



Billiards Club Newsletter

February 2024

Created by “Oh Gene” Krajeck



January has now come and gone. I mentioned New Year resolutions in last month’s News Letter. How many of you made resolutions and more importantly, if you did, how many actually acted upon them?

2024 has started out with a bang for the Billiard 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 events and tournaments that members will be able to partake in. So, the “Good Times” of upcoming events in 2024 will be something that club members will be able to look forward to. Later in this Newsletter, these upcoming events will be presented in detail. Please review these upcoming events so you will be fully informed as to when and how to either both attend and or participate. You won’t regret it.

This month, I have again decided to include a human-interest story about one of our club members. This month I have written a separate article about George Hayden. George recently had his 98th birthday and I decided this accomplishment rated a human-interest story. I hope you agree.



Mark your calendars for February 4th as that is the date for the Club’s Annual Fun Night/Pot Luck from 4 to 8 PM. This Club event will take place in both the Billiards Room and the Apache Room. For those of you that don’t know, the Apache Room is located across the hall from the Billiards Room. If for some reason you don’t want to participate in the Fun Day activities, please still come to the Pot Luck.

The Fun Night offers you a chance to show off your skills, or just try your luck. You do not have to be highly skilled in pool to participate in the competition on the tables, just willing to have some fun and enjoy the company of your fellow Billiard Club Members. As we have learned from past Fun Nights, winners have ranged from the very novice players to those with higher skill levels. The skills competition will begin at 4PM with an entry fee of \$5/person. The entry fees will be used as a prize fund for the players scoring the top points in the competition.

Immediately after the Skills Competition, we will walk across the hall for the Annual Potluck Dinner. Food donation Sign-Up sheets are posted on the Billiard Room Bulletin Board asking for Salads, Side, Main and Dessert dishes. Please sign up for the type of dish you would like to bring to this event. As always, we are looking to have plenty of each type of dish. This is a time to renew friendships, meet new members and enjoy the company of the many members in the Billiards Club. If you are not skilled in the kitchen or cannot bring a dish, come anyway as there is always plenty of food for everyone. This is a time to get out of your house and enjoy the evening.

As in the past, the club will have a 50/50 drawing with tickets sold at the door. Last year we finished the evening with a rousing game of Left/Right/Center with well over 40 people participating. Bring \$3/

person if you wish to enter the LRC game and be the last one standing with all of the money. If you are not familiar with the game it is simply a fun social game of luck rolling some dice, no skills required.

Again, please sign up on the sheets located in the Billiard Room. You will have a Great Time.

March will again be an exciting and busy month for our Billiard Club! Even though March is a couple of months away, it is important to let all Club members know the dates of upcoming events so you can mark them on your calendars.

The Club Board at our last meeting approved the dates for all the following events:

Briesath Cup Qualifier Event is Thursday March 7th

Event is open to all Billiard Club members.

Play is between 10 AM - 2 PM

Club Championships to select the two players for the finals:

Masters (double elimination)	Thursday	March 14	9 AM - 5 PM
Players (double elimination)	Friday	March 15	9 AM - 5 PM
Women (round robin)	Saturday	March 16	9 AM - 5 PM

Championship Saturday is March 23rd

Club Championship Singles events Finals	9 AM
Potluck luncheon (Apache Room)	11:30 AM - 1 PM

The Briesath Cup Championship is also Saturday March 23rd

Our premier billiard club event!

Play begins 1 PM

Sign-Up sheets will be posted in the Billiard Room in mid-February.



As you remember, last month after the club elections, the following were the elected Club Directors:

Bill Parker, Lan Seylar, Sandy Miller, Doug Asleson, and Jay Delich

However, due to availability concerns, Bill Parker felt he couldn't assume the responsibilities of the Director position. Thus, he has decided to resign. **In his place, Scott Kovac volunteered to be Bill Parker's replacement on the Club Board. Based on Bill's resignation, the Board voted and approved Scott to become a Board Director.** Thank you, Scott, for volunteering.

Moving on to the Challenge Board. For some reason, Challenge Board activity has been frozen for some time. Only the ladies had any activity. As a result, the following standings haven't changed much.

Masters Board: Steve Crnecki has the top position.

Players Board: Bruce Rebout is in first place.

Ladies Board: Sandy Miller is now the top leader.

Novice Board: Randy VanWagner is in the top spot.

League News

The new 2024 Winter League format sessions began the week of January 8th. Club members have generally liked the new two- season league structure. As of January 30th, following are the end of the month League standings:

Monday Night – Jim Janssens, League Operator

Rack em Up is leading the pack over second place Castor Raiders by 4 games. 8 Ballers are in third place 6 games out. Randy Salzwedel was the top individual players with an 81.3% winning percentage.

Tuesday Night – Bruce Lowe, League Operator

Predators are leading second place Straight Shooters by 2.5 scoring points. Just Poolin Around is in third place 7.5 scoring points out. Brian Pin was the leading individual player with an 80% winning percentage.

Wednesday Afternoon - Charlie Fox, League Operator

Breaking Balls is in first place over second place Balls of Fire by 1.5 scoring points. The Straight Shooters rounds out third place 5.5 scoring points out. Charlie Fox is the top individual player with an 95% winning percentage. Interesting note, Charlie was at 100% until last Wednesday.

Friday Morning - Mike Garret & Paul Ertman, League Operators

Breaking Balls, yes, you read that right, is in first place by 4.5 scoring points over second place Awe & Chalk. What are the odds that there are two first place teams with the same name? Rack and Roll rounds out third 5 scoring points out. Linda Asleson is the top individual player with an 83.3% winning percentage.

And remember, all the leagues are always looking for subs. You can sign up to become a sub at any time.

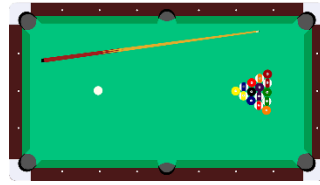
Speaking of Sub replacement, the Tuesday and Wednesday Leagues would like to thank Annie Lowe for performing an outstanding job performing the sub replacement function. Annie, you're the best.

Travel League

Our Travel League team started the new season with solid wins over Sun City West and Sun Village. We unfortunately did suffer our first loss in over 3 years to a strong team from Happy Trails, 26-24. Not sure where

we are in the standings as we have not had an update from the league director. We are in either a 3-way tie for first or a 2-way tie for second, a game out of first. Our next two matches are against good teams from Sun Flower and Sun City. Hopefully, when the next newsletter comes out, our team can climb back into first!

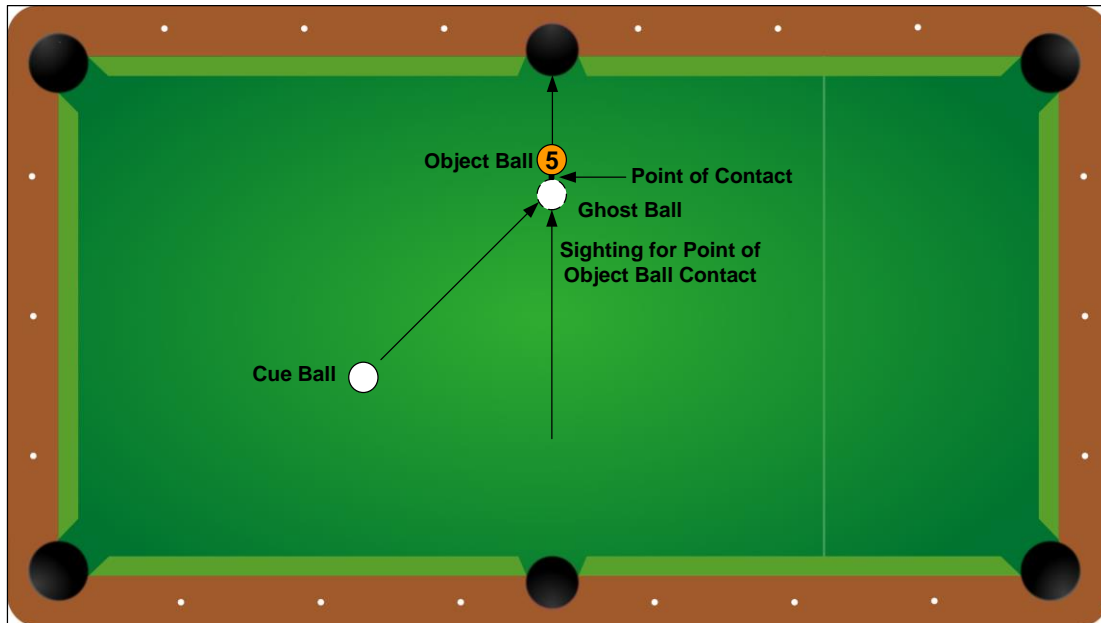
Shot of the Month



The Cut Shot

The most frequent shot in pool is the cut shot. To sink the object ball below, the cue ball must hit the object ball at an angle. The question is, at what point should the two balls make contact?

In the following diagram, there is an imaginary point shown as a small black spot located at the center of the object ball in line with the pocket. If the cue ball strikes the object ball at this point, the object ball will go into the pocket. However, if you sight the center of the cue ball to this imaginary point, you will never hit it. In this case the cue ball will strike the object ball to the left of the contact point causing you to miss the shot.



So how do you determine the point of aim? Some people aim the cue ball at the center of a ghost ball sitting at the contact point of the object ball. Depending on the angle, the distance from the object ball contact point may be slightly more or less than this distance.

The best way to determine where to sight the cue ball to make this shot is to practice angle shots over and over. After many practice angle shots, you will begin to know where to line the cue ball up in order to sink this type of shot.