



Billiards Club Newsletter

March 2025

Created by “Oh Gene” Krajeck



Most snowbird members have now returned to enjoy the sunny weather of Arizona. The Winter Leagues are now in full swing. Several good things happened during February for Club members to enjoy. **However, March is now upon us and the Good Times continue to roll.** As you read this month's issue, I think you will agree that the month of March is not one to be missed as a Billard Club Member.



The upcoming month of March is the premier month for our Billiard Club! The Annual Club Luncheon, 2025 Club Championships and Briesath Cup events are happening to make March both the busiest and the most important month of the year. These events are the highlight of our Billiard Club pool season.

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 in the Cimarron Center. This event is a free lunch for club members. Spouses and guests will be charged \$20 to attend.

Next comes the Club Championship qualifying tournaments. They are held to select the two players for the finals in all three Club Championship events. These events are as follows:

Masters (double elimination)	Thursday	March 6	9am-5pm
Players (double elimination)	Saturday	March 8	9am-5pm
Women (round robin)	Saturday	March 1	9am-5pm

Remember, winners of the Masters and Players Club Championships earn spots on the two Briesath Cup Teams. You can still enter your name on the sign-up sheet in the Billiard Room. You must sign up the day before each event.

Finally, Championship Saturday will be held Saturday March 15th. This is the biggest Billiard Club event of the year. The Club Championship finals will be from 9am to noon. Lunch will be provided for our club members, noon to 1:00, (I heard Jay will have his famous hot dogs available). There is no charge for lunch. This is not a potluck, so enjoy. You do need to sign up so we know how many will attend.

The draft of teams for the Briesath Cup will be Sunday, March 9th. At 1pm on March 15th, the Briesath Cup Tournament will begin. The Briesath Cup captains have been selected. Randy Salzwedel and Randy Biko have again graciously agreed to captain their respective teams again.

All Club members are encouraged to attend our Club's premier event. Cheer on your favorite teams and players. Watch the best that our Club offers. This truly is a special day for our Club and its members. Please don't miss it.



The month of February was a very active month for Billiard Club members.

The Arizona State ACS Tournament was held the weekend of January 31st - February 2nd at Bullshooters Billiards in Phoenix. 12 members in our Thursday night league were eligible and signed up to play in this tournament. All the players won some games and played very well.

Congratulations to Randy Salzwedel who won his second Men's Singles championship! He went undefeated through the tournament against some strong players.

Congratulations also go to Linda Asleson who placed second in the Women's Singles event. She lost a very close match in the final to an excellent player from Bullhead City.

There were two teams from our league who competed in the Men's Team event. The Sharks team, composed of Randy Salzwedel, Steve Crnecki, Rob Pulvino, Linda Asleson, Doug Asleson and Dave Bowlin, placed 4th and lost two close matches to a couple of really strong teams. Chalk & Awe was represented by Paul Ertman, Kevin Strong, Geoff Iverson, Scott Kovac and Bill Verderose, placed 7th.

On February 6th and 7th, our Billiard Club hosted pool professional Jeremy Jones. The Club was lucky to host Jeremy as he came here through the tireless efforts of Rich Wear and John Fenwick. In addition, a special note of thanks goes to Jay Delich for letting Jeremy stay at his home during his time here. Jeremy conducted three Instructional Workshops for Club members. 24 Club members signed up for these 3 workshops. Jeremy went through a series of drills designed to improve playing ability.

Jeremy also participated in an open discussion session for interested Club members. 42 Club members attended this open session including yours truly. For those of you that didn't attend, I found the following picture of Jeremy in action at a past tournament he participated in.



At the beginning of the open session I attended, Jeremy provided some background about himself. Jeremy Jones, also known as Double J, was born on April 30, 1971 in Baytown, TX. Since I know zero about Texas geography, I looked up and found out that Baytown lies east of metropolitan Houston, TX. What I found amazing was that Jeremy said in his youth he hated the game of pool. Jeremy was first introduced to the pool tables at the age of 17 while working as a delivery man in Houston. And the rest is history.

Due to his broadcast voice, he did a side gig for a while as a sports commentator for soccer matches in the UK. Jones was also a commentator at the Matchroom Multi Sport 2021 US Open pool tournament in Atlantic City, New Jersey. These broadcasts propelled Jeremy to become a prominent broadcaster for the sport of pool.

Next at the Open Session, Jeremy answered a variety of questions from the Club members that covered a number of topics. I asked a question relating to the number one topic his students ask him about. And that number one topic is where to aim. After this open session ended, I felt everybody that attended felt it was time well spent.

The 2025 BCA World Championships were held at the Rio Convention Center in Las Vegas. There were six players from our Billiard Club competing. All of these players won some matches at the biggest pool event in the country. Players competing were Geoff Iverson, Linda Asleson, Randy Salzwedel, Jim Janssens, Rob Pulvino and Steve Crnecki. These players competed in 9 Ball, 8 Ball Singles and Scotch Doubles 8 Ball. **Steve and Rob placed in the money in the Gold Seniors division. Rob took 17th and Steve took 9th out of over 150 players. Congratulations Steve and Rob for your achievements.**

Also, during the month of February, the Briesath Qualifier was held on February 27th. Congratulations to Linda Asleson and Rod Lutz on winning the two qualifying spots in the 2025 Briesath Cup qualifying tournament! They have earned the first two spots on the teams that will compete on Championship Saturday in the Briesath Cup tournament.

Twelve competitors competed in this event and it was a very competitive field. Linda and Rod edged ahead in the final rounds to win their spots on the teams.

Our thanks to Doug Asleson for coordinating this round robin event.

2025 Winter Season League News

The final League results as of the end of February are as follows:

Monday Night 8 Ball League – Jim Janssens League Operator

The following results are from February 17th as there was no league play on Monday the 24th. This was due to a number of league members that traveled to Las Vegas to participate in the previously mentioned BCA Tournament.

Sticks and Balls topped second place Rack em Up by 22 games. Steve Crnecki was the top individual player with a 73.8% winning percentage.

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

First place Ball Busters is 2.0 scouring points over Team USA. Poke & Hope remains in third 5.5 scoring points out. Jerry Haas the top individual player with an 87.5% winning percentage.

Wednesday Afternoon 8 Ball League – Mike Garrett League Operator

Ball Busters is in first place over Rak Pak by 2.5 scouring points. Give Us a Break is in third 3.5 scoring points out. Monte McClendon is the top individual player with a 75% winning percentage.

Thursday Night ACS 8 Ball League – Doug Asleson League Operator

The Grand ACS Pool League has completed its second session. The winter session champs are Sticks and Balls. Their Captain was Steve Crnecki and his teammates were Lew Olipant, Paul Ertman and Dave Bowlin. Second place went to Icemen. The captain was Richard Wear and his teammates were Scott Kovac, Mike Chadwick and John Fenwick. Top shooter was Steve Crnecki at 80% and a close second was Randy Biko at 78%.

This new league has now sanctioned 30 players with American Cue Sports national organization. The Thursday Night ACS 8 Ball League has progressed extremely well and the players seem to enjoy the new format we play with. Due to the league's success, we will be back next fall. Thank you, Doug for creating and organizing this league.

Friday Morning 9 Ball League - Charlie Fox League Operator

Icemen is in first place over second place Straight Shooters by 2 scoring points. Ball Busters and Men with Sticks are tied for third 7 scoring points out. Rich Wear is the top individual player with a 88.6% winning percentage.

Travel League – Doug Asleson Team Captain

The Grand Travel league remains in first place after 6 of 10 weeks. We are 6 and 0 with a one game lead over a very good Happy Trails team. We have had convincing wins over Sun City West, Sun City and Sunflower in February. All seven players have contributed to our undefeated season so far. Our match against Happy Trails on March 11th will probably determine the league champ.

Rule of the Month



I thought this month I would change things up a bit. Recently, one Club member expressed to me some confusion regarding terms describing the action of the cue ball after a shot. So, I did some research.

Some time ago, I purchased a book entitled “The 99 Critical Shots in Pool”. I have used some material from this book describing some pool shots in previous editions of the Newsletter. From the English and Glossary of Pool Terms sections of this book, I decided to describe some cue ball action terms and their definitions. I hope these definitions are helpful to you to accurately describe how a cue ball reacts after a shot is taken. And now for the terms:

Carom	When a cue ball glances off the object ball into a second, or even a third ball, it is a carom. Also known as a kiss off a given ball.
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English	English is the spin of the cue ball either to the left or right. It controls the action of the cue ball either before or after it hits the object ball or the cushion. Even though it doesn't sound correct, before the cue ball contacts the object ball or cushion, it will veer to the side you hit it. Don't get confused by the direction of the cue ball's spin.
English Left	Left English is created by striking the cue ball on the left side. This causes the cue ball to spin clockwise and veer to the left. However, when the cue ball strikes an object ball or the cushion, it will move to left of its normal path.
English Right	Right English is created by striking the cue ball on the right side. This causes the cue ball to spin counter-clockwise and veer to the right. However, when the cue ball strikes an object ball or the cushion, it will move right of its normal path.

For these next two cue ball action terms, you have to draw a line in your mind's eye from the cue ball to the side of the table toward which you are shooting. I have given an example by shooting to the right of this imaginary line. If one shoots to the left of this line, the opposite would happen.

Running English	If you are going to shoot to the right of this line with say Right English, this causes added speed to the cue ball and widens the angle after the cue ball hits the cushion.
Reverse English	If you are going to shoot to the right of this line with Left English, this causes the cue ball to slow down and narrows the angle after the cue ball hits the cushion.
Draw	A stroke in which the cue ball, struck below center, causing backward spin. Draw causes the cue ball to reverse its path after striking the object ball.
Follow	A stroke in which the cue ball is struck above center. The cue ball then immediately rolls forward after striking the object ball. Follow causes the cue ball to travel farther after striking the object ball compared to hitting the cue ball in the center.
Massé	Extreme application of English on a cue ball, applied by elevating the cue. It is used for extreme curving shots. It is rarely used in pool because it may rip the table cloth if used by ordinary players.