

16th Missouri 8 Ball Doubles Shootout
Side Pockets Sports Bar & Grill
Saturday December 8, 2012
St. Charles, Mo.

It was Howard Lentz type weather Saturday December 8, 2012 – “55 and sunny”. Teams gathered at Side Pockets for the start of the 16th Missouri 8 Ball doubles tournament. First prize of \$1100 was on the line and 78 teams were in the running.

This Fall doubles tournament increased by 22 teams and an extra \$1000 was added over the Spring event of 56 teams and \$2800. Of the 78 teams 12 were of the mixed variety, male/female. Three were husband/wife combos and three were about to be, or so I’ve been told, (at least at that point in time).

When the tournament reached the final four it looked like another double mixed matchup for the title. Lisa and Jim Crosby were put over to the left side by Jackie Rehkla and Jason Helmholtz when they first met making the Jackie/Jason team the lone survivors on the winner’s side. The team of Keith Birch and Andy Tebeau eliminated Lisa and Jim making them third place winners.

Having to beat Jackie and Jason twice for the title, Keith and Andy began by taking the first set, 2-1. That was seen by some as the turning point for the downfall of J & J. But not so fast 8-ball breath. There was still one more match to play. And a good match it was. A lot of back and forth as both teams played a few safeties trying to gain the upper hand.

All throughout the day, whether it was by luck or design, it was amazing how many games were won with Jackie making the ‘8’ ball. I would not think that was their plan to actually play it that way even though Jason’s sledgehammer break is ideal for opening the next game. I am sure it just worked out that way.

Note: If this is beginning to be a habit it certainly is a good one. For the third time this event has produced a male/female combo taking the trophy. And this is the second consecutive one. Last session it was Donna Glascock and Denis Dunbar, now Rehkla and Helmholtz co-star by adding their names to the winning Combo list. And four of the final five teams were of the male/female type.

Results of the 16th doubles event. Payout- \$3800 for 78 teams.

Champions	Jackie Rehkla & Jason Helmholtz	Trophies & \$1100
Runner-up	Keith Birch & Andy Tebeau	Trophies & \$750
3rd.	Lisa & Jim Crosby	\$500
4th.	Jim Musiol & Ken Pratt	\$350
5/6.	Walter Crane Jr. & Nick Lowery	\$225
5/6.	Don Scott & Allan Ranay	\$225
7/8.	Joe Brugmann & Mark Wieland	\$150
7/8.	Ed Carion & Matt White	\$150
9/12.	Joe Branstetter & Zac Cargal	\$100
9/12.	Charlie Bellers & Allen Barnhart	\$100
9/12.	Chuck Hooper & Ron Haney	\$100
9/12.	Bill Levine & Mike Sperla	\$100

I.Q. Jones says: “Not since her days at KSHE-95 has Jackie Rehkla had this much limelight bestowed on her. Back then she was professionally known as NASCAR Jackie. But now, this Saturday, December 8, 2012, NASCAR Jackie finds herself piloting the Rehkla/Helmholtz power machine to the finish line in true NASCAR fashion. Even though it was a tight race at no time did she appear that she would run into a retaining wall or allow the opposition the chance to overtake them! Coming around the last corner and down the home stretch the partisan crowd rooted on the Rehkla/Helmholtz duo as they held firm racing toward the finish line. It was ‘just give her the keys, a great shotgun rider, fire up the engine and stide aside, Clyde’. This race is over.”

Jay Carlton says: “What this was cuz, was the very first time in all her years as a member of Missouri 8 Ball that Jackie Rehklaue has punched the elusive cash button. The spinning wheel stopped at just the right time and place. The prize patrol was in the wings with a check that said 1100 smackers and was waiting to pen someone’s name on it.

After Jackie dropped the final ‘8’ in the corner pocket she threw her arms into the air and let out a squeal. She was more excited than a kid who just broke a dental appointment.

And what a great first time! Only 17 more days ’til Christmas. Can buy a lot of gifts with her share of \$1100; hint, hint. So Merry Christmas, good luck and keep on strokin’. Congrats, guys!

Mike the Spike observed: The team of Jackie Rehklaue and Jason Helmholtz was not the favorites at the starting line. Had bookies known their unshakable determination, they would not have taken such a beating at the payout window.

When the flag was dropped these guys pulled away from the field as if an ICBM had locked on them. Like having steady hands on the wheel of their vehicles, Jackie and Jason gained momentum as they passed each opponent steering each ball from their group into one pocket after another until another victory was chalked up.

After their third win Jackie looked at the board and discovered they were in the money. But why stop now? Each victory put them higher on the board and higher was the return.

They say good things happen to good people. We say congratulations to this partnership of Jackie Rehklaue and Jason Helmholtz for an outstanding performance.

Congratulations to those that took home part of the prize awards and to all that participated.

See you next time,

Jay

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