



Date: May 28, 2005
Location: Kelly's Pub

Event: National 8 Ball Open Doubles Qualifier



Dana Andersen and Mark Villa

On Saturday, May 28th, 2005, 10 teams came to Kelly's Pub all hoping to secure the last available spot up for grabs at the 2005 National Open Doubles at the Riviera in August. With some tough teams in the draw, Anderson and Villa factoring to an 8 handicap were definitely not favored to win the event but they somehow managed scrap their way to a win match after match. Their first match started off in disaster losing games 1 and 2 to AJ Feliz and Mike Ascencio. Gaining some composure and a few good roles, Andersen and Villa, sucked it up and booked the next 3 games to advance. Luck of the draw put these same 2 teams in a rematch later. This time, with confidence on their side, they quickly disposed of the Feliz/Ascencio team 3-1. In their next match vs. James Silva and Phil Espanto, Andersen and Villa in a flash lost the opening 2 games again only to recover and win the next 3 to advance. In the Finals, they faced the seeming unstoppable team of Paul Joko (SL 7) and Karissa "Peek-a-boo" Willie (SL 3). The Joko/Willie team had not been contested so far as they cruised their way into the finals. As is the common theme in pool, it is never easy as the final match ended up hill-hill with both teams needing 1 win to get to Vegas in August. The last game went back and forth. Villa/Andersen got to the 8 ball first but it was an almost impossible shot. Andersen tried to cross the 8 ball but missed. Joko in turn, batted one of his object balls up table to lay a safety for Villa. Mark, with no clear pocket for the 8 tried to wedge one in but missed. Karissa missed a slight cut on her 2 from last object ball leaving Andersen a shot on the 8 to take the match, which he disposed of easily. Congratulations Mark Villa and Dana Andersen. We'll be seeing you in Vegas!