



To all team captains and players

I would like to thank all who participated in Saturday's event. I think we had a very productive tournament, it ran rather smoothly and I believe everyone had a good time.

Thank you team captains. Your help and consideration is greatly appreciated.

I would like to thank Lev Vays especially. Lev was not feeling like playing but accompanied his team anyway. This shows a lot of support for his team and the Southern Arizona Friendship Cup. Lev helped me by running the league his team was participating in. This left me available to talk to the other team captains and players, which was a very important part of this first meeting

Thank you Lev.

In addition I would like to thank Peter, Greg and Jerry for running the other league that they were playing in. Your help was greatly appreciated.

We modified our method of play in order to allow everyone some playing time. First we played 2 out of three (just for this tournament only). Since we had 5 teams and quite a large number of players we felt that the time to play 3 out of 5 would be prohibitive. While this reduced playing time it did not allow for a sufficient number of games for higher rated players to figure out lower rated players. This may have contributed to a few higher rated players not playing as well as expected. We will try to play 3 out of 5 in all future matches.

We made one more modification, which was to add Greg and Neal to other team rosters since Saddlebrook could only field 2 players for this event. This allowed them to get plenty of playing in and since this event will not be counted in the actual league starting in October, no team was hindered or helped.

There were a number of suggestions of which I will discuss a little further.

Team player numbers and scoring.

It was suggested by Greg that we limit the teams to 4 players (the 4 best players that a team can field for any given event) and any additional players a team has will play for fun. Greg has suggested this to me before and this time we had the opportunity to discuss it in more detail. I believe this is going to be the proper thing to do. We will try this approach in the next "test" tournament. In addition, while inputting the data into USATT's league rating program, I discovered that we are limited to a maximum of 5 players per team. It simply will not calculate for more than this.

Greg also suggested that if a team can only field 3 players then they start with a loss of 1 point due to the missing player.

I would like to suggest a modification to this approach.

I suggest;

We give 1 point for each match win. That will allow for a maximum of 16 points per tournament.

If a team can field only 3 players then that team loses 4 points and they play the 4 member team with the remaining 3 players. The 3 player team still has the possibility of winning all their matches and gaining the remaining 12 points. Theoretically a team could play with only 2 players, but the best they could do would be to tie the tournament with 8 points for each team.

If a team cannot field at least 2 players then they forfeit and the winning team gets all 16 points.

At the end of the season all we have to do is count up each teams points to determine the winner.

By using the above scoring method (modified due to teams of 5 and 6) this "test" tournament results are as follows.

Armory - 22 out of a possible 36 points - 61%

Sierra Vista - 14 out of a possible 36 points - 39%

Quail Creek/GV - 18 out of a possible 25 points - 72% with the help of Neal

Vistoso - 7 out of a possible 25 points - 28% with the help of Greg

Team captains, please let me know what you think of this.

And finally, we discussed the position of league Director. Who should be the first official league Director, how long should the term be and should the Director be allowed to hold office more than once and consecutively.

Since I have been acting as league Director and would like to continue for at least the first season, I was unanimously elected to the position for 1 year.

We decided to reevaluate the term length and whether the Director could be reelected after the completion of the first season, probably sometime in September 2010.

Again, thank you all for your participation.

Larry Smith

Director,

Southern Arizona Friendship Cup

July 19, 2009