

Billiards Club News Letter

February 2020

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Now that the holiday celebrations are over, we can begin a new year. Can you believe we have started a new decade, the 20's? I can remember when we left the 90's and all the Y2K (remember that term) computer issues that needed to be resolved. At least for some of us, remembering the roaring 20's of old may make it easier to remember the upcoming 20's decade than to remember the recently passed teens.



On January 12th, the Club hosted our third annual **Welcome Back Pot Luck Dinner**. 100 club members and their guests attended this dinner. Good food and drink were enjoyed by all. Three raffles were held during this event, one for a \$280 J. Pechauer custom pool cue, one for an Elite 2x4 cue case, and one for a pair of tickets to a SCG Everly Brothers performance on March 2nd. **Tim Fitzpatrick won the pool cue, Joan Cote won the cue case, and Jerry Conte won the tickets to the March 2nd show.** Congratulations to all raffle winners.

In case you didn't know, our great Club Vice President, **Jim Janssens took "First Place" in the Tucson 2020 CUESPORTS International Arizona State Championships, 8 Ball Singles Gold Division.** Jim took top honors out of a field of 71 players. **Congratulations Jim for your outstanding play.**



Remember, the Club Championships are set to take place from February 22nd to March 7th. Players can only participate in **one** of the Championship Tournaments. **However, ladies have the option of playing in both the Ladies and the Players tournaments.** The Club encourages **ALL of you** to participate in these upcoming events. Sign-up Sheets are posted on the bulletin board. The following events will be taking place in February:

- Ladies Championship is set for Saturday, Feb 22nd from 8:30 AM – 1 PM.**
- Novice Championship is set for Thursday, February 27th from 9 AM – 6 PM.**
- Players Championship is set for Friday, February 28th from 9 AM – 6 PM.**
- Masters Championship is set for Saturday, Feb 29th from 9 AM – 6PM.**

The finals for the Novice, Players, and Masters will be held on Championship Saturday, March 7th from 10:00 AM – 5 PM.

While we are on the subject of tournaments, we need to discuss the Briesath Cup. Each year, the Club attempts to make this event bigger and better. This year we have listened to your feedback and, in the interest of fairness,

the Club has formed a team member selection committee and changed our player selection process. We will first post a sign-up sheet for anyone interested in being a team member. Look for that sheet on the Club bulletin board. Signing this sheet only expresses interest; it does not guarantee a spot. Each team will have 5 players and 1 alternate.

Captain for Team USA is John Fenwick
 Captain for Team Canada is Rich Wear

Each team will have a Captain’s pick. The next two positions will be offered to the top Canadian and top American winners of the Masters Championship. We will then have a Briesath Cup qualifying tournament scheduled for Sunday, March 1st from 11 – 6 PM. The top Canadian and American players will earn a spot onto the Briesath Cup teams. Look for the sign-up sheet on the Club bulletin board. Remaining players will be selected by the Briesath Cup Committee. The Briesath Cup itself will be held on March 28th at 1:00 PM.

Another big Club event being held in March is the Annual Club Picnic. On Monday, March 9th, the club will host its annual Members Luncheon. This year we will move our gathering to the Cimarron building. We’ll have both indoor and outdoor seating. This is a great opportunity to meet new friends, enjoy good food. We will have raffles and 50/50 drawings.

November ‘19 – April ‘20 League News

As a League participant, understanding the handicap numbers has always been troublesome for me. After discussing this issue with Paul, I will hopefully clarify the handicap determination issue. The following methodology is used for the Tuesday Night League which is currently composed of 8 member teams.

Each player has their own “PR” (PR = player rating) which is compiled by that players league win/loss record. The team also has its own ‘TR” (TR = Team Rating). The TR rating is determined by adding the Team PR’s and dividing by 4. Differences in “Teams TR’s” will reflect the required number of games a stronger or weaker team needs to achieve in order to win the match. **This TR difference is applied to the Handicap Format Chart to determine the required number of games each team “Will Need to Win” the match.** The following Handicap Format Chart is designed for a four-member team. The chart values shown are derived in part from the Fargo Rating System. For a three or five-member team, the chart values would be slightly different. **However, the process to determine the team handicap would be the same.** Let’s look at the following Handicap Format Chart and create some hypothetical match situations.

Handicap Format Chart	
Games to Win Stronger - Weaker	Team TR Difference Range
11 -11	0 - 14
12 -10	15 - 29
13 - 9	30 - 45
14 - 8	46 - 64
15 - 7	65 - 82
16 - 6	83 - 105
17 - 5	106 - 129
18 - 4	130 - 153

Let's assume the Team TR difference is equal to 12. 12 falls within the 0 -14 Team TR difference range. On the chart, look directly to the left and you see 11 – 11. Remember on Tuesday night, there are a total of 20 games in a match. Thus, a team winning 10 games would result in a tie. That means both teams are rated equally, thus the winning team needs 11 games to win. Now, if the TR difference is 35, that number falls within the 30 – 45 range. Again, looking directly to the left on the chart, the stronger team then needs 13 games to win and the weaker team needs 9 games to win. Even though the values are different, this same methodology is being used for other leagues as well.

The handicap process currently being used is an ongoing process and subject to review. The current methodology will remain for the remainder of the current season but will be up for review at the beginning of next season.

If a tie occurs during this season's play, the Players and 9 Ball Leagues requires a tie breaking game. The first players of each team on the score sheets will reflect which team members play the tie breaker.

Now, let's get back to regular league news. As most of you know, the Part One Season for the Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday Leagues ended the third week of last month. Thus, those leagues will have Part One final results and Part Two starting season end of the month information.

Travel

Before the season started, the Travel League had a singles 8 Ball tournament. Our Linda Asleson won this tournament out of a field of 24 good players. Congratulations Linda on your excellent play.

The Travel League match format consists of our 5 players play our opponents 5 players 2 games each for a total of 50 games. The winning team needs to win 26 games to win the match. With that in mind, the Sun City Grand Traveling Billiard team is off to a red-hot start in 2020. During the first 3 weeks of team competition, our team won the first 3 matches in convincing style and are currently in first place, 3 and 0. All of our team members have a winning percentage of well over 50%. Four have a winning percentage of 80%. Good job team!

Masters

Optimistic leads the pack over second place Fargo Rate by 18 games. Randy Biko continues to lead the individual players with a 69.4% winning percentage.

Players – Tuesday

The competition in this league continues to be unbelievable. Diamond Dawgs, Pool Q's, and Wonder Sticks are all tied for first place by two rounds. Closely following in a 3-way tie for second place are the Crazy 8's, Vipers, and Masse Magic. Bud Anderson is still the top individual player with an 80.0% winning percentage.

Players – Wednesday

The Deplorables took top honors in Part One by 1 round. Fire Sticks, Hot Pockets, and Sun Stokers were in a three-way tie for second place with identical rounds won score. However, Fire Sticks took second and Sun

Stokers took third by total number of games won. Mike Choquette was the top individual player with a 71.1% winning percentage.

The Part Two season starts off with Pocket Stars, Long Shots, and The Stompers in a three-way tie for first place. That leaves Grand Shooters, Bank Shots, and Fire Sticks in a three-way tie for second place. Howie Koval was the top individual player with a 100% winning percentage.

Novice

The "Q" Tips took the top spot in Part One by 2 rounds over the Shot Makers. Barry Cohen was the top individual player with a 66.7% winning percentage.

Sharp Shooters starts the Part Two season leading Pool Kats by 2 rounds. Gary Hanson was the top individual player with a 100% winning percentage.

Per League Director, Scott Kovac, this League needs **MORE** Subs. So, if you can, please sign up.

9 Ball

The top 2 teams, Making 9's and Niners, ended up the Part One Season with identical Rounds Won records. However, Making 9's had won more games and thus took the title. Don Boortz was the top individual player with a 72.5% winning percentage.

The Part Two season starts out with Making 9's taking the top spot breaking a 4-way first place tie by 2 games. Rich Dibenedetto is the top individual player with a 100% winning percentage.



Since there was so much information in this issue, I decided to postpone the Rule of the Month until next month. So, stay tuned.