



Billiards Club Newsletter

February 2025

Created by “Oh Gene” Krajeck



Well, the New Years celebrations are over. I hope you acted at least reasonably over this past Holiday Season. Now the 2025 Winter Season for the Billiards Club has begun. In the future weeks and months, the club will be providing several great events and tournaments that members will be able to partake in. So, the “Good Times” of upcoming events in 2025 will be something that club members will be able to look forward to.

Later in this Newsletter, some of these upcoming events will be presented in detail. Please review these future events so you will be fully informed as to when and how to either both attend and or participate.



The following announcement is unbelievable. Now, that I have your attention, the Billiard Club has scheduled JEREMY JONES to a two-day instructional workshop on Thursday February 6th and Friday February 7th. Now, to be honest with you, since I don't follow professional pool, I have never heard of Jeremy Jones. Maybe you haven't either. He is renowned by many as the most accomplished instructor, commentator and coach in our sport. Our Club will be lucky that Jeremy will be in our Pool Room on February 6th and 7th providing instructions to our members. Jeremy has represented the United States in the Mosconi Cup on seven different occasions, both as a player and as a coach. He is a previous winner of the U.S. Open Nine Ball and One Pocket Tournaments. A quote from AZ Billiards Forum from July 2019 regarding Jeremy, “His overall pool knowledge is off the chart”. **For additional information please contact Richard Wear at 780-200-7007 or John Fenwick by text or phone at 623-241-2070.**

While Jeremy is here, he has agreed to provide our Club with a free one-hour pool presentation after 9 Ball League on Friday, February 7th between 11:30 and 12:30. This presentation is open to all Club members that have paid their dues. From reading the previous paragraph, listening to Jeremy would be well worth it. So, if you get a chance, come to this presentation. You just might learn something.

March will again be an exciting and busy month for our Billiard Club! Even though March is a couple of months away, it is important to let all Club members know the dates of upcoming events so you can mark them on your calendars.

The first will be the annual Club Luncheon that will take place on March 2nd from 2 – 6 PM in the Aqua Fria Room. This is the Club sponsored event where all club members, spouses and friends can socialize and have a great day. Remember, the Aqua Fria Room is located near the puzzle area in the Sonoran Plaza. This event is a free lunch for club members. Spouses and guests will be charged a nominal fee. Look for the sign-up sheet that will be posted in the pool room.

Also in March, the premier Billiard Club event of the Year will be taking place and that is Championship Saturday. Championship Saturday consists of two great events: The Club Championships in the morning and the Brieseth Cup in the afternoon. This year Championship Saturday will be held on March 15th. The date was changed because last year's event was on the same weekend as the Grand Auto Show. These two coinciding events made it difficult for folks to access the billiard room.

Prior to Briesath Cup competition, the Briesath Cup Qualifier allows any Billiard Club member the opportunity to be on one of the two Briesath Cup teams. The dates for this and the remaining Championship Saturday events are as follows:

Briesath Qualifier (round robin) Thursday, February 27 10am-2pm Doug Asleson will coordinate.

Club Championships to select the two players for the finals in all three events.

Masters (double elimination)	Thursday	March 6	9am-5pm	Jim Janssens will coordinate.
Players (double elimination)	Saturday	March 8	9am-5pm	Event coordinator TBD.
Women (round robin)	Saturday	March 1	9am-5pm	Event coordinator TBD.

Sign-up sheets for all these events will be posted in the billiard room in mid-February. Look for upcoming announcements.



As we look back at the month of January, the Billiard Club had the Welcome Back Social. It took place on Saturday, January 25th from 5:00 PM-10:00 PM in the Apache Room in the Chaparral building. Club members were asked to bring Salads, Side, Main, and Dessert dishes.

54 Club members and 19 guests attended this year's event. Event participants had the opportunity to meet our new Club President Gary Mize as he introduced the event and himself. For many Club members, this was their first opportunity to see Gary and become more familiar with him. Gary also introduced the new Club Board members of which yours truly is a part. Gary did a great job in his first public Club appearance.

John Fenwick provided some great information about the Club hosting Pool Professional Jeremy Jones who will be providing training sessions in February. He spoke about the hard work Richard Wear has done in persuading Jeremy to come to our Club to conduct these training sessions. Thank you, Rich.

As in the past, the club had a 50/50 drawing with tickets sold at the door. Jerry Haas won \$170 at this year's 50/50. Congratulations Jerry.

Like last year, we concluded the evening with a rousing game of Left/Right/Center. Attendees had to contribute \$3 per person if they wished to enter the L/R/C game and be the last one standing with all of the money. The winners of the L/R/C games (there were two tables playing) were Diane Dugovic and Becky Iverson. Congratulations Diane and Becky.

Thursday January 16, the Club started a Beginner to Player level Instruction Class for Club members. This class was and will be held every Thursday from 2 to 4 PM and is led by our very own BCA Hall of Fame instructor Jerry Briesath. He was joined by Club members Clyde Krebs, Paul Roy and Bill Verderose.

The format of this instruction class consisted of:

- **20 - 40 minutes of “Skill & Drills”**
- **8 Ball games using Ball-in-Hand**

During the games portion, coaching was being provided.

This instruction class is a great opportunity for beginner to intermediate skill level players to acquire Hands On training. If you feel that you need to improve your game, sign up for these classes.

Last but not least, I wanted to mention the 20th Annual Arizona State ACS Pool Championships that took place at Bullshooters on January 31st and is taking place on February 1st and 2nd. Our Billiard Club has up to 15 members competing. If you remember, last year Linda Asleson won the women's and the year before Randy Salzwedel won the men's. Our Billiard Club team took third in the team event. Let's cheer for all our Club members that are participating and wish them the best of luck.

2025 Winter Season League News

Since I have been on a pool etiquette roll of late, our Club President Gary Mize, recently sent me a comment regarding this issue. Gary has observed that during league play, after a player misses a shot, that individual will sometimes remain standing at the table. I must say, there have been times when I have done exactly that. The proper thing to do after taking your shot is to take a seat or at least move away from the table before his or her opponent prepares to take their shot. It is the right thing to do.

I thought it would be a good idea to mention why there is a need to have League sub lists. A sub list is made available to League players that will be missing future sessions. That player can then choose his replacement from this list. The reason for using this process is to have all subs on the list to have an opportunity to participate. The Leagues want to do their best to have sub players not be discouraged from signing up due to inactive play. However, some lesser-known individuals may not get picked first. A possible way to minimize that is to play in the Monday and Thursday morning Drop in Tournaments. Playing in these events will allow League players to become more familiar with you. Just a thought.

And now, the final League results as of the end of January are as follows:

Monday Night 8 Ball League – Jim Janssens League Operator

Sticks and Balls topped second place Shooting Assassins by 5 games. Randy Salzwedel was the top individual player with a 75.0% winning percentage.

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

Before I give the latest Tuesday night results, I must give a retraction regarding the last Fall final results as given in the January issue. What I should have stated was the **Rack Pack narrowly took first place over second place Bullshooters by ½ point**. Straight Shooters rounded out third 3 points out. What can I say, I made a mistake.

First place Ball Busters is 2.5 scouring points over Straight Shooters. Poke & Hope rounds out third 3.5 scouring points out. Jerry Haas is the top individual player with an 81.3% winning percentage.

Wednesday Afternoon 8 Ball League – Mike Garrett League Operator

Give Us a Break is in first place by 5 scouring points. Rack Runners and Rak Pak are in a two-way tie for second place. And the ties keep coming. There is also a tie for the top individual player. That distinction is shared by Charlie Fox and Monte McClendon with an 80% winning percentage.

Thursday Night ACS 8 Ball League – Doug Asleson League Operator

The Travel League has completed 6 of the 10 weeks of play. Sticks and Balls have a narrow lead over Ball Breakers in the battle for first place. Top shooter is Randy Biko with an amazing 94% winning percentage. In case you didn't know, almost half our Thursday Night League members are competing in the Arizona State ACS Championships at Bullshooters January 31st through February 2nd. Let's wish them well.

Friday Morning 9 Ball League - Charlie Fox League Operator

Ice men is leading the pack by 3 scoring points. Straight Shooters is in second place. Men With Sticks rounds out third 4 scoring points out. Richard Wear is the top individual shooter with an 85% winning percentage.

Travel League – Doug Asleson Team Captain

The defense of our Travel League championship has begun. On January 14th, the Billiard Club Travel League began the Spring 2025 Season. Our Team began the season by winning our first three matches. We had solid wins against Sun City West and Sun Village. Our third match was against a very good team from Happy Trails. It was very close and we were actually tied heading in to the last two games. Linda Asleson and Randy Salzwedel won those games and we came away with a 26-24 win. We are currently in first place and hope to keep up our winning ways!

Rule of the Month



In trying to come up with a timely rule, I decided to go back to the first Newsletter edition that I created which goes back to January 2018. I can't believe I have been generating the Club Newsletter for that long. Anyway, the following is the first rule from that January 2018 edition and it is still as timely then as it is now.

Coaching During League Play

During club sanctioned league events, NO Coaching is allowed. The player that is up and shooting at the table must decide what shot the individual will take without any outside help.

Since that time, Scotch Doubles has been added to League events. With Scotch Doubles, the player that is up can converse with his partner regarding what shot to take. That is the only exception.