

Shuffleboard's biggest tournament, the North American Shuffleboard Championships™, is just six weeks away. Pre-Registration has been surprisingly strong. Given the soft economy and decline in attendance at some of the other tournaments, I thought we might have a down year, but we are well on our way to another year of more than 200 players. Much of the excitement about the 19th annual NASC™ can be attributed to all of the boards being refinished. The last batch is being done this week and will soon be headed for Reno. When the process is complete, all the boards will have been planed, sanded and refinished, with the sides, ends and bottoms resealed. With 26 newly refinished boards (24 for the tournament plus 2 spares), we are excited about once again being able to provide world class playing conditions for our participants.

We want to insure that pre-registration stays on a strong pace. Recognizing that these are financially challenging times for a lot of people, we and the Sands have put together an awesome online registration special. Here are the details:

- Rebate of your Registration Fee (a \$30.00 value)
- Rebate of your Board Fee (a \$10.00 value)
- Rebate of your Pro/Am Entry (a \$50.00 value)
- A \$10.00 food comp from the Sands
- A \$10.00 free play coupon from the Sands

The total value of this offer is \$110, and it is available to the next 50 players who sign up online by September 15, 2008. In order to qualify, you must play in the Pro/Am and at least two other events. Upon completion of the third event, you will receive your rebates and coupons. This offer is for online registration, paid by credit card or PayPal only.

With the recent drop in fuel prices, airfares have also come down a little, making this a great time to book your flight and register for the tournament. The best website to check airfares on is currently [www.orbitz.com](http://www.orbitz.com), which has a pricing guarantee that is very attractive. After you book your ticket on Orbitz, they will automatically monitor pricing on a daily basis until you travel. If fares for the same itinerary drop after you book your flight, they will send you a refund for the difference. For room and airfare packages, the best deals are usually at the American Airlines web site, [www.aavacations.com](http://www.aavacations.com). If you need help with your travel plans, please give us a call at 800-380-3033.

We are taking several additional measures to insure top notch playing conditions. First, the tables will be set up so that all shots curve a little to the middle, and I will make the determination on how much. Second, so that there is uniformity in that regard, we have gauges that allow us to measure exactly how much pressure is on the climatic adjusters. Therefore, the people adjusting the boards will set them up according to the standard I establish, and not according to their own personal preferences. Third, we are having a contest among the four people who will be responsible for adjusting the tables. Each of them will be assigned a group of 6 boards (1-6, 7-12, 13-18 or 19-24). Participants will be asked to rate each group on a scale of 1 to 10. The results will be tallied at the end of the tournament, with the winner receiving a \$500 bonus.

Sol Lipkin update: Sol's children moved him to an assisted living facility earlier this year. Initially he was very unhappy about that development. However, as he has gotten used to his new surroundings, it has been a good situation for him. He has lots of company and eats better than he did prior to the move. At the 2007 NASC™, twelve pictures of the shuffleboard table in the USS Theodore Roosevelt nuclear submarine, signed by Sol, were among the prizes in the raffle. Unfortunately, those pictures never got signed by Sol and sent to the winners. I spoke to Sol's son Bruce about this and they do not know what happened to the pictures. I am having twelve new prints made and Bruce is going to bring them to his father and get them signed so they can be forwarded to the winners. Bruce also said that if anyone wants to send a note to his dad, he would deliver it. If any of you would like to do this, send your greeting to me in an email and I will forward it to Bruce for delivery to Sol.

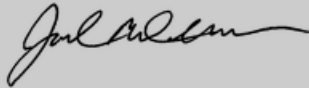
Just a reminder, if you are planning on attending the tournament, but have not yet signed up, the early registration deadline is October 4. If you would like to use a credit card or PayPal for your registration and entry fees, you can register online by clicking [www.2008nasc.com](http://www.2008nasc.com), or over the phone by calling 800-380-3033.

One of the tournament highlights in recent years has been the Friday night anniversary parties, which include a complimentary extensive buffet and a two hour open bar. As we celebrate the 19th year of the NASC™ this year, we promise you a party that you will not soon forget. The festivities this year will include the presentation of the [Sol Lipkin Award](#) to Woodie Cockrum of Missouri, and the TSA Hall of Fame induction for Fred Thumann.

Following the awards presentation is the raffle drawing. Some of the top prizes in the raffle include sets of Pro Series Weights®, weight cases, tournament shirts and jackets and a Jacuzzi Suite for 10 nights for the 20th annual NASC™ in 2009. We are looking for donations of other prizes for the raffle and would appreciate donations of shirts from other tournaments and/or shuffleboard establishments. After the raffle will be the \$10,000 cash give away, in which 50 randomly drawn players will win \$200, courtesy of the Sands. To give everyone a chance to enjoy themselves and visit with shuffleboard friends, old and new, no tournaments games will be played on Friday night.

To print Tournament forms and information, please use the following links: [Registration Form](#), [Schedule of Events](#), and [General Information](#). If you have never been to the NASC™, there has never been a better time to find out why, over the past ten years, more players have attended the NASC™ than any other tournament.

If you need help making air or hotel reservations, or have any questions about the tournament, please call The Shuffleboard Federation at 800-380-3033.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John McDermott", with a stylized flourish at the end.

John McDermott, Tournament Director