

Shuffleboard History and Sea Colony Rules

There is no certainty as to Shuffleboard's origin and/or age. Shuffleboard is known to be played by the nobles in the Henry the Eighth era in England.

Similar in equipment, scoring system and playing strategies with several sports, for example bowling, croquet, and billiards, the ancient Shovelboard game seems to be the main ancestor.

Modern Days

First in Florida and then almost everywhere in the country, Shuffleboard has become increasingly popular and its attraction goes far beyond ages, physical shapes or gender. Outdoor or indoor the game can be played by anyone that is in reasonable shape, and a great example of this fact is that nowadays the game is part of the setting of a huge number of cruise ships that cater especially to retirees.

Another awesome feature is that Shuffleboard can be played all year round in warmer climates and anyone can be part of the fun.

So many people love to play shuffleboard because anybody can learn the rules of the game easily, and it does not take too long to master the strategies and techniques of this fun and social sport.

SHUFFLEBOARD RULES

Shuffleboard is commonly played by 2 and/or 4 players (2 teams of 2 here in Sea Colony).

At the very beginning of the game it is decided which team is going to have the hammer (the last shuffleboard player to throw a puck – a nice advantage!). This is done by throwing a shuffleboard puck and/or coin and calling heads or tails. The winner has the choice of what color of pucks they would like to start the game. YELLOW always starts the game from the end where the scoreboards are located.

In the following rounds each team member must move to the opposite side (NOT end) of the shuffleboard court. The pucks stay in the original lanes.

The GOAL OF THE GAME is to place your pucks in the areas that score the highest amount of points and, at the same time, try to move your opponents pucks outside the court.

At the end of the round the team with the most points wins that round. The game is won when a team scores a total of 51 points (they must win by 2 points or play continues). A total of 3 games are played.

SHUFFLEBOARD SCORING

Pucks which do not reach the foul line (lines in the center of the court) during the game are removed immediately.

Points are assigned every time a puck lands on a square with a number (must not touch any lines) and remains there to the end of that game.

4 player games are won by at least 2 points and the shuffleboard game is played until a 2-point advantage is achieved.

After each round a player changes sides (not ends).

When, a side loses a round, that side is granted the next round "hammer" (starting the game).

If the location of a puck lands on a line where it is too close to call, a "judgement call" can be requested from a player on another team. A maximum of 3 judgements can be requested and determined by 2 out of 3.

The use shuffleboard wax or other substances on the pucks is commonly used and will be applied by the Game Organizers.

SEA COLONY INTRODUCTION TO SHUFFLEBOARD CLASS

Sea Colony is planning on offering a free **Learn to Play Shuffleboard Class** this fall. The purpose of the class is to teach the rules and techniques of playing shuffleboard and to promote the game here in Sea Colony.

The Courts are all newly reconditioned and painted so we are ready to go!

We also are hoping to expand the number of players participating in Sea Colony's Shuffleboard Tournament and are interested in some friendly competition after the holidays when more people are looking for an outside activity in the cooler months.

Every winter starting in February for well over 20 Years Sea Colony has hosted a Shuffleboard Tournament which is a lot of fun for all. There is a breakfast both at the start of the Tournament and to honor the winners at the end of the Tournament. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and beginners are welcome.

Rick and Robin Dupont along with Bruce and Karen Jones will be hosting the classes. They all have been playing in the Shuffleboard League and have experience with the rules and how the game is played. There will be an instructor on every court. If anyone else would like to help teach, please let us know.

The Introduction to Shuffleboard class will be held on the following dates -- just show up at the courts 15 minutes prior to starting time. Sticks and pucks will be provided by Sea Colony.

Tuesday Sept. 22 at 9-10 am

Wednesday Sept. 30 at 9-10 am

Friday Oct. 2 at 9-10 am

We will be teaching the basics of how to play and other techniques such as how to hold, push and use the stick, how to score, and other "little known secrets of the game!"

The Rules of the Game will also be covered.

Bring a friend or neighbor who might be interested in learning to play too...they could end up as your partner! When the actual competition begins you can either sign up as a 2-person team or you will be assigned a partner.

The Shuffleboard League starts up at 9 am on Tuesdays in January and goes into March. There are usually 2 sessions depending on the number of teams.

The Championship Playoff and End of the Year Breakfast are lots of fun for all!

We are looking forward to seeing everyone! For more information call Bruce Jones 248-388-2005