

THE RED BARON SPEAKS

March 2009 – Larry Creakbaum

My calendar shows a couple of local events then it is off to KC for the shoot out which starts April 1st. This has become one of the most talked about events on the circuit and I look for good attendance regardless of congresses attempt to meddle with the public's pocket books. One local Saturday pro-am event just had 23 teams so players are starting to travel locally. I think KC should be a good show.

I mentioned two methods of having a handicap event in January and Kansas City is using the second method which is spotting points. The spot is either negative or positive, which they have chosen the negative. I have not seen a scoreboard yet that goes negative but the ladies work in out in their national event so I imagine they will in KC as well. I would suggest taking poker chips and when the game is called the team or player being spotted points would go to the bracket master and be given the appropriate number of chips. As the negative spot is scored off the team would pass the chips to the other team. At the end of the game the winner would return the chips to the bracket master. The game would not be considered complete until the chips are returned. They also have 4 point max which is good. I have heard complaints that four is to many "as I lose the flip and my opponent lags a four and he is a better rated player than a three and-----".so on. Then we go back to where these writing's started; the rating system. I like the spot better for having a handicapped event because you have a better range of selecting your partner.



The good thing about the Grandview, MO location is they have hotels with in reasonable late night, refreshed attitude, driving distance in the fifty dollar range. On a shuffleboard budget and the amount of time spent at the hotel during an event, this is very reasonable.

A little tip for the promoters who make up the flyers for events is to put on the zip code for use in finding the place thru the mapping sites on the internet.

The first Red Baron Speaks was written one year ago. This is the twelfth issue written and I hope players are reading what is being written.

And the last thing, when I see you in Kansas City, it probably has been a few months or years since I have seen you so please tell me your name up front as at my age and illness I do not have the instant recall I used to have.

