

Bowers Rating System Improves Quality of Events at Harvey's

By Dick Gorman

The word is getting out that Harvey's Place, Street, Maryland, has changed its tournament formats. It is true we have lost some of the old familiar faces and winners, but it is equally true we are happier with the results. First, the attitude is changing and host Harvey Comer says: "so far I like it."

The second tournament was held Nov. 20-21 using the handicap system and two-day format, but the big surprise was the 50 percent increase in the number of participants. That says something must be right and the atmosphere is much friendlier.

Friday night was the handicapped draw partner, not an A-B event. It was different but challenging. After giving and taking points in each match, the eventual finalists in the money payoffs were Butch Kelly, Springfield, Pennsylvania, and Dick Smedberg, Long Island, New York, in first place. Taking second place were Faye Todd, Newark, Delaware, and Jim Wallace, Port Deposit, Maryland. Final money spot third place went to George Chamberlin, Perryville, Md., and Don Perry, Courtland, N.Y. One winner from Delaware, two from Maryland, two from New York, and one from Pennsylvania -- no favorite state here.

Saturday's bring partner (Bowers handicapped) event brought some real surprises and probably some changes in ratings next year. Shooting extremely well were first-time big tournament winners Faye Todd (about five years of dedicated practice did that) and Keith Leonard, Charlestown, Md. (that practice and play at the North American Championships in Reno must have paid off). Second place went to Friday night's winners, Butch Kelly and Dick Smedberg. The big surprise was the first time in our memory third place win by a mother-daughter team of Mom Bobbie Breneman and daughter Debbie Queensberry, both from Wilmington, Del. Talk about being excited! It was the first time for either to be in the money.

If that wasn't enough, 18 people stayed over for a Saturday night regular draw partner which was enjoyed by all except the writer who went to bed and failed to get the winners' names.

As usual, hostess Darlene Belcher showed her stuff in playing as well as in the kitchen with her cooking, and everyone was happy and full after the hot meal buffet provided. Harvey was happy with the event and particularly pleased with the result of the Bowers Handicap System. He thinks Ron and Debbie Bowers are doing a great job and congratulates and thanks them.

The next scheduled tournament is on Jan. 15-16, Friday night and Saturday. Makes it easier to get home on Sunday after a long weekend. Call Harvey at 410-836-8881 if you would like to come. We will enjoy having you!

A-B Draw Partner at Harvey's Place

On Saturday, Dec. 6, 16 adventurous people showed up for a handicapped A-B draw event, the first ever, and they wanted to see how it worked. Most seemed very pleased by the end of the day. The field was a little short for a first-time event, but two places were paid to two happy teams -- just in time for Christmas spending.

The first-place team was Arnold Ledford, Street, Md., and Faye Todd, Newark, Del. (The handicap system does change things.) Second place went to Jim Dennis, Perryville, Md., first time participant at Harvey's Place, and Dave Shewbridge, Pasadena, Md.

Most of the players stayed for the regular Saturday night draw partner event which provided a new group of money winners. First place went to Lindsay Hall, Baltimore, Md., and Gene Long, Lancaster, Pa., Second place went to Herb Forster, Philadelphia, and his partner, Brenda Wallace, Port Deposit, Md.

Future tournaments at Harvey's Place will include a Friday night handicapped draw partner event on Jan. 15, followed by a handicapped bring partner on Jan. 16. On Feb. 6, there will be an open singles event and a singles for "B" players rated 2 or more. The next A-B draw partner handicapped event will be on March 14. The regular Mason-Dixon Classic will be in February, followed by the Open Maryland State Championships in April.

Harvey's Place offers a variety of events which are proving popular among the participants. Call Harvey at 410-836-8881 for more information.

Harvey's Place is a member of The Board Talk's national shuffleboard network.

Darrol Qualifies (and wins) Shamrock's 55 & Over Event

The Shamrock Tavern in Longview, Washington, held its annual 55 & Over Tournament on Nov. 14-15. This was the first year that Darrol Nelson was old enough to play in this event and with his partner, Jim Reed, took first place. Frank Mako and Bud Tresler were second, with Tom Henry and Sparky in third place. There were 16 teams with over \$2,000 in the pot.

"The turnout was not as good as it has been in the past, but the weather wasn't very good to us, plus it was shortly after the Reno tournament," reports Ralph Duarte. "Once again, Bernice had a nice feed for all who were there."

The next tournament at the Shamrock will be a draw partner event on May 8-9.

The Shamrock is a member of The Board Talk's national network.