

Hello from Illinois,

Hello, my name is Steve Blair. I live in East Moline, Illinois (The Quad Cities). We are tucked away on the banks of the Mississippi where I-80 and the river meet. As I looked through the 2009 Bower's Ratings I was disappointed to see only two rated players from Illinois. I was mistakenly placed in Missouri, so that makes three. I am on a mission to get the game of shuffleboard popular again in western Illinois, then hopefully the rest of the state. Twenty-five years ago we had over thirty quality boards in our area alone. We had three leagues and some tournaments that were filled with quality players. Now, only a handful of playable shuffleboards are available with two small leagues to participate in.



If you are a player, or an establishment owner with a board in Illinois, I would like to hear from you. I have all my information below. If you are a tournament player from outside Illinois you are cordially invited to any of our fledging tournaments. We have one planned on April 11 in Geneseo, Illinois. It will be unique because we are using three different bars and their boards. Wish us luck.

I, myself, have traveled to Houston, MO, Durand, MI, and Bourbon, IN and have witnessed first hand how to run quality tournaments. Plus, I have had the pleasure of playing some of the best competition in the country. This summer I will travel with other players from our area in order to get more Illinois players rated. It seems like a big task, but I think it is worth it.

In closing, please contact me with any Illinois shuffleboard information. I will start some type of data base to get us organized. I will take any suggestions as well! Plus, I am sure I will see many of you, non-Illinois players, this summer and we can talk in person. So, my goal is to have at least 15 rated players from Illinois by 2010 in the Bower's Ratings!!!



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