



Billiards Club Newsletter

January 2024

Created by "Oh Gene" Krajeck



The Holiday Season is over. You have probably "Overspent and Overeaten" during this wonderful period. But now we are entering a new year. This is the time of the year to make New Year's Resolutions that for the most part we will never live up to. But at least it is good to give the resolutions a shot. Maybe some of your resolutions could relate to the game of pool. Consider a smooth easy straight stroke, no jerking, concentrate on striking the cue ball in the exact spot you want to, and being considerate of your fellow pool players. Good resolutions to think about as we enter 2024. Let's hope you can at least stick to the pool resolutions.

If you look in the upper right-hand corner of this page you will notice the new Club Logo. This new logo reflects the new name of our community. Remember, Sun City Grand has now been renamed "The Grand".



Mark your calendars for February 4th as that is the date for the Club's Annual Pot Luck. It will take place in the Apache Room located across the hall from the Pool Room. This year, the Club decided to combine the Annual Pot Luck and the Fun Day into one event. As with last year, the Pool Room Challenges will be included as part of the event. More details regarding this future Pot Luck/Fun Day will be forthcoming.



The Club's Annual Meeting took place in the Palo Verde/Palms Rooms in the Sonoran Plaza on December 5th. At this meeting, the Club Officers and Directors positions for 2024 were announced. The Club welcomes Board members that are new to these positions. The positions are as follows:

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|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Officers: | President | Paul Ertman |
| | Vice President | Geoff Iverson |
| | Treasurer | Becky Hobgood |
| | Secretary | Bruce Lowe |

Directors: Bill Parker, Lan Seylar, Sandy Miller, Doug Asleson, and Jay Delich

When reviewing the aforementioned Club Officers, you will notice a name that is probably unfamiliar to most of us, that is Becky Hobgood, our new Club Treasurer. So, I contacted Becky and she sent me the following describing a little bit about herself.

“I am originally from a small horse town in Southern California, but have been a full-time Arizona resident on two different occasions totaling nearly 30 years. I just purchased my home here in March 2023, and plan to make The Grand my final address! I previously worked in healthcare both before and after being a happy stay-at-home mother to my five children. I enjoy working out, swimming, games, puzzles, cooking and spending time with my boyfriend and the wonderful friends I’ve met here. I look forward to learning and improving in the Billiards Room and serving the Club as Treasurer”.

Thanks, Becky, for providing some background information. Hopefully our members are now better informed about you. We wish you all the best and success in your new officer role as Club Treasurer.

In addition to the 2024 Club officer and director announcements, three other important club items were addressed and voted upon. These items were:

- 1. The Club budget for 2024 was discussed. The board proposed three different budget options. After discussing the merits of the three, the attending Club members selected and then voted upon the one with the largest entertainment allocation.**
- 2. The board proposed raising both the new member and existing member Club dues. The higher operating expenses the club has been experiencing were the justification for increasing the dues. After discussing the pros and cons of this issue, the meeting attendees voted to pass this resolution. For the 2025, new member dues will now be increased to \$30. This includes a new member name tag. For existing member renewal, the fee will now be \$20.**
- 3. Club Board Member serving terms will now all be one year. Club members voted on this issue and approved it by 77 to 8.**

Regarding the new increased dues, one of the attendees pointed out that even with the increased fees, what club members receive is a bargain. With the top-quality tables and balls, club tournaments, and social events the club provides far outstrips the nominal membership fee. I hope that all of you agree with these sentiments. I know I certainly do.

There were 51 Club members who attended this year’s meeting. Looking back at last year’s attendance, only 28 members attended that meeting. Combining the Club Annual Meeting and the Officer voting process into one meeting contributed to some of the increased attendance. In addition, the Club providing donuts and cookies probably didn’t hurt either. However, this is still far fewer than the approximately 290 Club members. If members have issues or complaints about the Club or its operations, this meeting provides a forum to express your views and opinions. Attending this meeting is important.

Moving on to the Challenge Board. Following are the latest Challenge Board standings:

Masters Board: Steve Crnecki has regained the top position.

Players Board: Bruce Rebout is now in first place.

Ladies Board: Roxie Collins remains the top leader.

Novice Board: Randy VanWagner also remains in the top spot.

League News

With the days of December coming to a close, the Club's new Fall Short Season format ended. Most league participants liked the new two season format. The Long Winter Season will begin the week of Jan⁸th. After the position day and night competitions, the following final results are:

Monday Night – Jim Janssens, League Operator

Breaking Bad has taken first place honors leading second place Behind the 8 Ball by 24 games. Castor Raiders are in third place 27 games out. Steve Crncki was the top individual players with a 75% winning percentage.

Tuesday Night – Bruce Lowe, League Operator

Before the league statistics are provided, I must apologize to Jerry Haas for misspelling his last name in last month's issue. I stand corrected Jerry.

Straight Shooters took first place honors. There was a tie for second place between Vipers 6 and Chalk & Awe 6 scoring points out. After reviewing team statistics, Vipers 6 was declared the second- place winner. Jerry Haas was the leading individual player with a 70% winning percentage.

Wednesday Afternoon - Charlie Fox, League Operator

Hot Shots won first place over second place Balls of Fire by 2 scoring points. There was a tie for third place between Home of the Brave and Shot Puts 5 scoring points out. Rod Lutz was the top individual player with an 80% winning percentage.

Friday Morning - Mike Garret & Paul Ertman, League Operators

Awe & Chalk took first place by 1.5 scoring points over second place Rack & Roll. Rattlers rounded out third 5.5 scoring points out. Jim Janssens was the top individual player with an 72.5% winning percentage.

Unfortunately, my team, Breaking Bad, ended up in the basement. So much for my coaching skills.

2024 Winter League Information

The new 2024 League format sessions will begin the week of January 8th. The sign-up sheets for the Winter Leagues were taken down on December 22nd. **Team Captains will be selecting their team members the week of January 1st.** League Operators will then notify selected players of their team's rosters. **A player not selected on a team will be notified and put on the Sub List. There will be a Prize Fund Fee that the selected team player must pay the Team Captain the first week of play.**

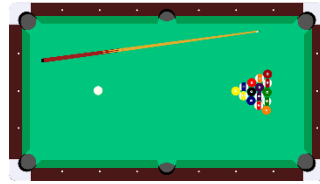
Selected team players must have their 2024 Club dues paid in order to participate in League play. Bottom line, if dues are NOT paid, you DON'T play. The Club looks forward to having another successful league season.

And remember, all the leagues are always looking for subs. You can sign up to become a sub at any time.

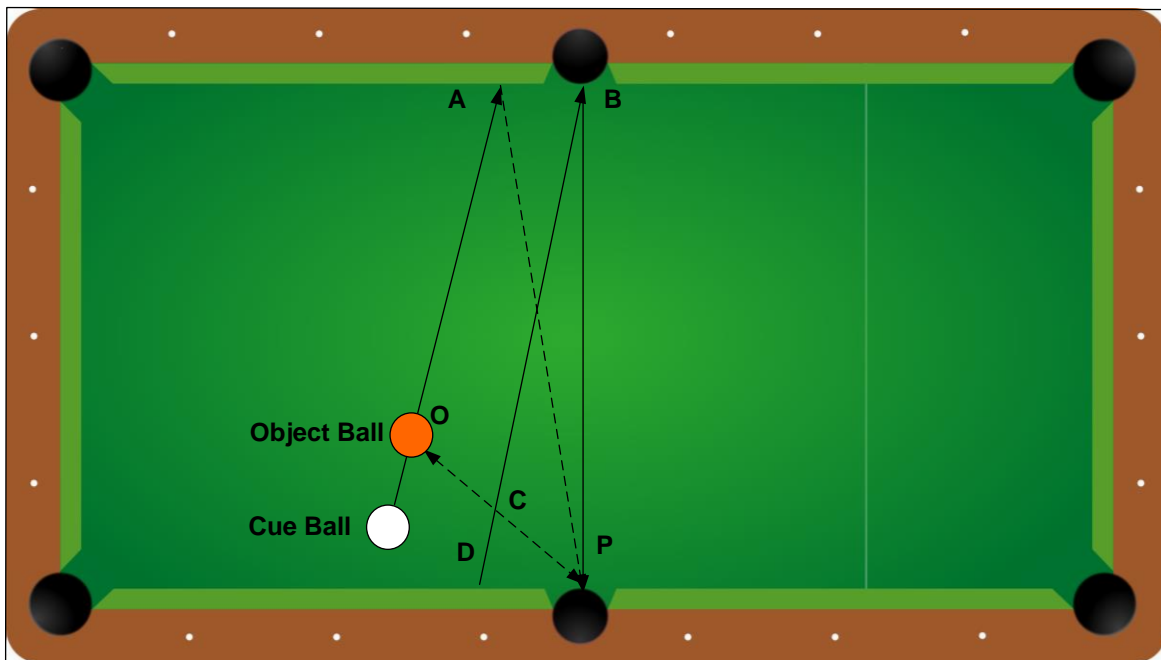
Travel League

The travel team begins the new season of 2024 hoping to keep the championship plaque at "The Grand" billiard room. Our first match is Tuesday, January 8th, in our Billiard Room. Our team members include Richard Wear, Jim Janssens, Tim Ell, Randy Biko, Randy Salzwedel, Linda Asleson and Doug Asleson (captain). The season continues into March where we hope to retain our title.

Shot of the Month



One Rail Bank



Several years ago, I attended a pocket billiards presentation by Tom Rossman. He went over several fundamental pool shots and the One Rail Bank was one of them. Following the above diagram, I will review his technique to make this type of shot.

Imagine line BP is a cue with the tip at point B which is opposite the pocket you are trying to bank into. Move the D end of the cue to a point that is half the distance between OP or, $OC = CP$. Then parallel shift the cue to the point AO. Then strike the cue ball along this line, AO, to make the bank shot.

This bank shot procedure is very accurate. I must admit though, I usually look at a bank, visually use the old geometry adage, angle in equals angle out and make the shot. Since I only make this type of shot about half the time, it might be better for me to take the extra time and use Tom Rossman's bank shot method. The above bank shot method should be something that you might consider the next time you are in this situation.