

# JOHN CRITES

OSA Player

## Tidbits

- John belongs to the Niagara Regional Shuffleboard League and has his own team
- He held clinics at his house to teach some of the new women players in his area
- He plays in most OSA tournaments
- He's played at the Canadian Championships five times.
- He is an avid golfer and also plays volleyball in his spare time



John and Rico win Men's Doubles in Victoria in 1997 and also in 1999 in Niagara Falls

## *From Basement Spectator To Canadian Champ*

Back in 1989 when John was just a teenager he would hang out in the basement of his friends house and they would watch his dad Claude and his friends dad Tom playing Shuffleboard.

Those Dads went on to win the 1981 Ontario Championships and John knew that he would want to follow in his Dad's footsteps.

Even though he was underage he managed to sneak his way into a tournament at the Ritz Hotel in

Port Colborne and played his first tournament with his dad Claude Crites. Surprisingly they drew four hangars in a row to win the tournament against Tom Johnston. One of the men who inspired him to play Shuffleboard at such a young age.

At nineteen years of age the Crites family were pretty much all playing shuffleboard so they decided to form a family team made up of John, his parents and his aunts and uncles.

They joined the Niagara league.

For several years he played with his dad in the Ontario Playdowns until he was asked to play with a new partner. He and his partner Rico went on to win the Canadian Championships Men's Doubles events in Victoria BC in 1997 and again in Niagara Falls in 1999.

He also played the Mixed event at the Canadian Championships in 1997 with his cousin Sandy.

John later took several years off from playing and focused on being a Dad to his children Courtney and Dillan His son loves to play shuffleboard as well. John's Dad built Dillan a step so he could reach the board when he was four years old and John has been teaching him a few little tricks since then. We will likely be seeing Dillan competing when he is a little older.

## *Returns to Playing After Ten Years*

In 2011 John decided to come out of "retirement" and teamed up once again with his old partner Rico .

He and his new Mixed partner Theresa Lynk took second place in the Canadian Championships in Vancouver in 2011.

John is looking forward to many more years of playing and is excited about playing with his son. Another generation of Crites coming up.

*"Like history being repeated"*



John and Mixed Doubles partner Theresa Lynk win second place at 2011 Canadians in Vancouver