

Acma wins 7 of 8 matches en route to NCMG 21 title & \$1400 @ Clayton Valley

Dennis Acma defeated Jeff Frankos in games 7 & 8 to overcome an 81 pin deficit to win the 21st Northern California Match Games on January 2, 2011 @ Clayton Valley Bowl.

The tournament victory was worth \$1400 for Dennis as he defeated a full field of 64 bowlers. Dennis also won another \$240 in the Champions Pot.

In game 7, Acma won a slugfest 268-247 and with the 50 bonus pins for winning a match, he cut the Jeff's lead to just 10 pins.

Going into the final game, it was shaping up to be a 4 player race for the title. Here were the standings after 7 games;

Jeff Frankos	2077
Dennis Acma	2067
George Aboud	2040
Kioni Sodaria	1994

After 7 frames, it was even closer as there were a lot of strikes thrown in the Aboud-Sodaria match. Both players could strike out for games in the 260's. While this was going on Jeff & Dennis were both struggling & on pace for games under 200.

As of the 8th frame, George could have struck out and the win would have been his. A stubborn 7 pin in the 8th frame derailed his chances.

All Players struck in the 9th frame to set up an exciting finish. Acma had 126 in the 7th frame with a double and Frankos had 155 in the 8th & his 9th frame strike. Both players again struck on the 1st ball of the 10th frame, which ended Sodaria's title hopes. Jeff's 2nd ball of the tenth frame drifted high and left a 6-10 and Dennis drilled the pocket again to strike for the title. A 3rd tenth frame strike accounted for the final score of 216-202.

Kioni needed a mark in the 10th to pass Jeff for 2nd place which he did with his 8th strike in a row and he ended with a 255 final game. Sodaria pocked \$1000 for his runner-up finish, Frankos earned \$750 for 3rd place & Aboud settled for 4th & won \$550.

This was the highest scoring Nor Cal Match Games yet, with seven 300's (Sodaria, Larry Wheeler, Jr., & Steven Ting in game 2; Danny Lew in game 5, Mark McCreary in game 6, Bruce Hall in game 7, & DJ Edenstrom in game 8), a 299 (that didn't win his match), & two 290 games.

Charting the champ...d. Chris Preble, 201-182; d Chris Hillman, 278-194; d. Joe Goldstein, Jr.; d. Joe Goldstein, Sr., 280-258; lost to Aboud, 259-290; d. Chet Steengrafe, 266-216; d. Frankos, 268-247; d. Frankos 216-202.

NCMG 21 Notes....Chris Hillman had the highest game of the non cashers in game 8 (286) for \$135, Scott Christensen was 2nd with 268...Greg Thompson, Jr. now has the highest losing game in NCMG history with a 299, he lost to Steve Ting's 300 in game 2...As always, there are some big jumps at the end for some bowlers, Dave Rubin was in 30th after 4 games and shot 1011 & won his last 4 games to finish in 7th...49th place after 4 games belonged to Paul Mandap, but having 1020 and winning his last 4 games jumped him up to 12th spot...Larry Wheeler, Jr. was the leader after 2 games and in 4th after game 3. However, 3 losses in the next 4 games had dropped him to 23rd. He righted the ship in game 8 and finished with 278 to jump 10 places in one game and finished 13th...With 3 games to go, former NCMG Champ P.J. Haggerty was 25 spots out of the money, he grabbed the last cash by winning his last 3 games with 243-279-246.