

New Cargo Trailer for the Ontario Shuffleboard Association

Many of the visitors and players who attended the OSA Tournament in Goderich on June 24/26 2014 were interested and possibly surprised to see a new Cargo trailer sitting on the floor of the Arena.



The story about the trailer goes something like this:

The subject of replacing the old unsafe cargo trailer has been discussed by the OSA executive for many years and the latest was in 2013 at the AGM meeting in Nobel.

Gary Pipher was given the project and the following is his report of what took place.

The Ontario Shuffleboard Association was in bad need of new cargo trailer to replace the old and unsafe trailer which they were currently using.

There was no breaking system / the roof leaked and the main frame was rusted to a point where it had become unsafe for transporting on the highway.

It was just a matter of time before someone towing the trailer was pulled over by the authorities and charged under the highway traffic act for transporting an unsafe load.

In addition , the appearance of the old trailer did nothing to promote the sport of Shuffleboard.

A Grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation was applied for by Pipher in the fall of 2014 and the money for the purchase of the trailer was made available in the spring of 2014.

Advertisement by Dom Sports / Allen R. Shuffleboard and Stan McCormack of the "Shuffler" as well as the CNSA helped support the cost of the graphics.



The trailer is equipped with interior lighting in the front cabin and has a 110 V outlet to power the disc cleaner. There is a hand cart for moving the courts from the arena floor to the trailer, and vice versa,

The rear double doors of the trailer open fully to allow easy access to the 20 rolled up courts which are placed in cardboard sauna tubes and each one is nested in their respective bunks, all of which are made of aluminum construction to reduce overall weight.

The heavy rubber court dividers are placed in a rolling cupboard located at the lowest point of the trailer designed to keep the center of gravity low, and locked in place for travelling. The cupboard rolls in and out beyond the rear doors of the trailer with very little effort and permits access to all court dividers, brooms etc



The courts and all heavy items were strategically located over the tandem wheels to evenly distribute the load, This makes for a safe and easy transportation of the light weight aluminum trailer which has 4 wheel electronic braking system.

The 20 wood frame scoreboard easels are stored on the top shelf of the rear cabin, and the cues are nested in the center tube located between the rolled up courts.

The score boards are easily stacked in the front cabin within a channel frame storage area.

All 20 sets of discs are secured along the outboard wall and the disc polisher is on the rear bench next to the bulkhead



There is plenty of space to store other miscellaneous items along the sides, or in the upper cupboard located along the front wall.

The spare tire and wheel c/w lug wrench and hydraulic jack are also secured within this lockable front cabin.

Anyone who has ever helped clean up after a tournament is aware that one of the hardest jobs in cleaning up, is rolling the courts and rubber dividers and packing them away for transportation and storage.

Part of this job is now made much simpler since there is a specific location for everything, and the time and labor required to secure the items once placed inside the trailer is greatly reduced.

The project of sourcing a new trailer for the OSA began in October of 2013, and with exception of losing the first initial major sponsor the project went over reasonably well.

The Trillium Foundation were more than generous with their funding and allowed for the purchase a superior quality all Aluminum constructed trailer from Action Trailers of Strathroy ON.

All layout and designs were by Gary Pipher and fabrication of the aluminum interior was contracted to Barrie Welding and Machine, and a good neighbor and close friend helped me to cut and install the plywood bulk head and shelving.

The trailer Graphics was contracted out to Pros Marketing of Midland and all photos and copy art was supplied by Pipher.

The two ladies "Clara Clark and Ilse Vooght " so graciously agreed to having their photos displayed along the sides of the trailer are to be thanked and congratulated for showing such great form and for making Shuffleboard appear as interesting and challenging as it truly is.

Gary