

# Billiards Buzz

an 

vol.2, Issue March 2018



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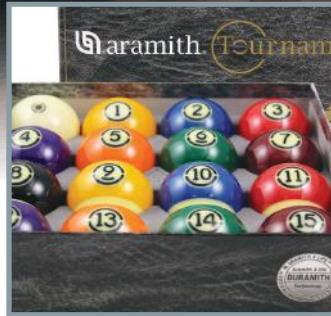
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# FROM THE Head Rail

MIKE HOWERTON

**Last month, I mentioned that Dave Bond (of American Billiard Radio) had passed away. While the pool world lost a very energetic and passionate contributor, I wanted to make sure it also didn't lose all of the work that Dave had done.**

I contacted the hosting company that the American Billiard Radio website is with, and tried to find any way that I could make sure that the site stayed online. Understandably, I had no luck. With that in mind, I decided the only way to make sure those shows were not lost was to find them a new home. I registered a new domain at poolpodcasts.com and downloaded all of the episodes that Dave had posted online so I could post them there. Since Jerry Forsyth and I had our own podcast (Runout Radio) many years ago, I thought this new site would be a good place to host those shows too.

I also contacted a couple of the regular contributors to American Billiard Radio and discussed how we could keep Dave's dream alive. Both Mark Cantrill and Melinda Bailey volunteered to help any way they could and we decided to try to keep the show alive at the new site. I considered whether I wanted to do it as Runout Radio or American Billiard Radio. That decision came down to what I was hoping to accomplish with it. Was I filling the void of the billiard world not having a regular podcast, or was I filling the void of the billiard world not having American Billiard Radio. I decided it was the latter, so American Billiard Radio was the decision.

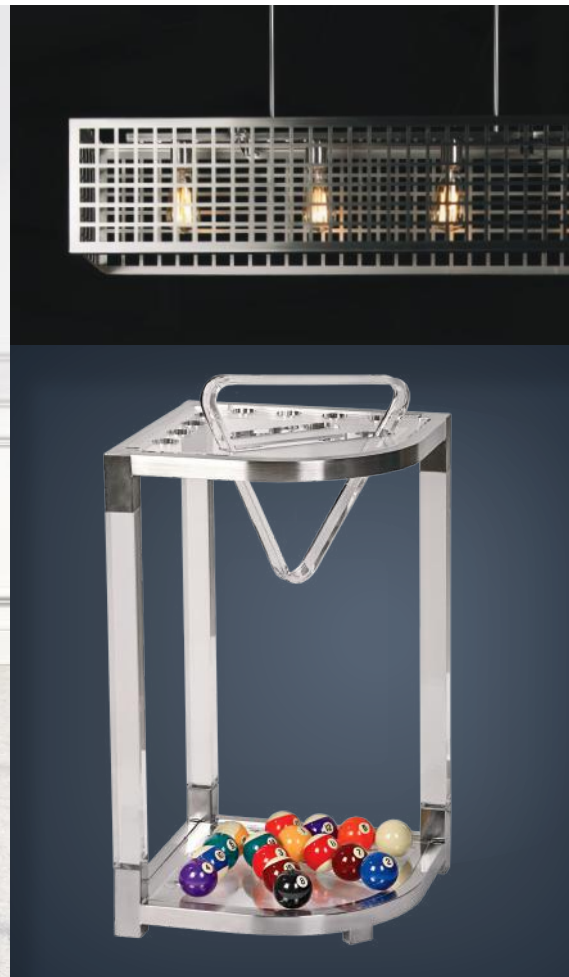
Check in each Thursday night at 7pm MST for (hopefully) a new episode at poolpodcasts.com



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**22** COVER FEATURE:

## Celebrating 20 years of Bank Pool, One Pocket, and 9-Ball

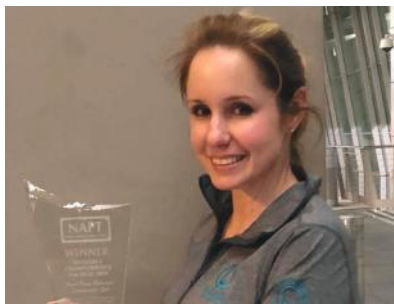
David Thomson  
(Mediumpool.com)



**12** Charlie Smith Interview  
Melinda Bailey



**28** Strickland Crowned Living Legends Challenge Champion  
AzB Staff



**32** Tina Malm Wins NAPT Division II Championship  
AzB Staff

**6** Why Do We Miss So Many Kick Shots?  
Jerry Briesath

**8** The Mark of a Champion!  
Anthony Beeler

**10** Learn about getting in your personal ZONE  
Dr. Chris Stankovich

**30** Hjorleifson goes undefeated to win 22nd Annual Jay Swanson (Swanee) Memorial  
Skip Maloney

**33** NAPT Announces New and Returning Board Members for 2018

**34** 2018 Mosconi Cup - Ruijsink Returns as American Captain  
Matchroom Sport

**35** Filler And Boyes Join Mansionbet Masters  
Matchroom Sport

**36** APA Junior Championships Move to Saint Louis  
American Pool Players Association

**38** On The Wire Creative Media Partners With The Billiard Education Foundation

**40** 8 Personality Traits of Successful Business Owners  
Kristin Butterfield

**42** Upcoming Tournaments

**46** Tourney Results

# ***Why Do We Miss So Many Kick Shots?***



**JERRY BRIESATH**

**First, let's talk about kicking at an object ball in the corner pocket. Place the cue ball in front of the side pocket on the same side of the table as the object ball.**

**A**ll the books say that if the cue ball is in front of diamond four, which it is, then you strike the opposite rail at a point that is in front of diamond two to pocket the object ball. Mathematically, that is the perfect angle. The books always say that if the ball goes into the rail at 20 degrees, it comes out at 20 degrees, but the books never tell you about the variables that occur on every pool table.

First you must know that for a table to be consistent when kicking at balls, it is important that you strike the cue ball at least one tip above center and keep the speed moderate to slow.

If you attempt the shot that I explained above on a brand-new cloth,

the cue ball will curve down and hit the end rail, missing the object ball. Now the variables come in. A new cloth is so slippery that when the cue ball strikes the rail, the rail does not rub off all of the over spin that you put on the cue ball, causing it to swerve away from you after it leaves the rail. So, on a new cloth you may not only have to aim at the second diamond, you may even have to aim an inch above the second diamond to allow for the curve and pocket the object ball.

Another interesting fact is that the farther away from the object ball you move the cue ball, the more it will curve after striking the rail.

Try placing the cue ball six diamonds away from that object ball and you'll find that on a new cloth you'd have to aim about three inches above the third diamond to pocket the object ball.

As the cloth starts to wear, it becomes less and less slippery and the angles become truer.

So before you play a match, it's a good idea to test the table by placing the cue ball in front of the side pocket and finding out how much you must adjust to pocket it in the corner pocket and then doing the same thing from diamond six.

Good luck — Jerry

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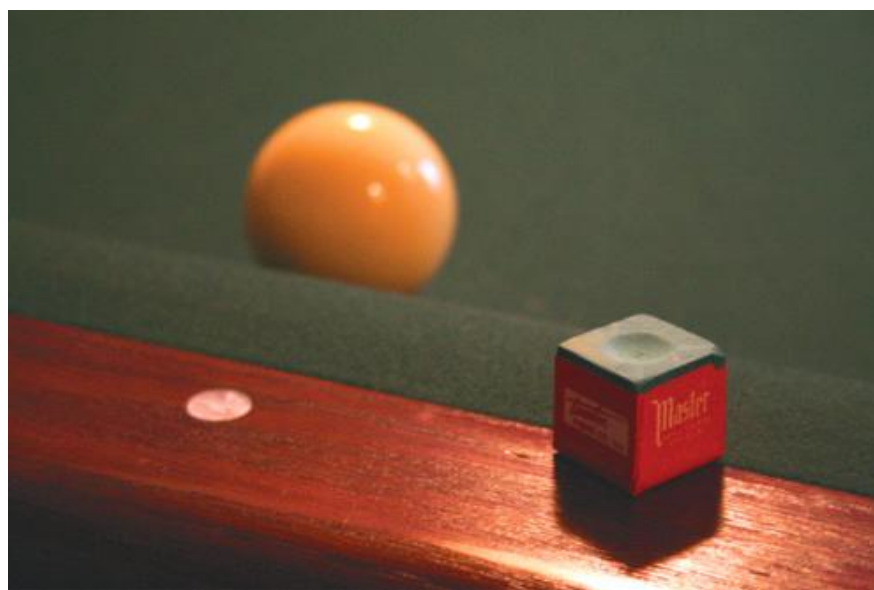
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# THE MARK OF A CHAMPION!

ANTHONY **BEELER**

**Rudolf “Minnesota Fats” Wanderone once said, “Great players know that playing good just don’t cut the mustard.” There’s a lot of truth to what he said. Most pro players know that if they get too concerned about not being bad, they might not free themselves up enough to play to their potential.**



**I**f you truly love pool, you must enjoy the fact that it is a very difficult game. If you spend time challenging the fact that pool is a game of errors and worry over trying to make it into a game that’s simple, you’re really trying to take all of the “fun” out of the game. In fact, in over 500 years of play, no one has ever completely mastered pool—not Willie Mosconi, not Steve Mizerak, not Shane Van Boening...and for that matter, I don’t believe that anyone ever will.

When I see a pool player become irritated over a poorly struck shot, I know

one thing for sure: they are not playing in the “present.” The player’s mind is lingering somewhere in the past, focused on something that they no longer have control over.

Most pool players refuse to accept mistakes. But in pool, mistakes are unavoidable. Accepting them is not a weakness. It’s an important part of developing mental toughness and being able to recover from mistakes that you have made in the past. Nothing should bother or upset you when you are at the table, and you should have a positive mindset on every single shot.

Acceptance should be practiced during every single game. After the match is over, it’s fine to make a quick assessment of where you made your mistakes. Reflection is an important part of becoming a better player. However, being able to control when you reflect is the mark of a champion.

In fact, confident players think about what they are going to do when they return to the table. Those that lack confidence think about the things they don’t want to happen. Given two players of equal ability, the more confident one will win most of the time. The reason they win is because they believe they are going to. If you play with confidence, you will respond well.

When pool players are in the “DEAD SROKE,” it’s almost like they have a “Video Game Controller” linking their mind to the cue ball. They think about nothing else. They are completely focused. The possibility of missing or scratching does not exist. Once they have decided what to do, the only thing that is on their mind is execution.

To play subconscious pool, you must trust your stroke, and believe that your strategy will work. That’s easy

**Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.**

**-Winston Churchill**

to say, even harder to do. Once you miss hit a ball or two, your trust begins to diminish. Players try to fix their stroke, and start thinking mechanically. Thinking this way is quite rational. If your stroke causes you to miss a shot, there is obviously some type of mechanical problem. Why should you trust a faulty stroke? The answer is that no one has a perfect stroke, and over analyzing your mechanics isn't going to make things better.

The more I watch the best pool players in the world, the more I'm convinced

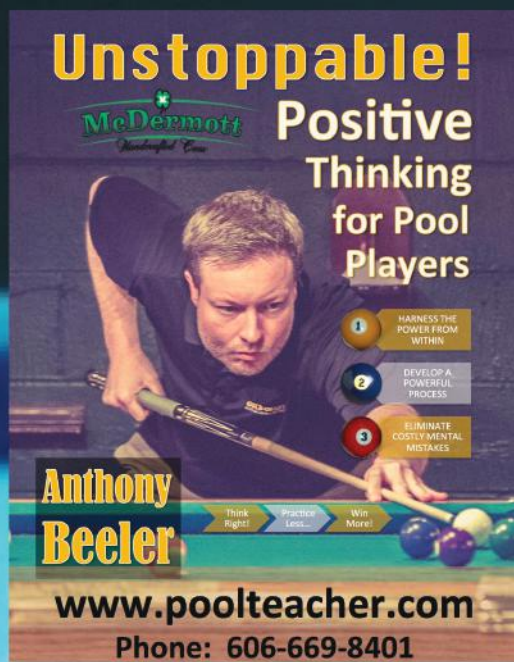
what separates the "professionals" from the "amateurs" is not how precise they are at playing position. It's their proficiency at pocketing crucial shots in high-pressure situations. Professional players understand that difficult shots are an important part of the game. So stop belittling yourself if you miss. Missing a ball only means you are human.

Players that compete with a positive attitude don't get upset when they

miss a difficult shot. They figure that everyone's going to miss sooner or later and accepting the fact that you will miss on occasion is one way that you can separate yourself from your opponents. Instead of worrying about a miss, think of how devastating it will be for your opponent if you pocket that long, difficult shot. Nothing discourages an opponent any more than losing a game they thought they would win.

**ANTHONY BEELER** is the 2017 Pool Instructor of the Year and is a former BCA-PL 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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The Sports Doc - Dr. CHRIS STANKOVICH  
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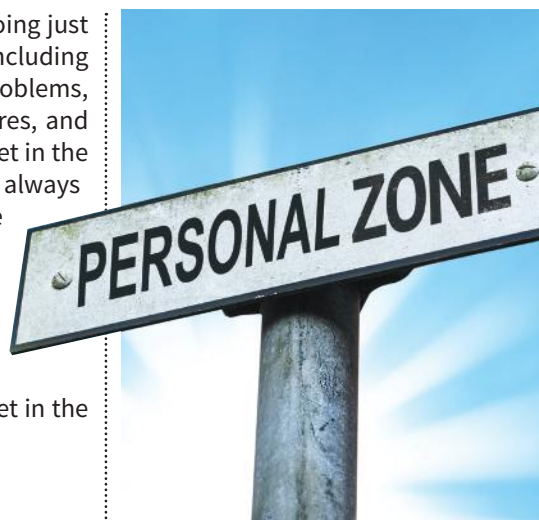
**P**eople get in the zone doing just about anything in life, including working out math problems, doing puzzles, painting pictures, and yes, playing pool. When we get in the zone the balls just seem to always find the hole, and the cue ends up in perfect position for the next shot. If you have played pool long enough you know exactly what I am talking about, but the big question remains: How do I get in the zone?

## **Arousal levels**

Arousal is human energy, and the easiest way to think about it is to draw a line where on one end is low arousal (like when you are just about ready to fall asleep) and on the other end high arousal (when a fire alarm unexpectedly goes off). When examining the zone, being on either one of these extreme ends won't help you get in the zone for the following reasons:

### **Low arousal**

When you are tired and lethargic (low arousal), your focus and attention drifts and wanders and doesn't give you the focus and motivation needed to play in the zone. One way players fall trap to this is by consistently playing against lesser competition where they know that even if they are only



half-invested they will still beat the opponent.

### **High arousal**

Similar to low arousal, high arousal states don't help with getting in the zone, either. When we are super amped up, our focus shrinks, we panic, and we often try to be too perfect rather than just playing naturally. Our bodies also respond when we are in a high arousal state by prompting a



rapid heart rate, shallow breathing, and tense muscles (that take away from precise muscle movement needed for key shots on the table).

### **The zone is in between arousal ends**

The best way to think about the zone is by understanding how to stay in the middle of low and high arousal. For example, when you are flat and disinterested in playing (low arousal), should you be playing against better competition that will make you up your game? On the other hand, if you are regularly stressed out and overaroused, it might make sense to really learn all that you can about how to relax your mind and body, and thereby allow yourself to play more comfortably. The good news is that you can learn about your own arousal level by simply paying attention; from there it's up to you to employ the right strategy for the situation presented.

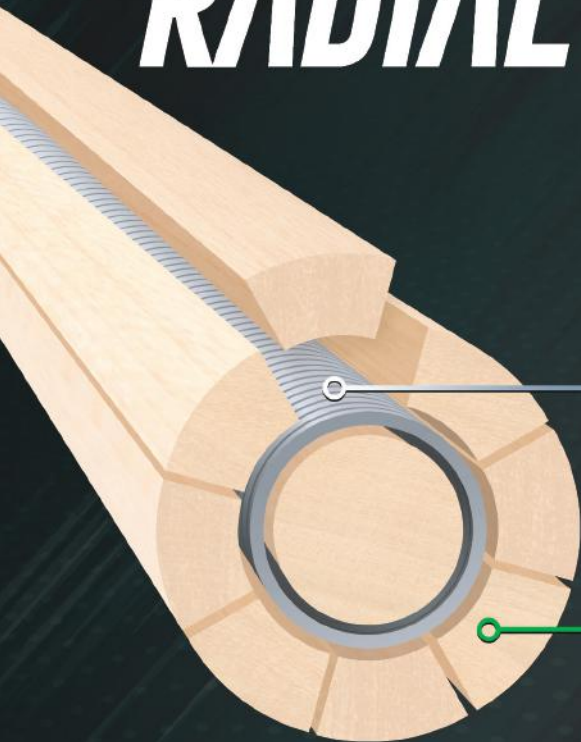
*Dr. Chris Stankovich, known as “The Sports Doc,” is a national expert in the field of sport & performance psychology and has been featured on ESPN for his work with elite athletes. His #1 best selling pool video “Mind of Steel: Mental Toughness for Pool Success” has been used by thousands of players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

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# Charlie Smith Interview

Charlie Smith lives in North Texas and has been playing pool longer than a lot of you and I have been alive (he's 71 years old and been playing since the age of 10).

**H**e and his wife Nancy have been through a lot of tough times, and are great examples of how love, respect and determination, all with a great sense of humor, helps them live life with perseverance. You will be very surprised with this interview. My hope is everyone learns from Charlie and Nancy:

**Q:** *When and where did you start playing pool?*

**A:** I started playing about 10 years old in a bowling alley where I bowled in Dallas. I was on a 2-man team with a friend and we won state two years in a row in the 11-12 age group. I lost interest in bowling about that time and

turned toward playing pool because they put some 9ft tables in two years prior. My dad was not a pool player, but had played some and told me to pursue any interest I had and to "just put in your best effort" like any other sports I played in. I was the only child and my mother was overprotective of me and did not want me playing phys-

BRING ON THE  
CELEBRATION

Charlie Smith

ical sports (but I would sneak and play in the fields behind her back). About 14, my mother and dad bought me a pool table from Sears and put it in the living room and I played on it every single day. When I got my motorcycle license, I would go back to the bowling alley on Saturday's and play with a WWII vet with one arm. They had moved the pool tables to a back room and had added a snooker table, and he only played on that table so I started playing snooker. By the age of 16 I was gambling with the guys and beating 80% of them in the bowling alley, and a year later beating them all. Then about 18 I had my ID fixed to show that I was 21 so I could get into pool rooms and bars to gamble. I still enjoy playing the game today, but now it's to see if I can dig deep enough to play a little like I used too. The game, the people, and environment today is totally different than back then.

**Q:** *Have you ever lived anywhere else besides Texas?*

**A:** Yes! Nancy and I lived in Clarksville, Tennessee about a year while I was stationed at Ft. Campbell Kentucky.

**Q:** *How did you get your nickname, "Papa Red."*

**A:** I was called "Red" all my life and all the pool players knew me as "Red" with my red hair and red beard! I bounced in bars in the 70's and they called me "Big Red" so that became the name everyone knew me by. After my granddaughter was born a friend said, "You're now "Papa Red," so this is how the "Papa Red" came about!

**Q:** *You and your lovely wife, Nancy, have been married for 52 years and met in high school. What is the secret to a long-lasting, solid marriage?*

**A:** Her cooking, now why in the hell would I let her get away?! We were married 10/29/1965 and Nancy

is the solid part of this Smith family! We have a good relationship in every aspect. We love each other, our kids, and grandkids and enjoy spending time together. We know all marriages sometimes need alone time and we have no problem and understand this. Trust is the one thing you have to have and know your partner. I would be gone sometimes for a couple days playing pool and gambling, but I never used our bill money. People would tell Nancy that they would never let their husbands do that. We never let our parents or anyone influence our trust or love for each other. Nancy always knew where I was. If Nancy, her sister, some girls, or wives wanted a night out, no problem. Now as a married couple we had our disagreements, but we worked through them with love and respect for each other. There is no perfect marriage or relationship in this world, but you have to be a team *together*. We hear the saying that marriage is a 50/50 deal, but that's not a marriage - they are just trying to survive. Sometimes Nancy gives 100% and I take a 100%, or vice versa. The one thing I can say is, in my life the proudest accomplishment was the day Nancy said YES.

**Q:** *In 1979 you had a motorcycle accident. Tell us about that day, including your recovery.*

**A:** This is one of the hardest times in our marriage. I was bouncing at a club but had to be at work to oversee a project at 2am. My sister-in-law's boyfriend came in and said the motorcycle gang (Banshees) wanted to fight him because he rode up on a 125 motorcycle and was drunk. I went outside and saw Animal (the head of the gang) who was a friend and we went to school together. I told them the guy was my friend and to tell the guys to back off... and he did that for me. Well, I told the guy to let me take his bike and he take my truck because he was drunk, and I would follow him before I went in to work.

I was following him on a 6 lane highway with guardrails in the middle and a drop off on both sides that was down to the Trinity River. The city had turned off the overhead lights because it was in a "city saving energy crisis." I was in the middle lane and he was in the outside lane [right lane], and there was wrecker truck behind me in the inside lane [left lane], and another car was behind the wrecker. We approached the rail road bridge going over the tracks (not a normal bridge but more of an up and down one like a motocross jump) and as he got to the top, he moved over into my lane. As any person that rides would know, knowing the wrecker was behind me to my left, I therefore went right. There was a parked pickup with a drunk guy passed out inside the truck on the outside lane, partially blocking the middle lane. I was doing 60mph and as I switched lanes, yep, it was too late to avoid the impact. He had an extended iron bumper and a cab-over-camper. I did not wear helmets when I rode and as I hit, I tried to jump up and I cross my arms over my face, but my legs hit the handle bars and threw me into the cab. As I hit the ground, I was crawling onto the median, but the car behind the wrecker ran over my legs. I remember trying to rub my head where I had a cut, but the wrecker driver held my arms down because my wrist was almost torn off and the bones were sticking out. I also remember being loaded into the ambulance and them asking what hospital I wanted to go to, I said Baylor and one of the paramedics said, "Sir you need to go to Parkland" [a trauma center] and I said ok and then passed out.

This is the part I still think about today. I woke up in a hallway strapped down with a sheet over my face (only in the past few years have I been able to let a sheet touch my face when going to sleep). I started trying to get loose and couldn't, then I heard someone say, "Man that corpse sure has strong

muscle retractions.” I remember I couldn’t talk at first so I just kept trying to get loose and the two guys were laughing. Finally I said, “Get me loose from here!” One of the guys jerked the sheet off my face and I said, “A corpse?!” and everything went crazy. They were pushing me down the hall and yelling for people to help. To this day I don’t understand why or how I woke up (I had died). I passed out again and woke up with doctors and nurses all around me. I asked what was going on and the doctor said, “You were in a bad motorcycle accident. Lie still.” I asked him, “I know, but why won’t you let me up?” He told me, “Your arms and legs are broken.”

About 3 days later after surgery and 40 pints of blood, I woke up with a tube down my throat and metal rods through both arms and legs. I’m lying there and remember what I’ve been told that if you get air in your blood veins you will die. Well, I can’t talk and I see all this air in the IV line the nurse was changing and I start jumping and struggling trying to get up and the nurse and Nancy come over and try to hold me still asking what’s wrong, but I can’t talk - just mumbling. I accept the fact that I just lived through a terrible accident and now I going to die from the air in the IV lines! A few days later they removed the breathing tube and asked me why I was jumping so much that day, and I told them and they laughed at me saying, “It takes much more air than that!”

Then about two weeks later the doctor said, “We can’t save your right leg - it’s not responding to feeling and we can remove it or leave it with very few muscles and blood veins which will cause problems down the road.” I asked the doctor what would he do, he said, “Remove it.” I told them, “Then let’s get it done so I can get off my back and start moving around and lifting weights again.” I heard him tell Nancy that I would be in a wheel-



Nancy and Charlie

chair the rest of my life and if I were a normal man I would not have survived, but my muscle density was so massive that it saved my life, other leg, and arms. Lifting weights 7 days a week saved my life! The doctor told me, “With 17 compound fractures and the total loss of blood, we can’t explain why you are still here. You died on the way to the hospital and twice during surgery, but came back.”

After they removed my leg they sent in a team of psychologists to talk to me. They said they were there to discuss my limb loss. I replied, “What’s to discuss?” They wanted to talk about my thoughts about it. I told them to get out of my room, “I was crazy before this and I’m still crazy, so leave!” Even my cousin who was there stood up and told them to leave, so they finally did.

Nancy stayed by my side in the hospital and at home. She changed bandages and cleaned the open wound in my femur and packed gauze around the bone at home. The doctors praised her for keeping the wound clean. Nancy also changed IV’s and learned to take care of me just as a nurse would. I am very blessed.

I was 6’2” and 228lbs and now I’m 5’10” and 240. Now I’ve got what you call furniture disease, my chest fell into

my drawers! I went from 228 lbs to 105 lbs in 72 days. The doctor told me being in good shape with the weight lifting and all the muscles I built up kept me alive the 72 days because my body pulled the protein from them. Being a veteran, they transferred me to the Veterans Affairs (VA) Hospital in Dallas where I spent 10 months in rehab. During that time, they took the medal rods out and started force-bending my wrist and leg, later making me a leg prostheses to get me mobile.

**Q:** *It’s amazing you survived all that; oh my goodness! And you received quite a bit of blood.*

**A:** Yes. I received 40 pints of blood in the first week and a total of 75 pints in the 72 days at Parkland. Captains from several sports called their players to give blood, and so did friends from the motorcycle gang, and people from the places I bounced at came and gave blood because of a shortage of type A. As a matter of fact, our rival in the softball league was a team of all black players (called the Black Knights) and they used to pick me up sometimes to play in a tournament that we were not playing in. That captain called all the players in the league to give blood. He came to check on me after about two weeks when I was awake and coherent. He was 6’4” and



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## Melinda Bailey

285 and came in and gave Nancy a hug and he asked how I was doing. They talked outside the room and when he came in standing beside my bed, he saw my food tray wasn't touched. He said, "Red, can I go get you something better than this hospital food?" I looked at him and said, "Terry I've had the craziest craving." He was excited to help, "Anything you want - I'll go now and get it!" I told him, "Man I got this craving for chitlins." He said, "WHAT?!" And I said, "Since all you guys gave me blood, I have black blood in me now and I'm hungry for chitlins!" We starting laughing and he looked at Nancy and said, "Red will be alright." He went back to work and told everyone the story, "Red is his normal self again and will be OK."

**Q:** That's so funny! Speaking of having a great attitude, while you were at the VA, they recognized your positive attitude and asked you if you would consider talking with the kids at Scottish Rites Hospital with disabilities. How long did you help the kids at Rites hospital? Was it tough to see all the kids with disabilities and was it tough to relive your injury? How did you remain positive for them?

**A:** I was asked to join two other vets that were already helping out and I was happy to help. Since I had a house built in the small town near Lake Texoma, I only went twice a week because of the distance. After I returned to work, I would go on Saturdays for the seminars. I liked to let the kids do the talking so I could understand who and where they were coming from. Some were born this way, but some were in accidents and lost limbs. We talked about the accidents, their attitude, and what they were expecting the outcome to be. Believe me, as accepting as they were, they had a lot of resentment because they were unable to play sports anymore. But nothing near the emotions



Nancy and Charlie with Junior Norris

that I had seen and put up with in the rehab center from grown men. I saw men throw their prosthesis across the room and get mad. I would ask them, "If your car had a flat, are you going to throw it away or fix it?" So, so many get mad at me for telling them that. But, I don't have respect for anyone who takes it out on others because they can't accept what has happened to themselves.

I shared with the kids that I had been playing semi-pro football and also played on my company's slow pitch softball team that had just placed 13<sup>th</sup> in the National Industrial Championship. They asked if I missed playing and I said, "Sure, but life chose a different game for me." I told them I could take pity on myself and become a burden to myself and my family, but just like in sports, "you have to give it your best and train to overcome some obstacles." I asked them to look around the room and tell me what they saw. Most would say *kids with disabilities*. I told them not to tell the kid in the wheelchair he has a disability because he doesn't know any difference - because he was born that way and learned to

adapt to a world that challenged him. When I personally looked around the room, I thought how lucky I was to be here because I saw people in worse shape than I was in and will never do the things I've done. I could understand and accept what happened to me, but it was hard seeing these kids in my shape or worse. But all in all these kid's had better attitudes than the men in the VA.

I did this for about 3 years on a rotation schedule until I had to have more surgeries, bone graphs and radiation to try and get rid of the bone infection that I had contracted while in the VA Hospital. Monthly I give money out of my check to Scottish Rite's and St. Jude's to help with the kids and their needs.

**Q:** What was it about how you handled your injuries as to why they asked you to help with the kids?

**A:** I was more positive and accepting of what happened, and moving on in my life and not letting it be a burden on myself or my family. I asked people with similar problems about ampu-

tees having such things as phantom pains and dreaming. 99% of amputees have gotten out of bed in the night to use the restroom and forgot to put on their prosthesis and fell; for some reason I never have. I asked them, "When you dream, do you still have both legs?" They all said yes. In my dreams, it's like I am now, not how I was. I was asked that by doctors and a minister and they told me, "You have accepted your place in life, many don't."

**Q:** *You and Nancy travel many times throughout the year to attend and compete in national pool tournaments (ACS, VNEA, etc). What is your favorite part about traveling and the worst part about it?*

**A:** We get to spend quality time together being in hotels together (you know how guys are when we're in a hotel with a hot woman!) and seeing the country side. If I see a tournament flier, I tell Nancy to get us a room and we head out. We don't care how far it is, we just load up and go. We have been to every state except the 7 states of the far northeast. We plan on going to some of these after our granddaughter graduates in June.

The physical part for me is the hardest because of the pain enduring long hours on my feet playing. As pool players know, the mental and concentration part of the game is 75%. If you're in pain, that reduces the concentration by thinking about the pain. I am gradually losing flexion in my left knee and it's starting to fuse where I lost the 4" of femur above the knee. I can't have a total knee replacement because of the bone infection I picked at the VA Hospital so it's been bone-to-bone for 30 years. I had surgery in 1983 to encapsulate the infection and control it. It's still there and if they puncture the cavity, I will lose the left leg above the knee. With the right below the knee and the left above the knee it would be hard to be mobile. So I just tolerate the pain.

**Q:** *Your longest time on the road traveling was just last year in 2017. Tell us about that trip.*

**A:** We left on April 30<sup>th</sup> 2017 and went to OKC for a tournament and then to Las Vegas for ACS and then the VNEA Nationals. We rented a condo for the 35 days in Vegas. We left Vegas and headed to Washington State, touring it for a week, and then took an Alaskan Cruise for 10 days. From there, we went to Yellow Stone National Park to sightsee. Then to Omaha, Nebraska to watch our 14 year old grandson play in the Slump Blusters part of the College World Series. We returned home on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Q:** *What branch of the military were you in?*

**A:** United States Army! I was drafted 12/27/1965, 2 months after we were married. I went to Ft. Polk, Louisiana for basic training, from there I went to Ft. Eustis, Virginia for helicopter training. I got assigned to the 188th Assault Helicopters Co. at Ft Campbell, Kentucky. After Nancy Graduated High School in May 1966 I moved her to Clarksville, Tennessee and we got an apartment. I got orders that my company was going to Vietnam in April 1967. I moved Nancy back to Dallas, Texas in March 1967, 8 months pregnant. I got to come home in April for Robbie's birth. Robbie was born April 10, 1967 and I got on the plane headed to Vietnam April 15, 1967. That was a hard time for me - knowing the thing that Nancy and I wanted most in life was watching our children grow up. I was going to miss his first steps, words, and other things. I got my separation papers to come home on December 24, 1967 and got home on the 28<sup>th</sup>. My parents, Nancy, and Robbie were at the airport to meet me. I tried to hold Robbie, but at 8 months old, he had no idea who this stranger was trying to take him from his mother; he wanted no part of it. I

missed the bonding years as a parent. But I did what I felt was right. The time I spent out of the country is sealed in my subconscious and only comes out in my dream at times.

**Q:** *You post on Facebook a lot about going to the Veteran's Affairs hospital. Are they as bad as the media said they were about getting appointments?*

**A:** It's worse than the media portray it. I had two cavities, and after a year or so of cancellations I was told that they needed to be cut out and that they were too bad to fix now. My teeth were fine as long as I used my dentist, but since the VA took over, it's really bad. I went from having my teeth cleaned every 6 months to twice in five years. Recently when I went to the VA, I ran into a friend that Nancy and I played on a TAP pool team with about four years ago. He was trying to get his eyes fixed then and finally did, but they made him blind. He told me that they waited too long to send him to a specialist and it can't be reversed now. Recently I went to their clinic for reflux and wanted a flu shot while I was there. After waiting two hours, I finally left. They called an hour later trying to find me. It should not take 3 hours to get a flu shot!

**Q:** *You and Nancy have a son, Robbie, and a daughter, Lynda (Kriste) who tragically passed away from a car accident 32 years ago when she was a teenager. Tell us about that day and how you and Nancy were able to keep going.*

**A:** I have a t-shirt that says, "These scars are from where life has tried to break me, but failed." These outer scares are just physical and I can deal with that. The night of Kriste's accident was the worst day in my life. I had grounded her a few days before. She asked me Thanksgiving Eve (11/27/1985) if she could go out with

her friends, but she still had one day left of being grounded so I said no. Worse decision I've ever made in my life. She took the car after we went to bed. About 12:30am we get a phone call from a friend that she was in an accident. We followed the ambulance to the ER. We were told by the paramedics that her leg was broken. When we got to the ER we were told she had brain stem damage, but we were unsure what that really meant. When the doctor explained it to us, the life in me drained out.

We could not accept the fact and so he ran tests for a few days to check if any brain activity came back. Half the school spent the days and night with us in the ICU waiting room. Her friends never left her side and we would leave and let them stay in the room with her, talking to her. After two weeks of testing and me calling doctors all over the US... they all said the same thing. Nancy, Robbie and I went to the chapel in the hospital and they closed it for us to talk between ourselves with no interruptions. As much as we loved her, we had to let her go! We could see she was fading away before our eyes and she wasn't the same as we knew her. She would not want us to keep her on life support any longer. We called the family together and told them. Later we had all her friends meet and told them. The motorcycle accident was a walk in the park compared to the mental pain of having to watch them turn off the machine. Kriste was born 4/30/1971 passed on December 11, 1985, at 14 years old. I admit there were a couple times I came close to doing a bad thing to myself because of the blame I placed on myself, but then I thought of my mom, dad, Nancy, and Robbie and of what more pain I would put them through. Nancy, Robbie, and I have become a tighter family and supported each other through it all. Nothing can compare to the loss of a child.

**Q:** *That is so heart wrenching. I'm so sorry for your loss. I can't imagine how tough it's been for you, Nancy and Robbie. Speaking of your son Robbie, he plays pool and is also a top player like yourself. Were you at first concerned that he was interested in playing pool?*

**A:** I did not want Robbie playing because of the problems I saw or was involved in. I was big and strong enough that most would not mess with me, but yet even I still had a few high reel moments - gun pulled on me twice and three times guys held a knife to my throat or stomach and once to my back while using the bathroom. I came home quite a few times where Nancy had to use stitch tape on me. So, of course I did not want him to get involved with the gambling part and take the chance of getting hurt. He played in a little gathering place here in town where a local business sold billiard supplies and had a couple pool tables. When he turned 21, he started coming in the local pool room and learning from us players. The atmosphere was changing about the time he started, but there were still a few fools out there. Leagues made the game better and more respectful with a better caliber of people starting to enjoy the game.

**Q:** *You and Robbie have played on league teams together, tell us about that.*

**A:** We have been on the same team for many leagues. We won BCA Texas State Championships in the SWEL days (a local league in Dallas-Fort Worth). We went to BCA nationals a lot and our highest finish was 13<sup>th</sup>. At the ACS State our highest finish was 2<sup>nd</sup>, then at ACS Nationals in the open division we got 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the next year in the Masters we got 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Q:** *You travel often to tournaments in Texas on the weekends. You live in*



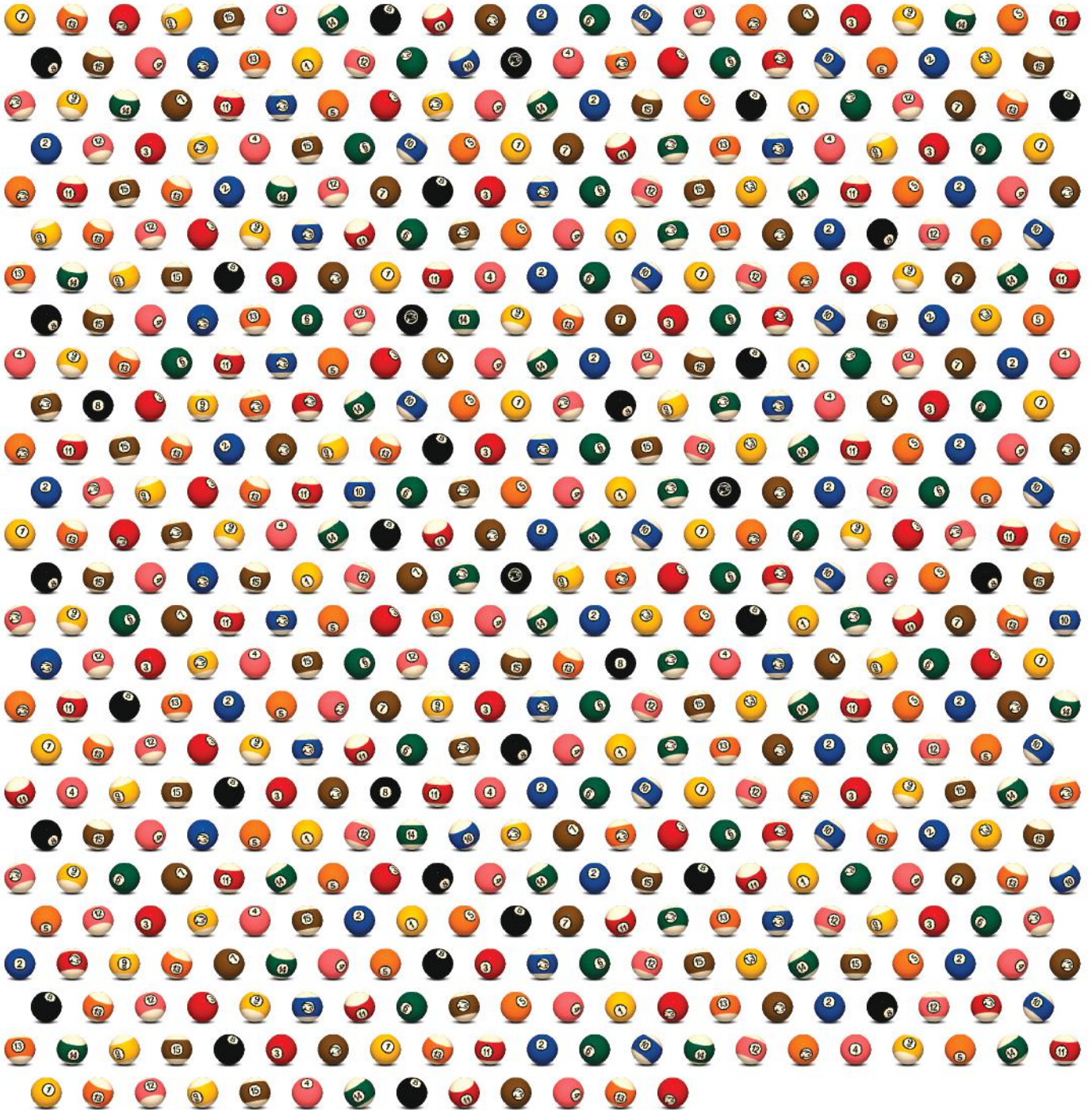
*North Texas, and some of those day trips turn into 2-3 day-long trips, which shows the love of the game in your young heart of 71 years old. How do you have the energy to take all these trips and how do you keep your stamina at the tournaments?*

**A:** What energy and what stamina? I have none! I just have a high tolerance of pain and no give-up in me. I've always been active. If I were a person that was weak in perseverance I could lie down and never get up. The pain in my knee, neck and back takes its toll on me after about 4 hours. My left leg swells so badly because they took an artery out around my ankle to try to save my right leg, so the blood flow is restricted. I'm not a person to give up so I push myself to a breaking point. I never could take pain meds because it gives me bad headaches. I was told that it opens the veins in my brain (some people might dispute that) and the headaches and I don't like the way the pain meds make me feel. I put the pain out my mind until it is unbearable. But I love to play and that's above all the pain.

**Q:** *You used to drink a lot of alcohol for years. Tell us why you made that important choice to stop and what has been the many benefits?*

**A:** I was at a tournament on December 31, 2006 across the river in Oklahoma with my son and some teammates

WHAT WILL BE YOUR GAME'S LEGACY?



and we were all drinking and having a good time. I got another beer and it just didn't taste right, so I threw it in the trash and I said, *that's it, no more, I'm done.* Well, I had been drinking for YEARS, so you know everybody laughed and said I might last a week. I did, and more! I haven't had a beer or anything alcoholic in nature since that day. I drank some as a teenager with the guys, like most have at one point. But I drank a lot from the day I came home from Vietnam to drown the memories, then more after the motorcycle to cope with the pain, and then even more after Kriste's accident because of guilt. But the funny part is, I don't miss it after drinking so much for so many years. One guy even lost a little money betting I would be drinking again in a few months! Looking back, I know I wasn't a good person at times and was lucky to have a loving family and friends that knew that when I was drunk that it wasn't the real me.

The benefits are the money I've saved and the better person I am today. Also, no headaches in the mornings or sluggish days. I do have to apologize to the clubs that I put out of business and to Miller Lite for their stock dropping. I was lucky in my years of drinking that I never got a DWI or had a wreck. One time, four friends were at tournament in Dallas and when we started to leave, the owner asked me, "Red, are you going to be alright going that far home?" because we were so drunk. My friend replied, "Hell yes! Charlie is a professorial drunk driver." Yep, unfortunately, that's how much I used to drink.

**Q:** *You have a great sense of humor. When I called you about this interview, you joked, "Well, I only have one leg to stand on, Melinda." Haha. Where do you think that humor comes from?*

**A:** I live and try to enjoy the life I have with my family and friends. I



*Robbie (son) & Jessica (granddaughter)*

like to pick at friends and for them to come back at me because it's all in fun (I don't mean to hurt anyone's feelings by it). Life is way too short to not have fun with loved ones, and that includes friends in my book. I joke about my prostheses with people and they do with me and it's never personal it's just clean fun.

I use to get kids to pull my leg and let it come off to scare them, but most just froze. I was in the coffee shop one day in town and my buddy said, "Let's trick Danny's son." Danny called his 12 year old son over and while he was talking to him I acted like I had a cramp. Danny told him, "Son grab his leg and straighten it out." He grabbed my leg and I told him to pull hard and it came off! He ran out the door and we were laughing, but heard something hit the floor. We turned around and a lady about 80 had passed out. I put the leg back on and we got her up and back into her chair, but her husband was laughing so hard he never knew she passed out and fell! He was still laughing when we sat her back in the chair. I don't do that anymore in public because it scared me that the lady might have been hurt. Afterwards she did laugh.

**Q:** *I love how you and Nancy attend a lot of your grandchildren's sporting events, in Texas and even out of Texas (Charlie and Nancy have 2 grandsons and 1 granddaughter). Tell us what it means to be able to be on the sidelines supporting them and watching them play.*

**A:** Jonathan is 21 (a step grandson but my grandson just as much as Robbie's two). Jessica is 17 and is graduating in May. She had a scholarship in New Mexico State but decided to stay close to home and go to a local junior college and get her credit work done. Jacob is 14 in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Jacob is following Jonathan's tracks in sports. Jonathan was a star athlete in school till he injured his neck playing football, so it restricted him to baseball.

Jessica played softball, volleyball, and basketball but lost interest in high school. She is involved in photography and this is what her scholarship was in. Jess takes action photos of sporting event, graduations, and personal photos for people.

Jacob plays on a select AAA major baseball team as a catcher. He also plays short stop, 2<sup>nd</sup> base, and centerfield. He plays basketball, football, and runs track for his junior high school. At 10 years old he was wrote up in the 2014 USSSA year book as the best catcher. In 2017 he was selected to represent Texas in the Power Showcase National All Stars team against the American All Stars team at Globe Life Park.

This is what our marriage is all about from day one. We loved cheering our kids and now the grandkids on to be themselves and enjoy what they are doing. The only time we miss watching them is when we are in Vegas.

**Q:** *What is your favorite tournament to play in?*

**A:** The ones I win Nancy some money in! lol

That's hard to say because I like them all! I guess if I had to pick one it would be the ACS Nationals in Vegas. I've known John Lewis and Gary Benson since the old BCA 1989 Nationals in Denver. It's smaller and more people orientated. Also like the VNEA Nationals money-wise. I like tournaments that put times on the brackets better than shotgun tournaments. The tournaments where times are posted, I have time to go to the room and relax and prop my leg up. Shotgun tournaments are tougher on me physically. Having to stay in one place sitting and waiting all day and night is hard on me. I like non-handicapped tournaments best, also. I'm not a big fan of the Fargo rating system. In my days, you played with no spots or you were a rail bird. I'm by no means a great player but if I was to sneak up on a champion and beat them, then I know one of two things. 1. He wasn't playing up to his game, or 2. I out played him. Then I can say and only then: *I beat a champion*. If you're getting a two or three game spot and he has a bad day, table rolls, or whatever then I don't feel like I accomplished anything or was improving my skills. You started and ran the best tournament around Dallas (Omega Billiards Tour) since the Texas Express Tour. I did not feel like it brought out the best game in me, that is why I quit playing in it. The ONLY handicapped system that's FAIR is what the two players involved agree on, IMO.

**Q:** *What was the most coveted title you've won?*

**A:** Being called Dad & Papa!

**Q:** *I've asked that question in almost every interview and that is my favorite answer yet! So, what is your favorite thing about competing in tournaments?*

**A:** Meeting people and making new friends! I help the new players and show them the correct patterns to get out when they shoot the wrong ball and can't get on their out ball. I got my PBA certification about four years ago, but never charge anyone. It's not about money for me - it's giving back to the game I've enjoyed for 61 years.

**Q:** *What things do you have to plan for when playing in tournaments because of your leg prosthesis?*

**A:** It's no different than any other player preparing for a tournament! The problem is, I'm right handed and a right leg amputee. If I have to jump, shoot over a ball, or stretch out over the table, it makes it hard to do because I can't get up on my toes like players with both legs. It's a good thing I learned to play with both hands when I was young! I very seldom jump because we did not jump in my days so I have a better chance of kicking anyway. If I do have to jump, I'm standing on one leg because with the prostheses I can't use my toes to stabilize my stance.

**Q:** *Any quote or philosophy you live by?*

**A:** My dad told me when I was young that your word and your hand shake tell people who you are. As this world progresses, I've noticed a man's word means nothing anymore and neither do these wet rag handshakes. I give a firm handshake, but I don't try to break someone's hand like some do, that's over the top to me.

**Q:** *You and Nancy have been through a lot. What helped you two persevere through all the tough times?*

**A:** Love and respect for each other. And family. Nancy and I talk and support each other; we don't hide things from each other and we don't make any major decisions without sitting

down and discussing the pro & cons of the situation(s).

**Q:** *Nancy is like a Mother to many of us (myself included) who have lost a parent. I have heard rumors she will also make banana bread and take it to out-of-town tournaments for players. Where does that caring attitude come from?*

**A:** This is the main reason I asked her to marry me. I knew from our dating years she would make the best wife and mother for our kids. When our kids were young, our house was like the old Kool Aid commercial: kids all around the yard and in the house.

**Q:** *And finally, what is one of the most important lessons you have learned about life?*

**A:** As the t-shirt I talked about earlier said, *"These scars are from where life has tried to break me, but failed."* Life will try and break you if you let it. Know the person inside the body, strengthen that person, but know your limitations. The mind is the most powerful part of a person and if you think you can do something, then you can within your physical limitations. Some things are just not in someone's physical limits, so don't let that destroy your self-esteem.

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.

**Derby City Classic XX, January 19-27, 2018**

# **CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF BANK POOL, ONE POCKET, AND 9-BALL**

**LIVE from the Horseshoe Southern Indiana Casino, Elizabeth, IN**

Story and all photos by DAVID THOMSON [mediumpool.com](http://mediumpool.com)

OK, let's get this party started!

Everybody – sing:

*It was 20 years ago today  
Greg Sullivan brought the best to  
play...*

Feel the joy?

Francisco Bustamante certainly does. He blasted past 1224 entries to accrue 198.5 points in the three scoring events to, indisputably, secure his 3rd Master of the Table title...plus, an additional \$20,000 in prize money.

His total earnings for the nine grueling, triple-discipline days garnered \$34,700.

Justin Bergman, with 153.3, got \$3,000 for second highest and, for a first in the history of DCC, two players tied for 3rd with 141.0 each. Corey Deuel and Shane Van Boening shared \$2,000.

It really has been 19 years since the first Derby City Classic. Sired by Diamond Billiards' Greg Sullivan in 1999, the inaugural event drew 200 plus entrants vying for titles in Bank Pool, One Pocket, and 9-Ball.

2018 garnered 470, 393, and 364, respectively. That stat makes The Derby the most successful, competitively attended pro pool tournament in the world.

In 2014, in celebration of the introduction of Diamond's 10-foot table; The BIG Foot Challenge was established tho,' the event doesn't affect DCC's All-Around points system.

Those points are awarded for each of the three original disciplines only. Descending from the first place finish: 120, 100, 80, and so on, the competitor who accumulates the most is crowned All-Around Champion or, as it is also known, Master of the Table.



*Francisco Bustamante, Greg Sullivan, Roberto Gomez and Chris Melling*

Sullivan's ambition grew from experiencing the Johnson City Hustler's Convention at the tender age of 16. He was immediately smitten, in fact, he still has his original entry ticket!

It was that passion for pool that eventually drove him to create the Diamond table to his exacting, standardized specifications that would catapult pool from a game to a sport.

Five-time All-Around Champion Efen Reyes dubs the Derby his favorite tournament...ever! "I got to spend time with my friends, now icons, like Earl and Nick(Varner). And, more recently, new friends I've made in all the events. It's always been a gathering of the best players in the world."

That fact hasn't changed. What follows are chronological highlights of the Derby City Classic XX. To go delve more in-depth than this encapsulation, visit [azbilliards.com](http://azbilliards.com) and type Derby City Classic in the NEWS Archive bar then, choose the Derby from the Tour or Event drop-down menu.

## **The Diamond BIG Foot Challenge**

Format: Race to 11, single elimination, alternate break, all balls count.

No wonder he's dubbed "Superman:" Roberto Gomez had fended off three 11-10 battles with arch-rivals Ronnie Alcano and Mika Immonen then, in the final, Russia's precocious and seemingly impenetrable 17-year-old, Fedor Gorst.

Reputedly packing 9-Ball kryptonite Mosconi Cup VIP, Joshua Filler, was expected to be Roberto's most difficult opponent. "Superman" had the antidote and he dismissed "Killer" at 6.

By the finals with the stoic Gorst, Gomez was so shaky he could barely sign a fan's cue-ball. He reflected on his victory, "You just have to do your best.



*Francisco Bustamante's One Pocket Win Clinched the All Around title*

I just do my job. If I did my best, win or lose, it's OK."

Other memorable matches included Shane Van Boening's hill-hill heart-stopper with MC teammate Dennis Hatch and his loss, finally, to a very avenging and determined John Morra.

## **DCC BANK POOL CHAMPIONSHIP: Short Rack, Race to 3.**

Cool Corey Deuel proved invincible! Unbeaten, he had strolled thru the Banks brackets and into the Accu-Stats' TV Arena in indomitable style. As 2013 DCC Banks Champion he desperately wanted another title. "I feel that Bank Pool has always eluded me. Since my last win, my best finish has been 7th."

He'd worked hard to improve. Humbly, he'd asked other players about their technique. He admitted, he'd learned a lot. After all, he'd just dueling 14 rounds that included contending with past Champions John Brumback and Francisco Bustamante. Having beaten them back-to-back his confidence continued to grow, "That's when I felt I had a chance to win it."

Deuel had begun the day by bruising Brumback by sending him to the buy-back booth.

John's morning was marred by bad preparation. "I hadn't eaten properly," he confessed. "My hands were shakin' so bad. Saltines just don't cut it!"

2016 Bank's finalist Jayson Shaw was also still in contention. Always dangerous, Jayson opened by sending Shane to buy back but it was short-lived as Brumback, then fighting for his life, administered Van Boening's death blow.

In the semi's, Corey continued his cool to clobber Jayson Shaw at zero then, quietly terminate the masterful Brumback in a 3-2 nail-biter. He then pocketed \$10,000.

## **DCC ONE POCKET CHAMPIONSHIP: Race to 3**

Let's be frank and say it like it is. Francisco Bustamante's One Pocket game has gotten better. Just ask Justin Bergman.

Where has it improved? "I'm more aggressive," Bustey asserted. "To win, you must put pressure on your opponent."



Corey Deuel scored a much wanted win in the bank pool division

Here's an example: In the opening game of their Final's, Justin had managed 6 and left the green Cyclop drooling on the lip of his pocket.

Rather than just give it to him and leave the cue ball snuggled in Bergman's hole, the ageless, 54-year-old Filipino took on a three-rail flyer that would either make him or break him.

"If I'm gonna win, I win. If I'm gonna lose, I lose."

A stop shot would leave the cue ball in perfect position and allow the opportunity to get at least 4 more, but if he missed, with that dangling orb, Justin was surely out.

The three-railer took off the long cushioned Simonis and, weaving thru the traffic, swept effortlessly into his pocket. He ran 6 to miss abruptly with them both needing 2.

Francisco, actually, lost that rack but that wasn't the point. He feels that if he has an opportunity like that and doesn't take it, that sends a message to the opponent that transfers the power to him.

Bergman didn't get the memo, Bustey blitzed the next 3 games. The win, also, ensured the repeat of his 2008

and 2013 All-Around Champion titles. And, secured an additional \$12,000.

### ONE POCKET HALL OF FAME DINNER

Conspicuous by its absence, the always entertaining OnePocket.org HoF Dinner was resuscitated on Wednesday, 24th.

Jeremy Jones and the late Eugene "Clem" Metz were honored for their propagation of the chess game of pool, One Pocket.

There are no more opposite personalities than the precocious and boisterous, living legend Keith McCready and the more subdued and suave Charles "Country" Martin. Both, deservedly, were honored with the Lifetime Pool in Action Award!

One Pocket Hall of Famers Shannon Daulton and Scott Frost entertained the sold-out crowd with their personal

encounters with the honorees as they anchored the evening's festivities.

Speaking of resuscitation, the resurgence of "Keefer with the ether" was the definite highlight of the evening. Immortalized by his perennial swagger, no-limit action, and his line in *The Color of Money*, "It's like a nightmare, isn't it," it seemed like Keith had never been gone.

Taking the podium, good buddy Mary Kenniston shared when, in her pool room in Vegas, "He'd bring in these cute girls and tell them he was a movie star." Mary would slip on the movie and propagate the myth.

### DCC BANKS RING GAME

It took two grand to enter the winner-take-all bankfest and the man Billy Incardona called, "The greatest bank pool player in the world," DCC 2017 One pocket champion Billy Thorpe, outlasted them all. In a couple of hours, he pocketed \$10,000!

The games commenced at \$50 a ball. By \$600 a ball, Shawn Murphy was the last man to fall to Billy's potent powers.

Jeremy Jones and Corey Deuel hung in there while past winners, Skyler Woodward and Shannon Daulton, were the first to exit.

### DCC 9-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

#### Race to 9, Winner Breaks.

The 9-Ball resulted in, perhaps, the finest DCC final that Accu-Stats has ever captured!

**“ THERE ARE NO MORE OPPOSITE PERSONALITIES THAN THE PRECOCIOUS AND BOISTEROUS, LIVING LEGEND KEITH MCCREADY AND THE MORE SUBDUED AND SUAVE CHARLES "COUNTRY" MARTIN. BOTH, DESERVEDLY, WERE HONORED WITH THE LIFETIME POOL IN ACTION AWARD! ”**

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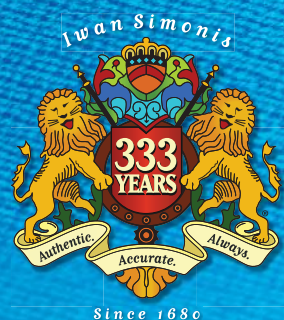
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*Roberto Gomez tamed the Bigfoot Challenge*

they felt empathy for the mild-mannered Canadian with the smooth stroke and impeccable composure.

John sincerely congratulated Chris, “Well played.”

For Melling, who was, incidentally, celebrating his 39th birthday, this was indeed a memorable moment. Not only had he captured one of pool’s most prestigious titles, he had survived 9-days of pool’s most demanding arena.

“Somedays, it’s just not to be.” Morra later commented, philosophically. As runner-up, he earned \$8,000. That wasn’t quite enough to soften the loss. It’s funny how the money doesn’t mean anywhere near as much as the win.

Melling, clutching his new crystal obelisk award, has contributed to DCC’s history, There is a feeling of agelessness when winning a championship. He might honor Jack Benny and remain 39 forever.

### **Endgame.**

Like all celebrations, the evolution of long standing events isn’t without controversy.

As founder, Greg is the automatic go-to-guy for compliments as well as complaints. The good news is that, with the latter, he is always ready to listen and share in finding a solution.

This year, the primary gripe was that lengthy one-pocket encounters caused scheduling conflicts that affected the redraw process, so much, that the One Pocket finals

We were graced with genius—from both players. Completed in the wee, small hours, the hill-hill thriller was truly worth the wait. The excitement of what would happen next kept us on the edge of our seats—until 3:30 am!

The 363 entries vying for the \$16,000 first place prize money had come down to two: England’s Chris Melling and Canada’s John Morra. They both did Her Majesty proud.

With snooker tour experience, the wise and wily Melling always employed his motto, “When in trouble, stick ’em!” He certainly utilized it in play that night and with a chance to move ahead at 4-2, missed! John closed out that rack and empowered (he had beaten Shane again)...ran 5 more!

Breaking at 8-3, all Morra needed was one more rack. He made a ball! Then, missing within an inch of perfect position, he allowed Melling back at the table.

It was like Melling hadn’t left. From the start Chris attacked. Ball after ball fell in the hole. 4-8, 5-8, 6-8...

Morra, antsy now, you could see the demons arise in his demeanor as Melling pummeled away.

At 7-8 Melling, Morra got a look at a ball. He wisely, laid a snooker only to have Chris connect and leave a safe. 8-8!

Chris, capitalizing on the final opportunity, calmly ran the winning rack. Relieved, and exhausted, his head fell forward as he took a moment’s rest and let it all sink in: What a deficit he had overcome.

The crowd, aroused, applauded and yelled yet, you could tell that

**“ AS FOUNDER, GREG IS THE AUTOMATIC GO-TO-GUY FOR COMPLIMENTS AS WELL AS COMPLAINTS. THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT, WITH THE LATTER, HE IS ALWAYS READY TO LISTEN AND SHARE IN FINDING A SOLUTION. ”**

“

**WE REALLY HAVE TO THANK GREG SULLIVAN FOR TAKING SUCH A CHANCE 20 YEARS AGO. TO THIS DAY, IN MY OPINION, IT'S OUR GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH.**

”

had to be postponed for a day. Plus, the delays affected the allocation of tables to complete the George Felt Straight Pool Challenge.

It was suggested that, to shorten game duration, the Grady Mathews rule of spotting balls when too many are in the kitchen should be used.

Rumors of 9-Ball rack manipulation deemed that, altho,' any rack can be

abused, template racks will, probably, be employed next year.

“It's all up for discussion,” stated Sullivan. “I have satisfied the Straight Pool issue by guaranteeing that their four, 14.1 tables shall not be appropriated by any other event.

“Whatever works for the players. My goal has always been that everyone, players and spectators alike, leaves the Derby with a good story—something positive to share with friends and family.”

Obviously, by the Derby's continued success, he has accomplished that...for two decades.

O'Sullivan beamed as he stated without the glimmer of a boast, “The most satisfying compliment I've ever received is that DCC is like Johnson City...on steroids.”

Maybe, long-time DCC competitor and Master of the Table Shannon Daulton should have the last word. “We really have to thank Greg Sullivan for taking such a chance 20 years ago. To this day, in my opinion, it's our Greatest Show on Earth.”

See ya there next year.

Accu-Stats DCC Vimeo On Demand Series featuring ALL the TV Table matches will be uploaded, soon.

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Tell 'em you read about it in the Billiards Buzz!



*Chris Melling forged the comeback of the event in the 9-ball finals*



All photos courtesy of Karl Kantrowitz

# Strickland Crowned Living Legends Challenge Champion

**What started out as Mike Sigel's idea, was honed by Pat Fleming to create the Living Legends Challenge at Sandcastle Billiards in Edison NJ on February 23rd - 25th.**

“Mike came to me with the idea of a 9-ball challenge match against Efrén Reyes” Fleming remembered. When Reyes wasn't available, both Sigel and Fleming agreed that Earl Strickland would be their next choice and Strickland jumped at the idea. Fleming's second best change for the event was the format. Instead of one 9-ball match, the players would play two matches of 8-Ball, 9-Ball, 10-Ball, Straight Pool, One Pocket, and Banks to determine an overall winner. While that was a good idea, Pat's next idea was the real key to the event. Pat decided both players should be wearing mics during the event. “Both players love to interact with the audience, so it just made sense” said Fleming.

After day one, Sigel might have wished he had never come up with the idea as Strickland showed what four hours of play a day does for your game. While Sigel has practiced before the event, he wasn't ready for Strickland as “The Pearl” cruised to wins in 8-Ball (8-2), 10-ball (8-7), Straight Pool (125-7!) and 9-ball (8-3).

While still entertaining the crowd, Sigel looked a lot more comfortable at the table on day two. Although he dropped the Bank Pool match 4-2, he outplayed Strickland in the one pocket for a 3-1 win and an overall 5-1 score. The overall match was the first player to win 7 sessions, and Sigel would have to win at least one of the evening sessions to force a day three.



“

**MIKE WAS THE WHOLE SHOW. HE WOULD TALK TO THE CROWD FOR FIVE MINUTES AFTER MISSING A SHOT, EXPLAINING WHAT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE HAPPENED AND WHAT HE WOULD HAVE DONE HAD HE NOT MISSED THAT ONE SHOT.**

”



He did better than that though. As he trailed in the overall score, Sigel was able to pick which game they would play in session 7 and he went back to the one pocket well for a 3-2 win and then redeemed himself from his day one match and defeated Strickland 125-123 in straight pool. That left a much closer 5-3 overall score after two days of play.

Day three showed how strong Strickland can play when he is focused.



The 8-ball match that began the day went to Strickland 8-1 and he was one match away from the event win. Sigel gave it a valiant fight but came up just short in 10-ball to lose 8-6 and lose the event by an overall 7-3 scoreline.

While great play was on display for three days, Fleming said that wasn't the real draw to the event. "Mike was the whole show" he said. "He would talk to the crowd for five minutes after missing a shot, explaining what was supposed to have happened and

what he would have done had he not missed that one shot." When asked about plans for another Legends Challenge, Fleming was noncommittal. "After you've had Earl and Mike mic'ed up, where do you go from there?" he asked.

Fans who missed the pay per view streaming coverage of this event are urged to keep their eyes on the accu-stats website ([www.accu-stats.com](http://www.accu-stats.com)), as the event is expected to be released on DVD in the near future.

# Hjorleifson goes undefeated to win 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Jay Swanson (Swanee) Memorial

It's hard to know what causes the roller coaster of some careers in pool. Jobs, family, and a host of other influences can impact pool earnings in significant ways, including the distinct possibility of incomplete information.

**W**hat may look in a given database (our own, included) like a severe drop in a player's level of participation, may, in fact, just be just a gap in the information reported on his, or her activities.

Take Canada's Erik Hjorleifson, for example, who just went undefeated to win the 22nd Annual Jay Swanson ("Swanee") Memorial, held on the

weekend of February 24-25. Fourteen years ago, he finished in the four-way tie for ninth place at the US Open 9-Ball Championships with three competitors well-known enough to be recognizable by their first names – Earl, Tony, and Ralf (Strickland, Robles and Souquet). A couple of years later (2006; his best recorded earnings year, to date, according to our

records), Hjorleifson won two stops, back to back, on what's known as the Canadian 30K Tour, and here in the US, finished runner-up to Dennis Hatch at a stop on the Joss NE 9-Ball Tour. He won another Canadian 30K Tour stop the following year, and cashed in 10 other events, including Turning Stone VIII (17th). And then, though he continued to appear on payout lists, there



*Manny Perez and Erik Hjorleifson*

were no major tour victories of any kind until he showed up as the winner of the Canadian Championship Men's Open 10-Ball in 2014.

Though he hasn't been inactive or absent from payouts lists since then (second to Mika Immonen at Turning Stone XXV in 2016, for example, and 25th at both Turning Stone XXVII and XXVIII in 2017), Hjorleifson does appear to have experienced a drop in competitive frequency. Whether his victory at the recent Jay Swanson Memorial is a sign that his personal roller coaster is rising again, remains to be seen, but it was definitely a significant move in the right direction. He went undefeated through the field of 128 entrants that split a \$10,000 prize pool. The event was hosted by OnCue Billiards in La Mesa, CA.

Following victories over Naiel Tito, Victor Ignacio (double hill), Jose Mendoza, Ben Hrabina (all, save Ignacio,

8-4), and the patriarch of the Dominguez clan, Ernesto 8-6, Hjorleifson moved into a winners' side semifinal match against Dave Hemmah. Manny Perez, in the meantime, the eventual runner-up, was looking for what would be his first major event victory. He got by Johnny Kang, Marshall Jung, Steven Choy, Justin Marks and the "Swanee" Memorial's defending champion, Brian Parks, to face Hungary's Vilmos Foldes (7th in the event last year) in the other winners' side semifinal.

Perez got into the hot seat match with an 8-4 victory over Foldes, and was joined by Hjorleifson, who'd sent Hemmah to the loss side 8-6. Hjorleifson claimed the hot seat 8-4 over Perez and sat in it to await his return.

On the loss side, Foldes picked up Mitch Ellerman, who, after being downed by Hemmah in a winners' side quarterfinal, had gotten by Jus-

tin Marks 7-3, and Fach Garcia 7-4 to reach him. Garcia had previously eliminated the elder Dominguez, Ernest, which kept him (Ernesto) from an approaching match versus his son, Oscar (a matchup that the elder Dominguez traditionally forfeits). Hemmah picked up the son, Oscar, who, after his defeat at the hands of Foldes, in a winners' side quarterfinal, had eliminated Mika Immonen 7-2 and Brian Parks 7-4.

Foldes advanced to the quarterfinals 7-2 over Ellerman, and was joined by Oscar Dominguez, who'd defeated Hemmah 7-5. Oscar eliminated Foldes in those quarterfinals and then, locked up in a double hill fight against Perez in the semifinals; a fight won by Perez to earn himself a second shot against Hjorleifson in the finals.

Hjorleifson completed his undefeated run. A repeat performance of the hot seat match 8-4 over Perez secured it.

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# Tina Malm Wins NAPT Division II Championship

**With pool players, you never know what will motivate them at different moments in their pool playing career. With Tina Malm (formerly Pawloski), it was an off night of APA league play in 2016 that lit the fire she needed to get back into serious competitive pool.**

**A**fter multiple state championships and top finishes in major events, Malm had basically stepped away from serious competition for roughly six years to focus on her family, but that wouldn't be the end of her days under tournament pressure. "I went to On Cue Billiards one night and was just hitting some balls to warm up before league, and it hit me that my game was completely unacceptable to me. That made me want to practice and then I caught the bug to play again".

That bug was on full display on February 22nd - 25th at the North American Pool Tour's (NAPT) Division II Championships at Hard Times Billiards in Sacramento. This event featured 45 of the top players from various ladies regional tours across the country, competing for their share of \$5,000 in added money. Competitors fought it out over two days of round-robin play, where they were split into six groups and played each player in their group a seven game match. With that format, every game mattered as players fought to be one of the top four ladies in each group to advance.

Hailing from the J. Pechauer Northwest Women's Tour, Malm looked dominant in her group. Losing only 9 racks over her 42 games was more than enough to make her the top player to in her group. With one bye in her group (and therefore 7 fewer racks to play), Malm was tied with Shannon Dunn for second most wins overall, only trailing the Arizona Women's Billiards Tour's Susan Williams' 38 wins.



*Tina Malm*

# NAPT Announces New and Returning Board Members for 2018

**North American Pool Tour (NAPT) is proud to be run by a group of committed volunteer board members who bring decades of experience and passion for the sport we all love.**

“I love the format. It’s 4 days of playing pool and with all of that time at the table, you hope that by day three you can catch a gear.” said Malm. “Catch a gear” she did, as she started double elimination play with an Arizona trifecta, facing Leandrea Gaff, Susan Williams and Bernie Store - all from Arizona - in her first three matches. Her 7-3 win over last year’s runner-up, Williams, was especially telling for the day. Williams, a good friend of Malm’s, commented “I played bad and she played well. She played confident and determined. Obviously a winning combination.”

After sending Team Arizona to the one loss side, Malm only had to deal with Leslie Bernardi from the Tiger West Coast Women’s Tour in the hot-seat match, and that quickly went her way 7-4. Bernardi found a familiar opponent waiting on the one loss side in fellow West Coast Women’s Tour player Janna Sue Nelson. Bernardi had sent Nelson to the one loss side and finished sending her to the stands with a hill-hill win in the semi-final match.

Sometimes sitting in the hot-seat can get a player out of stroke, but that wasn’t the case with Malm. “I consider myself the hardest working player in any tournament. From Wednesday night, I spent every minute that I could on a table practicing” said Malm. That practice showed as she finished her week with a 7-3 win over Bernardi in the finals for a first-place finish.

Reminiscing about the tournament, Malm still didn’t sound happy with her game though. “I really felt I had to work all day on Sunday. The outs just didn’t show themselves and I know I am capable of a lot more” she sad. When asked about any goals she has set for herself, Malm had a big one in mind. “I’ve noticed my Fargo dropping lately, and I want to work on that. I think I can break into the top ten US ladies list if I really put my mind to it”.

**B**oard members bring a wide range of experience and perspectives, representing every part of North America and each new member is a valuable addition to the current NAPT board. With the completion of 2018 board elections, NAPT would like to welcome its newly elected board members:

Rick Doner has been a major force in the billiard world since 1982. With certifications from UMB International, VNEA, BCA, and CSI, he currently serves as Director of Billiards Education Foundation and we welcome his vast experience and knowledge to NAPT

Denise Belanger has been tour director for the Canadian Women’s Pool Tour, and with her experience as a rated WPBA Pro, she is a valued addition to NAPT.

As Owner / Operator of AzBilliards since 1997, Mike Howerton brings vast media advice and experience to the NAPT Board.

Business owner Tam Trinh provides unique custom pool accessories and apparel through her company, Creative Pool Solutions (MzTam.com). NAPT welcomes her entrepreneurial spirit, work ethic, and mer-



chandizing expertise.

Some founding board members have graciously agreed to continue their work with NAPT. The board members re-elected to their second term are; Kevin Yi (Founding Board member. Current Board Director Runs TWCWT tournaments. Compiles stats), Tamre’ Geene’-Rogers (Founding Board Member, Current Board Director), and Sharon O’Hanlon (Founding Board Member, Current Board Director, Secretary of NAPT 2016 & 2017, Co-Director JPNEWT). Thank you all for your continued support!

On behalf of the remainder of NAPT Board Members, NAPT Board of Directors, Division II Tour Directors, rooms and venues supporting NAPT, and all the players, we welcome our new board members and look forward to working with them to offer many years of quality events and competitive opportunities for players all over North America.

# 2018 Mosconi Cup - Ruijsink Returns as American Captain

**Johan Ruijsink will return as Team USA captain for Mosconi Cup XXV, to be staged at Alexandra Palace, London this December 4-7.**

**R**uijsink took the reigns as American coach ahead of last year's Mosconi Cup in Las Vegas but his side fell to a disappointing 11-4 reversal at the hands of Team EUROPE.

In a bid to return the famous trophy to American soil Ruijsink will employ a new selection policy for 2018. The Dutchman will select an initial squad of players to work with throughout the year before selecting his final five for London in the autumn. Ruijsink will name his initial wider squad in due course and players may join or leave the team at any stage prior to the final line-up being announced.

"The 2017 Mosconi Cup was very disappointing, as far as the result goes," admitted Ruijsink. "Our team lost heavily and that didn't feel good at all. I definitely needed time to recuperate from that and make sure to find the causes and the reasons. We practiced and prepared hard. Unfortunately, we didn't show this in the arena. I am grateful for the trust and hard work of our team, but wasn't happy with our performance. I certainly want to apologize to the American audience, who backed us up all the way and stayed positive. We haven't been able to meet their expectations as a team.

"Because of this heavy defeat it feels a bit strange to be asked to captain Team USA once more in 2018. However, I do feel we learned a lot and we will grow from this experience. And that we will, because of this defeat, do better in the 2018 Mosconi Cup.

"The heavy defeat is also one of two reasons to accept the offer. I would definitely like to erase this score and get 2017 out of my system. And secondly, I am convinced that Team USA is not finished yet. Team USA as a project and as an example for a professional approach of our sport. Obviously, some things have grown crooked in the American pool scene and we are unable to keep up with the rest of the world both in quality and in quantity. That is not just my humble opinion, it is shown also by the results. I certainly hope that this will be a wakeup call.

"On a personal note I have been amazed by the loyalty of the American audience and their trust in us. I am very grateful for that support and so is every player on the team. I hope and trust that you will do the same this year.

"If I wouldn't be convinced there is progress to be expected from last year, I wouldn't have accepted the captaincy. We will work and prepare as sharp as we can and need to do. We need to be devoted, committed and work hard to avoid the mistakes that brought us such an embarrassing

score. And although it may sound strange, I think London will be a better place for Team USA to perform than Las Vegas. There will be less distractions and it will be easier to stay focused on the job.

"I want to thank Matchroom for putting up this great event and a chance for me to redeem myself and the team. See you all in London!"

Tickets for Mosconi Cup XXV are on sale now priced from £25 per session, with season tickets available priced £90. Premium seating in rows 4-7 is available at £49 per session or £175 for a season ticket, with VIP Hospitality packages from £155 per person per session with a season ticket priced at £549.

2018 Mosconi Cup is sponsored by Rasson Billiards who supplies the Official Table; the cloth is supplied by Iwan Simonis and the Official Balls are Super Aramith by Saluc. Predator is the Official Cue of the event and Ultimate Team Gear provide all Mosconi Cup apparel. APA are the Official Team Sponsor of Team USA.



# Filler And Boyes Join Mansionbet Masters

**Joshua Filler and Karl Boyes have joined the line-up for this weekend's MansionBet World Pool Masters in Gibraltar after Francisco Bustamante and Tony Drago were forced to withdraw.**

**F**iller propelled himself onto the global scene last summer when he won the WPA China Open, which helped him qualify for December's Mosconi Cup. He then thrived on pool's biggest stage in Las Vegas, claiming the MVP award while European fans found a new fan favourite as their side defeated USA 11-4.

One of England's most successful players, Boyes has always excelled at the top level. WPA World 8-Ball champion in 2010, he lifted the World Cup of Pool alongside Darren Appleton in 2014, was runner-up at the US Open in 2015 and has won the Mosconi Cup four times.

Boyes will face defending Masters champion David Alcaide in the first round on Friday evening after Drago was forced to pull out through illness. Filler will come up against Jayson Shaw on Saturday evening with visa issues denying Bustamante the chance to participate.

"It's great to be back at the World Pool Masters," said 'Box Office' Boyes. "I didn't play a lot last year but I'm back now and feeling good after winning on the GB 9-Ball Tour last week.

"The Masters is a great event with only the best players in the world. The Matchroom tournaments are always the ones you want to play in so I'm pleased to get the invite and can't wait to get into that arena on Friday



Joshua Filler and Karl Boyes

night. There are some great players in the field but I'd love to come up against Earl Strickland again - we always have great battles and I've got a good record against him.

"I've won the Mosconi Cup, and I've won the World Cup. Not many players achieve the Matchroom Triple Crown and I'd love to complete that set by lifting the Masters trophy in Gibraltar."

Filler added: "I'm so excited to play my very first World Pool Masters. I'm honoured to be one of 16 players and all legends. I had a lot of practice the last weeks and I just feel great and confident. I am really looking forward to this great event.

"The Mosconi Cup last December gave me some good experience in tournaments like this and I will try to play my best. It's an unbelievable feeling to play at the Mosconi Cup and I'm looking forward to playing

the MansionBet World Pool Masters." Tickets for the 25th World Pool Masters are on sale now priced £7-12 per session with season tickets available for just £34.99 at [www.buytickets.gi](http://www.buytickets.gi).

The tournament will be broadcast live throughout on Sky Sports in the UK and on networks worldwide, with a Facebook Live stream available in countries where there is no TV broadcaster showing the event. For more details please see here: <http://www.matchroompool.com/world-pool-masters/#watchlive>

The World Pool Masters will be broadcast live for 20 hours in total on Sky Sports in the UK and on networks around the world. The MansionBet World Pool Masters is also sponsored by the following suppliers: RASSON (tables), IWAN SIMONIS (Simonis cloth), SALUC (Aramith balls), PREDATOR (cues) and ULTIMATE TEAM GEAR (clothing).

# APA Junior Championships Move to Saint Louis

**APA is excited to announce that the 2018 Junior Championships will be held at the Renaissance Hotel in Saint Louis, Mo. The event is scheduled for July 5-8 in the hotel's ballroom.**



**T**he Renaissance is conveniently located near Lambert St. Louis International Airport. The property was once home to the APA Championships prior to them being moved to Las Vegas.

The Junior Championships were held in Davenport, Iowa, since the event began in 2014.

The move will put the event in APA's own backyard with their global headquarters also in the Saint Louis area. It should provide easier access for event participants, particularly those traveling by plane.

"As the event has continued to grow, we've seen more and more players coming from all over the country to participate. This should make it easier for them to attend. Being just down

the road from our office will also allow us to dedicate more time and resources to ensure another exceptional APA event," said Bill Tufts, APA's Director of Tournament Productions.

The move to the Renaissance will also allow participants to stay onsite at the venue, something that wasn't possible in Davenport.

"We think most of the participants will want to stay under the same roof to be closer to the action and enjoy the amenities the Renaissance offers," said Tufts.

Those amenities include an indoor and outdoor pool, onsite restaurant and easy access to great Saint Louis attractions like the Saint Louis Zoo, City Museum and the Magic House.

"Davenport was a great home for us, but overall, we believe this move will help elevate the tournament experience for the attendees both on and off the table," said Tufts.

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 more info on the APA Junior Championships visit <https://poolplayers.com/junior-championships/>.



## VICTORY II<sup>+</sup>

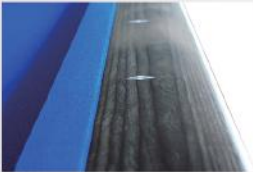


1.Slate



Precision cut 30mm (1.18") with 3/4" thick wood frame 3pc premium RASSON slate, grinded and then sanded flat within a tolerance of less than 0.1mm.

2.Rail



Unique processing technology compresses phenolic resin into precious hardwood veneers, resulting in a luxurious look with an ultra durable finish that is resistant to warping, scratches, moisture, and heat.

3.Cushion



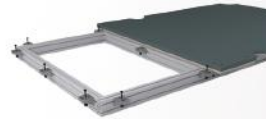
Durable yet precise, Artemis rubber offers the most consistent response and longevity of any billiard cushion.

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Sights made of natural mother of pearls that cut in four segments of diamond shape by CNC machine, showing colorful luster of mica and easy to identify.

5.Aluminum Alloy Support Beam



Industrial aluminum alloy features a perfect flatness, convenient transportation and installation as well as offers a superior stability and precise foundation for the slate while maintaining consistency in virtually any climate.



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7.Leg Leveling System



Easy to level the table cabinet in accuracy with only a wrench.

8.Pockets (Patent pending)



Combination of aluminum alloy and TPE (Thermo-Plastic-Elastomers) in the ideal density necessary to eliminate scuffing, reduce ball bouncing out and dampen impact noise. Specially designed with our patent pending T-shape slot device offering a precision fit with fast assembly.

# On The Wire Creative Media Partners With The Billiard Education Foundation

**On The Wire Creative Media (OTW) is proud to announce a partnership agreement with The Billiard Education Foundation (BEF). As the marketing manager for the BEF in 2018, OTW's charge will be to engage members, capture new followers and grow the number of supporters worldwide, goals which will be achieved by distributing interviews, free live streams and upcoming BEF events thru Facebook, Instagram and the BEF website.**

**B**oth the BEF and OTW are invested in supporting the kids through billiards education and instruction; promoting billiards as a positive way to learn life skills, developing and facilitating billiard programs and competition at all levels and providing academic scholarships.

“We are thrilled to have the opportunity to work with On The Wire Creative Media,” said BEF President Tom Riccobene. “Beau and Ra are committed to all the BEF stands for and this partnership will help us to do what we do to help these great kids. Each and every one of our juniors deserves to be recognized for their individual work and achievements. Working with OTW is a blessing to the BEF.”

“The BEF is where billiards begins, I love this organization,” said Beau Running of OTW.

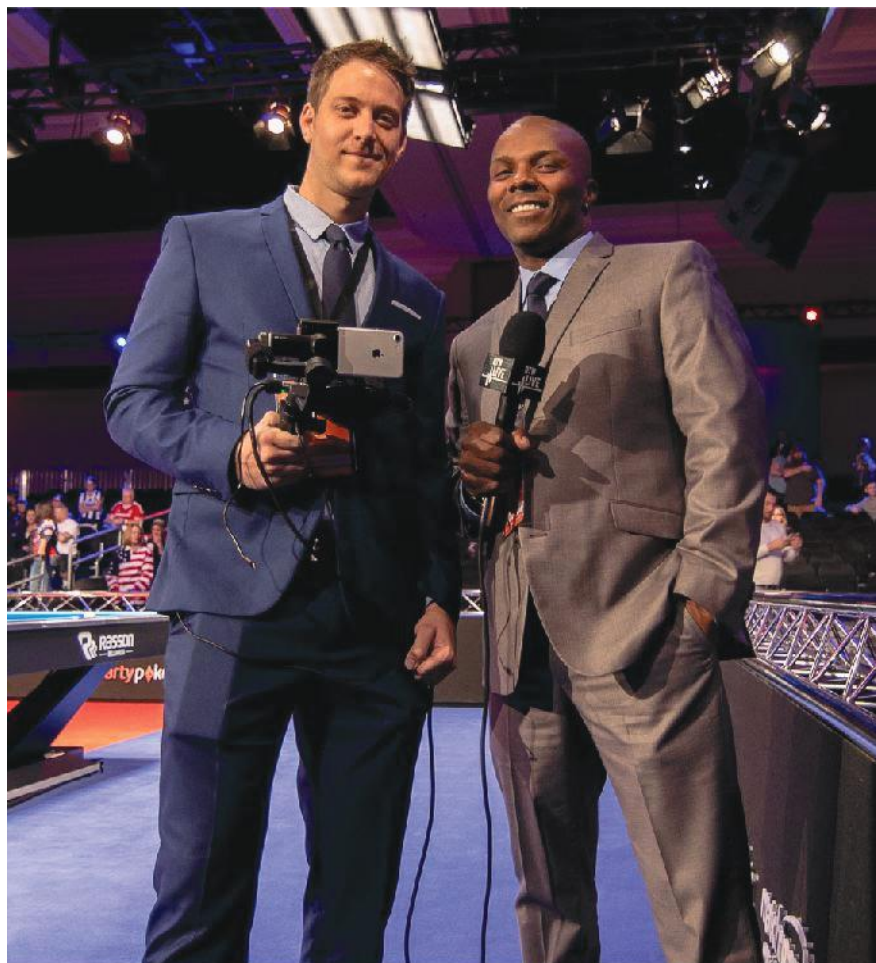
“Surround yourself with the right people and great things will happen. This partnership is from our hearts,” added OTW's Ra Hanna. “We are very excited about our relationship with the BEF, the BEF is close to our hearts.”

On The Wire Creative, based in Pasadena, Calif., has been making quite a splash in the pool world over the last few years, predominantly due to their viral on the spot reporting, live stream videos and tournament promotions. OTW has become a highly sought after choice of professional pool in America

and were the official live streamers of the 2017 Mosconi Cup held in Las Vegas.

The Billiard Education Foundation was established to ensure that all juniors in the United States have opportunities to play and compete. The

BEF's mission is to develop a lifelong love of billiard sports in junior players by supporting billiard education and instruction, promoting billiards as a positive way to learn life skills, developing and facilitating billiard programs and competition at all levels and providing academic scholarships.



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# 8 Personality Traits of Successful Business Owners

Have you ever wanted to own your own pool hall, start a billiard product, pool clothing line or become a professional pool player? There are certain types of qualities you should possess in order to be successful at any of these careers or something similar.



**A**s you read through our list, see if it is something that you think you are good at or areas you could work on. Of course, not everyone is going to possess every quality listed (if you do, it might be time to start your own business)!

**1 Personable, Outgoing, a People Person.** You have to be able to sell your product, yourself, your business. Having a good social network can help tremendously when you're starting your own business. This is the first group you reach out to for customers, followers and advocates of your brand. Networking will be a big piece of bringing in new business.

**2 Driven, Motivated, Confident.** You have to believe in your product, business, yourself in order to be successful. If you are having a slow month, you need to think outside the box and be creative to get yourself out of the slump. Think positive.

**3 Risk Taker and Proactive.** Quitting your job and starting your own business is risk #1. Some would call this the ultimate risk, but should definitely be a calculated one. After that, you have to be able to make big (calculated) decisions if you want to have a profitable and successful company. As they always say...you may have to spend some money to make money.

**4 Good with Numbers.** You have to be able to keep up to date with your financials or hire someone who can because this is one of the most important pieces about being a small business owner. You need to know what kind of profits you are bringing in, what works, what doesn't. Money management. This way you know what you should change, where to spend your marketing dollars, who your target customer is and where to find them, you name it! Keep this piece of your business organized, always.

**5 Goal Oriented and Future Focused.** Set obtainable goals for yourself and your company. Reach them, celebrate and then set new ones. Be future focused and make decisions based on the future of your company.

**6 Passionate.** Love what you do, who you are, what you sell and everyone else will too. Passion and energy are easy to see. Having your own business requires a lot of time and effort, so do something that makes you happy.

**7 Leadership.** Whether you are a one person show or have a team of 10+ employees, you need to be a leader in your industry and lead your team to success. You want everyone to look to you for direction, this shows you are knowledgeable, successful and people want to learn from you.

**8 Honest and Humble.** Successful business owners are honest and have integrity. Who wants to buy low quality from the bad guy...no one. Be honest and humble about your successes with your customers and yourself and you will maintain a good image. Celebrate your successes and those of the people in your company, but always remember to remain humble.

What traits do you possess that help you run your small business? After reading our list, are you inclined to start your own business? Tweet us @TheDelta13.

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# 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.

**MARCH 01 - APRIL 29**

## 2018 Dynamic Billiard Treviso Open

**03/01 - 03/03**

Best Western Premier BHR Treviso Hotel  
Treviso  
Website: <http://www.eurotouronline.eu/>

## World Pool Masters 2018

**03/02 - 03/04**

Tercentenary Sports Hall, Victoria Stadium  
Gibraltar, Gibraltar  
Website: <http://www.matchroom-pool.com/page/WorldPoolMasters/Home>

## 9th N.E. Pool & Billiard Hall of Fame 9-Ball Open

**03/03 - 03/04**

Snookers - Sports Billiards, Bar & Grill  
Providence, RI  
Website: <http://www.joss9balltour.com/>

## Falcon Cues Quebec Tour Stop

**03/03 - 03/04**

Salon De Billard Heriot  
Drummondville, Quebec  
Website: <http://www.falconcuesquebectour.com/>

## Jogja Open

**03/03 - 03/11**

Jakarta  
Jakarta

## Kevin Ketz Memorial

**03/10 - 03/11**

Trick Shot Billiards  
Clifton Park, NY  
Website: <http://www.joss9balltour.com>

## Sunshine State Pro Am Tour 2018 Stop

**03/10 - 03/10**

Brewlands Bar & Billiards  
Tampa, Florida  
Website: <http://www.sunshinestate-proamtour.com/>

## New England 9-Ball Tour Stop #18

**03/10 - 03/10**

Straight Shooters Family Billiards  
Fall River, MA  
Website: <http://mdpromotions.com/>

## 2018 Florida State Open 10-Ball Championship

**03/10 - 03/11**

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

## Falcon Cues Quebec Tour Stop

**03/10 - 03/11**

Dooly's Edmunston  
Edmunston, Quebec  
Website: <http://www.falconcuesquebectour.com/>

## Lone Star Billiards Tour 2018 Stop 3

**03/10 - 03/11**

Fat Racks Billiards and Sports Lounge  
San Antonio, Texas  
Website: <http://www.lonestarbilliardstour.com/>

## Arizona Women's Billiards Tour 2018 Stop 1

**03/10 - 03/11**

Bullshooters  
Phoenix, AZ  
Website: <http://www.awbt.net>

## 2018 Mezz West State Tour Stop 2

**03/10 - 03/11**

Hard Times Billiards  
Sacramento, CA  
Website: <http://www.mezzweststatetour.com>

## 2018 Scotty Townsend Memorial

**03/16 - 03/23**

Arena Billiards  
West Monroe, LA

## Joss Tour 2017-2018 Stop 12

**03/17 - 03/18**

Hippo's House of Billiards  
Yorkville, NY  
Website: <http://www.joss9balltour.com/>

## AllOutPool Tour 2018 Stop 2

**03/17 - 03/18**

Park Avenue Billiards  
Orange Park, FL

## New England 9-Ball Tour Player's Championship

**03/17 - 03/18**

Yale Billiards  
Wallingford, Connecticut  
Website: <http://mdpromotions.com/>

# Upcoming Tournaments

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**MARCH 01 - APRIL 29**

## Falcon Cues Quebec Tour Stop

**03/17 - 03/18**

Billard Lounge L'Abasie  
Trois-Riveres, Quebec  
Website: <http://www.falconcuesquebec.com/>

## Gulf Coast Women's Regional Tour 2018 Stop 2

**03/17 - 03/18**

Bogies Billiards & Games  
Houston, TX  
Website: <http://gulfcoastregionaltour.com>

## 2018 BCAPL Wisconsin State Championships

**03/20 - 03/25**

KI Convention Center  
Green Bay, WI  
Website: <http://www.playbca.com/>

## 2018 US Open One Pocket Championship

**03/22 - 03/25**

Griff's  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Website: <http://www.playcsipool.com>

## Sunshine State Pro Am Tour 2018 Stop

**03/24 - 03/25**

Cuephoria  
Orlando, Florida  
Website: <http://www.sunshinestateproamtour.com/>

## DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop

**03/24 - 03/25**

Rusty's Billiards  
Arlington, TX  
Website: <https://dfw9bt.com>

## New England 9-Ball Tour Stop #20

**03/24 - 03/24**

Legends Sports Bar & Grill  
Auburn, ME  
Website: <http://mdpromotions.com/>

## 6th Annual Big Tyme Classic

**03/29 - 04/01**

Big Tyme Billiards  
Spring, Texas

## Gate City 9-Ball Shootout

**03/31 - 03/31**

Gate City Billiards Club  
Greensboro, NC  
Website: <https://www.facebook.com/thecarolinabilliardstour>

## New England 9-Ball Tour Stop #21

**03/31 - 03/31**

Straight Shooters Family Billiards  
Fall River, MA  
Website: <http://mdpromotions.com/>

## Dixieland Classic II

**04/05 - 04/08**

Cue Time Sports Bar & Grill  
Spartanburg, SC  
Website: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Great-Southern-Billiard-Tour/252833964374>

## Joss Tour 2017-2018 Stop 13

**04/07 - 04/08**

Union Station Billiards  
Portland, Maine  
Website: <http://www.joss9balltour.com/>

## Falcon Cues Quebec Tour Stop

**04/07 - 04/08**

Le Spot Billiards  
Rimouski, Quebec  
Website: <http://www.falconcuesquebec.com/>

## 2018 Mezz West State Tour Stop 3

**04/07 - 04/08**

Plush Pocket  
Northridge, California  
Website: <http://www.mezzweststatetour.com>

## Northwest Cup

**04/07 - 04/08**

15th Street Grill  
Auburn, Washington

## New England 9-Ball Tour Stop #22

**04/08 - 04/08**

Snookers - Sports Billiards, Bar & Grill  
Providence, RI  
Website: <http://mdpromotions.com/>

## AllOutPool Tour 2018 Stop 3

**04/14 - 04/15**

K & K Billiards  
Miami, Florida

## New England 9-Ball Tour Stop #23

**04/21 - 04/21**

Yale Billiards  
Wallingford, Connecticut  
Website: <http://mdpromotions.com/>

# Upcoming Tournaments

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**MARCH 01 - APRIL 29**

## Florida Pool Tour 2018 Stop 4

**04/21 - 04/21**

Capone's Billiard Lounge  
Spring Hill, FL  
Website: <http://uspoisontour.com/>

## 2018 Mezz West State Tour Stop 4

**04/21 - 04/22**

Diamond Billiards  
Fresno, California  
Website: <http://www.mezzweststatetour.com>

## Lone Star Billiards Tour 2018 Stop 4

**04/21 - 04/22**

Bogies Billiards & Games  
Houston, TX  
Website: <http://www.lonestarbilliardstour.com/>

## Upper Midwest Pro Am

**04/27 - 04/29**

CR's Sports Bar  
Coon River, Minnesota

## Joss Tour 2017-2018 Stop 14

**04/28 - 04/29**

Raxx Pool Room, Sports Bar & Grill  
West Hempstead, NY  
Website: <http://www.joss9balltour.com>

## Sunshine State Pro Am Tour 2018 Stop

**04/28 - 04/28**

Corner Pocket  
Largo, FL  
Website: <http://www.sunshinestateproamtour.com/>

## DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop

**04/28 - 04/29**

JR Pockets  
Denton, Texas  
Website: <https://dfw9bt.com>

## New England 9-Ball Tour Stop #24

**04/28 - 04/28**

Maxamillian's Billiards  
Tyngsboro, Ma  
Website: <http://mdpromotions.com/>

## Falcon Cues Quebec Tour Grande Finale

**04/28 - 04/29**

Dooly's Billiards  
Valleyfield, Quebec  
Website: <http://www.falconcuesquebectour.com/>

## Arizona Women's Billiards Tour 2018 Stop 2

**04/28 - 04/29**

Freezer's Ice House  
Tempe, Az  
Website: <http://www.awbt.net>

## Diamond Pool Tour 2018 Stop 1

**04/28 - 04/29**

Bullshooters  
Phoenix, AZ  
Website: <http://www.diamondpooltour.com>

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# Tourney Results

**02/03 - 02/03**

## Tri State Tour 2017-2018

### Steinway Billiards

- Astoria, NY  
 1 Dimos Markopoulos \$820  
 2 Abel Rosario \$540  
 3 Max Watanabe \$330  
 4 Alex Osipov \$205  
 5 Mac Jankov \$130  
 5 Carlos Serrano \$130  
 7 Daniel Feliciano \$100  
 7 Shweta Zaveri \$100

**02/03 - 02/04**

## Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

### Gate City Billiards Club

- Greensboro, NC  
 1 Don Lilly \$675  
 2 Mark Tademy \$450  
 3 Alex Valencia \$250  
 4 Steve Hughes \$125  
 5 Steve Reece \$75  
 5 Dalton Messer \$75  
 7 Oscar Bonilla \$50  
 7 Cody Jones \$50

**02/03 - 02/04**

## Florida State Amateur 9-Ball Championship

### Zingales Billiards

- Tallahassee, Florida  
 1 Stephen Richmond \$3,000  
 2 Miguel Batista \$2,500  
 3 Nick Applebee \$1,500  
 4 Michael Delawder \$1,000  
 5 Denny Singletary \$500  
 5 Steve Foster \$500  
 7 Rod Rentz \$250  
 7 Matt Bulfin \$250  
 9 Mike Griffin \$180  
 9 Jason Wells \$180  
 9 Bruce Choyce \$180  
 9 Wesley White \$180  
 13 David Jacobs \$150  
 13 JR Rossman \$150  
 13 Mitchell Nelson \$150  
 13 James Adams \$150

- 17 Gary Gilsinan \$40  
 17 Derek Fowler \$40  
 17 Christobal DeBarros \$40  
 17 Marcus Murillo \$40  
 17 Randy Jordan \$40  
 17 Robert Batson \$40  
 17 Jesse Link \$40  
 17 Jesse Middlebrook \$40

**02/10 - 02/11**

## Predator Pro-Am Tour 2018 Amateur

### CueBar Billiards

- Bayside, NY  
 1 Ada Lio \$1,400  
 2 Bryan Toolsee \$950  
 3 Matt Klein \$650  
 4 Geovani Hosang \$400  
 5 Rikki Ragoonanan \$250  
 5 Erick Carrasco \$250  
 7 Jim Curti \$200  
 7 John Salmon \$200  
 9 Ryan Dayrit \$150  
 9 Alex Osipov \$150  
 9 Jim Gutierrez \$150  
 9 Dan McGinnis \$150  
 13 Amu Yue Yu \$100  
 13 Sean Geronimo \$100  
 13 Mark Zamora \$100  
 13 Max Watanabe \$100  
 17 Jeffrey Ho \$80  
 17 Matthew Harricharan \$80  
 17 Mike Panzarella \$80  
 17 Akiko Taniyama \$80  
 17 Jose Estevez \$80  
 17 Naoko Saiki \$80  
 17 Kanami Chau \$80  
 17 Mio Celaj \$80

**02/10 - 02/11**

## Sunshine State Pro Am Tour 2018 Stop #2

### Uncle Waldo's Billiards

- Daytona Beach, FL  
 1 Tommy Kennedy \$700  
 2 Anthony Meglino \$475  
 3 David Singleton \$320  
 4 Asia Cyczak \$215

- 5 Pierre Palmieri \$150  
 5 Shaun Lovett \$150  
 7 Justin McNulty \$100  
 7 Les Duffy \$100

**02/10 - 02/11**

## 2018 Virginia State 10-Ball Championship

### Diamond Billiards

- Midlothian, VA  
 1 Ruslan Chinakhov \$2,000  
 2 Warren Kiamco \$1,200  
 3 Reymart Lim \$800  
 4 Mike Davis \$500  
 5 John Newton \$400  
 5 Kirill Rutman \$400  
 7 Eric Moore \$300  
 7 Kenny Miller \$300  
 9 Chris Bruner \$200  
 9 James Blackburn \$200  
 9 Shaun Wilkie \$200  
 9 Shane Buchanan \$200  
 13 Tim Colvin \$150  
 13 Joe Chester \$150  
 13 R.J. Carmona \$150  
 13 Mike Badstuebner \$150

**02/10 - 02/11**

## 2018 Virginia State Women's 10-Ball Championship

### Diamond Billiards

- Midlothian, VA  
 1 Janet Atwell \$800  
 2 Lisa Cossette \$500  
 3 Nicole King \$250  
 4 Meredith Lynch \$150

**02/10 - 02/11**

## Gulf Coast Women's Regional Tour 2018 Stop 1

### Bogies Billiards & Games

- Houston, TX  
 1 Terry Petrosino \$520  
 2 Ming Ng \$350  
 3 Gail Eaton \$210  
 4 Ellen Robinson \$100  
 5 Robyn Petrosino \$50

5 Aryana Lynch \$50  
7 Monica De Tuncq \$30  
7 Yvonne Asher \$30

## 02/10 - 02/11

### Lone Star Billiards Tour 2018 Stop 2 Open Division

#### Bogies Billiards & Games

Houston, TX  
1 Ernesto Bayaua \$525  
2 Manny Chau \$350  
3 Joey Torres \$260  
4 Denis Strickland \$175  
5 Shane LeBlanc \$85  
5 Chad Reece \$85  
7 Will Felder \$60  
7 Tommy Tokoph \$60  
9 Bob Valliere \$35  
9 Chris Rogers \$35  
9 Jong Yoo \$35  
9 Dale Briones \$35

## 02/10 - 02/11

### Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

#### Brass Tap Billiards

Raleigh, NC  
1 Brian Bryant \$700  
2 Avery Reece \$500  
3 Jason Rogers \$275  
4 Anthony Mabe \$125  
5 Cameron Lawhorne \$75  
5 Scott Roberts \$75  
7 Jesse White \$50  
7 JR Poste \$50

## 02/10 - 02/11

### Lone Star Billiards Tour 2018 Stop 2 Amateur Division

#### Bogies Billiards & Games

Houston, TX  
1 David Mendiola \$510  
2 Steve Lenz \$330  
3 Brian Rosenbaum \$240  
4 Carl Honey \$160  
5 Joey Bourgeois Jr. \$80  
5 Joe Pelayo \$80  
7 Chris Rogers \$50  
7 Bill Fuller \$50  
9 Jong Yoo \$25  
9 John Braud \$25  
9 Rudy Sanchez \$25  
9 Will Felder \$25

## 02/11 - 02/11

### Predator Pro-Am Tour 2018 Open/ Pro

#### CueBar Billiards

Bayside, NY  
1 Kudlik Marek \$750  
2 Alexandros Kazakis \$500  
3 Raphael Dabreo \$300  
4 Tony Robles \$100

## 02/15 - 02/19

### 4th Texas 10-Ball Championship

#### Skinny Bob's Billiards

Round Rock, Texas  
1 Ruslan Chinakhov \$4,900  
2 Kenny Loftis \$2,700  
3 Ronnie Alcano \$1,700  
4 Charlie Bryant \$1,000  
5 Skyler Woodward \$630  
7 Roberto Gomez \$460  
7 Jeremy Jones \$460  
9 Alejandro Calderon \$300  
9 Robb Saez \$300  
9 Jeffrey De Luna \$300  
9 John Morra \$300  
13 Eric Aicinena \$210  
13 Shane Manaole \$210  
13 Mitch Ellerman \$210  
13 Manny Chau \$210  
17 Ian Castello \$160  
17 Sean Black \$160  
17 Casper Matikainen \$160  
17 Tommy Sanders \$160  
17 John Gabriel \$160  
17 Julio Burgos \$160  
17 James Davis Jr. \$160  
17 Tom D'Alfonso \$160  
25 Warren Kiamco \$125  
25 John Eagle III \$125  
25 Frank Bess \$125  
25 Danny Smith \$125  
25 Jesus Atencio \$125  
25 John Wright \$125  
25 John Palmore \$125  
25 Robert Flores \$125

## 02/15 - 02/19

### 4th Texas 10-Ball Championship Ladies

#### Skinny Bob's Billiards

Round Rock, Texas  
1 Jennifer Kraber \$700  
2 Ming Ng \$450  
3 Gail Eaton \$340

4 Michelle Cortez \$230  
5 Kelly Isaac \$170  
5 Chris Fields \$170  
7 Kim Sanders \$110  
7 Audrey Arcelli \$110

## 02/17 - 02/18

### Northeast 9-Ball Open XXX

#### Sharpshooters Billiards & Sports Pub

Amsterdam, NY  
1 Jeremy Sossei \$1,100  
2 Spencer Auigbelle \$800  
3 Matt Tetreault \$600  
4 Bruce Carroll \$450  
5 David Giner \$300  
5 Bucky Souvanthong \$300  
7 Bruce Nagle \$150  
7 Jorge Teixeira \$150

## 02/17 - 02/18

### DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop #2

#### The Billiard Den

Richardson, TX  
1 Rick Stanley \$1,190  
2 CJ Wiley \$730  
3 Corey Flud \$580  
4 TJ Davis \$420  
5 Amos Bush \$390  
5 Judd Hunter \$390  
7 Steve Collins \$230  
7 Marcelino Santiago \$230  
9 Donnie Gregory \$120  
9 Steve Horne \$120  
9 Roman Bayda \$120  
9 Cody Wright \$120  
13 Alberto Garcia \$85  
13 Gerardo Perez \$85  
13 Suliman Abu Salem \$85  
13 Jeff Georges \$85  
17 Douglas Pitts \$50  
17 James Talmon \$50  
17 Pete Stoval \$50  
17 Paul Guernsey \$50  
17 Steve Raynes \$50  
17 Mike Nagaki \$50  
17 Mike Voelkering \$50  
17 John Doughty \$50

## 02/17 - 02/17

### New England 9-Ball Tour Stop #16

#### Yale Billiards

Wallingford, Connecticut  
1 Michael Mathieu \$550

# Monthly Results

- 2 Kevin Brule \$275
- 3 Ali Raza \$150
- 4 Joann Cobbett \$125
- 5 Ryan Urso \$100
- 5 Marc Murphy \$100
- 7 Ryan McQuade \$75
- 7 Darryl Helm \$75

## 02/17 - 02/18

### Falcon Cues Quebec Tour Stop

#### Dooly's Neufchatel

- Neufchatel, Quebec
- 1 Alain Martel \$1,065
- 2 Danny Hewitt \$820
- 3 Joey Cicero \$620
- 4 Nicolas Charette \$460
- 5 Maxime Villeneuve \$320
- 5 Jeff Blais \$320
- 7 Daniel Gagne \$200
- 7 Tom Theriault \$200
- 9 Martin Daigle \$90
- 9 Caron Audet \$90
- 9 Michael Bernier \$90
- 9 Stephane Pouliot \$90
- 13 Pierre Jubinville \$40
- 13 Sebastien Laramée \$40

- 13 Tommy Cayer \$40
- 13 Dave Tremblay \$40

## 02/17 - 02/18

### Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

#### The Clubhouse

- Lynchburg, Virginia
- 1 Don Lilly \$700
- 2 Collin Hall \$500
- 3 Scott Roberts \$250
- 4 Lance Davis \$150
- 5 Michael Wyatt \$100
- 5 Chris Bush \$100
- 7 Bo Blakely \$100
- 7 Bernie Kirby \$100

## 02/17 - 02/18

### Northeast 9-Ball Open XXX Second Chance

#### Sharpshooters Billiards & Sports Pub

- Amsterdam, NY
- 1 Jarred Zimmerman \$300
- 2 Mark Stewart \$200
- 3 Mike Hurley \$140

- 4 Joshua Scheff \$100
- 5 Greg Bombard \$40
- 5 Nick Brucato \$40

## 02/17 - 02/17

### Garden State Pool Tour Stop

#### Black Diamond Billiards

- Union, New Jersey
- 1 Nick Quaglia \$350
- 2 Max Watanabe \$200
- 3 Mark Lamberti \$100
- 4 Kevin Serodio \$50

## 02/18 - 02/18

### Tri State Tour 2017-2018

#### Steinway Billiards

- Astoria, NY
- 1 Shivam Gupta \$795
- 2 Vinny Crescimanno \$530
- 3 Dave Callaghan \$320
- 4 Ralph Ramos, Sr. \$210
- 5 Ralph Ramos, Jr. \$130
- 5 John Francisco \$130
- 7 Jose Baez \$90
- 7 Dave Shlemperis \$90



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- 9 Jaydev Zaveri \$75
- 9 Suzanna Wong \$75
- 9 Kevin Chong \$75
- 9 Mio Celaj \$75

## 02/22 - 02/25

### 2018 NAPT Women's Division II Championship

#### Hard Times Billiards

Sacramento, CA

- 1 Tina Pawloski Malm \$1,450
- 2 Leslie Bernardi \$1,100
- 3 Janna Sue Nelson \$900
- 4 Bernie Store \$750
- 5 Emily Callado \$525
- 5 Susan Williams \$525
- 7 Elaine Wilson \$425
- 7 Sara Miller \$425
- 9 Judie Wilson \$325
- 9 Valerie Bedard \$325
- 9 Stephanie Hefner \$325
- 9 Kia Sidbury \$325
- 13 Jana Montour \$225
- 13 Tam Trinh \$225
- 13 Shannon Dunn \$225
- 13 Jessica Skye \$225

- 17 Kelly Jones \$150
- 17 Laura Bendikas \$150
- 17 Nicole King \$150
- 17 Kathy Stanley \$150
- 17 Kelly Nickl \$150
- 17 Farla Salmonovitch \$150
- 17 Leandrea Gaff \$150
- 17 Laura Semko \$150

## 02/24 - 02/25

### Jay Swanson «Swanee» Memorial 9-Ball Tournament 2018

#### On Cue Billiards

La Mesa, CA

- 1 Erik HJORLEIFSON \$2,500
- 2 Manny Perez \$1,500
- 3 Oscar Dominguez \$900
- 4 Vilmos Foldes \$600
- 5 Mitch Ellerman \$400
- 5 Dave Hemmah \$400
- 7 Brian Parks \$300
- 7 Fach Garcia \$300
- 9 Mika Immonen \$215
- 9 Justin Marks \$215
- 9 Ernesto Dominguez \$215
- 9 Danny Gokhel \$215

- 13 Bobby Emmons \$160
- 13 Ruben Escalera \$160
- 13 Ray Reyes \$160
- 13 Sal Butera \$160
- 17 Vince Vidaurre \$120
- 17 John Pasquarella \$120
- 17 Ernie Rivas \$120
- 17 Jeff Nesbihal \$120
- 17 Victor Ignacio \$120
- 17 Ben Hrabina \$120
- 17 Hiroko Makiyama \$120
- 17 Damian Rebman \$120
- 25 Anjo Reyes \$80
- 25 Blake Kamiab \$80
- 25 Benedick Dedicatoria \$80
- 25 Shaun Murphy \$80
- 25 Dave Pino \$80
- 25 Melissa Herndon \$80
- 25 Damien Alishan \$80
- 25 Ray Lorenzo \$80

## 02/24 - 02/24

### AllOutPool Tour 2018 Stop 1

#### Shooters Billiards

Port St. Lucie, Florida

- 1 Anthony Meglino \$870



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- 4 Tommy Kennedy \$200
- 5 Jim Sandaler \$150
- 5 Kenny Willis \$150
- 7 Jason Sheerman \$120
- 7 Gaston Leblanc \$120
- 9 Kris Clark \$80
- 9 Hamilton Boss \$80
- 9 Mark Coats \$80
- 9 Chris Gentile \$80
- 13 Dennis Searing \$50
- 13 Scott Nodell \$50
- 13 John Ditoro \$50
- 13 Sam Kantar \$50

## 02/24 - 02/24

### New England 9-Ball Tour Joe Brown Memorial

#### Buster's Billiards

- Somersworth, NH
- 1 Mike Minichello \$540
- 2 Richard Comeau \$275
- 3 Carlos Aguilar \$170
- 4 Mike Nigrelli \$125
- 5 Eric Newell \$65
- 5 Ben Benson \$65

- 7 Jay Cunningham \$50
- 7 Eli Davenport \$50
- 9 Samoth Sam \$35
- 9 Matt Gagne \$35
- 9 Andrew Nash \$35
- 9 Al Thibideau \$35

## 02/24 - 02/25

### Empire State 10-Ball Championship 2018

#### Raxx Pool Room, Sports Bar & Grill

- West Hempstead, NY
- 1 Zion Zvi \$2,000
- 2 Mieszko Fortunski \$1,500
- 3 Konrad Juszczyzyn \$500
- 4 Greg McAndrews \$200
- 5 Michael Yednak \$100
- 5 Joe Korsiak \$100

## 02/24 - 02/25

### Joss Tour 2017-2018 Stop 9

#### Eastridge Billiards

- Rochester, New York
- 1 Dave Dreidel \$1,000
- 2 Ron Casanzio \$750
- 3 Bucky Souvanthong \$600

- 4 Jerry Crowe \$450
- 5 Joe Mayo \$300
- 5 Spencer Auigbelle \$300
- 7 Bruce Nagle \$150
- 7 Sean Zeng \$150

## 02/24 - 02/25

### Kantuo Open 10-Ball Championship Men's Division

#### Tokyo

- Tokyo,
- 1 Li Wen Lo \$2,263

## 02/24 - 02/25

### Sidepocket Open 9-Ball Championship

#### Side Pocket Billiards

- Shreveport, LA
- 1 Skyler Woodward \$2,765
- 2 Alejandro Calderon \$1,343
- 3 Kevin Guimond \$1,027
- 4 Robb Saez \$711
- 5 Roberto Gomez \$475
- 5 Jeff Melton \$475
- 7 Jason McKenzie \$276

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- 7 Tony Sulsar \$276
- 9 Brad Weast \$138
- 9 Greg Sandifur \$138
- 9 Tavo Velazquez \$138
- 9 CJ Wiley \$138

## 02/24 - 02/25

### Empire State 10-Ball Championship 2018 Amateur Division 9-Ball

#### Raxx Pool Room, Sports Bar & Grill

- West Hempstead, NY
- 1 Jason Carandang \$2,000
- 2 Steven Romann \$1,500
- 3 Shawn Jackson \$1,000
- 4 Frank Cutrone \$650
- 5 Ada Lio \$450
- 5 Lukas Fracasso-Verner \$450
- 7 Paul Everton \$300
- 7 Jose Kuilan \$300
- 9 Matthias Gutzmann \$200
- 9 Adam Miller \$200
- 9 Travis Hopkins Walker \$200
- 9 Manny Stamatakos \$200
- 13 Monica Callaghan \$125
- 13 Amu Yue Yu \$125

- 13 Bryan Toolsee \$125
- 13 Eugene Ok \$125
- 17 Kris Bisram \$80
- 17 Ron Bernardo \$80
- 17 Dave Callaghan \$80
- 17 Eli Trajceski \$80
- 17 Aaron Moody \$80
- 17 Thomas Wan \$80
- 17 Mike Panzarella \$80
- 17 Chris Ganley \$80

## 02/24 - 02/25

### Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

#### Pal's Bar & Grill

- Piedmont, SC
- 1 Scotty Ward \$620
- 2 Kirk Hixon \$450
- 3 David Shipman \$300
- 4 David Lassiter \$175
- 5 Jim Jennings \$100
- 5 Ryan Hollingsworth \$100

## 02/24 - 02/25

### Kantuo Open 10-Ball Championship Ladies Division

## Tokyo

- Tokyo,
- 1 Allison Fisher \$2,360

## 02/25 - 02/25

### Tri State Tour 2017-2018

#### Steinway Billiards

- Astoria, NY
- 1 Craig Rempfer \$500
- 2 Suzanna Wong \$290
- 3 Luis Lopez \$190
- 4 Mike Mele \$120
- 5 Alex Podulke \$70
- 5 Erick Carrasco \$70

## 02/25 - 02/25

### Joss Tour 2017-2018 Stop 9 Second Chance

#### Eastridge Billiards

- Rochester, New York
- 1 Chris Braiman \$300
- 2 Sourith Thammavong \$200
- 3 Ryan Mayo \$140
- 4 James Chernaly \$80

APRIL 5-8TH 2018  
SHANNON DAULTON & CHAD STARK PRESENTS THE  
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**\$8,000 GUARANTEED ADDED**  
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PLAYED ON **DIAMOND** BAR TABLES  
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\$500 ENTRY 9' DIAMOND LIMITED TO 6 PLAYERS  
**10-BALL MINI - SATURDAY 10PM**  
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April 19-22 4 Bears Classic New Town, ND  
 April 27-29 Upper Midwest Pro-Am Coon Rapids, MN  
 May 2-6 Spring Classic 2018 Beloit, WI

**APRIL 19-22, 2018**  
 27<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**8-Ball Classic**  
 BCA Rules | Second Chance Tournaments

**APRIL 20, 6 PM** Prizes on 7-10 tables. Must be registered by April 15, 12 PM CST. After April 15 cash prizes set for 150, 500 returns after April 14.

<b>OPEN 8-BALL DIVISION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$10,000 added</li> <li>• Race to 6</li> <li>• Alt. break &amp; lag for break</li> <li>• Final 32 to redraw &amp; Calcutta</li> <li>• Entry fee: 125 (includes 120 green fee)</li> </ul>	<b>WOMEN'S 8-BALL DIVISION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$8,000 added</li> <li>• Race to 5</li> <li>• Alt. break &amp; lag for break</li> <li>• Final amount TBD to redraw &amp; Calcutta</li> <li>• Entry fee: 100 (includes 120 green fee)</li> </ul>
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**APRIL 19, 6 PM MINI 9-BALL TOURNEY**  
(machine to register 2 PM)

- Money added
- Race to 7
- Template racks allowed
- Entry fee: TBD pay onsite by 5 PM (not at players table)

Block of rooms available for players

**REGISTER AT:**  
[4bears.com](http://4bears.com)  
 OR  
 send entry fee to:  
 4 Bears 8-Ball Classic  
 Box 742  
 New Town, ND 58785

Carroll's Bar Prods. 701-421-9999  
 or Bill Jacobs, 707-421-1100

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**CR'S SPORTS BAR**

**APRIL 27-29TH 2018**  
**PRO-AM**

**\$8,000 GUARANTEED ADDED**

**\$6,000 GUARANTEED ADDED**  
 10-BALL DOUBLE ELIMINATION  
 \$125 ENTRY FEE RACE TO 11 ALT. BREAK  
 MAGIC RACK PLAYED ON 7 DIAMONDS  
 FRIDAY SATURDAY LIMITED TO 96 PLAYERS  
 PLAYERS AUCTION STARTS AT 6 PM

**\$2,000 GUARANTEED ADDED**  
 9-BALL SINGLE ELIMINATION  
 \$200 ENTRY FEE RACE TO 9 ALT. BREAK  
 MAGIC RACK PLAYED ON 7 DIAMONDS  
 SATURDAY NIGHT LIMITED TO 16 PLAYERS

**MORE INFO AT [WWW.CRSPORTSBAR.COM](http://WWW.CRSPORTSBAR.COM)**

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**MAY 2ND-6TH** *Jacky*

**SPRING CLASSIC 2018**  
**\$8,000 ADDED GUARANTEED**

**8-BALL \$2,000 ADDED GUARANTEED**  
 MAY 2ND - 4TH: \$500 ENTRY FEE FIRST 16 PLAYERS PAID  
 "TAKE WHAT YOU CAN GET" DOUBLE ELIMINATION  
 RACE TO 9 WINNER BREAKS  
 PLAYER AUCTION AT 3:00 PM WED. MATCHES BEGIN AFTER PLAYER AUCTION  
 1ST \$4,000 2ND \$2,000 3RD \$1,200 4TH \$1,100

**10-BALL \$6,000 ADDED GUARANTEED**  
 MAY 4TH - 6TH: \$200 ENTRY FEE FIRST 96 PLAYERS PAID  
 DOUBLE ELIMINATION RACE TO 9  
 ALTERNATE BREAKS RACE YOUR OWN WITH THE MAGIC RACK  
 PLAYER AUCTION AT 6:00 PM FRIDAY (100% PAYBACK)  
 MATCHES START RIGHT AFTER PLAYER AUCTION

**SATURDAY NIGHT 10-BALL**  
 MAY 6TH AT 9:30 PM: \$500 ENTRY FEE FIRST 16 PLAYERS PAID  
 RACE TO 7 WINNER BREAKS SINGLE ELIMINATION PLAYED ON 7 DIAMONDS  
 1ST \$5,000 2ND \$2,800

NO KIMP CUES ALLOWED. PLAYED ON 14 7" DIAMOND PRODUCE TABLES WITH  
 WINDUPS, MOORE CUEBALL, AND REARVIEW PRO CUP BEARING CUE BALLS.  
 PAYOUTS ARE BASED ON FULL FIELDS. NO COVER CHARGE AT THE DOOR.

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