

Southwest Shuffleboard Update

While in Reno enjoying the NASC championships, I was able to have several discussions with shuffleboard tournament directors and supporters located throughout the Southwest United States. These discussions were held with Jim Golden of Las Vegas, Al Salazar of Phoenix Az., Eddie Brayman of Modesto Ca., Dave Keithahn of Modesto Ca, and myself. I also spoke to Richard Warren of Southern Ca. in a phone conversation about our intentions. All of these gentlemen agreed to support what we are doing. We have been attempting for several years to consolidate our tournament schedules to support each other in building shuffleboard in our region. We have several tournaments scheduled that seem to happen at the same time. We have all been too stubborn to change and help each other build.

First, I would like to take a moment and let all of you know a little about me. I am Jeff Posthumus of Huntington Beach Ca. That in itself is meaningless to many people in the shuffleboard community. I began playing our game in 1992 with my now ex-wife. I was quite the ass in the game. I am not proud of what I did in my early days of playing. Looking back on my early years, I can say that by all accounts I had no business even trying to play. A very heavy drinker with a real bad attitude and not a kind word to say to anyone. I have been blessed. Richard "Bubba" Warren took a risk and helped me to learn this game. He trusted that one day I would make an impact on our sport. To him I owe many thanks. I took time to learn the game and over the last several years have been concentrating on being a good player as well as a promoter and ambassador of our sport. I believe that this is the greatest family in the world. Over the last year I have made significant changes in my personal as well as my professional life. I will do anything I can to work with and help organize any events in shuffleboard I can. You might say shuffleboard saved me. I learned to be kind and a gentleman. I learned to care about sportsmanship and my fellow competitors. Most of all, I fell in love with this game and want to see success in all tournaments. So, there you have it. I am simply a player that wants to have fun and help build our sport.



Three years ago we held a meeting in Las Vegas to come to some conclusions on how to Build and support each other in schedules. Jim Golden, Al Salazar, Eddie Brayman and myself were at this meeting to discuss how to make our events work. We were not able to come to any conclusions. Well, I am happy to report that after much discussion and a lot of give and take, we have finally made a schedule that we are all happy to support.

While it may seem to some people that we are trying to run over some other tournaments, I can assure you that is not our goal. We have had many opportunities to build tournaments and have failed. So, with this schedule, we think we have solved some problems and hope everyone in the shuffleboard community will support us. Our new schedule for supporting tournaments is as follows:

We will kick off our year in the Northern California area supporting Presidents Day in Modesto California. This tournament is run by Dan Mourgos with the help of Dave Keithahn, Rick Thomas and running the brackets is Eddie Brayman. All people who wish to travel, we highly recommend this tournament. This tournament will have a flyer posted and we are suggesting early registration to assist in preparation.

Our next tournament to be supported by this traveling group will be the Gibbs Tournament in Phoenix, Az. to be held in April. The final dates for this will be posted in January. If you were able to support this event, Al Salazar would be more than happy to give you more information. This event is traditionally a very good venue and the location is convenient for all travelers. Al is a great host and everyone who knows Al, (most of the shuffleboard community), knows he puts a lot of effort into this event. This is the only major event in Phoenix each year and we need to get all the support we can for this event.

We have always had an annual event in California on Memorial Day. This event had been held at Oscar's Sports Bar in Downey California. We have decided to support a new venue in Las Vegas on this date to assist Jim Golden in building shuffleboard in his city. This will prove to be a good event for our local area. Jim has been a great supporter of shuffleboard and deserves our support to build an event in Las Vegas. Jim will be working hard to set up this tournament and could use any assistance you may offer. We look forward to the success of this newest location.

Next we will all be heading to Exeter California for the annual Fourth of July Tournament held at the Exeter Eagles Lodge and put on by Marion Bailey, Bob Brunskill, Paul Webber and crew. We have always enjoyed this venue and will continue to do so. This event last year drew over 60 players. We are hoping to add to that number this year. The tournament format is fun for all. There is a team event that keeps everyone together to the end. So, we hope everyone can join in this fun.

To wrap up our local tournament traveling events, we will all show up at Oscar's Sport's Bar in Downey California to support a large venue on Labor Day weekend. This event put on by Richard "Bubba" Warren is a class event that will be a great way to end our traveling season. This will be our final tune up prior to returning to Reno again for the NASC championships. Oscar's Sports Bar always does a great job of running events. They are a great host and everyone enjoys playing at this site.

We are all aware that there are other tournaments going on at the same time as this schedule supports. We are supporting and promoting only these tournaments in our region with each other's success in mind. This gives us a chance to build events that we can all be proud of. We have no intentions of running over Shelton Washington and Vern Gonzales event. We are running events that have always existed and trying to build a schedule to help all people who wish to travel **in our Tri-State region** with a schedule that promotes the Southwest Shuffleboard community.

Please realize this is a schedule set up for people who wish to travel. We are all aware that other events will be held during these times, but we hope all people that can and will travel will support this schedule. We want to support each other and promote each other to build a family of players that can and will show for each other's events and get involved in this sport.

We also have a couple ideas on how to make this schedule fun for all. I will keep you updated on ideas as soon as possible.

One other note in regard to shuffleboard in the Southwest: We have two other facilities that need to be mentioned. The first is the Rosewood Pub in Downey Ca. BB Boik always has an August ABC tournament that is a fun local venue. Also, the Downey Elks Lodge that held the [Women Wandering the World Tournament](#) in September 2008, is a great facility that would be a good fit to build large future venues at. This facility can support multiple board tournaments and could be a great place to have a championship style format one day.



The Sweetheart Tournament is an annual event in Southern Ca. The event is put on by Chris Brown and played at the Downey Elks Lodge. This event has been growing for the past few years due to the hard work of Chris. Chris has moved the tournament this year a week to accommodate the Presidents Day events that we are supporting. For that Chris, thank you. We as a shuffleboard community ask that everyone continue to support Chris in this event. We hope that this event will have years of success and are very happy to have Chris in charge and conducting such a great venue. This facility is centrally located and has plenty of room for events.

Hopefully we will be able to work with these two facilities to build even more top quality events in the Southwest.

We have had many challenges and will continue to for a while. As a group we feel that this schedule will bring many of us together and build our events. We are aware that there are events scheduled that seem to conflict with this schedule. We hope all who wish to travel will use this as a guide for planning their year. Please also be sure if you are able to support Shelton Washington, Vern Gonzales promises a world-class event and has many events planned for all who can make it to his tournament.

So, I hope this clears up the intentions we have as a community of players. We will all be trying to help each other in support of events. We hope all who can make it to any of these events will have a great experience and wish to come back. If anyone has any feedback on this, please contact me via my email at jspcrp@yahoo.com. I promise to address any concerns and take any suggestions seriously.

Thank you for your support,

Jeff Posthumus
jspcrp@yahoo.com