



To all our friends in the Shuffleboard World,

Well, we're sending out this e-mail to answer a lot of e-mails that we have recently received asking about *LAS VEGAS* Shuffleboard tournaments. We're inserting a portion of a e-mail that we sent to the Bowers along with some suggestions on the "Bower's Rating System." This insert is long and we apologize in advance for being so wordy, but we feel we owe friends and players that came to our tournaments some explanation.

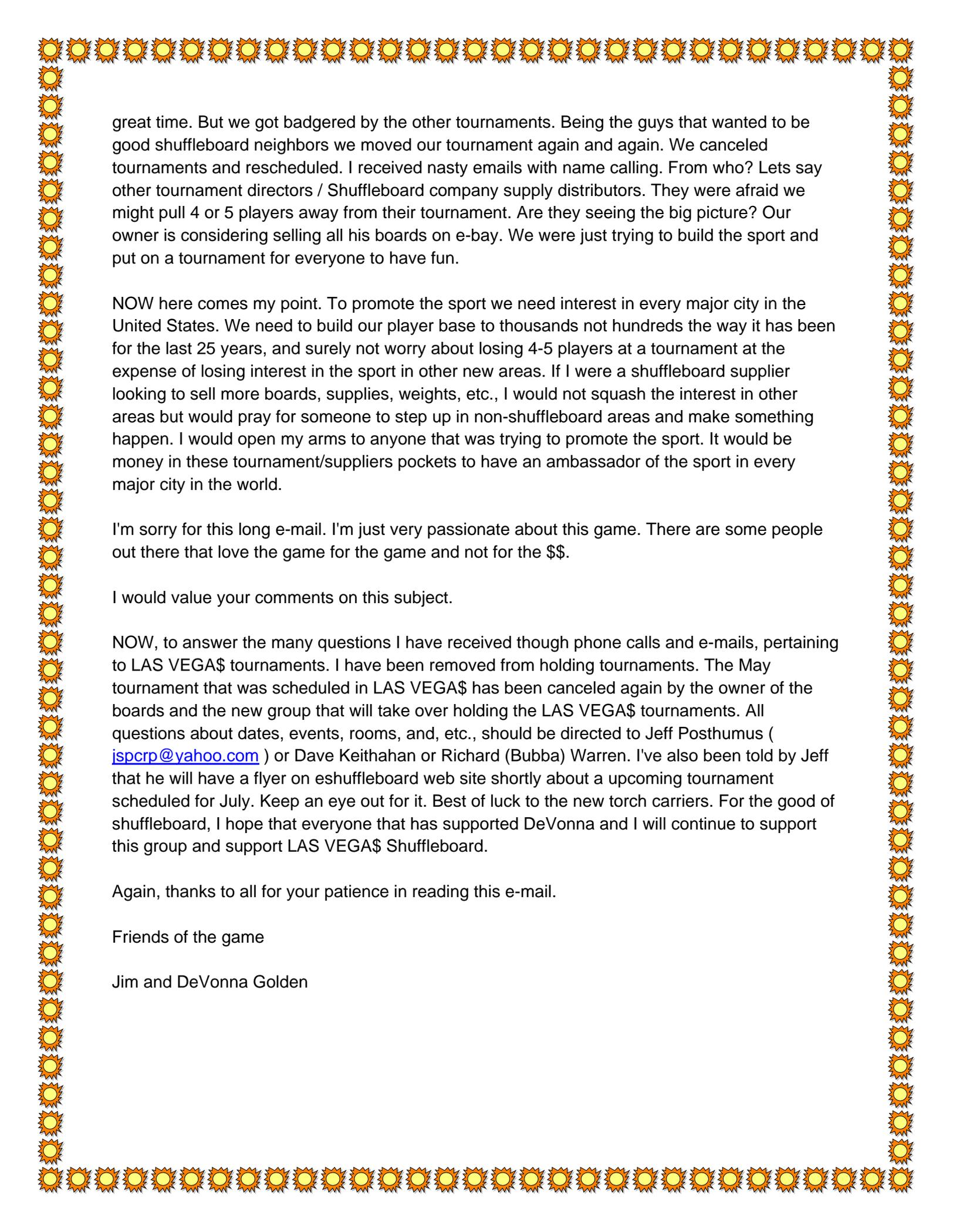
Compared to a lot of players in the sport, I'm a rookie. I've only been playing the sport for about 26 years. Some of you I know have 30-40 or more years. I'm distressed over the fact that we have only made small steps in promoting the popularity of the sport. Table Shuffleboard is considered that game in bars with little round silver discs. Table Shuffleboard is so much more than that. It's the best game on the planet. It caters to the old, the young, the weak and the strong, male or female, shoot even kids love to play the game. As I've said numerous times, the smarter you get at it the better you get. It's a chess game with physical skills. This is a great game! So why hasn't it grown? What can we do to make it grow?

Now, understand I'm trying to be part of the solution, hopefully not part of the problem.

I've through the years tried to give a little back to the game. I've tried to develop a larger interest in Shuffleboard in Las Vegas. About 20 years ago I started up the "Southern Nevada Shuffleboard League." I was president of the league and with the help of a hand full of other players that also loved the game, the officers of the league we built the league and were successful for a number of years. A divorce got in the way, being a single parent with three kids made me put shuffleboard on hold. The league fizzled the next year. Fast forward to the kids grow up and a new wife that loves shuffleboard and we decide to again try and promote shuffleboard in Las Vegas. We go out and find a hotel owner that knows nothing about shuffleboard and convince him into buying 6 brand new Champion boards and 6 brand new score boards. An investment of close to \$30,000. We decide to hold Las Vegas tournaments. I realize this is a long rant, and appreciate the fact that you're still reading, I do have an overall shuffleboard point coming.

We find holding tournaments to be harder than it looks. Anyone that has ever tried this will understand what I'm talking about. And, I won't go into to much of the effort, blood, sweat, sickness, losing time at work, and for no financial gain, and not for any \$\$\$. We didn't know what would be the biggest hurdle of all; Other Tournaments, and the very Shuffleboard suppliers we bought some of our equipment from! Our location dictates us not wanting to step on other tournaments in our area. We looked at the calendar and tried to figure out a good date, just one day during the year we could have our tournament, trying to get a return to our owner for the investment he made. I won't point fingers but numerous people had a problem with any date we choose.

Some establishments in California that were/are holding 4 tournaments a year and couldn't find a date to give Las Vegas. So we moved dates and tournaments. Now mind you we had successful tournaments, 60-62 players, with over \$22,000 in prize money, everyone having a



great time. But we got badgered by the other tournaments. Being the guys that wanted to be good shuffleboard neighbors we moved our tournament again and again. We canceled tournaments and rescheduled. I received nasty emails with name calling. From who? Lets say other tournament directors / Shuffleboard company supply distributors. They were afraid we might pull 4 or 5 players away from their tournament. Are they seeing the big picture? Our owner is considering selling all his boards on e-bay. We were just trying to build the sport and put on a tournament for everyone to have fun.

NOW here comes my point. To promote the sport we need interest in every major city in the United States. We need to build our player base to thousands not hundreds the way it has been for the last 25 years, and surely not worry about losing 4-5 players at a tournament at the expense of losing interest in the sport in other new areas. If I were a shuffleboard supplier looking to sell more boards, supplies, weights, etc., I would not squash the interest in other areas but would pray for someone to step up in non-shuffleboard areas and make something happen. I would open my arms to anyone that was trying to promote the sport. It would be money in these tournament/suppliers pockets to have an ambassador of the sport in every major city in the world.

I'm sorry for this long e-mail. I'm just very passionate about this game. There are some people out there that love the game for the game and not for the \$\$.

I would value your comments on this subject.

NOW, to answer the many questions I have received though phone calls and e-mails, pertaining to LAS VEGA\$ tournaments. I have been removed from holding tournaments. The May tournament that was scheduled in LAS VEGA\$ has been canceled again by the owner of the boards and the new group that will take over holding the LAS VEGA\$ tournaments. All questions about dates, events, rooms, and, etc., should be directed to Jeff Posthumus (jspcrp@yahoo.com) or Dave Keithahan or Richard (Bubba) Warren. I've also been told by Jeff that he will have a flyer on eshuffleboard web site shortly about a upcoming tournament scheduled for July. Keep an eye out for it. Best of luck to the new torch carriers. For the good of shuffleboard, I hope that everyone that has supported DeVonna and I will continue to support this group and support LAS VEGA\$ Shuffleboard.

Again, thanks to all for your patience in reading this e-mail.

Friends of the game

Jim and DeVonna Golden