

Billiards Buzz

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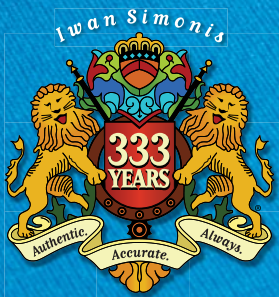
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FROM THE Head Rail

MIKE HOWERTON

As this issue is being finished up, the internet is all abuzz with conversation about the 11-4 Team USA loss in the Mosconi Cup.



I have read all kinds of reasons. US players play in tourneys on 7' tables during the year, the pockets at Mosconi Cup were too tight, the pockets at Mosconi Cup were too loose, Team Europe got all of the rolls, etc, etc. Most of these are the same reasons that people toss out there every year, and most of them are completely ridiculous.

It was pretty plain and simple. Team USA made more mistakes than Team Europe and Team Europe capitalized on those mistakes. Team Europe came into this event primed and ready to win, and Team USA struggled right out of the gate. After falling behind, the pressure got to them and it was all over.

The members of Team Europe are also battle tested. They play in events against top talent all over the globe. Not just the Euro Tour, but World Championships against the top players in the world.

In my opinion (and this is the place for my opinion), until the US can field a team that can get out there and compete against the top talent in the world of pool, all over the world, they are going to be outgunned by the members of Team Europe. And pocket sizes and table sizes and captains and celebrating won't change it one bit.

Mike



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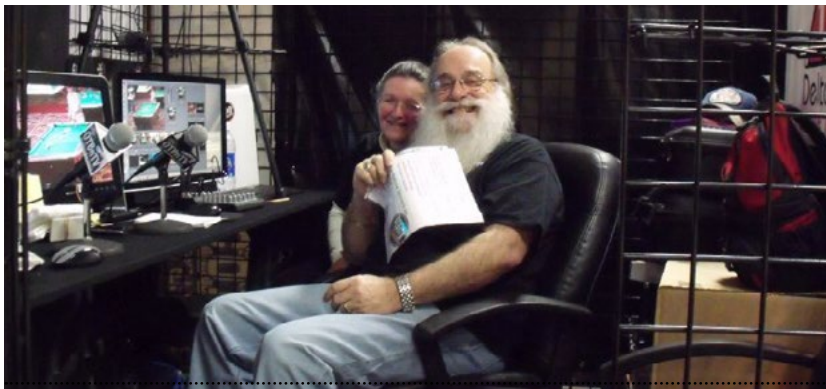
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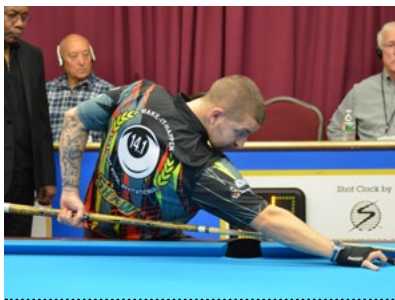
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HOW I APPROACH THE TABLE

How the dominant eye has come into play during my pool career. I have always been right-eye dominant.

I started wearing glasses to play snooker when I was about 18 years old, but this isn't the reason why I am right eye dominant. My prescription is stronger for my right eye as it is weaker than the left. As I look at the table, the line of the shot is under my right eye. Coincidentally, my right foot is on the line of the shot. Being right-handed and right-eye dominant is much easier to get in the correct line. It is easier because I can stand square to the table. The people who are right-handed and left-eye dominant usually approach the table in a more side-on stance in order to get the left eye in the line of the shot.

When I am teaching, I do an eyesight test. There are many ways to determine which eye is your dominant eye. I like to use a hole in the center of a piece of paper. I place the cue ball on the middle diamond on the end rail and two object balls on the diamonds on each side of the cue ball. I have the player stand at the opposite short rail and hold the paper and ask them to focus on the cue ball with both eyes open. I ask them to close the left eye and see which ball is in their vision and then do the same with the closing right eye. If you are right-eye dominant, when you close the right eye, you will see the object ball to the right of the cue ball. The cue ball will remain in view when you close the left eye. This would be opposite if you were left-eye dominant.

As I look at the line of the shot, I step in with my right foot in line. I bend down, letting my head come down on

that line which guides the cue to come down on the line of the shot. Then I start my preparation strokes. Come

back, pause, and shoot. This is how I approach the table and my pre-shot routine.

“

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Recognizing and Adjusting for Conditions



JERRY BRIESATH

Remember this scenario, you're playing good, you're in midseason form, you're pumped and your team is playing an away match at a new room. You break the balls, make one on the break, have an easy shot on the 11-ball in the corner and all you have to do is roll the cue ball two rails to get it back to the center of the table and the game should be over from there.

You stroked the ball perfect, pocket the 11, the cue ball follows to the first rail and the second and then it just never stops and you end up at the opposite end of the table on the end rail with no possible shot. The table is so much faster than the ones at your room and you can't believe what happened.

Every player has experienced this dramatic change in conditions from one table to another and sometimes it

takes four or five games to get used to the new conditions and by that time you've lost the match.

In the above case, a room owner had new cloth put on the table which made the table play much faster than the table in your room, if the cloth was several months old. Even the speed of the new cloths can be very different depending on how the cloths are made and thick the cloth is.



Experienced players will arrive at an away room early enough to play a few games on the table to get used to that speed differential.

Another factor that can change your game in a hurry is humidity. This occurs mostly in the spring and fall of the year in the northern half of our country where one day the temperature can be 80 degrees with 80% humidity and a week later the temperature has dropped to 30 degrees with 10% or 15% humidity. When the humidity is high, the friction between the balls and the cloth increases dramatically and is most noticeable when you are trying to stop or draw the cue ball. You must shoot much harder to stop or draw the cue ball back with high humidity compared to low humidity, which is why most players don't play as well in the summer when it's hot and humid compared to winter when it's much drier. Humidity also affects the way balls come off the rail on bank shots. With high humidity the balls come off the rail at a much sharper angle than with low humidity. So remember when you are banking, to play the object ball to go a little more past the pocket with humid conditions.

Good luck
-- Jerry



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THE DREADED END RAIL

ANTHONY BEELER

Over the years, I have noticed one thing about the game of 8-Ball; the player that generally has the best layout wins the majority of the time.

In recent months, we have already discussed several strategies related to varying circumstances the game sometimes brings about, but the one thing I have neglected to share with you are my thoughts related to balls that are sitting near either of the two end rails.

Why is the end cushion a problem? The answer lies with the fact that balls positioned in this location are often difficult to pocket. Many times, it is a necessity to have a key ball just to play position on this area of the table. Unfortunately, this isn't always an option.

In fact, I know several great pool players that don't understand how big of an obstacle that the end rail is. In reality, the problem is so big that it's almost like a bunker in golf. Anytime



Figure 2

you have one of your object balls lying in that location, it is imperative to remove it as soon as possible. Most players just keep on shooting until they run out of easy shots and when

they do they are often left firing at an impossible bank shot.

Now, I'm not saying that you should do something rash to remove a ball sitting on the end rail; I'm simply suggesting that the ball should be removed if you can do so without risking any type of severe penalty.

In fact, it's one of the first problems I look for when I play a game of 8-Ball. Balls positioned in this area usually only have one pocket that they can be shot in. On the other hand, balls located near the middle of the table tend to have several pockets.

Near the end of the game, your opponent can also leave you up table without ever giving you access to an easy shot (see the relationship between



Figure 1



the cue ball and fourteen in Figure 1). If your final ball is on the end rail and your opponent is shooting, you can bet your bottom dollar that you are going to be left somewhere on the opposite end of the table.

So what should you do? My advice is to remove the problem and build a better position for yourself. Essentially, you need to play pool as if you were playing chess. Continually work on the table layout until you have a substantial advantage. You can do this by either pocketing the problem ball or by moving it into a position where it will actually help you. Remember you shouldn't always try to run the balls, just survey the table and do something smart.

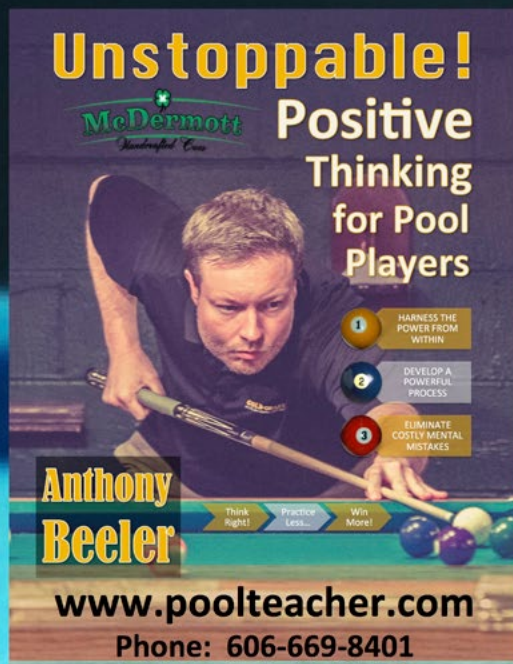
Another strategy might be to bump your ball over to the side rail and block the path of one of your opponent's balls (Figure 2). As you do this, you should always remember to leave enough air between the balls to ensure that your ball can be easily pocketed. You don't want to create another obstacle for yourself. You are only looking to make things more difficult for your opponent.

In the words of pro player Mike Sigel, "There is always stuff to work on. You are never really there." So the next time you decide to play 8-Ball, don't be left up table with an off angle bank. Remember to think like a winner and try to give yourself a better position by

moving balls away from the "dreaded end rail."

ANTHONY BEELER is the 2017 Pool Instructor of the Year and is a former BCAPL National 9-Ball Champion. He has numerous top 25 national finishes and is one of only 8 ACS Master Instructors in the world. He is the primary author of the National Billiards Instructors Manual and 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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Dr. CHRISTOPHER STANKOVICH
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You have probably heard the famous saying “Knowledge is power,” but have you ever really thought about what this means?

The statement assumes that if we gain knowledge, we are then more powerful with our thinking and abilities. While this sounds great, the reality is that *if we don't use the knowledge we learn, then we really are not bettering ourselves and becoming more “powerful” in any measurable sense.*

The point I am trying to make as it applies to pool is that if you learn things that could make you better but you don't put that knowledge into action, then it's likely you won't see your game improve much. In fact, you will probably become more frustrated wondering why you “know” so much about the game, but still don't see your talent level taking off to the next level.

Real-life examples

Think about the knowledge you have about the following things:

Cigarette smoking has been associated with cancer

Eating junk food has been associated with weight gain and health concerns

Driving a car at high speeds increases the chances for a ticket (or an accident)

Chances are, you or someone you know have done at least one of the things mentioned above, but you also knew the potential consequences (meaning you had the knowledge). In order to use knowledge to excel in life, it's important to actually *use what you learn!*

Applying knowledge to pool

The best way to improve your game is to learn the things you need to do to improve your game, from learning how to make specific shots, playing great position pool, and controlling your focus and emotions during com-

petition. In each of these examples there are answers out there, and as you learn these answers it is important to apply the knowledge you gain.

Play smarter, not harder, and focus on the specific areas of your game that need the most help. If your mental toughness needs improvement, learn skills to control your anxiety and apply what you learn when you feel the pressure in big games. Remember, the difference between where you are now and the level you could be playing at in the future is largely dependent on the daily decisions you make about how you train your mind and body. Choose wisely and you might even surprise yourself what you are truly capable of achieving.

Dr. Chris Stankovich (“The Sports Doc”) is a national expert in the field of sport & performance psychology and has been featured on ESPN for his work with elite athletes. His #1 best selling pool video “Mind of Steel: Mental Toughness for Pool Success” has been used by players around the world to improve focus and confidence, eliminate anxiety, and win more games. You can learn more about Dr. Stankovich and “Mind of Steel” by visiting drstankovich.com



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Don and Mary.

Don Akerlow

Don Akerlow is the publisher (along with his wife Mary) of the billiards magazines *The Break, Rack'Em, and Stroke*. Let's find out more about Don (and Mary).

Q: How did you two meet?

A: On a blind date! Mary was introduced to Don as "Cheese" and "I have called him that all of these years." We fell for each other almost immediately. We jugged, made fun of each other and anybody else. We had the best time laughing and having fun but it was all over after we kissed. Love at first kiss.

Q: You've been married for 46 years. What is your success for a long, lasting, loving marriage?

A: Laughter, listening to the other and respect.

Q: How many kids, grandkids and great grand kids do you have?

A: 2 kids, 6 grandkids and 2 great grandkids.

Q: Have you lived in Montana your whole life?

A: No, we traveled the lower 48 states for the first 8 years of our marriage.

Q: You and Mary have been a HUGE staple in the billiard industry because of your coverage of events in person and remotely across the country in your magazines. Why did you start publishing the magazines in 2000?

A: We actually started publishing pool magazines way back in 1989. One of the magazines was an annual pool tournament magazine that I was delivering in the late summer of 2000 to McQ's Billiards in Spokane,

WA. There were 4 owners of McQ's and they all happened to be at the pool hall when I came in. They asked me if I could talk to them about something very important. Of course, I said yes.

We sat down and one of the owners told me that the *Q Ball Gazette* (that covered Washington, Oregon and California) had gone out of business. They asked if I could take over with a new billiard magazine. I told them I wanted to talk to my wife Mary and I would get back to them in 24 hours and we did. And within less than 30 days the first issue was out in September of 2000. That was how... now *why* is simple. I had won some small tournaments, some medium sized and some with \$1,000 to \$2,000 added (that was a lot of money in the 70's). I also had won and lost many challenge matches in the late 60's, 70's and 80's. One match in particular that I remember fondly was in 1972. I won a 1967 4-door Chevy and \$1200 cash. We played on a 4' x 8' bar table in a strip joint - talk about distractions.

In those days of course, there was no live streaming, virtually no audience and no one from any pool magazine to write up an article from any challenge match to any tournament that I placed high in the money. And that was OK, it just never was.

So why I started publishing a pool magazine was to give others the opportunity for recognition. And that is what we have tried to do.

Doing this interview gave me the opportunity to review the body of work of the magazines. *The Break* has been in publication for 18 years and we have published 204 issues. *Rack'em* and *Stroke* have both been published for 9 years starting in 2009 and totaling 216 magazines combined. 420 issues packed full of results (30-40 each month), instructional columnists, featured locations, product reviews, press releases and of course the Tournament Trail which had most all the



latest tournament listings. For us it is all about the information we can provide the pool players and how we can highlight the players and the locations that support the tournaments and especially our advertisers.

Q: WOW! That's a lot of issues and dedication!! And we are all so very thankful! And, what was your profession before the magazines?

A: I worked door-to-door for 14 years off and on selling Kirby Vacuum cleaners. Usually I would work 2 or 3 weeks a month and I would then take off to spend the money I made.

Q: I presume you two work on the magazines for the love of the game and not to supply your income haha.

How do you keep the drive going every month?

A: When we started the magazines it was for the love of the game. Through the years I had done research about billiard magazines and actually wrote a column about pool magazines that had gone out of business. Mary and I had a production meeting which we always did when we had to make a decision about anything. We decided if we were going to keep the pool magazines going we would have to treat the magazines like a business. What keeps the drive alive is simple, we get emails, messages, texts and Facebook comments from pool players thanking us for putting their name, photo and/or article in one of the magazines. It is always nice to know what you are doing is appreciated by someone else.

When we started “*On The Break*,” which is what it was called in the first few years, I decided the best way to get to know the players, the advertisers and the pool scene from Spokane to Seattle, Portland to Salem, Oregon and all points in between. I would deliver between 100 to 120 locations all along a 2,000 mile road trip. I believe that is how I got to know the players and owners as well as them getting to know me. In the evenings I would play in some weekly pool tournaments. I was always getting challenged in every pool hall I walked into to deliver the magazines. I never had time to play challenges with a long race, usually a race to 1 or 2. I learned early that it was better to lose than it was to win. My deliveries lasted 7 years which is when we decided to create *Rack'em* and *Stroke* Magazines.

Q: One time you were on the road 10 months straight covering events. Did you just travel from event to event or also take time for a little vacation and sightseeing?

A: Actually we were on the road for 3 or 4 years for 8-10 months. Of course,

we took vacations. Sightseeing... not your typical tourist sightseeing.

Q: What was your favorite event to cover in person?

A: We have covered Women’s tours, National events, Local events, mostly though I would have to say the most favorite event to cover was talking to the players, getting to know them. I think both of us enjoyed live streaming when we were doing that. A lot of players like being able to see themselves play. What they did right and what they didn’t do so good.

Q: Speaking of streaming, you and Mary did streaming WAY before it was mainstream. Was the interest as high as it is today?

A: The first event we streamed was in 2007, a local event that we taped and then edited the film to be put online. The next event was December 2007, The Reno Open. The first live streaming was between Jeff Boucher and Jack Madden. We didn’t start live streaming until the summer of 2008. In May of that year we did the

VNEA Nationals. In 2009 we did the BCA Nationals, VNEA Nationals and Junior VNEA Nationals. Early in 2010 we live streamed the USBA Nationals in Tacoma, WA and again in May the VNEA Nationals. Within a couple of years we had over a million viewers. While streaming the USBA we had over 15,000 viewers at one time for an hour and a half to two hours. I firmly believe the high viewership was because of a friend we had in Bogota Columbia. Three cushion is very popular in Central and South America. Ruth spread the word!

Our live streaming was called OTBnTV and we went live on Ustream. We really enjoyed setting up our booth as well as commentating. When it got slow I would tell the audience I would be glad to sing to them. After they heard me, they never wanted to hear me again! The one thing we had that no other streamer had was instant replay. We live streamed with 5 cameras as well as commercials like you see on any sports channel.

Q: What is OTBnTV? How is it different from just “live streaming”?

A: OTBnTV stood for On The Break News TV. We also had a live streaming online magazine. I took photos of the event, put them in the magazine along with a link to the video and the names of who was playing. We went the extra mile for the pool players.

Q: Besides all of that, you are also an entrepreneur! I own one of these and had no idea you came up with it. Tell us about how your idea, the “CuePen,” came to fruition.

A: I had an idea about a pen that could look like a sneaky pete cue, like the ones you’d see in a bar or pool room. I had never seen one and had always looked for one. I took a copy of a blank pen, and designed it with four points. I had it tapered from the butt to the point of the pen, added a white



Don commentates with Jennifer Barretta.



ferrule, blue ink for the chalk and the only thing left was a case.

I called all the manufacturers of pens in the U.S.A. and none had any nor would they make it for me. I got in touch with some friends who had friends overseas. That put me in touch with a manufacturer that would give me a proof copy of both CuePen and Case. Within 3 months we had our first CuePen and Case! It was a lot of back and forth, but we paid for 10,000 CuePens and Cases.

We sold enough to break even, maybe a little more, but it never went any further than that. We billed the CuePen as *“For the pool player who has everything.”* But it was a great experience all in all.

Q: Mary was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2016. She has been through a lot more since then. How is she doing these days? How are YOU doing?

A: I’ll let Mary answer the first part of this question. “After being told you have stage IV breast cancer that has metastasized to your brain, bones and liver and there is no cure, you kind of take a deep breath. It is a lot to digest but we have always stayed positive and laughed about everything that comes our way. This is what Cheese has taught me throughout life. I feel fine except for a few side effects from the chemo. I really can’t complain. Without Cheese by my side helping

me all the way I can’t imagine where I would be. He is my rock and my salvation. He keeps us going.”

As for myself I have always had the attitude of “never give up” and I would never give up on Mary. Never let the bastard win (cancer).

Q: I saw on Facebook you shaved your head right along with her! I bet that was an easy decision for you. Tell us about that.

A: There is really nothing to tell. Mary had wanted to shave her head because she didn’t like her hair falling out from the chemo. There is nothing I wouldn’t do to support my beautiful wife.

Q: What do you think the pool industry could benefit from?

A: Very simple in my mind, working together. Everyone seems to be only out for themselves. Don’t get me wrong, I’m a capitalist. You should make money for what you do in business. There just doesn’t seem to be any continuity in the billiard industry.

Q: Helping Mary through all of these cancer issues and complications, how do you have the time or strength to still work on the magazines each month?

A: I’ll let Mary answer first: “Work is a blessing. It takes my mind off my

everyday challenges and gives me focus. If all I had to do all day was worry about myself, I would probably be very sick. I love the work and want to help Cheese in any way I can.”

As I see it for Mary and myself the magazines are a distraction from everything and they are fun to put together each month.

Q: What has been the biggest surprise to you being around a loved one with cancer?

A: How little information the public really has about cancer. And how costly it is. And what people really don’t know about cancer. But most importantly the mistakes you make by listening to someone who is supposed to be an authority on cancer. Don’t get a second opinion, get a third and/or a fourth. Talk to cancer patients and ask what they did or could have done differently. Ask as many questions as you possibly can. Do your own research. Don’t always believe what they tell you in a pamphlet - verify. One size doesn’t fit all.

Q: What has been the biggest support during these tough times?

A: Each other, Family and friends and the support on FaceBook.



Melinda "ak-trigger" Bailey has been in the pool scene as a player and ambassador for pool for over 25 years. She is a loyal blogger (<http://pool-journey.blogspot.com/>), a top player in Texas, and holds numerous BCA/ACS Texas State and National titles (singles, doubles, and teams). She currently runs the successful Omega Billiards Tour across north Texas.

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Kaci Wins WPS Season Finale

By TED LERNER

All photos courtesy of JP PARMENTIER

Hi name is Klenti Kaci (pronounced 'catch-ee.') He is from Albania, a country in eastern Europe. He is just 18 years old and just finished high school. And he is pool's new poster boy for the new generation of the professional game.

Only a few months ago, that description, if told around the pool room, would've elicited howls of laughter and derision, and plenty of "yeah right," and "what have you been smoking?" The results Kaci has turned in over the last few months, however, speak for themselves.

In April in New York City, the then unknown Kaci shocked the pool world by besting a world class field, winning the second leg of the World Pool Series, the Aramith Masters. Then in October he placed runner up in the always brutal US Open in Virginia, losing to Scotland's Jayson Shaw in the final. Then a week later in New York

at the World Pool Series' last event, the Predator Grand Finale, Kaci made sure everyone now realized he was hardly a flash in the pan, and that they finally knew how to pronounce his name.

The 69 player field gathered for the four day 8-ball showdown at Steinway



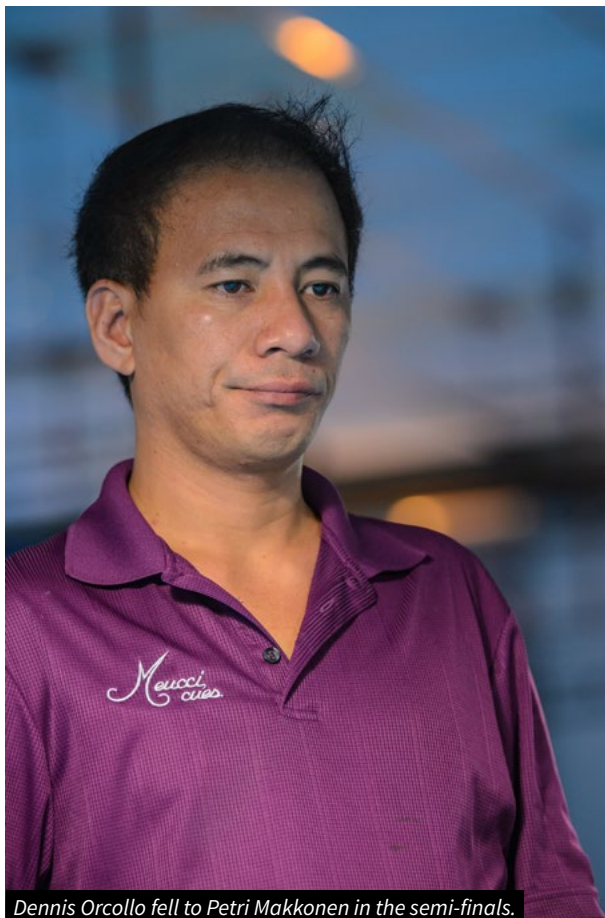
Klenti Kaci won his second WPS title.

Billiards in Queens couldn't have been any stronger. The conditions as dictated by WPS founder Darren Appleton couldn't have been any tougher. Throughout the four day event, however, Kaci displayed all the tools that are normally reserved for the greats of the game with years of battle hardened experience under their belt. He displayed rock solid technical skills, potting balls as good as anyone with his smooth and steady stroke. He seems to eat pressure for lunch, and he has that most important intangible that few players ever master: he has a nose for the finish line and the winner's circle.

That laser-like focus on the big prize was on full display in the highly entertaining and well played race-to-13 final against Finland's Petri Makkonen. For nearly three hours, the two traded racks in a see-saw match that was in doubt right down to the bitter end. But just when it looked like Kaci had wilted at the line, and Makkonen had found his second wind, the Albanian composed himself and calmly brought home the gold, winning the match, 13-11, and his second World Series title.

The amazing victory by Kaci in New York also secured him the number one spot in the four leg World Pool Series for 2017, another remarkable feat.

Kaci's exploits since literally coming out of nowhere in April to win the Aramith Masters have woken up many fans who have witnessed his talents to realize that we are indeed witnessing something very special. Not since Wu Chia Ching won the World 9-ball and World 8-ball crowns at the age of 16 back in 2005 has the sport had a true prodigy in their midst. While Kaci



Dennis Orcollo fell to Petri Makkonen in the semi-finals.

hasn't yet achieved the level of success that Wu did, the wildly talented teenager, who is also an accomplished snooker player, is completely dedicated to the game, and seems to never stop practicing or playing. Nobody now would be surprised if he snapped off a world title any time soon.

The win by Kaci capped what has been by any measure a successful first year for Appleton's World Pool Series. One of the highlights of the fledgling four leg 8-ball tour has been the showcase it has provided for pool's burgeoning youth movement. None of the three winners this year has been over 24 years old.

Appleton's insistence on making the conditions as tough as can be--breaking from side boxes, take what you make, and especially the 4" corner pockets and 4.5" side pockets, all

wreaked havoc on the players. But for anyone who's ever been around professional pool and listened to the players complain about conditions often being too easy, the tough tables would seem just what the game needs. It's all about bringing out the best of the best. The fact that the young guns are shining through can only bode well for pool moving forward.

And Appleton's deal with social media giant Unilad, which streamed several matches a day on its Facebook Live feed, has certainly brought the game and the players to new audiences around the globe. October's Predator Grand Finale attracted over one million viewers over the four day event.

Still Appleton was only able to attract 69 players to the final event, and this coming right after the US Open. The multi-world champion chalked up the low turnout to a lack of enthusiasm from American players, who were clearly in short supply as the tournament got underway.

"American players always complain that there's a lack of events," a somewhat exasperated Appleton said. "Well now here are some events and where are they? I don't get it."

But while the number of players fell short of the hoped for 96 bodies, the quality of the 69 who did show up for the Predator Grand Finale was absolutely world class. A solid contingent of Taiwanese and Filipinos were on hand, as were several Brits and other Europeans.

"At least 40 out of the 69 players here can reasonably win this thing," Appleton said. "And the other 29 players can



While the US player turnout was small, fans were glad to see Kid Delicious back in action.

make some noise as well. That's how tough this field is."

All eyes were on Scotland's Shaw who was coming off a breathtaking performance just a few days earlier when he romped to his first US Open title. Shaw, however, came to the Big Apple looking like he was still celebrating the biggest win of his career. Playing against rival Ko Pin Yi of Taiwan in his first match of the double elimination round, Shaw could never get out of first gear and the Taiwanese great romped to an impressive 9-3 win.

Shaw, however, took the loss in stride and came out the next day looking to make his mark. Indeed in a marathon day of hard core pool, the Scotsman tore through the 1-loss side of the bracket and won four straight matches over 14 hours to claim a spot in the single elimination round of 16. When the following day Shaw crushed Russia's Ruslan Chinakov 11-2 for a spot in

the quarters, everyone was sure that the Scotsman was building a head of steam and couldn't be stopped.

There, however, he would meet up with Makkonen. The 29 year old Finn, long known as the side kick of Hall of Famer Mika Immonen in the scotch doubles event, the World Cup of Pool, came into his own in New York with an impressive display of skill and bottle that very nearly took him to the title. Makkonen handily won three straight matches to qualify for the final 16, including a win over the Philippines' Dennis Orcullo. In the round of 16 Makkonen announced his arrival with a resounding 11-2 over an in-form Chris Melling of England.

The Finn was clearly brimming with confidence, and in his quarterfinal match with Shaw he took his first lead at 4-3 and never looked back. Shaw stayed close and even moved to within 10-9, but the Scotsman

couldn't cash his chips, and Makkonen held his nerve on the final run for an impressive win and a spot in the semi-finals.

The Taiwanese contingent came with their usual class and power and looked early on to be heavy favorites to supply a winner. Chang Jung Lin has been around the top of the sport for over ten years but in the last two years, the burly and soft spoken Chang has elevated his game to another level. In New York, the 2012 World 8-ball champion played the best 8-ball of anyone in the early rounds and cruised into the final 16.

After a win over American Frankie Hernandez, Chang squared off with fellow Taiwanese Wu Kun Lin in the quarters. The relatively unknown 23 year old Wu qualified for the knockout rounds with two wins on the losers side. Wu was clearly building up momentum as he took down compatriot Chang Yu

Lung, the two time China Open champion, 11-8, in the round of 16.

Both Wu and Chang didn't disappoint, with each putting on an 8-ball clinic. The Taiwanese pair stayed close throughout and Wu held his nerve at the end to tie the match at 10-10 to send the contest to a deciding shootout. There Wu held his nerve and pocketed three spot shots to Chang's two, to advance to the semi-finals.

Former World 8-ball champion Dennis Orcollo also appeared to be in fine form. After qualifying from the losers side, he defeated Alex Pagulayan in the round of 16, then took down Greece's Alex Kazakis 11-7 for a place in the semi-finals on the last day.

All eyes, however, seemed to be focused squarely on Kaci, as his game and temperament appeared impervious to any outside pressure and distractions. In the round of 16 Kaci squared off with Taiwanese superstar Ko Pin Yi in the round of 16. The Albanian, playing methodically and with his trademark dead eyed position and cueing, got out to an early lead and never looked back, winning the match, 11-6.

In the quarterfinals, the Albanian came up against relatively unknown Greek player Damianos Gaillourakis who was on a magical run through the event so far. Against Kaci, the Greek youngster seemed to hold on to the magic early and held a slim 7-4 and 8-6. But from there Kaci bore down and seemed to wear out Gaillourakis. The Albanian won 11-8.

Going into the final day Kaci's armor seemed impenetrable but his matchup with Wu at least promised a terrific showdown of pool's young guns. The two didn't disappoint. Wu's silky smooth stroke and low key demeanor would keep the match close throughout. But Kaci limited his errors and took control when the opportunities

arose. The match was close throughout but Kaci was always one or two steps ahead and grabbed a finals spot, 11-8.

The next semi-final saw Makkonen take on Orcollo. The burly Finn proved yet again that he is a seriously talented singles player of world class caliber. The pair stayed close early, but Makkonen possessed way more tools in his arsenal and took down the Filipino 11-8.

In the race to 13 final, it quickly became apparent that fans inside Steinway and the over half a million who tuned in on social media giant Unilad on Facebook were in for an 8-ball treat played at the highest levels of the sport. The brutally tough Rasson table with 4" corner pockets certainly took its toll on both players, but it also brought out the best of these two talented young guns.

Kaci quickly go out to a 2-0 but Makkonen tied it up just as fast. From there the pair jostled in a marvelous tussle, with neither giving an inch. In the early part of the match Makkonen had several chances to go up by a three and four racks, but several misses thwarted his advance. Kaci was potting with characteristic skill and looked immune to the pressure, but he simply couldn't make a ball on the break.

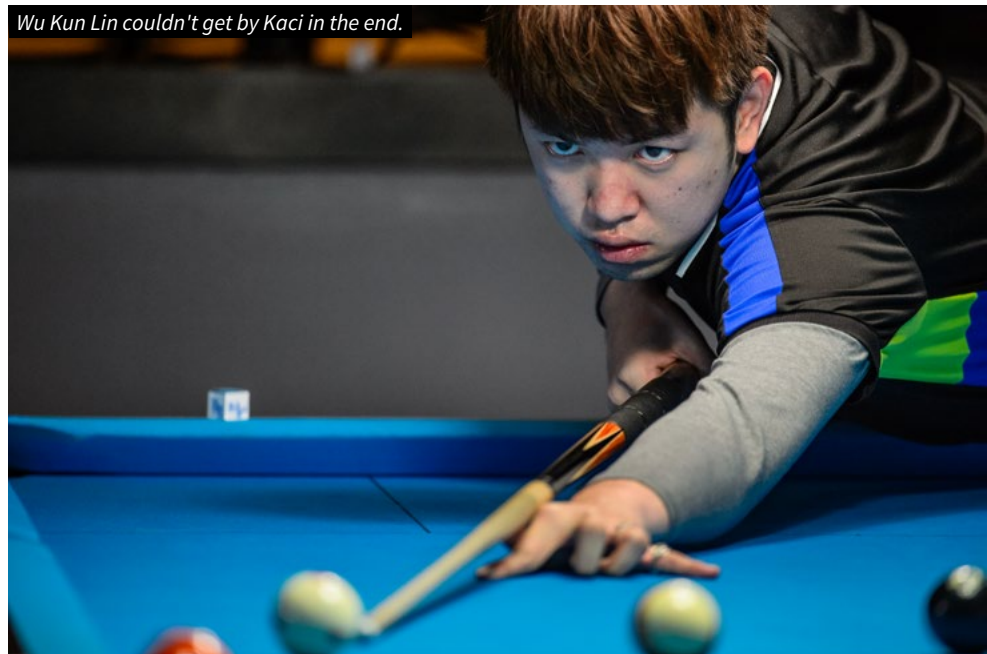
The duo were tied at 4, 5, and six, before the Albanian opened up a two rack lead at 8-6. The Finn caught him at 8 and took his first lead of the match at 9-8. Kaci then won three in a row and looked to have the match in control up 11-9. The Albanian then seemed to wilt while Makkonen caught a second wind and tied the match at 11. Having broken well all match, the Finn looked to have gained an advantage. But then he suddenly broke dry, and Kaci

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GOING INTO THE FINAL DAY KACI'S ARMOR SEEMED IMPENETRABLE BUT HIS MATCHUP WITH WU AT LEAST PROMISED A TERRIFIC SHOWDOWN OF POOL'S YOUNG GUNS.

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Wu Kun Lin couldn't get by Kaci in the end.





Petri Makkonen proved he is much more than a scotch partner.

did what all the greats do. He stepped up and closed the deal.

After Makkonen's dry break, Kaci, with the pressure mounting, stepped up and calmly ran the table. Up 12-11 and one away from victory, the Albanian executed his best break of the match, downing a ball for the first time since rack two. Barely mindful of the gravity of the situation, Kaci ran the table for another incredible win.

As he drank in the accolades of the awe struck crowd that had packed Steinway, the 18 year old revealed some of the secrets to his amazing success at such a young age. This is a young man that has obviously put in the time to be successful, that loves pressure and has prepared to play and win on the biggest stages possible. The pool world had better pay heed.

"When I won my first World Pool Series in the second event back in April, and then I came in third in the next event here, I now feel like I'm the favorite and that I'm going to go all the way," said Kaci, who collected \$14,000 for the win.. "I haven't really played much 8-ball, but I'm really comfortable playing this game because it's very tactical

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"I REALLY WANT TO BE THE WORLD NUMBER 1," KACI SAID. "I SEE MYSELF AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD RANKINGS."

”

and I like that kind of game. When a game is tactical, there's less luck and it comes down to who is smarter. That's my kind of game.

"It's not easy to win a tournament like this at 18 years old. But I know what I have done to be able to reach this point. I have practiced a lot. I have spent a lot of hours over the last few years in pool halls. Not like a lot of young guys who go drink and party and have fun. I have been thinking about this day for a few years. I'm feeling very comfortable when I come to the table. I feel that no matter who I play, that I'm the favorite to win."

Having come so close, Makkonen, who pocketed \$7000, was visibly upset in the immediate aftermath of a final he

had in his grasp. But a few moments later he realized that he had taken his game to a new level in New York.

"I didn't expect to be in the final of an event like this with so many tough players," Makkonen said. "But once I was in the final I wanted the title so bad. I played the best pool of my career in this tournament so I'm quite happy. I started off the final pretty good but in the middle of the match I got a little tired and I lost my focus and got a little frustrated. The table was brutally tough and I felt like I had lost my focus a bit. The table was so tight that you can't expect anything. You have to really concentrate on every single shot. But I was able to come back in the match and I thought I was going to win it.

"When the score was 11-11, with the way I was breaking I thought I was going to run out the set but I broke dry and he ran the rack, then he broke and ran the next rack for the win so that's tough. But fair play to him, he played great and he deserved it. He's a great player, he has everything in order. He makes balls, has the break, he has the overall game and all at such a young age. He played better than me in the final.

"I have been knocking on the door for a few years now but now recently I noticed that I have a real chance so I just have to take my game to the next level."

For Kaci, that level has clearly arrived. And it's rarefied territory he plans on spending more and more time at in the coming months and years.

"I really want to be the world number 1," Kaci said. "I see myself at the top of the world rankings. I love it when I'm in a match where there's a lot of pressure. I love it when you win a match and there was so much pressure in that match and you were so successful and you did it right."



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Jayson Shaw

Shaw downs Deuel in 8-Ball, Filler in Straight Pool to win Accu-Stats Make It Happen events

All photos courtesy of Karl Kantrowitz

The way things turned out at Accu-Stat's 11th and 12th Make It Happen events, held between November 11-18 at Sandcastle Billiards in Edison, NJ, makes you wonder whether the US team at this year's Mosconi Cup competition in Las Vegas (Dec. 4-7) is the right one to (as the Mosconi Cup Web site phrases it) "wrestle the famous Cup back from the hands of the Europeans," who've held on to it now for the past seven years and won nine out of the last 10.

Team Europe would appear to be in good shape. Jayson Shaw, who backed up his recent win at the US Open 9-Ball Championships by winning both the 8-Ball and 14:1 Accu-Stats events last month (warming up?). Set to make his second appearance as a member of Team Europe, Shaw will join Ralf Souquet

(16 appearances), David Alcaide (1), Nick Van Den Berg (7) and Germany's Joshua Filler, who will be making his debut on the team. Filler was runner-up to Shaw in both the US Open, and the Straight Pool portion of the Accu-Stats Make It Happen event. He was third in the 8-Ball event, behind Shaw and Corey Deuel.

Team USA had just one of its members competing in the Accu-Stat events – Shane Van Boening, who ended up dead last in the 8-ball event and second from last (ahead of Darren Appleton) in the straight pool event (cooling off?). The only other USA player in Edison, NJ during the Accu-Stat week was Deuel, who was runner-up



Joshua Filler

“ SHOULD TEAM USA HAVE ADDED NINE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE BY SELECTING DEUEL, INSTEAD OF EITHER WOODWARD (2), THORPE (0), DOMINGUEZ (1), HATCH (4) OR (AS SACRILEGIOUS AS IT SOUNDS) VAN BOENING, WITH 10 PREVIOUS APPEARANCES UNDER HIS BELT? ”

to Shaw in the 8-Ball event (identical win/loss records, but Shaw won the final), and finished third behind Shaw and Filler in the straight pool portion of the proceedings.

Of course, the Mosconi Cup combatants won't be playing either 8-ball or straight pool, and this year's USA team does feature three of the five players who competed and took home the Mosconi Cup in 2009 - Van Boening, Oscar Dominguez and that team's Most Valuable Player, Dennis Hatch. The other two players on that 2009 team were Johnny Archer and Corey Deuel.

The other two players on this year's USA team are Skyler Woodward (3rd appearance) and in his debut on the squad, Billy Thorpe. Had Deuel been selected to this year's team, it would have put a fourth member of the 2009 winning team against a European squad with only Ralf Souquet from the 2009 European team.

Three of Team Europe's five members will step to the tables in Vegas with a combined total of only two previous appearances. One of them, though, is Shaw, appearing in his second. Another is Filler, making his debut on the team. The third is David Alcaide, mak-

ing his second appearance. Souquet and Van Den Berg have a combined total of 23 appearances at the annual US/Europe battle at the tables. The entire USA team has 17 years of combined experience at the event.

Should Team USA have added nine years of experience by selecting Deuel, instead of either Woodward (2), Thorpe (0), Dominguez (1), Hatch (4) or (as sacrilegious as it sounds) Van Boening, with 10 previous appearances under his belt? Impossible to know, but based on his performance at the recent Accu-Stats event, Deuel would have entered the Mosconi Cup competition, on the heels of two outstanding performances in New Jersey, albeit in games not being played in Las Vegas.

Deuel commanded all but the final stages of the Accu-Stats Make It Happen 8-Ball Invitational, which opened on November 11. He started on Day One with a 10-6 win over Dennis Orcullo, downed Shaw 10-7 on Day Two and on Day Three, defeated both Van Boening (10-7) and (significantly) Filler 10-3, in what proved to be the second shortest match of the entire event (75 minutes; Shaw's 10-8 win over Van Boening on the following day took 71 minutes).



Corey Deuel



Shane Van Boening



DEUEL GOT ONE MORE IN BEFORE SHAW CONCLUDED WITH A BREAK THAT LEFT HIM LOOKING AT A "WIDE OPEN LAYOUT WITH ZERO PROBLEMS" (CAPELLE). SHAW CLEARED THE TABLE TO WIN THE ACCU-STATS MAKE IT HAPPEN 8-BALL INVITATIONAL TITLE.



With a record of 4-0, Deuel had secured a spot in the finals. His closest competitors (Shaw, Orcullo and Filler) were all 2-2 at the time. Deuel lost his fifth match to Appleton 10-5, as Shaw, Orcullo and Filler fought to win their third match. Shaw did so with the 71-minute 10-8 win over Van Boening. Orcullo and Filler faced each other, and when the dust settled from the double hill fight that ensued (longest match of the event at 118 minutes), Filler and Shaw were tied at 3-2. The tie-breaker for a spot in the finals against Deuel was total racks; a score battle won by Shaw 45-39.

Accu-Stats' Pat Fleming has developed a habit of offering one-line notes on recorded matches, providing potential DVD customers with a quick



Dennis Orcullo

glimpse at a given match. At this most recent event, Fleming described Deuel's opening round win over Orcullo as a "must see." In describing Filler's opening round victory over Shaw, Fleming advised people to "Watch out for Filler. He's the real deal." Deuel's subsequent victory over Van Boening (Match #10) led him to note that "Deuel is masterful again. He is the man to beat."

"Shaw was powerful and dominated," read his one-line note on the race-to-10, 8-ball finals.

The final match opened with three straight racks for Shaw, who then missed what Phil Capelle, reporting via Facebook post, called an "easy 8-ball," which allowed Deuel to get on the board. Deuel broke and ran the fifth rack to draw within one at 3-2. Shaw took rack #6 and Deuel answered with two, to knot the score at 4-4. Halfway, as it turned out. Shaw

pulled ahead by three, before he missed position on a ball and allowed Deuel to chalk up his fifth rack. Shaw answered with two to reach the hill first, ahead by four. Deuel got one more in before Shaw concluded with a break that left him looking at a "wide open layout with zero problems" (Capelle). Shaw cleared the table to win the Accu-Stats Make It Happen 8-Ball Invitational title.

On to Straight Pool...

The start of the Accu-Stats 14:1 Invitational on Wednesday, November 15, was an immediate re-match between Shaw and Deuel. Apparently not happy with the results of the 8-Ball Invitational, Deuel opened the proceedings with a 150-134 victory over Shaw that

would prove to be the only match Shaw would lose over the next four days.

Three matches later, Joshua Filler chalked up the high run of the day and the second-highest run of the event (137) with a 150-66 victory over Deuel.

“137 and out,” was Fleming’s one-line description. “Enough said.”

Shaw, in the meantime, moved on to Day Two, defeating Darren Appleton 150-117, and then (Day Three), downing Mosconi Cup teammate Filler 150-30 in a game that saw Shaw chalk up a run of 127. Two matches later, same day, Shaw assured himself a spot in the finals by handing Van Boening his third straight loss 150-36. Shaw completed his round-robin phase of the event at 4-1, with a 150-28 victory over Orcullo.

Filler and Deuel, in the meantime, were tied at 3-2. Filler had opened Day One with a loss to Orcullo (150-132), before chalking up his win over Deuel. Filler added a win over Van Boening (150-32), before Shaw handed him his second loss. Filler then downed Appleton 150-111, in a match that saw Appleton record its highest run of 111.

Deuel followed his 1-1 opening day with wins over Orcullo (150-88), and a win over Appleton (150-115) that turned out be the longest match of the event at 159 minutes. Van Boening handed Deuel his second loss 150-36 in a match that saw Van Boening run 112.

The tie breaker in the 14:1 event was total balls. The 60-point advantage (612-552) went to Filler, who moved on to the finals against Shaw.

“Filler lagged to within an inch of the rail, so Shaw broke,” wrote Capelle in his report, “but Filler could only run 7 before missing, turning the table over to the red-hot Shaw.

“Shaw took full advantage of his first offensive opportunity by running 121 balls,” Capelle added, noting that while Filler managed a couple of short runs to reach 50 balls, he “could not overcome Shaw’s early-match fireworks.”

And so, Jayson Shaw and Joshua Filler move on to Mosconi Cup XXIV with solid performances in the 11th and 12th, and possibly the last, Accu-Stat event in its current format. Accu-Stat’s Fleming made an assumption, prior to this most recent event, that the market for two, back-to-back Make It Hap-

pen events would be larger than the single events for which it was generally known. It didn’t turn out that way.

“The tournament was excellent,” he said. “It just didn’t generate enough income. I thought we’d do better, but (people) didn’t purchase more than they did with a single event.”

“I’m licking my wounds,” he added. “The future of the Accu-Stats Make It Happen format is in question.”

According to Fleming, Accu-Stats “will not be making DVDs going forward.” Instead, recordings of the matches will be available with a subscription service (like Netflix), where for a monthly fee, viewers interested in matches between specific players, or just in general, can watch what they want.

“Anything new,” said Fleming, “will be going to Vimeo.”

Author acknowledges the work of Phil Capelle, through his Facebook posts, and AtLarge on the AZ forums, for his statistical breakdown of the two events, and the general assistance of Pat Fleming in the preparation of this report.



Darren Appleton

Kazakis wins his first major US title, going undefeated at 29th Ocean State 9-Ball Championship

For the first time in six years, the annual Ocean State 9-Ball Championship has been won by someone not named Shaw or Dechaine. On the weekend of November 11-12, the title went, for the third straight time, to a European – Alexandros (Alex) Kazakis.

In the absence of the two-time defending champion (Shaw), and three-time champion Dechaine ('12, '13 & '14), Kazakis went undefeated through a field of 87 entrants at the \$5,000-added, 29th Annual Ocean State Championship, held under the auspices of the Joss Northeast 9-Ball Tour, and hosted by Snooker's in Providence, RI.

Though well known in European circles, dating back to his days as a European Junior Champion in 2009, and subsequent appearances on the International Billiard Promotion Foundation (IBPF) and European Pocket Billiard Federation's (EPBF) EuroTour, Kazakis entered the Ocean State Championship without a US title on his resumé. He'd come close,

though. In January of this year (his best recorded earnings year, to date), he was runner-up to Jayson Shaw in the Derby City Bigfoot 10-Ball Challenge, and the week before the Ocean State 'challenge,' he'd been runner-up to Jorge Rodriguez in the Grand Masters division of the NYC 8-Ball Championships.



Mike Zuglan, Jeremy Sossei, Alex Kazakis and Steve Goulding (room owner)

At the very start, it seemed as though Kazakis and Albanian teenager Eklent (Klenti) Kaci were destined to knock heads. Kaci, who, in the past year, had already won the Aramith Masters Division and Predator Grand Finale of the 8-Ball World Pool Series (April and November, respectively), two stops on the Joss Tour, one on the Predator Tour and was runner-up to Shaw in the US Open, was poised to add a sixth US title to his growing list. In back-to-back matches, Kazakis and Jeremy Sossei kept the youngster out of the Ocean State Championship winners' circle.

Kazakis and Kaci met first, predictably, in the hot seat match. Kazakis had sent Sossei to the loss side 9-7 in one winners' side semifinal, as Kaci was busy shutting out Tom D'Alfonso (winner of the Ocean State title in 2011). Kazakis prevailed in the hot seat match 9-7, sending Kaci to the semifinals from which he would not return.

On the loss side, a number of potential 'threats' lay in wait. Sossei picked up one of them; Jorge Rodriguez, who'd been sent to the loss side by Kaci in a winners' side quarterfinal, and defeated Stevie Mack 7-4 and Zion Zvi 7-3. In a battle of Joss Tour veterans, D'Alfonso drew Ron Casanzio (recent winner of the Al Conte Memorial earlier this month), who'd most recently defeated Rich Kravetz 7-5 and Paul Dryden, double hill.

Sossei gave up only one rack to Rodriguez and advanced to the quarterfinals. He was joined by D'Alfonso, who'd eliminated Casanzio 7-5. Sossei moved on to defeat D'Alfonso 7-4, and then, in what had to have come as a surprise to many (except Sossei), Sossei dashed Kaci's hopes for a sixth US title with a 7-5 win in the semifinals.

In the finals that followed, Kazakis, in pursuit of his first US title, was facing an opponent, Sossei, who was vying

“
IN THE FINALS THAT FOLLOWED, KAZAKIS, IN PURSUIT OF HIS FIRST US TITLE, WAS FACING AN OPPONENT, SOSSEI, WHO WAS VYING FOR HIS 39TH US TITLE IN 10 YEARS.
”

for his 39th US title in 10 years. The two came within a game of having to play a single, deciding game, but in the end, Kazakis pulled out in front 9-7 to win the 29th Annual Ocean State 9-Ball Championship.

Tour director Mike Zuglan thanked Steve Goulding and his Snooker's staff for their hospitality, as well as regular tour sponsors Joss Cues, Turning Stone Resort & Casino, Simonis Cloth, Poolonthenet.com, AZBilliards, Aramith, Billiards Press and World Class Cue Care.

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“To see where my game stacks up against the best of the best.”

“There’s nothing else in pool like it.”

“I want to leave a legacy.”

Those were just a few of the many reasons event participants cited for wanting to compete in this year’s U.S. Amateur Championship.

That’s what drove more than 2,100 of North America’s top amateur players to try and qualify. That’s what brought 128 men and 39 women to Stroker’s in Palm Harbor, Fla., in early November to compete in this year’s U.S. Amateur Championship.

Yeah, there were some great perks too. Like a getaway to Tampa, one of the premier vacation destinations in the world. An all-expenses paid trip to a pro event next year courtesy of the APA for the winners of each division. Oh, and let’s not forget the championship trophy - a combination of marble and bronze that more closely resembles a piece of fine art than something awarded at a tournament.

But winning the U.S. Amateur Championship is all about the title. It’s about leaving your mark on the sport of pool. It’s about having your name and your accomplishment forever etched in history on the Larry Hubbart Trophy.

Parks Drive for 5

In the finals of this year’s U.S. Amateur Championship, it was four-time U.S. Amateur Champion Brian Parks of Bakersfield, Ca-

lif., looking to defend his title against Jeremy Edwards of Granger, Ind.

Parks had gone undefeated coming into the final round. He was squaring off against a red-hot Edwards who also came into the final day undefeated before being bounced to the one-loss bracket by Parks.

The match opened in the 8-Ball set, with Parks winning the first two games, the second of which by perfectly executing a jump shot to pocket the 8-ball in the corner. Edwards got

on the scoreboard just moments later when Parks pocketed the 8-ball on the break, but also scratched.

Leading 2-1, Parks would take the next two games, with Edwards winning the following two games to make the score 4-3. Parks would close out the 8-Ball set with another win and took a 5-3 lead going into the 9-Ball set.

The players traded the first two games of the 9-Ball set, with Parks taking the first and Edwards winning the second.

One of the more pivotal moments in the match came in the third game of the 9-Ball set. Trailing 6-4, Edwards had the chance to draw within a game, but failed to pocket the 9-ball. Parks instead capitalized on the mistake and took at 7-4 lead.

Parks would go on to win three of the next five games, and lead 10-6. In the seventeenth game, after Parks pocketed the 8-ball, and had perfect position to pocket the 9-ball for the victory, Edwards conceded the match in a show of good sportsmanship.

The championship was Parks 5th U.S. Amateur Championship title in 11 appearances, the second time he’s secured the title in back-to-back years. He’ll advance to the 2018 U.S. Open courtesy of the APA.

For Edwards, the Runner-up finish was an impressive showing in only his second U.S. Amateur Championship.



Brian Parks

Former champions David Rowell ('00) of Birmingham, Ala., and Henry Brodt ('98, '99, '15) of Laguna Beach, Calif., finished 3rd and 4th respectively.

Huang Finally Secures Coveted Championship

Melinda Huang of Los Angeles previously qualified for the U.S. Amateur Championship eight times, twice making it to the finals, but each time coming up just short of the title. For Huang, it was a bitter pill to swallow.

After a two-year hiatus, she returned to Stroker's once again determined to take home the championship.

But opportunity doesn't always come easy at the U.S. Amateur Championship. Undefeated and seemingly well on her way to another final, Huang's championship hopes were derailed by Amy Theriault.

In the hot-seat match, Theriault, of Sandusky, Ohio, sent Huang to the one-loss bracket and secured a spot for herself in the final round. If Huang was going to have a chance at the title she'd been chasing for more than a decade, she'd have to get past Rhea Brooks of St. Louis, Mo.

With her back against the wall, and her opponent on-the-hill, Huang rose to the occasion. She forced a hill-hill showdown with Brooks, eventually defeating her 5-4. The win setup an opportunity for redemption with Theriault.

Things seemed to finally come together for Huang in the final round. The match opened in 8-Ball, with Huang dominating the set 6-0.

Theriault got on the board by winning the first two games of the 9-Ball set, but Huang would not to be denied this year. She took three of the next



Melinda Huang

five games and sealed the match with a 6-9 combo for the victory.

You could almost sense the relief from Huang as she grasped the trophy that had eluded her for so many years.

Huang moves on to compete in a WPBA event next year, courtesy of APA.

Theriault finished as Runner-up, her first appearance since 2010. Brooks finished in 3rd Place.

Match coverage, including the finals, of this year's U.S. Amateur Championship and Women's U.S. Amateur Championship can be found on the APA YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/apaleagues.

The entry window for the 2018 U.S. Amateur Championship is now open with the Preliminary Rounds sched-

uled across North America in mid-September.

The U.S. Amateur Championship is conducted by the APA, and is the only tournament produced by the APA open to both members and non-members. Preliminary qualifying rounds were held throughout the country in mid-September.

As Champions, both Parks and Huang will return next year to defend their coveted titles.

The U.S. Amateur Championship is a double elimination tournament that offers the nation's top amateur players the opportunity to showcase their skills through a combination of 8-Ball and 9-Ball matches, in the only APA event that does not use The Equalizer® handicap system.

The APA, based in Lake Saint Louis, Mo., sanctions the world's largest amateur pool league, with leagues throughout the United States, Canada and Japan. Nearly 250,000 members compete in weekly 8-Ball and 9-Ball League play. The APA is generally recognized as the Governing Body of Amateur Pool, having established the official rules, championships, formats and handicap systems for the sport of amateur billiards.

The APA produces four major tournaments each year—the APA World Pool Championships, the APA Poolplayer Championships, the APA Junior Championships and the U.S. Amateur Championship—that, together, pay out more than \$2 Million in cash and prizes annually!

The APA and its championships are sponsored by Aramith, Action Cues and Pool Dawg.

For complete coverage of the U.S. Amateur Championship visit <http://www.poolplayers.com/usam/>.

RODRIGUEZ COMES FROM THE LOSS SIDE TO WIN GRAND MASTERS DIVISION OF NYC 8-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Carrasco, Wong, Estevez, Avallone and Traynor chalk up separate division wins

The annual BCAPL-sanctioned NYC 8-Ball Championships, held under the auspices of Tony Robles' Silent Assassin Productions, is always a masterpiece of logistical planning and execution.

This year, in a two-day span, the combined \$10,000-added event, coordinated six separate tournaments with a total of 241 entrants at Steinway Billiards in Astoria (Queens), NY and managed to finish it all by late (very late) Sunday evening/Monday morning. In all, the event paid out just over \$20K in prize money.

Four of the eventual winners of the six events went undefeated to claim an NYC 8-Ball title, while two chose the loss-side route to the winners' circle. The top payout among the six division winners went to Erick Carrasco, who pocketed \$2,000 for winning the \$3,000-added, Mixed Open division of the event, which drew 39 entrants.

Carrasco earned it the hard way. After an opening round bye, Carrasco lost his first match to Paul Carpenter and then, went undefeated through nine loss-side matches before meeting and defeating Stephen Augustus in the finals. He never did get the chance for payback against Carpenter, but the *payout* more than compensated. Four of the nine matches Carrasco played on the loss side went double hill, including his loss-side opener against Ambi Estevez and his semifinal win over Chuck Granville. Runner-up Augustus had earned his way to the hot seat in similar fashion, winning five matches to get there, three of which, including the hot seat match against Granville, went double hill.

Jorge Rodriguez, winner of the \$1,400-added Grand Masters event that drew 32 entrants, took a slightly shorter trip on the loss side to pocket his \$1,500 first prize. After an opening-round shutout over event director Tony Robles, Rodriguez fell victim to Del Sim who battled him to double hill before sending him to the loss side. Sim advanced to a winners' side semifinal against Alex Kazakis, who defeated him, and then, downed Hunter Lombardo in the hot seat match. Rodriguez won five on the loss side, the last two of which, against Edwin Garcia and Lombardo, went double hill. With momentum to spare apparently, Rodriguez advanced to defeat Kazakis in the finals 9-3.



“
**THE \$2,000-ADDED MIXED
 ADVANCED DIVISION DREW
 THE LARGEST FIELD OF 64
 ENTRANTS.**
 ”

semifinal and again in the finals. In comparison, Traynor breezed into the hot seat with a shutout win over Rob Pole in the winners' side final.

Corey Avallone faced only one double hill challenge in his undefeated, five-match march to the Men's Leisure title. Mark Ogawa, who would end up in the tie for fifth place, battled Avallone to double hill in the winners' side semifinal, from which Avallone would advance to face Jerry Vasquez twice; first, in the hot seat match and then, in the finals. Avallone won them both 5-3.



The \$2,000-added Mixed Advanced division drew the largest field of 64 entrants. While Alberto Estevez went undefeated, his efforts were almost derailed in a double hill final against Shawn Sookhai in the finals. Sookhai had been defeated in the opening round and won eight on the loss side (four that went double hill) to face Estevez in the finals. Estevez had faced only two double hill challenges; his opening round match against Rhio Anne (“Annie”) Flores and the final against Sookhai.

The other three divisions (Mixed Masters, Men's and Women's Leisure) were all \$1,200-added events that drew 32 entrants each. Brent Traynor went undefeated through the field to capture the event title in the Mixed Masters event, although his efforts were almost derailed by two opponents who challenged him in three double hill matches. Traynor downed Gary O'Callaghan twice; once, in a winners' side





MIXED OPEN DIVISION
Stephen Augustus (2nd)
and Erick Carrasco (1st)

2017 NYC CHAMPIONSHIPS SINGLES
Dr. Michael FEDAK BLATT BILLIARDS

“
SUZZIE WONG, WHO ENTERED THE WOMEN'S LEISURE EVENT AS THE #1-RANKED FEMALE PLAYER ON THE TRI-STATE TOUR AND A WEEK EARLIER HAD BECOME THE FIRST D-RANKED PLAYER TO BATTLE IN A PREDATOR PRO AM TOUR HOT SEAT MATCH, WENT UNDEFEATED TO CAPTURE THE LADIES TITLE.
”

thanked event sponsor Michael Fedak for his continuing support of this event, as well as Steinway Billiards' owner, Manny Stamatakis, and his staff for their hospitality. The event was also sponsored by the NAPL, Blatt Billiards, and PoolOnTheNet.com.

Suzzie Wong, who entered the Women's Leisure event as the #1-ranked female player on the Tri-State Tour and a week earlier had become the first D-ranked player to battle in a Predator Pro Am Tour hot seat match, went undefeated to capture the ladies title. She entered the tournament as that tour's #3-ranked women's player. Like Alberto Estevez in the Mixed Advanced division, Wong's trip to the winners' circle was almost derailed by an opponent - Michele Brotons - who'd lost her opening match and won every loss-side match (six of them, including three shutouts and one double hill challenge) to meet Wong in the finals. Wong's five-match trek to the trophy featured one double hill match, against Irene Kimand separate opponents in the hot seat and finals. She downed Michele Ko 5-1 to move into the hot seat and finished Brotons' six-match, loss-side run in the finals 7-5.

Event(s) director Tony Robles and his Silent Assassin Productions' staff



2017 NYC CHAMPIONSHIPS SINGLES

WOMEN'S LEISURE DIVISION
Suzzie Wong (1st)
and Michelle Brotons (2nd)

Dr. Michael FEDAK BLATT BILLIARDS

TRAIN SMARTER.



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NAPT Desert Challenge, Nov 2-5, Griff's Bar & Billiards, Las Vegas, NV top finishers:
(left to right) Allison Fisher (2nd), Karen Corr (1st), Vivian Villarreal (3rd), Eleanor Callado (4th)

Karen Corr Wins the Desert Challenge at Griff's in Las Vegas

It was an exciting and successful weekend at North American Pool Tour's (NAPT) first annual, Desert Challenge, November 2-5 at Griff's Bar & Billiards, Las Vegas, NV.

The event kicked off with an equally successful pro-am charity event. Benefitting [Donate Life America: Organ, Eye, and Tissue Donation Registration](http://www.donatelifenet.com) (www.donatelifenet.com), \$480 was raised by 22 teams in a scotch doubles format. With a \$20 donation, 22 amateur players were matched up via blind draw with one of the Division I Pro players

to play 9-ball, scotch doubles format. Ultimately, Lee Brett and Tara Williams finished in 1st place and Allison Fisher took 2nd place with her partner, Casey Guell. This charity event is held at each of NAPT's events, with donations going directly to the charity of the host rooms' choice. All players are welcome to attend and play in these charity events.

The main event started with 61 Division I and II players battling it out for their share of \$20,250. In the end, Karen Corr went undefeated, earning yet another first place prize and \$3,425, with Allison Fisher following her with a very respectable second place finish and \$2,425. Vivian Villarreal and Eleanor Callado rounded out the top four, respectively. Visit www.playnapt.com

to view completed brackets. POVpool provided the live-streaming for this event.

The North American Pool Tour would like to thank Mark Griffin and his staff for being fantastic hosts! Griff's Bar & Billiards (www.griffslv.com) is a classy, non-smoking establishment (smoking area outside) with a **full bar & restaurant and plenty of free parking. They proudly offer** (8) 9-foot Diamond pool tables, (17) 7-foot Diamond pool tables, an antique 12-foot Brunswick snooker/golf table, and even a Chinese 8-ball snooker table – all in excellent playing condition. Griff's provides a comfortable, adult atmosphere with helpful, friendly staff and plenty of seating. It's been a wonderful addition to the Las Vegas region and NAPT is proud to have Griff's on their list of host venues.

NAPT is currently working on solidifying 2018 dates. Mark Griffin was so impressed with the success of hosting



NAPT IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON SOLIDIFYING 2018 DATES. MARK GRIFFIN WAS SO IMPRESSED WITH THE SUCCESS OF HOSTING HIS FIRST NAPT EVENT, GRIFF'S HAS SIGNED ON FOR THE NEXT TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS.



his first NAPT event, Griff's has signed on for the next two consecutive years. Look for dates to be announced for next year's event, as well as dates and locations for future stops, in early 2018.

Players from all over North America gather to compete in many NAPT events throughout the year. Top Division I (pro) players receive automatic invites to these events and Division II (semi-pro) players earn invites through participation in ten, regional tours in Canada and throughout America. If there is not a regional tour near you, we welcome the formation of new regional tours. Visit www.play-napt.com to find a regional tour near

you, to get help to form your own regional tour, and to learn how to qualify for these exciting events.

NAPT
NORTH AMERICAN POOL TOUR

The North American Pool Tour (NAPT) was formed in early 2016 to provide an additional opportunity for semi-professional and professional women players to participate in highly competitive billiard events across North America.

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Jayson Shaw proves unstoppable as he blasts past Darren Appleton, Corey Deuel, Joshua Filler, Dennis Orcullo, and Shane Van Boening in both back-to-back "MIH" events. Introducing Jeremy "Double J" Jones to the booth. He and Danny D deliver our most insightful instructional commentary to date.

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JERRY MILLER

Wins the Viper's 13th Annual Colorado State Junior 9-Ball Championships & 2nd Event of the Year!

Colorado's popular juniors event kicked off with its 13th Annual Colorado State Juniors 9-Ball Championships this past Saturday, October 28th, 2017 which was held at Felt Billiards located at 101 W Floyd Ave, Englewood, CO.

The youth event was open to any junior between the ages of 8-19 and was handicapped by three different age groups.

14-year-old Jerry Miller of Evans, Colorado successfully won this year's title by defeating Pueblo's 14-year-old Nico Rodriguez winning two straight matches 4-0 & 4-1 in the finals to win this year's championships.

Earlier in the year Nico won the 8-Ball Championship and Jerry won the 10-Ball event so there was no big surprise

that these two were in finals of the end of the year's State Championships.

“**TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR AND CREATOR OF THESE PRESTIGIOUS JUNIOR'S EVENTS IS WPBA TOURING PROFESSIONAL MELISSA LITTLE AKA "THE VIPER". SHE CREATED HER "VIPER JUNIORS PROGRAM" BACK IN 2004 AND CONTINUES TO SUPPORT KIDS PLAYING POOL.**”

\$3.50
Every Day



Nico Rodriguez (runner up champion) Melissa Little and Jerry Miller (Champion)

OTHER TOP FINISHERS:

Champion Jerry Miller - Jacoby custom cue, trophy, multiple gift bags

Runner-Up Champion: Nico Rodriguez - Trophy, huge Teddy Bear and gift bag

3rd Place finisher: James Ballinger - Trophy and gift bag

4th Place finisher & Highest Finishing Female Award: Amanda Campbell - (2) Trophies, Stuffed bear and multiple gift bags.

5th & 6th Place finishers: Issac and Hunter

7th-8th Place finishers: Jin and Mackenzie

9th -12th Place finishers: Nick H, Michael H, Noah and Soren

Tournament director and creator of these prestigious junior's events is WPBA touring professional Melissa

Little Aka "The Viper". She created her "Viper Juniors Program" back in 2004 and continues to support kids playing pool.

She is also the creator of other great programs like her Viper Kids Boot Camps, junior pool leagues, Kids open clinics and her popular after school program.

Mark your calendars as Melissa will be hosting three additional juniors events throughout the 2018 year.

A special "Thank-You" to the events sponsors;
Jacoby Custom Cues out of Nekoosa, WI,
Felt Billiards in Englewood, CO,
Bigge Construction Inc. in Englewood, CO

Gift bag sponsors Pro Player Mark Haddad and Studio 54 Denver.

Other notable past Colorado State Champions:

- 2005 DJ Martinez - CO
- 2007 Nicole Keeney - CO
- 2008 James Fortin - CO
- 2009 Malek Haj Hussein - CO
- 2010 Ricky Smiley - CO
- 2011 Nick Weston - CO
- 2012 Randy Rodriguez - WY
- 2013 Nathan Diederich - CA
- 2014 Seth Krafczik - NE
- 2015 Kyle Chewning - CO
- 2016 Kyle Chewning - CO
- 2017 Jerry Miller - CO

For more information, photos, results, leader boards and future events please visit www.melissalittle.com

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- Jeanette "The Black Widow" Lee

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The Yoga of Pool

It takes a certain amount of *chutzpah* (shameless audacity) to declare in an instructional book on pool that not only will the lessons offered help improve your pool game, but your life as a human being, as well.

This is precisely what Paul Rodney Turner suggests in his book, “The Yoga of Pool,” subtitled “Secrets to Becoming a Champion in Billiards and in Life.”

“(The book),” Turner writes in the Introduction, “will provide you **all the essential tools you need** (Turner’s emphasis) to become a better player, while simultaneously helping to make you a better person.”

Who could resist, right?

It is a bold assertion, and until/unless you’ve made a good faith effort to apply Turner’s principles to your pool game and presumably, your life, it’s hard to disprove or dispute. There’s something of an issue with the **“all the essential tools you need”** part of the assertion that Turner makes, because the book doesn’t, for example, give you a decent cue, instructions on how to use it, nor the rules and subtleties of the variety of pool games you can play with it. Nor, in regards to the “better person” side of it, does it take into account any individual’s ability (or lack of ability) to comprehend and utilize advice drawn from the Yoga side of the equation.

For example . . .

“To the degree we develop and express the inherent power of our unique “I,” that much we will be successful in life,” Turner writes in a section entitled The Power of Individuality. “Individual expression lies at the

heart of our success in everything we do, including billiards.”

For the sake of argument, let’s assume that both statements are true. And then, try to imagine the captain of an amateur pool league team, offering either or both statements in response to a teammate who’s asked him/her for some shot selection or execution advice during a sanctioned “time-out.” Those able to comprehend the philosophy of the statements are still going to want to know which shot to take or how to execute a shot that’ll put a target ball into a given pocket. The player is also likely to think twice before asking the captain for advice a second time.

Granted, the statements are taken out of context (it *is* a 116-page book, after all) and not likely to be the first thing that comes to a team captain’s mind during a time-out. On the other hand, it does tend to highlight a disconnect between game-, practice- or reading-time advice about pool, and any philosophical principles that may or may not come into play. The statements don’t offer much in the way of practical advice.

Consider this, however. Pool players, from rank amateurs to seasoned professionals, are almost always looking to improve their “mental game.” Often ill-defined, this “mental game” can be about the varied strategies and tactics of different pool disciplines (8-ball, 9-ball, One Pocket, etc.), or delving

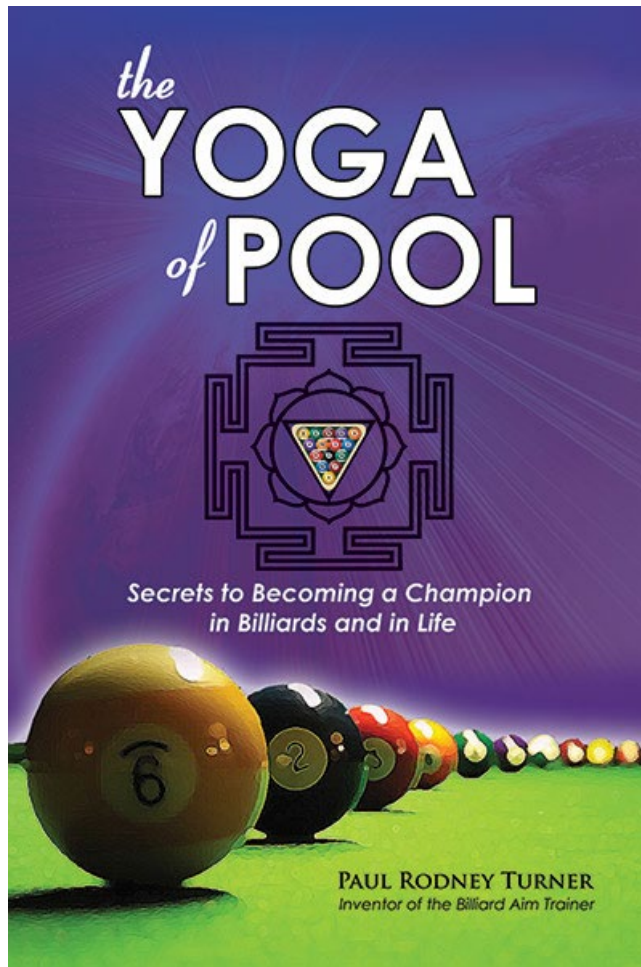
into the realm of less tangible ideas, like how to control one’s temper, or develop a mind-set when you step to a table to take a shot. Or it could be as simple as learning how to relax and enjoy yourself, instead of stepping to the table thinking that the fate of the free world or your self-worth as a human being rests on whether you can make the shot and/or win the game.

Turner’s book opens with material from an earlier publication - “World’s Best Aiming System for Billiards” (2004) - and he suggests, at the outset, that if you’ve read it, you can skip this book’s sections on that aiming system. The rest of it, for the most part, is an interpretation of what pool’s “mental game” is all about, filtered through Turner’s own experiences.

Turner first picked up a cue in his native Australia at about the age of 10, and played on a seven-foot particle-board pool table in his family’s garage. His initial training in the sport came from his father, Rodney Turner, “a hustler in the pubs and clubs of Sydney, who was affectionately known as “The Phantom” by his peers.” The younger Turner studied the books of legendary snooker and billiard greats, like Joe Davis, Walter Lindrum and Eddie Charlton. Soon after becoming a fan of a BBC series on snooker called *Pot Black*, Turner began practicing on snooker tables, four hours a day, going through drill after drill “in the hope one day of becoming a professional snooker player.”

This all changed in 1983, when Turner put away his snooker cue and “traveled East to study the ancient mystical teachings of India.” Though these teachings would (with this latest book) become the foundation of his belief and system for incorporating the “metaphysical aspects of billiards, like mind management, enthusiasm and gamesmanship,” into the sport, he wouldn’t pick up a pool cue again until 2002.

The book is replete with quotes from the Hindu text of the *Bhagavad Gita*, written around the 2nd century, B.C., or, more precisely, a version of that text, called *Bhagavad Gita As It Is*, written by the founder of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness, A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami, published originally in 1968. The text is still promoted and distributed by followers of the Hare Krishna movement. The quotes, combined with Turner’s personal narrative, offer prospective students a glimpse into their own psychological makeup, and the numerous ways that one’s own approach to any task can be self-defeating. In the realm of pool, this is related to the idea that if you step up to a pool table, thinking that you’re not going to be able to make a particular shot, you’ve significantly increased the chances that you won’t.



Turner insists that the key to improvement in pool, and by extension, life, rests in an individual’s ability to understand the unique components of their own consciousness (the unique “I,” referred to earlier), and the ability to act in accordance with that understanding. It’s not practical, “hold the cue stick this way” advice, but it is a powerful tool, if you take the time, energy and thoughtful consideration that Turner has expended to offer it.

“

SUCCESS, IN ANY ENDEAVOR, INCLUDING BILLIARDS, HE WRITES IN A SECTION ENTITLED SELF-RESPECT AND WILL TO WIN, “IS NOT POSSIBLE IF YOUR THOUGHTS ARE FILLED WITH FAILURE OR FRIVOLOUSLY MOVING FROM ONE GOAL TO THE NEXT.”

”

“Success, in any endeavor, including billiards,” he writes in a section entitled Self-Respect and Will to Win, “is not possible if your thoughts are filled with failure or frivolously moving from one goal to the next.”

Turner is keenly aware that the path toward removing “thoughts filled with failure” is neither short, nor easy. As he notes in his Concluding Words, “billiards, like all sports, requires hard work to achieve lasting success.” And if you think the development of skills necessary to achieve shot consistency is hard work, wait until you confront the task of changing the way you think about yourself and the game you’ve chosen to play.

For some, just reading the book will be hard work, and probably best consumed in small doses, with a yellow marker to highlight certain passages that catch your attention. One might, as a piece of random advice, try absorbing a few of the more philosophical passages, and then, step up to a pool table, and work on some Training Drills, offered in a later section of the book, and related to Turner’s development of his Billiards Aim Training (BAT) System. This will have a way of balancing mental exercise with practical pool-shooting exercises.

It is Turner’s hope, articulated in the book’s Introduction, that The Yoga of Pool “will serve to make you the very best player and person you can possibly be.” Hard to beat that for a motivation to at least hear what the man has to say.



Ready for some Pool Trivia? Some of these were included in past Delta-13 blog posts! These are great to use around the table, or while prepping for a game! Anyway, have fun with them!

- #1. When was the first game of billiards played?
.....
- #2. How was Billiards first played?
.....
- #3. Who owned the first Billiards table?
.....
- #4. What are the different sizes of a pool table?
.....
- #5. What was the first company to manufacture billiard table cloth?
.....
- #6. What was the first material used to make the billiard table cloth?
.....
- #7. Why is billiard cloth typically green?
.....
- #8. What's an "air ball" in billiards?
.....
- #9. What is Carom Billiards?
.....
- #10. Which country did Nine-Ball originate from?

- #11. What part of the elephant were used for billiard balls?
.....
- #12. What's another name for a Hustler?
.....
- #13. What was the first known song written about Billiards?
.....
- #14. Who is considered the Father of Billiards?
.....
- #15. What does the word "Pool" mean?
.....
- #16. What were the two oldest Billiard games played in the USA?
.....
- #17. What is the average age for billiard champions?
.....
- #18. What color was the first pool chalk ever used?

Answers:

- #1. The first game of billiards was played in the 15th Century.
- #2. Billiards was an outdoor sport played similar to Croquet.
- #3. King Louis XI of France.
- #4. 7 ft., 8 ft., 9 ft. and older ones are 10 ft.
- #5. Simonis in 1453.
- #6. 100% worsted wool.
- #7. Because billiards started as a lawn game.
- #8. When someone makes a shot but their object ball is missed entirely!
- #9. Any pool game played on a table without pockets.
- #10. USA.
- #11. Tusks, used to make ivory balls.
- #12. A Sharper. Someone who conceals how well they can play, in order to make money.
- #13. The Music Man in 1957.
- #14. Michael Phelan.
- #15. A collective bet.
- #16. One-Pocket and Four-Ball Billiards.
- #17. 35.6 years, the highest average age of any sport.
- #18. White. It was made from carbonate of lime, also known as blackboard chalk.



Sotka

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The spirit of a warrior, the heart of a champion. Introducing the Lakota Indian inspired Sotka Special Edition cues by Pechauer. Designed in tribute to the ornated spears (sotka) of the brave Lakota warriors, these highly-limited cues are as lethal as they are beautiful. Arriving paired with Predator's world-class shafts, you'll need to summon your courage quickly – before all 75 of each Sotka Cue are written into history.



THE BUZZ SPOTLIGHT

AZB Staff

Team USA completed a terrific comeback on day one of the 2005 Mosconi Cup as they came from 2-0 down to win three games on the spin to carry a 3-2 lead into the second day of competition.

With the scores poised at two apiece the final doubles match of the day, the Euro pairing of Mika Immonen and Marcus Chamat fought back from 4-0 down to tie the match up at 4-4 and leave opponents Earl Strickland and Rodney Morris reeling.

However, the match ended in controversial circumstances as Chamat time fouled after the cue ball ran out of position. The clock and audible bleep, which counts down the final five seconds, failed to go off properly and following deliberation with tournament officials, referee Michaela Tabb allowed the Swedish player to play the shot.



Figure 2: Andy Goldsteins shortest interview ever

He fouled though and from there, the Americans cleared to take the match.

By that time though Strickland's ever shortening fuse was about to blow. Firstly, he walked out on a live TV in-

terview with Sky Sports' presenter Andy Goldstein and then became embroiled in an unsightly slanging match with European supporters.

"You suck, you suck, all of London sucks!" yelled the three-time World Champion before being visibly restrained by his captain Johnny Archer.

Team USA has advanced to a 6-4 lead at the end of The Mosconi Cup's Day Two.

Team USA started the day with a 3-2 lead and stretched that lead to 4-2 when the team of Shawn Putnam and Charlie Williams defeated Thorsten Hohmann and Niels Feijen 5-4.

It looked like smooth sailing in the second match of the day as Shawn Putnam cruised to a 3-0 lead over Raj Hundal, but Hundal clawed back to tie the match at 4-4 and then fired in a 3-9 combo in the case game to get Team Europe back within one point at 4-3.



Figure 1: Marcus Chamat had time foul annulled.



Figure 3: Thorsten Hohmann and Niels Feijen

Team USA then pushed ahead 5-3 when the team of Johnny Archer and Jeremy Jones defeated Mika Immonen and Marcus Chamat 5-4.

Jeremy Jones had a chance to earn another match for Team USA but a miss on the 5-ball at hill-hill was his undoing and Thorsten Hohmann pulled Team Europe back within one match.

The final match of the day saw Earl Strickland and Rodney Morris team up to face Alex Lely and Raj Hundal. Lely and Hundal took an early 2-0 lead, but that was all they would get as Strick-



Figure 5: Alex Lely



Figure 4: Strickland and Morris Laid out a Five-Pack

land and Morris won five straight games for the match win.

US skipper Johnny Archer, partnered by Jeremy Jones, took Team America to the brink of Mosconi Cup glory as they completed victory over Thorsten Hohmann and Raj Hundal of Europe to move to the hill in the race to 11 competition.

Things started brightly for the Europeans as they won the opening doubles match to take themselves within one point of the Americans. It was all downhill from there though as the Americans proceeded to win the next four matches to make Sunday's play a formality

Mika Immonen's decision to change his doubles pairings around paid dividends as a rejuvenated Alex Lely, partnered by the rock solid Niels Feijen, went past the American duo of Shawn Putnam and Charlie Williams in the first match to pull the deficit back to just one point on day three of the 2005 Mosconi Cup.

In the second match of the day, Rodney Morris edged past Alex Lely in a topsy-turvy encounter which could have gone either way.



Figure 6: USA fans had lots to cheer about

Lely held an early 3-1 lead, but Morris clawed back to tie the match at 4-4 and a scratch by Lely late in the match was the chance that Morris needed to score the 5-4 win.

The next match saw Morris and Strickland face Chamat and Immonen in a match that was controlled by the US team. They took an early 2-0 lead and cruised to a 5-2 win to stretch the US lead to 3 points.

In the fourth match, Strickland and Chamat were right back in action against each other. The pair traded run-outs in the first two racks but Team Europe's bad luck on breaks continued as Chamat scratched in the center pocket in rack three.

Two more run-outs followed before Strickland produced a golden break courtesy of three kicks to send the 9 all the way up the table. Strickland then ran out and completed the routine victory after Chamat lost control of the table again in what proved to be the final rack.

The day ended with another US match win as the team of Jeremy Jones and Johnny Archer defeated Thorsten Hohmann and Raj Hundal 5-3 to take the US team to a 10-5 lead going into Sunday's play.

Jeremy Jones won the 2005 Mosconi Cup for Team USA by completing a final rack victory over 2003 World Champion Thorsten Hohmann.

Jones hadn't had the best week in Las Vegas, but held his nerve to defeat Hohmann and pot the winning 9-ball for the second time at the MGM Grand.

The European supporters erupted when Hohmann won the lag, taking the tournament's lag score to 12-6 in their favour.

He didn't have a shot on the 1, but a snooker induced a foul from Jones

and Hohmann cleared the table to take the lead.

Jones responded in kind but missed the 1-ball in the third after Hohmann left himself out of position from the break and couldn't continue his visit.

Hohmann attempted a cut but left it hanging, and Jones capitalised to turn the match on its head.

He then ran out again to take a two rack advantage, before Hohmann, clearly on edge, completed a clearance of his own to stay in contention.

Jones came up dry in the sixth, leaving a road map of a layout for Hohmann to draw level at 3-3.

Hohmann's break stroke was perfect in rack seven, but once again the rolls didn't go Europe's way and he was forced to push out, leaving Jones a half-chance on the 1, which he missed.

But the German scratched on his next visit, and Jones cleared to move to the hill, having to pull off an impressive recovery shot on the black 8 when he overran for position by around a metre.

The American's break wasn't kind in the penultimate rack, and he had to push out, before Hohmann put him back in.



Figure 7: Earl salutes "The Boss", Barry Hearn



Figure 8: USA Lifts the Cup...again

Jones' shot was poor, and Hohmann cleared to force a deciding rack.

The break almost produced a golden, but instead came up dry and Jones snookered Hohmann, who left the 1 on despite escaping with a solid shot of his own.

But Jones redeemed himself for an average tournament performance by clearing to seal the 2005 Mosconi Cup for Team USA.

"It's a good habit to have to pot the last 9, Jones smiled. "Day after day we got better and as a team we got better. I didn't play at my best, but I pulled it off at the end and it's great to win again."

"It's always great to win this event. It's been a long week and although nobody played especially well, everyone tried hard and showed heart. Sometimes you have to reach from the bottom and that's what my guys did, said a jubilant Archer.

"Europe showed heart but my team was awesome and looking at the guys you know you never have a shaky line up. Everyone has earned their place and we're all looking forward to next year," he added.

For Jeremy Jones, it was his second time potting the case ball, "It's a pretty good habit to have! I know I played better two years ago but as a team I'm happy we got win."

Team rookie Shawn Putnam was thrilled following his Mosconi Cup debut; "I made it my goal at the beginning of the year to make it on the team. That was a big honour in itself but winning was amazing!"

For Charlie Williams it was another enjoyable Mosconi Cup. "This is a real

special deal. We all came together as a team and that is a great experience that you get a lot out of," he said.

"I play for the fans and I want to put on a good show. The wins and the losses come and go but when the fans cheer that makes it worthwhile and those experiences last forever. When I play in the Mosconi I really want to enjoy every moment," said Rodney Morris.

Finally, it was a tearful Earl Strickland; "I'm really shocked I got Most Valuable Player award and I would like to apologise for what I said about London - it's a nice town!

"The people here know me and they know that in the heat of battle I can come undone. Team Europe gave it their best and eventually they will find a way to penetrate us.

"I'm 44 now and I don't know how long I've got left but I played like I was 24 this week."

For the Europeans, Mika Immonen had nothing but praise for his team, "I feel empty and this was my first time as captain. They played better than us but I'm proud of the team. We really worked hard and I've got nothing but thanks for the support they gave me as a captain."



Figure 9: Earl Strickland won the MVP

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.

NOVEMBER 30 - JANUARY 21

2017 Tennessee Regional 8-Ball Championships

11/30 - 12/03

JOB Billiards
Madison, TN
Website: <http://www.playcsipool.com/>

Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

12/02 - 12/02

Gate City Billiards Club
Greensboro, NC

Allout Pool Tour Stop 4

12/02 - 12/03

Shooters Billiards
Port St. Lucie, Florida

8andOut Florida Amateur One Pocket Tour Stop

12/03 - 12/03

Shooters Billiards
Port St. Lucie, Florida

Mosconi Cup XXIV

12/04 - 12/07

Mandalay Bay
Las Vegas, NV
Website: <http://www.matchroompool.com/page/MosconiCup/Home>

Allout Pool Tour Stop 5

12/09 - 12/10

K&K Billiards
Miami, Florida

Action Pool Tour 2017 Stop 12 Open Division

12/09 - 12/10

Q-Master Billiards
Virginia Beach, VA
Website: <http://www.actionpooltour.com>

24th Annual US Bar Table Championships

12/10 - 12/16

Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada

8andOut Florida Amateur One Pocket Tour Stop

12/10 - 12/10

K&K Billiards
Miami, Florida

Action Pool Tour 2017 Stop 12 Ladies Division

12/10 - 12/10

Q-Master Billiards
Virginia Beach, VA
Website: <http://www.actionpooltour.com>

West Coast Women's Tour 2017 Stop 7

12/16 - 12/17

Edge's Billiards
Milpitas, California
Website: <http://www.twcwt.com/>

Sunshine State Pro Am Tour 2017 Season Finale

12/16 - 12/17

Park Avenue Billiards
Orange Park, FL
Website: <http://www.sunshinestateproamtour.com/>

Carolina One Pocket Open

12/30 - 12/31

Gate City Billiards Club
Greensboro, NC

Turning Stone Classic XXIX 9-Ball Open

01/04 - 01/07

Turning Stone Casino
Verona, NY
Website: <http://www.joss9balltour.com/>

Joy Billiards World Chinese 8-Ball Masters 2018

01/07 - 01/12

Qinhuangdao Olympic Sports Center Stadium
Qinhuangdao, Hebei province
Website: <http://www.zs8q.com/>

2018 CSI Arizona State 8-Ball Championships

01/09 - 01/14

Casino Del Sol Resort
Tucson, Arizona
Website: <http://www.playcsipool.com/>

WPBA Regional Tour Championship 2018

01/11 - 01/14

Zingales Billiards
Tallahassee, Florida
Website: <http://www.wpba.com/>

Joss Tour 2017-2018 Stop 7

01/13 - 01/14

Brickhouse Billiards
N. Syracuse, New York
Website: <http://www.joss9balltour.com/>

West Coast Women's Tour 2018 Stop 8

01/20 - 01/21

Billiard Palacade
San Francisco, CA
Website: <http://www.twcwt.com/>

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Tourney Results

10/31 - 11/03

Predator Grand Finale

Steinway Billiards

Astoria, NY

1 Eklent Kaci	\$12,000
2 Petri Makkonen	\$7,000
3 Dennis Orcollo	\$5,000
3 Kun Lin Wu	\$5,000
5 Jung-Lin Chang	\$3,000
5 Jayson Shaw	\$3,000
5 Alexandros Kazakis	\$3,000
5 Damianos Giallourakis	\$3,000
9 Jeffrey De Luna	\$2,000
9 Alex Pagulayan	\$2,000
9 Chris Melling	\$2,000
9 Ruslan Chinakhov	\$2,000
9 Pin-Yi Ko	\$2,000
9 Shaun Wilkie	\$2,000
9 Yu-Lung Chang	\$2,000
9 Frankie Hernandez	\$2,000
17 Lee Vann Corteza	\$750
17 Johann Chua	\$750
17 Li Wen Lo	\$750
17 Ping-Chung Ko	\$750
17 Darren Appleton	\$750
17 Justin Bergman	\$750
17 Zion Zvi	\$750
17 Hunter Lombardo	\$750

11/02 - 11/05

2017 Desert Shootout

Griff's

Las Vegas, Nevada

1 Karen Corr	\$3,425
2 Allison Fisher	\$2,425
3 Vivian Villarreal	\$1,825
4 Eleanor Collado	\$1,825
5 Monica Webb	\$1,075
5 Line Kjoersvik	\$1,075
7 Teruko Cucculelli	\$900
7 Brittany Bryant	\$900
9 Mary Coffman	\$675
9 Jia Li	\$675
9 Tina Pawloski Malm	\$675
9 Emilyn Collado	\$675
13 Jeannie Seaver	\$475

13 Denise Belanger	\$475
13 Liz Cole	\$475
13 Pat Tipton	\$475
17 Sara Miller	\$325
17 Tam Trinh	\$325
17 Cassie Francois	\$325
17 Kim Jones	\$325
17 Kaylin Wykoff	\$325
17 Nathalie Chabot	\$325
17 Amanda Soucy	\$325
17 Heather Cortez	\$325

11/02 - 11/03

Highrock Challenge

Steinway Billiards

Astoria, NY

1 Lee Vann Corteza	\$2,500
2 Li Wen Lo	\$1,500
3 Johann Chua	\$1,000
3 Imran Majid	\$1,000
5 Espen Andersen	\$500
5 Mika Immonen	\$500
5 Roberto Gomez	\$500
5 Zion Zvi	\$500

11/04 - 11/05

OB Cues Ladies Tour 2017 Stop 6

Legends Billiards

League City, TX

11/04 - 11/05

Diamond Pool Tour 2017 Stop 8

Freezer's Ice House

Tempe, Az

11/04 - 11/05

Joss Tour 2017-2018 Stop 4 9th Annual Al Conte Memorial

Hippo's House of Billiards

Yorkville, NY

1 Ron Casanzio	\$1,000
2 John McConnell	\$700
3 Matt Tetreault	\$550
4 Jose Mendez	\$400

5 Mike Donnelly	\$250
5 Joe Darigis	\$250
7 Marko Clarke	\$125
7 Dwight Dixon	\$125

11/04 - 11/05

NYC 8-Ball Championships 2017 Grand Masters division

Steinway Billiards

Astoria, NY

1 Jorge Rodriguez	\$1,500
2 Alexandros Kazakis	\$1,000
3 Hunter Lombardo	\$600
4 Edwin Garcia	\$300

11/04 - 11/05

NYC 8-Ball Championships 2017 Mixed Masters division

Steinway Billiards

Astoria, NY

1 Brendan Traynor	\$1,100
2 Gary O'Callaghan	\$650
3 Robert Pole	\$400
4 Ramon Rodriguez	\$250

11/04 - 11/05

NYC 8-Ball Championships 2017 Men's Leisure division

Steinway Billiards

Astoria, NY

1 Corey Avallone	\$1,000
2 Jerry Vasquez	\$600
3 Bob DePasca	\$400
4 Izzy Matos	\$200
5 Michael Fedak	\$100
5 Mark Ogawa	\$100

11/04 - 11/05

NYC 8-Ball Championships 2017 Mixed Advanced division

Steinway Billiards

Astoria, NY

1 Alberto Estevez	\$1,500
2 Shawn Sookhai	\$1,000

3 Amir Uddin	\$600
4 Chris Kelly	\$450
5 Ryan Boursse	\$275
5 Thomas Schreiber	\$275
7 Annie Flores	\$150
7 Matthew Rezendes	\$150

11/04 - 11/05

NYC 8-Ball Championships 2017 Women's Leisure division

Steinway Billiards

Astoria, NY	
1 Suzzana Wong	\$1,000
2 Michelle Brotons	\$600
3 Michelle Ko	\$400
4 Jessica Gonzalez	\$200
5 Elia Rada	\$100
5 Latonia Taylor	\$100

11/04 - 11/05

NYC 8-Ball Championships 2017 Mixed Open division

Steinway Billiards

Astoria, NY	
1 Erick Carrasco	\$2,000
2 Stephen Augustus	\$1,400
3 Chuck Granville	\$950
4 Charlene Capers	\$650
5 Feng Zhao	\$400
5 Amu Yue Yu	\$400
7 Erin Bechner	\$200
7 Dave Weinstein	\$200
9 Matthias Gutzmann	\$100
9 Tony Ignomirello	\$100
9 Mac Jankov	\$100
9 Keith Stefanowitz	\$100

11/04 - 11/04

New England 9-Ball Series Stop #5

Buster's Billiards

Somersworth, NH	
1 Josh Rupard	\$400
2 Eli Davenport	\$200
3 Sam Khiev	\$150
4 Kassie Lam	\$100
5 Paul Laverdiere	\$80
5 Peter Rizzo, Sr.	\$80
7 Martin Flagg	\$60
7 Matt Gagne	\$60
9 Kerry McAuliffe	\$40
9 Geoff James	\$40

9 Bob Berry	\$40
9 George Morgan	\$40

11/04 - 11/05

Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop NC State 8-Ball Championships

Brown's Billiards

Raleigh, NC	
1 Mike Davis	\$700
2 Mark Tademy	\$500
3 Eddie Little	\$300
4 Joshua Padron	\$160

11/05 - 11/05

Tri State Tour 2017-2018

Steinway Billiards

Astoria, NY	
1 Geovani Hosang	\$535
2 Eugene Ok	\$260
3 Mike Strassberg	\$160
4 Esteban Morrell Jr.	\$100

11/07 - 11/13

East Coast Canadian 9-Ball Open

Almon Billiards

Halifax, Nova Scotia	
1 Mika Immonen	\$7,870
2 John Morra	\$5,902
3 Alex Pagulayan	\$3,935
4 Imran Majid	\$3,148
5 Vince Chrysler	\$2,361
5 Erik Hjorleifson	\$2,361
7 Rick Leon	\$1,967
7 Rob Hall	\$1,967
9 Adam Monture	\$1,574
9 Chris Dempsey	\$1,574
9 Magoo Dennis	\$1,574
9 Waleed Hashem	\$1,574
13 Al Smart	\$1,180
13 Colin MacDonald	\$1,180
13 Martin Daigle	\$1,180
13 Richard Young	\$1,180
17 Andre Doyle	\$787
17 Wayne Gallant	\$787
17 Lorne Allaire	\$787
17 James Taylor	\$787
17 Greg Wilson	\$787
17 Darrell Hatfield	\$787
17 Andrew Aupin	\$787
17 Gilles LeBlanc	\$787
25 Barry Peddle	\$590
25 Brian White	\$590
25 Carl Sampson	\$590

25 Kyle Henderson	\$590
25 Mark Potter	\$590
25 Rocky Johnson	\$590
25 Tim Brown	\$590
25 Jeff Kennedy	\$590

11/11 - 11/12

29th Ocean State 9-Ball Championship

Snookers Pool Lounge

Providence, RI	
1 Alexandros Kazakis	\$2,600
2 Jeremy Sossei	\$1,900
3 Eklent Kaci	\$1,500
4 Tom D'Alfonso	\$1,100
5 Jorge Rodriguez	\$800
5 Ron Casanzio	\$800
7 Paul Dryden	\$600
7 Zion Zvi	\$600
9 Everett Belliveau	\$400
9 Joe Dupuis	\$400
9 Steve Mack	\$400
9 Rich Kravetz	\$400
13 Ivaylo Petrov	\$250
13 Jared Demalia	\$250
13 Phil Davis	\$250
13 Lukas Fracasso-Verner	\$250
17 Jorge Teixeira	\$150
17 Ian McKelvey	\$150
17 Josiah Wall	\$150
17 Bucky Souvanthong	\$150
17 Al McGuane	\$150
17 Ben Savoie	\$150
17 Mike Pettit	\$150
17 Bruce Nagle	\$150

11/11 - 11/14

Accu Stats Make It Happen 8-Ball

Sandcastle Billiards

Edison, NJ	
1 Jayson Shaw	\$4,000
2 Corey Deuel	\$4,000
3 Joshua Filler	\$3,000
4 Darren Appleton	\$2,000
4 Dennis Orcollo	\$2,000
6 Shane Van Boening	\$1,000

11/11 - 11/12

Omega Billiards Tour 2017 Stop 11

The Billiard Den

Richardson, TX	
1 TJ Davis	\$1,000

2 Crispian Ng	\$730
3 Robert Clark	\$565
4 Chris Rickman	\$460
5 Ricki Lee Casper	\$350
5 Jalal Yousef	\$350
7 Mike Voelkering	\$250
7 Alberto Nieto	\$250
9 Juan Batista	\$110
9 Garrett Dalton	\$110
9 Justin Whitehead	\$110
9 Casey Dawson	\$110
13 Forest Boyd	\$75
13 Jack Lynch	\$75
13 Paul Guernsey	\$75
13 Tony Top	\$75
17 David Reyes	\$50
17 Brandon Thrasher	\$50
17 Robert Kempf	\$50
17 Donnie Gregory	\$50
17 Rick Stanley	\$50
17 Corey Flud	\$50
17 Barry Emerson	\$50
17 Denny Sneed	\$50

11/11 - 11/12

Q City 9-Ball Tour

Mr Cues 2

Atlanta, GA

1 Tim Orange	\$600
2 Jeff Crawford	\$450
3 Jeff Hooks	\$250
4 Raoul Aviles	\$125
5 Raed Shabib	\$50
5 Derek Fountain	\$50

11/11 - 11/11

SE Open 9-Ball Tour Stop

Uncle Waldo's Billiards

Daytona Beach, FL

1 Tommy Kennedy	\$800
2 Michael Delawder	\$500
3 Ricardo Rodriguez	\$400
4 David Grossman	\$300
5 Jim Sandaler	\$200
5 Anthony Meglino	\$200
7 David Singleton	\$150
7 Gary Gilsinan	\$150

11/12 - 11/12

Tri State Tour 2017-2018 Stop

Steinway Billiards

Astoria, NY

1 Max Watanabe	\$750
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2 Jaydev Zaveri	\$500
3 Dementhriss Hudson	\$300
4 Allison LaFleur	\$200
5 Geovani Hosang	\$120
5 Michelle Brotons	\$120
7 Zouraz Ellhai	\$90
7 Feng Zhao	\$90
9 Dave Shlemperis	\$60
9 Thomas Schreiber	\$60
9 Jimmy Martinez	\$60
9 Jamie Parker	\$60

11/15 - 11/18

Accu Stats Make It Happen

Straight Pool

Sandcastle Billiards

Edison, NJ

1 Jayson Shaw	\$5,000
3 Corey Deuel	\$3,000
2 Joshua Filler	\$3,000
4 Shane Van Boening	\$2,000
4 Dennis Orcollo	\$2,000
6 Darren Appleton	\$1,000

11/16 - 11/18

Dynamic Treviso Open

Italy

1 Wiktor Zielinski	\$5,283
2 Mario He	\$3,522
3 Denis Grabe	\$2,054
3 Eklent Kaci	\$2,054
5 Aleksa Pecelj	\$1,467
5 Niels Feijen	\$1,467
5 Daryl Peach	\$1,467
5 Albin Ouschan	\$1,467
9 Phillip Stojanovic	\$1,174
9 Fedor Gorst	\$1,174
9 Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz	\$1,174
9 Wojciech Sroczynski	\$1,174
9 Daniele Corrieri	\$1,174
9 Marck Kudlik	\$1,174
9 Mark Gray	\$1,174
9 Maximilian Lechner	\$1,174
17 Roman Hybler	\$587
17 Maksim Dudanets	\$587
17 Marc Bijsterbosch	\$587
17 Nick Malai	\$587
17 Ivar Saris	\$587
17 Petri Makkonen	\$587
17 Wojciech Szewczyk	\$587
17 Mieszko Fortunski	\$587
17 Kim Laaksonen	\$587
17 David Alcaide	\$587

17 Stefan Huber	\$587
17 Ivo Aarts	\$587
17 Valery Kuloyants	\$587
17 Piotr Kudlik	\$587
17 Oliver Szolnoki	\$587
17 Abdulrahman Alammar	\$587
33 Jani Siekkinen	\$293
33 Nick Ekonomopoulos	\$293
33 Jose Delgado	\$293
33 Pierfrancesco Garzia	\$293
33 Matjaz Erculj	\$293
33 Arjan Matrizi	\$293
33 Tim De Ruyter	\$293
33 Sebastian Staab	\$293
33 Daniel Maciol	\$293
33 Oliver Ortmann	\$293
33 Evgeny Buslaev	\$293
33 Christian Sparrenloev - Fischer	\$293
33 Sergey Lutsker	\$293
33 Jakub Koniar	\$293
33 Ralf Souquet	\$293

11/16 - 11/26

All Japan Open Championship 2017

Archaic hall

Amagasaki-city,

1 Johann Chua	\$17,780
2 Jundel Mazon	\$8,890
3 Haitao Liu	\$4,445
3 Yu-Lung Chang	\$4,445
5 Jeffrey De Luna	\$2,223
5 Yu-Hsuan Cheng	\$2,223
5 Aloysius Yapp	\$2,223
5 Jeffrey Ignacio	\$2,223
9 Antonio Lining	\$1,116
9 Lee Vann Corteza	\$1,116
9 Quoc Hoang Duong	\$1,116
9 Ping-Chung Ko	\$1,116
9 Warren Kiamco	\$1,116
9 Marco Teutscher	\$1,116
9 Thorsten Hohmann	\$1,116
9 Masato Asano	\$1,116
17 Li Shi Yu	\$563
17 Carlo Biado	\$563
17 Hayato Hijikata	\$563
17 Kun Lin Wu	\$563
17 Bing Jie Chu	\$563
17 Seung Woo Ryu	\$563
17 Aaron Koh	\$563
17 Muhammad Bewi Simanjuntak	\$563

17 Hiroshi Takenaka	\$563
17 Ryosuke Maruoka	\$563
17 Kenichi Uchigaki	\$563
17 Jung-Lin Chang	\$563
17 Norio Ogawa	\$563
17 Kasper Kristoffersen	\$563
17 Tadasu Sugihara	\$563
17 Yoshioka Masato	\$563

11/16 - 11/26

All Japan Open Championship 2017 Women's Division

Archaic hall

Amagasaki-city,	
1 Siming Chen	\$4,946
2 Miyuki Kuribayashi	\$2,473
3 Yun Mi Lim	\$1,236
3 Chie Fujita	\$1,236
5 Mariko Nibo	\$623
5 Rieko Haji	\$623
5 Akimi Kajitani	\$623
5 Yuuki Hiraguchi	\$623
9 Reiko Motohiro	\$316
9 Tomoko Kubota	\$316
9 Yu-Wen Hsieh	\$316
9 Izui Saeko	\$316
9 Tzu-Chien Wei	\$316
9 Shi Ting Kui	\$316
9 Chihiro Kawahara	\$316
9 Han Yu	\$316

11/18 - 11/19

Predator Pro-Am Tour 2017 Stop 18

CueBar Billiards

Bayside, NY	
1 Mike Salerno	\$1,300
2 Dave Callaghan	\$900
3 Troy Deocharran	\$600
4 Lidio Ramirez	\$400
5 Eugene Ok	\$250
5 Ambi Estevez	\$250
7 Annie Flores	\$200
7 Patrick Meyers	\$200
9 Justin Muller	\$140
9 Brooke Meyer	\$140
9 Tony Ignomirello	\$140
9 Frank Tonn	\$140
13 Matthew Harricharan	\$80
13 Juan Melendez	\$80
13 Robert Pole	\$80
13 Thomas Schreiber	\$80

11/18 - 11/19

Joss Tour 2017-2018 Stop 6

Union Station Billiards

Portland, Maine	
1 Cody Francis	\$1,050
2 Dave Hall	\$750
3 Bruce Nagle	\$550
4 Jeremy Sossei	\$400
5 Josh Rupard	\$250
5 Ivaylo Petrov	\$250
7 Jim Hayden	\$150
7 Rich Kravetz	\$150

11/18 - 11/19

JPNEWT Tour 2017 Stop 8

Triple 9 Bar & Billiards

Elkridge, MD	
1 Briana Miller	\$800
2 Linda Haywood Shea	\$450
3 Jackie Rivera	\$330
4 Kathy Friend	\$150
5 Sharon O'Hanlon	\$100
5 Judie Wilson	\$100

11/18 - 11/19

Sunshine State Pro Am Tour 2017 Stop 9 OPEN

Capone's Billiard Lounge

Spring Hill, FL	
1 Benji Buckley	\$1,000
2 Don Branson	\$700
3 Jason Sheerman	\$475
4 Mubarak Sulaiman	\$310
5 Anthony Meglino	\$210
5 Jerry Sullivan	\$210
7 Donny Mills	\$150
7 Rodney Morris	\$150
9 Tony Crosby	\$100
9 Jessica Karacia-Human	\$100
9 Bobby Garza	\$100
9 Nathan Rose	\$100
13 Mark Wathen	\$65
13 Tommy Kennedy	\$65
13 Moe Fattah	\$65
13 Sam Kantar	\$65

11/18 - 11/18

New England 9-Ball Tour Stop #6

Straight Shooters Family Billiards

Fall River, MA	
1 Patrick O'Connor	\$475
2 Rob Pina	\$275

3 Kevin Brule	\$140
4 Adam Blair	\$120
5 Dennis Levesque	\$80
5 Scott Reynolds	\$80
7 Mark Young	\$60
7 Todd Yarborough	\$60

11/18 - 11/19

Eurotour Women's 9-Ball Open

Academy Baccara

Braga, Portugal	
1 Marharyta Fefilava	\$939
2 Katarzyna Wesolowska	\$704
3 Kristina Tkach	\$469
3 Nataliya Seroshtan	\$469
5 Oliwia Czuprynska	\$352
5 Kateryna Polovinchuk	\$352
5 Tina Vogelmann	\$352
5 Ana Gradisnik	\$352

11/18 - 11/18

Sunshine State Pro Am Tour 2017 Stop 9 AMATEUR

Capone's Billiard Lounge

Spring Hill, FL	
1 James Adams	\$750
2 Ricardo Rodriguez	\$500
3 Estel Walton	\$330
4 Moe Fattah	\$240
5 Jeremy Bell	\$160
5 Sam Kantar	\$160
7 Dennis Brown	\$95
7 Dave Ross	\$95

11/18 - 11/18

Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop HANDI-CAPPED

Q-Master Billiards

Virginia Beach, VA	
1 Reymart Lim	\$600
2 Eric Moore	\$400
3 Bill Duggan	\$175
4 Nil Lim	\$125

11/19 - 11/19

Joss Tour 2017-2018 Stop 6 Second Chance

Union Station Billiards

Portland, Maine	
1 Mark Stewart	\$300
2 Chad Bazinet	\$200
3 Dan Couture	\$140

Monthly Results

4 Demian Provost	\$100
5 Dillon Nickerson	\$50
5 Ross Webster	\$50

11/19 - 11/19

Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

Q-Master Billiards

Virginia Beach, VA	
1 R.J. Carmona	\$350
2 Reymart Lim	\$200
3 Eric Moore	\$125

11/25 - 11/26

Predator Pro-Am Tour 2017 Stop 20

Steinway Billiards

Astoria, NY	
1 Annie Flores	\$1,400
2 Junior Singh	\$950
3 Jose Kuilan	\$600
4 Gary O'Callaghan	\$400
5 Jimmy Acosta	\$250
5 Matthias Gutzmann	\$250
7 Bianca Martinez	\$200
7 Raphael Dabreo	\$200

9 Miguel Laboy	\$150
9 Elvis Rodriguez	\$150
9 Keith Jawahir	\$150
9 Juan Melendez	\$150
13 Ron Bernardo	\$100
13 Lidio Ramirez	\$100
13 Kris Bisram	\$100
13 Duc Lam	\$100

11/25 - 11/26

Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

Cue Time Sports Bar & Grill

Spartanburg, SC	
1 Jeff Jordan	\$600
2 Michael Chapman	\$400
3 Justin Clark	\$275
4 Tyler Mayfield	\$125
5 Chad Vinesett	\$50
5 Jen Polik	\$50

11/26 - 11/26

Tri State Tour 2017-2018 Stop

Clifton Billiards

Clifton, New Jersey	
1 Mark Alicea	\$470

2 Frank Sieczka	\$270
3 Pashk Gjini	\$170
4 Mike Mele	\$100
5 Mac Jankov	\$60
5 Jowen Picardo	\$60
7 Matt Klein	\$40
7 Michelle Brotons	\$40

11/26 - 11/26

New England 9-Ball Series Stop #7

Maxamillian's Billiards

Tyngsboro, Ma	
1 Mourad Idris	\$400
2 Rick Gatta	\$200
3 Joe Callaluca	\$150
4 Lozar Gurevich	\$110
5 Bill Phillips	\$80
5 Mark Morgan	\$80
7 Eli Davenport	\$40
7 Mike Nicoloso	\$40



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