



Billiards Club Newsletter

May 2023

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I can't believe that it is May already. Where has the 2022-2023 Season gone? When May rolls around, Club activity usually subsides. The Club Championships are over, League activity has concluded, and there are no social activities planned. Snow Birds have either packed up and left or are about to do so. But for the year around residents of which I am one, the club does have activities planned to make our hot AZ stay more pleasurable. More on that front to follow later in the Newsletter.



With the coming of Summer, Challenge Board activity has dropped off dramatically. Following are the latest standings.

Masters Board: Steve Crnecki is in the top position.

Players Board: Tim Fitzpatrick is now in the top position.

Ladies Board: Annie Lowe is the top leader.

Novice Board: Randy VanWagner is on the top spot.

Our Challenge Board Coordinator, Rob Pulvino, has decided to make the following SUMMER RULES CHANGES:

For the summer only, you can update the boards after your match concludes. You are still required to fill out a challenge sheet, circle the winner and continue to put the sheet in the mailbox. As I get over there, I will verify that all is correct.

If you vacate for the summer, please turn your name tag upside down. That indicates that you will not be available for a challenge until you return. I will designate each vacant player with the spot they vacated. I will number their name tag and remove it from the board. When you return, you can challenge the spot you vacated. If you win, you place your tag back in that spot. If you lose, you can only challenge a player below that position.

Moving on from the Challenge Board, on April 14-16, the ACS annual Arizona State Billiards Singles 8 Ball tournament was held at Bullshooters Billiards & Sports Bar located in Phoenix. Randy Salzwedel took 1st place in the men's event and was crowned State Men's Champion. Linda Asleson took 4th place in the women's event. Congratulations to these two Billiard Club members.

Yours truly was not really knowledgeable about the ACS organization and maybe some of you aren't either. American Cue Sports, ACS, is a Colorado Incorporated Non-Profit Amateur Athletic Association based in the United States. Their Mission is "To heighten the interest and awareness of cue sports through the support and

sanctioning of organized competition throughout the United States and North America.” Their Vision is “To encourage the collaboration of sports organizations in making cue sports the #1 participation sport.” The ACS organization coordinates tournaments and leagues throughout North America.

Sooo, placing in an ACS sanctioned event is a really big deal.



Several years ago, then President Rob Pulvino made some major changes to our Wall of Champions. At the time, it was a significant upgrade. Thanks, Rob, for creating this wall. Now we are making an update. The first change is a new Briesath Cup Champions plaque. The new plaque will be much larger than the previous one. It will contain the names of all the players on each championship team for each year. We also rearranged the pictures and plaques to make them easier to read.

A new plan has also been devised for the Club’s Champions Cup. Previously we used different size cups for each championship division. We will now have one championship cup which will be shared for all the divisions. This one cup will be used when pictures of the Club Champions are taken. Thus, we will now only display two trophy cups, the Briesath Cup and the Club Champions Cup. The Briesath cup trophy will be the larger of the two cups. These two trophy cups will be on display for members to view throughout year.

The Club thanks Scott Kovac and Doug Asleson for spearheading this Championship Wall update project. In addition, some other club members also added valuable support. Thanks to everyone that participated.

We will have an unveiling event to show the new Wall of Champions format to club members. We hope you can attend this important event which is scheduled for Wednesday May 3rd at 1:00 PM.

As you may or may not be aware, The Grand recently held a space allocation meeting for Grand residents. With our current Club membership of 246 members, there are times when our pool room is both congested and out of capacity. **The Grand is now soliciting input from residents to express their opinions on space allocation.**

Many of us received a survey via email regarding space allocation. The Club is encouraging members to complete this survey. As a club, we sure can use more tables. It’s important to have the Space Allocation Committee and the Grand Board to be aware of our concerns. This study has been going on for a while. Rob and the Club Board made a presentation to the Space Allocation Committee a few years back regarding the Club’s space constraints. Nothing happened back then but now this space issue is now back on the front burner.

The survey came out a few days ago. If you did not receive it, please take the time to look on the Grand’s website. The more Club members that complete the survey, the more our concerns will be heard. So, please provide your views in the Comments Field section of the survey. In addition, the Club is doing all it can to expand our billiard room facility.

This coming Summer, the Club will be providing an assortment of activities for the members to enjoy outside of the sweltering Arizona heat. **As always, the club will be hosting the Tuesday Night 8 Ball and Friday 9 Ball Leagues.**

In addition, the club will be hosting the Summer Fun Day event. This will take place August 14th. Following is an over view of the event:

1. We will have 5 challenges at the tables
2. There will be a Cash Bar and coffee
3. Challenge entry fee is \$3, per player participating, all funds go back to winning players
4. Food will be provided with seating in the Apache Room, across the hall
5. 50/50 Split Raffle

League News

All the 2022 -2023 season league activity has been completed. The Summer 2023 league events will begin in June. Tuesday Night 8-Ball and Friday 9-Ball will be returning for summer league sessions. Please look out for upcoming E-Mail announcements providing information regarding sign-ups.

Our club is in the process of planning for the upcoming pool leagues for this coming summer as well as leagues for the 2023-2024 pool season. After taking suggestions from some members and current league directors there may be some changes to our leagues for the next year. This is an effort to continue our successes and add a few new changes. Watch for upcoming details in future E-Mails.

We are asking for club members to assist League Operators in running some leagues. All current league operators and assistants have done an outstanding job! However, the leagues need some help from club members to keep league operations going. This is not a real big ask as this position is not difficult. A League Assistant would help the League Operator with their league duties and also fill in when the Operator is not available. **The bottom line, if we do not have more people involved, we may lose some of our leagues. If you are willing to assist a League Operator, please contact any Club Board member.**

In addition, the club will continue the Thursday Novice players sessions. The sessions will include some tournaments. Look for upcoming E-Mail notifications providing more details about these sessions.

Rule of the Month



I thought of the following last year and since it is so timely, I felt it should be repeated. The rule of safety comes to mind. Please think before you do whatever activity you choose to participate this summer. I want to see everyone back in one piece and functioning in the fall. Enjoy the summer everyone.

