



THE RED BARON SPEAKS

March - April 2012– Larry Creakbaum

The first publication of the Red Baron Speaks was April of 2008 when after traveling to several events around the country I heard nothing but complaints about the rating system. The subject is what inspired me to write and spread the news around the country. The rating system continued to be discussed around the water cooler and eventually I brought up that a performance based system was needed. It has been rumored that three or four persons or groups have considering or working on a method. Here in April of 2012 I have found that for at least a year, and maybe more, the Bowers rating system has now developed performance based system. I still have the policy of not mentioning names of persons or event locations unless it is a Veterans location. The system is now known as the Bowers-Elo rating system. Who he was is in the rating system write up on how it works which your rater is supposed to have.



To have your event considered all that is needed for now is a copy of the sponsor sale sheet and a readable or photo copy of the bracket board submitted to the Bowers rating system. The event must be held using the criteria established by the system. To get this criteria contact the rater for your area.

I have traveled to several events the past two months but have played very few. The add to amount was such that the ones and twos were favored and teams did not need a three. My longest trip was to Hurst, TX to the Williams-Melton open.

The last week end in April the Bourbon Legion annual spring doubles was held. I am glad to see the event return to the previous form with good attendance. The Friday night three person ABC bring had twenty teams enter with thirty three players from Indiana, twenty one from Michigan, and six from Ohio or other locations. The Saturday doubles had twenty seven teams enter with thirty players from Indiana, nineteen from Michigan and five from Ohio or other locations. I did not stay for the singles on Sunday. The event was moved up a week from the traditional first Saturday in May to not conflict with Kansas City which because of contractual problems went away from its traditional first week in April. Next year everything should return to normal. I am sure the players and Kansas City would like to thank Bourbon for the switch. Next up is the Kansas City Shootout.

Hope to see you all there.