



# The Board Talk

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## "Dinosaurs Vs. The Eggs" Shootout Bridges the Generation Gap in Philadelphia

Story by Louise Freer, Photos by Brenda Wallace

"J & C's Tavern" is not a household word to most people in the Philadelphia area. But to shufflers in Delaware County and West Philly, it is where shuffleboard began. And it is still going strong. At one time, according to Anthony "Conch," there were approximately 40 strong shooters who made up their two league teams.

Currently, there are three generations of shuffleboard shooters who are from J & C's Tavern. There are the ones who have been shooting 15 years and longer, as well as those who have been playing slightly less than 15 years. These shooters have become known as the "dinosaurs." The third generation of shooters are the players who have several years of experience or less. They are known as "the eggs."

Well, the eggs, as eggs are wont to do, challenged the older and wiser (!) dinosaurs to a match to see who would rule the turf. "Dinosaurs will become extinct," predicted the eggs. In turn, the dinosaurs promised to crush the eggs.

So, on Saturday, December 17, 1994, J & C's Tavern was again the site of history in the making with the "Dinosaurs vs. The Eggs" match taking place that evening.



The Dinosaurs were under the leadership of Jim Yank Sr., (left) shown here collecting his first-place jacket at Harvey's Place in December with partner Jerry Herrmann.



And The Eggs were led by Jim Yank Jr. Would experience or the confidence of youth prevail?

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**"BEST OF PHILLY" SERIES**

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ment is contributing a total of \$150 toward prize money (\$100 for the bring partner event they host and \$50 toward the singles event. Each host establishment will be required to be listed in the "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A."

The "Best of Philly" series: (1) is limited to Pennsylvania shuffleboard shooters only; (2) the deadline sign-up and payment for each event is one week prior to the tournament; (3) players finishing in the top half of an event may not partner with the same partner again for the duration of the tournament series; and (5) the top five players from Delaware County, Southwest Philadelphia, and Northeast Philadelphia may not partner with other top five players from their area more than twice.

The tentative tournament schedule (dates are tentative and will be rescheduled to avoid conflict with tournaments held on the East Coast and/or league events such as the all-stars, banquet, etc.) is:

- Bring Partner Event #1, Feb. 18
- Bring Partner Event #2, April 1
- Bring Partner Event #3, June 10
- Bring Partner Event #4, August 5
- Bring Partner Event #5, Oct. 21
- Singles Event, Dec. 9

Watch the Calendar of Events for locations.

"We hope this will be a great way for Philadelphia players to join in, have a great time, and test their skill, too," Louise said. "Trophies will be awarded in addition to the cash prizes. There will also be door prizes and 50-50's sold at each event."

For information, call tournament directors Louise Freer at 215-661-0108; Regina Smith, 610-583-0841; or Jim Wolf, 610-644-1191.

**DINOSAURS VS. THE EGGS**

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Being older and wiser (!), most of the dinosaurs showed up very early to be well-practiced for the match. Most of the eggs, however, had just an abundance of confidence on their side.

The general mood in the place was a mix of somber contemplation and MardiGras party-time emotions. The drinks were flowing freely and a steady stream of delicious platters of food contributed to the festive atmosphere. There was even a large presentation board posted in the bar with a poem about the match. The words were set to the "Twas the Night Before Christmas" classic.

The match was an exciting one, but in the end, it was the dinosaurs who ruled, winning the match 5-2. There were a lot of close games and both teams shot very well.

Playing for dinosaur leader Jim Yank Sr. were: Jimmy Casher, Nicky Coupe, Anthony Conch, Jimmy Dadona, John Hummel, Mike Kennedy, Mary Anne Kennedy, Keith Lazos, Dennis McGarvey, Ron Ness, and Rita Yank.

Playing on Jim Yank Jr.'s eggs were Johnny Casher, Kevin Cody, Izzy, Linda, Mike Ciarrocchi, Dave Milano, Eddie Milano, Joe Orphanelli and Mike Vanafra.

Both teams deserve recognition -- the dinosaurs for their win, and the eggs for their guts.

"We'll get 'em next time!" vowed the eggs.



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