

48th Missouri 8-Ball Tournament Results

The 48th Missouri 8-Ball All Star tournament and Teacher's played host to 241 ready to go members February 16th and 17th 2002. Some were chomping at the bit and some tried to maintain their cool but it was all too obvious they couldn't wait to get it on. It also was a much better turnout than last time when only 170 shooters showed up.

Once again a "CC" player waltzed off with the first place prize of \$1047. Wayne Mistler, a "CC" from Illinois [no surprise here] had no real hurdles to overcome on the 48th trek to success. Chances are he probably would have taken it out had he been placed in the "B" section along with second place finisher Brian Mayes. Perhaps not but he would have been more appropriately positioned.

While Mr. Mayes was battling it out with the tougher competition like Charles Somerville (no slouch), Bob Pendergrass (no pushover), Rolla Hoffman (no gimme) who are all ranked "B" to "BB" range shooters, and then out maneuvering 3-time all-star champion Jeff Ayers, the last "A" in the bunch, (no way was this suppose to happen but did) Mr. Mistler's competition paled by comparison.

In spite of the talent Brian eliminated all the smart money from the bi-state area was still riding on Wayne Mistler. (Put your wild guess as to why here.) Hopefully this skill level wrong will be corrected by the 49th Missouri 8-Ball All Star shootout.

Regi Hart

If you were at the party to watch the windup that Sunday evening you no doubt remember the affable and very extroverted Regi Hart. He earned 4th spot cash of \$475 and there are those who still can't believe it. Someone from the crowd was overheard to say "get out the eyedropper. I must have double vision. That wasn't Regi Hart. That was a mirage, a shadow person, the ghost of Willie Mosconi or at least New York Fats. Regi never hit'em that good, not in two lifetimes."

But every railbird on the sidelines who witnessed his last match knows it was indeed the personable Regi Hart. And here's the kicker, he could have gone higher. Regi had just made one of the greatest kick shots on the '8' ball of the new millennium. It was measured for distance; the course plotted for accuracy, the path checked and double-checked. Then he set himself. One final peek over the table at the angle, three strokes of the stick and bang. It was a solid one-bump kick into the side pocket. Everyone applauded. Even the opposition gave Regi his due. It was by far the best shot of the tournament.

This put him up 1-0. Jump ahead to the '8' in game two. Regi sights it in. He must have forgotten about Kentucky windage. Always the showman Regi rocked and fired. He slammed the '8' so hard it would have made Kansas City by midnight even if it took the rural route. The path the ball took to the pocket still shows a burn line in the cloth. The U.S. Air Force should have a missile that blasts off so fast.

The '8' jawed, then rattled banging each side of the corner pocket at least twelve times each before springing out onto the table. It was Dog city with a capital D. From there it was a simple road map for his opponent. It was Brian [Willie] Mayes and he was going to clear the bases. Brian steadily picked off his group one by one to even the score. Then as it so often happens when a player is given a new life Brian broke the third rack and ran out the game, set and match. So close big guy, so close.

Afterwards when I asked Regi why he blasted the '8', (it was only three feet from the pocket) Regi replied "that's just the way I am. I like to shoot'em hard." Regi's philosophy is simple, play hard and shoot hard. Regi Hart doesn't feel bad about it and we shouldn't either. Because one week later for the team tournament Regi's team, Super Stock, won all the marbles. His cut of the \$6,000 first place team prize plus his \$475 singles winnings was a very profitable two weekends indeed.

Of the 16 players that did cash Jim Crosby was the only repeat money winner from the 47th. The other 15 were mostly first or second timers. The only 'A' to survive was Jeff Ayers and there were no 'BB's at all. The rest of the field showed four 'B's, seven 'CC's, three 'C's and one 'DD'.

The All Star prize money from the last tournament was \$3,000 with first place being \$750. Twelve players were paid. The payout rose from \$3,000 to \$5,047 while 16 players took away some bucks. It's easy to do when 241 players participate.

The following is a list of the 16 who cashed and their winnings. Beside their totals is the winning list from the previous tournament and the payout for comparison.

48th All Stars Singles				Payout	47th Payout	
1.	Wayne	Mistler	CC	\$1047 & Trophy	1.	\$750
2.	Brian	Mayes	B	800 & Trophy	2.	575
3.	Tyler	Jones	CC	625 & Trophy	3.	425
4.	Regi	Hart	CC	475	4.	300
5/6.	Jim	Crosby	B	325	5/6.	200
5/6.	David	Tatum	C	325	5/6.	200
7/8.	John	O'Farrell	CC	225	7/8.	125
7/8.	Scott	Buchanon	C	225	7/8.	125
9/12.	Jeff	Ayers	A	150	9/12.	75
9/12.	Cary	Huddleston	B	150	9/12.	75
9/12.	Pete	Antoine	CC	150	9/12.	75
9/12.	Gary	Haden	DD	150	9/12.	75
13/16.	Steve	Monko	B	100		
13/16	Larry	Baker	CC	100	(170)	\$3,000
13/16	Gil	Gibson	CC	100		
13/16	Jim	Voitik	C	100		
			(241)	\$5,047		

5-Player Team Tournament Results

1.	Super Stock	\$6,000 & Trophy	9/16	Players Pub	\$150
2.	B&B Tavern	3,500	9/16	Penalty Box	150
3/4.	Action Billiards	1,500	9/16	Jackie's Place	150
3/4.	Wedge	1,500	9/16	Hotshots	150
5/8.	Soldiers	750	9/16	Hillsboro Billiards	150
5/8.	Jody T's	750	9/16	Frank & Sugars	150
5/8.	21 Rock	750	9/16	Final Destination	150
5/8.	Maple Leaf	750	9/16	Players Pub	150

The total payout for the top 16 teams would have been \$16,178. Rusty added another \$522 making the grand total for the 5-player teams \$16,700.

A total of 49 teams shot it out for the top prize of \$6,000. Many of the favorites went away empty handed. As been said many times: It's not easy to repeat. Case in point: Olde Bridge Inn didn't get past the first round. Soldiers, out of Action Billiards, sent them packing back to Illinois to the tune of 11-7.

Soldiers, who added Bill Parrot to their active roster to help solidify their team and utilize his long and great tournament career, looked to raise their standings. You may recall they finished second in the last team get together. And they were on their way when they barely got past Streiler's 11-9 and by the same score edged out Players Pub. But then they ran into their sister team, California Bob and company, and went down 11-7.

Speaking of the return of Bob and Kathy who have been away for a couple of years, they just got by Big Daddy's in their opening round, 11-9. From there they met Wayne Turner's team, who were previous winners a couple of times, they didn't give them a chance to get half started. The blowout went so fast (11-4) they had to wear seatbelts.

Another two-time champion, Penalty Box were their next victims, also 11-4. Action Billiards was bringing the action and suddenly looked unbeatable. They downed the Soldiers 11-7 to land in the final four. Then they ran out of action. They ran into a supercharged Super Stock team and was turned away by the same 11-4 score.

Another final four team came from the Wedge. They made a fairly impressive run. From the opening round 11-7 over Chilsters, 11-8 over J.P.'s Corner, another 11-8 over Players Pub, and 11-6 knocking out Maple Leaf. Their run for the gold came to an abrupt halt when they were ambushed by B&B Tavern, 11-3.

Speaking of B&B Tavern, where did these guys come from? They were the best-kept secret since Jimmy Hoffa's hideout. They played good pool and showed signs of being the next champs. A few breaks here and a few breaks there is what this game is all about. They had a goodly amount on their way to the finals. And that's the way it is. But as they say in books, all good things must come to an end.

Hazzard's was their first opponent. It was a blowout 11-4. The road got a little rougher from there. B&B went 11-8 over an Action Billiards team, edged out Frank and Sugars, 11-9, and went 11-8 against 21 Rock. As good as the Wedge was going they ran into the proverbial brick wall. The boys from B&B steamrolled Wedge 11-3. This put B&B Tavern into the finals for the first time ever.

But it was the same story. Billy "the Kid" Smith and his gang rode in from the south 40 and Super Stock loaded for bear. They were still supercharged up and ready to take no prisoners. They sneered when they had to give B&B three games on the wire. It never was a factor. Super Stock won three in round one and four in round two to wrestle a 7-6 lead from B&B. Another three in round three for a 10-8 lead it was all over but the hooting and hollering.

The fat lady was warming up her vocal cords as Billy himself closed it out. The Kid brought the climax to an end by out drawing David Buchanan. Dave's gun jammed and he didn't get off a shot. Billy fired five rounds into the corner pockets and three more in the side for an 11-8 shootout. The final battle put 6 G's in Super Stock's saddlebags and last seen they were riding westward out of town.

It wasn't a total loss for B&B. Second place went for \$3,500. Congratulations are in order for all the teams that cashed and for those who didn't, we're sure to see you at the next competition. Good luck

4-Player Team Tournament Results

The 4-Player teams showed up Sunday February 24th. They went from six last tournament to 10 this time. There was improvement all the way around. There were two opening matches at noon. Bert's Players Pub team knocked out 3-time winners Blarney Stone 9-8. The match went double hill and Bill Parrot got the call for the Pubsters. Where have we heard that name before? He pulled it out for the upset.

Jody T's knocked out Bridgeton Inn 9-5 to get their train rolling. And once they got up a full head of steam they were like the Little Engine that could. Next they derailed KT's Sports Bar 9-6. Amvets was the next stop on the route. It took a little longer but Jody T's pulled it out 10-8. Now it was a waiting game. They took a break while their opponents were on their way to a double hill shootout.

J.P.'s Corner turned back a Players Pub team 9-7 and was having a go at one of Pubs sister teams, the one lead by Wendell Tole. The Pubsters were on the hill to 5 for J.P.'s. About the time it looked like curtains for J.P.'s the governor called. The reprieve last for four games and J.P.'s Corner pulled it out 9-8.

The showdown was underway. Jody T's received three games on the wire from J.P.'s and needed every one of them. With Jody T's ahead 9-6, it looked like the governor was on the phone again. Mike, Roger and Mark each won their games to bring it to another double hill situation. All the potatoes now rested on the shoulders of Craig Smith from Jody T's and Tony Chagolla from J.P.'s.

The game was a long one. With every switch at the table the game could have been over. Tony elected to play safe several times allowing Craig many more chances than he shouldn't have gotten. But Tony got to his last ball. He took aim and put the ball inside the corner pocket. It died. A little harder and it falls. The '8' was lying in the jaws inside a corner pocket at the opposite end of the table. Craig popped it in for the 10-9 Championship game.

Ben Wanner

It's been a long time coming but Ben Wanner can go home a winner. Remember last tournament when Ben showed up on three teams and all went down in flames faster than the Hindenburg did. Well we are happy to announce that in spite of Leo (the Lip) Durocher's famous quote: "Nice guys finish last", we can say "not always". Ben's been hanging in there for several years and on several teams and now he can reap the rewards of being a winner.

In addition to Jody T's taking out the 4-Player team event for \$1,510, Jody T's 5-Player team finished 5th for another \$750. Ben's cut of the weekend of \$2,260 wasn't bad. Congrats Ben. See you next time.

Top players with highest won/loss percentage

		Won	Lost	Pct.	Team	
1.	AA	Bob Strachan	13	3	.813	Action Billiards
2.	CC	Regi Hart	16	4	.800	Super Stock
3.	CC	Roger Monroe	8	2	.800	21 Rock
4.	BB	Billy Smith	16	5	.762	Super Stock
5.	B	Ryan Hopping	12	4	.750	Action Billiards
6.	CC	Waddle Whitehead	9	3	.750	Soldiers
7.	C	Steve Stamper	9	3	.750	B&B Tavern
8.	CC	Wayne Mistler	8	3	.727	Jackie's
9.	DD	David Frazier	13	5	.722	Wedge
10.	CC	Mike Fishbeck	10	4	.714	Action Billiards
11.	B	Louis Erby	9	4	.692	Players Pub
12.	CC	Rick Butler	9	4	.692	Jody T's
13.	BB	Tony Wiley	8	4	.667	Players Pub
14.	BB	Mark Weiland	8	4	.667	J.P.'s Corner
15.	C	Keith Dawson	8	4	.667	B&B Tavern
16.	CC	Chuck Hunter	11	6	.647	Wedge
17.	BB	Bill Parrot	9	5	.643	Soldiers
18.	B	Dennis Galagher	10	6	.625	Action Billiards
19.	CC	James Hager	11	7	.611	B&B Tavern
20.	C	Mark Santayo	10	7	.588	Wedge
21.	CC	Kurt Weimer	9	7	.563	Super Stock
22.	CC	David Buchanan	9	7	.563	B&B Tavern
23.	CC	Mike Russell	9	7	.563	Super Stock

Players who won 4 games in a match

(AA) Bob Strachan, (BB) Billy Smith, (BB) Paul Verhulst, (BB) Bill Parrot, (B) Louis Erby, (CC) Craig Smith, (CC) Sal Mancuso, (DD) David Frazier.

For the second time in as many tournaments (CC) Robyn Eidson was the only female player to have 4 wins in a single match. Louis Erby had a chance to go 5-0 but lost his second game.

Consecutive Wins

1. Ryan Hopping 'B' Action Billiards 10	9. David Buchanan 'CC' B&B Tavern 5
2. David Frazier 'DD' Wedge 10	10. Sal Mancuso 'CC' Jody T's 5
3. Mike Fishbeck 'CC' Action Billiards 9	11. Mark Weiland 'BB' J.P.'s Corner 5
4. Steve Stamper 'C' B&B Tavern 7	12. Bob Strachan 'AA' Action Billiards 5
5. Billy Smith 'BB' Super Stock 6	
6. Regi Hart 'CC' Super Stock 6	Bob is the only player to have two winning streaks.
7. Wayne Mistler 'CC' Jackie's 6	
8. Bob Strachan 'AA' Action Billiards 6	

Top 10 Teams

		Won	Lost	Pct.		Place	
1.	Super Stock	62	35	.639	5-Player	1st	Super Stock had the longest winning streak: 9 games.
2.	Action Billiards	47	29	.618	5-Player	4th	
3.	Jody T's	35	23	.603	4-Player	1st	Jackie's had the second longest winning streak: 6 games.
4.	B&B Tavern	59	43	.578	5-Player	2nd	
5.	J.P.'s Corner	27	20	.574	4-Player	2nd	
6.	21 Rock	30	24	.556	5-Player	5tie	
7.	Wedge	46	38	.548	5-Player	3tie	
8/9.	Jackie's	31	27	.534	5-Player	9tie	
8/9.	Players Pub	31	27	.534	5-Player	9tie	
10.	Soldiers	38	36	.514	5-Player	5tie	

4-Player team payout

1.	Jody T's	\$1,510
2.	J.P.'s Corner	750
3/4.	Players Pub	150
3/4.	Amvets	<u>150</u>
		2,560

48th total payout for the three tournaments

All Star Singles	\$5,047
5-Player tourny	16,700
4-Player tourny	<u>2,560</u>
	\$24,307

Once again we would like to thank all our players for their fine support in keeping Missouri 8-Ball the number one pool league in and around the St. Louis area. Good luck in the coming events and see you at the next All-Star Singles and Team Tournaments.

Rusty Brandmeyer- Missouri 8-Ball Pool and Darts League Operator
 Bob Bohn-Operations Assistant
 Roger Pheasant-Photographer and Internet Coordinator
 And yours truly, Jay Carlton