

Play the Table



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Editorial:

Another amazing month around the tables, seeing the tail end of the Summer Elite Season with all of the Thrilling Teams & Singles Results! See all of the Champs on the back page.

And then straight back into it with the first couple of Rounds of this years mammoth Winter Elite Season. We see more that 200 players in 50 teams competing to make the top 8 Teams for Carnival Weekend, just awesome! Welcome to all & Good luck to everyone competing especially all of the Newbies in the Introductory Level Leagues.

The Premier All Stars have hit the ground running in their weekly competition & are doing us so proud :-)

Also this month a fascinating insight into the hobbies of Brad Phillips & Dave Chaffer, as Brad explains their passion & addiction on the Back Page.

Still to come in the next couple of month are some of the most exciting social events on the calendar, kicking off with Gordon, the Quiz Wiz's, first ever Quizz & Trivia night on Saturday May 12th, a definite must of things to do. The following weekend is our favourite Challenge Match when we take on the Gossies in our next Challenge Match. Qualifying is on Saturday May 19th with the Challenge the following Sunday on May 27th. Lets take our best & get a win on the board for 2012!

And Most Important of all events in 2012 is the Miss Q's 10th Birthday Celebration, a party everyone is expected to attend, we have the best night EVER planned so please schedule it in your phones, diaries, calendars or wherever you wont forget, SATURDAY JUNE 16th.

Until next month have great games everyone.

Happy Potting
Kez



Quiz Miss Q's
Quiz Wiz
Gordon Payne's
first show is on
Saturday May 12th from
7pm, Great Prizes & plenty of
time for a game of Pool - Only \$15
for the entire night's entertainment! Come
along to see what the Riddle Master has in
store. Bookings essential - 9583 3599

Gossies Challenge

Team Qualifying Knockout Comp, Date:
Saturday May 19th @ 7pm. \$20 entry includes
all day Night Play & the Gossnells Challenge
Match Play. Top 20 players will make the
Challenge Team.

Challenge Match Date: **Sunday May 27th**
at Gossnells Pot Black.

Premier ALL STARS

Hi Leaguies, Az here giving you the low down on what's happenin around the traps this month. Firstly an All Stars update, as many of you know the Premier Academy of Cue Sports is up & running again with yet

another year of rigorous training, coaching, matchplay & educating scheduled across the coming months for the newly formed Premier All Stars Teams. This time around two teams have been created and present in the form of the All Stars Black team

Captained by Michael Shuttleworth & All Stars Gold Captained by yours truly. Both All Stars teams have been playing for the past month in a Fremantle based League and all concerned are quietly honing their skills and learning to play in unfamiliar surroundings against unfamiliar opponents quite often on some extremely challenging tables in various pubs, poolrooms and social clubs in Fremantle and its surrounding areas. The All Stars have embraced these challenges and although it's still early in the season both teams stand a solid chance of leaving a sizeable mark on the league's ladder. The All Stars Black team is yet to take their first win for a given night of matchplay but have been very close every week and I feel sure once they adjust to conditions and get back to playing their own game, they'll storm home all the way to finals hopefully meeting the Gold team in the Grand Final in October undoubtedly this would come as quite a shock to any of the opposition they've already

faced given none of them have seen All Stars Black anywhere near their best yet. Meanwhile All Stars Gold has been smashing their way through the field securing the win against every opposition put forward for us

so far. All Stars Gold having the advantage over the Black team when it comes to experience in different matchplay conditions as well as having the four surviving members of the original All Stars Program in the

form of Jarrad Page, Damien Stenhouse, Stewart Lambert & myself heading up the charge and creating the foundation of the team of six, making this the best possible start any team out of Miss Q's could have hoped for. Anybody who wants to follow the progress of the All Stars need only like the Miss Q's Facebook page and check out the regular updates every week for all the info on who's playing who and who won what. Stay tuned for more updates over the coming months for the stories of the All Stars learning new tricks all round from guest coaches who will give them a better understanding of cues, tables, balls & cloth providing all the useful tips we could ever need to go that one step further in this game we are all addicted to. Speaking of which, I will continue passing on all the knowledge I've collected over the years and as usual can be found at Miss Q's every Sunday from 3pm, so come on down and learn some new tricks yourself, hope to see you all there. - Till next time, Az.

:-) April Happy Snaps :-)



Top - Left Nellie & Sandy. Bottom Left - Jesse & Adam. Top - Sandy & P.J. Top Right - Tammy & Nikita. Right - Rio's Birthday Group



Did you know? Thursday Elite Players Brad & Dave Race Pigeons!!!



Brad Phillips Pigeons Penthouse Loft



One of Brad's Prize Winning Birds



Dave Chaffer's Pigeons Penthouse Loft

Hi all, Kerry asked for a run down on pigeon racing, as myself and Dave Chaffer, the pool wiz, are both involved in. We both race our birds a lot better than we play pool and only play pool once a week for fun. That started off with plans to only play in the off season of the pigeon racing. That runs for 22 weeks from the 26th of May. Sundays for 8 weeks then Saturdays for the rest of the season.

Racing our birds takes a lot of time and is a 365 day a year job<hobby>. You are the owner, breeder and trainer. \$20,000 plus has been paid for birds in Australia and up to \$200,000 overseas in the Mecca of racing - Belgium.

Our first race for the year is from Bindi Bindi 190km to my place in Waikiki and 196km to Dave's place in Port Kennedy. Placing's are calculated into a velocity over the race time, ie if I time a bird in to my electronic clock and it takes say 152 minutes and 10 seconds to arrive from the 190km its average velocity is 1250 metres per minute. Allowing for the 6km difference in Dave's distance to mine, 196km, he would have to time his bird in at 156 minutes and 46 seconds to fly the same velocity or earlier to beat me. Birds can fly up to 3000mp, approx 180km per hour, with a tail wind that pushes them along. So from a race from Newman they could be home in 353 minutes from 1060km. Try and drive it that fast!!!!

Birds are bred from August until January. Training begins at the 5 weeks old stage where they learn to come into the loft when called for a feed, this is instilled into them for life as a race can be won or lost by a second. I've done both and the feeling is very different. Babies will start to fly from 6 weeks of age and gradually do ever increasing circles around the loft mapping out the area, they have a flock mentality and generally stay together. Working around the loft gives them enough fitness to begin their training after around 4 weeks. Short training tosses from 5-10km to give them the confidence to get home to the loft ASAP. They should have flown that far and more on the loft exercise, so they are mapping the course as they go.

The distance of the training tosses will increase, up to 70km or so with the confidence of the birds. They will leave the liberation point almost straight away once they are switched on. Training is only done with your own birds to instil in them to come straight home. So in a race with 2000 other birds going to 100 lofts all over the metro area they head home as soon as they recognise a land mark, eg the city buildings, from as far out as 50km and correct their course to fly the shortest and fastest route home. The sight of a bird dropping like a stone from so high up only another pigeon can see them is the buzz you get, even more so when it has been a tough fly of 10 hours into a head wind. Just rising over the roof tops and diving into the loft. The bird goes across the clocking system and you check the time and the bird is ok. It is unlike any other form of racing as you have no idea if it is a winner or an also ran until you go

to the club and all the members times are read out and written up on the board. Has this bird that you reared and picked out as a future champion at 4 weeks of age won or got a prize, or is it just another week to think to yourself "I have no idea what i am doing!!! I shall win it next week."

As with any animal you have to judge if it is fit and well enough to handle the day of the race. You can not see what happens from race point till homes end. The bird you placed a bet on might be 30-40 minutes off the pace of the winner. Did you miss something during the week or did a falcon attack the lead mob of pigeons entering the cities outskirts and as a result they all dove into trees for cover!!! Waiting it out until the falcon found something else to feed on. We never know as we can only see the last fraction of a race unfold at our own lofts.

The most common question asked of a pigeon fancier is - how do they know how to get home? After 36 years I have no idea. Theories abound with all different fanciers you meet around the globe. Not one has a proven theory. Birds have been tossed in the dark and returned home. Pre war days they were thought to have magnetism to the ground. To test this theory the birds had their eyes covered, so they were essentially blind, and let go from 20km away from the loft. These birds flew home to the loft in a paddock and did slow and small circles above the loft all the time drawing closer to the ground. Some landed roughly on the loft, others landed around it in the long grass. All were picked up by the trainers without fuss on the birds part and blindfolds removed and were free to eat and drink no worse for the ordeal. The next day those same birds were released from the loft and were reported back at the 20km liberation sight from the previous day. Often birds will revisit a place where they were liberated from.

I had a friend who moved 60km from his house which was 2km from the sea to his new address inland. All his birds had been trained to his old address. The one thing I think the birds know is home, the loft. He moved the whole loft with the birds still in it. He tarped over the front and off they went. After 2 weeks at the new address he thought putting a bath out for them and letting them walk around the yard would be great. They all had a bath enjoyed the sun until 1 bird looked up and off they all went, back to his old place 60km away. 40 minutes later his mother confirmed they were all over her roof, a big no no for racing pigeons. He advised her to chase them up with a towel or such. All birds returned to him in 45 minutes. They repeated this process every morning for 2 weeks. Then not one bird ventured back to the old address again. The loft wasn't there, it was 60km away at the foot of the hills.

So i long ago gave up on how or why they do it, I just enjoy that they do it and hopefully faster than the rest.... Cheers Brad Phillips - Thursday Elite

This Months Champions



L-R: Wednesday Summer Elite Champion Team, God Help Us, Eliot, Az & Jarrad with Runners Up, Three Stooges, Andrew, Dave & Brad



L-R: Wednesday Summer Elite Singles Champion, Jarrad Page with Runner Up Rosa Chour, 3rd Stewart Lambert & 4th Brad Phillips



L-R: Thursday Summer Elite Champs Team, Mighty Pork Swords, Jarod W, Shuts & Jarrad P, with R/U Victorious Secret, Damien, Rosa & Jayden



L-R: Thursday Summer Elite Singles Champion, Jarrad Page with Runner Up Jayden King, 3rd Rosa Chour & 4th Damien Stenhouse



L-R: Monday Summer Elite Singles Champion Gordon Payne, with Runner Up Kyle Van Zon, 3rd Kim Buchholz & 4th Zac Baldock



L-R: Monday Blue Social League Team Champs Eddie & John with Runners Up Issac & Mytch



L-R: Mon Blue League Singles Champ Mytch Beveridge with R/U John Taylor



L-R: Tuesday Blue Social League Singles Champ Eddie with R/U Sandy, 3rd Adam & 4th Kyle



Season 4 Top Dog Champ Rosa Chour