

SHUFFLEBOARD: ITS ECONOMIC IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY.

SHUFFLEBOARD BEGAN AS A RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY WHEN MR. & MRS. BALL MARKED OUT A COURT ON THE SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF THEIR HOTEL LYNDHURST IN DAYTONA IN 1913. THE GAME BECAME SO POPULAR THAT IN 1930, ONLY SIX YEARS AFTER IT ORGANIZED, THE ST. PETERSBURG SHUFFLEBOARD CLUB HAD SEVENTY TWO COURTS.

THE SIX DISTRICTS OF THE FLA. SHUFFLEBOARD ASS'N INCLUDE THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTY SIX CLUBS, FIFTY THREE THOUSAND MEMBERS AND THREE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND SEVENTY SIX COURTS. THE F.S.A. SANCTIONS AS MANY AS TWENTY NINE STATEWIDE TOURNAMENTS EVERY YEAR. THIS MEANS THAT FLA. SHUFFLERS SPEND MONEY FOR TRANSPORTATION, MOTELS, MEALS, PARKING, EQUIPMENT, ETC.

THE INITIAL COST OF CONCRETE, AND OTHER MATERIALS, THAT MAKE A COURT MEASURING SIX FEET WIDE AND AT LEAST FIFTY TWO FEET LONG, IS MINOR WHEN YOU HAVE TO ADD THE COST OF DRAINAGE, LIGHTING, SUN SHELTERS, SCORE BOARDS, BENCHES AND SMALL BUT NECESSARY ITEMS LIKE CHALK, ERASERS, BROOMS, SQUEEGEES, GLASS BEADS AND DISCS THAT HAVE TO BE REPLACED EVERY TWO OR THREE YEARS.

HOW ABOUT THE COST OF MAINTENANCE OF COURTS?? IN OCT. 1975 WHEN FIFTY EIGHT COURTS WERE RE-STAINED, RE-LINED AND RE-SEALED AT THE ST. PETE CLUB THE COST OF MATERIALS WAS \$652.00. THESE COURTS WERE ALL RE-SEALED AT LEAST THREE TIMES DURING THE YEAR. WHEN A PROFESSIONAL CREW DOES THE ABOVE WORK THE CHARGE IS \$60.00 PER COURT.

SHUFFLERS ARE NOT THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO BENEFIT FROM THE GENEROSITY OF SPONSORS OF TOURNAMENTS. LUNCHEES ARE PROVIDED FOR OFFICIALS, PLAYERS, REFEREES AND SCORERS, SO DINING PLACES MAY LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING HUNDREDS OF ADDITIONAL PATRONS. THERE ARE TWELVE TROPHY COMPANIES WITH ADS IN THE F.S.A. PREVIEW WHICH SEEMS TO INDICATE THAT THEY ARE FARING QUITE WELL PROVIDING TROPHIES, PLAQUES AND ENGRAVING FOR SHUFFLERS.

SHUFFLEBOARD IS NOT ONLY A GREAT SPORT, A FORM OF FRIENDLY COMPETITION, A MILD SORT OF EXERCISE BUT IT ALSO TAKES ITS PLACE, PROUDLY, IN HELPING OUT IN THE ECONOMIC PICTURE OF THE COMMUNITY.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY L. C. "Lou" TUMA, 1ST V.P. F.S.A.