



Billiards Club Newsletter

April 2022

Created by "Oh Gene" Krajeck



March has come and gone. This month is the top month for Billiards Club sponsored events. The Club Championships, Luncheon, and finally the Briesath Cup. What a month it has been for the club and its members.

Regarding one of the club championship categories, Players Division, yours truly has a rather unique story. I wasn't going to enter this competition as my play this year has been intermittently decent at best. Anyway, in the end I decided to enter. On March 3rd of the Players qualifiers, I won the first round, then the second, the third, and finally the fourth. It is now the fifth and I am up against a formattable competitor, Tim Maloney. The tournament director, Doug Asleson, comes up to the both of us and says the winner of this round will be in the Championship Saturday event. I can't believe I am in this situation. Anyway, Tim with his great talent defeats me 3 to 1. I then am told I have to play the winner of the consolation bracket at a later time. I get home and tell my wife about this situation and she informs me that we will be in Las Vegas Championship Saturday watching her grandson play in a soccer tournament there which I had forgot about. So now I have to play Rick Haskel for a position if I win, I can't play in. Anyway, we had our match and Rick beat me fair and square 3 to 2. My defeat solved that dual location problem for me but looking back at this whole incredible situation, it was still a very wonderful day.



The annual Club Luncheon was held on March 7th in the Sagebrush Ballroom located in the Sonoran Plaza. The Club conducted two raffles. The \$100 raffle had two winners, John Campbell and Karen Lee. The 50/50 raffle winner was a combined effort with Brenda Ridings, Gary Mize, and Mike Choquette that pooled their tickets. Congratulations to all the winners. All the club members and friends that attended had a great time.

Next, our top premier club event of the spring season was Championship Saturday that was held on March 12th. That day consisted of the Billiard Club Championships, the Appetizers and Desserts Pot Luck, and finally our premier event of the year, the 2022 Briesath Cup.

Women Club Championship

This year we had 13 women play in the Women's event, a new record. We played a double elimination bracket in a race to win 3 games to win the match. Many of the matches went to 3-2, which indicates a very competitive field. **In the end Gayle Anderson played Joyce Miller in the championship match. Gayle had a good day and defeated Joyce to become this year's champion. Well done Gayle and Joyce.**

Players Club Championship

This year we had 23 players participate. We played a double elimination bracket in a race to win 3 games to win the match. We really had a great day of pool with many players playing very well. **Tim Maloney went undefeated in the tournament. Rick Haskel came through the loser side of the bracket to take on Tim in the final. Tim Maloney then defeated Rick to become this year's champion. Good job Tim and Rick.**

Masters Club Championship

This year we had 9 master players compete in our tournament. We played a double elimination bracket with a race to win 5 games to win the match. These players are some the best pool players in Sun City Grand and it was fun to watch these really good players. **Randy Biko went undefeated in the tournament. Randy Salzwedel came through the loser side of the bracket. Randy Biko then defeated Randy Salzwedel in a great final match to become masters champion. Nicely done Randy and Randy.**

It was a great day for our club on Championship Saturday. We crowned three new club champions and celebrated an exciting Briesath Cup Championship. Congratulations to all of this year's champions, you earned this title! Well done!

After the club championship matches, the club held the Appetizer and Desert Pot Luck in the Apache Room located across the hall from the billiard room. All Briesath Cup team players were introduced at the luncheon after the Masters Championships.

On Saturday afternoon, March 12th at 1 pm, the 2022 Briesath Cup Tournament was held in the billiard room. This was a wonderful climax of a great day for our club and a fitting tribute to our friend and mentor, Jerry Briesath. The tournament director was Doug Asleson. This 2022 Briesath Cup competition was the 4th edition of this event. In the past, Canada had won one and the USA had won two.

The 2022 Briesath Cup team members were:

Canada

Richard Wear, Captain

Brian Pin, Randy Biko, Tim Ell and Paul Roy

USA

Rob Pulvino, Captain

Linda Asleson, Randy Salzwedel, Jim Janssens, and Gary North

We had a very competitive event between two strong teams representing USA and Canada. There was a standing room only crowd in support of the event. **Team USA defeated Canada to retain the cup for another year. The final score was 11 to 3, but the games were all closely contested. The 11 – 3 score does not indicate how close the match was.** A new picture of this year's team will be in the billiard room soon. Thanks to all of the team players for an exciting day of pool! Again, thanks to all of you that attended. **Congratulations Team USA!**

Also, please remember that Doug Asleson worked hard to organize and administer the Championship Saturday events. Thank you, Doug for doing the wonderful job that you do.

Since the Tuesday Night League concluded, we have some time availability for a different venue tournament. The Club decided to have a One-Pocket Event for each Tuesday night that started on March 15th. This event will last until the end of April. There will be an individual tournament each Tuesday night starting at 5:00 PM. There is a Sign-Up sheet posted in the Billiards Room to sign up for each specific Tuesday night of play. Rich Wear directed and organized this event but is not actually playing. He provided input that included instructions in understanding the game and how to actually play. A handicap system to help level the playing field of participants has been established. This tournament has a prize fund that is funded by a \$5 entry fee. Specifics to our One-Pocket play are:

1. There will be a maximum 45minute time limit - whoever is a head at the of time limit wins
2. Maximum number of players limited to 16 at each event
3. Time will start at 5:00PM (breaking balls).

Jerry Briesath has offered to teach additional NOVICE and ADVANCED Novice players clinics during the month of March on Thursdays. Players played a “ball-in-hand” game against a new opponent. He did some demonstrations for attendees to practice additional challenges for the more advanced players. This was an awesome opportunity to have novice players have fun while learning. Please watch for club updates on additional novice club clinics.

2022 BCA Pool League Championships in Las Vegas March 23 – April 2

Our Billiard Club was well represented at this national tournament with members Linda Asleson, Jim Janssens, Rob Pulvino and Paul Ertman participating. **Jim was outstanding in the silver division of 9 ball and came in 4th place among 171 players. Linda and Jim came in 25th place in the gold division of scotch doubles.** All these players played well against some very good competition. **Congratulations to both Jim and Linda for their outstanding achievement.**



League News

If more detailed league information is desired, please reference the Billiard Club website. The website can be accessed by logging on to: www.grandbilliards.org and going to the League Info tab. The following League information is as of the Newsletter publication date.

All club sponsored leagues ended their sessions in March. The final team standings are outlined below.

Monday Night Masters 8 Ball

Congratulations to Dream Team for taking first place. Team Captain was Rob Pulvino and teammates were Linda Asleson and Paul Roy. Second Place went to Breakers and Third Place went to In Que. Randy Salzwedel led the individual player spot with a winning percentage of 76.2%.

Tuesday Night Players 8 Ball

Lancers had the honor for taking first place. Team captain was Lew Oliphant and his team mates were Paul Ertman, Jim Blevins, and Lisa Vidak. Second Place went to Submarines, Third Place went to Vipers, and Fourth Place went to Cue by 4. Lew Oliphant was the top individual player with an 74.3% winning percentage.

Wednesday Afternoon Players 8 Ball

8 Balls of Fire are to be Congratulated for taking first place. Team Captain was Gary North and his teammates were Steve Fransen and Joyce Miller. Rack Attack took second place and 8 Ball Magicians took third. Gary North led the individual players by a winning percentage of 85.9%.

Friday Morning 9 Ball

Congratulations to Rack Attack for taking first place. Team Captain Gary North and his teammates were Monte McClendon, Mike Rapisarda, and June Janssens. Breakers came in second and Chalk is Cheap came in third. Besides leading in Wednesday play, Gary North also led the top individual players in 9 Ball with an 76.9% winning percentage. **Congratulations Gary.**

Travel League

The Sun City Grand travel team completed the 2022 season as league champions by going undefeated again this year. Our record was 10 – 0 against our neighboring communities. We had close matches with teams from Happy Trails and Sun City but pulled out narrow wins over those teams. The Team's success is due in part to our great team camaraderie and support of each other. Glad to return the title to our great billiard community at Sun City Grand. **The Billiards Club congratulates Team members: Richard Wear, Randy Biko, Jim Janssens, Randy Salzwedel, Tim Ell, Linda Asleson and captain, Doug Asleson.**



For today's rule, I went back to the December 2018 edition of the newsletter and thought I would refresh everyone's memory regarding a very important aspect of pool and that is the topic of scratching/fouling.

The term scratching is used when the cue ball goes into a pocket. Always remember, when one scratches, the opponent always gets Ball in Hand. What does "Ball in Hand" mean? It means that your opponent can place the cue ball anywhere on the table before he or she shoots.

There are however several other situations that will result in what is called a foul. In addition to scratching, if you foul, your opponent also gets "Ball in Hand". Let's review fouling situations as they pertain to the game of 8 Ball.

- Not striking your own ball first
- Striking the 8 Ball out of order
- When in shooting position, accidentally touching the cue ball with the end of the cue tip before shooting
- Double hitting the object ball
- Hitting the Cue Ball off the table when breaking
- No ball hitting the rail after the object ball is struck

After reviewing all the situations relating to getting a foul, always consider carefully the shot you are about to take. If as the shooter, when in doubt, always ask. You always want to minimize the chance that you will foul and give your opponent Ball in Hand.

It is also good etiquette to point out that you have fouled even if your opponent didn't see it. Good Sportsmanship always results in a great game of pool.

