

DOWN MEMORY LANE

For those of you who might have missed this article, published in a previous PREVIEW, we again reproduce it here. We think it is important to do so as it is part of our heritage of Florida Shuffleboard. The historical research was compiled by WILLIE E. WOLF. We thank him for this important endeavour.

Our **PREVIEW** carries a record of points accumulated by all Pro players from the 1976-1977 season through to the present time. These points are compiled by our Keeper of Records. Let us go back and take a look at our point system and see what went on in the past.

In 1958, Colonel P. C. Bullard compiled a point system and brought the record up from the beginning of our Florida Shuffleboard Association, 1928 through the 1957-58 season. No points were given in any tournament prior to that time. Colonel Bullard had to go back and find old trophies, newspaper articles, etc., that carried winners of tournaments, writing to those who he knew had played in tournaments in the 1930s, and by doing a lot of research. His point system did not give the same amount of points in all singles or doubles tournaments. No tournament gave more than 10 points for a singles win, and some gave as low as 4 points for a doubles win. The size of the tournament had a lot to do in how he compiled his points. These points, and how compiled, can be found in several books in our Hall of Fame library at Sebring.

For the 1958-1959 season, the *St. Petersburg Times* took over the point system, and again the points varied as to the size of the tournament. Mr. Dave Schofield, then Sports Editor of the *Times*, used to publish a lot of good articles, for he traveled to most of the shuffleboard tournaments. Mrs. Frances Maentz had several large loose-leaf books full of the clippings she saved from these articles by Schofield, together with other newspaper clippings she could find which referred to Florida shuffleboard — and these, too, can be found in the Hall of Fame in Sebring.

For the 1967-68 season, the points were more or less the same in all tournaments. The State-sponsored Singles gave 15 points for first place win in the Open Division and only 12 for first place win in the Closed. Most felt this was a bit unfair. The age limit in the Closed Division varied from year to year. It started out with 50 years or older, went to 55 years, and then to 60 and 65 years. One year it was set at 62 years. It was voted on at State meetings about every three years. It is now set at 65 years.

For our 1975-76 season, the State Association took over the point system, and has had control of it ever since. Mr. Walt Wollomen compiled a point system that appeared in the 1975-76 **PREVIEW** and he went back to 1958 and gave the same amount of points to all Statewide and State-sponsored tournaments. The Keeper of Records has this book and is keeping it up to date.