



USBA

July, 2005

The United States Billiard Association

Newsletter

The New 3-Cushion Billiard Enterprise

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UNITED STATES BILLIARD ASSOCIATION

The New 3-cushion Billiard Enterprise

July, 2005

www.usbilliardassn.org

MEMBER OF THE UMB (UNION MONDIALE DE BILLARD)

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

When I set out to write a new Constitution for the USBA I wanted it to be a document that would transcend time, that would be recited by the members, their children and their grandchildren, and that would be the model for other such organizations:

We the billiard players of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Organization, establish the Rules of the game, insure Member Harmony, provide for the common Etiquette of play, promote the general Welfare of the sport, and secure the Blessings of the Union Mondiale de Billards to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States Billiard Association of America.

Having been enamored with the "brilliance" of this preface I showed it to my wife who immediately told me I am not Thomas Jefferson and offered her many criticisms. So, I rewrote it and sent it out to the members, --who have also offered their many criticisms. However, most of the criticism that has been received has been an endorsement of that which was provided to them by David Levine:

The purpose of Constitutions is to establish PRINCIPLES and PROCEDURES (what's the mission? what's the structure? how are elections held? What kind of representation is there? etc.) Most of the Articles in the proposal ARE along these lines. BUT - a number of the sections are unlike anything you will see in a "normal" Constitution. Just to give a few examples:

(1) What's the point of putting the DOLLAR amount of dues in the Constitution? It's fine (I guess) to name the categories of membership, "regular" "life" etc. but why bother to put a price on this? Does this mean you will need to amend the Constitution if you raise the annual dues from \$36 to \$40? (I'd be curious to see if you can find an organization ANYWHERE that includes their annual dues in their Constitution.)

(2) Most of the elements of Article VII are absurdly detailed - and an invitation to abuse (on the part of people who ignore them) or regret (on the part of the framers when THEY decide to ignore them!). Section 7.04a in particular is bizarre. It names - twelve (12!) requirements that the room hosting the US Nationals must meet. What happens if no one agrees to meet all 12 - but is willing/able to meet 11 of them and do a bunch of other good things that are not listed in the Constitution? No Nationals that year? An emergency meeting to amend the Constitution? (Or as I suspect, will you simply ignore the Constitution?)

(3) Final example: whoever heard of putting the NAMES of the Officers and the Board of Directors IN the Constitution. It's Ok to say something like "the names and addresses of all officers and Board members shall be made available to the membership on requests..." OR "...shall be published at least quarterly in the USBA Newsletter" OR any other stipulation that can be met without requiring routine and frequent amendment to the Constitution. But is the Constitution going to have to be amended and re-published not only at every election (when new officers and Board Members are elected), but every time there is an interim replacement.

My response to Mr. Levine was as follows:

With regard to changes to the proposed Constitution the items of concern (except for one) I really don't believe will cause any major problems. However, first let us define certain terms so we are all on the same page. Though the term "Constitution" is sometimes used to refer to the governing document of an organization or association (and can be accepted as such), in reality the legal definition of the term really refers to Federal and State governing bodies:



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The fundamental and organic law of a nation or state, establishing the conception, character, and organization of its government, as well as prescribing the extent of its sovereign power and the manner of its exercise.*

The term "Articles of Incorporation" refers to:

the document that legally creates a corporation when filed with appropriate governmental agency. The articles typically establish the corporation's purpose and duration, the rights and liabilities of shareholders and directors and the classes of stock and other securities.*

And the term "By-Laws (or Bylaws) refers to:

The rules or administrative provisions adopted by an association or corporation for its internal governance; corporate bylaws are usually enacted apart from the articles of incorporation.*

*Black's Law Dictionary

When I tried to "negotiate" with the IRS about a 501(c)(3) status for the USBA [charity and amateur athletic organization] the agent recommended that the amount of dues be stated in the by-laws. 501(c)(3) would be the most favorable as it would allow donations to the organization to be tax deductible, provide relief from sales tax, postage reductions, etc. Unfortunately, the Service, for other reasons, did not feel we would qualify under this category and we should apply under 501(c)(6) [trade organizations]. Both, of course are in a "not-for-profit" category which would eliminate income tax except for "unrelated business income". Also, despite David's belief that: "(I'd be curious to see if you can find an organization ANYWHERE that includes their annual dues in their Constitution.)" I went to the internet (yesterday) under "non profit organizations Articles and By-Laws" and found numerous by-laws that contain the dollar amount of the dues. With regard to the names and directors being included this is a requirement of the State Statutes that I researched. As an example:

The location of the Registered Office of this corporation shall be:

The mailing address for said corporation shall be:

The names and addresses of each incorporator of this corporation are:

The first Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) members. The name and address of each such Director is:

Let me close with the following two quotes:

I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody. (Bill Cosby)

If I were to try to read, much less answer, all the attacks made on me, this shop might as well be closed for any other business. I do the very best I know how - the very best I can; and I mean to keep doing so until the end. (Abraham Lincoln)

Jerry Karsh



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VOTE ON THE "NEW" CONSTITUTION

The Board of Directors is recommending the adoption of the new USBA Constitution as printed in the previous USBA Newsletter. A vote was asked for in that Newsletter only if you were against its adoption (the others were assumed to have voted "yes"). Based on some criticism that was received with regard to the method of voting the Board has invalidated the last vote (approximately 10 "no" votes) and are now, again, putting it to a vote. Attached is a ballot (or as an alternative you can E-mail your preference) that is calling for either a "yes" vote or a "no" vote ("yes" means you are in favor of its adoption and "no" means you are against its adoption. Because only paid up members are allowed to vote it is necessary that you put your name on the ballot. (I assure you that neither any Board member nor myself will take any personal offense to a "no" vote). **IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT ALL ELIGIBLE MEMBERS VOTE.** Please, this is your organization, --be involved in its future. **Ballots must be received by July 31, 2005 .**

Brian Morgan
Secretary/Treasurer (USBA)
801 Diane Court
Springfield, Illinois 62702-3503

E-MAIL: webmaster@usbilliardassn.org

Dear Brian

I VOTE YES FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE NEW CONSTITUTION

I VOTE NO FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE NEW CONSTITUTION

No matter which way you have voted what "items of substance" would you like to see changed in the "new" Constitution?

NAME _____

YOU MUST BE A PAID UP MEMBER, YOUR NAME MUST BE SHOWN, AND THE BALLOT MUST BE RECEIVED BY JULY 31, 2005 IN ORDER FOR IT TO BE COUNTED



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Questions and Answers by Darrell Paul Martineau

Wax or no Wax that is the question.

I recently received this question from Billiard Buddy, J. S..

"What is your opinion on waxing the balls? I like the clean look and extra speed, plus the ball slides. On the other side, we have a guy that says "no wax". Water and cleaner only. Says the wax wears off along the rail points. I say it's just cloth stress."

Answer:

All products that are applied to a billiard ball will wear down if not off during the course of a 40 point match for an average player. The cue tip is very abrasive and after 75 hits on the cue ball along with the friction of the cloth there is a noticeable difference in the angle the cue ball takes off the rails.

Here are a couple of related experiences I have personally had playing in tournaments.

About 15 years ago I played in a tournament in Southern California. The balls were being placed in a ball-cleaning machine. Silicone was squirted into the machine and when the balls came out they were very slippery. The tables had new cloth and this combination made the balls impossible to control. When I tested the table by shooting from the corner to the third diamond, this should make the cue ball return to the opposite corner from where I shot, the cue ball went to near middle end rail and then to the other corner after five rails. All of the players started trying to remove the silicon by all means, including rubbing them on the floor.

In 1993 I played in the annual world invitational at Sang Lee's old place in N.Y.. They were cleaning the balls with a product that stated on the front of the bottle No Wax / No Silicone.

Again the table had new cloth and the balls were hard to control. Henk Habraken, who is one of the best bankers in the world, told me he was missing his banks by a diamond. The problem turned out to be the cleaner had, glycerin [glycerol] in it. This is very slippery stuff.

Later, during one of the players get togethers, both Dick Jaspers, T. Blomdahl and Marco Zanetti, who had not yet played, told me that they never use anything but water to clean the balls on the European tour. The product was not used in the finals.

Now for the rest of the story. Many of the tables in the U.S. will not allow play like the European tables. This makes it hard to get ready for the tournaments that use European equipment.

Here are my suggestions and I have done all of these things before I changed my rubber to "Kleber" and now use Simonis 300 Rapide.

First treat the table not the balls. Either apply Silicone or Old English spray wax to the cloth. It lasts much longer and after a few applications you will not need to repeat the process.

Make sure the spray can has a very fine mist. Stand about one foot from the table and hold the can up at a 45-degree angle to the table. Start the first spray away from the table to make sure it will not drip. When the spray comes out in the fine mist walk quickly around the table creating a fog over the entire table. Let the fog settle on the table and then with a clean towel, that will not leave lint, wipe the table off in a back and forth motion. Do not forget to do the rails.

Do this once a week for three weeks and your table will play great for months.

Please keep the questions coming. Write to Darrell Paul Martineau dpmuniverse@comcast.net



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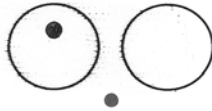
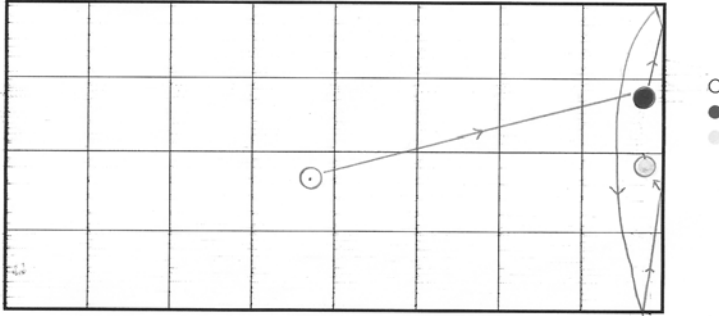
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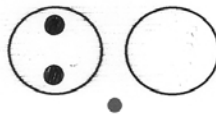
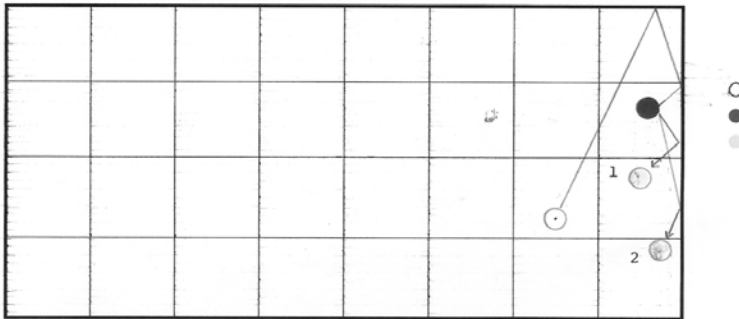
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Shots from T. Blomdahl courtesy of George Theobald



Another from Torbjorn Blomdahl: Lots of follow-through. No english!



Once again it's Torbjorn:

High speed, hit red 1/4-3/4.

1. High with no english.

2. Low with no english.



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From The Secretary's Desk

This is being written on May 18, 2005. It takes about six weeks to get our physical newsletter published and distributed to the membership. If you have anything to add to the newsletter or the website, please e-mail the information to webmaster@usbilliardassn.org and, if appropriate, I'll get it posted. If you have shots or other information of general to the membership, please forward it to me. Tournaments should be forwarded at least three months before the date to get it in the newsletter. They can be posted anytime on the website.

As a reminder, the elections are coming sooner than we think. Please review the criteria for elected office in constitution published in the last newsletter or you can review it online. There are a lot of you that have the time, energy and ideas to help the USBA. Committee members are always needed to spread-out the needed tasks.

It came to my attention this last month that some of you may want to update your information that we keep in our database. On the application form, there is a box to check if you do not want your personal information distributed to others. I have had several occasions that members were looking for long lost friends, they were in fact in our database, but I could not give out the information because the person did not want their information revealed. If you need to change this, please go to our website at <http://www.usbilliardassn.org/html/join.html> and check the "update my information only" box and fill in the blanks. You can always mail the information to be updated also.

We currently have 459 current members. Our ranks swelled recently due to President Karsh's efforts in sending personal letters to past due members. Some have not been members since 1998. Great job Jerry!

Pedro Piedrabuena and Michael Kang are representing the United States and our sport in the World Tournament.

The USBA currently has just over \$8,000 in our account.

Respectively submitted,

Brian Morgan
USBA Secretary/Treasurer



United States Billiard Association
650 Cherry ST
Denver, CO 80246-5016

President: Mr. Jerome Karsh 650 Cherry ST Denver, CO 80246-5016 (303) 433-6000 jkarsh@karshcpa.com	Secretary/Treasurer: Brian Morgan CaromBilliards.Com 801 Diane Court Springfield, Illinois 62702-3503 1.877.CAROM22 (227.6622) webmaster@usbilliardassn.org	Consultants: Mr. Robert Bryne Mr. Bob Jewett Mr. Charles Brown
Eastern Region Directors: Mr. Sid Banner, (561) 368-1771 x212 sid@mortgagestogo.com Mr. Robert Arana, (305) 968-6437 Billiard3c@aol.com Mr. Joseph DeAmato, (781) 662-8293 Joseph_DeAmato@vmed.org	Central Region Directors: Mr. Mazin Shooni, Mr. George Theobald, (630) 231-9444 gtheobald4@comcast.net Mr. Jack Knoerr, (618) 943-2866 jvk4@charter.net	Western Region Directors: Mr. George Aronek, AGQcase@aol.com Mr. Ken Higgins, (425) 709-8718 higgik@northamerica.Stortek.com Mr. Darrell Paul Martineau, (916) 684-4535, dpmuniverse@comcast.net
USCBS Board Members: General: Mr. Bob Jewett and Mr. Charles Brown; Player: Mr. Pedro Piedrabuena		

USBA Membership New Member Renewal

\$25 until new constitution passes – then \$36 per year

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Local Room Name: _____

Local Room Address: _____

May we release personal data to other members? Yes No

Send completed form and a check for \$25.00 to:

Brian Morgan, USBA Secretary
801 Diane Court
Springfield, Illinois 62702-3503