in the Championship Round. Lenning and Braman won a spirited final 21-16. It marked the eighth time that Lenning has won this event the first being fifteen years ago when he was seventeen.

Special thanks to Scott Gmazel for managing the kitchen and Sharon Swenson for coordinating the activities that make this event a summer standout.

Tournament sponsor: Snoqualmie Falls Brewing Company.

Submitted by LeRoy Gmazel