

Diana Hagen

(Miscellaneous Memorable Moments)



Table Shuffleboard Association

December 29, 2002

The Table Shuffleboard Association's Board of Directors and the shuffleboard community, friends, and family proudly present the TSA Shuffleboard Hall of Fame "Player & Promoter" Award to Diana Hagen on this 29th day of December 2002!
-- TSA Directors, Table Shuffleboard Association, Inc.

Table Shuffleboard Association (TSA), 12710 Red Deer Pass, Austin, TX 78729

Tel: 512-250-0327 Fax: 512-249-7507

E-mail: lynda@jump.net or donvalk@evl.net

<http://www.tableshuffleboard.org>



Diana Hagen

Table Shuffleboard Association

Hall of Fame Induction

December 29, 2002 - TSA HOF Inductee Ceremony

Houston Holiday Open 2002, Houston, Texas

Diana Hagen



Diana Hagen first started playing shuffleboard in 1985. At the time she had been living in Houston for about 10 years and was tending bar at one of the local restaurants. Although she had never seen shuffleboard played before, she was drawn to the game like a moth to a flame. At the time, the venerable Howard Mouton was "King of the Hill" as far as

Houston shuffleboard was concerned taking on all challengers for whatever stakes they wanted to play for. Little did Howard know that when he took "Shy Di" under his wing that he was about to uncover a player with uncanny skill, one who would not only rise to the top of the shuffleboard world but would eventually help change the face of shuffleboard

Diana Hagen

Diana Hagen TSA HOF (con't.)

December 29, 2002 Houston, TX

by opening the door to women players across the country.

Although eager to learn and play at every opportunity, few players in those early days, other than Howard, were willing to take Diana as a partner. Even Howard now shyly admits they "forced" him to take Diana as a partner since he was the one who introduced her to the game. According to Howard, it didn't take long for that scenario to change however, once everyone discovered that girl could play the game! A naturally gifted player, Diana learned quickly from not only Howard, but Glen Davidson and Billy Mays and with her patented snap release, a dead eye for sticking and a soft touch for lagging she soon established herself as one heck of a player to be reckoned with. In fact, after only three short years of playing shuffleboard, Diana was already ranked among the top players in the country, a lofty place she deservedly still holds today.

As a player, Diana's accomplishments speak for themselves. But winning tournaments is only a small part of her contributions to the game. In addition to being a top-ranked player for many years and opening the doors for the many women players who

participate in shuffleboard today, Diana is a constant supporter, promoter and educator of shuffleboard everywhere she goes.

While the number of players that Diana has either introduced to shuffleboard or taken directly under her wing could easily fill a page, the number of players that Diana has helped over the years could fill a book. Houston players that owe much to Diana include Flynt Preston, Ann Walker, Silvia Martinez, Dave Ramold, Denise Klein, Jack Scott, Jimmy Britt, Bob Lee, Jorge Galvan and Wayne Hammond to name a few. Because of her great love and respect for the game Diana constantly pushes players to improve and achieve their potential. Whether she is playing or just watching from the sidelines, Diana is always willing to answer questions or show new players how to make a particular shot. At Danny's Sports Bar in Houston where she regularly plays, there is no bigger cheerleader for the game and the players who compete with Diana.

Although much of the credit for reviving big-time shuffleboard in Houston rightly belongs to Jack Scott and Johnny Ballard, neither could have done it without the efforts of Diana Hagen who got on the



TSA HOF

Diana Hagen TSA HOF (con't.)

December 29, 2002 Houston, TX

phone and personally called many of the top players to encourage them to attend the first Houston Holiday Open ... today, the Houston Holiday Open is recognized as one of the better tournaments in the country drawing players from Washington to Florida and much of that credit still goes to Diana for her behind the scene efforts at not only promoting the tournament but also arranging partners and teams to get more players involved. So, even though Howard Mouton likes to tell the story to let everyone know that he taught Diana how to play and is responsible for making her the champion player she is today, he exaggerated a bit... He really simply let the genie out of the bottle when he put that first American weight in her hand and showed this small-town girl how to stand at the table and shoot.

Diana's record speaks loudly. She has been a winner everywhere she has played... From local, regional, and national levels. From Houston, to Oklahoma, to Reno, to Vegas she has won Pro Singles, Pro Doubles, and team events. Although shy and unassuming away from the table, Diana never backs down from a shuffleboard challenge. She is a winners' circle icon at every tournament she attends.

Diana is always supportive of promoting tournaments and getting players involved by arranging partners and teams... Whatever it takes to get more people involved in the sport that she so loves.

Diana is a self-employed independent business woman. Although hardly showing her age, Diana is also a proud mom of 2 children (daughter Sherry & son Terry) and a very proud and doting grandma to her 6 grandchildren.

"Shy Di" is always proactive in raising money for a good cause from the Bowers Rating system to raising money for players or families who may be ill or simply down on their luck. She is team captain for one of the local shuffleboard leagues. She is an avid supporter of The Board Talk publication, getting everyone she can introduced to the publication and encouraging them to subscribe and advertise. She received the legacy "Subscription Hustler Award" which was presented to her in March at the 1st Annual Board Talk Open 2002 in Vegas. So, not only is she one of the best players in the country (a true "Super Star" champion), she is also one of the best promoters of the sport in all respects and one of the most deserving of receiving the TSA National Hall of Fame induction award.