



# Billiards Club Newsletter

## April 2025

Created by “Oh Gene” Krajeck



Would you believe, the most important Club event laden month of the season is over? March is probably the busiest and most exciting time of the season for our Club members. The month heralds the Annual Club Luncheon, Club Championships, and finally the Briesath Cup. Hopefully you were able to participate and or watch this exciting array of events that the Club has provided its members this past month.



**On April 3rd from 8:30-11:30, the Grand will be holding an Open House for all Charter Clubs.** Gary Mize, Jim Janssens and Gayle Anderson will be hosting a table to promote our Billiards Club. If you get a chance, show your support of our Club by stopping by our table and saying hello.

Many of us are missing our usual league play and the fellowship and competition they bring. So, maybe it is time for a tournament!

**The Club decided to have an 8-ball Fun Tournament on Monday April 7<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9 AM.** We will not have our usual Drop-In Monday tournament this one time only. This will be called a Fun Tournament! Details and a sign up were posted in the billiard room Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>.

This tournament will be hosted by Jerry Haas. The tournament will be following a different bracket format. It will be blind draw double elimination but not using the traditional format we are used to.

There will be a whopping \$1 prize fee paid that morning. This event will take longer than our traditional drop in so there will not be as much free time available during this one-day event. There will however be open play available later in the day. So, for those of us missing league play, here is your opportunity to try something different. What do you have to lose?



**Our Annual Club luncheon took place in the Agua Fria Room in the Cimarron Center on March 2nd from 2:00pm to 6:00pm.** About 100 members and 10 guests attended this event. Sharko's Catering provided beef stroganoff and lemon chicken along with mashed potatoes and salad. The food was excellent and it was enjoyed by all.

**Roxie Collins had the good fortune to win \$215 at the 50/50 raffle. Congratulations Roxie.**

The next big Club Events were the Masters, Players and Women's Club Championship Qualifying Tournaments. How these events concluded are as follows:

## **2025 Women's Tournament**

The qualifying tournament for the Women's Club Championship was held on March 1<sup>st</sup>. We had 6 competitors vying for the 2 spots to play Championship Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. The women played a round robin format this year.

The two finalists for the Women's Championship were Sandy Miller and Gayle Anderson.

Thanks to Geoff and Becky Iverson for running this tournament.

## **2025 Masters Tournament**

The Masters Club Championship tournament was held on Thursday March 6<sup>th</sup>. Twelve Master Club players took part in this race to 5 double elimination event. Randy Salzwedel went through the tournament undefeated, winning his last match of the day against Steve Crnecki 5-3. Randy Biko was number one from the loser's side defeating Steve Crnecki 4-2 to win the loser side of the bracket.

Each of these two finalists qualified for the Briesath Cup teams.

Thanks to Jim Janssens for running this tournament.

## **2025 Players Tournament**

The Players Championship qualifying competition that took place on Saturday March 8<sup>th</sup>. There were 22 club members that participated. The initial match was a race to 3. Brenda Ridings went undefeated on the winner's side. Paul Phenow won on the Losers side. Brenda and Paul thus went on to compete on Championship Saturday.

Each of these two finalists qualified for the Briesath Cup teams.

Thanks to Jerry Haas and Jim Janssens for running this tournament.

**A thank you goes out to all the players who competed in this year's Club Championship Tournaments.**

**On March 15, the Billiards Club held our premier event of the year, Championship Saturday.** This wonderful day consisted of the Club Championships in the morning and the Briesath Cup competition in the afternoon. First are the final results of the Club Championships that were held that morning.

## **Women's Division**

**Gayle Anderson and Sandy Miller squared off on Championship Saturday.** They played one match in a race to 3 to determine this year's Women's Club Champion. **In the end, Gayle Anderson defeated Sandy Miller 3-2 to win the Women's Club Championship. Congratulations Gayle!**

## **Players Division**

**Brenda Ridings went through the first day of the tournament undefeated.** Paul needed to beat Brenda two matches to claim the title. **In the finals on Championship Saturday, Brenda defeated Paul in their first**

**match to become the Players Club Champion. Congratulations Brenda!**

## **Masters Division**

The Masters Championship was a rematch of last year's final between Randy Salzwedel and Randy Biko. This year, Randy Biko needed to beat Randy Salzwedel twice in a race to 5 on Championship Saturday in order to win.

**Biko defeated Salzwedel the first match and then Salzwedel came back and defeated Biko the second match to repeat as the 2025 Masters Club Champion. Congratulations Randy Salzwedel!**

**After the morning Championship Finals, everyone left the pool room and went across the hall to enjoy the Championship Saturday Luncheon.** The Club provided lunch to Members and Guests. The menu included Jay's famous hot dogs. Yours truly couldn't pass up those outstanding hot dogs, I had two.

**A special thanks needs to go to Jay Delich for organizing and administrating this lunch. Through his efforts, this luncheon has become an outstanding Club event. Great job Jay.**

**The Briesath Cup Championship again honored Jerry Briesath with a great tournament event.** Jerry was also honored with his very own chair (or throne as some suggested) that was redesigned by our own Rob Pulvino. Stop by and check it out in our Billiard Room. Rob, you did a fabulous job.

This year's tournament was the most competitive of all the tournaments we have ever had. The two teams were very evenly matched and it was a great day of pool. The composition of the two teams were as follows:

### **Breaking Bad**

#### **Randy Biko, Captain**

Steve Crnecki  
Rob Pulvino  
Dave Bowlin  
Rod Lutz  
Paul Phenow

### **Rack em Up**

#### **Randy Salzwedel, Captain**

Richard Wear  
Linda Asleson  
Tim Ell  
John Sanders  
Brenda Ridings

Six players on each team competed in 8 ball singles and doubles and 9 ball singles. Also, 2 games of scotch triples 8 ball were played. The matches were very competitive and were very close!

**The final score was Rack em Up 14, Breaking Bad 12 in this race to 14. Congratulations to this year's 2025 Briesath Cup Champions, Rack em Up!**

## **2025 Winter Season League News**

**The Club Winter Leagues concluded the week of March 9<sup>th</sup>. We should all give a round of applause to the League Operators and the Travel League Captain for running our leagues.** Administrating our leagues takes a lot of work, especially the process of maintaining the leagues statistics. And with that, the final Winter Season League results and team winners are as follows:

## **Monday Night 8 Ball League – Jim Janssens League Operator**

**Sticks and Balls took top honors over second place Shooting Assassins by 23 games.** Randy Salzwedel was the top individual player with a 71.3% winning percentage. Congratulations Randy.

## **Tuesday Night 8 Ball League – Tim Fitzpatrick and Jim Janssens League Operators**

**First place went to Ball Busters with a 6.0 scoring point edge over Straight Shooters.** Poke & Hope took third 6.5 scoring points out. Yours truly was a proud member of the Poke and Hope team. Jerry Haas was the top individual player with an 87.5% winning percentage. Congratulations Jerry.

## **Wednesday Afternoon 8 Ball League – Mike Garrett League Operator**

**The Wednesday Afternoon League ended with Ball Busters in first place.** Second place went to Give Us a Break 3.5 scoring points out. Monte McClendon is the top individual player with a 69% winning percentage. Congratulations Monte.

## **Friday Morning 9 Ball League - Charlie Fox League Operator**

**Ice men remained to take first place honors over second place Straight Shooters by 3 scoring points.** Rich Wear is the top individual player with a 88.6% winning percentage. Congratulations Rich. Unfortunately, yours truly had the honor of being tied for last place for individual players. And as I was told recently, my level of play can only go up.

## **Travel League – Doug Asleson Team Captain**

The team from The Grand completed the month of March with solid wins over four of our Travel League opponents. We had solid wins over the teams from Sun Village, Sunflower and Sun City. **The team from The Grand finished the season undefeated for our fifth straight championship.** We had to play well against a lot of strong players from the other communities. The players we played showed great sportsmanship in all our matches and we enjoyed the competition. The Pool Room Travel League Plaque has been updated to show this great accomplishment.

Our Club congratulates Team Members: Richard Wear, Randy Biko, Tim Ell, Jim Janssens, Randy Salzwedel, Linda Asleson and Doug Asleson for a job well done. The team is looking forward to 2026!

## **Thursdays Instructional Session**

**In case you don't know, the Club provides an instructional session every Thursday from 2-4 PM.** This instructional session is administered by Harriet Ham and led by our very own BCA Hall of Fame instructor Jerry Briesath. Jerry is joined by Clyde Krebs, Paul Roy and Bill Verderose. Attendee's skill level is focused from beginner to "Players League".

The Sessions Format consists of the following:

- 1) 20-40 minutes of Skills & Drills
- 2) 8 ball games using "ball in hand"

### 3) Optional game time 4-5pm

Coaching continues during games. So, if you need some help with your stroke, banking, or general game knowledge, attending these sessions can be helpful to you. For more information, please call or text Harriet @ 650-315-9657.

## Rule of the Month



**Our very own Jim Janssens approached me recently and shared with me that many Club members are not following the official CueSports International, CSI, rules about fouls and how they relate to breaking.** These are the rules that are used by the BCA and USA pool Leagues. In case you didn't know, a copy of these rules is in a binder that is located next to the cabinet by the Club Mailbox. In addition, they are also located on the Club Website under the documents tab.

### 8-Ball Break Requirements

You begin the break with ball in hand behind the head string. The break is not a called shot and you may not call a ball or a safety on the break. There is no requirement for the cue ball to contact any particular ball first. You must legally pocket a ball or cause at least four object balls to contact one or more cushions or it is an illegal break. If you legally pocket a ball, you continue to shoot. If you do not legally pocket a ball or you commit a foul, your inning ends.

If your break is illegal, your opponent may:

- a. Re-rack the balls and break
- b. Require you to re-rack the balls and break again

If you pocket the 8-ball on the break and do not foul, you may:

- a. Have the 8-ball spotted and accept the table in position
- b. Re-rack and break again

**The game cannot continue until there is a legal break.**

### 9-Ball Break Requirements

You begin the break with ball in hand behind the head string. The cue ball must contact the 1-ball before any other ball or cushion or it is a foul. You must either legally pocket a ball or cause four object balls to contact one or more cushions, or it is a foul.

If you legally pocket a ball, you continue to shoot. Your inning ends if you do not pocket a ball or if you foul. If you legally pocket the 9-ball on the break, you win the game. If you foul on the break and pocket the 9-ball, it is spotted.

**Notice in this case with 9-ball, if there is a foul on the break, there are NO re-rack options. The opponent gets ball in hand.**

## **10-Ball Break Requirements**

You begin the break with ball in hand behind the head string. The break is not a called shot and you may not call a ball on the break. The cue ball must contact the 1-ball before any other ball or cushion, or it is a foul. You must legally pocket a ball or cause at least 4 object balls to contact one or more cushions, or it is a foul.

If you legally pocket a ball you continue to shoot. Your inning ends if you do not legally pocket a ball or if you foul. If you legally pocket the 10-ball, on the break, it is spotted and your inning continues.

**Notice again in this case with 10-ball, if there is a foul on the break, there are NO re-rack options. The opponent gets ball in hand.**

The foul rule as it relates to 9-ball breaking is something that I was not aware of. So, during my recent 9-ball League play, I have done a rerack when a foul occurred during the break. I would imagine most Club members were not aware of this Foul on the Break Rule either. Jim told me he ran into this issue at a recent Las Vegas tournament. So, he felt the Club members needed to become aware of this rule.

You need to thank Jim Janssens for contributing to this Rule of the Month article. I hope it is helpful in your future play.