



ISPA INFO

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From the Editor:

Dear North American Skat Enthusiasts,

It is hard to believe we are halfway through the year already, looking at the date on the calendar. It seems like only yesterday that we reported last on our successes and get together playing the ultimate card game. If we look at the tournament schedule however, we have played eight tournaments thus far in 2022 out of currently 11 scheduled tournaments, so we are about two thirds into the tournament season.

After the completion of the 8th US Championship, Bill Thompson, the newly re-elected ISPA USA president shared that there will be a Skat week in the latter part of October, with Hamilton hosting the North American Championship just before the Cleveland tournament on October 21-23.

Congratulations to all newly or re-elected ISPA USA representatives:

1. Bill Thompson, President
2. Eve Dankemeyer, VP West
3. Jay DeFinis, VP East
4. Chris Vogeler, Secretary
5. Jeanette Moleski, Treasurer and Memberships

Please join me in wishing the new US executive all the best in organizing their clubs and tournaments for the next election period. The amount of work,

communication and decision-making cannot be underestimated in a not-for-profit organization and

that certainly holds true for the ISPA umbrella corporation as well.

In 2019, before the pandemic, we scheduled 21 tournaments, including the European Championship. There are a couple of reasons why we overall have less tournaments scheduled this year: Firstly, the world is still adjusting to life after the pandemic. The travel rules are still changing and that confuses some of us Skat players, creating hesitation to jump on a plane. The editor's own experiencing going to Las Vegas to play the 8th US Open is that while proof of full vaccination (two doses with a minimum gap of two weeks apart) or a negative Covid test in lieu of being vaccinated is still in place, Canada and the US have made it much easier now to travel. Canada has an app called ArriveCAN, where you can enter all prerequisites for your return to the Great White North 72 hours before the flight. The friendly airline staff and US / Canada border agent will verify your vaccination or negative test status upon exit and re-entry.

The second reason for less tournaments this year is that a couple of them are normally run around the time **that we are playing the 22nd Open Skat World Championship this year in Edmonton.** For this year, this means that there will not be a tournament in

Kelowna and the regular Edmonton tournament is also going to be canceled in lieu of the Weltmeisterschaft (WM). There are however still plans for adding the odd additional tournament in 2022, like the Hamilton North American Championship in the latter part of October, so please stay tuned and check the tournament schedule often.

With Canada Day (July 1) behind us and the US Independence Day celebrations on the 4th of July, the excitement to play the most prestigious Skat tournament of all in Edmonton in August is growing! Preparations are well underway, and the venue for the mid-week excursion has been chosen. The committee has chosen to give the participants and Schlachtenbummler (spectators) a view into Canada's past by visiting Fort Edmonton, which is only a very short bus ride away from where the championship is played. For one day, you will travel back in time to the olden days of Canada to hear, see and feel how the indigenous people of this our great country learned to live with the early settlers. With the registration to the WM still open (the registration page is under Tournaments), we encourage you not to miss out on this fantastic experience. We hope to see many of you next month at the Chateau Lacombe Hotel in Edmonton!

Cheers and Gut Blatt!

Gerd Reiner

Secretary and Webmaster

Dear Skat friends and Spectators,

Canada is very proud and excited to be hosting the 22nd WM in Edmonton, Alberta. You may ask "Why" and "What" does Edmonton have to offer to the World to come to and play Skat. Edmonton is one of the Top 5 cities in Canada having a population of over a million people. We are mostly known for having the largest shopping mall in North America, the largest in the world until 2004, being one of the largest oil producers in the world and Edmonton had Wayne Gretzky the best hockey player in the world (the Edmonton Oilers won 5 Stanley Cups). So, if you win the WM in 2022 you would win it in Canada's City of Champions.

When selecting the excursion, part of the tournament registration fee, the committee first and foremost considered the wellbeing of the participants and spectators to enjoy a relaxing excursion without a lengthy bus ride. The excursion for the participants will target learning about the history of Canada, its western settlers, and their coexistence with the native people of the area, while enjoying an outdoor BBQ in the Fort Edmonton Park. Participants have the freedom to explore the park with all indoor and outdoor exhibits on their own pace, maximizing the experience.

The Skat tournament is hosted in one of Edmonton's lovely downtown hotels (Chateau Lacombe). The hotel offers excellent rooms and great food in a central location. Located downtown there are many bars and restaurants nearby and a brand-new arena / casino within walking distance (Rogers Place).

What should really bring you to Edmonton, Alberta, Canada? It's the SKAT Players, known for having some of the best and some of the worst Skat players in the world. We are all fun to play with and friendly hosts. Alberta has the largest group of organized Skat members in Canada. So, to win this World Championship you better know how to play against all types of players. Berlin was easy, they were all good, you just had to be lucky. Come join us in August 2022 for the 22nd World Championship. A Canadian Skat experience you'll never forget.

Ron Link

President ISPA Canada

Tournament Report Summer 2022

The spring newsletter covered the first three tournaments of the year with Houston, TX, the 37th Canadian Championship in Montréal, QC and the tournament in Ottawa, ON. One month later, the Skat community assembled again, this time in Saskatoon. While Saskatoon does no longer have their own facility, the club did a great job finding a very suitable venue at the “Sports on Tap” sports bar, where they continue to compete within their weekly Skat sessions.

SaSKATchewan Tournament, Saskatoon, SK

33 Skat players met at Sports on Tap located at 2606 Lorne Avenue, Saskatoon, SK, a great turnout for a post pandemic year Skat round. A lot of fun was had not only during the tournament, but also afterwards at the Pink Cadillac, where several people gave a demonstration of their dance skills to live music.



The highlight at the tournament however, at least in the opinion of the editor, was the chocolate cheesecake that Shelley made for the players. A piece of heaven for the taste buds, there is no other way to

describe it. Thank you so much, Shelley, for making it and for sharing the recipe:



The 29th SaSKAToon tournament resulted in the top four spots being taken by Alberta, it was however Ed Eckl from Saskatoon, who rounded up the top five. It was a close shootout at table one where the top three were separated by only 84 points:



Congratulations to Eric for coming out ahead of Danny by 33 points, followed by our 2022 Canadian Champion Kristina a further 51 points back. As for the team, the self-proclaimed “Lightweights” collected 21944 points: Werner, Michael, Eric, and Scott!



The Seriensienger were Kristina, Ryan, Keith, and Ed:



An additional highlight was the Grand Ouvert played by Kurt Wehr, a very losable hand demanding a two-two split in Diamonds:



Here are all Saskatoon results, congratulations to all winners:

ISPA Canada - 29th Saskatoon Tournament 2022

Name	Club	Start#	ISPA#	Round1	Round2	Round3	Round4	Round5	Total
1 LUZ, Eric	CAL	101	11	640	1833	1326	1448	977	6224
2 RIDDER, Danny	EDM	104	40	1343	617	1341	1882	1008	6191
3 HUISMAN, Kristina	EDM	201		1807	764	1864	1151	754	6140
4 SOMMER, Michael	EDM	204		999	1059	1597	841	1612	5908
5 ECKL, Ed	SK	403	267	800	1324	852	779	1733	5488
6 ROEWKAMP, Monika	SK	209	888	621	738	1304	1284	1201	5148
7 FAHR, Siegfried	SK	405	272	1339	1005	1363	517	905	5129
8 MCCORMICK, Scott	OTT	302		1149	771	1162	1319	646	5047
9 LUZ, Fern	CAL	102	198	1551	929	580	1015	933	5008
10 ROEWKAMP, Jens	SK	307		829	1378	1316	549	869	4939
11 KORONKO, Keith	SK	108	454	801	241	698	1963	1191	4892
12 TRAILL, Rebecca	SK	402	25	347	1114	858	1378	1131	4828
13 ROEWKAMP, Werner	SK	406	281	1183	1133	810	935	704	4765
14 REINER, Gerd	RD	304	889	944	1141	1125	1015	506	4731
15 BELANGER, Monika	EDM	105		549	1053	1212	1314	601	4729
16 PETERS, Bob	SK	306	2	618	1455	312	886	1254	4525
17 DEE, Donna	EDM	106		457	852	1146	739	1282	4476
18 LAPRELL, Rudi	SK	109	671	1138	474	1167	245	1390	4414
19 ROHRER, Joe	RD	303	263	627	535	1202	803	928	4095
20 WEHR, Kurt	EDM	206		1187	1035	602	344	830	3998
21 STEINMETZ, Hans-Juergen	KEL	301		745	649	981	1271	262	3908
22 BILAN, Ryan	WPG	308	388	758	1848	614	649	0	3869
23 KUNST, Dinah	WPG	309	446	1203	1127	558	976	0	3864
24 NEUFELD, Diane	SK	208	892	923	382	618	979	898	3800
25 SCHEER, Christine	CAL	103		1409	1135	750	496	0	3790
26 VERHAEGHE, Genia	EDM	205		1240	482	620	1430	0	3772
27 NEUFELD, Barry	SK	207	881	1434	907	124	163	1056	3684
28 ROHRER, Margrit	RD	305		544	1158	343	775	162	2982
29 SMITH, Tami	EDM	203		487	455	769	347	862	2920
30 HUNGNESS, Shelley	SK	107	285	-48	633	977	352	899	2913
31 ECKL, Marie	SK	404	268	635	470	711	161	791	2768
32 KUCHER, Colin	EDM	202		774	167	659	-59	1140	2681
33 PETERS, Sherry	SK	401	3	992	1083	105			2180

Calgary Tournament, Calgary, AB

On very short notice, Calgary decided to put their tournament mid-week between Saskatoon and Red Deer. June 1 and 2 marked the game days in Calgary. This gave some non-western players a chance to play three tournaments in a row, which was one of the reasons for the quick decision to run the tournament. These two factors resulted in only 11 players competing in Calgary. And sure enough, Scott McCormick from Ottawa seized the opportunity to add a tournament win to his tally of wins with 6213 points, followed by Mike Buchmann (5636 points) and Eric Luz (5286 points). No teams were played due to the low number of players, and apparently no photographer was on hand either to snap a picture of the series winners either. The series winners were:

1. Bernd Luz (1341 points)
2. Oskar Schneider (1649 points)
3. Scott McCormick (1424 points)
4. Scott McCormick (1591 points)
5. Dinah Kunst (1329 points)



Red Deer Tournament, Red Deer, AB

Following the Calgary tournament was Red Deer. Since this tournament date was known well in advance on the calendar, a total of 36 players arrived to compete in Central Alberta. Thanks to John, our previous club president, Red Deer managed to provide a prize to every participant and thanks to the Rohrer family, all players enjoyed a great steak dinner on Saturday night.

The Red Deer tournament was, believe it or not, decided in Round 4 due to a very large number of horseshoes for our Ronny. Of course, Ron knows how to play, but as a front row witness, this editor can confirm that the Skat gods were very much favoring our ISPA Canada president. Being miles ahead of the remaining players at the table, the powers above threw him a Grand Overt as the last game,

completing a 2174 round and so deciding the tournament early. With a total point lead of just under 1000 points (978, to be exact), Ron won his 62nd ISPA tournament with 6636 points. Scott McCormick managed 2nd place with 5658 points, 210 points ahead of 3rd place Eric Luz:



As for the team winners, the 2022 Canadian Champions (Kristina, Gerd, Eric, and Ron) marginally outperformed the second team with 21797 points total team score:



The five Seriensieger also took home some nice glassware courtesy of the work from the Moldowan family and Red Deer's beer rep:



Worthy mentioning besides the usual winning suspects Eric, Scott and Ron are Ryan Bilan (winner round three) from Winnipeg and Rebecca Traill (winner round five) from Saskatoon.

Best lady of Red Deer 2022 was Dinah Kunst in 4th place, being points even with Eric (5448 points), however with Eric having more wins, Dinah was declared fourth, best lady nonetheless:



Finally, Red Deer also gave out a prize for the toughest tournament, which was won by Rita Schütz for lowest points score (right picture above).

Donna Erickson, the president of The German-Canadian Club of Red Deer then presented the prize for Ron's Day1 and Day2 winner and the Grand Ouvert:



In the right column of this page at the top, you can review the full results from the Red Deer tournament.

Name	Club	Start#	ISPA#	Round1	Round2	Round3	Round4	Round5	Total
LINK, Ron	EDM	309	33	1253	1432	1131	2174	646	6636
McCORMICK, Scott	OTT	409	236	668	1602	1230	635	1523	5658
LUZ, ERIC	CAL	303	10	1771	604	1315	1020	838	5548
KUNST, Dinah	WPG	209	355	1240	350	1336	1504	1018	5448
SOMMER, Michael	EDM	405	49	1645	623	661	1052	1365	5346
BUCHMANN, Mike	CAL	305	28	826	1118	1127	1390	879	5340
TRAILL, Rebecca	SK	204	25	395	1265	1247	693	1703	5303
HUISMAN, Kristina	EDM	406	446	1691	683	920	916	1078	5288
RIDDER, Danny	EDM	401	40	1579	922	818	990	861	5170
KOMMNICK, Fred	RD	102	259	1167	1283	948	700	1063	5161
LAVOIE, VICTOR	CAC	302	851	1085	1389	700	970	932	5076
WEHR, Kurt	EDM	407	893	1593	1125	409	873	764	4764
BILAN, Ryan	WPG	301	388	1117	448	1439	722	981	4707
LUZ, Fern	CAL	306	198	667	769	971	974	1252	4633
HUEBLER, Peter	RD	101	14	415	942	756	1004	1472	4589
SCHULTZ, Walter	EDM	404	46	626	902	916	767	1378	4589
LUZ, BERND	CAL	304	11	825	1207	1414	788	347	4581
PETERS, Sherry	SK	203	3	1086	647	311	1101	1192	4337
REINER, GERD	RD	106	689	1352	1355	1062	208	348	4325
ROHRER, Josef	RD	104	263	531	1110	1059	1426	192	4318
TESKE, Gerhard	RD	108	N/A	1222	1276	68	777	864	4207
THOMPSON, Henrietta	RD	201	TBD	499	933	517	905	1269	4123
NEUFELD, Diane	SK	208	882	595	850	1365	494	777	4081
RIDDER, Peter	EDM	402	42	470	1126	788	779	866	4009
LAVOIE, Joslyn	CAL	307	889	857	53	1047	972	904	3833
ROWEKAMP, Werner	SK	205	283	893	1180	1116	614	0	3803
NEUFELD, Barry	SK	207	881	352	1348	755	857	350	3662
ERICKSON, Donna	RD	107	N/A	700	453	746	324	1348	3571
PETERS, Bob	SK	202	2	852	526	962	849	320	3509
ROHRER, Margrit	RD	105	264	526	854	693	656	454	3183
KORONKO, Keith	SK	206	454	127	394	908	1009	612	3050
DEE, Donna	EDM	403	43	301	957	833	934	-2	3023
BELANGER, Monika	EDM	308	26	228	492	536	869	719	2844
KUHNEN, Frank	RD	103	260	782	1039	788	0	0	2609
KUCHER, Colin	EDM	408	CV	897	604	-88	320	546	2279
SCHUETZ, Rita	RD	109	TBD	507	478	567	0	0	1552
TEAM WINNERS:	Canadian Champions								
Ron Link									6636
Kristina Huisman									5288
Eric Luz									5548
Gerd Reiner									4325
TOTAL									21797

Santa Monica Tournament, Santa Monica, CA

Next up was the Santa Monica tournament on June 22/23. With the tournament in the middle of the week, unfortunately only 14 players made it out to the California coast. Frank Dankemeyer used the home turf advantage to win the tournament with a total of 5595 points, 309 points ahead of Cleveland's Roger Beckerman (5286 points). Horst Butze completed the top three with 5075 points:



With the lower number of players, no teams were formed in Santa Monica, however the Seriensiieger were as follows:

1. Roger Beckerman (Cleveland)
2. Horst Butze (Santa Monica)
3. Jeannette Spence (Cleveland)
4. Roger Beckerman (Cleveland)
5. Frank Dankemeyer (Santa Monica)



Congratulations to Frank for winning the home cup and to all winners.

8th US Open Skat Championship, Las Vegas, NV

Last but not least in this edition of the 2nd ISPA Newsletter of 2022 is the 8th US Open Skat Championship, which was held in Las Vegas the weekend after Santa Monica, from June 25 to 26.

It was a bit surprising to see only 31 players coming to the gambling city. The ones coming out though had a great time including the eight players from Canada (Alberta and B.C.) The low participation can likely be explained for the following reasons: The Las Vegas tournament, originally scheduled as the first tournament of 2022 had to be canceled in January due to airlines canceling the outbound flights from Las Vegas with Covid wave 6 of the pandemic being the reason. Subsequently, the change in travel rules confused quite a few players, not knowing what the compliance rules were to be able to fly and re-enter their home country.

After round four, Roger Beckerman from Cleveland was leading Ron Link from Edmonton by 100 points, a

lead that Roger would not relinquish but instead extend to 529 points to become the 8th US Skat Champion! Third place with a very respectable 5720 points was Jim Leissner from Sequin, Texas. Congratulations to the 8th US Champion Roger Beckerman and all winners.

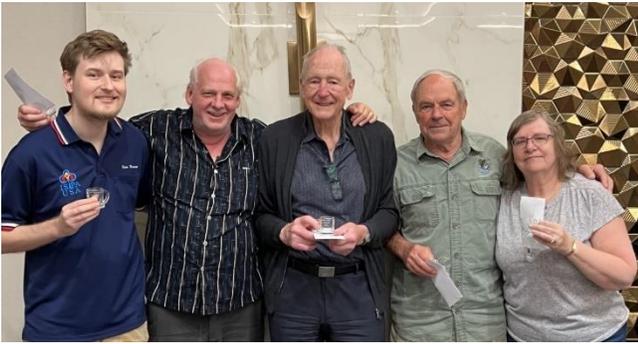


As for the team winners, even though only five players from Alberta traveled to Las Vegas, four of them managed to win the team competition: Ron Link, Geria Verhaeghe, Donna Dee (all from Edmonton) and Gerd Reiner (Red Deer) managed to collect 21383 points as team “Alberta Anyway” to beat the “Neatly Trimmed Stallions” from Cleveland by 558 points to win the title 8th US Skat Team Champions:



The following five competitors took honors as Seriensiieger, winning one series each:

1. Kevin Thompson (1994 points)
2. Ron Link (1932 points)
3. Martin Mache (1582 points)
4. Horst Tanke (1465 points)
5. Donna Dee (1391 points)



After the tournament, some players and their spouses that were not leaving right away on Sunday got together at the Hofbräuhaus in Las Vegas to celebrate the tournament, but more importantly the friendships that our beloved game creates. We enjoyed the Bavarian food and drinks, live music with Alp Horns and each others' company, as you can see below:



At the end of the night all of us were very much surprised by the fact that one player picked up the whole tab for the evening: A BIG THANK you to Milton!

Finally, Rosita Rodehueser, Ron Link and the editor want to remind you that we want to see you all for the 22nd Open Skat World Championship in Edmonton! To ensure that even the late deciders have a chance to compete in the WM, the registration continues to be open for players who have yet to decide playing in the Skat Weltmeisterschaft 2022 for a shot of the title 2022 Skat World Champion!

Simply fill out the form by clicking on this link:

<https://www.skatcanada.ca/registration>

Gut Blatt, see you in August!

Gerd Reiner

Secretary and Webmaster