

THE AMERICAN POOLPLAYER

SPRING 2020



WHERE AMATEURS TAKE CENTER STAGE

inside:

U.S. Amateur Championship Results

Renew Your Membership

Regional Tournament Results



Featuring...

New Highland Maple finish



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American Poolplayers Association



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Valley-Dynamo Companies



CONTENTS



Happy New Year from APA!

Spend more time with your family and friends this year by getting them involved in APA Leagues!

Be sure to renew your membership if you haven't already — we've got lots of excitement planned in 2020! Visit poolplayers.com to easily renew your membership through your Member Services account. You can also download our free app on your Apple or Android device to renew your membership, view your membership card, standings, schedules and much more.

We hosted our 26th Annual U.S. Amateur Championship in Tampa, Fla., in November. It was an exceptional display by some of the very best amateur poolplayers. Be sure to read about the 2019 winners, Blake Baker and Tina Larsen, in this issue. You can also check out our online coverage on our Facebook page and at poolplayers.com/usam.

Good luck and good shooting in the Spring Session!

Sincerely,

Greg Fletcher

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Poolplayer and World Pool Championships



Official Pool Table of the APA and the APA Championships



Official Cues and Cases of the APA

Over \$750,000 Total Payout!



APRIL 29 - MAY 3, 2020

WESTGATE LAS VEGAS RESORT & CASINO



- Mini tournaments conducted nearly round-the-clock.
- **100% payback** of entry fees.
- Any current member with **minimum of 20** League match scores in one format in the last two years by April 15 may compete.

8-Ball Classic

- **April 29 - May 1**
- Total prize payout of over **\$375,000!**
- Five Skill Level Tiers—Blue (SLs 2-3), Yellow (SL4), Red (SL5), Orange (SL6) and Purple (SL7).
- Five Champions—one in each Skill Level Tier.
- **\$15,000** in cash and prizes awarded to the Champion in **each Tier!**

9-Ball Shootout

- **May 1-3**
- Total prize payout of over **\$250,000!**
- Four Skill Level Tiers—Green (SL 1-3), White (SL 4-5), Gray (SL 6-7) and Black (SL 8-9).
- Four Champions—one in each Skill Level Tier.
- **\$10,000** in cash and prizes awarded to the Champion in **each Tier!**

SHOWDOWN SERIES

9-Ball Doubles Championship

- **April 29-30**
- Any combination of players with a combined Skill Level Limit of 10.
- **\$3,500** awarded to the Champion team!

Wheelchair Championship

- **April 30 - May 1**
- 8-Ball singles event.
- **\$2,000** awarded to the Champion!

8-Ball Doubles Championship

- **April 30 - May 3**
- Any combination of players with a combined Skill Level Limit of 10.
- **\$5,000** awarded to the Champion team!

Contact your Local League Operator today to find out about getting involved with the Singles Program in your area! Visit poolplayers.com/playppc for more information on the Poolplayer Championships.

Over \$1 Million Total Payout!



AUGUST 6-15, 2020

WESTGATE LAS VEGAS RESORT & CASINO

Thousands of poolplayers from the U.S., Canada and Japan converge in Las Vegas to compete in the coveted World Pool Championships each summer. More than **\$1 Million** is up-for-grabs this year! Here's what's in store:

8-Ball World Championship

- **August 6-11**
- **\$25,000** cash prize for 1st Place!
- In 2019, **720** teams competed.
- To qualify, your team must compete in weekly 8-Ball League play.

9-Ball World Championship

- **August 11-15**
- **\$15,000** cash prize for 1st Place!
- In 2019, **520** teams competed.
- To qualify, your team must compete in weekly 9-Ball League play.



- **August 6-14**
- 100% payback of entry fees.
- Entry fees vary from \$10 to \$50.
- Any current member with **at least 20** League match scores in one format in the last two years by June 24 may compete.
- Register onsite.

SHOWDOWN SERIES

Jack & Jill Championship

- **August 6-9**
- **\$3,500** cash prize for 1st Place!
- Teams consist of one lady and one gentleman.
- Skill Level Limit of 10.

Ladies 8-Ball Championship

- **August 9-12**
- **\$10,000** cash prize for 1st Place!
- Teams consist of a maximum of five ladies, with three competing in each team match.
- Skill Level Limit of 13.

Masters Championship

- **August 9-13**
- **\$10,000** cash prize for 1st Place!
- Teams consist of a maximum of four players, with three competing in each team match.
- No Skill Level Limit.

Team Captains Championship

- **August 10-14**
- **\$10,000** in cash for 1st Place!
- Teams consist of a maximum of five players, with three competing in each team match.
- Alternate between 8-Ball and 9-Ball racks.
- Skill Level Limit of 15.

Contact your Local League Operator to find out about qualifying for any of these events. Visit poolplayers.com/wpc for more information about the World Pool Championships.

2020



July 9-12

Renaissance Airport Hotel in
St. Louis, MO

- **9-Ball Singles Format**
- **Four Skill Level Tiers**
 - All players receive lots of goodies including an APA gift bag and event t-shirt!
 - Trophies and prizes are awarded to the top finishers in each Tier!
 - Academic recognition for students with good grades.

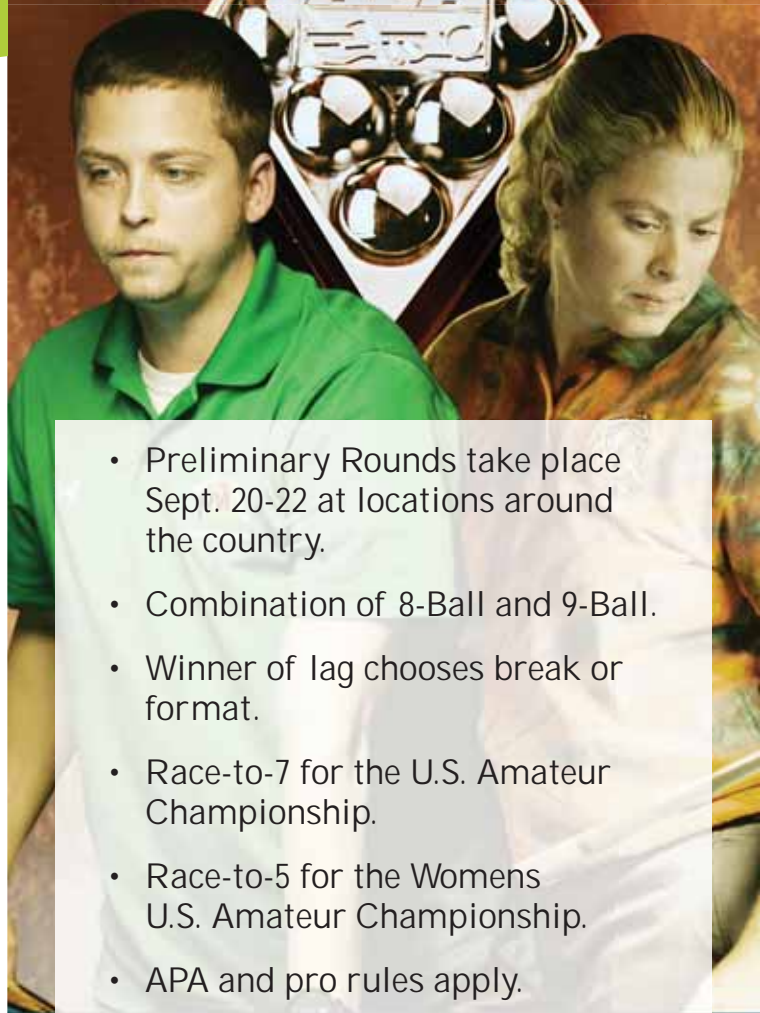


MiniMania events take place
throughout the tournament.

Contact your Local League
Operator today for more info about
the Juniors Program in your area.

U.S. AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP®

Nov. 4-8, 2020
Stroker's in Tampa, FL



- Preliminary Rounds take place Sept. 20-22 at locations around the country.
- Combination of 8-Ball and 9-Ball.
- Winner of lag chooses break or format.
- Race-to-7 for the U.S. Amateur Championship.
- Race-to-5 for the Womens U.S. Amateur Championship.
- APA and pro rules apply.
- Champions receive paid entry into a pro event in 2021.

**The entry window for
the 2020 U.S. Amateur
Championship closes
June 15.**

Visit poolplayers.com/usam for more info.
Register today at usam.poolplayers.com.

TOP 10

Reasons to Renew Your Membership

by Becky Rosner

10. Save money with national discounts.
9. Become a better team player.
8. Learn more about the game—we provide pro instruction on our website, Facebook page and in *The American Poolplayer* magazine!
7. Chances to travel—we host two tournaments a year in Vegas baby!
6. Your kids can play too! We offer Junior Leagues in many areas.
5. Improve your game—playing every week is sure to sharpen your skills!
4. Spend more time with friends, family and/or co-workers.
3. *Meet new people.*
2. **Play more of your favorite sport!**
1. **HAVE FUN!**

Renew now quickly and easily through your Member Services account.

2020 Membership Kit

After renewing your membership, you'll receive a membership kit in the mail containing your 2020 membership patch, pocket-sized Game Rules Booklet and informational brochure.

Your membership card is available exclusively through your Member Services account—that's right, you have instant access to it! In addition, you'll be able to view your team's stats, standings, schedules and more.

If you don't already have a Member Services account you can register at join.poolplayers.com.





Let's Get Social!



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poolplayers.com - Your go-to place for everything APA! View the latest news, tournament results and player features, as well as check your stats, standings, schedules and more.



Claim Your Member Account

If you haven't already registered for your FREE Member Services account, do so today! You can claim your account on **poolplayers.com**. Once logged in, and as long as you're on an active team, you'll enjoy the following features:

- Lots of Statistics
- Standings
- Schedules
- Division Rosters
- View and Update Contact Information
- Print Scoresheets
- Renew Your Membership
- League History
- View/Print Membership Card



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.

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Digital Rules Materials Available FREE

You can download the *Official Team Manual* and *Game Rules Booklet* **FREE** on *iTunes*! Search for them in the *iTunes* store or visit poolplayers.com under the **Membership** tab for a link to the materials as well as free e-reader versions for other devices. They're great reference tools on *League* night!



APA MEMBERSHIP Saves You Money!

Your yearly membership fee is paid for just by using a few national discounts! Currently, there are nearly 50 discounts available, providing you with lots of money-saving options. We've partnered with hotels, rental car companies, billiard retailers, satellite providers, gift retailers and much more! Be sure you get the most out of your membership by taking advantage of these great discounts. After all, who doesn't like saving money?!

Visit poolplayers.com for a complete listing of all the discounts available. We continually add new discount providers, so be sure to check back to the website often! Your Local League Operator may also offer local discounts, making your membership even more valuable.



Discounts

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Nationwide Insurance
ADT
DIRECTV
Dish Network
Granite Transformations
Working Advantage

Gifts & Shopping

1-800-flowers.com
Cheryl's
Fannie May
FromYouFlowers.com
FruitBouquets.com
Omaha Steaks
The Popcorn Factory

Health

TLC Laser Eye Centers
VPI – Veterinary Pet Insurance

Hotels & Resorts

Americas, Canadas Best Value Inns, & Lexington Inn
BookingCommunity.com
Cove Haven Entertainment Resort
HotelStorm
Motel 6
Red Roof Inn
Wyndham Hotels and Resorts

Billiards

89Billiardz.com
Frank's Center (FCI)
Monster Break Billiards
PoolDawg.com
Seybert's Billiard Supply

Travel & Leisure

Las Vegas Monorail
the ParkingSpot Club Exec Program
Avis Car Rental
Daytona International Speedway
Enterprise and National Car Rental
Grand Canyon Railway
Rhodes Ranch Golf Club, Las Vegas
Sun Buggy Fun Rentals, Las Vegas
SuperShuttle

For a complete list of all national discounts visit poolplayers.com/discounts.

U.S. AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP®

by Jason Bowman



For some, the very best, it's an annual pilgrimage of sorts. For others, it's an opportunity to truly showcase their arrival on the amateur pool scene. For all of them, the U.S. Amateur Championship is something unique that appeals to the most passionate player.

Whether they come to cement a legacy, or just to test their skill against some of the best amateur players in North America, there's no denying that to experience the U.S. Amateur Championship is to experience something truly special.

Pool tournaments come and go, but securing the title of U.S. Amateur Champion is something you carry with you forever, literally, when your name is forever added to the Trophy of Champions for generations to come.

That's what drove more than 2,100 of North America's top amateur players to try and qualify for the 26th Annual event. That's what brought 128 men and 42 women to Stroker's in Palm Harbor, Fla., in early November to compete in the 2019 U.S. Amateur Championship.

Of course, there are worse places to be than the sun-soaked skies of the Tampa area, one of the premier vacation destinations in the world, at a time when most of the country is getting its first taste of winter.

Winners of each division also receive an all-expenses paid trip to a pro event courtesy of APA.

And, of course, the championship trophy - a combination of marble and bronze that more closely resembles a piece of art than something won in a pool tournament.

U.S. AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP



Champion - Blake Baker of Las Vegas, NV



Baker Wins Title in First Appearance

Over the first quarter-century of the U.S. Amateur Championship, the event, in many ways, came to be defined by a list of seasoned veterans, who, year after year, left their mark on the event. Certain names you came to expect to see on the qualifier list each year, names like Brisbon, Brodt and Parks.

Now in its 26th year, a youth movement seems to have taken hold at the U.S. Amateur Championship, with a new crop of young amateur players looking to leave their mark on the event and the sport, much like their predecessors.

It began in 2018, when a previously unknown 26-year-old from Peoria, Ill., named Abe Schaad took home the title. This year, it was another 24-year-old newcomer making his mark after being inspired by the defending champion.

Blake Baker of Las Vegas went undefeated in his first U.S. Amateur Championship appearance and secured his place in amateur pool history.

Baker defeated 65-year-old Bobby Stovall of Cumming, Ga., 11-5 in the championship match.

Baker controlled the finale from the get-go, taking a 4-0 lead in the 9-Ball set before Stovall finally got on the board. The players traded wins the next two games, making it a 5-2 match. Baker would win five of the final six games in the 9-Ball set and held a commanding 10-3 lead as the players began the 8-Ball set with the newcomer on-the-hill needing one final game.

Stovall managed to stave off elimination in the first two games of the 8-Ball set,

making the score 10-5, but Baker's bid for the title would not be denied. In the sixteenth and final game, he pocketed the 8-ball and the win.

Baker will move on to compete in a 2020 pro event courtesy of APA, and more importantly, his name will be added to the Larry Hubbard Trophy.

Stovall finishes as the Runner-up, his highest finish in the U.S. Amateur Championship.

Defending champion Abe Schaad finished in 3rd, dropping matches to only Baker and Stovall in the process.

One hundred and twenty-eight players competed in this year's U.S. Amateur Championship.



Runner-Up - Bobby Stovall of Cumming, GA



3rd Place - Abe Schaad of Peoria, IL



4th Place - Christopher Gentile of Port Saint Lucie, FL



5th Place - David Rowell of Birmingham, AL



5th Place - Mike Leigh of Barrie, ON



Champion - Tina Larsen of Westville, IN



Larsen Wins Record Third Womens U.S. Amateur Championship

Tina Larsen of Westville, Ind., defeated Nathalie Jacob of Montreal, Quebec in a seesaw battle by a score of 9-7. The victory earned Larsen her third Womens U.S. Amateur Championship victory, and her first since 2007. She surpassed Tammie Jones and Amy Chen, both two-time champions, for most Womens U.S. Amateur Championship career titles.

Before securing her third title, Larsen had to go through a strong newcomer in Jacob, who's previous playing career consisted primarily of 9-Ball, with little experience playing 8-Ball. Despite her lack of proficiency in 8-Ball, Jacob gave Larsen all she could handle in the final.

Jacob got on the board first in the 9-Ball set, with Larsen taking the next two games and a 2-1 lead. Jacob took the next rack, before Larsen secured the next two, one by way of a 9-on-the snap. With Larsen leading 4-2, Jacob showed some fight, battling back to win the next two games and even the

match at 4-4. Larsen regained the lead, before Jacob again evened things up at 5-5. Larsen took the final game of 9-Ball as the match moved to the 8-Ball set.

Larsen took the first game of the 8-Ball set and the players traded wins over the next three games. In the sixteenth game of the match, the ladies engaged in a showdown of defensive shots. It was here that Jacob's lack of experience in 8-Ball hindered her, as Larsen won the safety battle and eventually the match, 9-7.

Jacob finished as the Runner-Up, the highest finish ever for a Canadian in the Womens U.S. Amateur Championship.

Stacie Bourbeau of Orange, Mass., finished in 3rd Place.

Forty-two ladies competed in the 2019 Womens U.S. Amateur Championship.

Larsen moves on to compete in a pro event in 2020, courtesy of APA.



Runner-Up - Nathalie Jacob of Montreal, Quebec



3rd Place - Stacie Bourbeau of Orange, MA

U.S. Amateur Championship Matches

Available Now on YouTube

Both championship matches can now be viewed for free the APA YouTube channel at youtube.com/apaleagues, in addition to dozens of other matches that were live streamed from the U.S. Amateur Championship. Streaming for the U.S. Amateur Championship was sponsored by PoolDawg.com.



U.S. AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

U.S. Amateur Championship Standings

Blake Baker	1	Juan Moreno	33
Bobby Stovall	2	Greg Romero	33
Abrin Schaad	3	David Tickle	33
Christopher Gentile	4	Dean Vince	33
Mike Leigh	5	Dennis Brewer	33
David Rowell	5	Billy Wild	49
Al Moreno	7	Daniel Andrews III	49
Eric Tang	7	Jeremy Bell	49
Ryan Cullen	9	James Brogdon Jr	49
Joe Keith	9	Jacob Case	49
Dave Stem	9	Chris Chapman	49
Christopher Young	9	Kerry Dempster	49
Avinash Pandey	13	Randolph Hatten	49
Brian Parks	13	Drew Jordan	49
Raymond McBride	13	Kenneth Ludy	49
Terry Edwards	13	Tom Moran	49
James Adams	17	Liem Nguyen	49
Brady Behrman	17	Milton Strack	49
William Chappell	17	Robert Valliere	49
John Eagle III	17	Jake Waymire	49
Roger Hawkins	17	Jeffrey Abernathy	49
Jonathan Strzezewski	17	Anthony Zubec	65
Jason Richko	17	Timothy Bartlett	65
Mike Mullins	17	Daniel Bobilin	65
Stewart Warnock	25	Clifford Campbell	65
Vincent Beaurivage	25	Cary Cass	65
William Gallagher Jr	25	Jerry Cerchia	65
James Hardin	25	Michael Coddington	65
Robert Kay	25	James Coleman	65
Scott Rohleder	25	Gilbert Combs	65
Dennis Ryan	25	Fred Crislip Jr	65
Fredrick Babcock	25	John Ferguson	65
Jacob Watson	33	Christopher Fisher	65
James Burcham	33	Dan Heins	65
Jose Del Rio	33	Michael Janini	65
Corey Dotzert	33	Jeremy Kern	65
Sajal Ghimire	33	Tony LaBattaglia	65
Bart Goode	33	Ricky Louviere Jr	65
Dave Hathman	33	David Lyons	65
Bob Hendrix	33	Ed McCann	65
Sam Kantar	33	James McCrary	65
Randall Lee	33	Greg Meehan	65
John Mitcheltree	33	Jonathon Mesa II	97

Womens U.S. Amateur Championship Standings

Tina Larsen	1
Nathalie Jacob	2
Stacie Bourbeau	3
Jennifer Berzinski	4
Teresa Garland	5
Aimee Peterson	5
Heather Middleton	7
Pauline Mattes	9
Tiffany Stidham	9
Terri Stovall	9
Lisa Cossette	13
Erica Harley	13
Juanita Hase	13
Rachel Hurst	13
Kostantina Castillo	17
Sandra Cauchon	17
Deanna Foster	17
Lonnie Fox-Raymond	17
Rosemarie Guarnero	17
Kelly Jones	17
Betty Lea	17
Khanh Ngo	17
Sarah Archer	25
Ashley Carpenter	25
Kimberly Gerner	25
Bernadette Glasco	25
Lisa Heinen	25
Rachel Lang	25
Paulette Lavallee	25
Laura Leal	25
Cecilia Ralston	25
Toni Tucker	25
Helen Wragg	25
Karla Cox	33
Denise Gibson	33
Crystal Goad	33
Jolina Kerr	33
Pauline Ostro	33
Karen Pollard	33
Brianne Ulrich	33
Carrie Vetrano	33
Joset Seltz	NS

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- Taper: Pro



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2020 CALENDAR EVENTS



January

Jan 1

Feb 29 - March 1 &
March 7-8

April 29 - May 3

April 29-30

April 29 - May 1

April 29 - May 2

April 30 - May 1

April 30 - May 3

May 1-3

June

June 15

June 15

June 16

July 9-12

Aug 6-15

Aug 6-9

Aug 6-11

Aug 6-14

Aug 9-12

Aug 9-13

Aug 10-14

Aug 11-15

September

Sept 11-13 & 18-20

Oct 3-4 & 10-11

Nov 4-8

Nov 30

Spring Session Begins

8-Ball Classic Season 1 &

9-Ball Shootout Season 1

Qualifying Window Opens

(Qualifier winners advance to
Fall Regionals in October 2020)

8-Ball Classic Spring Regionals &

9-Ball Shootout Spring Regionals

Locations TBD

Poolplayer Championships

Westgate Resort & Casino,
Las Vegas, NV

9-Ball Doubles Championship

(Showdown Series)

8-Ball Classic

MiniMania

8-Ball Wheelchair Championship

(Showdown Series)

8-Ball Doubles Championship

(Showdown Series)

9-Ball Shootout

Summer Session Begins

U.S. Amateur Championships

Entry Window Closes

8-Ball Classic Season 1 &

9-Ball Shootout Season 1

Qualifying Window Closes

(Qualifier winners advance
to Fall Regionals in October 2020)

9-Ball Shootout Season 2 &

8-Ball Classic Season 2

Qualifying Window Opens

(Qualifier winners advance

to Spring Regionals in March 2021)

Junior Championships

Renaissance Airport Hotel

St. Louis, MO

World Pool Championships

Westgate Resort & Casino,

Las Vegas, NV

Jack & Jill 8-Ball Doubles

Championship

(Showdown Series)

8-Ball World Championship

MiniMania

Ladies 8-Ball Championship

(Showdown Series)

Masters Championship

(Showdown Series)

Team Captains Championship

(Showdown Series)

9-Ball World Championship

Fall Session Begins

U.S. Amateur Preliminary Rounds

Locations TBD

8-Ball Classic Fall Regionals &

9-Ball Shootout Fall Regionals

Locations TBD

U.S. Amateur Championships

Stroker's, Tampa, FL

2020 Entry Window Opens

8-Ball Classic Season 2 &

9-Ball Shootout Season 2

Qualifying Window Closes

(Qualifier winners advance to

Spring Regionals in March 2021)



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League Operator Spotlight

Ashley & Kevin Morgan - Lake & Osceola Counties Florida



How long were you APA members before deciding to become League Operators?

Ashley: We played in the APA for 26 years between us; me for 8 and Kevin for 18. I won more Vegas trips than Kevin though, 3 trips to 1! Kevin captained multiple teams and was very familiar with League structure. I was the player who played APA for the social aspects before becoming a League Operator. I didn't even know there were three sessions in a pool year or where my team was in the division standings most sessions.

What made you decide to look into becoming League Operators?

Kevin: Through the years we had many conversations that started with "Wouldn't it be cool if...". Then, in 2018, we went to lunch with our team after losing at World Qualifiers, and a friend who recently franchised an area in North Florida overheard the current League Operator talking about wanting to sell. When we heard this, we immediately packed up our food and went back to the pool hall to talk to the League Operator about buying.

The thought of running a low overhead cash business that involved pool, working from home, running fun events, and sleeping in seemed too good to be true. The sleeping in hasn't happened yet, but someday.

Was the process of becoming a League Operator difficult?

Kevin: Difficult isn't the right word, but it was tedious and a little scary. We took over an area that needed some TLC and knew we were going to have to work hard to prove ourselves to the players. The scariest part was the financial investment. It was a big investment for us.

Ashley: I was going to have to quit my job and Kevin was going to have to dip into his retirement. We almost backed out. However, everyone at the home office gave us the confidence and tools we needed to build a good foundation for our League. And the network of League Operators is an amazing resource.

Briefly describe life as League Operators.

Ashley: As an "okay" player, I was not used to walking into a pool hall where players knew me, let alone asked for recommendations on pool equipment. As the League Operator, I was suddenly the most popular person in the room, which was fun but a little overwhelming at first.

Kevin: We work more hours now than we ever have. We get up early to process scoresheets, update social media, organize events, and respond to our players. When most are heading home from work, Ashley and I are heading out to League night to start the second half of our day. We do almost everything ourselves but have recently brought on some help.

It's a fun job, but it's demanding, and if you're trying to grow your League, you're out there every night.

What do you most enjoy about being a League Operator?

Ashley: Running tournaments is great, but hearing stories of how players help each other out has to be the best part. We love hearing that someone got a job from meeting someone at League night or how a new friendship started between teammates. I can count on one hand a few stories that brought me to tears; life-saving relationships that were developed because we approached someone at a bar and asked them if they wanted to play pool.

Kevin: Bringing APA to new Host Locations is great too. Forming those business relationships with bar owners and waitstaff, the excitement they have to host APA, it's another great feeling. It's amazing to have a job that can have this kind of impact on our community and the people in it.

What advice would you give to someone considering becoming a League Operator?

Kevin: Go into it with a willingness to work every day. Although you may know APA as a player, you will learn a new side of things, so just be open to the changes coming your way. Talk to your fellow League Operators and the APA staff. Don't be afraid to ask for ideas and advice! That's what APA is about.



REGIONAL



The Inaugural Mid Atlantic Challenge was held Nov. 9-10 at Q-Master Billiards in Virginia Beach, Va. A total of 64 three-person teams competed for the nearly \$10,000 total payout up for grabs.

On the last day of competition, two teams were left standing, Pocket Punishers of the River Valley PA APA and NO ID of the Bergen County APA. Taking home the very first Mid Atlantic Challenge title and \$3,000 was NO ID. Pocket Punishers earned \$1,500 for their Runner-Up finish.

Sam's Team of APA of Philadelphia and Here's My Team of APA of South Jersey tied for 3rd Place, each taking home \$600 in prize money.



Champions: NO ID of Bergen County APA
Clint Pires, Felix Colon, Chris Farrell



Runners-Up: Pocket Punishers of River Valley PA APA
Laura Bell, Charles Schomann, IV, David Cooper



The 16th Annual 9-Ball Southwest Challenge returned to the Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino Oct 11-13, 2019. A total of 210 teams from the southwest region competed for a piece of the nearly \$32,000 in prize money. It was the largest Southwest Challenge 9-Ball event to date!

After three days of competition, the finals came down to Northern Colorado APA #2 and San Bernardino #21. In the end, it was Northern Colorado APA #2 taking home the \$3,000 1st Place prize! San Bernardino #21 earned \$2,100 for their Runner-Up finish.

San Diego #23 and San Diego #55 tied for 3rd Place and each took home \$1,410.

The 8-Ball Southwest Challenge returns to Vegas in the spring.



Champion: Northern Colorado #2
Jeremy Leedom, Noni Shull, Carlos Martinez



Runner-Up: San Bernardino #21
Francisco Ortega, Kristy Chacon, Darryl Manna

TOURNAMENTS

by Becky Rosner



The 2019 APA/CPA Border Battle took place Nov. 8-10 at the Americana Resort & Waterpark in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada.

The field included 64 8-Ball teams and 32 9-Ball teams from three Canadian Provinces and seven U.S. states. The total prize payout was over \$37,500.

Taking 1st Place in the 8-Ball event and the \$7,000 championship prize was Mixed Nuts from Sudbury, Ontario. They defeated Rig Ulators of Youngstown, Ohio who took home \$3,500.

Taking 1st Place in the 9-Ball tournament and the \$4,500 championship prize was Give Me Two Minutes from Waterloo, Ontario. They defeated Canada Is USA's Backyard from New Jersey and earned \$2,500.

Winning the Second Chance Board and \$2,000 was Quadruple Double from New York, while Spot Me The 9 from New York finished as Runner-Up.

Cue Sports Live streamed matches every round at the 2019 Border Battle. All the streamed matches are available to view on the Cue Sports Live YouTube channel.



Champions – 9-Ball: Give Me Two Minutes

Jeff Dick, Kyle Godin, Cody Hanley, Mackenzie Hanley, Ally Sinclair, Paul Taylor, Brenda Taylor, Kurtis Welland



Champions – 8-Ball: Mixed Nuts

Jim Hendry, Laura Langridge, Ashley Charlebois, Lianne Larose, Muriel Christopher, Duncan Leung, Matt Leblond, Troy Dean

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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".

"One man practicing sportsmanship is far better than a hundred teaching it."

—Knut Rockne



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Using the line of numbers, keep track of the balls (points) as the shooter is making them.

Skill level points this player needs

9-Ball Break – Break & Runs should be marked in this column.

	10	14	19	25	31	36	38	46	50	55	60	65	70	75		
Player #	xxxxx	5	Score	7	15	20	26	34	37	(39)	X	Total Points	III	(3)	38	13
Team	Name	38	Innings	III	II	III	I	II			13	Defensive Shots	Total Points	Match Points Earned		
No.	Player #	3	Dead Balls	I												
5	Name	25	Score	3	4	9	12	14	21				II	(2)	21	(7)

Loser's S/L	SCORE OF MATCH								
	20-0	19-1	18-2	17-3	16-4	15-5	14-6	13-7	12-8
1	less than 3	3	4	5&6	7	8	9&10	11	12&13
2	less than 4	4&5	6&7	8	9&10	11&12	13&14	15&16	17&18
3	less than 5	5&6	7-9	10&11	12-14	15&16	17-19	20&21	22-24
4	less than 6	6-8	9-11	12-14	15-18	19-21	22-24	25-27	28-30
5	less than 7	7-10	11-14	15-18	19-22	23-26	27-29	30-33	34-37
6	less than 9	9-12	13-17	18-22	23-27	28-31	32-36	37-40	41-45
7	less than 11	11-15	16-21	22-26	27-32	33-37	38-43	44-49	50-54
8	less than 14	14-19	20-26	27-32	33-39	40-45	46-52	53-58	59-64
9	less than 18	18-24	25-31	32-38	39-46	47-53	54-60	61-67	68-74

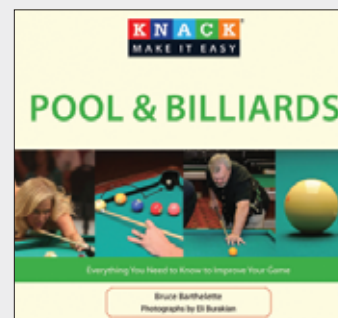
Improving Your Game with Bruce Barthelette



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.



TIPS & STRATEGIES

Strategies depend on whether you are a lower or higher-skilled player.

Many beginning players and lower-skilled players enjoy 9-Ball because they already know which ball to shoot at. Much of the decision making used in 8-Ball is reduced. Instead, decide whether you should play offense or defense. 9-Ball is a good game to improve your shot making, positioning, and kicking ability and to expand your thought process and defensive play.

Many lower-skilled players face difficult shots after pocketing a ball. Having to shoot difficult shots is one way to increase your shot-making ability. Most often you will concentrate on making your shots. If you are not confident in making a ball, consider a safety. Beginning players should focus more on making one ball at a time.

Two-way shots are a good option when you are not sure of a shot and are unable to identify a good safety. In case you miss, you will earn yourself another chance back at the table or ball-in-hand.

Higher-skilled players are more likely to position themselves better to run a table. Again, you want to take higher percentage shots. If you get out of position, consider locking up balls or hiding them when you have a difficult table to run. Changing the table layout will give you a better opportunity to get back to the table. More advanced players focus on finding three-ball patterns and getting a good leave on their next shot.

Intentional fouls come in handy when you are unsure you can make a good hit. Pass the table back to your opponent without giving him a shot. Knock an object ball toward the next ball in sequence or another ball to create a cluster and stop a run. Doing this is also a good option when your opponent can't get a breakout.

Offense Strategies for Lower Skill Levels



- Try to shoot the balls that you are capable of making. If you are unsure of a shot, look for a safe.
- In league play every ball counts, so you want to run as many as you can.
- Pay attention to the cue ball. The more you move it around, the better your chances of scratching.
- Use center ball hits on the cue ball as much as possible. Putting english on the cue ball will make the shot more difficult.

Offense Strategies for Higher Skill Levels



- When you are good at banking and are faced with this situation, you should go for the shot.
- Shoot into the 1-ball to bank it into the corner pocket.
- Your cue ball will come back toward the center of the table leaving you with a good shot on the 2-ball.
- You should give yourself a slight angle so you can position the cue ball fairly straight on the 3-ball to roll it up into the corner.

Defense Strategies for Lower Skill Levels



- You have two options here.
- Offensively, you could go for the 1-ball in the corner and bring the cue ball back across for the 2.
- Defensively, shoot directly into the 1-ball just hard enough to get it to the rail and a little farther.
- Your cue ball will land in the middle of the table, and the 1-ball will land near the center of the back rail.

Defense Strategies for Higher Skill Levels



- When you are weaker at banking and faced with this situation, consider playing smart.
- With the same idea as when you choose offense, execute a two-way shot.
- Hit the 1-ball full as though you are banking it. Execute with a stop shot to sit the cue ball behind the 8.
- If you miss the bank, you will increase your chance to get ball-in-hand. You will still have a shot at the 2 if you make it.

8-Ball Scorekeeping



This sample diagram describes the information printed on scoresheets and illustrates how to properly score your match. Inaccurate scorekeeping affects the entire League, so keep play fun and fair! Remember to accurately mark Defensive Shots for your team and your opponent.

Fill in the actual match start time and end time (at right *)

Shows that this is the second week of play and the session is 13 weeks.

Shows the date this match is scheduled to play.

This scoresheet is for Division 043 Team 6.

If you have questions, the Team Captain will need to contact the Division Rep.

This player's Membership Number.

This player's Matches Played for this session.

This player owes money to the League Office.

Player made an Early 8 (E-8, 8OT, 8WP). Mark Scratch on 8 (8S).

An inning is not over therefore, not marked until the player who lost the initial lag misses or otherwise completes his/her turn.

A Defensive Shot must be marked for a player on any shot where there is no INTENT to legally pocket a ball of his category. At the end of the match, total and circle the number of Defensive Shots for each player. If there are no Defensive Shots by a player write "No DS" in the block.

A T is marked in the game box when the player takes a time out. In the first game, the player listed first in this match had a time out. In the second game of the match, both players had a time out.

Update the overall Team score in the Running Total box.

Indicates table size.

Reminder: Roster changes must be made during the first four weeks of the session, unless you get prior approval from the League Office.

This scoresheet is for Team 04306 and they will play Team Shooters at Slicks Billiards next week.

Scorekeeping & Defensive Shots Videos Available at youtube.com/apaleagues!



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.

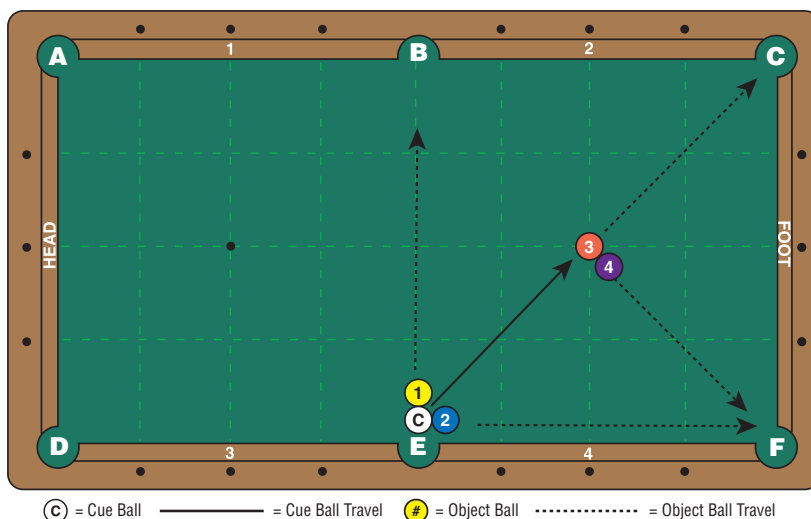
Trick and Fancy Shot #3

DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: 6.0

CUE BALL(S) PLACEMENT: In hand (within 1-ball's width of pocket "E") - frozen to 1-ball and 2-ball.

OBJECT BALL(S) PLACEMENT: 4-ball on foot spot, 3-ball frozen to 4-ball, 1-ball and 2-ball frozen to cue ball as diagram indicates.

OBJECTIVE: Shoot cue ball into 1-ball and 2-ball. Then, cue ball will contact 3-ball. Make 4 object balls as pocket letters designate.



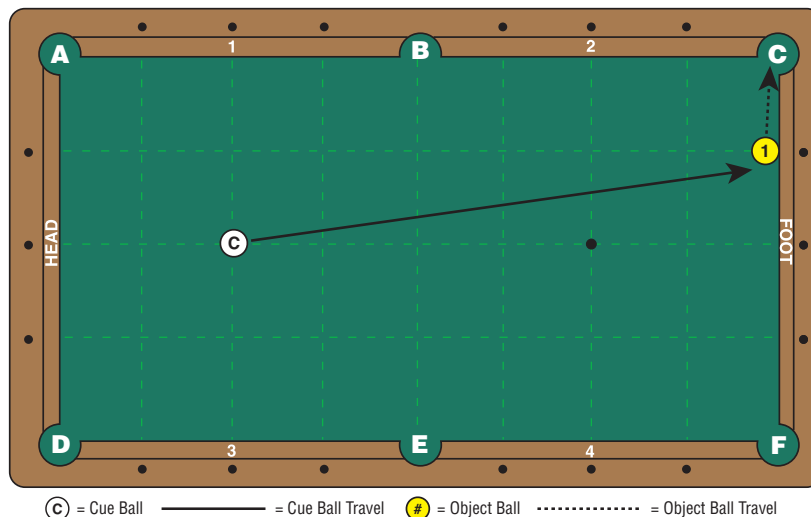
Trick and Fancy Shot #4A

DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: 7.0

CUE BALL(S) PLACEMENT: Centered on head spot of table.

OBJECT BALL(S) PLACEMENT: 1-ball frozen to foot cushion and centered at one diamond from pocket "C".

OBJECTIVE: Shoot cue ball to 1-ball and make 1-ball as pocket letter designates.





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BE READY FOR YOUR MATCH

Hit the bathroom and grab a drink BEFORE!

2 MINUTES OR LESS

Try to put a player up 2 minutes or less after your opponent declares.

FOCUS ON YOUR MATCH

Try to be at the table 10 seconds after your opponent completes their turn.

20 SECONDS PER SHOT

5 seconds more per shot means 9 minutes longer each match.

1 MINUTE TIME OUTS

SPLIT TABLES

Whenever possible, this can cut match times nearly in half.

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ATTENTION POOL PLAYERS

FACES^{OF}THE APA

by Becky Rosner



Bob Valliere

This is not my story it's of my father, Bob Valliere. At 73 years old he won the U.S. Amateur Championship qualifier in Tyler, Texas. He just lost his wife of 53 years to a long illness in August (just a month before). She really wanted him to go to the qualifier; she loved to watch and was there every time he went to play.

He won two matches at the U.S. Amateur Championship and had a great time watching great players. He's been playing pool for over 60 years! He started playing in the Boys Club of Boston. He's been playing in the East Texas APA since 2011.

– Submitted by Ken Valliere, Houston, TX

Steven Wyatt

My name is Steven Wyatt, I'm a SL7 in 8-Ball and a SL8 in 9-Ball. I started playing pool when I was about 8 or 9 years old. I played in my dad's pool hall every day. I started with the APA in 2009 about 30 minutes from home, but work got in the way.

When APA started a League in my hometown I got on a team and have played ever since, 9 years to be exact. I'm 31 now



and have my own team that plays Double Jeopardy. We have a blast! I play with my wife, a couple of my absolute best friends and a couple that love to show up and learn.

I'll be headed to the Poolplayer Championships in May for the 8-Ball Classic for the third time. Two of my teammates have also won trips to Vegas, including my wife who took 5th Place. I also play Masters, which is an amazing format.



League night for me is almost like a "Me" night, a date night with my wife, and a night out with the guys all in one.

My goal is to play in the PoolDawg Championship Arena and take home that \$15,000 prize package!

My favorite event is my local APA Toys for Tots benefit tournament. We fill it up every year. My League Operator, John Ervin, does an excellent job with helping out kids in need during this time of the year!!

– Submitted by Steven Wyatt, APA member, Jacksonville, TX

Richard Chatman

My name is Richard Chatman and I was born in Modesto, Calif. I graduated from Peter Johansen High School. After graduation I moved to Las Vegas and began working for NOS Communications.

I left the company in 2003 to join the U.S. Army. I served from January of 2004 until 2009 when I was medically discharged due to injuries sustained in combat. I deployed with A 1/10 FA, 3RD BDE, 3RD ID, Fort

Benning, Kelly Hill, in support of OIF III AND OIF V. During that time, I was injured two times and presented with two Purple Hearts.



In 2010 I attended the Los Angeles Recording School and graduated with an AS in Recording Arts. Next, I attended Full Sail University and graduated with a BAS in Digital Cinematography, the December class of 2018.

I took an interest in shooting pool because it was low impact and didn't aggravate my injuries. A good friend turned me on to APA in late 2018 and I began to play in the spring of 2019. At this time, I bought an 8-foot table and began to practice every day. Since then I have attended an MVP Tournament, team qualifier at Stix Bar and Grill, 8-Ball Singles Qualifier and the 9-Ball Singles Qualifier in Marietta at Mr. Cues. I started this year as a SL3 and now I am a SL6 in both 8 and 9-Ball. Recently, I qualified for the 2020 8-Ball Classic and hope to qualify for 9-Ball as well!

– Submitted by Richard Chatman, APA member, Columbus, GA



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