

Shuffleboard

With the thousands of people playing shuffleboard in the state of Florida and other parts of the nation, one often wonders how many really know its earlier history. It is known that a similar game existed as early as the 13th and 14th centuries and later on was played on shipboard, but the land shuffleboard started at Daytona Beach, Florida in 1913. From there it spread to St. Petersburg and several other cities. Through the efforts of P. V. Gahan, recreation director for St. Petersburg, a meeting of eight clubs was called on December 12th, 1928, and the Florida Shuffleboard Association was organized with E. F. Wolfrom of St. Petersburg elected as its president. The movement grew and on June 15th, 1937, the association was granted a Florida State Charter by the Circuit Court.

Thirteen presidents have served since that time.

J. M. Heiser of Orlando originated a very popular and newsy paper on and about shuffleboard in 1951 and called it "The Shuffler." It was distributed mostly in the Northern District of the Association until his death in 1960, then his wife took over until the end of the season in April. When it was then discontinued; it was a great loss to its many readers.

In 1952 under the leadership of President I. McKay Pinkney a year book was founded by the Florida Shuffleboard Ass'n, Inc., and has proven so popular that it has increased in size most every year.

It is published at the start of the shuffleboard season in the fall and contains schedules for tournaments, rules and information for the season, plus the results of tournaments played the previous season, and other items of interest to shufflers.

No charges are made for copies of the Preview, advertising carry the load of the expenses, distribution being through individual clubs, State and National offices.

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