

Billiards Club Newsletter

February 2022

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2022 has started out with a bang for the Billiard Club. Club members are again participating in both club sponsored and league events again. There is a lot for our members to look forward to as 2022 rolls on and we participate in the numerous events that are planned in the upcoming months.



The club Annual Welcome back Party scheduled for January 9th was an unfortunately cancelled due to Covid concerns. On the optimistic side, the club is considering having a make-up event depending if schedules permit. Please keep your fingers crossed.

At this point, I would please request that if you are not feeling well, please do NOT come into the pool room. We don't want our club members coming down with anything unnecessarily.

Some of our club members traveled to Tucson to participate in the 2022 CSI Arizona State Championships Tournament that was conducted January 11 through the 16th. Our members participated in the 8 Ball Singles and 8 Ball Scotch Doubles categories. There were 178 8 Ball Single participants and 40 8 Ball Scotch Double teams that participated. **Linda Asleson and Jim Janssens were able to procure 7th place in the 8 Ball Scotch Doubles.** Unfortunately, the rest of our club member tournament participants were unable to place in a winning category. Better luck next year.

After the Tucson tournament we were fortunate to have Tyler Styer visit us at Sun City Grand. Tyler is one of the top billiard players in the world. He just completed playing in the pro event in Tucson. Tyler has competed in 3 Mosconi Cup events and is known to billiard players all over the world. He put on a two-hour presentation in the billiard room on Sunday, January 16th at no charge. He also spent many hours in the billiard room enlightening us with his experiences in pool and his close relationship with Jerry Breisath. Thank you, Jerry for inviting him.

Tyler at 27 has an extremely polite and engaging personality. He was so willing to share his billiard knowledge with anyone who asked. What an honor to have such a talented young man interact with our pool club members.



Future club scheduled events include the Billiard Club Annual Championships. Events will be scheduled in the ladies, masters, players, and novice categories. This is a chance for club members to see if they are the top contender in their category. Players can only compete in one of the event categories with the exception of the Ladies Division who can compete in two. Masters players must only compete in the Masters Division. Sign-up sheets are now posted in the pool room for these championships.

Ladies - 2/19

Novice - 2/24

Briesath Cup Qualification – 2/26

Players – 3/3

Masters - 3/4

If necessary, an overflow event – 3/5

Championship Saturday - 3/12 – 9:00 AM Club Championships

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM Pot Luck

1:00 PM Briesath Cup Championship

The next premier club event of the spring season is the Briesath Cup Championship and Pot Luck. The Briesath Cup will be held on Championship Saturday, March 12th at 1 PM. For those of you that are not familiar with the Briesath Cup, the top club members from Canada compete with the top club members from the United States. **This will be the 4th edition of this event with Canada winning one and the USA winning two. There will be a qualifying event for anyone interested in being on one of these two teams on Saturday 26th at 9:00 AM.**

In addition, I almost forgot the Club Spring Luncheon on March 7th. Details to follow. The good times will continue to roll.

League News

If more detailed league information is desired, please reference the Billiard Club website. The website can be accessed by logging on to: www.grandbilliards.org and going to the League Info tab.

Monday Night Masters 8 Ball

The Breakers are leading the second place Dream Team by 11 games. In Que is in third place 20 games out. Randy Salzwedel leads the individual players with a winning percentage of 76.9%.

Tuesday Night Players 8 Ball

Lancers are leading the pack by 2.5 scoring points over the second place On Cue 11. Vipers are in third 3.5 scoring points out. Lew Oliphant remains the top individual player with an 82.2% winning percentage.

Wednesday Afternoon Players 8 Ball

8 Balls of Fire is on top of second place Rack Attack by 7.0 scoring points. 8 Ball Magicians round out third place 8 scoring points behind. Gary North still leads the individual players by a winning percentage of 88.9%.

Thursday Afternoon Novice 8 Ball

The Novice League in its original format is not being currently played. The league directors decided to try something new as a replacement for the previous format. In conjunction with Jerry Breisath, our resident Pocket Billiards Instructor, we will be using a format for helping novices of all levels to develop and provide an introduction to the sport. **Our time at the tables will be for instruction, practice and game play for improving your level of play.** This new concept started on January 27th and will run for 6 weeks on Thursdays. Time of play is between 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM. All tables will be in use for this new Novice League configuration.

All novices that are interested are encouraged to participate. New and interested novice members will work with the novice league directors and occasionally Jerry to improve your skills at the tables. Novices that sign-up or walk-ins are encouraged to come for all 6 weeks. The time novices spend at these sessions will provide a good opportunity to build your skills.

The Club's most important priority is for novice players to enjoy themselves along with seeing you progress as you participate. Come and enjoy with us a fun time in the Novice League.

The final day of the original format league play took place during week 7 on January 29th. Coyotes took first place with Rookies coming in second 3.5 scoring points behind. Third place went to All Chalked Up 5.0 scoring points out. The leading individual player continued to be David Nedelman with an 83.3% winning percentage. Good job David.

Friday Morning 9 Ball

Rack Attack is leading the pack by 1 match over second place Breakers. One match beyond that is a three-way tie for third place consisting of Nine Ball Magic, 4 Niners, and Chalk is Cheap. Besides leading in Wednesday play, Gary North continues to be the top individual player with a 76.7% winning percentage in 9 Ball. Congratulations Gary.

Travel League

The Billiard Club Travel League team is off to a perfect start to defend our title as travel league champions. The team had decisive victories over Sun City West, Sun Village and Happy Trails over the past month. Randy Salzwedel had 4 table runs in 10 games. Congratulations Randy.

Our championship plaque is now in the Billiard Room. It is in the Champions Section located by table 4. Please come into the pool room and view this plaque that shows just how great are Billiard Club Travel Team truly is.

In addition, our Travel League team members participated in an individual travel league singles tournament that was held at Sunflower. Every league team individually sent 4 players. The tournament was composed of 24 players. Our members consisted of Tim Ell, Jim Janssens, Rich Wear, and Randy Biko. Our teammate Tim Ell won the singles tournament. Great job Tim!



In the theme of pool etiquette, I'd like to continue this discussion this month by reviewing some points during Club League matches.

Before league activity begins, there is one hour allotted for league participants to practice before match play begins. There have been several instances where non-league players resist giving up the tables in order that league players can practice. The club requests that non-league members be respectful of league players and allow them to practice prior to league events.

Also, when most of the league play has finished but there are one or two tables still being used, and non-league players come into the room and start playing, please be respectful of the remaining league matches. Loud conversation can be very disturbing to the league players of these last matches.

In addition, during league play, if you need to take a cell phone call, please move outside the pool room. This kind of phone conversation can be disturbing to players.