



# Billiards Club Newsletter

May 2026

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**I can't believe that it is May already. Where has the 2025-2026 Season gone?** When May rolls around, Club activity subsides. This is the time when our Snow Bird members migrate back home. They have either packed up and left or are about to do so. The rest of us, me included, remain to endure the Arizona heat. For the Full Timers left behind, we all hunker down in air-conditioning.

**For those of you that don't know, this May Newsletter issue is the last one for this season.** Unfortunately, as May approaches, the amount of Club News begins to diminish. The Club Newsletter will resume in the fall with the November issue. Even though there won't be any Newsletter news during the summer, if any club member has any questions or concerns, they can send an email [scgbilliards@gmail.com](mailto:scgbilliards@gmail.com) to obtain Club information.

Before I get on with the Newsletter, I wanted thank the small group of people that provide input to me at the end of every month. Several club officers and League Operators contribute editing and informational help that make the Newsletter the informative document that it is. The help that these individuals provide me is invaluable. Thank you so much!!



At this point, besides the Summer Leagues, the Club hasn't made any definitive plans regarding club sanctioned activities for May or the upcoming summer months. If that changes, the club will send out an eblast to notify club members of an upcoming activity.

That doesn't mean our Club members aren't doing anything. The 2026 National ACS Pool Tournament will be taking place at the Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino. The event starts May 9<sup>th</sup> and continues to May 16<sup>th</sup>. The Grand ACS Pool League will be well represented this year. **Competing from our club will be Linda Asleson, Rob Pulvino, Jim Janssens, Geoff Iverson and Doug Asleson. This is a huge tournament with players from all over the United States and Canada taking part. Let's wish them all well.**

Last February at the Pot Luck dinner, our club president Rob Pulvino spoke to the group about some initiatives he is pursuing to improve the club. In addition, Rob has decided to do something different, to embark on a marketing campaign to promote our club. To initiate that, Rob has enlisted our Entertainment Director, Jay Delich to be the Club's Director of Marketing. Jay has started off in his new position with a bang. As a result of Jay's efforts, the Billiards Club will be on the upcoming cover of the July issue of the Grand Lifestyles Magazine. He also negotiated for a magazine article about the club. In addition, the magazine staff will be doing a featured article about our very own Jerry Briesath. How cool is that!!! Speaking of Jerry Briesath, Rob asked me to also create a human-interest article about Jerry and I have done so. You can read this article as it will appear along with this May Newsletter issue.

And the good news keeps on coming. Our club is also allowed 4 quarter page ads in the Grand Lifestyles magazine. Jay has secured for the June and July issues a Billiards Club ad focusing on the slogan, "Cool Place to Play in the Summer". There will be an additional two magazine ads that will appear in the fall. **The Club owes Jay a huge thank you for his accomplishments in his new role.**



**A Grand Lifestyles marketing firm person took photos on April 28<sup>th</sup> of our Billiards Room and conducted interviews for an upcoming feature in the Grand Lifestyles magazine.** The magazine focused on women in Billiards and our Instructional Sessions hosted by Harriet Ham and taught by Jerry Briesath. Many club members including yours truly participated in the photo shoot. Everyone had a lot of fun and the photographer obtained many pictures. One of those pictures will make its way onto the cover of the July issue of the magazine. If you came to the photo shoot, who knows, maybe your picture will be in it.

At that photo session, Jerry brought in a pool cue case that was truly a wonder. It was a wooden case that was shaped like a shark. It was made to symbolize the term "Pool Shark". Jerry said it was created by a wood carver in Florida as a gift from the many great pool players that Jerry has interacted with. The shark head had actual shark teeth in its mouth that were around a real 8 ball. In addition, on the sides of the case were many signatures of several notable pool celebrities. This unique pool case was definitely one to behold.

Before the thought of Championship Saturday fades from our short-term memory, I was recently speaking with Scott Kovak and he shared a thought with me about Fred McClure. Some of you may or may not know that Fred was our resident photographer on that day. He took many pictures of the day's events from 8:30 in the morning till 4:00 that afternoon. You can see some of his pictures on the Club's website. Little known fact, Fred has also taken pictures of Major League Baseball's Spring Season games. Fred, thank you for your photographic skills that have benefited our club.

## **Summer League News**

All the 2026 Winter Season league activity has been completed. The Summer 2026 league events will begin in June. **Tuesday Night 8-Ball, Wednesday Afternoon 8-Ball and Friday Morning 9-Ball will be returning for summer league sessions. Sign-up sheets for the summer leagues will be posted May 11<sup>th</sup> to May 24<sup>th</sup>. League sessions will start the first week of June and will be 12 to 15 weeks in length depending on the number of participants and teams.**

**The Billiards Club requires a player's commitment to the league upon signing up. Players should be committed to be absent no more than three weeks of the season to be a team member.** Commitment to a league team cannot be understated. If you can't make such a commitment, you can always sign up to be a sub. If there are health or any other unforeseen concerns/circumstance issues, they should be brought up with your team captain.

**League Operators are the unsung heroes of our Leagues.** They have to put in many hours of work every week to make the leagues operate as smoothly as they do. Because of that, they can really use some help. Please consider giving a League Operator a hand. They will appreciate it.



I thought I would change things up a bit this month by going over actions that pool players do that can be very annoying to their fellow pool players. I actually did some research regarding this issue by consulting AI. In addition, I asked Club members and obtained their input. This resulted in the following pool etiquette rules and guidelines. They relate specifically to league play but can also apply to pool play in general. **And now, on with some pool playing etiquette guidelines.**

**Don't get in the shooters space.** Don't hover, stand in their line of sight, or move around while they're aiming. Stillness shows respect.

**Stay quiet during a shot .** Sudden noises or commentary can distract even experienced players.

**Avoid sharking.** No mind games, gestures, or comments meant to distract or unsettle your opponent.

**Call your non obvious shots clearly.** This avoids confusion or disputes. This especially relates to bank, kick or combination shots.

**Don't coach.** Unsolicited advice is NOT allowed. However, when playing Scotch Doubles, conversation between team players is allowed.

**Own your fouls.** If you scratch or double-hit, acknowledge it. Honesty is part of the culture. Good sportsmanship always results in a great game of pool.

**Stay composed after mistakes.** Slamming cues or hitting balls in frustration doesn't show good sportsmanship.

**Compliment good shots.** It builds sportsmanship and keeps the match friendly.

**Be mindful of nearby tables.** Be considerate of players at nearby tables.

**Keep chalk use tidy.** Keep chalk away from the table to avoid dust on the felt. Also, don't leave chalk on the edge of the table during play as it may accidentally get hit and then drop into the pocket. It can then get caught in the ball return track which may cause the ball return not to function properly.

**Return equipment when finished.** House cues and racks should go back to where they belong.

**Slow Play: Don't take an excessive amount of time before taking a shot.** When a player consistently takes an excessive amount of time considering what shot to take, the team match play schedule becomes delayed and thus complicates following players match times. Therefore, when considering what shot to take, please be respectful of your teammates and also members of the opposing team.

I must say, that is a lot of guidelines. However, if you follow them, playing the game of pool will be so much more enjoyable. And you won't annoy your fellow players.

**And now, enjoy the upcoming summer everyone.**







