



Billiards Club Newsletter

February 2026

Created by "Oh Gene" Krajeck



January has now come and gone. I mentioned New Year's resolutions in last month's Newsletter. How many of you made resolutions and more importantly, if you did, how many were actually acted upon? Were there any pool playing resolutions?

Before I get into the Newsletter items, I wanted to mention that several club members forwarded to me some positive comments regarding the monthly Club Newsletter and my contributions to it. The positive feedback that I recently received is greatly appreciated. I try very hard to convey accurate and interesting information about our club so that our members are well informed about our club and its members. My hope is that everybody enjoys reading the Newsletter and that they get something informative out of it.

On a sadder note, there are times when our fellow members have health issues, are involved in an accident or have some other unfortunate event happen to them. When the Club is notified of these occurrences, a sympathy card is provided by the pool room entrance for members to sign. If you become aware of such an occurrence, please notify the Club by sending an email to scgbilliards@gmail.com. This helps the Club provide a sympathy card for that club member in a timely manner.

2026 has started out with a bang for the Billiards Club. Club members are again participating in both club sponsored and league events again. In the future weeks and months, the club will be providing several great social events and tournaments that members will be able to partake in. Later in this Newsletter, some of these upcoming events will be presented. Please review these upcoming events so you will be fully informed as to when and how to either both attend and or participate. And now, on with the Newsletter.



With February coming up, get your taste buds ready for the Club Welcome Back Pot Luck. Wait a minute, this event has been renamed the Billiard Club New Year Potluck as we are celebrating a new year. For this event, the Club will be providing tea sandwiches. We are asking club members to bring appetizers, salads, an entre or a dessert. This potluck will take place on Saturday, February 7th from 5:00 to 10:00 PM. It will be held in the Hopi Room which is in the Chaparral Center. This will be the first Club sponsored social event of the year. So, bring a food item and come on down. You will have a great time.

The Billiard Club Annual Luncheon and Skill Challenge will be held on Sunday, March 8th from 2:00 to 6:00 PM. This event is free to Club members but there is a \$20 charge for guests. This upcoming event will be held in the Apache Room which is located across the hall from the Pool Room. More details concerning the luncheon will become available next month.

The Club Championships start in February leading off with the LADIES which takes place on Saturday, February 28th from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. There will be no entry fee for any of these upcoming events. The remaining Club Championships take place as follows:

MASTERS: Thursday, March 5th at 9:00 AM

PLAYERS: Friday, March 6th at 9:00 AM

BRIESATH QUALIFIER: Saturday March 7th at 9:00 AM

The signup sheets for each of these events will be up in the Billiard Room soon. More details regarding these upcoming tournaments will be forthcoming.

All these tournaments lead up to the Club's premier event of the year, Championship Saturday. This year, Championship Saturday is on Saturday, March 15th. The day's events are as follows:

Women's, Players & Master finals at 9:00 AM

Luncheon is 11 AM to 1:00 PM

Briesath Cup at 1:00 PM

The Briesath Cup captains will be announced soon.



In case you didn't see her, Allison Fisher made a one-day visit to our Club on Saturday, January 24th from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. During that time, Allison had two sessions for 58 club members that signed up. She did a presentation and answered club member questions at each session. Club members that attended these sessions stated she had a great personality with a sense of humor. In addition to her presentation, Allison also did some photo ops with any club members that asked.



To be honest, I don't really follow professional pool and the top people that play in it. So, I did a little background research into Allison Fisher in case there are other club members who were not familiar with her either. Allison was born on February 24, 1968 in Cheshunt and grew up in Tonbridge, Kent, England. She started playing pool when she was aged 7 and won her first world title at the age of 17. While competing in England, Fisher achieved 11 World Snooker Championships. Unfortunately, at the time, she felt that she did not receive the same respect as the male players in the UK, so in 1995 she decided to move to the United States. Since her move, she has been the highest-earning player on a number of occasions, which takes into account both male and female players. Fisher has an unequalled record, winning over 60 WPBA, Women's Professional Billiard Association, titles as of 2024. This includes 4 World 9 Ball championships. **To date, she has won over 80 national titles and 11 world titles in total.**

Fisher was the top-ranked player on the WPBA circuit from September 1996 to June 2001, and again each year from 2002 to 2007. In 2009, she was inducted into the Billiard Congress of America Hall of Fame. Because of her winning ways, her fellow players nicknamed her **"The Duchess of Doom"**. Quite a resume indeed.

Moving on from Allison, the Billiard Club now has a new Board with some new and some reelected members. **In case you don't know, part of the Board consists of five Directors, each with a specific set of responsibilities. They are as follows:**

Doug Asisleson	- Club Leagues/Tournaments
Scott Kovac	- Photography
Bruce Rebout	- Pool Room Maintenance
Jay Delich	- Entertainment
Paul Ertman	- Scheduling

With the election of the 2026 Club Board, there are probably some club members, especially new ones, that wouldn't recognize them even if they ran into them. In order to have Board Members more identifiable to everyone, pictures of each Board Member have been hung up in the Pool Room. In addition, each of their contact information will be posted to make it easy for members to contact them. This is being done so that if there is an issue or a problem that you might have, it will be easy to contact them to have the issue addressed. Remember, that's one of the reasons what Board Members are there for.

There is a need for the above Directors to get help in in the various areas that they are responsible for. Bruce Rebout especially could use some help cleaning the pool balls and keeping the pool room neat and clean. So, if you have some spare time, please give Bruce a hand.

Each of these Directors are performing the above-mentioned duties to make our Club members experience a pleasant one. The Directors and the Club Officers work very hard to make the Billiards Club perform effectively. **Thus, a vote of thanks goes to each and every one of them for what they do. Thank You.**

Last year, Rob Pulvino saw a need to refurbish and replace the pool room bridges. Utilizing his woodworking talents, last November, he started to restore the old bridge handles. This included paint, wood filler and decals. Since Jim Janessens recently purchased a lathe, Rob recruited Jim to secure the bridge heads so now they are nice and tight. Now, on each table you will now find a bridge with a white head and a clear head. These heads were the two most popular.

Lastly, on 5 random tables, you will find a bridge that has 2 white stripes in the middle. Those stripes serve 2 purposes. One, they replace 3 broken bridges. Two, they are 2-piece bridge sticks that will replace all the short bridges around the room.

Then Rob and Jim looked into the brass bridge hangers. These hangers had unsmooth edges that were the culprits that were scratching and gouging the bridge sticks. They came up with the idea of putting clear plastic tubing over the hangers which provides them with a smooth surface, thus eliminating the scratching issue.

Rob also started looking into refurbishing the break cues. There have been some pool club members that were confused between which cues were used for breaking and which were used for playing. So, Rob put a **Breaking Cue** decal on the break cues so they can be easily identified. Rob also replaced one broken break cue so now the Billiard Room has a total of 8 break cues.

Replacing and repairing the bridges and break cues is a project that was long overdue. This is the first of many improvements that Rob hopes to accomplish in the Billiard room. Hopefully these improvements will be ones that all club members will enjoy.

A last-minute event that needed to be included in the Newsletter was the 21st Annual 2026 Arizona State ACS Tournament that took place on January 30th through February 1st. This Tournament was held at Bullshooters Pool Hall in Phoenix. Players from our Billiards Club participated in both the singles and team events. Singles players were Jim Janssens, Rob Pulvino, Randy Salzwedel, Steve Crnecki and Linda Asleson. **The only player who finished in the money was Steve who finished second. Great job Steve!**

In addition, our Billiards Club had two teams in the Men's team event, Chalk and Awe and Grand Cue. Chalk and Awe team players were Geoff Iverson, Tim Ell, Bud Anderson and team captain Paul Ertman. Grand Cue team members were Rob Pulvino, Jim Janssens, Steve Crnecki, Randy Salzwedel and captain Doug Asleson. **Our Grand Cue team did very well by finishing in third place.** They lost two very close matches to keep them from the title. **Congratulations to members of the Grand Cue Team for a job well done.**

2026 Winter Season League News

By the time you read this, the Winter League Season is in full swing. As we are starting a new season, I thought I would mention a pool etiquette comment. Please don't stand or walk around the table when someone is shooting. That activity can be very distracting to the shooter which can cause a missed shot.

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

Monday Night 8 Ball League – League Operator Jim Janssens

Monday night league play was not completed on January 26th due to a medical emergency that occurred to one of the players that night. Thus, the following results are as of the prior January 19th session.

Ball Breakers is leading second place Rack em Up by 5 games. Rob Pulvino is the top individual player with a 75% winning percentage.

Tuesday Night 8 Ball League – League Operator Tim Fitzpatrick

Straight Shooters is on top over second Pool Sharks place by 1 scoring point. 8 Ball For The Win rounds out third place 3 scoring points out. Kevin Strong is the top individual player with an 87.5% winning percentage.

Wednesday Afternoon 8 Ball League – League Operator Mike Garrett

Pure Luck is in first place. 1.5 scoring points out is second place 8 Ball Ninjas. Point Pursuers is in third 2 scoring points out. Charlie Fox is the top individual player with an 91.7% winning percentage.

Thursday Night 8 Ball ACS League – League Operator Doug Asleson

After 3 weeks of play, The Four Amigos have a commanding lead over second place Corner Pockets. The last night of play will be a position night between those two teams. Corner Pocket has only a half round lead over No Breaks to see who gets the cash for second place. No Breaks will face off against Hit and Run on the final night. Top shooters in the league so far are John Fenwick (20-4) and Tim Ell (18-6).

Friday Morning 9 Ball League – League Operator Charlie Fox

Flying Niners are in first place over second place Rack Pack by 3 scoring points. Jerry Bullins is the top individual player with an 79.2% winning percentage.

Travel League – Doug Asleson Team Captain

The Grand travel league is in first place after three weeks of play. We defeated Sun City West, Sun Village and Festival. Top shooter is Linda Asleson with a 19 and 1 record. We played some very competitive teams and had to play well to win those matches. All players contributed to our victories.

And now, on to the **Shot of the Month** which follows on the next page.



Shot of the Month Center Ball Cheat-The-Pocket Shot

Over the past few months, I have been covering some important rules. This month, I decided to go back to covering timely pool shots.

As important as making a shot is, getting position for the next shot is also a very important aspect of a successful pool player. A few years back in a previous Newsletter, I described the following shot to obtain position in a certain situation. Following is a description and diagram of that shot again.

In looking at the following diagram, in order to get position on the 8 Ball, the shooter can cheat the pocket. Since the pocket is wider than one ball, don't shoot the object ball straight in. Instead, hit the object ball a fraction, in this case, to the left so the object ball will go slightly to the right. The cue ball then goes over to position X making a shot on the 8 Ball an easy one.



