

## *Goldstein Sr. defeats 63, wins \$1350 in NCMG 18 @ Clayton Valley*

Needing a mark in the 10<sup>th</sup> frame to win the tournament, Joe Goldstein Sr. threw the best mark by putting 10 in the pit. Another strike after that and it was a 256-234 win over former champion Darren Francisco and the title in the 18<sup>th</sup> Northern California Match Games held at Clayton Valley Bowl on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

This was Joe's 1<sup>st</sup> NCMG title. He defeated a terrific field of 63 players and won \$1350. Joe knocked down the most pins (1989) of any player and tied for the most match (6) wins. Goldstein had 3 games in the 250's and 2 more in the 260's. Joe caught a break in game 7 as his lowest game (216) turned into a winner.

Even with a loss in game 8, Francisco's 234 game dropped him only to second place. Darren went from 23<sup>rd</sup> after game 3 to the lead after game 7, by winning 4 games in a row with scores of 264-248-247-277. He earned \$900 for his runner-up finish.

Robby Porter found himself in 42<sup>nd</sup> place after a 237-225 game 1 loss to Jeff Frankos, a 267 win in game 2 jumped him to 18<sup>th</sup> and was part of a 4-game winning streak that sent him as high as 3<sup>rd</sup> place. A 236-197 win over Jerry Kennedy in game 8 kept Porter in 3<sup>rd</sup> place and winning \$700.

Heading into the final game of the 18<sup>th</sup> Northern California Match Games, just 91 pins separated the top 8 players. It becomes even closer when 50 bonus pins are given to the winner of each match.

Russ Greiner was in 6<sup>th</sup>, but only 1 pin ahead of Anthony Thompson, who was in 8<sup>th</sup>. They both won their matches but Thompson outscored Greiner 248-246 and finished 1 pin ahead of Greiner. They both moved up in the standings and Thompson won \$525 for 4<sup>th</sup> & Greiner \$450 for 5<sup>th</sup>. Lee Patterson jumped from 11<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> in the final game by winning with a 258 game, finishing 1 pin higher than Mark Figari (\$350) in 7<sup>th</sup> place.

The next Northern California Match Games, the 19th will be held at Yosemite Lanes in Modesto on (Memorial Day) Monday May 31, 2010.

NCMG 18 Notes: For the first time in NCMG history, nobody won 7 or 8 matches in a tournament. The top 6 players each won 6 matches and there 9 players in the field with 6 wins...Frankos had the only 300 game of the tournament and Greiner had a 299.

*Charting the champ..... d. Sean Munkner 258-213, lost to Treico Holland 226-224, d. Marvin Hale 244-216, d. Nolen Velasco 268-267, lost to Leonard Lopez 259-258, d. Robby Porter 265-247, d. Greg Thompson, Jr. 216-168, d. Darren Francisco 256-234.*