



Billiards Club Newsletter

January 2025

Created by “Oh Gene” Krajeck



I can't believe that 2024 has come to an end. This past year has passed by so quickly. The Holiday season is now behind us and now we can look forward to a great upcoming 2025. My mother used to say to me that as you get older, the quicker time flies. For me, I feel that her comment is definitely true. Do you ever have similar thoughts as you get older?

Now we are about to enter a new year. This is the time to make New Year's Resolutions that, unfortunately for the most part, we will never live up to. Maybe some of your resolutions could relate to the game of pool. Besides, thinking about the basics of pool techniques, how about being considerate of your fellow pool players. Try to live up to at least some of your new year resolutions as we enter 2025.

Before we get into this issue of the Newsletter, members must have their dues up to date for 2025. If not, you will NOT be able to participate in league events and club privileges. Paid up members should make sure to have their renewal stickers put on their name badges. The Club will be giving a grace period till January 31st since we do have some late returning members. However, if you haven't paid your Club dues yet, please do so. You don't want to miss out on Club sponsored activities in 2025.



As we look into the upcoming month of January, the Billiard Club is planning a Welcome Back Social. It will take place on Saturday, January 25th from 5:00 PM-10:00 PM in the Apache Room in the Chaparral building. For those of you that don't know, the Apache Room is located across the hall from the pool room. Lists will be posted asking for Salads, Side, Main, and Dessert dishes. Hopefully, Club members will not bring too many of one item.

As in the past, the club will have a 50/50 drawing with tickets sold at the door of the room. Last year we finished the evening with a rousing game of Left/Right/Center with members participating. Bring \$3/ person if you wish to enter the LRC game and be the last one standing with all of the money.

Sign-up sheets for this social event will be posted in the Billiard Room. Attending an event like this is a great way to meet and socialize with your fellow Club members. So, what are you waiting for. Put your John Henry on the posted sign-up sheet, go out and buy a food item, and come and enjoy the fun.



December is a very important month for the Billiard Club. December is the month the Club Board elections are held. The Club Board election was held during the Annual Grand Billiard Club Annual Meeting which took place on December 10th in the Palms Room in the Sonoran Plaza. Paul Roy volunteered again to be in charge of the Election Committee. Shelia and Scott Kovac and Jack Jepson also volunteered to help.

Only one person signed up for each of the Club Officer positions. Thus, each of these people were elected by default. They are:

President	Gary Mize
Vice President	Geoff Iverson
Treasurer	Becky Iverson
Secretary	Mike Garrett

There were six Club Members that signed up for the five Director positions. The five that were elected were:

Doug Asleson, Ron Kuhar Bruce Rebout, Clyde Krebs and yours truly, Gene Krajeck

Just a quick note regarding myself. On the Club election ballot, my last name was spelled Krajack. Just so you know, the correct spelling of my last name is Krajeck.

Congratulations to all the newly elected members of the 2025 Billiard Club Board. Please support this new Board as they lead us into the New Year.

In addition to the election, the following issues were brought up and discussed at the Club General Annual Meeting:

- 2024 Billiard Club member daily participation levels has dropped some from 2023 levels. If you see someone begin playing without signing in, please ask them to please sign in.
- League Operators need Excel skills in order to provide League activity statistics. Since some Club members don't have the necessary experience with the Excel program, the Club has decided to work with the Computer Club to provide the required Excel knowledge to existing and future League Operators.
- The Club discussed having its members remove balls from the tables when finished with play.

Moving on to something you may not know, the Billiard Club offers its members a cue tip replacement service. This service was performed for many years by Rick Haskell. In 2022, Rick decided he wanted to retire from performing the cue tip replacement service. At that point, Bruce Lowe decided to take on this function. Rick then trained Bruce on how to replace cue tips. The Club at that point purchased a lathe for Bruce to use to aid in cue tip replacement.

I mention this service as I recently had Bruce retip my cue with a medium hardness tip. Having no knowledge regarding what goes into cue tip replacement, I asked Bruce how this process works. Following is what he said. He first puts the cue shaft on the lathe and using a sharp edge chisel, cuts off the existing cue tip. Then using a

super glue gel, he applies the new tip to the cue shaft ferrule. Using a special clamp, he then clamps the tip and cue shaft ferrule together. After the tip is securely glued to the ferrule, he sands the tip to provide a smooth edge between the cue ferrule and the new tip.

The Club provides Bruce with medium hardness cue tips. If you want a soft or hard tip, you need to purchase it on your own and then give to Bruce. He will then put it on. The cost to club members for this service is \$5. During my discussion with Bruce, I also learned that he cleans cue shafts. The charge for this service is also \$5. All moneys Bruce collects goes to the Club. That means that Bruce donates his time so Club members can take advantage of this very reasonable tip replacement service. So, thank you Bruce for doing what you do.

2024 – 2025 Fall & Winter Season League News

The Fall session of the 2024 League Season has concluded. The Winter Season of 2025 will begin the week of January 6th. Sign-up sheets for the various leagues will be taken down on Thursday January 2nd. The Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday League teams will be determined on January 4th. The number of weeks played will be determined by the number of league players that sign up for a particular league. The Prize fund fee will be \$10 per player for the Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday Leagues. It will be the responsibility of these League players to find their own sub if they will be absent from a league session.

The Monday and Thursday Night Leagues will be a little different than the forementioned leagues. The Monday League will have a \$20 per person prize fund fee. In addition, the League Operator will be responsible for getting subs.

The next ACS Thursday Night League session begins January 16th, sign up by January 10th. The per person prize fund fee will be \$10. This league has no sub list. The team captain usually will get the sub that can be anybody in the Billiard Club.

So, if you want to participate in the Winter League Season, get into the Pool Room and write your name on the particular league sign-up sheet you are interested in. Competing in these leagues will improve your level of play. Sooo, what are you waiting for?

The Billiard Club 2025 Winter Leagues are as follows:

- **Monday Non-Handicap 8 Ball starts at 6:00 PM**
- **Tuesday Handicap 8 Ball starts at 6:00 PM**
- **Wednesday Handicap 8 Ball starts at 1:30 PM**
- **Thursday ACS Sanction Handicap 8 Ball starts at 6:00 PM**
- **Friday Non-Handicap 9 Ball starts at 10:00 AM**

And now, the final results of the 2024 Fall Season are as follows:

Monday Night 8 Ball League – Jim Janssens League Operator

Balls of Fire topped second place Rack and Roll by 6 games. Randy Salzwedel was the top individual player with a 80.6% winning percentage.

Tuesday Night 8 Ball League – Tim Fitzpatrick and Geoff Iverson League Operators

Bullshooters narrowly took first place over second place Rack Pack by ½ point. Straight Shooters rounded out third 3 points out. Linda Asleson was the top individual player with an 86.7% winning percentage.

Wednesday Afternoon 8 Ball League – Mike Garrett League Operator

Give us a Break overcame second place Rak Pak by 5 scoring points. Diamond Dawgs came in third 9 scoring points out. Ian Kelln is the top individual player with an 88% winning percentage.

Thursday Night ACS 8 Ball League – Doug Asleson League Operator

The first ever nationally sanctioned pool league at The Grand Billiard Club completed its first session. All our regular league participants qualified for the January Arizona State ACS tournament at Bullshooters as well as the upcoming May National ACS tournament in Las Vegas.

Our first league champion was Sticks and Balls. The Sharks took second place 2 and ½ rounds out. The top individual player was Randy Salzwedel with a 78.0% winning percentage.

Friday Morning 9 Ball League - Charlie Fox League Operator

Straight Shooters took first place honors over second place Awe & Chalk by 3.0 scouring points. Ball Busters rounded out third 6 scouring points back. Jerry Haas was the top individual player with a 71.9% winning percentage.

Travel League – Doug Asleson Team Captain

No Travel League information to report at this time. Their season begins this month. Let's wish Doug and his team all the best to have another successful season. Look on the Club Website for the upcoming Home Travel League Pool Room schedule. Remember, when the Travel League plays at home, the Pool Room is reserved for their use from 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM.

Rule of the Month



I thought I would change things up a bit this month by describing a rule regarding pool etiquette. I mentioned how important this is in the first part of the Newsletter. A very important part of pool etiquette is the following:

When a person is down in their shooting stance and getting ready to make their final stroke to the cue ball, it is Really Distracting when someone walks in front of that person. **Thus, my Rule of the Month is when you see someone about to take a shot, please stop and don't walk in front of the shooter. Please play attention to what is going on at the pool table you are about to walk by.**

This pool etiquette rule is something you should really consider as part of your New Years resolutions. The rest of your resolutions will probably end up in the trash heap but this one should be front and center.

In conclusion, I wish you all a wonderful Holiday Season and have a great 2025.