

President's Column

by David Campbell



Remember When —Alan Jackson

In the song “Remember When,” Alan Jackson looks back on his life with his wife. He describes their love from their first time together, through raising their children, and describes how he and his wife will “remember when” the children were young up until after they have grown and started their own life.

You are probably asking what this has to do with cribbage? I have been very lucky to travel and meet all sorts of people throughout the country. Almost without exception conversations about cribbage take place, and I hear stories about events that happened last week or something that occurred thirty years ago.

Okay, are you asking still where is this going? Here is your answer: how do you want to be remembered thirty years from now when our and others’ kids are the ones hearing stories about us? When you play a cribbage tournament, you will be remembered not for how you won games

but more so for how you lost them. Be kind, respect your elders, we learned from our parents many years ago. Somewhere along the path, winning a game at any cost became much more important than being a good person for some of us.

Have you noticed at most tournaments or Grass Roots the same people call for judges over and over, week after week? At the same time, you can also think: when was the last time so-and-so called for a judge? Here is what I ask of you: the next time a player reneges and then, three seconds later, after incorrectly pegging, says “I have another card I could have played,” that you allow them to play that card and not try to get two free points by calling a judge?

Without question we lose more new players by people throwing rules at them than any other way. I am only asking you to help us and, more importantly, yourself by doing the kind thing—not the anyway-I-can-win thing. In the end you all get to choose, but please remember my little story about the song “Remember When” the next time you choose which path. **CW**

Want to see how your friends did at a tourney you weren't able to attend? Go to americancribbagecongress.challenge.com to see more than six hundred playoff brackets that our many volunteers have created.