

THE AMERICAN POOLPLAYER



SUMMER 2019



American Poolplayers Association
1000 Lake Saint Louis Boulevard, Suite 325
Lake Saint Louis, Missouri 63367

inside:

Poolplayer Championships Results

Instruction by Dr. Cue

World Pool Championships Preview 2019



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ALPINE CASE





Hi everyone, I hope you're enjoying summer!

We kicked off summer APA style with the ultimate "pool party" in Vegas in early May. The Poolplayer Championships, which paid out over \$750,000

in cash and prizes, was the perfect way to start the new League year!

Next up is the APA Junior Championships in late June! Share your passion for pool with your son or daughter by contacting your League Operator today and getting them involved in the Juniors Program.

In a few weeks we head back to Vegas for our biggest event of the year – the APA World Pool Championships! Poolplayers from across the globe will invade the Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino for a pool party unlike any other as they compete for more than \$1 Million in guaranteed prize money.

Don't miss any of the excitement; make your plans to attend today! Keep up with all our events and happenings on our Facebook page at facebook.com/poolplayers.

Terry Bell
President

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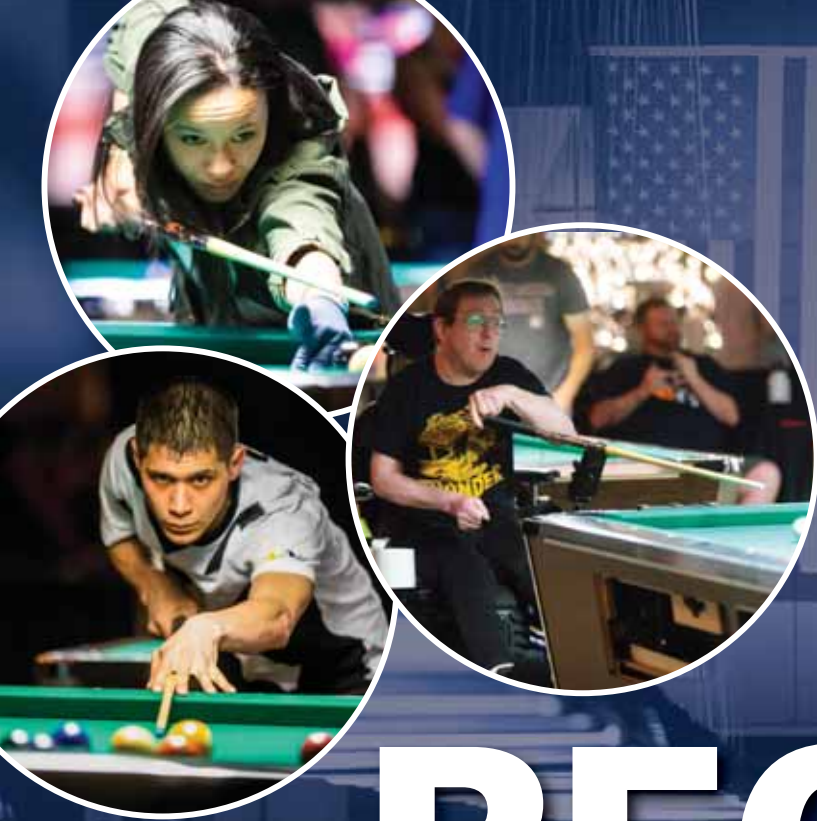


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RECORD ATTENDANCE

at APA Poolplayer Championships

Poolplayers looking for yet another opportunity to make it to Vegas are finding their way there by competing in the Poolplayer Championships. More than 2,500 players made their way to the Westgate Resort & Casino in Las Vegas in early May for APA's annual spring event.

Poolplayers from 49 states and two countries competed for nearly \$750,000 in five events: the 8-Ball Classic, 9-Ball Shootout, 8 and 9-Ball Doubles Championships and the Wheelchair Championship.

After five days of nearly non-stop action, 12 new champions had cemented their poolplaying legacy by taking home an APA title.





9-Ball Shootout



by Jason Bowman

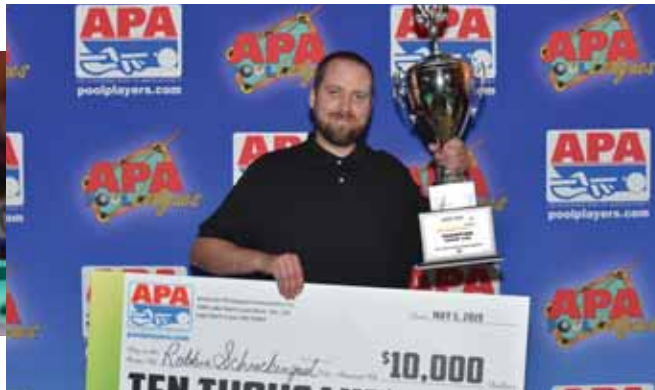
Nearly 500 APA members won trips to Vegas to compete in this year's 9-Ball Shootout. More than \$225,000 in cash and prizes was up for grabs in four Skill Level Tiers. After 48 hours of tournament competition, just eight players remained.

The champion in each tier would be rewarded with \$10,000 in cash and prizes, but to take home the top prize, one final challenge remained. With trophies and oversized prize checks in view, and cameras rolling, four title matches would be decided.

Green Tier (Skill Levels 1-3)



Runner-Up
Donavan Balan of Hacienda Heights, CA



Champion
Robbie Schreckengost of Kearneysville, WV



3rd Place
Loni Gillette of Kent, WA

3rd Place
Brittany Hiltonsmith of Christiansburg, VA

In the Green Tier, **Robbie Schreckengost** of Kearneysville, W.V., defeated **Donavan Balan** of Hacienda Heights, Calif. **Brittany Hiltonsmith** of Christiansburg, Va., and **Loni Gillette** of Kent, Wash., tied for 3rd Place. Fifty-nine players competed in the Green Tier.

	Skill Level	Points Needed to Win	Final Score
Robbie Schreckengost	3	25	25
Donavan Balan	4*	31	23

*Indicates player's skill level went up during the tournament.

White Tier (Skill Levels 4-5)



Runner-Up
Shareef Chandler-El of Schaumburg, IL



Champion
Bryan Marcum of Worthington, OH



3rd Place
Lee Arner of Lehigh, PA

3rd Place
James Newberry of Paola, KS

In the White Tier, **Bryan Marcum** of Worthington, Ohio, defeated **Shareef Chandler-El** of Schaumburg, Ill. **Lee Arner** of Lehigh, Pa., and **James Newberry** of Paola, Kan., tied for 3rd Place. The White Tier had a field of 183 players.

	Skill Level	Points Needed to Win	Final Score
Bryan Marcum	6*	46	46
Shareef Chandler-El	5	38	23

*Indicates player's skill level went up during the tournament.



The Runner-Up in each tier received cash and prizes worth \$5,000. Third Place finishers took home a prize package worth \$3,000. **Jerry Brown** of St. Petersburg, Fla., received the Sportsmanship Award in the 9-Ball Shootout.

Gray Tier (Skill Levels 6-7)



Runner-Up

Terry Lecreux of Toronto, ON

Champion

Edward Arciniega of National City, CA

3rd Place

Edgar Martinez of Stafford, TX

3rd Place

Joseph Valania of Saddle Brook, NJ

In the first year of the newly added Gray Tier, **Edward Arciniega** of National City, Calif., defeated **Terry Lecreux** of Toronto. Edgar Martinez of Stafford, Texas, and Joseph Valania of Saddle Brook, N.J., tied for 3rd Place. The Gray Tier had a field of 140 players in its inaugural year.

	Skill Level	Points Needed to Win	Final Score
Edward Arciniega	6	46	46
Terry Lecreux	8*	65	52

*Indicates player's skill level went up during the tournament.

Black Tier (Skill Levels 8-9)



Runner-Up

William Gallagher, Jr. of Atco, NJ

Champion

Dustin Gunia of Omaha, NE

3rd Place

Christopher Delee of Gainesville, GA

3rd Place

Roderick Rentz of Hazlehurst, GA

In the Black Tier, **Dustin Gunia** of Omaha, Neb., defeated **William Gallagher Jr.** of Atco, N.J. Roderick Rentz of Hazlehurst, Ga., and Christopher Delee of Gainesville, Ga., tied for 3rd Place. The Black Tier featured 100 participants.

	Skill Level	Points Needed to Win	Final Score
William Gallagher Jr.	9	75	53
Dustin Gunia	9	75	75





8-Ball Classic



by Jason Bowman

This year's Poolplayer Championships kicked off with the 8-Ball Classic. The event featured five Skill Level Tiers competing for more than \$375,000 in cash and prizes. Nearly 6,000 APA members competed in Regional competition for the 8-Ball Classic with 692 winning trips to advance to Las Vegas.

After two full days of competition, the action moved into the PoolDawg Championship Arena for the semifinal and final round of each Skill Level Tier.

Blue Tier (Skill Levels 2 & 3)



Runner-Up
Noemi Rodriguez of Chicago, IL

Champion
Karla Garcia of Miami, FL

3rd Place
Barbara Bush of New Bern, NC

3rd Place
Tisha Ponce De Leon of Olathe, KS

In the Blue Tier, **Karla Garcia** of Miami, Fla., defeated **Noemi Rodriguez** of Chicago, Ill. Barbara Bush of New Bern, N.C., and Tisha Ponce De Leon of Olathe, Kan., tied for 3rd Place. Fifty-four players competed in the Blue Tier.

	Skill Level	Games Needed to Win	Final Score
Noemi Rodriguez	4*	3	1
Karla Garcia	4*	3	3

*Indicates player's skill level went up during the tournament.

Yellow Tier (Skill Level 4)



Runner-Up
Christian Delgado of Winter Springs, FL

Champion
Jesse Garcia of Joliet, IL

3rd Place
Lindsey Carter of Carbondale, IL

3rd Place
T.C. Natale of Mabelvale, AR

In the Yellow Tier, **Jesse Garcia** of Joliet, Ill., defeated **Christian Delgado** of Winter Springs, Fla. Lindsey Carter of Carbondale, Ill., and T.C. Natale of Mabelvale, Ark., tied for 3rd Place. The Yellow Tier featured 109 players.

	Skill Level	Games Needed to Win	Final Score
Jesse Garcia	5*	4	4
Christian Delgado	4	3	1

*Indicates player's skill level went up during the tournament.

The Runner-Up in each tier received cash and prizes worth \$9,000. Third Place finishers took home a prize package worth \$4,000.

Shannon Peek of Sealy, Texas, won the Sportsmanship Award in the 8-Ball Classic.

Red Tier (Skill Level 5)



Runner-Up

Garrett Hogue of Forney, TX

Champion

Lawrence Samuel of Ocala, FL

3rd Place

Edgard Giribaldo of Stamford, CT

3rd Place

Calvin Lee of San Diego, CA

In the Red Tier, **Lawrence Samuel** of Ocala, Fla., defeated **Garrett Hogue** of Forney, Texas. Edward Giribaldo of Stamford, Conn., and Calvin Lee of San Diego, Calif., tied for 3rd Place. The Red Tier included 192 players.

	Skill Level	Games Needed to Win	Final Score
Garrett Hogue	6*	5	4
Lawrence Samuel	5	4	4

*Indicates player's skill level went up during the tournament.

Orange Tier (Skill Level 6)



Runner-Up

James Sevion of Montgomery, AL

Champion

Nazario Aguilar of Chicago, IL

3rd Place

Carlo Estrada of Sparks, NV

3rd Place

Steve Gaskins of Newark, DE

In the Orange Tier, **Nazario Aguilar** of Chicago, Ill., defeated **James Sevion** of Montgomery, Ala. Steve Gaskins of Newark, Del., and Carlo Estrada of Sparks, Nev., tied for 3rd Place. There were 190 players in the Orange Tier.

	Skill Level	Games Needed to Win	Final Score
James Sevion	6	5	4
Nazario Aguilar	6	5	5

Purple Tier (Skill Level 7)



Runner-Up

David Barnes of Denton, MD

Champion

Abrin Schaad of Pekin, IL

3rd Place

Bob Parker, Jr. of Dundalk, MD

3rd Place

Steven Weakly of Spokane, WA

In the Purple Tier, **Abrin Schaad** of Pekin, Ill., defeated **David Barnes** of Denton, Md. Steven Weakly of Spokane, Wash., and Bob Parker Jr. of Dundalk, Md., tied for 3rd Place. The Purple Tier had 147 players.

	Skill Level	Games Needed to Win	Final Score
David Barnes	7	5	4
Abrin Schaad	7	5	5



Showdown Series

by Becky Rosner



Swamp Donkeys 8-Ball Doubles Champions



Champions – Swamp Donkeys of Taunton, MA –
Ralph Serode, Jeff Waterman

The finals of the 8-Ball Doubles Championship on Sunday, May 5 paired **Swamp Donkeys** – Jeff Waterman (SL6) and Ralph Serode (SL4) – of Taunton, Mass., against **Drunk Tank** – Scott Esposito (SL5) and Vince Boettger (SL5) – of Chicago, Ill. The race was 4-4.

In the end, Swamp Donkeys persevered and took home the Championship title. The final score was 4-1.

Swamp Donkeys took home \$5,000 for their win, while Drunk Tank earned \$3,000 as Runners-Up.



Runners-Up – Drunk Tank of Chicago, IL – Scott Esposito, Vince Boettger

Team Shock'r – William Schumann and Matthew Port – of Davenport, Iowa were the Sportsmanship Award winners.



Sportsmanship Winner
Team Shock'r of Davenport, IA – Matthew Port, William Schumann

PFLS

9-Ball Doubles Champions

The finals of the 9-Ball Doubles Championship were the first to hit the PoolDawg Championship Arena. **PFLS** – David Griffin (SL6) and Henry Sevcik (SL4) – of Fayetteville, N.C., were up against **Kidless in Vegas** – Brittany Blomlie (SL5) and Wes Mancil (SL5) – of Ocala, Fla. The race was to 38 for both teams.

In the end, it was PFLS walking away champions 38-18. They earned \$3,500 for their win, while Kidless in Vegas took home \$2,300 as the Runner-Up.



Champions – PFLS of Fayetteville, NC – Henry Sevcik II, David Griffin



Runners-Up – Kidless in Vegas of Ocala, FL – Wes Mancil, Brittany Blomlie



Charlie Hans

Wheelchair Champion



Champion – Charlie Hans of Harrison, OH



Runner-Up / Sportsmanship Winner – Earl Hessbrook of Spring Branch, TX

The finals of the Wheelchair Championship took place in the PoolDawg Championship Arena on Friday, May 3. **Earl Hessbrook** (SL4) of Spring Branch, Texas, was up against defending champion **Charlie Hans** (SL7) of Harrison, Ohio. The race was 5-2.

Hans started out strong, but Hessbrook came back to make it a hill-hill match. In the end, Hans successfully defended his title.

Hans took home \$2,000 for his Champion finish. Hessbrook didn't go home empty-handed, earning \$1,200 as Runner-Up.

Hessbrook was also selected as the Sportsmanship winner.



Watch all the finals matches free on our YouTube Channel (youtube.com/apaleagues)!



Trick Shot Superstars Entertain Attendees

Billiard Hall of Famer Tom “Dr. Cue” Rossman was at the Poolplayer Championships performing his world famous trick shots, signing autographs and interacting with fans! In addition, internet trick shot sensation Florian “Venom” Kohler made a stop at the Westgate to perform a show, take photos and sign autographs for attendees.

If you'll be at the World Pool Championships, be sure to stop by and see Tom and Florian, as they'll be there all week!



THANK YOU



to all the referees who volunteered their time to make the 2019 Poolplayer Championships a success!



Third Row Back (L to R): Michael Monsees, Larry Smith, Randy Mattingly, Charles Doyle, Tracy Miller, Kevin McCarthy, Stephen Schneringer, John Blue

Second Row Back (L to R): Larry LaFrank, Robert Duke, Robert Garcia, Kevin Tesmacher, Robert Taylor Jr., Jimmie Hergert, Julian Phelps, David Derrenberger, Timothy McCormick

Front Row (L to R): Casey Betancur, Craig Richard, David Gosse, Wayne Anderson, Rob Schwedler, Andrew Breslin, Fred Hill, Anthony Mendoza, Robin Gault, Dean Bruschi, Daniel Dean, Brian Lundquist

Not pictured: Brandon Langan

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Don't Let Your Team Become a DQ Statistic!

THE APA HANDICAP SYSTEM

When a team that has advanced into a prize money bracket at an APA Championship event is disqualified, one of the penalties is the forfeiture of their prize money. Forfeited prize money is then distributed to the teams that were eliminated by the disqualified team earlier in the competition. In addition, all teams eliminated by the disqualified team are reviewed and considered for an invitation to compete in the following year's Championship tournament.

In any sport that uses a handicap system, there are always people who try to manipulate the system in order to gain an unfair advantage over their opponent. Commonly referred to as sandbagging, this unethical practice of deliberately playing below your ability to keep your skill level down is better described as cheating. Plain and simple, that's what it is.

APA League's handicap and scoring system, *The Equalizer*®, contains a number of anti-sandbagging measures, but it all starts with proper scorekeeping. The importance

of proper scorekeeping, which includes identifying and correctly marking Defensive Shots, cannot be stressed enough. In fact, not marking Defensive Shots properly is the number one reason teams get disqualified during the World Qualifiers and World Pool Championships.

It's important to remember that in order for sandbagging to take place, both players and teams must fail to follow the rules. The shooter must deliberately cheat, and the opponent must fail to properly mark the scoresheet. If scores are properly marked initially, there'd be no successful sandbagging, and disqualification wouldn't be necessary. Keep in mind, marking Defensive Shots does not affect the honest player. Be wary of players who argue against marking Defensive Shots!

So what exactly is a defensive shot? The APA's Official Team Manual states, "A Defensive Shot is a shot where there is no intent on the part of the shooter to pocket a ball of their category (8-Ball), or pocket any ball after contacting the lowest numbered

ball on the table (9-Ball)." Think of it this way—anytime you're not playing offense, you're playing defense. If you're trying to pocket your object ball, you're playing offense. Any other shot is a Defensive Shot and should be marked as such on the scoresheet. Yes, it's really that simple. And every year teams lose thousands of dollars because they're disqualified over something that simple.

To help educate teams and players, APA created a series of videos on understanding Defensive Shots and proper scorekeeping. These videos can be found at [youtube.com/apaleagues](https://www.youtube.com/apaleagues) and are a must-see for every APA member! It just might save your team from a disqualification.

No one likes disqualifying a team at the World Qualifiers or World Pool Championships. However, it's important for each team to have a fair chance of winning, and sometimes disqualifying a team is necessary to protect the honest teams, which make up the majority of the field, and the integrity of the event itself.

REMEMBER: Proper Scorekeeping = Accurate Handicapping = Fair Play

For the Love of the Game...

Win or Lose—Always Be a Good Sportsman!

GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

What does it mean to be a good sportsman? Merriam-Webster defines "sportsman" as, "a person who shows sportsmanship". Fair enough, but what does it mean to show sportsmanship? Another glance at Merriam-Webster and we see that "sportsmanship" is defined as, "conduct (as fairness, respect for one's opponent and graciousness in winning or losing) becoming to one participating in a sport".

Now we're getting somewhere—fairness, respect for one's opponent and graciousness in winning or losing. How many times have you played a team that exemplified those characteristics? And, how many times have you played a team that didn't? Which team would you rather play? And more importantly, which team are you on?

Good manners are essential for all competitive sports; sportsmanship is at the very heart of APA League play. Congratulating your opponent when he makes a good shot and celebrating with your opponent when he wins adds character to the game. Keep proper score, shake hands, give high fives, smile and talk friendly to your opponent and the opposing teams. All of these subtle acts encourage sportsmanship—and you'll have more fun as you play each week.

Have Fun. Meet People. Play Pool.®—that's what APA is all about. The League was founded on the premise of offering amateur poolplayers the opportunity to get together with friends, family and co-workers each week for a fun, friendly and relaxing time playing pool. When opponents show good sportsmanship, everybody has a good time—win or lose!

APA Recognizes TOP LEAGUE OPERATORS

by Jason Bowman



APA recognized their top franchisees with League Operator of the Year awards during its annual League Operator Convention in late April. The five winners were selected from a group of nearly 300 APA League Operators throughout North America, with one League Operator selected from each market size.

In the Level 1 Market, Rob Ahne of the Southern Illinois APA was selected as League Operator of the Year. Ewa and Mitch Laurance, and their partners, Nikki and Toby Graham, of the Coastal Carolina APA were the top League Operators in the Level 2 Market. In the Level 3 Market, Skip & Joyce Lassiter of the Birmingham APA were selected League Operators of the Year for the third consecutive year. Rob and Jennifer Miller, and their partner, Dan Simning, of the River Valley APA in Pennsylvania were selected in the Level 4 Market. Matt Gillespie of the Central Indiana APA was

awarded League Operator of the Year in the Level 5 Market.

APA awards a number of League Operators each year for their accomplishments in running their League area. Those selected as League Operator of the Year receive \$1,000 and a trophy.

In addition to recognizing the League Operators of the Year, APA also awarded the Rookie and Journeyman of the Year awards. Ashley and Kevin Morgan of the Lake and Osceola APA in Florida won the Rookie of the Year Award, while Don Ward of the Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill APA in North Carolina was selected for the Journeyman of the Year Award. The Journeyman of the Year is presented to the top League Operator who is no longer a rookie, but not yet eligible to receive the League Operator of the Year award.

APA President Terry Bell also named long-time League Operators Bruce and Ann Barthelette of the Connecticut APA as winners of the APA Lifetime Achievement Award. The Lifetime Achievement Award is presented annually for outstanding career achievements over 20 years or more.

The three-day conference, held at the Westgate Resort & Casino in Las Vegas, concluded with a formal reception where the winners were announced. This year's event also served as a celebration of APA's 40th Anniversary.

For more information on becoming an APA League Operator, visit poolplayers.com/franchise.

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your passion,
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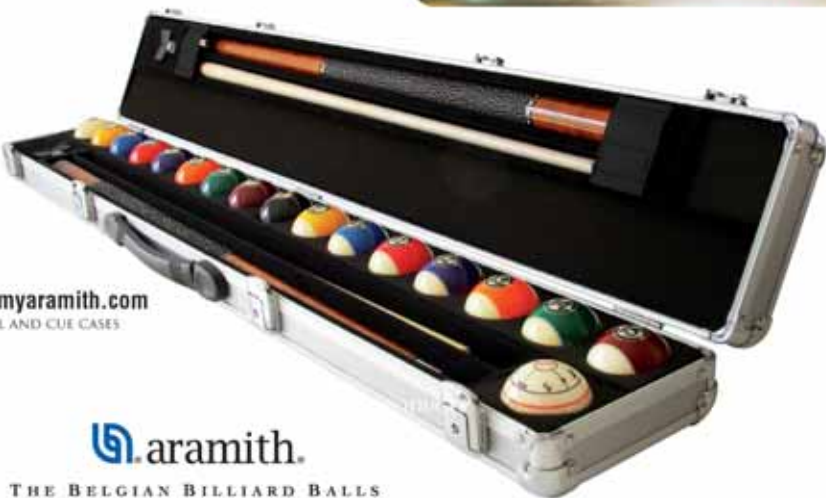
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What's Up with the 23-Rule?



Members often ask us why APA Leagues use the 23-Rule. Sometimes this is a tricky issue for teams, especially if there are too many highly skilled players on their team. Basically, the reason for the 23-Rule is simple—it's the backbone of the handicap system.

The Equalizer handicap and scoring system allows players of different skill levels to compete equally. The 23-Rule handicaps the team. Without this rule, a team could potentially consist of ALL skill level 7 players. Even with *The Equalizer*, this would make it difficult for teams without higher skilled players to compete and win.

Remember, in the APA, *Everyone Can Play—Anyone Can Win!* The 23-Rule and *The Equalizer* handicap system make this possible!



PREVIEW 2020

Lower Skilled Players—Qualify Now!

by Becky Rosner

In the APA, **Everyone Can Play—Anyone Can Win!** If you're a lower skilled player, you have a great chance of qualifying for the Poolplayer Championships. In 2019, just 54 players competed in the Blue Tier (skill levels 2-3) of the 8-Ball Classic and only 59 competed in the Green Tier (skill levels 1-3) of the 9-Ball Shootout. Those are great odds! Here's what's up for grabs:

- **\$15,000** cash and prize package awarded to each winner in the 8-Ball Classic and **\$10,000** cash and prize package awarded to each champion in the 9-Ball Shootout.
- Runners-Up in each tier of the 8-Ball Classic receive a **\$9,000** cash and prize package, two 3rd Place winners take home a **\$4,000** cash and prize package, four 5th place finishers receive a **\$2,000** cash and prize package. Even 9th Place winners earn a **\$1,000** cash and prize package!
- In each tier of the 9-Ball Shootout, Runners-Up receive a **\$5,000** cash and prize package, two 3rd Place finishers receive a **\$3,000** cash and prize package and four 5th Place winners earn a **\$1,500** cash and prize package!
- You'll compete against players with a similar skill level. There are five Skill Level Tiers in the 8-Ball Classic—Blue (SLs 2-3), Yellow (SL4), Red (SL5), Orange (SL6) and Purple (SL7). The 9-Ball Shootout contains four tiers—Green (SLs 1-3), White (SLs 4-5), Gray (SLs 6-7) and Black (SLs 8-9).

The qualifying window for the 2020 Poolplayer Championships closes on Nov. 30. Players must qualify locally to advance to the Regional Level of competition. Winners at the Regional Level receive complimentary single occupancy lodging and travel assistance to the Championships in Las Vegas! Contact your Local League Operator today to find out about the Singles Program in your area. YOU could be our next champion!

Member Services



If you haven't already, be sure to sign up for your FREE member account on poolplayers.com! Once logged in, and as long as you're on an active team, you'll be able to enjoy the following features:

- **Lots of statistics**
- **Standings**
- **Schedules**
- **Division Rosters**
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Tips for Creating an Account:

- You'll need your membership number.
- You must enter your first and last name exactly as it appears on your membership card.
- Use a unique email address and password. The password must be at least six characters and include at least one number. Family members cannot share an email address.
- After signing up, check your email for a confirmation. You must click the activation link in the email for your account to become active. Check your Spam folder if you don't see it.
- Members must be 13 years of age or older to create a Member Services account.

Let's Get Social!



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 **Twitter** – twitter.com/poolplayers

 **YouTube** – youtube.com/apaleagues

PoolTogether

APA's Charitable Efforts

Many League Operators throughout the APA network hold charity events. Whether it's a local tournament to benefit an APA member in need, or an event to raise money for a national charity such as Susan G. Komen, **PoolTogether** is a compilation of APA's charity endeavors. This section of poolplayers.com was created to recognize APA's charitable efforts in one central location.

Charitable service to the greater community should be viewed as both a privilege and a responsibility of an organization. With a large, caring network of League Operators and membership numbers of nearly 250,000, APA can make a difference! Since October of 2009, we have raised over \$215,000 for local and national charities!

APA is dedicated to letting the world know about the great causes our League Operators and members are supporting. Visit poolplayers.com/pooltogether for more information.

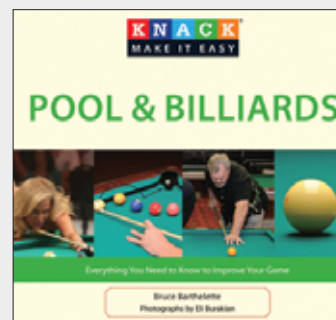


Improving Your Game with Bruce Barthelette



Bruce Barthelette, “The Big Guy”, is a professional poolplayer, and one of the top 10 trick shot players in the world. He has appeared on ESPN over 10 times, including the most recent World Cup of Trickshots tournament. He has played with Jeanette Lee, aka “The Black Widow”, Mike Massey, Andy Segal, and Tom Rossman, among other top professionals in the game. He also played with Ewa Laurance and Allison Fisher, two members of the BCA Billiard Hall of Fame.

Bruce, along with his wife Ann, has run the second largest APA Pool League for over 20 years. With more than 6,000 players in the League, the APA of Connecticut is second only to Maryland. Bruce Barthelette’s book, “Pool & Billiards,” is available on Amazon.com.



BREAKING

Breaking is an important aspect of the game and gives you a competitive edge

A good break can give you an advantage over your opponent. Many players strive to make balls on the break so they can take control of the table. Making a ball on the break may also be the start of a break-and-run.

It is possible to win the game on the break when you make the 8-ball on the break without scratching. However, if you make the 8-on-the-break, and the cue ball scratches, then you lose the game. So you want to be careful when trying out this break.

Although it’s possible to make an 8-on-the-break from multiple breaking positions, you will increase your chances when you use the position most recommended by the pros.

You can use several positions from which to break. You should try out different positions to find your comfort zone. You also want to optimize your chances to make balls on the break.

Professional players rarely break from straight on with the rack. The cue ball is often placed to either side of the center anywhere from 1/2 to 1 1/2 diamonds over. The breaking area often referred to as “the kitchen” is from behind an imaginary line that goes across the table from the second diamond up. The cue ball will have more momentum striking the rack if you place it closer to that line.

Break Position for 8-on-the-Break



- You will impress your friends and win more games if you can make an 8-ball on the break.
- The best position to make the 8-on-the-break is with the cue ball about one ball away from either of the side rails.
- Bridge your hand on the side rail for more stability in your stroke.
- Place the cue ball within a comfortable distance near the second diamond.

Common Break Position



- A good break makes the balls scatter apart as much as possible. When the cue ball is closer to the rack, it will strike with more speed.
- Place the cue ball near the line at the second diamond up and about one-half diamond to either side of the center.
- Bridge your hand on the table behind the cue ball.
- Try breaking from different positions to find out where you get the best results.

Cue Ball Contact Point for 8-on-the-Break

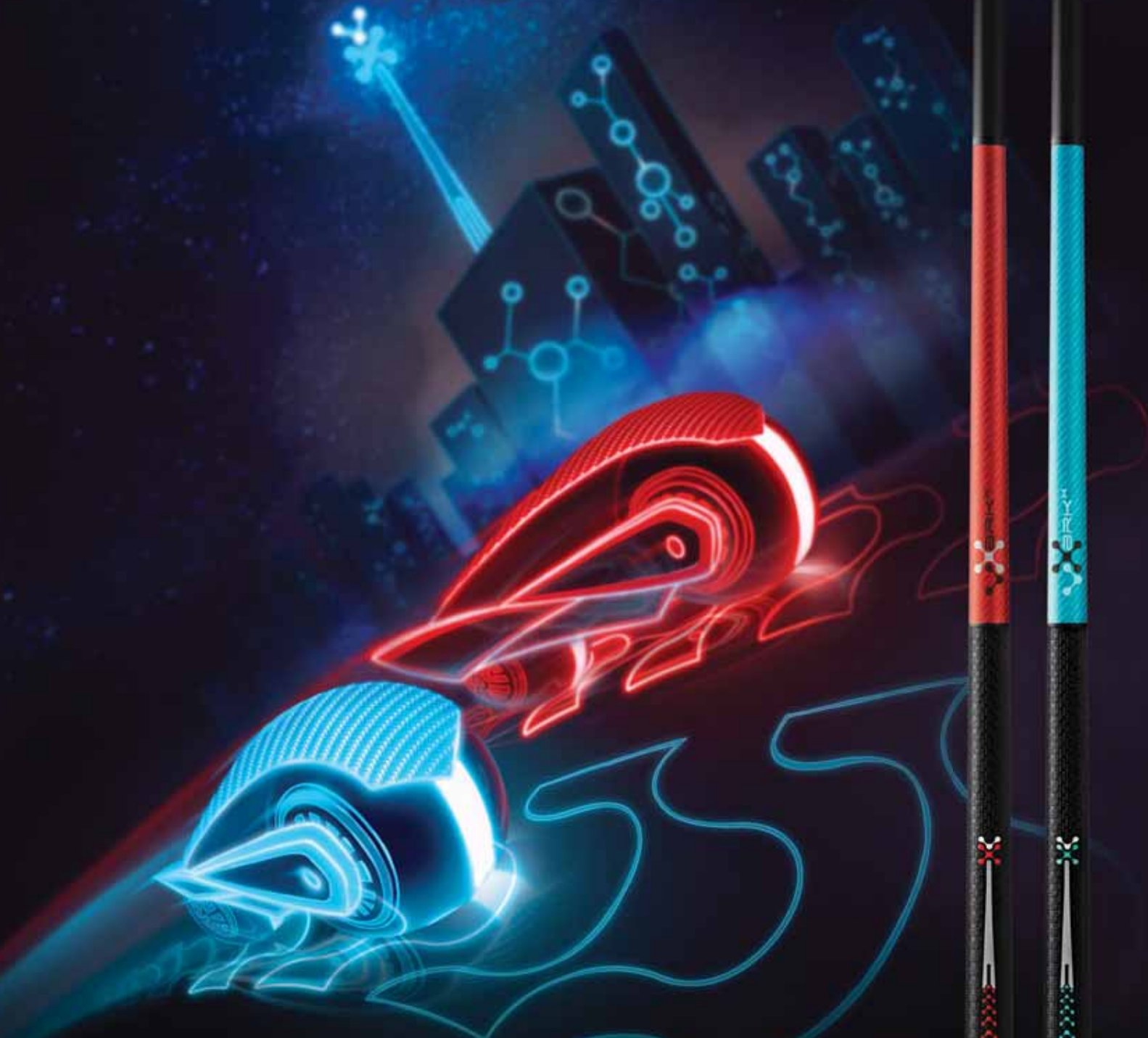


- Aim for a full hit on the second ball while just barely missing the lead ball.
- Use low inside English on the cue ball to avoid a scratch.
- If you hit the ball too thin or without English on the cue ball, you may scratch.
- Practice this break for best results. The balls will spread out nicely, and your chances of making an 8-ball on the break will increase.

Cue Ball Contact Point on Common Break



- When breaking near the middle of the table, you should aim for a full hit on the head ball in the rack and use a center ball hit on the cue ball.
- Doing this will transfer more energy into the rack, causing the balls to spread out more.
- Remember to follow through on your break. Your chances of making a ball on the break will increase.
- Doing this will also give you an opportunity to get a good run after the break.



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CALENDAR

2019 APA EVENTS

Summer Session

June 27-30	Junior Championships	Renaissance Airport Hotel St. Louis, MO
Aug 8-17	World Pool Championships	Westgate Resort & Casino, Las Vegas, NV
Aug 8 - 11	Jack & Jill 8-Ball Doubles Championship (Showdown Series)	
Aug 8 - 13	8-Ball World Championship	
Aug 8 - 16	MiniMania	
Aug 11 - 14	Ladies 8-Ball Championship (Showdown Series)	
Aug 11 - 15	Masters Championship (Showdown Series)	
Aug 13 - 16	Team Captains Championship (Showdown Series)	
Aug 13 - 17	9-Ball World Championship	

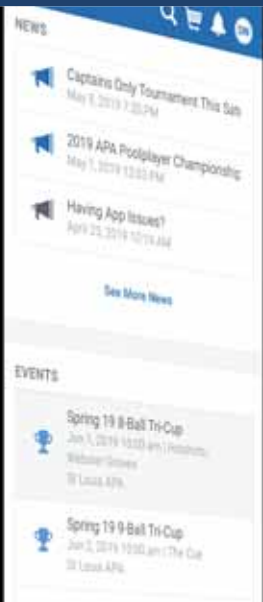
Fall Session

Sept 20-22	U.S. Amateur Preliminary Rounds	Locations TBD
Oct 5-6 & 12-13	8-Ball Classic Fall Regionals & 9-Ball Shootout Fall Regionals	Locations TBD Locations TBD
Nov 6-10	U.S. Amateur Championship	Stroker's - Palm Harbor, FL
Nov 30	8-Ball Classic Season 2 & 9-Ball Shootout Season 2	Qualifying Window Closes (Qualifier winners advance to Regionals in March 2020)

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Regional Tournament RESULTS

by Becky Rosner

8-Ball Southwest Challenge

The 2019 8-Ball Southwest Challenge took place March 22-25 at the Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino. Nearly \$39,000 was up for grabs for 260 three-person teams from Arizona, Colorado, Nebraska and Nevada.

After three days of competition, San Bernardino #7 was up against fellow League members San Bernardino #1 in the final round. It was San Bernardino #1 coming out on top and earning \$3,000 for their top finish. San Bernardino #7 didn't go home empty-handed, leaving Vegas \$2,100 richer. Tying for 3rd Place was San Gabriel Valley #17 and South Orange County #4.

The Southwest Challenge returns to Vegas Oct. 10-13, 2019 for the 9-Ball version of the event.



Champion: San Bernardino #1 – (L to R) Liz Perez, Michael Berg, Valerie Daniels



Runner-Up: San Bernardino #7 – (L to R) Wayne Carbajal, Jamie Zappe, Jonathan Grubb



3rd Place: South Orange County #4 – (L to R) Anthony Vega, Stacey Teramae, Justin Baca



3rd Place: San Gabriel Valley #17 – (L to R) Charlene Hardman, David Martinez, Joseph Picon

Aloha Challenge

Twenty-eight teams from across the U.S. escaped winter and traveled to Hawaii to join four teams from the big island for the Aloha Challenge! The 8-Ball team event took place Feb. 23 at Hawaiian Brian's Billiards in Honolulu.

The finals of the event paired Hawaiian Punch of Granby, Mass., against Harringtons of Pittsburgh, Penn. In the end, it was Hawaiian Punch taking home the \$2,500 prize and title. Harringtons didn't leave the island empty-handed, earning \$2,000 for their Runner-Up finish. Rhonda's W. MI All Stars and Max Team tied for 3rd Place.



Champion: Hawaiian Punch of Granby, MA Kevin Medas Sr, Kevin Medas Jr, Jeff Arsenault, Glen Hebert, Jacob Rickell, Scott Souza, Stephen Tyler, Nick Vieira



Runner-Up: Harringtons of Pittsburgh, PA Jessica Hayner, Thomas Papakie, Raymond Gaunt, James Hainaut, Heather Krockner, Joe Rua, Ryan Trevena, Danielle Turner



TRICK SHOTS

BY DR. CUE

Tom "Dr. Cue" Rossman has been performing trick-shot exhibitions for over 30 years. He has won numerous awards, including the World Masters Trick Shot Competition, the North American Professional Trick and Fancy Championship, the World Artistic Championship, the ESPN Trick Shot Magic Event, and the WPA World Draw Shots Discipline. He is known as the Doctor of Billiardology. He currently does trick-shot exhibitions throughout the U.S., performing in college, military, corporate, mall, prison, billiard and special event arenas. Dr. Cue has agreed to give APA members a special look at how he performs some of his favorite trick-shots.

3 Balls, 3 Pockets & 3 Cushions!

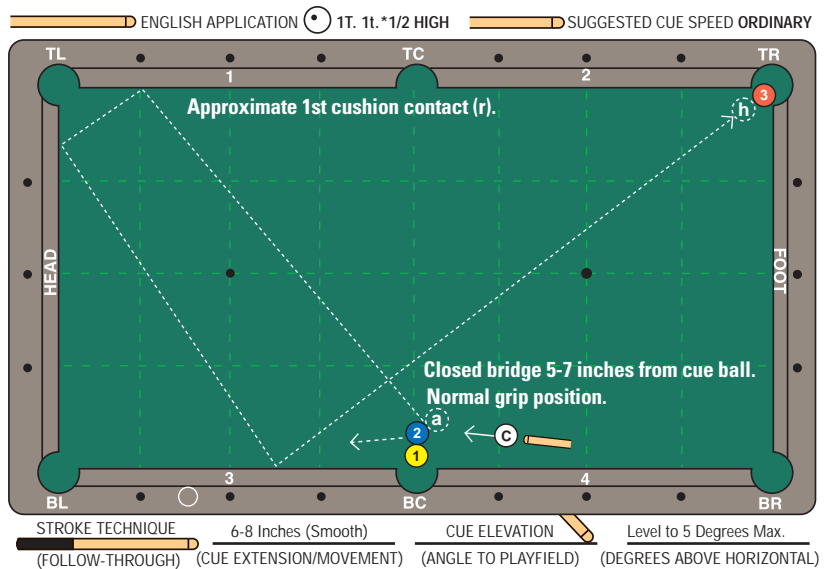
DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: 2.9

CONFIDENCE 5 minutes, 48 seconds
FACTOR: per day for 3 days

SETUP/POSITION: 1-ball slightly left and 1 inch out from pocket BC; 2-ball frozen to 1-ball and aim setup line for (1) - (2) is to left center of TC; 3-ball on center edge of pocket TR; Cue ball 1 diamond segment back of 2-ball and in a straight line with 2-ball as you stand behind it. Maintain good fundamental form! DOUBLE CHECK SETUP!

BALL(S) POCKETED/OBJECTIVE: Shoot cue ball (c) to aim point (a) on 2-ball. 1-ball will drop in BC, 2-ball will travel to BL and drop, and cue ball will travel to (r) on #1 cushion and make 2 more cushion contacts on head and #3 before making 3-ball in pocket TR.

ADJUSTMENT ANALYSIS: If 1-ball and/or 2-ball does not go in, recheck setup and adjust as follows: 1) setup line for (1) - (2) adjusted to right slightly if 2-ball hits too much of cushion #3, and to the left slightly if 2-ball hits head cushion. If cue ball does not make 3-ball in TR at (h), adjust toward TL with cue ball contact (r) by making a thinner hit on 2-ball or applying a fraction more english — this is of course, if cue ball hits cushion #2 and 3rd contact at #3 cushion. If cue ball hits foot cushion after kick, adjust to TC or make fuller hit on 2-ball. You might also try a little more high english, and less sidespin.



2 Plus 2 — For You!

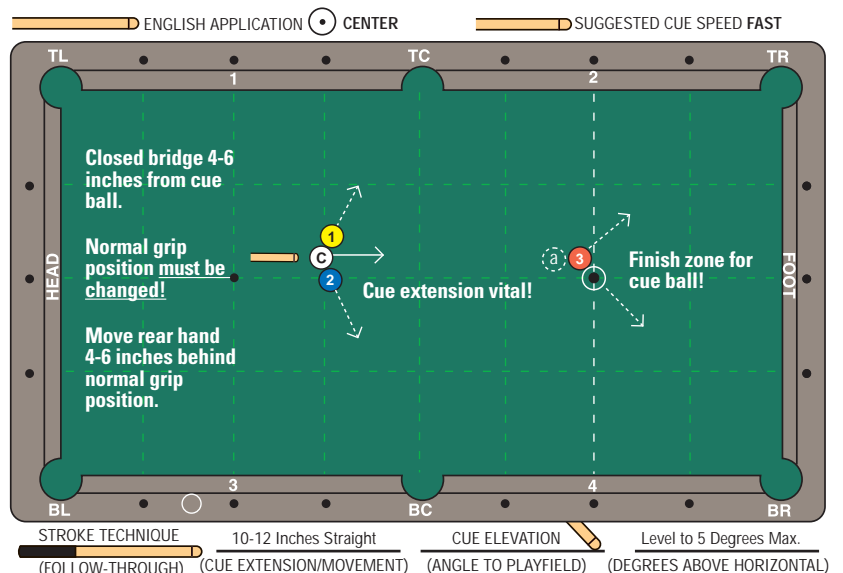
DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: 3.0

CONFIDENCE 6 minutes per day
FACTOR: for 3 days

SETUP/POSITION: 4-ball on foot spot; 3-ball frozen to 4-ball and setup aim line to right edge of BR as we stand behind setup; Cue ball in straight line to 3-ball and on the straight line created by 1 diamond to left of TC and 1 diamond left of BC; 1-ball frozen to (c) aimed to left edge of TC and 2-ball frozen to (c) aimed to right edge of BC (toward BL). DOUBLE CHECK SETUP!

BALL(S) POCKETED/OBJECTIVE: Cue ball is aimed to (a) and shot straight with cue extension — 1-ball in TC, 2-ball in BC, 3-ball in TR, and 4-ball in BR. Cue ball must not scratch and end up on foot half of table for shot to count. (Right of dash line — foot spot to foot rail.)

ADJUSTMENT ANALYSIS: If 3-ball or 4-ball does not go in adjust throw setup line accordingly — if 4-ball hits right of BR, adjust setup line left slightly, and vice-versa; If 1-ball hits to left of TC, adjust setup line to right, and if it hits to right, adjust left. For 2-ball, if it hits to the left of BC as you are standing behind shot, adjust right, and if its hits right, adjust left. Make sure all balls are frozen! If cue ball does not hit aim (a) squarely, recheck follow-through for accuracy and speed — REACH OUT...STRAIGHT! If you scratch or lose control of cue ball, practice, practice, practice...





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Aug. 8-17 **2019**

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8-Ball World Championship

- Aug. 8-13
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9-Ball World Championship

- Aug. 13-17
- \$15,000 1st Place Prize!

Jack & Jill
Doubles
Championship

- Aug. 8-11
- \$3,500 1st Place Prize!

Ladies 8-Ball
Championship

- Aug. 11-14
- \$10,000 1st Place Prize!

Masters
Championship

- Aug. 11-15
- \$10,000 1st Place Prize!

Team Captains
Championship

- Aug. 13-16
- \$10,000 1st Place Prize!

Team Shirt Contest **OPEN TO ALL TEAMS!**

If you think your team has the best shirt design, be sure to enter the Team Shirt Contest—ALL teams are eligible! That's right, 8-Ball World Championship, 9-Ball World Championship, Jack & Jill Doubles Championship, Team Captains Championship, Masters Championship and Ladies 8-Ball Championship teams can all enter! You'll need to register at the Photo Booth Aug. 8-14. All entries will be posted to Facebook and poolplayers.com for voting Aug. 15-22. Five winners will be announced on Monday, Aug. 26!

Shirts may be theme-oriented, but not focus on the Championships, Westgate Resort & Casino or Las Vegas. Shirts displaying trademarks (e.g., APA logo, Westgate logo, trademarked cartoon characters, etc.), X-rated artwork or violence will be disqualified. APA awarded patches will not disqualify your entry.

Contest Photo Dates:

Thursday, Aug. 8 -

Wednesday, Aug. 14



All entries will be posted to Facebook and poolplayers.com for voting Aug. 15-22.

Winners will be announced on Monday, Aug. 26!

2018 Contest Winners

Everyday We're Hustlin' of Newport News, VA



2nd Place

That's What She Said of Lebanon, PA



3rd Place

Diamond Cutters of Tacoma, WA



National Discounts

SAVE \$\$

by Becky Rosner

Be sure to take advantage of the national discounts you receive with your APA membership! The discounts more than pay for the \$25 membership fee when utilized! With the World Pool Championships coming up, save money on car rentals, the Monorail and fun things to do! Traveling this summer? Take advantage of the hotel, rental car and attractions discounts!

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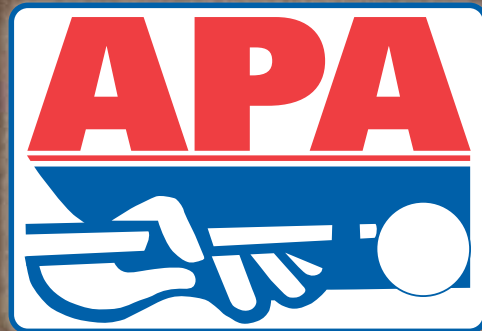




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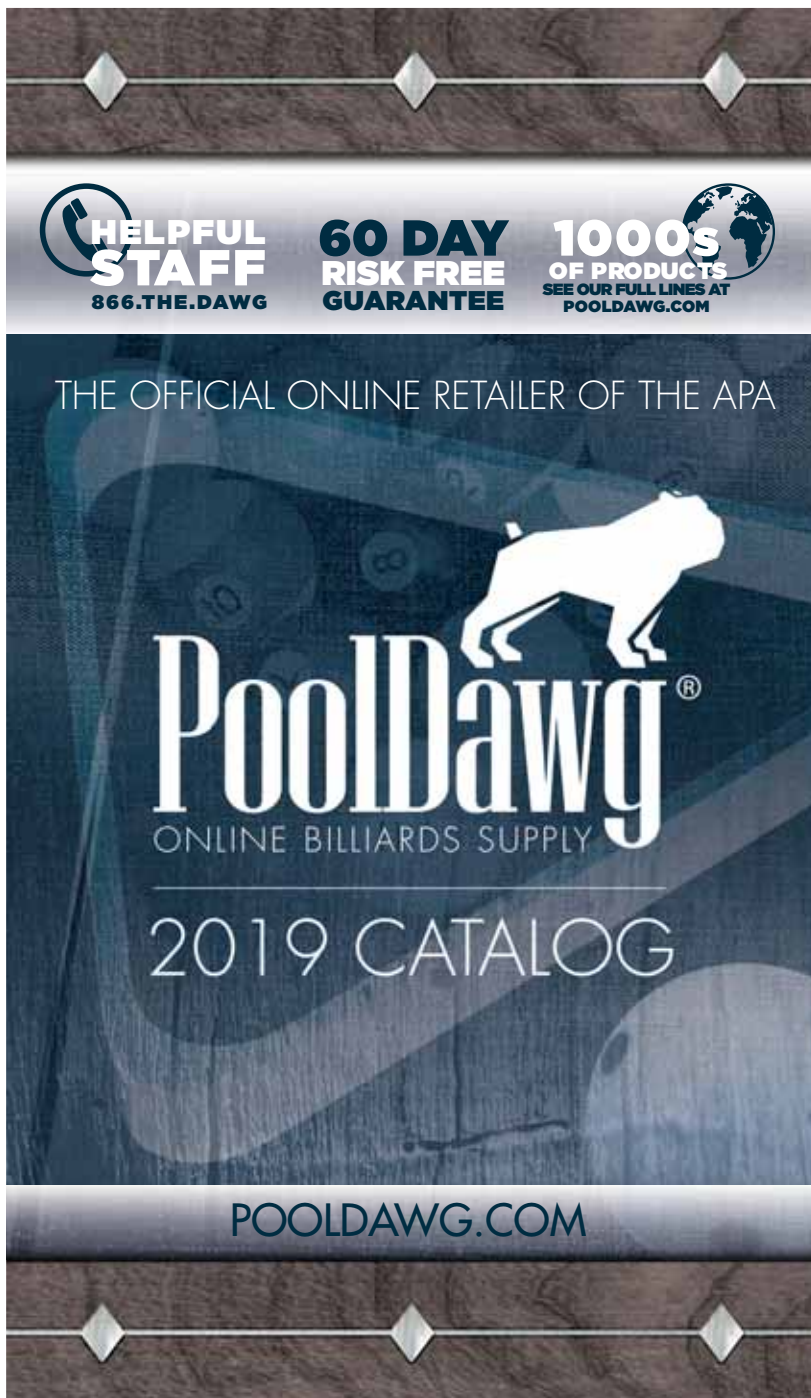
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