



Billiards Club Newsletter

May 2024

Created by “Oh Gene” Krajeck



I can't believe that it is May already. Where has the 2023-2024 Season gone? The Club Championships are over, regular league activity has concluded and there are no social activities planned. This is the time when our Canadian members migrate back home. Snow Birds have either packed up and left or are about to do so. The rest of us, me included, remain to endure the Arizona heat. For the Full Timers left behind, enjoy the air-conditioning.

For those of you that don't know, the May Newsletter issue is the last one for this season. Unfortunately, as May approaches, the amount of Club News begins to diminish. During this past season, I have tried to provide all the Club news that would be of interest to our members. This season, besides Club News, I also included some personal interest stories about three of our Club Members which I hope you felt was informative and interesting. I am considering doing some additional personal interest stories during the upcoming season. The Club Newsletter will resume with the November issue.

For the year-round residents, the Club does have activities planned to make our hot Arizona stay more pleasurable. More on that front to follow later in the Newsletter.



As with last summer, the Club will be having our annual Tuesday Night 8 Ball League. This league has been popular with our past summer member residents and we expect to have a good turnout this summer.

In addition, the club will also have the summer Friday Morning 9 Ball League. Sign-Up sheets for both leagues will be posted in the pool room. More details to follow.

The various Leagues are looking for league participants to become League Operators. It's time to relieve some the existing league operators with some new faces. Some of the current League Operators have been performing this function for some time and would like to be replaced. If interested, please contact Paul Ertman for more information.

The Billiard Club is planning to have a Fun Day event this summer. Last year's event was well received and all the members that attended had a great time. Look for upcoming details and date.

Some of our Billiard Club members will be participating in the upcoming May 2024 ACS National Championships that will be held at the Westgate Resort & Casino in Las Vegas. Randy Salzwedel, Rob Pulvino, Jim Janssens and Linda and Doug Asleson will making the trip up north to compete in this national event. Lets wish them all well.

You might not have noticed, but a maintenance item was performed in the Pool Room during the month of April. On some of the tables, the overhead LED lights were projecting lines onto some of the table cloths. These lines were distracting to the players. To resolve this issue, the Pool Room was closed on April 12th and CAM had the LED lights replaced. A thank you goes to The Grand Building Maintenance.

In case you have not noticed, the “Wall of Champions” has recently been updated to reflect the 2024 Club champions. The Briesath Cup plaque, which was upgraded last year, has the latest Briesath Cup team added. In addition, the 2024 Club Champions plaque has the newest champions added.

The new Briesath Cup team champion picture will be up soon. Scott Kovac is working hard to get all the league champion pictures updated but has had a few leagues unable to get him the pictures he needs to complete this process. Some leagues have given him their pictures but we are still missing a few.

Lan Saylor and Rich Wear took the recent Club Champion pictures. Those pictures, as well as the pictures of the current board of directors, will also be updated soon.

Thanks to Scott, Lan and Rich for all their hard work.

The Grand Billiard Club board of directors at its April meeting directed Scott Kovac to adjust the “On Cue” wall to include pictures to honor Linda Asleson and Randy Salzwedel. Linda and Randy have both won championships in the BCA World Championships in Las Vegas competing against some of the top amateur players in North America. Linda has won multiple titles in the BCA tournament as well as the ACS National tournament. Randy was a winner this year in the Platinum division at the BCA tournament. The board has decided to honor these two “National Champions” and proud to have them as members of our club. To accommodate these picture changes to honor these individuals, some of the existing pictures will be removed. These changes will be made sometime over the summer.

Due to the change in the content on this wall, the “On Cue” wall name may be revised. Details regarding this issue will be forthcoming.

League News

As I mentioned earlier, the regular league activity concluded in March. However, the Club decided to initiate a new league format last month. This new league is the Scotch Doubles 8 Ball League and is being tried out on a trial basis. In case you don't know, with the scotch double format, play is composed of two teams consisting of two members. If one person on the team makes a shot, then the partner shoots. If that person makes their shot, then the first partner takes another turn. This process

continues until one of the partners misses. Then the other team is up and the process starts all over. All the regular rules of 8 ball apply.

For this trial league, 14 teams of two were created. No prize fund was established. The club wants to determine if this new league format will be something club members will want to be a part of. Yours truly is on one of the teams. From my perspective, this format is a lot of fun and also enjoyable. I hope the rest of the league participants feel the same way.

Following are the league results as of April 30th.

Tuesday Night Scotch Doubles 8 Ball – Paul Ertman, League Operator

The Scotchman are in first place over second place Hot Pockets by 2 scoring points. Breaking Balls rounds out third 4 scoring point out. The team Feeble Shots has the highest winning percentage of 80.0 %.

For all the club members who are here during the summer, please sign-up for the Summer Leagues. Details to follow.

Honorable Mention

When we all use the pool room, we just take for granted that the balls we use are always clean, there is always chalk available, there are spots on the tables and in general, the room always looks great. Well, that just doesn't happen, there is somebody making it happen. **And that person making it happen is Peter Ramos.** To be honest, I wasn't aware of Peters room maintenance activity. I would bet that many of you are not aware of what Peter does either. **So, a special vote of thanks goes to Peter for what he does to make our pool playing better.** By the way, Peter could always use some help so if you are inclined, please do so.

While I am on a roll thanking people for making the Pool Room look great, we need to also thank Rob Pulvino who recently refurbished the chairs. Both Peter and Rob are both to be commended for the wonderful work they do in making our Pool Room the great place that it is. **Congratulations Peter and Rob!!**



With the current season drawing to a close, I thought the rule of safety comes to mind. Please think before you do whatever activity you choose to participate this summer. I want to see everyone back in one piece and functioning in the fall. Enjoy the summer everyone.