



Billiards Club Newsletter

November 2024

Created by “Oh Gene” Krajeck



Welcome back all Billiard Club members to the 2024 – 2025 Season. For the full time Club residents that reside here at The Grand, it was a hell of a summer. I was recently reading a news article on my phone regarding the Phoenix weather that occurred this past summer. Club Snowbirds, believe me, you didn't miss anything by staying in Grand. **Phoenix set a record of 61 days of 110 or higher degree temperatures.** This is not the kind of record we want to experience. On the lighter side, the club conducted the Summer 8 and 9 Ball Leagues. That made for at least some pleasurable moments this past summer to offset the excessive heat.

2024 is an important year in that it is a presidential election year. No matter what your political party is, it is important to vote. There are many areas of the world that don't have this opportunity that you have in this great country of ours. So please, if you haven't yet voted, exercise your right and vote. And now, on to the Clubs 2024 – 2025 Season news and upcoming events.



The election for all Billiards Club Officers and Directors will be here soon. If you are interested in participating on the Club Board, please sign up for your preference of position. Your involvement is important to the club.

The Sign-Up sheet for Club Officers will be posted on the Pool Room bulletin board during the week of November 11th through December 6th. Please consider being part of the Officers and Directors team. Get the opportunity to chart the future of the Club. Voting for all Board positions will be held during our December 10th Annual General Meeting to be held in the Palo Verde/Palms Room in the Sonoran Plaza.

Paul Roy will be heading up this year's Election Committee. This committee will be looking for volunteers to assist Paul in this activity. Please contact Paul at 602-373-3824 if you would like to help in the board election process.



Some of our Billiard Club members participated in the May 2024 ACS National Championships that took place at the Westgate Resort & Casino in Las Vegas. Randy Salzwedel, Rob Pulvino, Jim Janssens and Linda and Doug Asleson traveled up north to compete in this national event.

These tournament participants represented our Club well. The tournament results are as follows:

Randy played in the advanced/master's tournament and took fifth place. Linda played in the women's advanced/master's tournament and took seventh place. Rob played in the super seniors and took fourth place. Unfortunately, Jim did not place in either the eight ball or nine ball contests. Linda did not have the opportunity to play in the scotch doubles event as her partner's son was incredibly ill in the hospital.

Congratulations to all our Club participants.

Challenge Board

If you have looked at the Challenge Board recently, it has been an activity desert. The Ladies and Novice Boards haven't had anything happening for many months. Over the past few months, the Players Board has had some activity with the top 3 players. The Masters Board has had a few matches. But, due to the inactive use, the Club has decided to take down the Challenge Boards. The space the Boards take up can be better utilized for other Club activities. **Thank you, Rob Pulvino, for doing your best to create and manage the Boards.**

Summer League News

This past summer, the Club tried out some new concepts of League play. The League Operator determined Team Captains and also selected the individual league team members. Past records were used to try to make each team as even as possible.

To add an additional element of fun and less pressure, there was no prize money for the League winners. This meant there was no entry fee to play in this Summer league. This new concept led to less pressure and more enjoyment to the league players.

As with last summer, the Club had the 8 Ball League on Tuesday nights and the 9 Ball League on Friday mornings. Geoff Iverson headed up the Tuesday Night 8 Ball League and Mike Garrett headed up the Friday Morning 9 Ball League. I participated in both leagues but unfortunately, both of the teams I played in were not in the winning column. But what I can say about this past Summers League was that a good time was had by all.

Tuesday Night – Geoff Iverson, League Operator

Side Pockets was the 2024 Summer 8 Ball League Champion over second place Chalk & Awe 2.5 scoring points. Poke and Hope came in third 4.5 scouring points out. Congratulations Side pockets. Paul Roy was the top individual player with a 72% winning percentage.

Friday Morning - Mike Garrett League Operator

The 9 Ball League Ball League Champion Ball Busters overcame the Diamond Dawgs by 4.5 scouring points. Breaking Balls came in third 7.5 scouring points out. Congratulations Ball Busters. Jerry Bullins was the top individual player with a 78.8% winning percentage.

Winter League News

After a long hiatus, the Winter 2024 – 2025 Pool Leagues are finally returning. The starting dates of the various leagues are as follows:

1. **Monday Night 8 Ball No Handicap-** starts at 6:00PM - November 4th
2. **Tuesday 8 Night Ball Handicap-** starts at 6:00PM - November 5th
3. **Wednesday Afternoon 8 Ball Handicap-** starts at 1:30PM - November 6th
4. **Thursday Night 8 Ball Handicap –** starts at 6:00PM – November 14th
5. **Friday 9 Ball No Handicap-** starts at 10:00AM - November 8th

The League Operators for the various leagues will be as follows:

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| 1. Monday Night 8 Ball | Jim Janssen |
| 2. Tuesday Night 8 Ball | Tim Fitzpatrick and Geoff Iverson |
| 3. Wednesday Afternoon 8 Ball | Mike Garrett |
| 4. Thursday Night 8 Ball | Doug Asleson |
| 5. Friday Morning 9 Ball | Charlie Fox |

The process that was used this past summer to determine the team captains and individual team members for the Tuesday Night, Wednesday Afternoon, and Friday Morning Leagues will be utilized again for this upcoming season. Thus, the League Operators will determine the Team Captains and also the individual team members. In addition, team players who will be absent on a scheduled play date will be responsible for finding their own substitutes from a sub list which will be made available. This change will affect me personally as I will miss the first Friday 9 ball session. Initially, these leagues will only last 6 weeks. The prize fund fee will be \$10 per team member.

The Monday Night League will be the same as the other three leagues with respect to 6-week fall term and \$10 prize fund. The only difference is that the League Operator will pick the team captains but the captains will pick team members.

Travel League

The Travel League will begin the 2025 season in January '25 to retain their North 40 Travel League current championship title. Our Travel League team has had the good fortune to win the North 40 Travel League Championship 4 years in a row. What an accomplishment!! Let's hope our Travel League Team can five-peat, is there such a word, during the upcoming 2025 season.

New ACS Pool League

For the first time in the history of our Billiard Club, the Club will be creating a new league that will be nationally sanctioned. Players in this new league will have the opportunity to be part of a nationally recognized pool league, American Cue Sports (ACS).

There will be an informational meeting providing more details regarding this new league on November 7th at 6:00 PM in the Billiard Room. Interested Club members are encouraged to attend.

ACS was created years ago as a national organization supporting pool and offering members a chance to participate in a huge pool tournament in Las Vegas in May. There is also an Arizona State ACS Championship held at Bull Shooters Billiards during March in Phoenix. To qualify for these events players must compete 4 times for state and 8 times for the national tournament in an ACS sanctioned pool league. Most of our billiard club members have never had this opportunity to compete in any pool tournaments of this caliber. Participating in this new league will give you that opportunity.

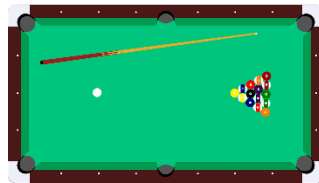
Some details regarding this new league remain to be finalized. The following details are what is envisioned so far. The proposed name of this new league will be The Grand ACS Pool League. The league will consist of 8 Ball matches taking place on Thursday nights at 6PM. There will be 6 teams with 3 or 4 players on each team. This new league will be handicapped (different from our traditional system). Teams will be determined by a draft. Sign-Up sheets will be posted early November. The start date for this new league will be November 14th.

Each fulltime player must pay a \$15 ACS sanction fee (unless they have already paid it). In addition, each fulltime player must pay a \$20 prize fee (100% paid out to players). Subs do not have to pay a sanction fee unless they play 3 times.

It is our good fortune that Doug Asleson will be the League Operator for this new league. His experience of running both ACS and BCA leagues for over 20 years will be invaluable in the managing of this new Club League.

As always, all our Club Leagues are in constant need of subs. If you would like to be involved in league level competitive play but don't want to make a league type commitment, being a sub is the answer for you. So, become a sub and enjoy league level competition. You won't regret it.

Shot of the Month



I thought I would end this Newsletter issue with a bit of humor. Some time ago, Rich Dibenedetto shared a copy of the Saturday Evening Post and within its pages I saw this wonderful cartoon. Since it is very timely, I thought I would share it with you to enjoy for this upcoming pool season.



I would have to say, there are some good tips that are shown here. If you follow them, your game should improve.

Also, during this upcoming season, treat your fellow club players with respect. Please follow established pool etiquette. As the Golden Rule states, please treat others as you would want others to treat you.

Have a Great 2024 – 2025 Season.