

AN ANSWER

While the article by J. H. Woodall is well put the other school of thought must have consideration. It might be stated also that there are many who would feel a person who does not play shuffleboard and is not conversant with the background of it's players is not capable of advising to it's needs.

The board of the F.S.A. considers this background in making decisions. Shuffleboard, in Florida at least, is made up largely of players who have reached the age of retirement. A very large percentage of them have never been remotely interested in a sport until they found shuffleboard. Therefore, there is a well founded opinion that great numbers of these players will never be good tournament players. I believe it was the feeling of the ruling body of the F.S.A. that the amateur system would furnish interesting competition for this large body of players until such a time as many of them were capable of winning a number of places in amateur competition which would then fit them for competition in the expert ranks.

Those who advocate a completely separate system for amateurs wish to use A & B and even C Divisions within that system. The ruling body believes in one division of amateurs and when an amateur player becomes proficient enough to win consistently in that body he must graduate to the body of better players - the expert class.

This in their opinion simplifies the present system of shuffleboard and if this system is to be changed it will have to come over a period of time and the pressure of opinion from the multitude of players.

—EDITOR