

# SHARKY'S BREAKING NEWS

December 7, 2009

Where the Shooters play in Sedalia

- Since 1995

## 2009-10 All American ACS/Lucasi Hybrid Tour Stops at Sharky's Billiards

M. Allee



1st Place- Andy Craig  
2nd - Lloyd Moreland  
3rd - Greg Mantei, ACS member  
4th - Jim Helt  
5th & 6th - Mike Brown and  
Travis Garner, Aurora, MO

In the picture from left to right:  
Lloyd Moreland, Greg Mantei,  
Andy Craig, Jim Helt

Sharky's welcomed top notch players from around the state and Illinois December 5th for the All American Tour Stop in a race to seven and five double-elimination tournament. In a field of thirty shooters, Andy Craig of Springfield, MO, dominated the winner's bracket.

Craig sent Lloyd Moreland of Camdenton, MO, to the loser's bracket in the third round of play. Moreland had the toughest battle of the day by far. As the previous year's winner, he gave his opponents two games in the winner's bracket and one in the loser's. Therefore, in the winner's bracket, he had to win eight games before his opponent won six. In the match between Moreland and Craig, when tied five to five, Craig got out and won the sixth game to send Moreland to the loser's bracket in the fourth round. Craig then sent his friend, Jim Helt of Brighton, MO, to the loser's bracket in the fourth round. Greg Mantei of Sedalia, MO, was the next to be sent to the loser's bracket in the fifth round after going to the hill. From that point on, Craig was waiting for the loser's bracket to finish battling it out.

After Moreland landed in the loser's bracket and while still giving up one game, he beat Brad Blankenship and Josh Blaylock, both of Sedalia, and Mike Brown of Windsor, MO, to advance to the competition for the top four. There he faced Jim Helt.

In the battle for fourth place, Moreland beat Helt in a hill-hill battle to move on to the battle against Mantei for third. Mantei was shooting straight and true all day, but Moreland could taste victory. After having battled uphill through every match and giving up a game or two before he even started, Moreland soundly defeated Mantei 7-4. Now he would have to double-dip Craig if he

wanted the tournament win.

Putting Moreland back on a more even footing with Craig in the competition for first place, it was determined that Moreland would have to win eight games before Craig won seven. Moreland still gave up a game, but with a longer battle he was not longer quite so handicapped. Both shooters led at different points in the match, but in the end Craig claimed the victory with a 7-5 score.

Tournament Director Mellody Allee said she could not thank Lloyd Moreland enough for having the initiative to accept the challenge of being a previous year's winner and competing with the handicap. Thanks to Moreland's willingness to take on that challenge, she now knows how she can make the tournament even better in the future. After a discussion between several of the players, it was decided that in next year's tournament the previous year's winner will still give up two in the winner's bracket, but the race will be lengthened not shortened. The advantage is still for the novice player in the number of games played, but the previous year's winner has a better chance of surviving the longer match.

Also, in the race to first, should the previous year's winner make it to the battle for the top four, the playing field will then be leveled totally. From that point on it will be an even race. Andy Craig has said he will take on that challenge next year. We look forward to having him back! ~~~