

On February 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Mickey's Cues & Brews held a double elimination B- Player Tournament, played on 9- foot tables. The tournament drew 37 players from all around town. With the tournament board set and a race to eight on the winners side and a race to seven on the one loss side this was going to be a good tournament.

The first round of play set up for some great matches. Derrick Lorcher vs. Jovi Buenafe. In this match Derrick was like a drag racing car. When the light turned green so did Derrick. Derrick ripped down the pool table with a seven to two lead. It looked like this race was going to be over for Jovi. As Derrick was well ahead and so close to the finish line he blew his engine. Jovi had a great come back and moved Derrick over to the one loss side.

Another first round match that was going to be good was Rebecca Wagner vs. Phil Lam. Well, Rebecca fell short in her first match with Phil. Phil was moving on and put one of the favorites to win the tournament on the one loss side.

Another first round match was Joe Loborte vs. Bob Molner. Joe and Bob both play at Mickey's and know each other well. Joe played a great match and would move on to play Gabby Insong. Joe would also defeat Gabby and move on to play Phil Lam. Phil, who was playing well, was going to be hard to beat. Phil would defeat Joe and move him to the one loss side.

Joe would now find himself playing Derrick Lorcher. Derrick would go on and defeat Joe Loborte. Joe was a player that I was really pulling for. I have watched Joe play for a couple of years and his game is always getting a little better all the time. I really have to say that my hat goes off to Joe as I watched him practice almost every day as he was getting ready to play in the tournament. Joe fell a little short of his goal but should be very proud of his play. Derrick, with the win over Joe, was now getting closer to that finish line.

On the top half of the bracket on the winner's side was a little bit of a different story. Jason Osborn was one of those guys to watch with wins over Tom Russo, Eric Jensen and George Meyer. Jason was moving on and playing well.

Another player that was playing well was Jim Taysen. Jim had wins over good players like Zeke Derosé, Randy Chugg, and Derrick Kipp. Jim Taysen would now find himself playing Jason Osborn. Jason with his steady play would go on to defeat Jim and move on to play Phil Lam in the next round to get to the hot seat.

Jason gave Phil a good fight but Phil had some good rolls and was playing with a lot of confidence. Phil would go on to defeat Jason and claim his spot in the hot seat.

On the one loss side of the bracket there were a couple people to keep your eyes on. One of those matches would be Rebecca Wagner vs. Allen Arana. I thought Rebecca would have the edge in this match because this was the second day of play. Rebecca played Pedro Garzon earlier and played very well. She was never in trouble and defeated

Pedro. Allen did not have the luxury of a warm up match. His opponent didn't stick around to play the next day so with a bye deep on the one loss side Allen was in great shape.

Rebecca was playing great pool with very few mistakes and Allen was getting out when he got his chances. This match was like watching a tennis ball going back and forth. With a race to seven this tennis ball would have to come to a stop. Rebecca put up a great fight but everyone knows that luck also plays out in every tournament. You need a little luck and some good shooting. Allen was the guy with a better serve in this match with a couple of good rolls and a nine on the break. Allen would defeat Rebecca but believe me, watch out for her. She plays very well and I think that she can beat most of the women in town and some of the men.

On the bottom half of the bracket Bob (the bull dozer) Cauley, who plays out of Mickey's, was doing well but was on the one loss side early. Bob was moving the field around like a bulldozer moving dirt around the job site. Bob defeated good players like Joe Massari, Lee Harvey, Steve Stokes, and Derrick Kipp.

Bob Couley would find him self playing Derrick Lorcher. Bulldozer Bob was playing great pool, wasn't missing many balls and getting out from all over the place. Bob was going to be hard to beat. Bob ran out of gas when playing Derrick and Derrick put a stop to Bob's roll.

Derrick was playing good pool and was determined to pull off the Mika Immonen impression from the US OPEN tournament. Derrick, who was put on the one loss side in his first match, was on a roll with six wins in a row on the one loss side.

Derrick Lorcher would now find himself playing Allen Arana. Derrick would fall a little short of his goal as Allen would play very well and knock Derrick out of the tournament.

Allen would now play Jason Osborn to get back on the winners side and have a crack at the top prize of \$600.00 in cash. Allen would have to get past Jason first. With a little luck Allen would defeat Jason who played very well in the tournament and should be proud of his play.

Allen Arana would have a chance at the top prize of \$600.00 in cash but this is a true double elimination tournament. Allen Arana vs. Phil Lam. Phil Lam was in good position to win the tournament but Phil may not believe he can beat Allen. Allen and Phil played each other a couple of times before and Allen came out on top of those big money matches.

Allen would defeat Phil in the first round with great play but Allen would have to beat him again. Just like I thought, Phil is scared of Allen and would not play him in the next set so Phil and Allen would split the tournament. Allen would claim the first place

finish but with out all the dough. Congratulations to Allen Arana for his win in the second B-Player Tournament at Mickey's.

I would like to thank all the players that played in the tournament and the staff at Mickey's.

1 <sup>st</sup> place	Allen Arana	\$600.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Phil Lam	\$300.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Jason Osborn	\$260.00
4 <sup>th</sup> place	Derrick Lorcher	\$150.00
5 <sup>th</sup> place	Ernie Freeman	\$120.00
6 <sup>th</sup> place	Jim Taysen	\$120.00
7 <sup>th</sup> place	Bob Cauley	\$110.00
8 <sup>th</sup> place	Rebecca Wagner	\$110.00
9 <sup>th</sup> thru 12 <sup>th</sup>	Pedro Garzon	\$50.00
	Al Barlow	\$50.00
	George Meyer	\$50.00
	Derrick Kipp	\$50.00

--The Pool Fly