

Billiards Club News Letter

March 2020

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Most snowbird members have now returned to enjoy the sunny weather of Arizona. Last month was an exciting month indeed for the Billiards Club. Several great events were held during the month for Club members to enjoy. **However, March is now upon us and the Good Times continue to roll.** As you read this month's issue, I think you will agree that the month of March is not one to be missed as a Club Member.



The initial Club Championships play for the various club categories and skill levels took place last month. Club Championship week exhibited a great level of play. **The top two players in the Novice, Players, and Masters Divisions will play for their respective championship on Championship Saturday, March 7th at 1 PM.** Spectators are encouraged to watch this event to see who wins each division. The ladies have concluded their championship. **The Club Championship awards will be presented before the Briesath Cup on Saturday, March 28th.** Players with one loss must win two matches. The final finalists are as follows:

Ladies - Sandy Ptacek won first place and thus taking the championship. Laurie Richmond took second place and Annie Lowe placed third.

The top two qualifiers for each of the remaining categories are as follows:

Novice - Walt Wojcik, undefeated vs Laurie Richmond with one loss

Players - Bill Parker, undefeated vs Paul Ertman with one loss

Masters - Rich Wear, undefeated vs Randy Biko with one loss

In addition to the Club Championship Tournament, the **Briesath Cup qualifying Tournament was held on March 1st.** This was the first tournament of its type held to provide an opportunity for club members to qualify to be members of the Briesath teams. At the end of a very competitive tournament, the winners were:

USA - Rob Pulvino

Canada - Brian Pin

So far, the Briesath team rosters are composed of:

Canada: Rich Wear - Captain, Randy Biko and Brian Pin

USA: John Fenwick – Captain (may or may not play), Randy Salzedel, and Rob Pulvino

The selection for the remaining team cup players is still in progress. Selection announcement to follow.



The month of March is a very busy one for our Billiards Club. Following is a description of the several exiting events that will be taking place during the month.

As previously mentioned, the Finals for Novice, Players, and Masters Club championships, will be held on Saturday, March 7th at 1 PM.

On Monday, March 9th, the club will host its annual Members Luncheon. This year we are moving our gathering to the Agua Fria Room in the Cimarron building. We'll have both indoor and outdoor seating. **Food will be served starting at 12:30 PM.** This is a great opportunity to meet new friends and enjoy good food. There will be raffles and door prizes. In addition, the club is always looking for volunteers to assist with this great event. So, if you have a little extra time, please volunteer to help with some miscellaneous lunch activities.

Last, but certainly not least is our Tribute to Jerry Briesath. As in the past we will have a pot luck luncheon followed by the Canadians vs. the Americans Briesath Cup Challenge. This event will be on Saturday, March 28th. A Pot luck will be held in the Apache room from 10 AM- 2 PM. The Tournament takes place in the Billiard room from 1 – 5 PM. This annual tournament is the most exciting Pool Club event of the year. You get to watch the finest talent in our club compete for the coveted Briesath trophy. Similar to the Ryder Cup golf event, we encourage you to dress in your country's colors, carry your respective flag, and cheer as loud as you can for your team.

November '19 – April '20 League News

Travel

The Billiard Club Travel Team continues its dominance of the Travel League. Our team remains undefeated and alone in first place. We have four matches remaining to win the title. Rich Wear was our strongest player against Sun City winning 9 of 10 games. Congratulations Rich.

Masters

Optimistic continues their first-place dominance by 14 games over second place Fargo Rate. Will any team be able to catch them? Randy Biko continues to be the top individual player with a 64.7% winning percentage.

Players – Tuesday

The congestion for first place has diminished to one team, the Pool Q's. They are leading the pack over second place Crazy 8's by one match. Bud Anderson continues to be the top individual player with a 75.7% winning percentage.

Players - Wednesday

Pocket Stars and Long Shots are tied for first place. They are one match over Grand Shooters and Fire Sticks which are tied for second place. Bill Martin is now the top individual player with a 80.0% winning percentage.

Novice

Balls on Fire leads second place Cue Tips by one match. R J Misata is the top individual player with a 70.0% winning percentage.

9 Ball

The Niners are in first place by one match. Making 9's and Destroyers are tied for second place. Rich Dibenedetto is the top individual player with an 80.0% winning percentage.



Apparently, there is some confusion concerning the situation if an object ball is not pocketed, after the shot, what is the rule regarding the cue ball or any other ball as it relates to hitting or not hitting a cushion.

After the shot is taken, either of the following must happen:

- 1. The Object Ball must either strike a cushion or be pocketed**
- 2. The Cue Ball must hit a cushion if the object ball is not pocketed or doesn't strike a cushion**
- 3. If the cue ball or the object does not hit a cushion, after a legal hit, the opponent's ball must hit a cushion**

If either of the above three options doesn't occur, a foul takes place. Then, "Ball in Hand" goes to your opponent.

If the object ball is frozen to the cushion, players should first determine that the object ball is actually touching the cushion. After the two players agree that the object ball is frozen to the cushion, the player that is up shoots the Cue Ball and it strikes the Object Ball.

Since the object ball is already frozen to the cushion, the cue ball must hit a cushion or the object ball must hit a second cushion. Again, if the three above options don't take place, a foul occurs and "Ball in Hand" goes to your opponent.