

Claude Crites

OSA Player

Decades of Playing

Claude comes from Port Colborne in southern Ontario and has been playing shuffleboard for more than four decades

His love of the game started back in 1955 when he was sailing on the Great Lakes.

He and five of his sailor friends went to a bar in Toledo Ohio and saw this long board with colored rocks, so of course, he and his ship-mates had to find out what this was all about and started playing this game.

Well after consuming a half a dozen pitchers of ice cold beer and playing, he fell in love with this sport they called ' Shuffleboard '.

Since that time Claude has been hooked on the game and plays pretty much everyday. He has a board in his basement and amuses himself very well from day to day by inventing his own games and practicing constantly.

He and a group of other players started a league in Port Colborne in the early 60's and it is still going strong today.

Claude finds it very gratifying to see so many younger players taking an interest in the sport.

He says *"It can certainly be a very challenging game and one he would like to see go on for years to come."*

OSA tournaments are held every month in Port Colborne and he tries to play in all of them.



Claude Crites

Playing for more than four decades

He has won 15 or 16 Ontario Play-downs and has placed second and third in the Canadian Championships.

He says "Just to place is an honor for anyone...there is some very stiff competition out there"

Claude feels he won't ever compete in a Canadian event again, but will always play the game.

He is hooked on it one hundred percent!

Family of players

His wife Helen, and their son John play as well. His brothers and their children also played for years, so Shuffleboard is definitely in the Crites blood!

Claude says *"Even if I need a cane I'll still be around just to teach those young ones a thing or two."*

He says "See you on the Shuffleboard circuit!"