

1st Texas State Championship

Brian reported the following details to us for posting results of the 1st Annual Texas State Championship that was held at Danny's Sports Bar in Houston, Texas March 18th - 21st, 1999. The tournament was played on seven boards (4 home boards; 3 add'l). Thursday evening kicked off an OPEN DRAW warm-up event. The draw drew 50 players from all across Texas. The entry in the draw was \$20 (no Sponsor sale). At the end of the night the single elimination undefeated champions were:

The finals of both events finished up around 5 pm on Sunday, giving the out-of-towners plenty of time to travel back home. There were also some challenge games and draws going on Sunday afternoon and through the evening. The 21 point losers bracket games seemed to be a success as Brian Walker did not receive one complaint about it. Most of the PRO's Brian talked to about the format seemed to like it with the exception of David Williams (he reminded Brian that he didn't have to play a 21 point game to evaluate the format (grin!)).

Brian extends his deepest and sincere thanks to all participants and especially the following who helped make the tournament possible:

- First and foremost: All the players who attended... we certainly could not have a tournament without the dedicated players! (Tournament Directors should always make a special acknowledgment to the players, such as Brian Walker has done!)
- Player's Sponsors (without the players pool generated by the sponsors and players, the incentives and winnings would not be the same)
- Brian extends a special thanks to Harvey Kidd for letting Brian see the light on the importance of Sponsorship and his great job (as usual) with running these Sponsor sales!
- Johnny Wayne Crawford (Dallas, now Houston???) for doing the boards
- Bill Rice (Houston) and Tina Wade (Austin) for the excellent bracketeering
- Denise Klein (Houston) with her excellent talents on the laptop
- Kim Andrews (Houston) with her superb assistance in the money handling
- Ken "Doc" Strong (Houston) for getting the great deal on the tourney wax
- Replay for supplying the 3 additional boards
- David Andrews (Houston) for his help getting the player's pictures and for helping Jack Scott (Houston) in the mornings with board waxing
- A Special Thanks to all our Shuffler Family who donated to Dub Rogers Memorial Fund (Randy Rogers' (Austin Shuffler) father passed away on Saturday while Randy Rogers was at the tournament) -- Randy Rogers and his mom Floydilla sent the acknowledgement note printed below. Our deepest sympathies go out to Randy and his entire family!
- Lynda French (Austin) for her assistance in getting the tourney flyers designed and sent to Brian for distribution and for heading up the collection of the Dub Rogers Memorial Fund (\$190 was collected and donated to Dub's Baytown, Tx Methodist Church which will go to Dub's favorite charities!).
- BOWERS CORNER internet website (<http://www.shuffleboardcorner.com>): Thanks to Ron & Debbie Bowers and Lynda French for designing and posting a 'free' tournament "ad" and a special printable flyer on the shuffleboard website!
- Special Thanks to all the "RATERS" and Ron and Debbie Bowers for all their dedication and hard work on the "BOWERS RATING SYSTEM", as without ratings it would be a

nightmare for Tournament Directors to organize events and player qualification/placements in the events!

- Thanks to Tom French for all his time making the beautiful weight case presented to Don Valk for his Texas Hall of Fame Induction ceremony in behalf of all the Austin Shuffler fans!
- Danny Norris, our gracious Host who provided the establishment, and his wonderful Danny's Sports Bar staff who provided all of us a very professional service with smiles on those very busy days! Without a good place to play and a willing host that supports shuffleboard, we would not have a place to play these wonderful tournaments!
- "THANKS TO ALL!" are extended from BRIAN WALKER, TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR!!!

Brian started this State Championship with the intention of it traveling across the state of Texas from year to year. Tentatively, for the Year 2000 and the "2nd Texas State Championship" tournament, is planned to be held Austin. If any of you readers/viewers have or can recommend a Texas establishment that would be interested and/or can accommodate a minimum of 7 shuffleboard tables and 100 or more players for future year championship tournaments, please let us know! See you all next year ---- "WE CAN'T WAIT!"