

February 2011 saw the second Boracay Island Shuffleboard World Cup at Calypso Lounge.

The 2010 Philippines Champs team were attending to defend their title. Many new countries registered this year, and practice sessions had been plentiful in preparation for the event, so Mae and Rhoda had some competition on their hands! The countries included Austria, Switzerland, Philippines, Germany, Sweden, Italy, Croatia, the last-minute entry from France, and the combined ROTW team.

Sue Gibbins, Master of Shuffleboard, umpired the tournament of 39 players. In the qualifying rounds play-offs took place with singles games to 10 points within the countries to identify the top two or four players for country team(s).

By the third evening the 16 selected teams played two doubles games to 15 points to decide the top 8 scorers that would go through to the quarter finals. We enjoyed a few entertaining moments during the ROTW versus Austria 1 game because one of the players had just completed his PADI Divemaster course at Calypso and had been celebrating: Jon made 3 very stylish points but the rest of his shots were rather wild! After the rounds, Germany, Philippines Champs, Austria, Switzerland and



both Philippines 1 and 2 teams went through with flying colors scoring over 30 points from their games. Sweden and Croatia made up the remaining two qualifying teams.

The final evening was knock-out games to 21 points. Germany and Switzerland both came through the quarter finals knocking out Croatia and Austria. In the game between Philippines 1 and 2, team 1 made it through after a fairly close game. Then the Philippines Champs eventually showed their experience after a wobbly start against Sweden.

In the semi finals Switzerland met Germany, with the German team very strong and coming out on top. The two remaining Philippines teams went head-to-head, and the champs showed who's boss by going through to the final round.

So the final, for the second year running, was Philippines versus Germany! This year, with a different German team versus last year's champs, it was a very close game indeed. This time Germany was the one to triumph, and Jens and Michael proudly lifted the Shuffleboard World Cup for their country in 2011.

The prize draw for all registered players topped off the evening, with sponsorship from Asia Divers, Sundown Restaurant, Calypso Lounge and Calypso Diving.

Thanks to everyone for taking part and making the Shuffleboard World Cup of Boracay so much fun. See you at the Lounge for our regular tournaments to get prepared for more World Cup action next year!

■ www.calypso-boracay.com

