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TAKE TWO



 WPA MEN'S WORLD 10-BALL CHAMPION 2023 

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FROM THE Head Rail

MIKE HOWERTON

I want to express a special welcome to Keith Paradise to the pages of the Buzz this month. Loyal readers have been reading Keith's reports from major events in our pages, and the pages of Billiards Digest for years. This month, we feature Keith's Cue Maker profile of Mike Cochrane. Keith showed me this article months ago and I have been trying to find a way to publish it in the Buzz ever since then. In my opinion, these are the kinds of stories that sometimes go untold in this great sport that we love. I thought Keith did a great job of telling that story, and I am very pleased to be able to offer it to our readers to enjoy.

Readers will also see a familiar name attached the report on the Monica Webb Battle of Junior Champions this month. We were able to coax Jerry Forsyth out of retirement to get out and cover that event. Jerry claims it was because the event was driving distance from his home. I am convinced it is because he secretly misses being out on the road covering events, and he can't wait to come back to reporting on the world of pool full-time. (Hey, a man can dream, can't he?)

Until next time
Mike



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PLAYING ON THE CLOCK

AMATEURS AND THE CLOCK

WHY DO A COLUMN ON PLAYING ON THE CLOCK?

As an amateur, you could improve your play if you learn to use some of the practices employed by the pros, who excel at playing on the clock. You will also learn to better enjoy watching the “TV” matches” once you understand the impact that the clock has on the players as they go about preparing to shoot, and while over their shots.

THE FUTURE OF AMATEUR POOL

I have been told by numerous tournament directors how one slowly played match can throw a whole event off schedule. And I know of league players who dread going last because they will be waking up groggy eyed for work the next day. So, it is my feeling that in our technologically advanced age that we should begin to play competitive events using a clock. If my forecast it right, then it would be

in every players interest to get used to playing on the clock.

AMATEURS – PRACTICE USING SHOT CLOCK

A big problem for most player is a tendency to suffer from paralysis by analysis – which is also known as study long, study wrong! The cure is to learn to play at a faster pace. Now, you can consciously try to play faster, but it could help if you spar with a friend while timing each other. The pros typically play using a 30 second clock, but you may wish to experiment with a 40 second clock. If you and your practice partner have little trouble at this pace, then try 35 seconds. And be sure to use some kind of warning when only ten seconds remain on the clock.

Playing faster will force you to become more decisive, which will boost your confidence. And this will lead to better execution. Over time this virtuous cycle will lead you to playing with flow, much like Joshua Fillier, Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz, and other top pros – and this could lead to an

immense improvement in your game.

A NEW STYLE OF PLAY

ROLE MODELS FOR THE NEW STYLE OF PRO PLAY

In today’s world of pro pool the early matches accommodate the Slow Playing Plodders. However, to go deep into the money, a pro must play well on the clock. AND, they could get selected to play on the “TV” table as it’s called (it’s a stream) in any round, from the first to those just before the quarters or semis when all matches are on the clock. So it behooves any aspiring player to learn to play their best within the constraints imposed by a clock. As time passes, I expect more matches will be on a clock as the funds become available to hire more refs and timekeepers.

PLAYING FAST IS A STATE OF MIND

Maintaining your A Game while on the clock requires a well-timed process that can be improved with practice and competition.

PHIL CAPELLE



You want to develop the feeling that you are moving smoothly and confidently though your routine as you prepare for your shots. When you have mastered the art of playing fast, yet well, **you will feel like you have plenty of time to complete your shots on your terms, not on those of that dastardly time-keeper!**

There are many possible routines while you are in your shooting position, including those with a pause at the cue ball and/or at the end of the your backstroke. The purpose of these pauses is supposedly to check your aim and tip position, but neither of these actions are practical or even necessary because your last second adjustments are taken care of by your eye/hand coordination.

As a result, I am an staunch advocate of the Continuous Motion approach where you keep your shooting arm moving from landing to contact with the cue ball – and beyond. (See Capelle’s Columns, Vol. II) As the name implies, once you start your pre-stroke preparations while in your stance, there are NO PAUSES. According Daniel Wolpert, a world leader in the computational study of sensorimotor control and learning, “A stop and start

pattern (is) called a 'discrete movement.' Discrete movements are volatile. They are noisy. They reflect the brain trying to organize all the joints and muscles toward a concerted focus." In short, they should be avoided if possible.

Excellent models of the Continuous Motion approach include Joshua Filler, Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz, Fedor Gorst, Jayson Shaw, Wiktor Zielinski, and Kelly Fisher, to name just a few of the world's best players who employ this technique. Obviously none of them has a problem with playing on the clock!

As an added benefit, when you are in a Continuous Motion state of mind your game has a certain flow to it and your shots tend to blend together, increasing the pace of your play.

WATCH THE PROS PLAY ON THE CLOCK

As a spectator, what kind of pro pool do YOU like better? When they play with a clock, or not? **Myself, I am 100% for watching it played on a clock with a neutral racker with no inspections.**

I enjoy seeing the pros play when they are all business – when they must move quickly around the table while making great decisions, and then shift into execution mode. In short, they play with flow.

And when a pro does take an extension, it is time to

put on your thinking cap and try to figure out what they will do, and what you would do in that situation. One of the more interesting moments comes when they take an extension to gather themselves for a big pressure shot!

USING YOUR TIME WELL

HOW TO SHAVE TIME OFF THE CLOCK

Try going with the first play that combines to mind, especially on the routine shots. Consider the menu analogy: When dining out, make a quality first choice as quickly as possible. If you are satisfied with it, you are ready for your waiter. When playing pool, make a solid first choice of shots. If time allows AND you think you could find a better one, then go for it. When time winds down to about 12-14 seconds, make

your final choice. If you are still not sure of your selection AND you have an extension, use it.

DEFINITIONS

POSITION LINE A line that runs down the ideal angle for your next shot. This is used for planning your shot.

LINE-OF-AIM A line that extends from the cue ball to the position it will be in at contact with the object ball.

STRAIGHT-IN-LINE This is a line that extends from the center of the pocket through the center of the object ball and out the other side.

PLAN SEQUENCES WHEN POSSIBLE

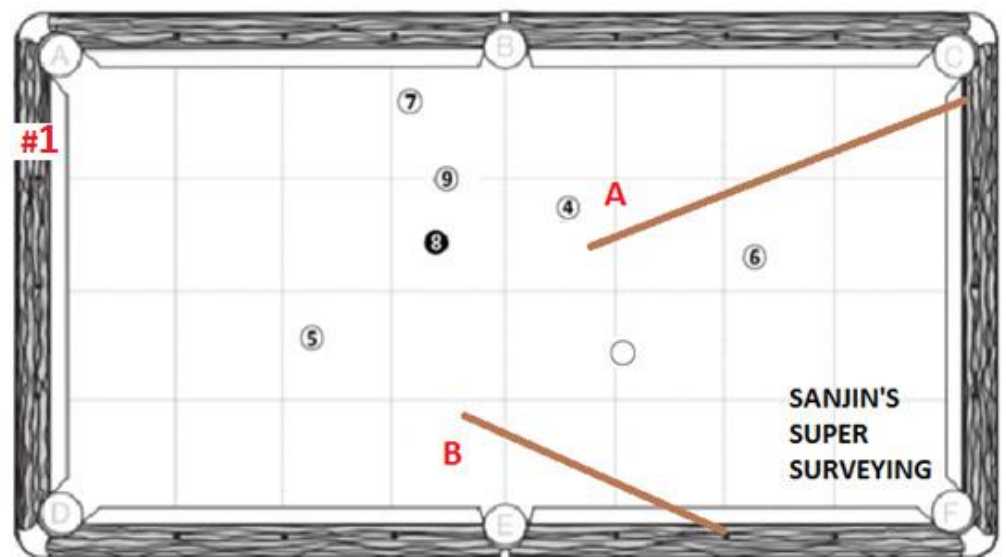
At the start of a run, or at a critical juncture in a run, it is a good idea to plan a

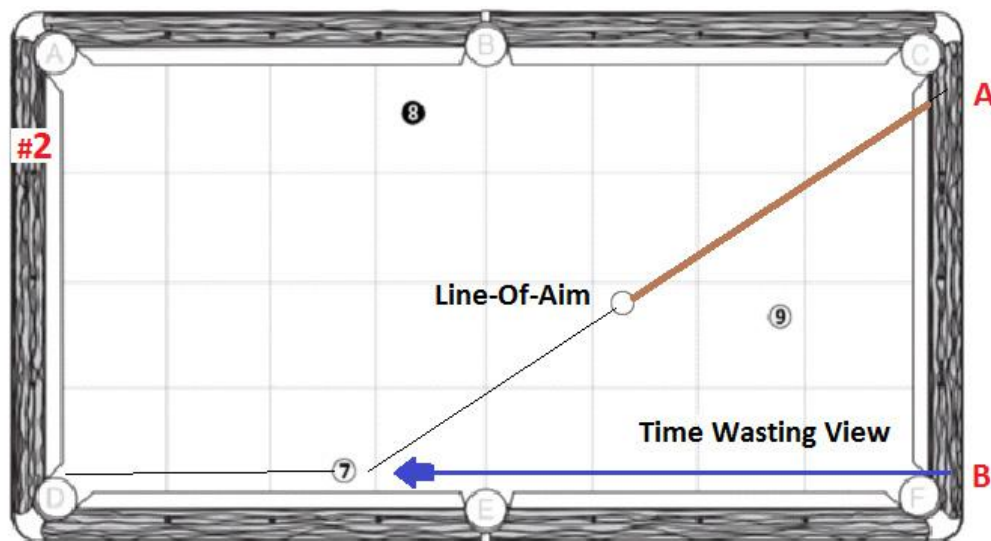
sequence of shots. If you use an extension to plan your pattern, you could shave precious seconds off of subsequent shots.

If you play easy shots in a big hurry, let's say about 10 seconds, you cannot bank those 20 extra seconds for planning and playing subsequent shots. So, you might as well use those unsaveable seconds to better assess the overall layout! Let's say that you are very confident that the shot you are about to play is only going to take about 7-10 seconds to plan and play. Knowing this you can take now spend 10-15 seconds to study the layout and to get a head start on planning the rest of the run.

WALKING TO THE POSITION LINE

So many fine pros these days now walk over to the Position Line as part of their planning process. **Diagram #1** shows Sanjin Pehlivanovic at the 2023





Premier League event. He is planning his shot on the 4-ball to the 5-ball. Using the Principle of 3 Balls at a Time, Sanjin is looking for the best route to the 6-ball. He first aligned his cue at Position A, but then he no doubt realized that the cue ball would be heading two-rails and into traffic. So he then looked at Position B. He chose it and proceeded to run out.

AVOID THIS TIME WASTER

When faced with a cut shot, do NOT walk over to sight the shot down the Straight-In-Line as shown by Position B in **Diagram #2**. You will see some pros do this, but IMO this view gives you no useful information and it wastes valuable time, which you can ill afford when the clock running. (Note: I will have much more to say about this in a future column.) Spend your time during the Stand portion of your Execution Cycle in Position A, which

extends down the Line-Of-Aim.

TAKE YOUR JUMP CUE TO THE TABLE

While sitting in your chair you may see the need for a jump shot – perhaps after your opponent pushes out, or you are left with a possible safety or a jump shot. In these cases, you can save a few precious seconds by taking your jump cue to the table along with your playing cue. Then choose to use one or the other and lay the other on the floor. Doing this could save you 8-10 seconds – time that could enable you to avoid a clock violation.

WHEN TO GO TO THE JUMP SHOT

Sometimes a well-conceived and played kick shot could be preferable to a jump shot. The trouble comes, however, when seeing a playable route escapes you. So, unless you have an extension,

consider going to a jump shot. The straight-at-the-ball nature of jumping all but guarantees that you will make a good hit. The downside is that certain jump shots have a good chance of leaving your opponent with a shot. But that is preferable to playing a kick that lead to ball-in-hand.

CLEANING THE CUE BALL

During a game a player will occasionally ask to have the cue ball cleaned. This takes about 10 seconds. The clock keeps running, so do this on more routine shots. While the ball is being cleaned, finalize your plans for the shot.

TIME USAGE

MY ARCHER VS. REYES TIME STUDY

I did a number of time studies for my book, *Archer vs. Reyes*, which analyses a

match between these two superstars back in 1996 when a clock was not in use. Because there was no clock, their time usage tells us how exactly how much time they felt was actually needed for the planning and execution phases.

When executing a gamewinning runout, they spent an average of 16.16 seconds per shot – 11.66 to plan it, and 4.49 seconds to execute it. That is obviously well under today’s 30 second limit. Archer and Reyes did not spend excess time planning and playing because they know the game so well, are very decisive, and they know the value of playing at a good pace.

For safeties, their total time was 32.85 seconds, while on kick shots it was 49.07 seconds. These are averages, so of these types of shots can be played without taking an extension. But, on many of them, you will be wise to employ your extension to give you the time you need to make the best choice of shots.

TIME SPENT RUNNING OUT

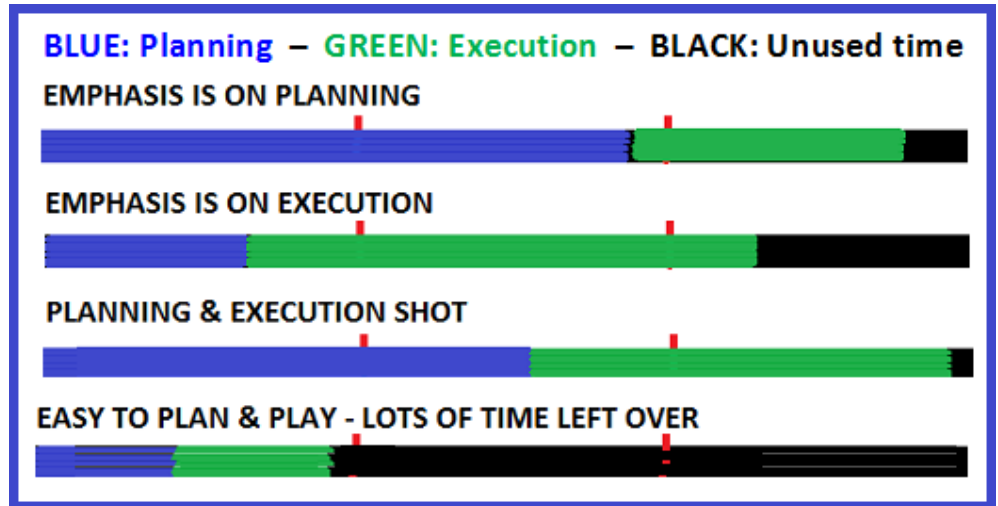
	Archer	Reyes
Preparation	13.84	9.75
Execution	4.05	4.88
TOTAL	17.89	14.63

TIME FOR SAFETIES	32.85
TIME FOR KICK SHOTS	49.07



My illustrations show the 30 seconds that you have to play a shot when playing on the clock. It is broken into three 10 second increments to help you visualize the time used for the planning, execution, and the extra time that protects you from a time foul.

Each shot has its own demands on your time. With some shots the emphasis is on planning, on others it is execution. The most difficult shots require time to plan and to execute, making them excellent candidates for taking an extension. As I mentioned before, on shots that are easy to plan and play, you may wish to use some of that extra time to further assess the layout.



or sequence AND giving it your best attempt could prevent a mistake.

When you take 60 seconds for your shot, you ensure that you can think through the situation, and you will have more than ample

more than 30 seconds. But first see if you can play it within 30 seconds. If you find that you are already 15-20 seconds into your planning process and are likely going to fail to play it in time, take your extension. Taking the extension in a relatively relaxed maneuver beats taking it while you are over the ball with the clock ticking away.

EXECUTION SHOTS – The planning process takes very little time, but executing the shot is another matter. You are now trying to play the shot, the clock is ticking, and you may require extra time to get set over the ball, possibly to finalize your bridge, for example. And, you may need to use several extra WUS to lock in your aim as

you prepare to make your final stroke.

PLANNING AND EXECUTION SHOTS – These kinds of shots take time to plan and to execute. So, if you have an extension, be ready to use it. If you are looking to play offense, but you can't find a viable shot and time is running short, it may be best to settle for a safety. Remember, when in doubt, don't sell out! Find a workable safety (some call them containing shots), play it as best you can, and live to see another turn at the table.

DEVELOP A QUICK SHOOTING ROUTINE

Sometimes you must shoot in a hurry, often when the shot requires more time than you expected – either

TIME USAGE STUDIES

30 Seconds – Plan – Execute – Unused Time

EXAMPLES	Plan	Ex.	Unused
Emphasis on Planning	18	9	3
Emphasis on Execution	7	16	7
Planning & Execution	16	12	2
Easy to Plan & Play	4	5	21

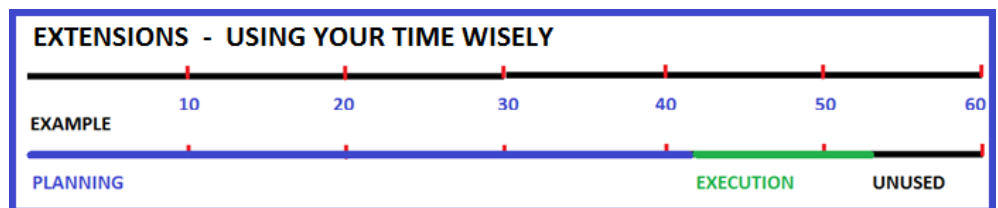
STRATEGY

USING YOUR EXTENSIONS WISELY

While you might want to save your extension for a certain type of shot later in the rack, it is also possible that you may not need it. So, your extension could be better used before its typically needed – and if you do so, that extra time thinking through a shot

time to execute your chosen shot as well as possible without the pressure that comes when the beeper goes off.

PLANNING SHOTS – These kinds of shots could take



in the set-up or for your WUS. And, to make matters worse, you have already used your extension. On these fast play shots one warm-up-stroke (WUS) may suffice. However, the benefits of using two WUS can be enormous, so you will want to master shooting this way as well.

You can prepare for shooting quickly by practicing routine shots with one or two WUS. Start with easy shots and stop shots, and progress towards harder versions while seeking to discover where your technique breaks down and misses appear due to lack of adequate preparation.

While watching the pros you will often see them

play ultra-routine shots with only one or two WUS. On these shots they are not trying to beat the clock so much as they are trying to conserve energy!

DON'T PUSH IT

With a 30 second clock, try to avoid setting off the beeper. On most shots you will need under 20 seconds to plan and execute them. Since you don't want to feel rushed, try thinking of the clock as an 18 second clock! In doing so, you will be equipping yourself with a 12 second margin for error.

THE WARNING BELL

SITUATION #1 - When you hear the warning begin, but

you are confident in your process for that particular shot AND you feel that you can pull the trigger within the next seven seconds or so, then go ahead with your shot. Don't allow yourself to get Sharked By The Buzzer!

SITUATION #2 - When the buzzer sounds and you know you won't be as prepared as you like, 1) Use your extension if you have one left, or 2) If you do not have an extension, go into

your best Hurry-Up-Mode (see above) and let-loose with the shot.

I hope you have enjoyed this discussion on playing pool on the clock. Even if you don't play on one (yet) I think it will help your pace of play if you and a friend spend some practice time playing this way. And I think increasing your knowledge of playing under clock will make you a wiser spectator of the pros.

Beginning in 1968, Capelle spent 27 years competing in leagues, money games, and tournaments. In late 1994 he founded Billiards Press, and has since written 12 instructional books on pool. Over the last seven years he has conducted extensive research on pool in preparation for his upcoming book, *Pool Is The Answer*.

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6 WAYS POOL PLAYERS SABOTAGE THEIR PERFORMANCE

ANTHONY BEELER

Mental sabotage can ruin your match before it begins. Here are six ways that pool players psych themselves out. If you could improve your performance without buying new equipment or training more, where would you start? You might look at your mental approach—how your mental game helps or sabotages your success. The attitudes, beliefs, and mindsets that players take into a match dictate their overall success. The first step to improve your mental approach is to understand how you might sabotage your success with doubt, high expectations, perfectionism, or other mental game roadblocks.

1. Expectations:

Despite what others have taught you about positive expectations, high expectations can limit your success on the table. Why do high expectations limit you? If you don't achieve your pre-match expectations during play,

you'll start to doubt yourself or become frustrated. Essentially, expectations set you up for failure before you strike the first ball.

In addition, expectations are usually about outcomes, such as placing high or winning. Players often judge their performance based on their expectations. In most cases, expectations cause competitors to focus on outcomes and they feel more pressure to perform at their peak, which can turn into anxiety or worry.

2. Confidence:

Confidence is a pool player's best friend. If you have a high level of belief in your ability, it's hard to feel anxious. Unfortunately, many competitors leave their confidence to chance. This means they fail to take full responsibility for feeling confident at the start of the match. Do you wait to feel confident in your skills only when you win



the first few games? If so, you leave confidence to chance.

Are you unsure how you will perform before a match? Do you doubt your ability to finish strong? Your main objective is to be proactive. You don't want your confidence to be thrashed around by immediate results at the start of a match. You want to fuel your confidence—just like you fuel your body—before the start. You should not react strictly to what's happening early on.

3. Worry:

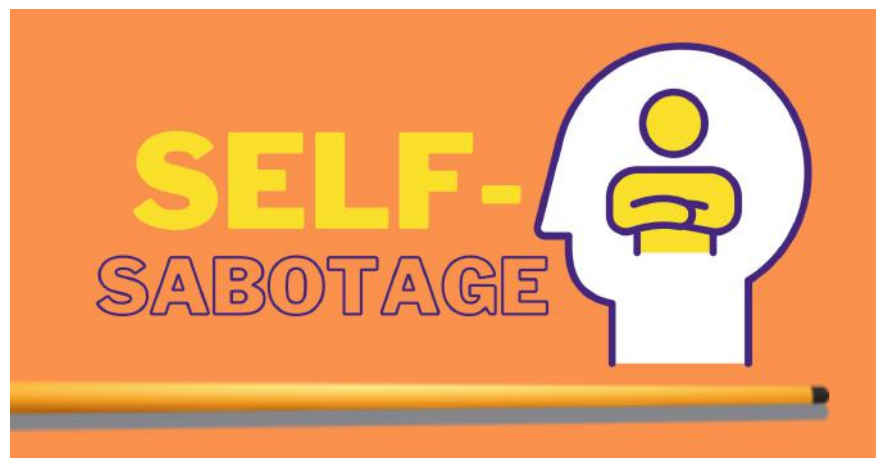
Fear of failure is the number one reason why pool players don't perform as well in tournaments as compared to everyday training. Most of the time, fear of failure is rooted in two areas:

- Social approval or worrying about what others think.
- The payoff syndrome or worrying that all the hard work you do to succeed might not payoff.

You must understand your underlying fear so you can overcome this form of self-sabotage.

4. Nerves:

Experienced pool players welcome pre-match jitters. Pre match jitters



help instill an optimal level of mental activation or excitement, which can boost focus. Your ability to embrace pre-match jitters is critical to having a consistent performance. Many players will interpret pre-match jitters as anxiety, which causes them to become stressed or anxious. It's best to use this type of energy on something constructive rather than destructive!

5. Approval from others:

For many players, a big source of worry comes from social approval or the need to have others "approve" of their performance. If this is you, you might feel the need to be admired, accepted, respected, or liked by fellow competitors or teammates.

This leads many pool players to worry about performing poorly and avoiding mistakes because they think "the outcome" influences what others might think about them. Thus, if you crave approval from others, you are more

likely to become anxious or afraid to fail in competition. Your need for approval from others supports your fear of failure. Pool players who need others' approval to feel confident in their skills are prone to performance anxiety.

6. Perfection:

Perfectionism can be both an asset and a disadvantage for players. Perfectionism can slow you down during competition which can help with better decision making. For example, perfectionists have incredibly high expectations! Sometimes they over analyze. They also lack confidence. However, perfectionists love practice because

they are goal-oriented, committed and strive to improve their skills.

When perfectionists attempt to perform perfectly, they become easily frustrated with mistakes, and are often stuck in a "training mindset" when playing. None of these characteristics are ideal to perform your best.

The attitudes, beliefs, and mindsets that players take into a match dictate their overall success. Once you understand how you might self-sabotage your success with doubt, high expectations, perfectionism, or other mental game roadblocks, you can better develop a plan to eliminate self-sabotage from your game.

Anthony Beeler is the current *Billiards Instructor of the Decade* and is a former BCAPL National Champion. He has numerous "Top 25" national finishes and is the primary author of the *ACS National Billiards Instructor's Manual*. He has also authored the book *Unstoppable! Positive Thinking for Pool Players*. Anthony currently has the highest established Fargo Rating of any Master Instructor. He has won over 300 tournaments and has defeated numerous professional players in tournament competition.

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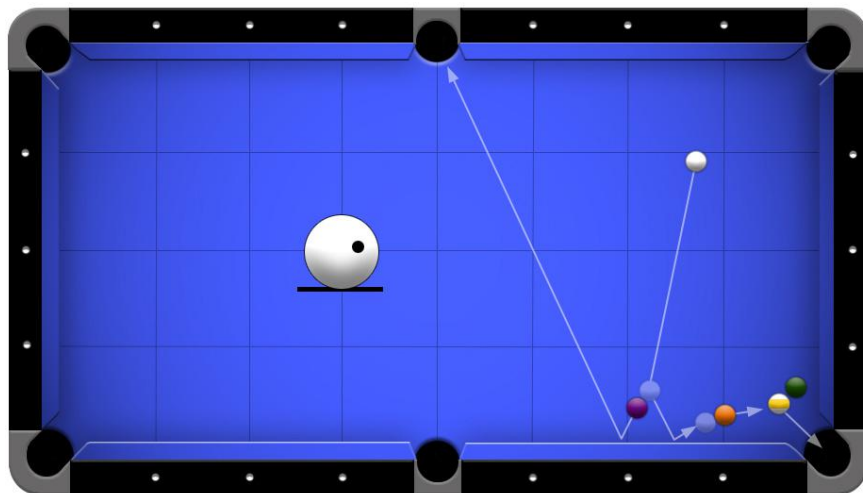
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F R O M



Accu-Stats Video Productions has been bringing us World Class Pool on video for the last 30 years. With this column, we hope to bring you some examples of the best shots that come up between the greatest players who play this game.

Sometimes, World Class Pool is more than just the technical execution and imagination involved in a shot. You also have to consider the situation the player was facing with a particular shot. That is a big part of this month's shot from Jose Parica at the 2008 US Open 9-Ball Championship.

While you might imagine this shot and be able to pocket it while you're practicing on your home table, how would you like to face this in a hill-hill match against the defending champion Shane Van Boening. That's what Parica was faced with and watch what he pulled off.



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Gospel Trick Shot #38

Wayne Parker's Peter in Prison Shot

History of the Trick Shot: This shot was originally invented by Wayne Parker around 2008 in a billiard room called Polley's Pool and Snooker in Pretoria, South Africa. This shot was originally done on the UK 7-foot table, but is now also done on the 9-foot table. There are different variations of the shot. The shot was originally named the "Parker Pot". This particular variation involves the object ball being made into the side pocket.

GTS Name and Why: The GTS name for this variation is called the "Peter in Prison" Gospel Trick Shot. In the Bible, in Acts chapter 12, we find the story of Peter who was arrested and thrown into prison and an angel was sent to break Peter out of prison. The cue ball in this shot represents the angel of the Lord, the 8-ball is Peter, the surrounding balls is the prison that Peter was trapped in, and the side pocket represents freedom into which Peter escapes.

Scripture References in ESV Translation:

Acts 12:5&7 - Peter escapes out of prison

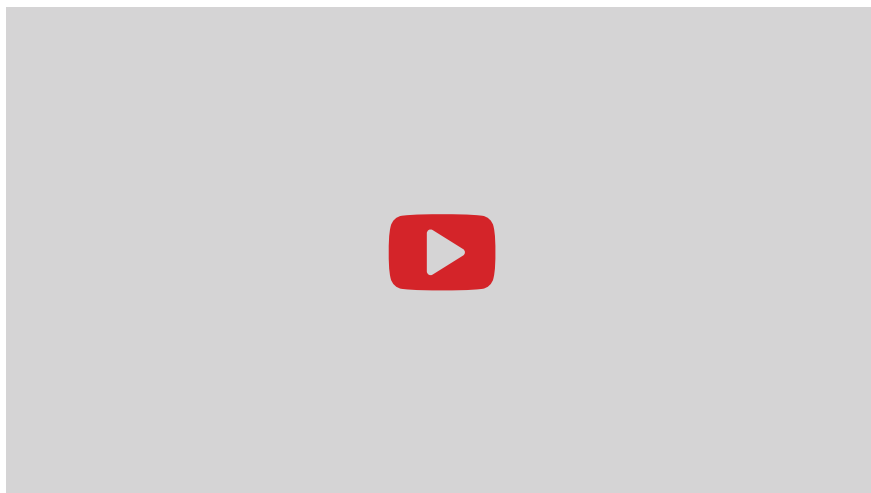
5 So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church. 7 And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his hands.

II Corinthians 4:8-9 - We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

Philippians 1:13 - For everyone here, including the whole palace guard, knows that I am in chains because of Christ.

Object Ball(s) Placement: The 8-ball is about two balls away from the side pocket and with its right edge in line with the left point of the side pocket as shown in the diagram. The object ball to the right of the 8-ball is about a quarter inch away from the 8-ball and ever so slightly further from the side pocket than the 8-ball (about 2-3 mm). The surrounding object balls can be placed all around the 8-ball, as indicated in the diagram, to make the 8-ball look like it is completely trapped. Ensure that there is enough space to the left of the 8-ball for the cue ball to pass through to the 8-ball. The two object balls closest to the side pocket need to be covering the side pocket and not be too close to the 8-ball, so that the 8-ball has enough room to make it over into the side pocket.

Objective: The 8-ball is surrounded by obstacle balls near the side pocket. The 8-ball represents Peter in the Bible after he was arrested and locked up in prison. The surrounding balls represent the prison which Peter was in. The cue ball represents the angel who came and struck Peter to wake him up and miraculously break him out of prison. The



pocket into which the 8-ball is made represents Peter's freedom. The objective of the shot is to make the 8-ball into the side pocket. Jump the cue ball into the 8-ball causing the 8-ball to also jump and be deflected off the object ball and then over the side pocket object balls, so that the 8-ball is made in the side pocket.

Special Notes: The key to this shot is the amount of power used to strike the cue ball. It will take some practice to perfect this. Playing about one tip of draw on this shot will also assist in the cue ball remaining on the table after the shot. The butt end of the cue should be raised about 10-15 degrees for this shot. If the 8-ball does not jump enough to make it over the side pocket object balls, you do not have to adjust the height of the butt end of the cue, but rather strike the cue ball with a little more power.

Crowd Reactions Through the Years: After setting this shot up and explaining to the crowd that the 8-ball will be made into the side pocket, there's normally a bit of a chuckle of laughter in disbelief, as the 8-ball seems completely trapped by the surrounding balls. Lining up for the shot, the room will usually become dead quiet. Once the cue ball is struck and the 8-ball pops over the obstacle balls into the side pocket, expect the crowd to suddenly break the silence and raise the roof with applause and cheering! This shot has not been seen in too many places around the world so many people would not know what to expect from this shot. Be sure to celebrate with the cheering of the crowd, telling them that if anyone is still believing God for a breakthrough, they must not give up, keep trusting God and keep praying as their breakthrough is coming, because God is able!



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KACI CATCHES SANCHEZ RUIZ TO WIN WORLD 10-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Article by KEITH PARADISE - Predator Media Group / Photos courtesy Predator Media Group

Things had not been going well for Eklent Kaci in the finals of the WPA World 10-Ball Championship.

He had watched opponent Francisco Sanchez Ruiz jump out to an early 5-1 advantage and had not really seen much time at the table other than a dry break and a couple of missed kick shots. Regardless, the Albanian sat quietly and just had a feeling his time would come.

“I didn’t do anything wrong,” said Kaci. “I actually made a few nice kicks. I’m like, ‘just keep on playing.’ I’m trying to stay focused because it’s a world final and you don’t get in this position too often. I was just waiting my chances.”

And when he got his chance, Kaci kicked the door open with both feet, winning nine of the last 11 games to win his second World 10-Ball Championship Saturday evening at the Rio All-Suites Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. The win not only gives Kaci another world 10-ball championship but also denied Sanchez Ruiz the opportunity to be the first player in history to hold world titles in 8-ball, 9-ball and 10-ball simultaneously.

“I cannot say that I feel bad because I had an unbelievable week,” said San-

chez Ruiz. “I played really good under pressure but in the final, I made a mistake and he played really well. His safety game is unbelievable and he deserved to win. But I am really happy with my performance here this week.”

The Spaniard came out on fire from the start with three breaks and runs in his first four trips to the table and, before Kaci had even gotten settled in his seat, Sanchez Ruiz had used a successful jump shot on the 3 ball to build that commanding lead in a race-to-10. Fortunes changed in the seventh game, when the Spaniard

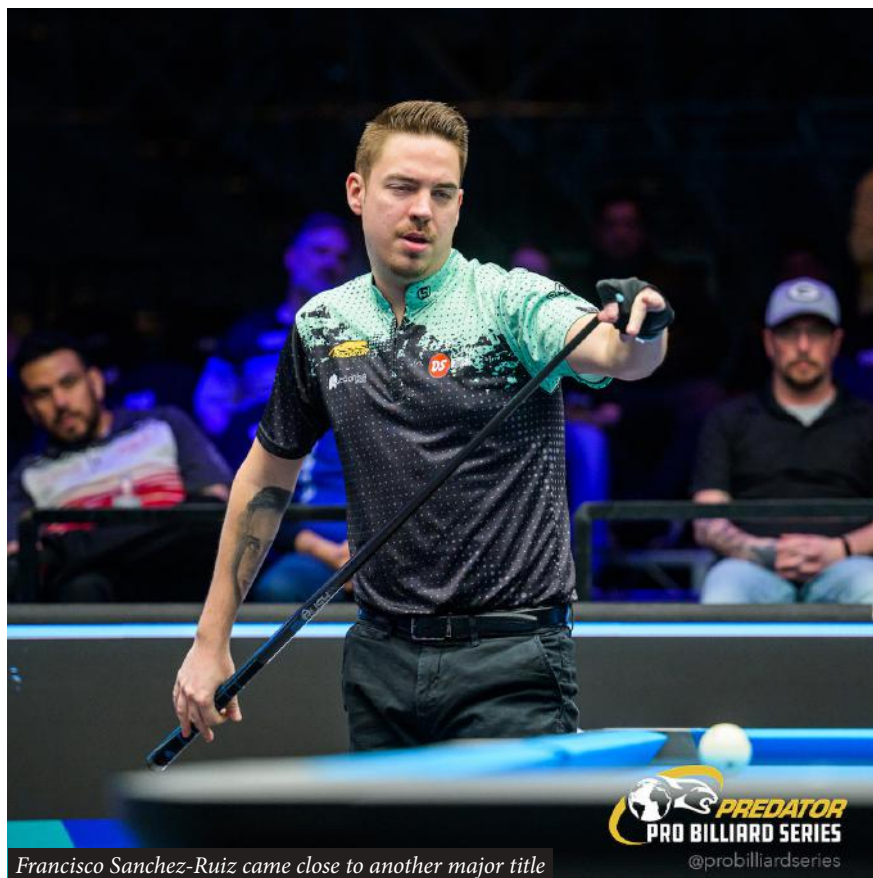


missed a shot on the 3 ball and gave his opponent new life, which he used to win five straight and to come all the way back to take a 6-5 lead.

Kaci, who also won this event in 2021, added a break-and-run of his own to increase his lead before finally failing to pocket a ball on the break in the 13th rack. However, a misplayed safety on the 1 ball by the Spaniard gave the Albanian an open layout which he used along with some stout safeties to build a comfortable 8-5 lead. Sanchez Ruiz attempted to claw back in the 14th rack when he took a safety shot from Kaci, turned it into a successful combination shot on the 4 ball and ran out to trim the lead to two racks. He had a chance to pull within a game but missed the 4 ball in the corner pocket. After Kaci cleared the table to make it 9-6, the Spaniard tacked another rack on to pull with two games but lost a safety exchange on the 4 ball to leave a wide-open path to victory for Kaci.

The Spaniard reached the championship by defeating Russia's Fedor Gorst in an epic, hill-hill battle in the semi-finals.

The Spaniard drew first blood, winning a safety exchange after the break in the opening rack then was able to



Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz came close to another major title

steal the second game when he forced Gorst into committing a foul on a safety. The Russian got on the board when Sanchez Ruiz left the 2 ball in the corner pocket's jaws but his opponent

was able to tack on another win in the next game when Gorst fouled attempting to touch the 2 ball. After the Russian won the fifth game on a safety exchange to cut the lead to 3-2, he tied the match by using another safety to force the Spaniard into a foul.

Gorst took his first lead of the match when he jumped the 2 ball in after a safety and ran out but his opponent knotted the score when Gorst scratched attempting to jump in the 2 ball. Sanchez Ruiz broke in the next rack and appeared to be in position to run out but missed the 5 ball, allowing Gorst to regain the lead on a safety battle. He then increased the margin to 6-4 when he got a fortunate roll on the 3 ball which resulted in a Sanchez Ruiz foul, then tacked on another win to push the lead to three games.

Sanchez Ruiz cut the deficit to 7-5 when Gorst missed a jump shot on the



Another great finish for Joshua Filler

World 10-Ball Championship

1 ball but the Russian added on another game when he forced his opponent into a foul with a safety. Now trailing by three games, Sanchez Ruiz was able to tack on two games when his opponent scratched while attempting a safety in the 14th game then used a one-rail kick in of the 6 ball to propel him to another win. After the Spaniard failed to pocket a ball on the break in the 16th rack, Gorst appeared to be in position to clear the table but missed the 5 ball in the side, after safety by his opponent, the Russian jumped in two straight balls then pocketed the 7 ball on a called bank shot but also scratched, allowing Sanchez Ruiz to tie the score, 8-8.

After Gorst missed a jump bank shot on the 2 ball and the Spaniard won his fourth straight to retake the lead, he watched as his opponent used a one rail kick in of the 2 ball in the next rack to run out and tie the score. In a match that had already seemed to have everything, the two players engaged in a lengthy safety battle, with the Spaniard prevailing when he forced Gorst to commit three fouls – including a final one that occurred when Gorst kicked one rail at the ball and made contact but scratched.



Kaci and Sanchez-Ruiz pre battle

In the other semifinal, Joshua Filler jumped out to an early 3-0 advantage but Kaci used a jump shot on the 1 ball to clear the fourth rack then tacked on another to pull within a game. The Albanian had a chance to run out in the next game but missed position

on the 4 ball and was forced to kick at the ball and left a shot in front of the side pocket for Filler. After Kaci tacked on two wins to tie the score, the German won two of the next three games to take a 6-5 advantage. The former World Pool champion then misplayed a safety on the 1 ball and Kaci used the opening to win three straight and take an 8-6 lead.

The German was able to scratch out a victory in the 15th rack when he used a safety to force a Kaci foul, but the Albanian increased the lead back to two games after a missed 1 ball by Filler in the following game. The German wasn't finished, using an opening on the 1 ball after a safety to clear the table and pull to within 9-8 but Kaci used successful safeties on the 1 and 8 balls in the 18th rack to close out the match, 10-8.

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Fodor Gorst was forced to jump out of another safety

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FRANCISCO SANCHEZ RUIZ CLAIMS PREMIER LEAGUE POOL TITLE

Article by MATT LYNCH - Matchroom Multi Sport / Photos courtesy TAKA WU - Matchroom Multi Sport

Francisco Sanchez Ruiz has won the 2023 Premier League Pool title beating Jayson Shaw in the final 7-4 at the Morningside Arena, Leicester, England live on Matchroom.Live, Viaplay, and networks worldwide.

Sanchez Ruiz reached his fourth final in the last five Matchroom individual tournaments and did so by finishing top of the league by four points with a record 22 points overall before meeting Naoyuki Oi in the semi-finals. Oi maintained his spot in the top six for most of the week

going into the final day and made sure of his spot late on with a 5-3 win over Shaw. A year back, Oi missed out on the final four by rack difference but on this occasion, the tables turned as Sushi Boom made it on the number by racks won. When it came to the semi-final, Sanchez Ruiz slayed Oi

7-3 at a canter to set up a tantalising final with either Sanjin Pehlivanovic or Shaw.

Pehlivanovic had led for large parts of this week but fell off the pace over the weekend, but held it together on the final day to face a tough semi-fi-



nal with Shaw. Shaw meanwhile has played with freedom all week and hadn't looked too fazed with the job at hand. The Brit lost the opening rack but came good from there to leave Pehlivanovic trailing in his wake at 6-3 before wrapping up victory at 7-4.

Konrad Juszczyszyn's faint hopes of making the final four were ended abruptly in the afternoon whilst Alex Pagulayan missed out on the final spot by the margin of racks won to Oi. Pagulayan needed a heavy Oi defeat late on and at least register his own win. Pagulayan got the win but the heavy loss he needed Juszczyszyn to inflict on Oi along with Shaw beating him was not forthcoming for Sushi Boom.

Into the final, Shaw won the lag but lost out in the opening rack before Sanchez Ruiz stepped up to make a



Not even "Eagle Eye" was enough to stop Sanchez-Ruiz

golden break in the second to lead by two. Shaw came back strong through

with a break and run to pull it to 2-1. There was very little to separate the pair as it soon went 3-3 and 4-4. The 4-4 moment was a bruising moment for Shaw's hopes with a missed cut on the three ball. From there, Sanchez Ruiz by his own admission had the luck of the green for another Matchroom title after in the final rack Shaw was left hooked off the break only to see his safety on the two in firing range for Sanchez Ruiz to deliver the fatal final blow.

Sanchez Ruiz said: "I am so proud but I am sorry for Jayson because I got lucky. I feel so sorry for him, he played good, especially in the final. It's an unbelievable feeling if I continue playing like this, that would be tough!"

Next up is the World Pool Masters set to take place at the Brentwood Centre, Essex, England from May 10-13 with tickets on sale now from only £10 a session. The format returns to a 16-player field for pool's most historic tournament with the likes of Francisco Sanchez Ruiz, Jayson Shaw, Shane Van Boening, Fedor Gorst, and Joshua Filler all invited.



Is anyone having as much fun as Sanchez-Ruiz?

THE FISHERS BATTLE TWICE AT WPBA FAIRFIELD INVITATIONAL, KELLY GOES UNDEFEATED TO CLAIM TITLE

Article by SKIP MALONEY - AzB Staff / Photos courtesy CORBY DAYHOFF - Servitude Photography

It's easy to forget that while tournament reports, by their very nature, focus on a narrow band of tournament activity, there's a lot more that goes on than just the matches that determine the hot seat match opponents, the hot seat match, the loss-side activity that leads to the finals and the finals themselves.

There are pivotal, individual matchups, the results of which, unsure when they begin, prove to be significant to the way it all turned out.

That said, the hot seat and finals of the WPBA's \$15,000-added Fairfield Invitational, held this past weekend (March 16-19), was a highly anticipated pair of matches between the #1 and #2-ranked women in the WPBA, Kelly and Allison Fisher. Kelly went undefeated to claim the title in the event that drew 48 invited entrants to the Fairfield Arts and Convention Center in Fairfield, Iowa.

Kelly Fisher, played one example of a significant match when she faced 13-year-old Savannah Easton. It was Fisher's first round (she'd been awarded an opening round bye) and Easton's second. Quick side note about another 'significant' match; in the event's opening round, Easton, the youngest player in the field, defeated the oldest player in the field, Jeri Engh 7-3.

Easton chalked up a single rack, early, in her match against Fisher, after which Fisher advanced to reach the hill first. At 7-1, Easton with the (alternate) break won her second and then, off Fisher's break at 7-2, won another

before Fisher finished it. Easton is, by accounts from a number of WPBA competitors, a solid player, not some cute junior who's at the tables for the optics of embracing a younger generation. She earned and deserved her invitation to this professional event and throughout her match against Fisher, she demonstrated why; sound shot selection and execution, along with mind-boggling composure. Commentators on the live stream – Lonnie Fox-Raymond and Angela Janic – made note of the fact that while not specifically stated, it's clear that at some point, sooner than one might imagine, Easton will be “coming for”



Kelly and Allison Fisher

Fisher to challenge her for the tour's top spot.

Fisher followed her opening victory with an 8-3 defeat of Teruko Cucculelli and then, ran into Janet Atwell, on the opposite end of a set of pool-generation gaps (10 years+/-) that Fisher faced in the event. In what proved to be her second double-hill match, having just survived one against Monica Webb, Janet Atwell battled Fisher to double hill before once again, Fisher finished it and advanced to a winners' side semifinal against Russia's Kristina Tkach, who's a pool generation just ahead of Savannah Easton.

Allison Fisher, in the meantime, who'd given up just two racks, total, to her first two opponents, one each to Laura Smith and Shanelle Lorraine, ran into her first double-hill battle, against Margaret Fefilova. Fisher won that younger pool-generation battle to draw another, in the person of Tzu-Chien Wei (known affectionately on the tour as "Wei-Wei") in the other winners' side semifinal.

Kelly sent Tkach to the loss side 8-4, while Allison advanced to join her in the hot seat match with an 8-3 victory over Tzu-Chien. There is a tendency to anticipate basically flawless pool when you have the top two players on the WPBA facing each other, along with an assumption that two players who know each other as well as the Fishers, and friends to boot, automatically set aside any 'nerves' that one might normally encounter in a pivotal match. Such did not appear to be the case in their first of two.

They both went through some tough 'patches' in the early going of their hot seat match. Kelly won the lag, but after some initial back-and-forth, turned the table over to Allison, who took aim at the match's first 9-ball. It was what's commonly known as a "duck," but Allison missed it; nobody more surprised than she was. They



Tzu-Chien Wei

traded racks through Allison's first break and run and in rack #7, Kelly rattled a ball in a hole. After a bad nudge of an object ball turned the table back to Kelly, she rattled another one, allowing Allison to take her first lead at 4-3. She put herself in a tricky position shooting at the 9-ball in the following rack, but promptly banked it to go up by two.

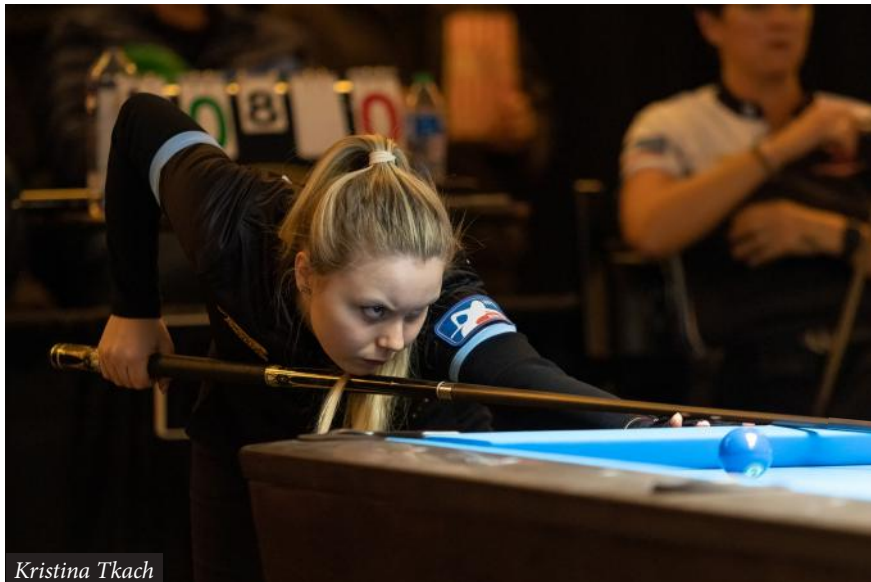
Allison was up by three when she dropped two balls on her break and then scratched. Kelly ran the table and began a five-rack run that put *her* in the hot seat and Allison off for a re-match against Tzu-Chien in the semifinals.

On the loss side, the two who'd just arrived – Tkach and Tzu-Chien – got right back to work and advanced to the quarterfinals; Tkach over Fefilova 8-5, Tzu-Chien over Kristina Zlateva 8-3. Zlateva had previously stopped Savannah Easton's five-match, against-older-competitors loss-side run.

With the three remaining competitors on the loss side, any of whom could and might challenge Kelly Fisher for

the event title, the anticipation level started to mount, reflected in (among other things) the relative absence of any background noise during the live stream that accompanied the final three matches. The first of the two loss-side matches left came within a game of double hill. Tzu-Chien edged out in front to eliminate Tkach 8-6 in the quarterfinals, which meant that no matter who won the semifinals, Kelly Fisher, waiting in the hot seat for one of them, would be competing against a friend. Allison downed Tzu-Chien 8-3.

By the time the Fishers stepped to the table in the finals, they had played a combined total of 11 matches. They'd gotten used to a very fast table and had gone great lengths to eliminate the 'unforced errors' that had characterized portions of their early matches. The final match demonstrated some of the reasons that they were there (an incredible jump shot early in the 6th rack for Allison, as an example) and demonstrations that pool can be a 'funny' game (both of them missing relatively straight-forward shots at the 1-ball in rack #7).



Kristina Tkach

The buzz was re-ignited when Allison won her 7th. Kelly, though, won the 17th rack to claim the event title.

The WPBA thanked the Fairfield Convention Center and its staff for their hospitality, along with sponsors the City of Fairfield, Midwest One Bank, Mad Hatter Billiards, Diveny Cues, Aramith Balls, Diamond Billiard Products, Outsville, Jam Up Apparel, Simonis Cloth, Iowa City Woman's 8-Ball League, Vic's Auto Body Repair, The Ottumwa Radio Group, NATEL (Southeast Iowa Broadband Internet) Holt Family Dental Care and Americus Diamond.

They fought back and forth to a 2-2 tie, before Kelly made her move, winning the next five. Allison chalked up her third in rack #10, after which Kelly recorded her eighth. Allison then won three in a row, which had the present crowd, along with stream

commentators and chat room visitors buzzing about a comeback. With Kelly ahead by two at 8-6, rack #15 became critical and their play showed it. It went back and forth in a tight, tight game until Kelly won it to reach the hill first.

The next stop on the WPBA tour, scheduled for the weekend of July 12-16, will be the \$40,000-added Soaring Eagle Masters (pending signed contract), to be hosted by the Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort in Mount Pleasant, MI.

An advertisement for AZBers Marketplace. At the top, three yellow billiard balls with the letters 'A', 'Z', and 'B' are shown. To the right, the word 'MARKETPLACE' is written in large, bold, yellow letters, with 'The Official Billiard Supply For AZBers' underneath in white. Below this, the 'P3 REVO' logo is displayed in a stylized font. The main image shows three pool cues with dark wood grain and black ferrules. One cue has a white tiger logo on the ferrule. In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for 'Powered By SEYBERTS.COM SEYBERTS BILLIARD SUPPLY' with a small graphic of a pool ball.



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Mike Cochran

The Guy behind the Guy

By KEITH PARADISE

Any time someone would suggest Mike Cochran slow down or take some time for himself, whether it was his wife, or kids or friends, he uttered the same phrase.

“When I’m not at work, I’m not making money,” said Cochran.

And there was rarely a day when he wasn’t at work.

During the week, he would climb out of bed between four and five in the morning, work a full day at the Tim Scruggs custom cues shop on the outskirts of Baltimore, then head home

and fire up the machines after dinner and continuing crafting into the night and on the weekends, where his shop in the basement was equipped to handle everything but spraying on the finish. The family rarely took vacations aside from the occasional road trip to visit family in North Carolina or the nearby Delaware beaches. Even when he wasn’t working on cues, he



was thinking about it. Design books, used as inspiration for inlays, littered the family's home.

"He would sit there and stare and I would ask, 'what are you doing' and he would say, 'just thinking,'" said Cochran's widow, Connie. "He was always thinking about what the next thing was going to be or what he was going to do or how he was going to do it."

This month, Scruggs will be posthumously inducted into the American Cuemakers Association's Hall of Fame at a banquet at the Super Billiards Expo in Valley Forge, eight years after his death. Meanwhile, February marked the 13-year anniversary of Cochran's sudden passing, with his impact still being felt not only by his family but in the cue making and collector community, with the death not only taking a devoted husband and father but also one of the most popular custom cue brands in the industry. Cochran was the man behind the curtain at Scruggs's custom cue shop for more than two decades, with having many unaware of the impact he had until the end – including his own family.

"Today, if Mike had lived and Timmy had passed on, I'm sure Mike Cochran would have found his place in the pool world as one of the world's best cue makers," said C. Jay Wilkinson, owner of Baltimore City Cues, who helped build and maintain Scruggs's website. "Mike really did believe his time was coming as a cue maker."

"If you were lucky enough to know him, it was a good part of life," said Eddie Freeman about Cochran, who was friends and customers of both. "He was one of the good guys in life."

A native of Indiana, Cochran had moved to Baltimore in the early 1980s after marrying Connie, who he had met on a blind date when he was in



town. A machinist by trade, he'd been working for the Davis and Hemphill screw machine factory and was playing on the company's pool league team when he met Scruggs. The two became friends after Scruggs gave him playing lessons then brought his new acquaintance on as a part-time employee at his cue making shop in the late 1980s while Cochran had a part-time at the Maryland Brush Company. Cochran came aboard full-time a couple of years later when Scruggs's partner Bob Frey left the business to go into construction.

Scruggs had stumbled into the business as a player in the Maryland area during the early 1970s when he met and befriended Dan Janes, who had recently opened Joss Cues with Bill Stroud. As the two of them barnstormed the region's pool rooms, Scruggs, who also was a machinist by trade, started working for Janes. After a few years and a couple of stints, Scruggs mentioned to childhood friend Frey that he also was interested in starting his own cue building company. As luck would have it, Frey's uncle owned an old slaughterhouse and

the two men opened their first shop in the late 1970s.

By the time Cochran had arrived, Scruggs cues had already developed a reputation as being some of the best looking and better hitting products on the custom market – a fact that was not lost on him. He worked at creating cues that not just met the established standards but exceeded them. He was constantly playing with the lathes to see if he could do something faster without sacrificing quality. He taught himself how to do computerized design then spent hours in bookstores, flipping through and purchasing those design books to find inspiration for inlay patterns.

"If he saw how someone else did something, he could figure out how to do it himself," said Tony Sciannella, owner of Black Boar cues, which got its start in the Scruggs shop. "He could make bridged points effortlessly and he did it on the most primitive equipment you've ever seen."

What he didn't need to be taught was attention to detail. Each finished cue had to be better than the last one,

Mike Cochran - Cuemaker Profile

with the smallest imperfection setting him off and sending the item into the trash. Eric Schleich has arguably the biggest collection of Scruggs and Cochran cues in existence and owns between 200 to 300 custom sticks overall. While talking to Cochran about a cue he had on order at the shop, he mentioned a Scruggs piece in his inventory he was thinking of selling – a cue that had been made years before. The cue maker remembered the stick and bluntly forbid him from advertising it, adding that the decorative ring work wasn't lined up correctly. He demanded the cue be sent back immediately to be fixed, which he spent hours repairing then returned free of charge.

“He was meticulous,” said Schleich, who ultimately became a close friend. “If it wasn't perfect, he hated it.”

While Cochran continued working at perfecting products in the rear of the shop, the owner handled customers and parts vendors in the storefront. Over time, Scruggs would make his way into the shop less and less as he tended to his wife, Katherine, who was diagnosed with Leukemia in the early 2000s. He also battled health

problems of his own, including diabetes and undergoing open heart surgery, then battling the side effects from the operation for years after. More responsibility ultimately fell onto his top lieutenant, with Cochran handling cue construction in between sales calls. He had computerized numeric control inlay and design machines installed in his basement so he could continue working.

Over time, Scruggs became the name while Cochran was the manufacturing – a fact that was one of the best kept secrets in cue making.

“We used to always tease Timmy because a lot of people really, truly believed that, when they walked out of there, that they had a cue that was made by Tim Scruggs and his little elves,” said Wilkinson.

“If you had a Scruggs, you had a Cochran, basically,” said Friedman.

So devoted were some customers that many would drive for hours to place an order in person and deliver gifts – spirits, chocolate, candy, name it. Always for Tim and no one else. Cochran took it in stride, jokingly saying,

“it's all about Timmy” – a phrase became a running gag in the shop. But the words also were rooted in truth: He was loyal to his friend and his product to a fault. When the American Cuemakers Association voted Scruggs the Cuemaker of the Year in 2009, a handful of people pushed for Cochran to be recognized as well. He declined.

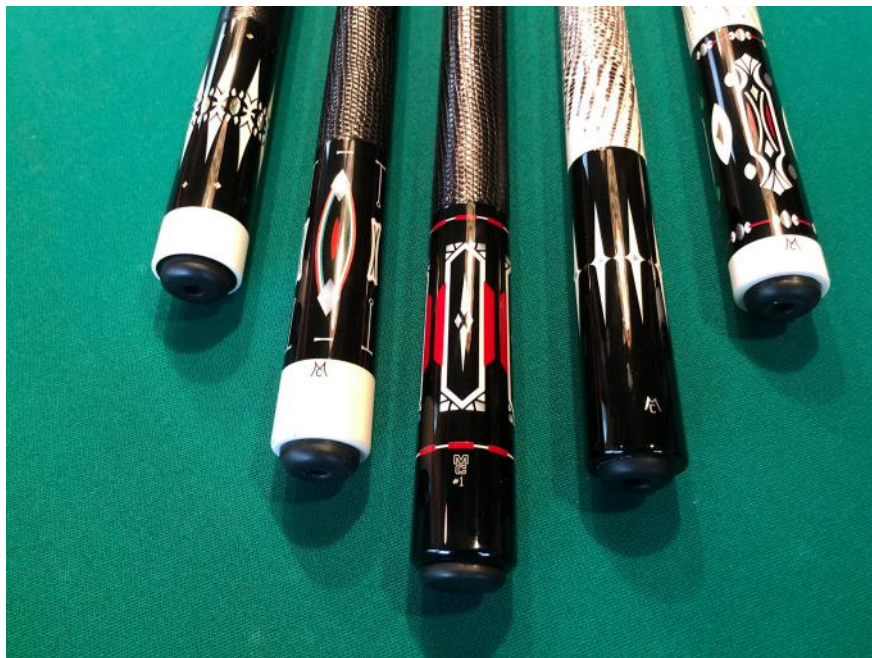
“He didn't want anything,” said Schleich, who talked to his friend almost daily. “He would always say, ‘This is Tim's shop.’ He didn't want to be recognized at all.”

“With any successful corporation, you always have a front man and there's a person who does the work,” said Wilkinson. “I think there was a realization between Mike and Tim that Mike was the guy who was going to be doing the work and that's what he got paid for.”

It was a dynamic that didn't always sit well back home. Connie occasionally questioned how the business was set up and how sales were divided – with Cochran earning one third of the gross while Scruggs and the shop received the other two-thirds. The cue maker earned around \$40,000 before taxes in an average year, with limited deductions since he didn't own the business or equipment in his basement. When his wife or daughter, Kim, occasionally pushed for answers, Cochran usually changed the subject.

“He loved doing it. He loved Tim,” said his son, Adam. “I think he was forever going to be loyal to Tim. He was always going to be the guy who gave him a break when he came to Maryland.”

Friendship and loyalty mattered to Cochran. How do you walk away from someone who taught you how to make cues and brought you into his business? They traveled the world together selling cues that were built in their shop. How do leave someone



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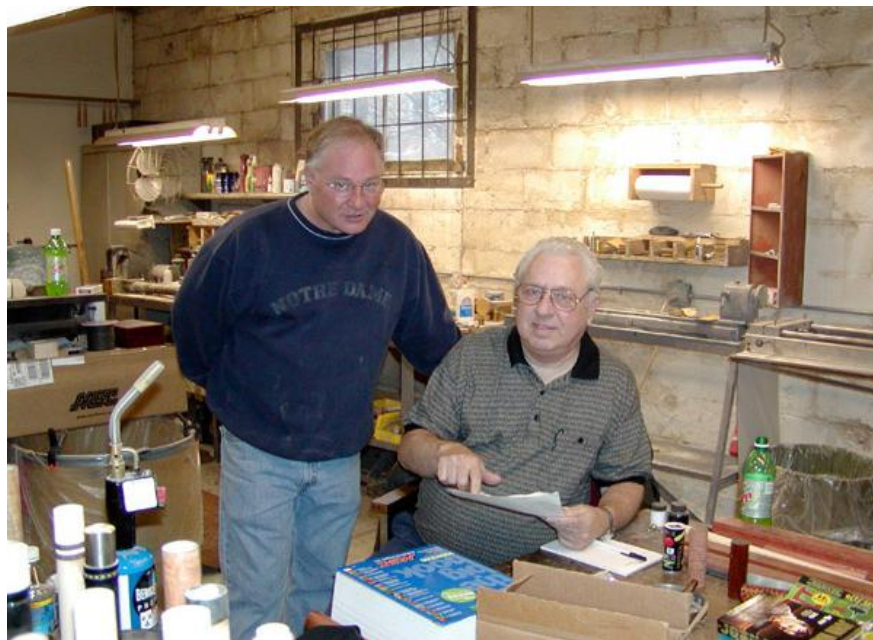
who gave you two used cars when you or your teenaged daughter needed a vehicle for commuting? Or gave you an antique Mercury for Christmas one year?

“He couldn’t bring himself to separate from Tim Scruggs,” said Sciannella. “They had such a love that it was just amazing.”

Cochran bonded with Sciannella while the latter volunteered at the Scruggs shop in the 1980s before building a facility down Interstate 95 in College Park. Over time, they developed a weekly ritual of meeting at the Black Boar facility to discuss cues and the business overall – with Cochran usually arriving with a bottle of vodka and a box of cigars. With a background in both art and cue manufacturing, Sciannella offered information on not just product construction but also artistic design. Cochran absorbed the conversations as information and inspiration to feed his desire to create his own cue line – higher end models that would start at \$3,000 or more. Cues that both Cochran’s family and Sciannella encouraged him to make.

“If he could find a separation without hurting Tim’s feelings, that was the way he was going,” Sciannella said. “He had to do that in order to support his family.”

The only thing Cochran was more passionate about than making cues was his family, even combining the passions when he first dabbled with his own cue line around 2000, labeling them with the initials M.A.K. – the first initial of his three children – rather than his own. When Adam had an opportunity to apply as a linemen at Verizon, he drove his son 45 minutes to take the exams then took him to work for his first five months until he got a car. He collected watches – a hobby he shared with Scruggs – and had one in particular he favored. But when money was tight one Christmas,



a trip was made to the pawn shop in order to purchase gifts. One year, Adam and Mark surprised Mike for Father’s Day by booking a tee time to take him golfing and Cochran was so excited that he surprised them with a gift: new clubs.

“Whether he made the most money at the table or not, he wanted to be the guy to pick up the check,” said his brother, Ron. “And I think a lot of that drove his work ethic.”

He was also generous to a fault, helping people even if it meant hurting himself. He would hand money to a homeless person despite not having much in his own account. One time Freeman was at the shop and Cochran handed him a cue to test out on the pool table in the front of the facility. When the customer said he liked it, the craftsman replied, “good. It’s your Christmas present.”

After postponing his own signature line of cues for a few years, Cochran re-entered the market for good about 15 years ago with the boss’s blessing and a new M.C. logo. Scruggs let him produce the cues with the shop’s equipment while he continue to

build the his product line. He wanted his loyal friend and employee to succeed – even advertising the cues on Scruggs’s website. Cochran was excited for the future, planning out ideas for patterns and designs, again flipping through those books when he wasn’t building. With Scruggs’s wife passing away around 2007 and Tim spending less and less time at the shop, it is also widely believed among friends and close associates that a succession plan may have been in place as Scruggs neared retirement.

“The shop was going to be Mike’s shop, absolutely,” said Jim Mullens, who was so close with Scruggs that he was the executor of his will.

It’s fitting that one of the last things Cochran ever did was something for Scruggs. The east coast had sustained a double shot of snowstorms in less than a week, dumping an estimated 30 inches of snow on the region. He had already been away for two weeks with flu-like symptoms and headed to the shop to shovel the parking spaces and walkways, knowing he had cues that required finishing and needing the money from the subsequent sales. A few hours later, Cochran suffered a

heart attack in the early morning of February 11, 2010 and was rushed to St. Agnes Hospital where he was pronounced dead. Billie Cochran, his sister, needed to be told three times when the family notified her in an early morning call before the words finally sunk in.

"It came out of total nowhere," said Billie.

In hindsight, the family believes the 52-year-old may have suffered a mild heart attack or an aortic dissection – where a vein in the heart tears – two weeks earlier. He had complained to his younger brother, Ronald, about feeling symptoms that were consistent with heart problems. He hid it from Connie, only saying he had to get back to work. If he wasn't working, he wasn't making money.

"I actually believe had he not been so stressed over work and had he gone to the hospital, they would have caught it and he would have survived," said daughter Kim Flores-Whipps.

A private man with a small circle of friends, his son Adam expected may-

be a dozen people to show up at his father's memorial service. Instead, the room filled with fellow cue makers, customers and collectors there to pay respects. Schleich, who owns 44 of the roughly 60-80 cues Cochran is estimated to have made under his own name, drove down from his Connecticut home handed Connie a \$10,000 check to cover the cost of the funeral. He wasn't the only who pitched in. Sciannella built a cue for a mutual customer with the agreed upon price donated to his widow and three of Cochran's unfinished cues were shipped off to other cue makers, which were completed and sold with the proceeds given to the family.

One of those who was not in attendance at the service was Scruggs, an absence was not lost on certain members of the family.

"He said that he couldn't handle it, but you know, neither could we," said Flores-Whipps.

According to those close to him, it wasn't personal. Scruggs never did funerals.

"When his dog died, he didn't go to the shop for a week," said Mullens. "Tim never went to funerals. I don't think he went to his mother's funeral. He just couldn't handle it."

A couple of weeks after his death, a couple of guys came to the house and removed the woodworking equipment. Scruggs decided to close the shop. There was never an official announcement. There didn't need to be.

"Once Michael died, that was it," Mullens said. "Nobody could do that kind of stuff."

"There was no alternative," said Sciannella. "Tim wasn't capable of producing any by himself."

Every now and then, one of Cochran's children or his sister Billie will get curious and do an internet search to look at their father's work. Adam's wife has joined Facebook groups dedicated to Scruggs and her late father-in-law and occasionally passes along tidbits of information to her husband. While one of them is Facebook scrolling, a photo of their father's work sometimes slides past.

"It still amazes me that I can Google his name and stuff comes up," Connie said. "The legacy is there."

Scruggs continued to battle his own health problems before passing away in June of 2015. A couple of years after Cochran's death, he made his way up to Schleich's sprawling 240-acre wooded property to hang out for a week fishing, talking and just hanging out. Within the billiards room at his rustic home sits a five-foot-by-10-foot pool table and a wall that he has people autograph when they visit. Scruggs, who had already signed it during a previous visit, grabbed a black Sharpie, walked over to a space near the rack holder and started writing.

"Mike Cochran. My Hero. R.I.P. – Tim."





Team Hess

"TEAM HESS" WINS BATTLE *Of The Junior Champions* **AT STIX BILLIARDS IN GEORGIA**

Eddie Altman was watching a podcast when he saw a young pool player who was asked what his dream was. "I want to play in the Mosconi Cup." came the reply.

And that got Eddie thinking. As the founder of the Junior Billiard Scholarship Fund and a member of the billiard industry he knew a good number of folks who shared his interest in developing Junior pool. A few phone calls later and he had successfully begun the network that would develop the Battle of The Junior Champions, a Mosconi Cup format for Junior

players. These folks needed no convincing. The list he wound up with is filled with companies who have reliably answered the call when the game needs them. They include Viking Cues, On The Wire Creative Media, Mako Tips, Stix Poolroom (with owner Monica Webb as our hostess), Outer Points Streaming, Cue and Case, Inside Pool, Clutch Shot Billiard Apparel, American Heritage Ta-

bles, and the Junior Billiard Scholarship fund.

The event began at Monica Webb's Stix Billiards in Villa Rica, Georgia with 24 Juniors from all over America on Friday March 24th. They were divided into four 6-player teams and they would be playing a mix of singles and doubles matches, all races to nine. Our competitors were:

TEAM HOLLINGSWORTH

Dakota Rivera
Savannah Easton
Chaney White
Landon Lee Hollingsworth
Tanner Floore
Haydon Devers

TEAM KINGSLEY

Noelle Tate
Bethany Tate
Jax Seaboy
Tyler Smith
Precilia Kinsley
Kaden Hillman

TEAM HESS

Skylar Hess
Lazaro Martinez
Landon Memberg
Eddie Vanderau
Jackson Schultz
John Barsamian

TEAM TATE AKA THE EMERALD ALL STARS

Joey Tate
Blake Johnson
Gage Mouret
Sofia Mast
D'Angelo Spain
Franki Spain

After Franki Spain got a rousing round of applause for her wonderful rendition of the National Anthem, our play began. Both tournament tables were streamed, one by On the Wire Creative Media with Ra Hanna was shown on Facebook Live and the other, by Outer Points streaming, on YouTube Live with Brian Hollenbeck and his commentary team of Dale and Brian. Our Tournament Director was Scott Chandler, a man whose energies would be tested for three days and who came through it like a champ.

The initial competition featured Team Tate facing Team Hess and Team King-



Team Hollingsworth

sley challenging Team Hollingsworth. They would each race to nine and the winners would then qualify for the finals, a race to seven games. By Saturday afternoon Team Hollingsworth had collected 7 points while their opponents on Team Kingsley had 3 points on their side of the wire. At the same time, Team Hess had gathered 5 points while Team Tate had earned 4 points. This initial round finished on Sunday morning and our winners were Team Hess over Team Tate and team Hollingsworth over Team Kingsley. The initial round really proved the strengths of these young players, some of whom were just barely teenagers, but they all played with confidence that many adults would envy and shooting skills that could embarrass most players. Nothing was too tall of a challenge for them. Bank shots rolled into center pocket time and again. Long shots were pocketed as if they were hangers and the safeties were simply stunning displays of cue ball control. All of the competitors were already champions in their own right and qualified to be here by having won big events in their areas.

Team's Hess and Hollingsworth kicked off their final competition early in the afternoon on Sunday. The twelve players kept dropping jaws in the crowd all day. That young players can hold their nerves and play so solidly in the face of tough competition was truly amazing. No shaking arms, no looks of doubt, just rock-solid play.



Event organizer Eddie Altman

Monica Webb Battle of Junior Champions

The quality was reflected in the time it took to complete the matches. These two teams settled three race to five matches in just 45 minutes. I have seen pros play much more slowly than these teenagers.

The final battle began with Team Hess going out to a two point lead at 5-3 but Team Hollingsworth dug in and tied the match at five apiece in the race to seven points. Team Hess then found their highest gear and took the next two points for the victory and the \$6,000 first prize to be divided equally among the players. Team Hollingsworth received \$3,000 for their efforts. An interesting sidelight is that Eddie Altman had promised a \$100 cash bonus to any player who made the nine on the break. Eddie smiled broadly three times Sunday as he dug into his pocket to pull out the C-notes. The large crowd cheered happily each time he did.



The Juniors put on quite a show

Our thanks go out to everyone who made this event happen and made it such a great success. Special thanks go out to the Junior Billiard Billiard Scholarship Fund, Clutch Shot Billiard Apparel, Inside Pool, and to Stix poolroom for the preparation and the hard work it took to gather the players

from around the country and make all of the necessary arrangements that a tournament entails. We hope that this initial event will blossom and continue to grow for many years. It is an excellent showcase to inspire young players and to ensure the continued progress of the game we all love.



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2023 IPA World Blackball Championships, Coventry, England

by WAYNE PARKER

The 2023 IPA World Blackball Pool Championships, played on UK 7-foot style tables, took place from Jan 31 to Feb 6, 2023 in Coventry, England. Professional pool players from all over the world arrived to compete for seven days in this prestigious event, and to stamp their mark in the history books of professional Blackball Pool.

The various categories that players could compete in included Opens, Seniors (over 40), Women, and Masters (over 50), Doubles and Mixed Doubles. What made this particular event different from those previously hosted is that this event would be showcased on the very popular YouTube video streaming platform ‘Channel 4’, which boasts a large viewing audience of over 2.4 million followers.

This called for an opportunity for USA to once again compete in an international Blackball Pool event shortly after competing in the WPA World Blackball Championships recently held in Morocco in October of 2022. The 3 USA players who travelled to Coventry were none other than BCA Hall of Famers and multiple World Pool Trick Shot Champions Mike “The Tennessee Tazzan” Massey, and Tom “Dr Cue” Rossman. Joining the USA team of players, was current sponsor and President of Gospel Trick Shot Ministries Steve Lillis also known as “Leapin” Lillis, and USA Blackball team coach and manager Wayne Parker from South Africa. Wayne also formerly competed in the IPA Pro tour event in the Seniors category in May 2022, and reached the finals losing to England’s Wayne Fryer, and was also a bronze medalist in the Seniors category at the 2022 WPA World Championships held in Morocco, making him a strong contender for the IPA World Seniors title this year.

Major sponsors who supported the team to this event were BCA affiliate member organization Gospel Trick Shot Ministries, Inc. and McDermott Cues who provided playing equipment and newly developed cues specifically designed for the game of Blackball.

Apart from competing in the Seniors and Masters categories, the three USA players, including Wayne, were also invited to showcase their newly developed Artistic Blackball Pool trick shots, specifically designed for the UK 7-foot style table, in a Gospel Trick Shot show on the main arena table which was livestreamed across the world on YouTube Channel 4. Spectators, players and supporters were amazed and in awe seeing the various trick shots that were performed, and many left motivated and inspired from the little life lessons and great

words of encouragement shared through the shots.

Mike Massey, who had a bye in the first round of the Masters category, drew up against Michael Castro in the 2nd round kicking off his IPA event with a convincing win of 7-2 to secure his spot in round 3. Mike then lost 7-3 to England’s Roger Clarke who made it all the way to the quarter-finals. Tom Rossman unfortunately drew one of England’s most celebrated and feared professional players, namely Andy Lucas, who made a clean sweep win of 7-0 against Tom in a matter of 35 minutes. Tom recalls that it was one of the best matches he ever won in his heart, as the two players personally connected off the table in a newly formed friendship.

Next was the Seniors Category, which comprised of a pool of more competitive players. Due to the high standard

Wayne Parker, Steve Lillis, Mike Massey and Tom Rossman





Tom Rossman

spectacular performance stating that he had the best seat in the house watching Marc showcase the game of Blackball Pool at its best!

Wayne and his fellow South African doubles partner, JJ Faul, who now resides in the UK, also managed to reach the quarter-finals of the IPA Doubles Championships.

The game of Blackball Pool is rapidly growing across the globe and has already reached the USA with UK 7-foot tables in New Jersey and more also soon to arrive in Los Angeles.

The next Blackball International event is the Hawley Cup and will be hosted by Blackball International in South Africa in October 2023. USA is hoping to send one, or possibly two, 5-player teams to compete in this prestigious event which is only held once every two years alongside the WPA World Blackball Championship which is held each alternate year.

of play at the IPA Blackball Championship, Mike Massey unfortunately lost 8-1 to England's Andrew McKie. Shortly, following suite was Tom Rossman, losing 8-5 to England's Andy Esgrove.

Still in the Seniors Category, was USA team coach and manager Wayne Parker who also had a bye in round 1, but dominated in his next few wins of 8-5 over England's Colin Finn, 8-4 over Jamie Clarke, and 8-1 over Brian Robinson. Securing his spot in the quarter-finals of the IPA World Seniors, Wayne's next opponent was none other than World IPA Pro Ranked No. 9 and Scotland's No.1 ranked player Mark Boyle. Odds were definitely against Wayne, however, with nothing to lose he quickly brought the scores to 7-4 against Boyle with only one frame for Wayne to secure his spot in the semi-finals. Boyle, well-known for his competitive edge, stood his ground and levelled the scores at 7-7. Wayne, who had the break in the deciding frame, took advantage of this opportunity with a break and run-out and a final score of 8-7 over Mark Boyle. Next up was also a tournament favorite and 2016 British Open Champion Gareth Hibbott. Wayne stunned everyone with an unexpected victory of 8-1 over Gareth to secure his spot in the 2023 IPA World Senior's Finals. Facing Wayne was the tournament favorite and World IPA Pro ranked No. 1 Marc Farnsworth on the main are-

na table. Wayne, winning the lag, but losing out on 2 chances in the first 2 frames, was left in his seat as a spectator for the remainder of the match, as Marc displayed a performance of flawless pool securing his win of 8-0 over Wayne and the 2023 IPA World Senior's title.

In his post-match interview, Wayne could only commend Marc on his

The final results of the 2023 IPA World Championships:

Category	Winner	Runner-up
Opens	Clint I'anson	Simon Ward
Seniors	Marc Farnsworth	Wayne Parker
Ladies	Amy Beauchamp	Emma Reeves
Masters	Steve Wall	Wayne Fryer
Doubles	Jason Hill / Kian Monaghan Jake	Dylan Newlove / Alan Robinson
Mixed Doubles	Clint I'anson / Amy Beauchmp	JJ Faul / Kirsty Clugston



Mike Massey

PRO BILLIARD SERIES ANNOUNCE UPDATED 2023 SCHEDULE

The list of choices available to the best players in the sport today was already packed with events, and it seems to be growing every week.

China recently eased the restrictions for International players wanting to compete in China, and a handful of top players are competing in this weeks World Hey-ball Masters. This week also saw the announcement of multiple events in Spain for players to consider. The Predator Pro Billiards Series (PBS) and its partners welcome more events on the calendar for the sport to continue growing.

With the recent news of top players likely to miss major events due of a lack of time to plan a calendar, the PBS is announcing their schedule for the remainder of 2023, with \$1,150,000 in

prize fund still up for grabs from the overall \$1,878,000 global season prize fund.

We understand that while the additional events give the players more opportunities to compete, it could also start to force players to choose between different events. The Pro Billiard Series hope that the release of their upcoming calendar will give players ample time to map out solid schedules that allow them as many chances to succeed.

The upcoming June event in Croatia has been postponed to 2024, while Japan's events are still to be confirmed.

The 2023 Predator Pro Billiard Series confirmed events schedule features events in many different locations including major events in the Austria, USA, and Puerto Rico.

Of particular note on the schedule is the Pro Billiards Series return to Klagenfurt, Austria in October when a total of five World Champions will be crowned. The Predator WPA Women's World 10-Ball Championship will return to Klagenfurt, and this marquee event will be joined this year by the Predator WPA Junior World 9-Ball Championships and Predator WPA Men's World 8-Ball Championship.



Reigning World Champions, Chieh-Yu Chou and Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz are both expected to defend their titles in Klagenfurt this year. They are just a small sampling of the top pros that are expected to compete in these events. More detail will follow soon, as WPA and continental federations unveil their players selections.

While all of the events on the calendar are expected to draw record crowds in person, fans will be able to follow all of the action online on the PBS social media platforms, as well as our YouTube Channel World Billiard TV, and OTT partner Billard TV.

Predator Pro Billiard Series 2023 Updated schedule:

WISCONSIN OPEN

MEN: May 17-20, 2023 / \$75,000 prize fund

WOMEN: May 18-21, 2023 / \$60,000 prize fund

Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells, Baraboo, WI, USA

JAPAN OPEN (To be Confirmed)

September 5-8, 2023 / \$50,000 prize fund

Shizuoka, Japan

MICHIGAN OPEN

MEN: September 19-23, 2023 / \$100,000 prize fund

WOMEN: September 21-24, 2023 / \$70,000 prize fund

Battle Creek, MI, USA

OHIO OPEN

October 11-14, 2023 / \$75,000 prize fund

Wilmington, OH, USA

MEN'S WORLD 8-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

October 17-22, 2023 / \$200,000 prize fund

Sportpark Klagenfurt, Klagenfurt, Austria

WOMEN'S WORLD 10-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

October 18-22, 2023 / \$150,000 prize fund

Sportpark Klagenfurt, Klagenfurt, Austria

JUNIOR WORLD 9-BALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

October 19-22, 2023

Sportpark Klagenfurt, Klagenfurt, Austria

PUERTO RICO OPEN

MEN: November 7-12 / \$100,000 prize fund

WOMEN: November 7-12 / \$70,000 prize fund

Convention Center, San Juan, Puerto Rico

TEAMS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

November 7-12 / \$200,000 prize fund

Convention Center, San Juan, Puerto Rico

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MATCHROOM POOL

LAUNCHES SPANISH OPEN IN STRING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SPAIN

- Spanish Open one of three announcements for the Nineball World Tour in Spain this week
- Spanish Open to take place in Lugo from 20-25 June 2023
- \$200,000 prize fund for 256 player field event

Matchroom Pool is delighted to announce another signature multi-table major event, the Spanish Open Pool Championship set to take place from 20-25 June 2023 in Lugo, Spain at Pazo De Feiras E Congresos De Lugo with a \$200,000 prize fund and the final two days broadcast

live on Sky Sports in the UK and DAZN in Spain.

The Spanish Open Pool Championship is the fifth 256-player field tournament promoted by Matchroom on the Nineball World Tour with players set to fight through a seeded double

elimination stage led by the top 128 on the Nineball World Rankings before only 64 make it to the single elimination rounds.

Entries will open Monday, 3 April at 2 pm UK time with the top 64 on the current Nineball World Rankings given priority entry. The remaining spots will be up for grabs with entries costing \$250.

In partnership with The Asociación Gallega de Billar Pool (AGP). The AGP was founded in 1992 by Carlos Iglesias Lorenzo in Cangas del Morrazo (Galicia - Spain), with the aim of promoting and disseminating pool billiards in Galicia, a modality that to date was not known.

Years of hard work by Carlos and his team have made billiards a referent point for Pool in Spain today.

This year the 31st edition of the Galician Pool Billiards Championship will be held. Around 1,000 players come together yearly to compete for coveted titles in different categories. 31 years without interruption in which, in addition to Galician Championships, the AGP has organized Spanish Championships and even International Opens that have come to attract world pool figures such as Efen Reyes, Francisco Bustamante or Ralph Souquet among many others, and of

The banner features a collage of pool players in action, set against a background of the Spanish flag. At the top, logos for Sky Sports, Viaplay, Nineball, Matchroom, Nineball World Tour, DAZN, and YouTube are displayed. The central text reads '\$200,000 PRIZE FUND' in large yellow letters. Below this, the words 'SPANISH OPEN' are written in a large, bold, white font. Underneath, the dates 'JUNE 20-25 | LUGO, SPAIN' and the website 'WWW.MATCHROOMPOOL.COM' are clearly visible. The bottom of the banner is filled with various sponsor logos, including PRP, EIDF, ODF, MERCURE, galicia, and EUROSTARS.



IN SPAIN THERE IS A LOT OF FANS AND A LOT OF PASSION FOR POOL IN THE COUNTRY AND I AM SURE THEY WILL TURN OUT TO SUPPORT US ALL

Sanchez Ruiz



course the best national players like David Alcaide or Francisco Sánchez Ruiz.

Nineball World Number One Francisco Sanchez Ruiz will lead the field: “I think I speak for all Spanish players when I say it is something special to have the biggest events being brought to our country with our people supporting us. It would be a unique experience for me! I won my first Spanish championship in Lugo, so it is a special place for me already.”

“It’s going to be a tournament that’s hard to forget for all the players. In Spain there is a lot of fans and a lot of passion for pool in the country and I am sure they will turn out to support us all,” Sanchez Ruiz added.

“It is an honour for the AGP to be able to host a tournament like this and we are proud that Matchroom has placed their trust in us to celebrate the 1st edition of the Spanish Open Pool Championship. We hope this is a good push for the Pool in Spain so that it can get the support it deserves.” said a spokesperson from the AGP.

Key Dates

- Monday, 3 April – Player Entries open at 2 pm UK time
- Thursday, 6 April – Spectator Tickets available

Alongside the Spanish Open Pool Championship, Matchroom will underline a further commitment to the grass-roots of billiards in Spain later this week with further announcements to come this week.

The event will be available live around the world, split across the Double Elimination and Single Elimination stages of the tournament allowing for global coverage. Matchroom.Live and Matchroom Pool social media channels will produce the streamed double elimination stage with Sky Sports, DAZN, Viaplay, and Matchroom.Live televising the Last 16 onwards as well as other broadcasters worldwide including SportKlub, VietContent, TAP with the full broadcaster list coming soon.



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30TH MOSCONI CUP TO BE BIGGEST IN HISTORY

- **Alexandra Palace, London to host from 6-9 December**
- **Winning Mosconi Cup team to take home \$40,000 each**
- **Tickets on sale week commencing 24th April**
- **Qualification from Nineball World Rankings outlined**

The 2023 Mosconi Cup will be the biggest to date marking its 30th year anniversary with a huge 30% increase to prize money for the annual trans-atlantic tussle from 6-9 December at Alexandra Palace, London live on Sky Sports.

Mosconi Cup team places have always been the hottest ticket in pool, but they will be even hotter with Each player and captain on the winning team set to take home \$40,000 each with the runners-up and captain set to collect \$20,000.

Team Europe and USA will do battle in one of London's most iconic venues once again with three qualification spots available on each side to be earned from the Nineball World Rankings with the Race to Mosconi Cup one year list in play. The final two spots for each side will be wild cards as decided by the respective team captains.

The first automatic pick for each side will be locked in after the conclusion of the European Open Pool Championship set to take place in Fulda, Germany from August 8-13 with the final two automatic selections to follow at the US Open Pool Championship from September 25-30 at Harrah's Resort, Atlantic City.

Tickets for the game's biggest spectacle between Europe and the USA will go on sale on the week commencing Monday, 24 April with full ticket details to come soon. Sign up for priority sale window [here](#).

Over the coming weeks, fans can expect to hear more on the captains for 2023, exciting arena plans and much more.



Race to Mosconi Cup standings as it stands after World Pool Championship

1	Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz	Spain	\$60,000
2	Mohammad Soufi	Syria	\$30,000
3	Fedor Gorst		\$18,700
4	Wu Kun Lin	Chinese Taipei	\$17,500
4	Mario He	Austria	\$17,500
6	Jayson Shaw	Great Britain	\$15,300
7	Shane Van Boening	USA	\$13,500
8	Albin Ouschan	Austria	\$10,000
8	Niels Feijen	Netherlands	\$10,000
8	Chang Jung-Lin	Chinese Taipei	\$10,000
11	Skyler Woodward	USA	\$9,600

NINEBALL WORLD NO.1 SANCHEZ RUIZ TO HOST FSR JUNIOR OPEN

- **Matchroom Pool invests further into Junior Nineball with third tournament**
- **Set to take place alongside Spanish Open on June 23-24**
- **Zero entry fee with total prize fund of \$10,000**
- **Juniors to play in same arena as Spanish Open closing stages with final live streamed**

Nineball World Number One and current world champion Francisco Sanchez Ruiz will host the FSR Junior Open, the third junior event on the Nineball World Tour calendar set to take place alongside the Spanish Open Pool Championship in Lugo, Spain from June 23-24.

The tournament will follow the same format as the SVB and JS Junior Opens with 64 juniors aged 17 and under able to enter for free. A prize fund of \$10,000 is in the offering as well as free entry into next year's Spanish Open Pool Championship with all players also receiving a free custom jersey courtesy of partners Onboard Sportswear.

Sanchez Ruiz cannot wait to cheer on the juniors in a town where the Spaniard won his first-ever junior tournament: "To be honest, it's hard for me to assimilate everything from this last year and this news. After the victory in the Derby City Classic, I have had a lot of confidence and I have worked very hard to achieve everything that I have achieved."

"Honestly, having a junior event in my name is a dream! I think billiards is growing a lot and young people can have a good future as a professional. My junior memories are wonderful



and decisive in my career. I think that in the beginning, like anyone else, they are the most beautiful."

Matchroom Multi Sport Managing Director Emily Frazer said: "The Junior Events proving to be popular, seeing young players from all parts of the world expressing interest. When the JS JS Junior Open takes place during the UK Open in London, there will be 21 nationalities amongst the 64 players, it is our goal to give juniors both the opportunity and exposure to be competing in the professional Nineball arena in both equipment and production setup."

"A lot of the younger players participate in our Matchroom opens with little experience in a professional set

up. A third event now on our Nineball World Tour specifically for juniors opens the door for more to get that vital experience that can help them along their way. There's no better time and place to do one than here in Spain named after a player who is already so inspiring for the younger generation, it seemed the perfect next step.

The professional players are who the kids look up to and what a role model Francisco Sanchez Ruiz is!"

The final will also be live-streamed on the Matchroom Pool social media pages with coverage also set to feature during the live broadcast on Sky Sports in the UK, DAZN in Spain and networks worldwide.

Juniors competing in the tournament will not be eligible to compete in the main Spanish Open Pool Championship due to match schedules. As part of the entry to the FSR Junior Open, juniors will be offered a free season pass for them and one adult to enjoy the whole Spanish Open to have time to study the world's best as they do battle.

Entries will open on Wednesday, 5 April at 2 pm UK time.

WORLD CUP OF POOL CHAMPIONS SPAIN TO DEFEND TITLE ON HOME SOIL

- World Cup of Pool to follow Spanish Open from June 27 to July 2 2023
- Second of three announcements this week for Nineball in Spain
- Nineball World No.1 Spain's Francisco Sanchez Ruiz and David Alcaide looking to defend title on home soil
- Nineball World Ranking used as qualification and seedings for first time

Defending World Cup of Pool champions Spain will get the opportunity to defend their crown on home soil with the 2023 edition set to take place from June 27 to July 2 at Pazo De Feiras E Congresos De Lugo just days after the completion of the inaugural Spanish Open Pool Championship live on Sky Sports in the UK and DAZN in Spain.

World champion and Nineball world number one Francisco Sanchez Ruiz alongside confidant 2019 World Pool Masters winner David Alcaide will step out in Lugo looking to become the first country in the tournament's history to defend their title and they will do it in front of a rapturous home crowd.

15 of the 32 countries competing have qualified from the Nineball World Rankings with the likes of two-time champions Austria, Great Britain, the USA, and Chinese Taipei amongst the sides to be on the seeded half of the draw. As host nation, Spain will also field a B team with rising stars Jose Alberto Delgado and Jonas Souto Comino set to join forces as the 16th seeded side.

The unseeded side will offer plenty of danger for the seeded countries with the 16 wild cards set to include China's return to the international stage and three-time champions the Philippines with further countries to be confirmed over the coming weeks on the Matchroom Pool social media pages.

Guaranteeing each team at least £3,625, the World Cup of Pool is the only scotch doubles event on the Nineball World Tour with a total prize fund of \$250,000 on offer.

Matchroom Multi Sport Managing Director Emily Frazer said: "What a festival of pool Lugo is going to have with an inaugural Spanish Open Pool Championship with 256 players and the prestigious World Cup of Pool, led by our new Nineball World No.1 Francisco Sanchez Ruiz after an impressive 15-month run. We truly believe Spain is an untapped market for profession-

al pool. The Nineball World Rankings are becoming the backbone of the tour, allowing players to fully earn their place in these events with the 15 top counties on the Nineball World Rankings seeded."

"Both events will be broadcast live on Sky Sports in the UK and locally on DAZN in Spain as well as our extensive coverage worldwide. Thanks to our partners at the AGP to make this event happen."

Matchroom's World Cup of Pool will be played alongside an amateur tour-

sky sports viaplay nineball. matchroom. nineball WORLD TOUR DAZN

27 JUN - 02 JUL

world cup of pool

PAZO DE FEIRAS E CONGRESOS DE LUGO, SPAIN

AGP saramith nineball CUIZEC EXMARCA JUNTA DE GALICIA EUROSTARS PRP EIDF ODF energia MERCURE galicia

#WORLDUCUPOFPOOL

nament called XXXI Campeonato Gallego Billar Pool hosted by the AGP.

Tickets will go on sale Thursday, 6 April from only €5 a day. Sign up for ticket alerts here.

16 seeded sides confirmed as below:

Spain	Netherlands
USA	Syria
Germany	Albania
Austria	Kuwait
Great Britain	Hungary
Poland	Canada
Greece	Japan
Chinese Taipei	Spain B

Alcaide cannot wait to defend the title: “Defending any title is always special, but in Spain, we will try even more to make it happen, I am super excited about the possibility of such a feat. Since we’ve known each other (Fran) we’ve always dreamed of this title, it was a dream when it happened, and now we are living out another one. It will be an extra motivation and I hope

that for our rivals, the Spanish public will make them feel that pressure.”

Sanchez Ruiz added: “It’s amazing because last year, I said to David, this was the one we wanted to win. It meant so much to us both. It will be special. The Spanish fans will be unbelievable, we have a lot of knowledgeable fans. I think it will be the best World Cup of Pool ever. It will be tough, we have all the pressure, everyone expects us to win it, but I will not think of that. We will think round by round. It’s rare to defend this title.”

Broadcast live on Sky Sports in the UK and DAZN in Spain, Italy, USA and Brazil, the World Cup of Pool will be broadcast on Matchroom.Live for those without a broadcaster. See broadcasters so far below:

AMC Network Hungary	
Dazn	Italy
Dazn	Spain

Dazn	USA & Brazil
Fox Sports	Australia
Nova	Czech Rep/Slovakia
Sky Network	New Zealand
Sportklub	Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia
Supersport	South Africa & Africa
Tap	Philippines
Viaplay	Baltics
Viaplay	Iceland
Viaplay	Netherlands
Viaplay	Poland
Viaplay	Scandinavia
Vietcontent	Vietnam

In a string of announcements as part of Matchroom’s investment into Spain this week, the Spanish Open Pool Championship became the fifth signature 256-player field event on the Nineball World Tour calendar when announced yesterday. Find out more about that here.

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viewers is an important step in the process of promoting all of this great content”.

As an added bonus for fans of a particular discipline of the game, viewers can choose a channel of just their favorite game, including 14.1 Straight Pool and One Pocket.

While the channel is made possible by Accu-Stats sponsors, viewers can purchase VIP access, to turn off the billiards commercials and watch match after match uninterrupted.

Roku owners can search for Accu-Stats on their set-top unit, or just subscribe to ACCUSTATS at <https://my.roku.com/account/add/ACCUSTATS..>

ACCU-STATS ANNOUNCES ROKU STREAMING CHANNEL

Accu-Stats Video Productions is proud to announce the launch of it’s new channel on the Roku Streaming Platform. Pool fans can sit back and watch over 500 matches on their Smart TV’s, with more content being added.

“One of my biggest goals in acquiring Accu-Stats is to promote everything that Pat has done over the year” said Accu-Stats owner Mike Howerton. “There are over 70 million Roku units out there. Getting the Accu-Stats content out in front of that many possible

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Sport


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Tourney Results

Feb 01 - Feb 05

World Pool Championship 2023

Targi Kielce Exhibition & Congress Centre

Kielce,

- 1 Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz \$60,000
- 2 Mohammad Soufi \$30,000
- 3 Kun Lin Wu \$17,500
- 3 Mario He \$17,500
- 5 Albin Ouschan \$10,000
- 5 Jung-Lin Chang \$10,000
- 5 Niels Feijen \$10,000
- 5 Quoc Hoang Duong \$10,000
- 9 Aleksa Pecelj \$6,000
- 9 Denis Grabe \$6,000
- 9 John Morra \$6,000
- 9 Mateusz Sniegocki \$6,000
- 9 Maximilian Lechner \$6,000
- 9 Sebastian Batkowski \$6,000
- 9 Shane Van Boening \$6,000
- 9 Wiktor Zielinski \$6,000
- 17 Alex Pagulayan \$3,000
- 17 Aloysius Yapp \$3,000
- 17 Ang Tuan Nguyen \$3,000
- 17 Daniel Maciol \$3,000
- 17 James Aranas \$3,000
- 17 Jayson Shaw \$3,000
- 17 Johann Chua \$3,000
- 17 Lars Kuckherm \$3,000
- 17 Mika Immonen \$3,000
- 17 Moritz Neuhausen \$3,000
- 17 Naoyuki Oi \$3,000
- 17 Petri Makkonen \$3,000
- 17 Pin-Yi Ko \$3,000
- 17 Ping-Chung Ko \$3,000
- 17 Thorsten Hohmann \$3,000
- 17 Wojciech Szewczyk \$3,000
- 33 Ajdin Piknjac \$1,500
- 33 Alexandros Kazakis \$1,500
- 33 Ali Al Obaidly \$1,500
- 33 Amil Andre Gangflot \$1,500
- 33 Besar Spahiu \$1,500

- 33 Chris Melling \$1,500
- 33 David Alcaide \$1,500
- 33 Dimitri Jungo \$1,500
- 33 Eklent Kaci \$1,500
- 33 Fabio Petroni \$1,500
- 33 Francesco Candela \$1,500
- 33 Gerson Martinez \$1,500
- 33 Hunter Lombardo \$1,500
- 33 Imran Majid \$1,500
- 33 Jan Van Lierop \$1,500
- 33 Jani Uski \$1,500
- 33 Jose Delgado \$1,500
- 33 Joshua Filler \$1,500
- 33 Khalid Alghamdi \$1,500
- 33 Konrad Juszczyzyn \$1,500
- 33 Lo Ho Sum \$1,500
- 33 Luong Duc Thien \$1,500
- 33 Marius Skoneczny \$1,500
- 33 Mickey Krause \$1,500
- 33 Nick Van Den Berg \$1,500
- 33 Oscar Dominguez \$1,500
- 33 Robbie Capito \$1,500
- 33 Roman Hybler \$1,500
- 33 Ruben Bautista \$1,500
- 33 Sanjin Pehlivanovic \$1,500
- 33 Shane Wolford \$1,500
- 33 Tyler Styer \$1,500
- 65 Abdullah Al-Enezi \$500
- 65 Abdullah El Yousef \$500
- 65 Aziz Moussati \$500
- 65 Bader Al Awadi \$500
- 65 Billy Thorpe \$500
- 65 Daniel Guttenberger \$500
- 65 Daniele Corrieri \$500
- 65 Dimitris Loukatos \$500
- 65 Elliot Sanderson \$500
- 65 Iker Andoni Echeverria \$500
- 65 Jakub Koniar \$500
- 65 James Georgiadis \$500
- 65 Joao Grilo \$500
- 65 Joey Tate \$500
- 65 Jonas Souto Comino \$500

- 65 Marco Teutscher \$500
- 65 Martin Daigle \$500
- 65 Mason Koch \$500
- 65 Mats B. Schjetne \$500
- 65 Mustafa Alnar \$500
- 65 Nick Ekonomopoulos \$500
- 65 Oliver Szolnoki \$500
- 65 Omar Al Shaheen \$500
- 65 Pijus Labutis \$500
- 65 Ping Han Ko \$500
- 65 Radoslaw Babica \$500
- 65 Ralf Souquet \$500
- 65 Ronald Regli \$500
- 65 Sina Valizadeh \$500
- 65 Tobias Bongers \$500
- 65 Toh Lian Han \$500
- 65 Tomasz Kaplan \$500

Feb 02 - Feb 05

2023 Cajun Coast Classic 9-Ball

Pool Do's Sports Bar

Morgan City, Louisiana

- 1 Roland Garcia \$5,000
- 1 Roland Garcia \$4,700
- 2 Roberto Gomez \$3,000
- 2 Roberto Gomez \$2,400
- 3 Joven Bustamante \$1,500
- 3 Lee Vann Corteza \$1,600
- 4 Fedor Gorst \$1,200
- 4 Jeffrey De Luna \$675
- 5 Sergio Rivas \$650
- 5 Zach Marquartt \$650
- 7 John Gabriel \$400
- 7 Vitaliy Patsura \$400
- 9 Hunter White \$300
- 9 Kyle Bova \$300
- 9 Scott Frost \$300
- 9 Tony Chohan \$300
- 13 Drew Jordan \$210
- 13 Jeffrey De Luna \$210
- 13 Jimmy Randolph \$210
- 13 Josh Roberts \$210

17 Alvin Anggito \$150
17 Dallas Broussard \$150
17 Derek Fontenot \$150
17 Jacob Pennison \$150
17 Jay Hennessey \$150
17 Steve Lenz \$150
17 Tookie Babineaux \$150
17 Wesley Duke III \$150

Feb 02 - Feb 05

2023 Cajun Coast Classic Banks

Pool Do's Sports Bar

Morgan City, Louisiana
1 Roland Garcia \$2,400
2 Carlo Biado \$1,200
3 Can Salim \$500

Feb 04 - Feb 05

Sunshine State Predator Pro Am Tour 2023 Stop 1

Stroker's Billiards

Palm Harbor, FL
1 Rolando Aravena \$1,000
2 Raymond Linares \$760
3 Kodi Allen \$550
4 Lee Heuwagen \$400
5 Anthony Meglino \$275
5 Justin McNulty \$275
7 Casey Grove \$200
7 Donny Mills \$200
9 Bobby Garza \$150
9 Derek Santos \$150
9 Jay Winters \$150
9 Michael DeLawder \$150

Feb 04 - Feb 05

Garden State Pool Tour Amateur Stop

Breaker Billiards

Clifton, NJ
1 Chris Farrell \$600
2 Juan Taveras \$300
3 Christian Taeza \$200
4 Bill Meima \$120
5 Brook Villa \$80
5 Frank Rodriguez \$80
7 Brenda Martinez \$60
7 Levy Lempaam \$60

Feb 04 - Feb 05

PremierBilliards.com Q City 9-Ball Tour Event

Action Billiards

Inman, SC
1 Kirk Hixon \$900
2 Cameron Hollinsworth \$625
3 Josh Miller \$475
4 Chad Dill \$270
5 Casey Looper \$150
5 Sam Epps \$150
7 Dustin Brown \$110
7 Joe Bryant \$110

????

????

Cambridge, Maryland

1 Andrew Downs \$800
2 Willie Johnson \$495
3 Mike Saleh \$275
4 Coen Bell \$220
5 Brandon Foster \$175
5 Danny Bell \$175
7 Garrett Waechter \$120
7 John Moody Sr. \$120
9 Bethany Sykes \$80
9 David Stanley \$80
9 Huberth Alvarado \$80
9 Joe Feuka \$80

Feb 05 - Feb 05

Mezz Cues LA 9-Ball Series Stop

Gladi8or Billiards

Los Angeles, California
1 Spencer Ladin \$600
2 Cody Gragg \$420
3 Johnny Kang \$300
4 Christian Marqueses \$200
5 Bob Jocz \$120
5 Rudy Torres \$120
7 David Newcomb \$70
7 Rigoberto Morales \$70

Feb 05 - Feb 05

1st Annual B & L Tournaments Senior Open

Bank Shot Bar & Grill

Laurel, MD
1 Joseph Wright, Jr. \$700
2 Jimmy Varias \$350
3 Wes Ormrod \$220
4 Scott Hurley \$170
5 Andy Lincoln \$120
5 Curtis Fleshman \$120
7 Lou Wehage \$80
7 Paul Oh \$80

Feb 05 - Feb 05

B & L Tournaments 575 & Under

Bank Shot Bar & Grill

Laurel, MD
1 Danny Burtell \$170
2 Harshit Kedia \$340
3 Lai Li \$110
4 Lucas Kilgore \$70

Feb 07 - Feb 12

2023 Bayou State Classic One Pocket Division

Emerald Billiards

New Iberia, LA
1 Roberto Gomez \$7,500
2 Fedor Gorst \$4,000
3 Justin Hall \$2,500
4 Alex Pagulayan \$1,700
5 Roland Garcia \$900
5 Scott Frost \$900

Feb 07 - Feb 12

2023 Bayou State Classic One Ball One Pocket Division

Emerald Billiards

New Iberia, LA
1 Fedor Gorst \$2,300
2 Roberto Gomez \$1,380
3 Hunter White \$460
3 Lee Vann Corteza \$460

Feb 11 - Feb 12

PremierBilliards.com Q City 9-Ball Tour Event

Buck's Billiards

Raleigh, North Carolina
1 Tony Pete \$600

- 2 PJ Schmidt \$400
- 3 Larry Hughes \$200
- 4 Justin Knuckles \$100

Feb 11 - Feb 12

B & L Tournaments 10-Ball Mini-Series Stop

Bank Shot Bar & Grill

Laurel, MD

- 1 Omer Abbasi \$430
- 2 Obed Rosario \$220
- 3 Justin Greber \$140
- 4 Rick Molineiro \$110
- 5 Derek Crothers \$80
- 5 Mike Denbow \$80
- 7 David Sund \$55
- 7 Linh Nguyen \$55

Feb 14 - Feb 20

Skinny Bob's Nineball Classic

Skinny Bob's Billiards

Round Rock, Texas

- 1 Fedor Gorst \$6,600
- 2 Gabriel Martinez \$3,500
- 3 Michael Schneider \$2,500
- 4 Blaine Barcus \$1,800
- 5 Robbie Capito \$1,000
- 5 Roland Garcia \$1,000
- 7 John Gabriel \$600
- 7 Justin Martin \$600
- 9 Alejandro Calderon \$450
- 9 Jeffrey De Luna \$450
- 9 Jesus Atencio \$450
- 9 Joey Torres \$450
- 13 Alex Pagulayan \$300
- 13 Brian Sanders \$300
- 13 Justin Espinoza \$300
- 13 Naoyuki Oi \$300
- 17 Callum O'Donnell \$200
- 17 Eric Aicinena \$200
- 17 James Davis Jr. \$200
- 17 Jonathon Demet \$200
- 17 Nick De Leon \$200
- 17 Robert Flores \$200
- 17 Shane McMinn \$200
- 17 Vitaliy Patsura \$200
- 25 Bob Cavley \$100
- 25 James Davis Sr \$100

- 25 Luis Martinez \$100
- 25 Mark Nanashee \$100
- 25 Mike Durbin \$100
- 25 Roberto Gomez \$100
- 25 Ryan Braselman \$100
- 25 Tommy Tokoph \$100

Feb 14 - Feb 20

Skinny Bob's Nineball Classic One Pocket Div.

Skinny Bob's Billiards

Round Rock, Texas

- 1 Fedor Gorst \$4,200
- 2 Roland Garcia \$2,200
- 3 Roberto Gomez \$1,300
- 4 Tommy Tokoph \$975
- 5 Jeffrey De Luna \$550
- 5 Raed Shabib \$550
- 7 Alex Pagulayan \$350
- 7 Jerry Calderon \$350

Feb 14 - Feb 20

Skinny Bob's Nineball Classic Ladies Div.

Skinny Bob's Billiards

Round Rock, Texas

- 1 Sakura Miramatsu \$1,900
- 2 Savannah Easton \$1,000
- 3 Tara Williams \$660
- 4 Tina Pawloski Malm \$460
- 5 April Larson \$260
- 5 Kim Sanders \$260
- 7 Angie Payne \$180
- 7 Jennifer Kraber \$180

Feb 15 - Feb 17

2023 Dynamic Billard Estonian Open

Kalev Sport Hall

Tallinn,

- 1 Mohammad Soufi \$6,392
- 2 Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz \$4,901
- 3 Alexandros Kazakis \$3,196
- 3 Niels Feijen \$3,196
- 5 Daniel Maciol \$1,598
- 5 Mateusz Sniegocki \$1,598
- 5 Miesko Fortunski \$1,598
- 5 Wojciech Szewczyk \$1,598

- 9 Denis Grabe \$1,065
- 9 Jere Virtaranta \$1,065
- 9 Konstantinos Koudiakis \$1,065
- 9 Nicolai Ernst \$1,065
- 9 Petri Makkonen \$1,065
- 9 Roman Hybler \$1,065
- 9 Ronald Regli \$1,065
- 9 Tomasz Kaplan \$1,065
- 17 David Alcaide \$639
- 17 Dimitris Loukatos \$639
- 17 Ivan Belmonte \$639
- 17 Jani Uski \$639
- 17 Joao Grilo \$639
- 17 Jose Alberto Delgado \$639
- 17 Karl Gnadeberg \$639
- 17 Mats B. Schjetne \$639
- 17 Michel Rehepapp \$639
- 17 Miguel Silva \$639
- 17 Mikael Odgaard \$639
- 17 Mustafa Alnar \$639
- 17 Ole Kristian Rudshavn \$639
- 17 Oliver Szolnoki \$639
- 17 Pijus Labutis \$639
- 17 Yuma Dornier \$639
- 33 Adam Stankiewicz \$319
- 33 Amil Andre Gangflot \$319
- 33 Arseny Sevastyanov \$319
- 33 Carlos Belmonte Blanca \$319
- 33 George Antonakis \$319
- 33 Gert Maimre \$319
- 33 Kim Laaksonen \$319
- 33 Luca Menn \$319
- 33 Mika Riikonen \$319
- 33 Nikita Rudenko \$319
- 33 Osman Sanlisoy \$319
- 33 Riku Romppainen \$319
- 33 Salvador Garcia Fernandez \$319
- 33 Sebastian Batkowski \$319
- 33 Stanislav Saiov \$319
- 33 Szymon Kural \$319

Feb 18 - Feb 19

Northeast 9-Ball Open XXXIV

Sharpshooters Billiards & Sports Pub

Amsterdam, NY

- 1 Nicolas Charette \$1,100
- 2 Ron Casanzio \$800
- 3 Dan Sharlow \$600

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- 5 Len Gianfrate \$325
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- 7 Holden Chin \$200
- 9 Jamie Garrett \$100
- 9 Jordan Turner \$100
- 9 Michael Toohig \$100
- 9 Ray McNamara \$100

Feb 18 - Feb 18

Tiger Florida Tour 2023 Stop 2

Stix Billiards Oldsmar

Tampa, Florida

- 1 Stephanie Mitchell \$675
- 2 Kaylee McIntosh \$425
- 3 Debbie McIntosh \$250
- 3 Sofia Mast \$250
- 5 Jessica Barnes \$125
- 5 Kim Caso \$125
- 5 Kim Housman \$125
- 5 Michell Monk \$125

Feb 18 - Feb 19

Jay Swanson "Swanee" Memorial 9-Ball Tournament 2023

Griff's

Las Vegas, Nevada

- 1 Jung-Lin Chang \$2,000
- 2 Sharik Sayed \$1,200
- 3 Shane Van Boening \$800
- 4 Aloysius Yapp \$600
- 5 Feri Satriyadi \$350
- 5 Lian-Han Toh \$350
- 7 Desmond Goh \$200
- 7 Silviana Lu \$200
- 9 Ian Costello \$140
- 9 Jordan Holman \$140
- 9 Richard Burns \$140
- 9 Trick Sixty \$140
- 13 Dwayne Guillory \$120
- 13 Josh Kondo \$120
- 13 Marshall Jung \$120
- 13 Ruben Silva \$120

Feb 18 - Feb 20

2023 Euro Tour Women's Estonian Open

Kalev Sport Hall

Tallinn,

- 1 Oliwia Zalewska \$1,598
- 2 Veronika Ivanovskaia \$1,065
- 3 Eylul Kybaroglu \$852
- 3 Melanie Suessenguth \$852
- 5 Bojana Sarac \$639
- 5 Ina Kaplan \$639
- 5 Louise Furberg \$639
- 5 Veronika Hubrtova \$639

Feb 18 - Feb 19

2023 Maryland State Amateur 8-Ball Championships

Brews & Cues on the Boulevard

Glen Burnie, Maryland

- 1 Charles Randall \$1,000
- 2 Chenxu Wei \$750
- 3 Seth Harris \$535
- 4 Danny Hauser \$375
- 5 Alex Parker \$225
- 5 Moe Mozannar \$225
- 7 Bill Bickford \$175
- 7 Edward Mejia \$175
- 9 Joseph Sennett \$125
- 9 Kane Miller \$125
- 9 Vince Biondo \$125
- 9 William Bracey \$125
- 13 Jay Heilbrun \$80
- 13 Joe Garofalo \$80
- 13 Nick Lorah \$80
- 13 Shaun Stevens \$80
- 17 Gus Claros \$65
- 17 Jeff Spelman \$65
- 17 Joe DePascal \$65
- 17 Mike Garnett \$65
- 17 Philip Houser \$65
- 17 Ray Fitchett \$65
- 17 Suresh Suryawanshi \$65
- 17 TJ Fitzgerald \$65

Feb 18 - Feb 19

2023 DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop 2

Tailgaters Sports Bar

Frisco, Texas

- 1 Ruben Adame \$1,520
- 2 Clint Freeman \$1,075
- 3 Josh Hemsoth \$820
- 4 Tim Larson \$575
- 5 Miguel Hernandez \$420

- 5 Pete Stoval \$420
- 7 Brian Cady \$320
- 7 Jonathan Rawlins \$320
- 9 Chase LaFerney \$220
- 9 Jeff Turney \$220
- 9 Joseph Geesling \$220
- 9 Rodger Shaffer \$220
- 13 Annie Flores \$120
- 13 Bryson Redburn \$120
- 13 Jeff Sullivan \$120
- 13 Jesus Sorto \$120

Feb 18 - Feb 18

Predator Tri State Tour 2023 Stop

Clifton Billiards

Clifton, New Jersey

- 1 Ronnie Xu \$845
- 2 Ambi Estevez \$550
- 3 Juan Melendez \$270
- 3 Rachel Lang \$270
- 5 Daniel Torres \$110
- 5 Don Henriquez \$110
- 5 Hoa Vu \$110
- 5 Kevin Serodio \$110
- 9 Brian Schell \$70
- 9 Jason Caradang \$70
- 9 Mike Tritto \$70
- 9 Pascal Dufresne \$70

Feb 18 - Feb 19

PremierBilliards.com Q City 9-Ball Tour Event

Mickey Milligan's Sports Bar

New Bern, NC

- 1 DJ Brads \$700
- 2 JT Ringgold \$400
- 3 Jack Whitfield \$250
- 4 Tracy Hardie \$125
- 5 Eddie Williams \$100
- 5 Justin Knuckles \$100

Feb 18 - Feb 19

Northeast 9-Ball Open XXXIV Second Chance

Sharpshooters Billiards & Sports Pub

Amsterdam, NY

- 1 Rohit Aggarwal \$320

- 2 Joe Wysocki \$220
- 3 Mike Renshaw \$160
- 4 Greg Bombard \$100
- 5 Nick Coppola \$60
- 5 Roger Lakotko \$60

Feb 19 - Feb 21

Shane Van Boening vs Tony Chohan One Pocket Rematch

Griff's

- Las Vegas, Nevada
- 1 Shane Van Boening \$0

Feb 22 - Feb 26

2023 Alfa Las Vegas Open

Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino

- Las Vegas, NV
- 1 Wiktor Zielinski \$25,000
- 2 Sanjin Pehlivanovic \$13,000
- 3 Daniel Maciol \$7,500
- 3 Quoc Hoang Duong \$7,500
- 5 Bader Al Awadi \$4,000
- 5 Jung-Lin Chang \$4,000
- 5 Shane Van Boening \$4,000
- 5 Vitaliy Patsura \$4,000
- 9 David Alcaide \$2,000
- 9 Joshua Filler \$2,000
- 9 Konrad Juszczyszyn \$2,000
- 9 Kun Lin Wu \$2,000
- 9 Maximilian Lechner \$2,000
- 9 Mika Immonen \$2,000
- 9 Oliver Szolnoki \$2,000
- 9 Pin-Yi Ko \$2,000
- 17 Albin Ouschan \$1,200
- 17 Alexandros Kazakis \$1,200
- 17 Alvin Anggito \$1,200
- 17 Denis Grabe \$1,200
- 17 Eklent Kaci \$1,200
- 17 Evan Lunda \$1,200
- 17 Fedor Gorst \$1,200
- 17 Jesus Atencio \$1,200
- 17 Mario He \$1,200
- 17 Mieszko Fortunski \$1,200
- 17 Petri Makkonen \$1,200
- 17 Pijus Labutis \$1,200
- 17 Roland Garcia \$1,200
- 17 Tyler Styer \$1,200
- 17 Wojciech Szewczyk \$1,200

- 17 Yu-Lung Chang \$1,200
- 33 Alan Rolon \$585
- 33 Aleksa Pecelj \$585
- 33 Alex Pagulayan \$585
- 33 Aloysius Yapp \$585
- 33 Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz \$585
- 33 Hunter Lombardo \$585
- 33 James Georgiadis \$585
- 33 Jan Van Lierop \$585
- 33 Jeffrey De Luna \$585
- 33 Jeremy Seaman \$585
- 33 John Morra \$585
- 33 Jonas Souto Comino \$585
- 33 Jui An Hsu \$585
- 33 Justin Martin \$585
- 33 Kang Lee \$585
- 33 Kenichi Uchigaki \$585
- 33 Lee Vann Corteza \$585
- 33 Lo Ho Sum \$585
- 33 Lukas Fracasso-Verner \$585
- 33 Marc Bijsterbosch \$585
- 33 Martinez Gerson \$585
- 33 Mateusz Sniegocki \$585
- 33 Michael Schneider \$585
- 33 Nick De Leon \$585
- 33 Omar Al Shaheen \$585
- 33 Ping-Chung Ko \$585
- 33 Ralf Souquet \$585
- 33 Sina Valizadeh \$585
- 33 Sullivan Clark \$585
- 33 Szymon Kural \$585
- 33 Yoshihiro Kitatani \$585
- 33 Yukio Akagariyama \$585

Feb 24 - Feb 27

Alfa Women's Las Vegas Open 2023

Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino

- Las Vegas, NV
- 1 Seoa Seo \$13,000
- 2 Meng-Hsia Hung \$7,000
- 3 Kristina Zlateva \$4,000
- 3 Silviana Lu \$4,000
- 5 Chieh-Yu Chou \$2,500
- 5 Eylul Kybaroglu \$2,500
- 5 Kelly Fisher \$2,500
- 5 Kristina Tkach \$2,500
- 9 Chia Hua Chen \$1,000

- 9 Hsin-Yu Li \$1,000
- 9 Jasmin Ouschan \$1,000
- 9 Marharyta Fefilava \$1,000
- 9 Shui Ching Chiang \$1,000
- 9 Tzu-Chien Wei \$1,000
- 9 Wan-Ling Wang \$1,000
- 9 Yu-Hsuan Fan \$1,000
- 17 Allison Fisher \$500
- 17 Brittany Bryant \$500
- 17 Eleanor Callado \$500
- 17 Jackeline Perez \$500
- 17 Kim Bogeon \$500
- 17 Nguyen Bich Tram \$500
- 17 Woo-Jin Lee \$500
- 17 Yi-Yun Su \$500

Feb 25 - Feb 26

PremierBilliards.com Q City 9-Ball Tour Event

Breaktime Billiards

- Cary, NC
- 1 Mike Davis \$1,100
- 2 Brian White \$700
- 3 Hunter White \$450
- 4 Clint Clark \$300
- 5 Don Lilly \$160
- 5 Joshua Padron \$160
- 7 Barry Mashburn \$100
- 7 Scott Howard \$100

Feb 25 - Feb 26

Garden State Pool Tour Amateur Stop

Diamond Jim's Billiards

- Nanuet, NY
- 1 Aiden Wagner \$750
- 2 Ray Marisette \$400
- 3 Jennifer Pedutem \$260
- 4 Thomas Schunke \$180
- 5 Brooke Nasta \$130
- 5 Ed Hiem \$130
- 7 Aaron Wagner \$100
- 7 Tommy Migliore \$100
- 9 Angelo Felix, Jr. \$70
- 9 David Marchant \$70
- 9 Giancarlo Delgado \$70
- 9 Henri Hernandez \$70

Upcoming Tournaments

Each month *Billiards Buzz* looks ahead at the events on our calendar to give both players and fans the information they may use to plan their activities.

APRIL

Joss Tour 2022-2023 Stop 14

Apr 01 - Apr 02

Yale Billiards
Wallingford, Connecticut

JPNEWT Tour 2023 Stop #2

Apr 01 - Apr 02

Champion Billiards & Sports Café
Frederick, MD

Mezz Cues LA 9-Ball Series Stop

Apr 02 - Apr 02

Gladi8or Billiards
Los Angeles, California

7th Annual Barry Behrman Memorial Spring Open 9-Ball

Apr 08 - Apr 09

Q-Master Billiards
Virginia Beach, VA

Fedor Gorst vs Tony Chohan One Pocket Race to 21

Apr 12 - Apr 14

Railyard Billiards
Louisville, KY

2023 Super Billiards Expo Open NineBall Pro Players Championship

Apr 13 - Apr 16

Greater Philadelphia Expo Center at
Oaks
Oaks, PA

On The Snap Tour Stop #3

Apr 15 - Apr 16

Stixx And Stones Billiards
Lewisville, Texas

2023 Scotty Townsend Memorial Open 9-Ball

Apr 25 - Apr 30

Arena Billiards
West Monroe, LA

Joss Tour 2022-2023 Stop 15

Apr 29 - Apr 30

Utica Billiards On The Boulevard
Utica, New York

Arizona Women's Billiards Tour 2023 Stop 3

Apr 29 - Apr 30

El Paso, Texas

NWPA Tour 2023 Stop 1

Apr 29 - Apr 30

Legends Billiard Room
Beaverton, Oregon

Joss Tour 2022-2023 Stop 16

May 06 - May 07

Raxx Pool Room, Sports Bar & Grill
West Hempstead, NY

JPNEWT Tour 2023 Stop #3

May 06 - May 07

Yale Billiards
Wallingford, Connecticut

World Pool Masters 2023

May 10 - May 13

Europa Sports Complex
Gibraltar

Wisconsin Open 2023

May 17 - May 20

Ho-Chunk Casino WI Dells
Baraboo, Wisconsin

Women's Wisconsin Open 2023

May 18 - May 21

Ho-Chunk Casino WI Dells
Baraboo, Wisconsin

Joss Tour 2023-2023 Stop 16.5

May 20 - May 21

Amazin Billiards
Malden, Ma

On The Snap Tour Stop #4

May 27 - May 28

Rusty's Billiards
Fort Worth, Texas


2023 UK Open

May 30 - Jun 04

Copper Box Arena
London, England

AZBILLIARDS MONEY LIST

NAME	COUNTRY	\$ AMOUNT	
 Fedor Gorst	 RUS	134.450,00 US\$	
 Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz	 ESP	125.486,00 US\$	
 Eklent Kaci	 ALB	62.700,00 US\$	↑
 Shane Van Boening	 USA	49.700 US\$	
 Mohammad Soufi	 GER	37.671,00 US\$	↓
 Chieh-Yu Chou	 TPE	35.000,00 US\$	
 Joshua Filler	 GER	33.600,00 US\$	↑
 Roland Garcia	 PHI	31.600,00 US\$	
 Wiktor Zielinski	 POL	31.000,00 US\$	↓
 Jayson Shaw	 SCO	29.750,00 US\$	↑



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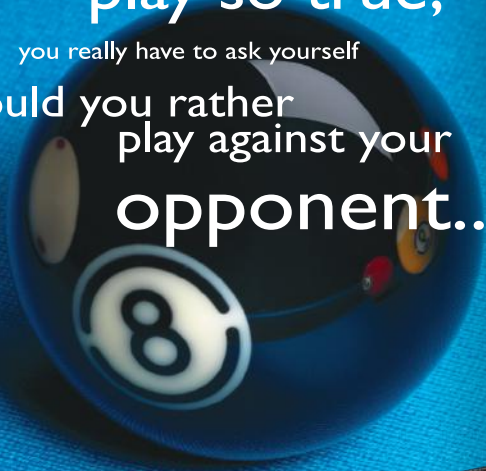
- Jeanette "The Black Widow" Lee

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