

Billiards Buzz

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FEDOR

Dominates Derby

Billiards Buzz

Volume 7, Issue #65

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FROM THE Head Rail

MIKE HOWERTON

With Jayson Shaw dominating January, it was "Fedor February" at the Derby City Classic last month. With wins in two of the three major disciplines, and a Master of the Table title, Fedor had more winnings than the majority of top players have in a decent year. While that is certainly a comment on the money that is (not) available in the game, I think it is more of a comment on Fedor's amazing performance at Derby and how much better the game is looking this year. Pool is far from "over" the Covid situation, but if Derby was any indication, it's coming back pretty well.



If we thought February was crazy, March is looking to be even crazier. We have the World 10-Ball Championship, a Predator Pro Series event and two WPBA events, all on the calendar for March.

Although the story didn't make it to the pages this month, Mike Zuglan made an announcement just before press time that he has confirmed dates for the Turning Stone Classic XXXV on September 1st - 4th. If you want to play in this event, you need to get with Mike soon as he will fill this event up and there will be a waiting list just like always.

Until next time,

Mike

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CP-21

BRINGING CLASS
TO
THE TABLE





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COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING FOR TODAY'S POOL PLAYERS

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Modern-day elite athletes follow holistic training routines that go beyond simply hitting weights in the gym. In addition to physical training, these athletes often engage in various sport psychology training programs and use the latest technology to analyze their game and learn weaknesses of their opponents.

Pool players can learn from these contemporary approaches to training by also incorporating 3 important dimensions to their game: Physical, technical, and mental training.

Why a holistic approach makes sense

For pool players, success hinges on making balls, running tables, and winning tournaments – but what are the most effective and efficient ways of doing that? First, the #1 rule to successful pool play is to not beat yourself! Playing while tired, disinterested, inebriated, or injured are all situations to avoid as you minimize your chances for success for obvious reasons. Instead, a better, more effective approach is to approach each game with your best foot forward, and that can only happen by training in holistic ways as outlined below:

- **Physical.** This area of training relates to how well you take care of yourself, from the amount of rest you get each night to how stretched and ready to go your body is before

you chalk up for your first shot. Physical training includes light weight training, flexibility training, a healthy diet, and refraining from drugs and alcohol. The better you look and feel, the more confident you will play, and the more likely you'll win more games as a result.

- **Technical.** This is the one area pool players usually do a decent job at, as technical training includes shooting shots, executing table strategies, playing effective safeties, and learning everything else that needs to be learned to play solid pool. You might think of this as the “X’s and O’s” of sports, and includes watching video, taking lessons, and doing whatever is necessary to actually learn the game of pool.
- **Mental.** The final area of training, the mental dimension, in-



cludes learning how to relax under pressure, focus, and develop the self-confidence needed to know that you can get out of any situation at any time. Developing a pre-game routine, a pre-shot routine, and learning ways to effectively cope with stress are examples of things top players do in order to play their best.

You will get out of it what you put into it

Will a holistic approach take a little more time? Quite possibly, yes. But if the desired outcome is to start knocking off the better players in your area, then you might want to begin training in ways that allow you to feel great physically, understand the finer points of the game, and execute successfully – even under pressure. Train like a champion and you'll play like a champion!

Dr. Christopher Stankovich is a nationally acclaimed expert in Sport & Performance Psychology and the Founder of Advanced Human Performance Systems. For more information on performance-enhancement products, including the popular “Mind of Steel for Pool Success” conveniently streamed to your phone/pad please visit www.drstankovich.com

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THREE TYPES OF GOALS FOR YOUR POOL GAME

ANTHONY BEELER

Did you know that your goals for pool should be written or typed? Studies have shown that putting your goals on paper will make your chances of achieving them roughly 20% greater than if you only thought about them.



The following three organization goals are sure to help you get your play off to a great start this year. Whether you are preparing for your next tournament, or you just feel the need for a fresh start, use the strategies below to get yourself prepared for your next big match. Setting good goals is absolutely a critical part of playing your best pool.

1. Outcome Goals

Outcome goals require you to think about what you would like to accomplish in the next 12 months. Use these goals to give yourself purpose and direction. Nothing is “etched in stone” and you can adjust them any time you see fit. In fact, I encourage my students to review their goals every month, or so, just to see if they are still appropriate. I encourage setting 1 month, 3, month, 6 month and 12-month goals. If you are exceeding your goals along the way, just adjust them up. If you cannot meet them, no worries, just adjust them down a bit. Failure to reach your most-lofty goals shouldn’t deter you from future improvement. The idea is to keep challenging yourself, but you must also be realistic as to what your expectations should be. Remember that your goals give you “direction” for your upcoming practice routines and you can use them to put a little pressure on your-

self during practice. Literally this is one way you can mirror the pressures of tournament play without being in a tournament.

Outcome Goal Examples:

- Your increased success percentage on various drills that are part of your practice routine
- Finishes you aspire to have, or the number of times you would like to place in local or regional tournaments
- Raising your league handicap to a specific level
- Achieving a higher “Fargo Rating”
- Any pool league stats you would like to improve upon

2. Physical Performance Goals

Physical Performance Goals require that you honestly assess your current skills, technique, and equipment to see how they match up with your outcome goals. Make a list of the aspects of your physical game that need to be strengthened to reach your outcome goals.

Physical Performance Goal Examples:

- Pocket more balls on the break
- Miss less shots
- Improve your decision making at the table



- Improvement of your ability to execute specialty shots

If needed, include:

- Goals for upgrading or changing your pool-playing equipment
- Take lessons from a certified instructor to enhance specific skills
- Incorporate specific types of drills into your practice routine.

3. Mental Performance Goals

Mental Performance Goals require an insightful look at why you have not been playing to your potential or getting the most out of your game. Make a list of the mental skills you need to strengthen to reach your outcome goals.

Some specific examples might include:

- Improving your focus when you are down on the shot

- Learn how to better handle high-pressure situations during match play
- Enhance your ability to better manage your emotions
- Follow your complete mental game pre-shot process
- Stay committed to your pre-shot routine
- Improve self-talk

If you are not sure where you need to start, you can enroll at Virtual Billiard Academy, and I will help you develop specific goals related to your individ-

ual playing needs. My online academy has various lessons addressing all topics that affect your play. Students enrolled can set all three types of goals and share them to get personalized feedback. While simply creating a list of goals can be helpful, remember that your list should be realistic and unique to you. Everyone measures success differently, and a successful year of pool might be different for you when compared to someone else. Just get out your pen and paper or login to a computer and you'll be on your way to a better game in no time!

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

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8-ball pool ball

Jim Pierce

By MICHELLE HUGHES
Social Media Specialist
Biggelbachs.com

Focused on playability? We've got you covered. A cue maker that describes himself as a pool player first. This month's "Meet the Cue Maker" features Jim Pierce of Pierce Custom Cues.

Jim Pierce, 50 resides in American Falls, Idaho with his girlfriend Amy and their two Shih Tzus Lula and Jazzy. Although presently in Idaho, most of his childhood up until he was a young adult was spent in the Modesto, California area. It was there Jim was first introduced to the game of pool by his aunt in the early 80's. She had a 9-foot Gold Crown table at home and he remembers the strug-

gle of being 10 years old and having to stand on a stool to reach for shots. Although pool made appearances in his life as a young adult, it wasn't until his early 20's that pool really held Jim's interest. Instead, he was pushing the limit with other extreme sports. By age 10, Jim was devoted to BMX riding but later transitioned to competitive skateboarding at age 15. He continued skateboarding until he was challenged to make the jump to snowboarding at age 19. Having obtained sponsorship in both, he found more passion in snowboarding and made a full transition by age 22. After numerous competitions along with becoming a representative for Sasquatch Snowboards, it was an unfortunate knee injury in 1996 that ended his boarding career. During the snowboarding off season, Jim maintained employment at his mother's interior design business. His work involved building custom window treatments and installation. This is where he developed his extensive wood working skills. Upscale window treatment and design continued to be Jim's main profession until 2008 and continues to be part of his side projects to this day.

Although he was still heavily involved in snowboarding along with his work in window treatments, it was in the early 90's when Jim started getting back into the world of pool. Between



snowboarding seasons, he found a local Modesto pool room where he met well-known pool player Nick Cano. It was Nick who taught him how to play. At the time, Jim was in his early 20's, living at home with his mother and staying out all night shooting pool. That's when his mom finally shared their family ties about his great uncle; both world champion and BCA Hall of Famer Jimmy Caras. This only added fire to his passion for the game and the next step was focusing on the equipment. While he was on a trip to Boise, he stopped at a shop owned by Mike Givens of Michelangelo Custom Cues. He had only gone in to have a tip replaced but after practicing with it on the showroom table, Mike offered him a sponsorship. He took the opportunity to ask Mike if he could help build his next cue. He was told to pick his woods and began creating a design. Together they finished that cue in about 7 months and Jim knew right then his desire to add cue maker to his list of professions.

Jim acquired a used lathe from Craigslist and began spending night and day building cues in his garage. Although his primary means of income was on the decline due to his new passion, it led to a new sustainability when the crash of 2008 hit. People





were no longer spending as much money on home improvement, and he took the opportunity to make the switch to full-time cue maker. He established Pierce Custom Cues and rented a large industrial shop in Oakdale, California. He turned a small portion into a livable studio and the rest was devoted to cue building. He developed a weekly routine to refine his technique and craftsmanship. With his primary goal of playability, he sought out feedback from fellow players. Every Monday he'd go to a pool hall in Modesto called Championship Billiards. It was filled with strong players who would give him their feedback on newly made cues and what they would like modified. When it comes to technique, Jim typically uses the short splice method. However, this year he states he will be using more variety and will include full splice as well. He doesn't have a signature design but says they have been fairly streamlined since about 2008. He favors using rich woods with earth tones such as olive wood, tulip wood and coco bola. He also loves the simplicity and often under rated look of Birdseye maple. His detailing is done by hand or with razor blades and he chooses not to use a CNC machine. While he makes cues both with and without a wrap, he prefers wrap-less stating, "you can get much more feedback from the cue without them". To this day, he still uses the original lathe he purchased and modified

from Craigslist. It spins 10 to 12 hours a day and only requires about \$70 a year in maintenance costs. He builds all his own machinery and advises he was one of the first to use lasered bumpers. Now he not only makes his own, but also creates them for a few other cue makers as well as Prather. It's also the bumper where you'll find his "Pierce Custom Cues" lasered signature. For years he was ahead of schedule until he moved to American Falls, Idaho in 2012. He acknowledges timeliness has been an issue in the past. However, his goal for 2022 is to get caught up on all active orders and get back to finishing cues ahead of schedule. Jim says he appreciates every time "someone picks you to build a cue when there are hundreds of cue makers out there". He has big plans and says you can expect new and exciting stuff coming out of the shop this year.

Jim really wanted to acknowledge a few key people that have helped him along the way: His long-time friend who has since passed, Tommie Moser as well as Joe Lolley and Bill Lister. Jim also notes his friendship with legendary cue maker Tom Coker. It was actually Tom's son Grady who taught him how to spray and finish cues. He's grateful for his success and being in a position that he can even give back to the community. Every year he donates a cue to St. Jude's to be raffled and makes it a priority to support fundraisers for other local players experiencing loss. When it comes to mentors, Jim states besides Mike Givens, he's pri-

marily learned on his own. He doesn't have any direct influences but he does have an appreciation for other's work. His favorite cue maker is Dennis Searing saying, "he's the best cue maker in the industry and known for his precision". He also loves the work of Shelby Williams for his innovative designs and "wow factor".

To date, Jim states his career highlight was in 2013 during an event at the Riviera Las Vegas when several pros including Rodney Morris, Jose Parica and Amar Kang were all shooting with his cues. If you want to get a Pierce Custom Cue like the pros use, they typically start at around \$600 for a Sneaky Pete and go up to around \$3,000 depending on design. Jim specifically states he "doesn't build cues for collectors. I build cues for players, and I want them to be able to afford it". He produces about 75-95 cues per year and the best way to acquire one of your own is to contact one of his brokers. You can reach out to Bill Lister or Johnny Cisneros. Or you can also check out Biggelbachs.com or Seyberts.com for a list of in stock Pierce cues. Lastly, you can reach him directly on Piercecustomcues.weebly.com or the Pierce Custom Cue fans on Facebook. If you're in Philadelphia this April, you'll also likely find him lingering around the Super Billiards Expo. Feel free to say hello or make it interesting by challenging this "pool player first" to some action. Either way, we know you'll enjoy meeting this well-rounded cue maker.



Michelle Hughes is a long-time pool enthusiast from the Pacific Northwest. During Covid, on a furlough from her full-time career as a flight attendant, Michelle opted to hang out with the Biggelbachs helping with social media, streaming, and cues. She quickly fell in love with the craftsmanship and artisanship of custom cues. Join her in this monthly column on her quest to learn more about cue makers and their respective craft.

Gospel Trick Shot #25

Bad Influence

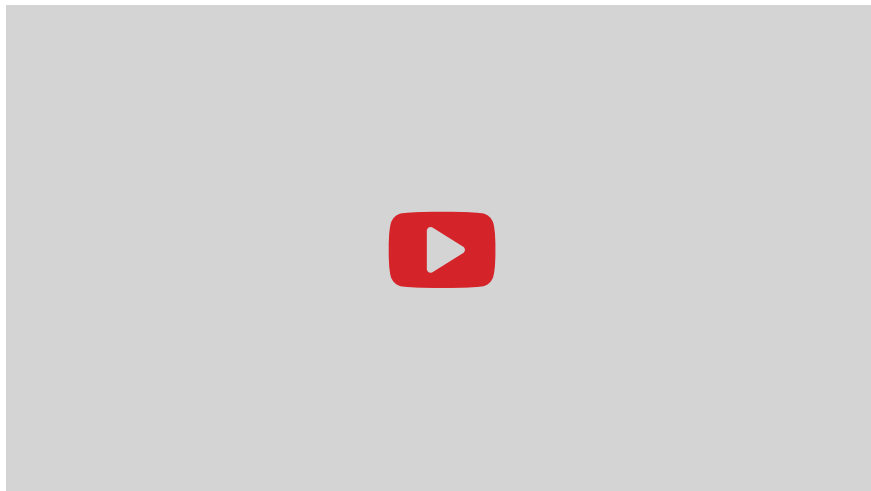
History of the Trick Shot: This month we are returning to the WPA Artistic Pool program using a jump shot from Disciple 7 Shot 2b. The value of this shot in the recent 2020 Artistic Pool program is 7 points which makes it a relatively easy jump shot. Brian “Superman” Pauley is a world ranked Artistic Pool player and demonstrates this shot in the video. He decided to call it “Bad Influence” when converting it into a Gospel Trick Shot. This is yet another example of using an Artistic Pool shot or any other trick shot for that matter to relay a spiritual principle or life lesson message that will not only entertain the crowd but will leave them with perhaps a life changing message.

GTS Name and Why: As Brian explains in the video sometimes in life there are bad influences or bad choices that can creep up on us and we become trapped. When we make poor choices, we suffer the consequences! Jesus always makes a way of escape for us! Most importantly, he died on the cross and paid the penalty for our mistakes. After that atoning sacrifice on the cross, Jesus ascended back to Heaven and sent us the Holy Spirit to help guide us to good choices and make a way of escape when needed. Brian also mentions Heaven and uses the 9-Ball to illustrate the goal. Someday after trusting Jesus in this life our struggle with poor choices will be over because we will be with Him for eternity! That’s a good choice and Good News!

Scripture References in NIV Translation: I Corinthians 15:33 – “Do not be misled: Bad company corrupts good character.” And Romans 10:9 – “If you declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

Cue Ball Placement: In hand between head cushion and blocker balls.

Object Ball(s) Placement: ‘A’ ball is in hand, but frozen to the cue ball. ‘C’ ball is hanging in pocket ‘C’. A row of 6 blocker balls is exactly two ball widths from head cushion.

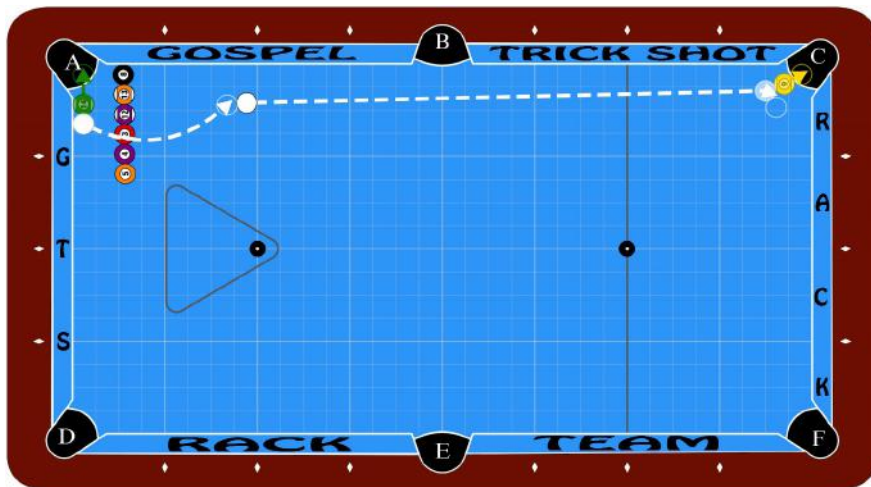


Objective: Jump cue ball over the blocker balls. ‘A’ ball will go in to pocket ‘A’. Cue ball will hit ‘C’ ball in to pocket ‘C’.

Special Notes: Blocker balls may not be contacted by any means until after object balls are made.

Crowd Reactions Through the Years: In Artistic Pool competition this shot is expected to be made by all competitors and if not the contestant as well as their peers are disappointed as most Artistic Pool players and fans want to see the shots go in. The first time I saw this shot as a Gospel Trick Shot

was when Tom “Dr. Cue” Rossman, Brian “Superman” Pauley, and yours truly Steve “Leapin” Lillis were on a Midwest Gospel Trick Shot tour in Indiana a few years back in a high school gymnasium on the Gospel Trick Shot portable pool table. For Brian’s portion of the show, he did this shot as the bleachers were packed with people from the local town. I remember looking at their faces as they were thinking about what was said. Following Brian, I mentioned what I wrote above in “GTS Name and Why” above. That day we all witnessed people making a good choice to follow Jesus.



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2022 SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT	PROMOTER	EVENT STATUS
26-29 January	Derby City Classic 9-Ball		Ranking Event \$77,500 
14-21 February	 	nineball.	Non-Ranking \$100,000
26-28 February	Lasko Open		Ranking Event \$45,600 
6-10 April	WORLD POOL CHAMPIONSHIP	nineball.	Blue Ribbon \$325,000 
29-2 May	Treviso Open		Ranking Event \$45,600 
5-8 May	 WORLD POOL MASTERS	nineball.	Non-Ranking \$100,000
17-22 May	UK OPEN	nineball.	Major \$200,000 
14-19 June	world cup of pool	nineball.	Non Ranking \$250,000
24-27 June	St Johann im Pongau Open		Ranking Event \$45,600 
6-8 August	Petrich Open		Ranking Event \$45,600 
10-15 October	 	nineball.	Blue Ribbon \$300,000 
30-5 November	International 9-Ball Open	Accu-Stats	Ranking Event \$114,000 
15-20 November	EUROPEAN OPEN	nineball.	Major \$200,000 
25-27 November	Treviso Open		Ranking Event \$45,600 
30-3 December		nineball.	Non-Ranking \$225,000

Diamond Derby City Classic XXIII

January 21-29, 2022.

CAESARS SOUTHERN INDIANA

By DAVID THOMSON

Are we glad to be back? You bet your life we are!

With 1,316 total entrants, The 23rd incarnation of the Diamond Derby City Classic surpassed the pre-pandemic stat as did the \$346,000 prize money.

Diamond's president Chad Scharlow beamed. "Needless to say, we are forever grateful to our primary sponsors,

Caesars Southern Indiana, Simonis Cloth, and Aramith Balls.

"But most importantly, where would we be without the international field of competitors and their continued support? It's truly humbling to host the world's greatest players on our Indiana doorstep."

"Including," added DCC creator Greg Sullivan, "The G.O.A.T: Efren Reyes is in the arena. It's a real compliment to have Efren return, year after year—especially as he is always threatening to retire," laughed Greg.

Reyes had registered in the Bank Pool, One Pocket, and 9-Ball disciplines



Master of the Table, Fedor Gorst

where points are awarded towards becoming All-Around Champion; As a 5-time titlist, Reyes has captured more titles than any other mortal.

MASTER OF THE TABLE/ALL AROUND CHAMPION

The All Around Champion leaderboard finished with **Fedor Gorst 263. \$20,000; Jayson Shaw 205. \$3,000; Joshua Filler 180. \$2,000..**

The Derby's 4th event, the Diamond Big Foot 10-Ball Challenge got the balls rolling.

THE DIAMOND BIG FOOT 10-BALL CHALLENGE

Format: Race to 11; single-elimination; alternate break; foul on all balls; no jump cues; all 10-Balls pocketed win.

Mosconi Cup captains Jeremy Jones and Mark Wilson supplied the entertaining and Instructional commentary for you to enjoy and learn.

Accu-Stats is happy to report that. re consummate commentator Danny DiLiberto's recent health issues, he's now at full loquacity.

The opening 10-Ball match welcomed Spain's Francisco Sanchez Ruiz to the Accu-Stats TV Arena in opposition with Cuetec sponsored, 2019 World 9-Ball Champion Fedor Gorst.

Ruiz's Eurotour resume´ has celebrated much success culminating with his 2021 back-to-back 9-Ball wins.

Fedor, no stranger to the 10-foot experience, capitalized on every opportunity and soon sped to an insurmountable lead and a world-class .949 Accu-Stats Total Performance Average (TPA).

Francisco confided that with his first confrontation on the BIG Foot 10' table, it wasn't the added dimension of the slate, but finding his break was the utmost challenge.

Match two featured, fresh from a UK 9-Ball title, the resurrected former World Champion "Dynamite" Darren Appleton. His .877 TPA reduced the 2017 World 9-Ball Championship runner-up, Roland Garcia's expectations.

Roland's exemplary sportsmanship demanded he applaud Appleton's powerful play.

3-time Big Foot Champion Jayson Shaw then faced 2019 DCC Banks Runner-up Omar Al Shaheen.

Shaw's confidence, compounded by his current accolades of his 7th Turning Stone title and his exemplary 714 Straight Pool high-run record, proved unstoppable. Jayson's .945 closed the match at 11-4.

Van namesakes, Shane Van Boening and Lee Vann Corteza had the Accu-Stats TV Arena audience at capacity to end the night.

Shane, always disciplined, had grabbed every opportunity to get some BIG Foot table-time between matches. 15 minutes before break-off, the cool and casual Corteza sauntered into the arena. Was this the reason that the 11-5 final score was so disparate?

Maybe. We'll let Corteza decide.

Saturday's action commenced with 2012 DCC Bank Pool master John Morra and 2018 BIG Foot maestro Roberto Gomez.

Morra couldn't quite find his Mr. Smooth stroke while Gomez caught a gear that ground to a convincing 11-7 win.

Joshua Filler, always in "Killer" stroke, made it near impossible for Alex Kazakis to find his. At 11-6, his .943 TPA exposed all.

Mezz Cues sponsored, former World 9-Ball and back-to-back US Open Champion Mika Immonen in a heat-



Roberto Gomez took care of John Morra

ed contest with 2-time World 14.1 semi-finalist Max Eberle.

Eberle had the better of the opening racks and was truly living up to the title of his respected instructional, "Playing in the Zone."

His Accu-Stats' TPA was 1.000 until Mika finally was allowed to the table. Then, the battle began. Back-and-forth they traded racks until Mika's .891 had him on the hill at 10-9.

Max was well on his way to tying it up until he left precarious position on the 9-Ball.

Max stroked firmly thru the cue ball for 4-rail position on the 10.

What lay 3.5 rails ahead? The corner pocket. The new Diamond spotted orb kept rolling, and rolling, and rolling until, on its final rotation, it plummeted into the bucket.

The second Spaniard to enter the arena was multiple Mosconi Cup Euro team member David Alcaide.

Derby City Classic

The newly bespectacled Alex Pagulayan knew better than to take the 2-time World Pool Master lightly though the Filipino's entertaining spirit could not be suppressed.

While Alex was down on a shot, a spectator's cell phone blared. Without missing a beat, Alex declared, "I told you to call when he's shooting: Wrong game plan."

Soon they were 9-9. Then, with Alcaide running out on the hill, and Alex a little slumped in his seat, it looked like it was over.

Wait; daylight. Alcaide missed a combo that left the 7 deep in the Diamond pro-cut pocket.

Pagulayan sprang from his chair to address the simple combo on the buried orb. The connecting ball was cued so slowly that it didn't have enough power to drop the 7.

Alas, that's all she rolled. Their very respectable, Accu-Stats TPAs told all: .924 and .891, respectively.

The quarterfinal action began with Gorst pitted against the resurgent Appleton.

Darren had a hard road to hoe. Could he summon his meteoric, masterly skillset that eliminated Roland Garcia?

Fedor's strategy against any opponent is simple: Don't miss.

His TPA of .945 suggested that he missed once. Darren fought hard but soon found that, even with alternate break, his momentary lapses of seasoning led to disaster.

At 11-3, Gorst strode into the semis.

The match with Jayson Shaw and his nemesis, Shane Van Boening, seemed like the finals.

Expectations, perhaps, had the pair err more than usual. They each



David Alcaide was all smiles

missed around 3 shots, most resulting with Shaw having the more favorable leave.

In one instance, a lucky roll left Shane so snookered, they both had to laugh. Their sportsmanship was never in doubt.

Jayson closed it out at 11-8.

Filler against Gomez held no surprises. The young German, fluid and fearless, manifested no weakness. Gomez struggled. The 11-3 result revealed that Superman had found his kryptonite.

The Immonen and Alcaide debacle reversed course when, ahead 3-1, Mika missed an elementary 8.

Alcaide capitalized, caught up, and mutual errors had the lead bounce back and forth.

Then, fortune reared its ugly head. A frustrated David soon realized it was not going to be his day.

Mika punished and pounced to close at 11-7.

Semi-Finals #1:

Let's not forget how grueling the Derby schedule is. Fedor Gorst and Jayson Shaw were simultaneously battling in the Banks division. In fact, their play was delayed while Fedor finished his bout in the outer regions of the main tournament arena.

Not that that stalled him: With no respite from the storm, Gorst soon had Shaw trailing 3-6.

When in doubt, step out. It was Shaw's inning; take a walk; recompose.

On his return a fan quietly reminded him, "Not to worry, you've been here before."

Jayson responded positively, "I was just telling myself that in the bathroom."

Shaw, no doubt, had summoned the recent memory of being seemingly insurmountably down 3-9 before his 13-10 comeback against Gorst that stole his 7th Turning Stone title.

Could Jayson rejoice in a 4th BIG Foot title now?

TIGHT SPOT AT YOUR TABLE?

BIG THINGS

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Once ahead 10-6, Fedor was not to be deprived of the opportunity of revenge. Careful and controlled, he calmly ran the rack.

Semi-Finals #2:

Filler's opening blitzkrieg soon had a 3 zero lead. Mika, undaunted, caught a couple, then, 4-2.

Filler soon failed to draw his ball which left a thin, missable cut on the 3 for the side. Joshua had set the tone by his approach to openly expose his plan of recovery. He placed his cue tip on the intended landing spot of a 4-rail path to position.

The red orb slipped into the side pocket while the white sped round the cushions to land precisely where he had pointed.

The gap widened: The intimidation continued. Filler slammed home Mika's roll-out and ran that rack. Immense's demise was imminent.

Now down 7-4, Mika caught a gear. He scrambled back to retrieve 4 more games.

Unfortunately, so did Filler. At 11-8, he was in the Finals.

The Finals

The audience applauded 21-year-old Muscovite Fedor Gorst and, from the town of Bonen, the 24-year-old German-born Joshua Filler.

The future of Pro Pool lies in these two young guns hands.

Their most common denominator is that they get out when they are supposed to get out.

The difference in their games is speed; Filler fast, never furious, versus Fedor; measured, rarely ruffled.

Filler was first to break formula that allowed Fedor to lead 6-4.



Joshua Filler tamed Big Foot

A fluke offered opportunity until Gorst missed a simple combo.

Joshua punished to push ahead 7-6.

He held that lead until Fedor fought to tie the match at 9. Breaking, his cue ball lobbed into the air and arced into the side pocket.

BIG Foot has a new champion. And Joshua is \$16,000 richer.

DIAMOND DERBY CITY CLASSIC BANK POOL CHAMPIONSHIP

Short Rack. Race to 3. Alternate break, foul on all balls.

457 entrants could not be restrained from returning to Indiana's most treasured torture chamber.

Efren Reyes, The 5-time DCC All-Around Champion and 6-time One-Pocket Champion, has one accomplishment missing from his DCC resumé; he has never captured the Bank Pool title.

With the DCC Buy-Back formula, after every round, entrant's names are reshuffled and redrawn. As the DCC events are not seeded means that Efren could run into anyone.

It's a potential minefield.

In the first round draw, Efren drew Victor Cobian. So far, so good. But not for Victor; Surely it's his most celebrated loss.

Efren's 2nd match held a landmine: Michigan's Tony Coleman. The unrelenting, respected shortstop delivered Reyes his first loss.

Welcome to the buy-back booth.

Efren persevered to a respectable round 6. There, he was ousted by a very proud N. Carolina native, Kevin Ping.

The ironic Bank anecdote of the event belongs to 3-time champ John Brumback.

John was given his first loss by Redgie Cutler. John recognized the name, not because of Redgie's reputation, but because he had recently requested John's DVD instructional. "Bank Pool Secrets of a World Champion"

John had shipped the DVD to Redgie...at a campsite. As John reported, "You can't make this stuff up."

It's also the best endorsement for an instructional DVD that you can get.

From 457, 7 remain.

Two Americans were left in the fray: Tony Chohan and Evan Lunda. Un-

fortunately, for Evan, they drew each other.

Fedor, still with a buy-back, sent Poland's Mieszko Fortunski packing.

Lithuanian Pijus Labutis' tour was canceled by Canada's 2012 DCC Banks Champ, John Morra.

John then fell to Shaw, whose display of firepower left Morra compelled to compliment him.

Gorst then drew the charismatic—until he opposed you on a pool table—Tony Chohan.

Fedor had no fear. He soon found his rhythm and rode to a 2 game, 4 ball to zero, lead. Then, belted the potentially winning orb into the rail.

Fedor had a buyback. He was going to need it.

Tony, awake now, ran that rack...and the next one; 2-2. Alive now, Chohan was in total control and, as expected, closed the score at 3-2.

A deflated and saddened Fedor visited the buy-back booth.



Tony Chohan looked unbeatable early

Tony was pumped; What a comeback. He was having a great day, He'd taken out Louis Demarco, earlier, in 12 minutes. He'd won a One-Pocket match in 14 minutes.

And, he was in the semis with Jayson Shaw.

After the dinner break, Tony was ready. The swashbuckling Scot swaggered into the arena.

He was on fire and soon off to a 2 zip lead. It looked over for Tony. But you know Tony, it's never over. He soon tied it at two.

In the fifth and deciding game, re-sourcing some of the most dynamic short rail accuracy, and superb defense, Shaw pulled ahead needing one ball. Tony needed 3.

Too late, Jayson bounced one off the short rail and, nothing but net, he was in the Finals.

THE FINALS

Gorst looked very composed: Jayson, maybe, a little lackluster: Remember, they've been in non-stop action for five solid days.

Fedor had the first clean kill. His banks were being eaten by the gaping jaws of the pockets.

Jayson was jamming the Aramiths only to leave them blocking the tight Diamond pro-cut pockets. A safety game ensued.

A slower pace favors Fedor. He remained patient to find that rhythm that he feels is his most important asset.

That led to him being the first to score.

Disappointed after losing game 2, Jayson seemed lulled into submission. Motivation evaded him. He didn't win a game.

Fedor was jubilant. The only missing element was that his pro player girl-

friend, Kristina Tkach, wasn't with him to share the joy.

The Banks' title is when the All-Around Championship points start adding up. He earned 120 for first.

Remember, BIG Foot doesn't count as only the Banks, One-Pocket, and 9-Ball finishes are eligible. He's well on his way.

Jayson, too. He scored 100 for 2nd.

\$16,000 Fedor Gorst, \$8,000 Jayson Shaw, \$8,650; Tony Chohan, \$6,250; John Morra, \$4000.

DIAMOND DERBY CITY CLASSIC ONE-POCKET CHAMPIONSHIP

RACE to 3. Alternate break. Foul on all balls

370 specialists competed in pool's most cerebral discipline: Chess with balls.

By the business-end of the tournament, upsets abounded.

The most surprising, altho' no disrespect to Mr. Oi, was his win over back-to-back, '15 and '16, DCC One Pocket Champion Alex Pagulayan.

Then, Estonian Denis Grabe gave Evan Lunda a rude awakening. "I spent too much time catching up with sleep last night: Not good for me. Anyway, who can play pool this early in the day?" Lunda mused at the buy-back booth.

Armed with his mighty Mezz, Austria's Mario He continued his onslaught to give Billy Thorpe, the 2019 Bank Pool winner, a thumping.

"Bad Boys' player rep Mike Deitchman" dealt the death blow to Lithuanian Pijus Labutis.

The question is, how have these newbies, to pool's most secret and protected discipline, picked it up so quickly? It must be those FREE One



Pocket matches on the Accu-Stats YouTube Channel.

Fellow Filipinos, Reyes and Gomez opened Thursday's One-Pocket festivities in the Accu-Stats TV Arena.

If you want to experience how Reyes tortures his opponents, this one's for you.

Known as such a gentle soul off the table, he's venomous on it.

The first game didn't take long, In the second, it seemed that most of the time, Gomez was shooting the same shot.

Efren would promote a ball to his side, then run the cue ball 2, 3, or 4 rails towards Roberto's pocket.

There it would be buried or tucked neatly under two frozen balls that never moved during the entire game. Even Roberto was amused...for a while. 2-0.

In the closing game, Efren opened with 6. Roberto was really frustrated now as Efren pocketed one that he thought safe. Whitey then twirled away to leave sublime position to sink his eighth and winning ball.

Mesmerizing: Efren is known as the "Magician" for good reason.

Woodward vs. Thorpe

Skyler and Billy; friends off the table, foes on it.

Woodward, the 2019 DCC All-Around Champion vs. Thorpe, the 2017 DCC One-Pocket Champion.

Equally competitive, equally talented, equally aggressive, so it's no wonder that their score was quickly tied at two.

In the decider, Woodward put 5 together, then one more: 6-0. And, unbeaten, he had a buy-back option.

One ball at a time, Billy, with only one life to live, battled back to get to 5. Then tied it at 6, then ahead 7-6.

Woodward, squirming a little in his seat, sensed the inevitable. He'd seen Billy exert his power from this position many times.

His pocketing prowess was so precise, he left position for a short railer that leapt into the leather at the back of the pocket.

Their sportsmanlike handshake was a little short-lived as Woodward had to run to beat the buy-back booth deadline.

Pagulayan vs. Gabriel

The ultra-experienced Tulsa Oklahoman John Gabriel had Alex Pagulayan 7 balls to -2.

Pagulayan surprised us all, even Gabriels, with an impressive recovery that stole the opening game.

Gabriel now inspired, won the second, then the third with a convincing six-ball run.

Alex was now in trouble. Remember, he had lost his first life in the encounter with Japan's Naoyuki Oi.

Within a few strokes of the 4th rack, Alex needed 4 while Gabriel, never afraid to take a scratch, was -4.

Superb defense allowed Pagulayan to stay alive and force a decider.

Here Gabriel, at the table, pocketed perhaps the most creative shot of the event. With balls now spread everywhere...except where John had an opening to his hole, defense prevailed.

No matter what Alex did to protect his position, John had an answer; He would soft roll a 2-railer, happy to proceed one ball at a time, then play safe.

Finally, Alex left him frozen to the top rail...and John ran 4 and out. Today, Pagulayan met his match.

Shaw vs. Meglino

Florida's Anthony Meglino's reputation preceded him as a formidable One-Pocket opponent.

Scotland's Jayson Shaw, also a successful Connecticut billiard room owner, is the first to admit that he is still a student of One Pocket.

He relies on his shotmaking, his straight pool pattern play and, his indisputable Banking ability. Three powerful attributes to have while he continues to explore "moving" to win games.

Applying his above strengths against Meglino produced a well-crafted 8-and-out on their opening game. Game 2 with a similar run and it's 2-0.

Meglino said two can play that game and skillfully executed his run and

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it's 2-1. Anthony continued with a 4-1 lead in game four.

Then he erred leaving an open rack. Jayson uncharacteristically overran the mark and had to duck. Anthony showed his shotmaking expertise and soon found the four balls required to force the decider.

Shaw's aggressive approach may be considered reckless by old school "movers" yet, it soon had him ahead six balls to zero. The sudden pressure applied to Anthony soon provoked the error that would end him.

Shaw "moved" into the next round.

Other results of interest include: Mika ousting Efren at 3-2. Sky, after his bout with Billy, got gouged by Gomez; Shane then obliterated Billy 3-0; Fedor fried Chohan at 3-0; Garcia got Filler to visit the buy-back booth; and Grabe, still going strong, gave Lee Vann his first loss.

Thursday's final round commenced... at midnight. This is the Derby; not for the faint of heart...or, the unfit.

Josh Roberts took a very respectable second place



THE SEMIS AND FINALS

We're down to the last 3: Gorst, Appleton, and Roberts. Coincidentally, Darren gave Fedor his first loss. And Gorst gave Roberts his.

As Fedor Gorst had drawn the bye that resulted in Josh playing Darren, he must compete in the next round of play: You cannot have back-to-back byes at the Derby.

The Finals sported potentially serious opposition: Josh Roberts, a true One-Pocket specialist.

In his superlative performance in the 2017 Accu-Stats "Make It Happen" One-Pocket Invitational, Roberts beat Efren 4-1 and Shane 4-0, in that tournament alone.

In today's event, one might say that in many of his One-Pocket bouts Gorst was deemed the underdog.

Certainly with Tony Chohan—who, early in the event, wasn't allowed a game; 2017 DCC One Pocket Champ Billy Thorpe didn't get a look at a shot; Darren did extend Gorst's his only loss tho,' it was soon to be avenged.

Gorst's performance this week added one more plausible asset: He can get inside a player's head: There is a lot of heat on a straight-in shot when you know that the guy behind you can run 8-and-out from anywhere.

So how do you redraw with 3 players, one of whom isn't eligible to play? You simply redraw till Fedor isn't the odd man out. The player who is the odd man out is automatically a finalist.

The draw welcomed Josh Roberts. Fedor and Darren were in the semis again.

Darren had the best comeback of any game when down 6 balls to 1, when he applied his never-say-die death-grip by positioning balls up-table.

One ball at a time, his patience prevailed, yet securing that rack wasn't enough.

Gorst, perhaps inspired by his slip, permitted no further interruption while Darren earned a very respectable 3rd.

Roberts was patiently resting in the wings. Within minutes, Gorst was up two games. The intimidation had begun.

Roberts had noticed another newly gained Gorst asset; He had a much-improved understanding of the discipline's defensive tactics.

The result: He now has the knowledge and ability to smother his opponents. They can't safely move the cueball. If they do, they have to take an intentional foul or risk selling out.

In the 3rd game, the only game Josh won, he dug deep and Fedor fell into a well-set, one-pocket trap. As expected, Fedor erred which resulted in the lonely 1 near Roberts' name on the scoreboard.

Josh, the consummate gentleman, was the first to acknowledge how well Fedor had competed. "It was really impressive to see how quickly he had picked up the moving part of the game."

Gorst's requests for autographs, handshakes, high-fives, selfies, et al, allowed him to leave the arena beaming.

With back to back DCC titles, the look of fulfillment foretold that tonight will be a night he will treasure into eternity.

His first call was to share his success with his sweetheart Kristina. She mentioned something about shopping.

Fedor Gorst, \$16,000; Josh Roberts, \$9,000; Darren Appleton, \$6,550, Dennis Grabe, \$3,200.

Gorst is now the youngest player in the 23-year history of the event to harness the two opening points-bearing competitions.

For you DCC trivia buffs, Efren also won the opening Banks and One-Pocket in 2007...when he was about eighty.

DIAMOND DERBY CITY CLASSIC 9-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

473 Combat the Derby's Most Brutal Battlefield.

Race to 9; Winner breaks; No jump cues; Compliant break (3 balls, minus any pocketed, must enter the kitchen).

As Matchroom has deemed the Derby's 9-Ball Championship a Mosconi Cup point garnering event, the 9-Ball championship became this year's most populated event.

The ladies were well represented by Pia Filler, the 2021 American 14.1 finalist, and 2121 BEF Junior Champion April Larson.

Pia was going strong until she ran into Puerto Rican pro Alan Rolon. Husband Joshua, always supportive, nodded, "Really good player: He once beat Earl 11-zero."

In the first round, the aforementioned Joshua sent Appleton to buy-

back. Darren next had The 2013 DCC One-Pocket Champion, Corey Deuel.

Darren was soon ahead 5-1. He blinked and was behind 7-6. Appleton, fighting for his "life," was motivated to Hill-7 when his break was deemed "non-compliant."

More irony: The controversial, "compliant break" rule is enforced at the Derby: The result? Deuel took control of the table as it lay. Corey ran the remainder of that rack...then broke and ran the winning one.

The irony is that Corey's "soft break" was the reason for the compliant break's initiation. He later laughed, "That's the first time that rule did me any good."

It was encouraging to see Appleton back in action. And playing so well. He broke and ran 4 racks in that match, he was not intimidated by BIG Foot, and finished 3rd in One-Pocket.

That's also the luck of DCC's occasionally cruel draw: In Appleton's first and second rounds of 9-Ball, the algorithm spat out back-to-back champions. Filler and Deuel.

Here's a more striking encapsulation thru round 6: Mario He gave Gomez his first loss as did Morra to Pagulayan. 2021 World and International Open

Champion Albin Ouschan branded Shuff.

Albin was soon forced to buy-back by Francisco Sanchez Ruiz and then later truncated by Polish Champion Konrad Juszczyszyn. One-Pocket maestros Chohan and Joyner proved Chohan a little stronger in the world's most popular rotation game.

And lastly, an upset: Marc Vidal Claramunt sent Sky flying to the buy-back booth to be later flown home by Mieszko Fortunski.

Our 9th day began with Mieszko Fortunski in front at 5-3 when he felt the might of Joshua Filler's safety moves. Fortunski fell foul of four of them. Result: 9-7 Filler with an Accu-Stats TPA of .957.

Mario He was ahead 6-3 when Joshua got an opening. On his next shot, Mario was attempting to connect from a snooker. Final score; Filler 9-6.

THE DERBY SYNDROME

In our sport's nine most grueling days—and nights—of limited sleep; catching naps while standing; snacking on nutrition-less junk, jousting non-stop from one discipline to the next, it's a wonder some of these guys are alive.

It was around then that Shane Van Boening drew the competitor who, having played more matches than anyone, showed the creeping signs of the event's fateful fatigue. Fedor's pinpoint position, which had held him in such good stead all week, finally failed him.

Then Shane couldn't shake Shaw.

Jayson met Josh. At one each, an 8-shot safety exchange ensued. Filler finally benefited from that rack and followed with a 3 pack: 5-1. But you know Jayson, he always has a say in the play.



Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz continued his recent success

He, too, ran a few racks. They parried until, down 8-6 and breaking, his pesky and precarious cue-ball got kicked in the corner from nowhere.

Final score; Filler 9-6. And adios All-Around title for Jayson.

NOTE: Jayson Shaw was runner-up in Bank Pool and tied for 6th in One-Pocket. Had he won the 9-Ball, with Fedor's stumble at 17th in the event, Jason would have stolen the All-Around title: He finished a very respectable 5th.

When Filler sent Mezz's Mario He to buy-back, he drew Roland Garcia, the last player with two lives.

Mario was truly motivated, got straight into power mode, and delivered a 9-0 molestation of Garcia. Garcia got to buy-back, drew Mario again, and returned the compliment... well not quite 9-0, but enough to retire Mario at 4th while Roland slipped into the top three.

Then the re-draw put Roland opposite Ruiz while Filler got promoted to the finals, and a guaranteed 2nd.

Ruiz and Garcia battled gallantly,. At around 6 apiece, Ruiz held his mettle to the pedal to drive away Garcia at 9-6 with a tasty .888, TPA.

THE FINALS

It's Spain vs. Germany as Francisco Sanchez Ruiz and Joshua Filler earned their right to fight for one of pool's most prestigious titles.

It is certainly the one that takes the most stamina. 9 days of mixing disciplines from hard break to soft roll had culminated in the sold-out Accu-Stats TV Arena.

When Francisco consolidated his lead from 4-2 to 5-2, one could sense a shift.

The transformation of Ruiz from cautious, almost timid on his opening day on BIG Foot, to speed skater on steroids was impressive.

He sped around the Diamond to close rack after rack. His break was working. He hadn't missed a makable ball. He had made shots that were thought to be safe that Joshua, always a sportsman, applauded,

Ruiz had winner written all over him: Confidence was oozing from every pore.

Soon he was 7-3 possessing an Accu-Stats Total Performance Average (TPA) of .953; totally world-class. He broke and comfortably ran out; It's 8-3.

"Uno mas, uno mas"

He smacked the rack—Oh, oh: Non-complaint. Joshua shot from his seat.

Luckily, for Francisco, there was no open shot. Joshua ducked. Safeties ensued, now they were favoring Francisco.

Joshua's failed endeavor with the bridge left Francisco a long, straight shot on the far-away 3.

With a title on the line, we all know how intimidating that can be,

Bullseye: He was off and running... out! And, the Derby got its first Spanish Champion.

You can be sure Francisco will be back. He has a title to defend.

\$16,000 Francisco Sanchez Ruiz; \$8,000 Joshua Filler; \$5.800 Roland Garcia; 3600 Mario He.

FRIDAY NIGHT BANKS RING GAME

The usual prospects, or should we say suspects; Al-Shaheen, Delauder, Hall, Shaw, Thorpe, and Woodward began the guine at 50 bucks a ball. The

prize money is shared between first and second-place survivors.

The Arena was standing room only. Matchroom's Emily Frazer, sitting ringside, reputedly suggested that the Banks Ring Game was her favorite activity of the Derby.

Emily is not alone. 23,000 more enjoyed the FREE Accu-Stats' stream on FaceBook: A special thanks to UpState AI for his promo skills.

Mike Delawder was the first to be slaughtered, quickly followed by Hall, then Al-Shaheen. With the ante rising quickly to \$300 a ball, it takes a lot of bullets to stay alive.

Shaw soon fell which left best buds Thorpe and Woodward to battle it out...again. 2022 was Billy's year earning him the top prize of \$8000 to Woodward's \$4,000 for second.

ENDGAME.

DCC 2023 dates: Jan 20-28, 2023: Book your seats now! You know that they're going quickly.

Let's not forget Accu-Stats. Their DCC DVD, Subscription Service, and On Demand series featuring ALL the TV Table matches, will be available, soon. Visit accu-stats.com, or call 800.828.0397 for more info.

Meanwhile, the Accu-Stats YouTube Channel has loads of FREE Pro Tournament Matches from their 2000+ library. 12 MILLION+ of you viewed in 2021. Pat thanks you all.

BadBoys captured alternative DCC matches, also featuring the top pros. They are uploaded at badboysbp.com.

And lastly, please consider our sponsors: Diamond Billiards Products, Simonis Cloth, Aramith Balls, Cuetec Cues, Lucasi Custom introducing the Purex FUZE Cue, MEZZ Cues, Tweeten Fiber and National Billiard Academy.



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More Dealers are Welcome on Board

Albin Ouschan

Wins Predator Cues Premier League Pool Title

Story by MATT LYNCH - Matchroom Multi Sport / Photos by TAKA WU - Matchroom Multi Sport

Albin Ouschan has won the inaugural Predator Cues Premier League Pool beating Joshua Filler 7-5 in the final at Stadium MK, Milton Keynes live on DAZN in the USA, and networks worldwide including Matchroom.Live.

Filler got off to the quicker start of the pair as he rallied up the first four racks without reply after winning the lag, but the tide turned in the fifth rack as the German left the one ball over the pocket after jumping the seven to get Ouschan on the board. Ouschan kept plugging away though as he moved to level at 4-4.

There was very little to separate the pair all week and when it came to the tenth rack, it could've been seen as another momentum swinger as Ouschan scratched off the break, but he ended up taking the rack to level at 5-5.

From then on, Ouschan found what made him World Champion a little under 12 months ago to seal a memorable win over close friend Filler 7-5.



Albin Ouschan

LEAGUE TABLE

		PLD	W	L	RW	RL	RD	PTS	WON
1	Joshua Filler (GER)	29	20	9	127	92	35	20	\$20,000
2	Albin Ouschan (AUT)	29	19	10	117	97	20	19	\$12,500
3	Shane van Boening (USA)	29	19	10	115	98	17	19	\$8,000
4	Jayson Shaw (GBR)	29	17	12	116	97	19	17	\$8,000
1-4 make up finals on Day 8 evening									
Eliminated									
5	Skylar Woodward (USA)	29	17	12	115	104	11	17	\$7,000
6	Alexander Kazakis (GRE)	29	17	12	106	103	3	17	\$6,250
7-10 eliminated after Day 7									
Eliminated									
7	David Alcaide (ESP)	24	14	10	96	85	11	14	\$5,250
8	Francisco Sanchez Ruiz (ESP)	24	12	12	88	89	-1	12	\$5,000
9	Mieszko Fortunski (POL)	24	11	13	91	96	-5	11	\$4,750
10	Omar Al-Shaheen (KUW)	24	7	17	84	104	-20	7	\$4,500
Bottom 6 eliminated after Day 5									
Eliminated									
11	Aloysius Yapp (SGP)	15	6	9	54	60	-6	6	\$3,750
12	Oliver Szolnoki (HUN)	15	5	10	49	60	-11	5	\$3,500
13	Naoyuki Oi (JPN)	15	5	10	47	61	-14	5	\$3,250
14	Kelly Fisher (GBR)	15	5	10	45	68	-23	5	\$3,000
15	Max Lechner (AUT)	15	4	11	53	66	-13	4	\$2,750
16	Eklent Kaci (ALB)	15	2	13	43	66	-23	2	\$2,500

Ouschan said: “After I saw him in the first four racks, the way he played tremendously. I thought I would be the spectator in the final. I think he tried to jump after the break, and I got in a good position. I had a crazy miss on the 4 ball, but I had another chance and finally, I had to take it. I tried to stay calm and collected and I know I can do it. That’s the toughest part. I am super happy.”

“It’s a tremendous tournament again by Matchroom. It fits me better. Well-deserved from Josh, I think overall he played the best of all. The pressure got him hard in the end. He will come back stronger for sure.”

Ouschan will return to Milton Keynes next month to defend his World Pool Championship crown: “If I would defend the World Pool Championship again, I would have no words for that.”

Filler reached the final after overcoming Jayson Shaw in the semi-final stage. The Team Europe Mosconi Cup teammates were doing battle for a fourth time in the tournament with Filler edging the head-to-head

record 2-1. It was Filler who got the better start though as he swept home the opening rack before asserting a 4-0 lead, leaving Shaw with plenty of work to be done to find any route back into the semi-final. The German

proved to be too strong in the end for Shaw to set up a huge final with World No.1 Ouschan.

Ouschan meanwhile found himself against five-time US Open champion



Shane Van Boening who had moved into the semi-finals with relative ease despite being on the end of a whitewash loss to Ouschan earlier on in the day. Van Boening won the opening rack, but Ouschan soon took control to be on the hill at 6-3 but it was Van Boening who fought back to six apiece. In the penultimate rack, it seemed Ouschan had a 2-9 carom on to seal it, but he opted to play the table before being locked up behind the four ball. Van Boening duly levelled before Ouschan plugged his way through the final rack to win it 7-6.

Woodward's chances of making the top four were brought to an abrupt end as the American struggled to get going in his final stage opener against Van Boening in a 5-1 loss but seemed to find some rhythm against Shaw despite a hill-hill defeat. The Kentucky Kid held a fantastic account of himself all week despite early setbacks and the two-time Mosconi Cup MVP finished in a flash to beat group topper Filler in his last contest to secure fifth place and \$7,000, only missing out on the final four by rack difference.



Shane Van Boening

“ I TRIED TO STAY CALM AND COLLECTED AND I KNOW I CAN DO IT. THAT'S THE TOUGHEST PART. I AM SUPER HAPPY.

– Albin Ouschan ”



Jayson Shaw

Kazakis meanwhile snuck in late to the final six and knew it was always a tall order, especially after an opening loss to Filler but the World Pool Masters champion did hold a glimmer of hope after downing Woodward before Ouschan swiftly put him back into a fight for fourth spot. In the end, Kazakis settled for sixth and \$6,750.

Predator Cues Premier League Pool sees 16 players compete in a league format with an increased prize fund of \$100,000 guaranteeing each player \$2,500 and the winner taking home \$20,000.

The next event from Matchroom is the World Pool Championship at the Marshall Arena, Milton Keynes from Wednesday 6, April to Sunday 10, April where it will be Ouschan defending his title. Tickets are out on Monday, 28 February.

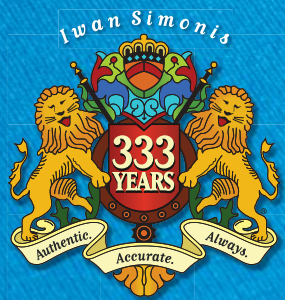
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Kazakis Rallies To Win Apex Wisconsin Open

Story by KEITH PARADISE - CSI. Photos courtesy of MATT PORINSKI - Predator

It only made sense that Alex Kazakis's day end in the same way that it started.

As he progressed through the brackets of the single-elimination phase of the Apex Wisconsin Open, the young Greek's performance resembled that of a yo-yo. Just when it seemed he was gaining momentum or about to close out a set, a mistake would cost him. Conversely, when it seemed Kazakis's championship hopes were starting to wane, an opponent would miss or commit a crucial tactical error.

Through it all, Kazakis was able to persevere, surviving four consecutive matches which advanced to an extra-frame shootout to win the 64-player event Saturday night at the Ho-Chunk Resort and Casino in the Wisconsin Dells. The reigning World Pool Masters champion defeated former World 9-Ball Champion Fedor Gorst, reigning World 10-Ball champion Ekrent Kaci, Filipino Lee Vann Cor-teza and Kuwait's Bader Alawadhi to

earn his first championship on American soil. Kazakis's title match against the Kuwaiti upstart was a microcosm of his day – overcoming a handful of self-inflicted wounds only to rally and survive the match in the shootout.

Alawadhi drew first blood in the championship match, taking advantage of a missed 9 ball by his opponent and adding a break-and-run to jump out to a quick 2-0 lead. Kazakis had a chance



Alex Kazakis



Lee Vann Corteza

to retaliate in the third rack when his opponent missed a 5 ball and took full advantage, winning three straight games thanks to a break-and-run and an unforced error on the 5 ball in the fifth game by Alawadhi. With a chance to close out the set, Kazakis failed to pocket a ball on the break in the sixth game and Alawadhi cleared the table then promptly scratched on the break in the deciding rack, handing his opponent ball-in-hand and possibly the set.

As the Greek worked his way through the potential clinching rack, he positioned the cue ball for a sharp cut shot on the 5 ball which he missed. Alawadhi cleared the table to snatch the set, 4-3.

Kazakis began to rally in the following frame, taking advantage of a missed 2 ball by his opponent on the first rack and tacking on a break-and-run to build an early 2-0 advantage. The Alawadhi would tick off two wins of his own

to tie the set thanks to a victorious safety exchange in the third rack and a missed Kazakis jump shot in the following game. The Kuwaiti appeared positioned to take the lead in the fifth game but scratched while trying to secure position on the 6 ball. Kazakis cleared the table to regain the lead then capitalized on a missed 5 ball

by Alawadhi in the sixth game to claim the set, 4-2.

The shootout frame was over quickly, with Kazakis pocketing his first two spot shots while Alawadhi missed three straight balls to hand the match to his opponent.

The Greek's final day of play began by cooling off the previously hot Gorst, with the young Russian struggling to make shots in his round of 16 match. Kazakis jumped out to an early 2-0 lead in the first set by winning a safety battle in the first rack then taking advantage of a foul by his opponent in

the next game. He then used Gorst's missed jump shot in the third rack and a missed bank shot of the 8 ball by the Russian in the next game to shut out his opponent, 4-0.

The second set was practically a photo negative of the first, with Kazakis now struggling to make balls while Gorst capitalized. In fact,



Aloysius Yapp



the Greek missed a shot in each of the four racks played, as Gorst cruised to a 4-0 victory of his own. After each competitor pocketed two balls in the first four frames of the extra-inning shootout, the cue ball was moved back a diamond on the table and the format switched to sudden death. Kazakis made his first shot while the Russian missed, ending any title hopes for the 21-year-old from Moscow.

There would be a similar tale in the quarterfinals, as Kazakis squeaked by Eklent Kaci 4-3 in the first set, lost to Kaci 4-1 in the second then defeated the Albanian 3-1 in the shootout.

Kazakis then advanced to the semifinals where he met Lee Van Corteza, who used a combination shot on the 10 ball, a safety victory and a scratch on the break by his opponent to cruise to 4-1 win in the opening frame. After the two competitors split the first

four games of the second set, Kazakis clawed out the fifth game after both players failed to pocket the 2 ball. The Greek would close out the set, 4-2, when Corteza misplayed a safety on the 4 ball in the following rack.

Neither player blinked in the first four innings of the shootout, with both competitors pocketing four straight shots. The spot shot success continued in the fifth inning when the cue ball was moved back a diamond as the format switched to sudden death, but Corteza championship hopes ended when he missed in his sixth attempt while Kazakis landed his shot.

The U.S. Pro Billiard Series returns to action next month with the Alfa Las Vegas Open March 23-26 at the Rio All-Suites Hotel and Casino. This event will coincide with the CueSports International Expo, which brings thousands of amateur pool players for the BCA Pool League World Champion-

ships as well as the USA Pool League National Championships.

The Wisconsin Open was the second event of the year for the U.S. Pro Billiard Series and the first ever to be staged at Ho-Chunk Resort, a sprawling facility north of Madison which offers a 302-room hotel as well as spacious gaming and convention space.

Find the Final Apex Wisconsin Open draw on the Predator US Pro Billiard Series FargoRate's dedicated page

The Apex Wisconsin Open was streamed for free all week on Billiard TV and the World Billiard TV YouTube channel. Go to Billiard TV to watch 24/7 Billiard Videos on any device

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Eddie Vonderau

There are likely two (at least) major misconceptions about a place like Rapid City, South Dakota, that young Eddie Vonderau had to battle to earn his place in the finals of the 13 & Under division of the Junior International Championships' (JIC) first season last year. The first is centered on the idea that if you live there, you're probably having to battle cowboys with guns on Main Street.

SKIP MALONEY - AzB Staff

“There’s a little bit of that,” said his father, Dr. Peter Vonderau, with a laugh.

The other prejudice is that in spite of it being the place where Shane Van Boening grew up and began his pool career, it’s doesn’t really have the reputation of being a place where hordes of up-and-coming pool players are emerging. His parents nurtured him on the story of Shane Van Boening and his claim to fame in the rough and tumble world of professional pool.

“We remind him of that a lot,” says Eddie’s Mom, Christie Vonderau. “In fact, a lot of people remind him of that. We play with people who played with Shane when he was little and they see a lot of similarities.”

In fact, the family not only plays *with* people who knew Van Boening, but *at* the place where Van Boening played as a kid. Originally known as 8-Ball Express, the room had become Break Time Billiards at around the time Eddie was born in 2008.

“The great thing about Rapid City and Break Time Billiards,” said Peter, “is that the room is family-friendly and of course, non-smoking, *and* it caters to junior players, encourages them.”

“If we didn’t have that available,” he added, “I don’t think Eddie would have progressed the way he did.”

And here’s a new origins story, at least for us here at AZBilliards. Eddie Vonderau,

who'll turn 14 next month (April), got his start in the game at the age of one. Here's how he told that story to *South Dakota Cue Sports* in August, 2021.

"My family has had a pool table in the basement for as long as I can remember," he told them. "When I was a baby, my dad would pick me up, put me on the table, and let me crawl around putting the balls in the pockets."

If it weren't for the fact that leaky diapers might raise havoc with pool-table cloth, we might well expect to see a new junior-level game emerge from this origin story. Probably not though. That start also informs what Eddie would more recently note was his fundamental interest in the sport.

"I have just always thought it was cool to see the balls go into the holes," he said.

When he finally got his feet planted on the floor, at about the age of five, his game progressed to a short stick. By the time he was six, he was out in the community, still dropping them balls into holes.

"They started a junior pool league here, just before he started playing,"

said Peter, "and we got him out there."

At the age of 8, they took him out of state for the first time, travelling to Saratoga, WY to take part in a Billiards Education Foundation qualifier. He won his division, although he wouldn't attend a BEF Junior National Championship until four years later (2021), when he finished in the tie for 9/12th at the event that was won by one of his current JIC competitors, Hank Leinen.

"That (BEF Junior National Championship) came after a three-week road trip for us, with three national-level tournaments in a row," said Christie. "He'd won the (sixth event of the JIC series) in the 13 & Under division at the League Room in Parkersburg, WV (July) and went on from there to Erie, PA, where (for the second time) he won his division of the VNEA National Championships.

"The BEF in Las Vegas (late July) was the last one and he just ran out of gas," she added. "It was poor planning on our part."

Coming on the heels of all of the activities that had begun with the JIC's

opening event in March and the two major victories on the three-week road trip that had to have been the most intense three weeks of his life at that point, the BEF effort wasn't too much a bitter pill to swallow. Things got back on track quickly, though, as both father and son turned their attention to a 10-Ball Amateur tournament in Gillette, WY in September. Dad took the double-A adult division of the event, as Eddie came home with the single-A title.

"It was a great moment that we shared," said Peter. "He put the pressure on me, too. He got into the finals of his division before I got into the finals of mine. When I reached mine, he was looking pretty good and told me 'You better win yours.'"

He did.

Early signs in the past lead to plans for the future

As with most junior competitors, there tend to be early signs of proficiency. There are usually clues, which are dependent on a child's continued interest that can last anywhere from three seconds to a lifetime. It was clear to his parents, early on, that given continued interest, Eddie could go far.

"His ball-making was pretty impressive, right from the get-go," said his Dad of his son's early and continuing efforts to get balls into holes. "He had a really straight stroke, which we continue to work on, (all of which) was why he was competing against 12-year-olds when he was six."

Not surprisingly, at 14, Eddie Vondereau has (and has had) other inescapable things going on in his life. As with adults in the literal 'game' of pool, 'inescapable things' can be distractions, which need to be managed and put aside when you step to the table. His success to this point demonstrates that he's generally got that base covered.



“He’s a very strong student,” said Christie, “and he’s looking forward, too. We’re already talking about college; about pool and school and what’s a smart way to do both.”

“He wants to position him geographically,” she added, “to allow more access to tournaments. He has ambitions.”

Though pool has emerged as his primary athletic focus, that focus has only recently narrowed to the felt, so to speak. He played both basketball and baseball in school competition, which, from his parents’ perspective, had the advantage of happening, in general, much closer to home. One way of dealing with distractions of course, is to keep their numbers low.

“It’s just been in the last 18 months or so,” said Christie, “that he’s had to commit.”

The parents also found a way to use one kind of distraction to their advantage. Like most teenagers in the early years of this 21st century, Eddie can get wrapped up in screen time, He’s as savvy with apps and social media as one might expect, but pool does have a balancing impact on the time involved.

“It definitely helps,” said his Dad, “but we use (screen time) to our advantage. We’ve watched a lot of YouTube pool matches, discussing what he’d do in one situation or another.”

“It’s been a big component of the way that Pete has taught Eddie from the beginning,” Christie added. “Learning (for example), about pattern play by watching YouTube.”

As with any subject or endeavor, early learning merges into ongoing activity, and from the looks of things, Eddie’s ‘ongoing’ schedule is going to keep things hopping. He’s wrapped up in the new JIC season and has a full schedule, as March does its “in like a lion, out like a lamb” thing in Rapid

City, SD and the rest of the Northern Hemisphere.

“He plays in both the VNEA and APA,” noted Christie, and with state championships in both, “every weekend (in March) is booked.”

Eddie participated in only three of the JIC events in 2021 and his participation in its 2022 schedule is going to be impacted by the timing of other tournaments in which he hopes to compete as well. He and his JIC fellow competitors will be attending tournaments outside of the JIC umbrella with the full support and encouragement of the JIC team, which deliberately included plans to have its junior competitors moving out into the real (as opposed to just junior) world of pool competition. Eddie will, as an example, not be competing at a JIC event in Aiken, SC this month, but will compete in Pheonix when the JIC stops there in May.

The Junior International Championship series contributes more than just time & places to play

Speaking of the Junior International Championship series of events, past and present . . .

“The JIC has been wonderful,” said Pete Vondereau. “It’s like a family.”

“Eddie likes playing with friends,” Christie added. “He has a relational kind of personality and there’s a draw

for him in going out and shooting with friends.”

“It has absolutely taken him to the next step,” Pete noted, “because especially around here, from a junior perspective, you kind of run out of competition. There are tough, tough competitors in that (JIC) group and it’s just been wonderful how Ra (Hanna, of On The Wire Creative Media, which organized and runs the event series) has put it all together.”

“They stay in touch with each other, these kids,” Christie went on to say. “The players (especially during the height of the pandemic) get together on Zoom and play race-to-5 matches against the ‘ghost.’”

As originally designed, the JIC series of events was intended to keep its separate divisions apart, but it didn’t take long for Ra Hanna to realize and act accordingly, that the kids under his supervisory and often, alternate-parent care were having no part of *that*. Specifically, competitors in the 13 & Under divisions wanted (all but demanded) the opportunity to compete against their elders in the 18 & Under and ProAm divisions.

Throughout last year’s inaugural season, after the first event in March, they did so. Eddie competed in all three divisions, finishing 2nd in the final event of the 13 & Under group (to Gabriel Martinez), in the tie for 5th in that di-





“Your fundamentals and your mind set,” he explained. “If you don’t have a good mind set, it can be a problem and it’s tough to have one without the other.”

“There a few challenges that I have either overcome or are working on overcoming,” he added, “to include learning how to lose well and keeping my head in the match until the last shot.”

He points to his father as the individual who has influenced him the most. He notes, as well, that the influence has not been restricted to advice about the sport itself.

“He’s my biggest fan,” he told *South Dakota Cue Sports* last August. “Dad is always patient when he teaches me and over the years, he has taken time to learn more about the sport so that he can help me improve, He also makes sure to remind me of the importance of reflecting godly character, like staying humble and not being prideful.”

“God,” he added, by way of being a further influence, “gave me a special gift. I keep coming back because I want to see how far I can go and develop that gift. Also, I’ve made a lot of friends in the sport and I really enjoy hanging out with them and shooting around.”

As for his parents, they’re in their home somewhere, pretty much every day, thinking about the events of the past year. The ups of the wins and the downs of the defeats, as they’ve watched their child mature.

“We were there (a little over a month ago),” said Christie, “and as we rolled into that parking lot, we were thinking back on what we’ve done and how far we’ve come in the past year.”

“Eddie knows where he stands now, on a national junior level,” she added, “and it’s amazing what that has done for him in a year.”

vision’s Championships (downed at that point by Hank Leinen) and 10th overall (which had qualified him for the Championship that same weekend) in the division’s final rankings. But he also finished 23rd overall in the 18 & Under division rankings, and 21st in the ProAm division, one slot higher than Lukas Fracasso-Verner.

Eddie went undefeated in the 17-entrant, JIC’s 2022 13 & Under opening event in January, finished in the tie for 17th in the 41-entrant 18 & Under division, and the tie for 25th in the 31-entrant ProAm division. He did not compete in February’s JIC event, which left the door open to Hank Leinen, who stepped in and went undefeated to claim that event title. With the succession of events planned for March, he won’t return to the JIC tables until May in Phoenix.

Eddie seems to be taking all of this in stride, although it’s hard to imagine that there haven’t been a few bumps in the road that caught him by surprise. One of them is a preconceived notion that he’d brought with him to the JIC experience, when it got underway just shy of a year ago.

“I was a little bit surprised,” he said. “I had never seen any juniors that shot that well, so it was a little bit of a shock. I had to accept the challenge to get better and the bigger challenge of staying on pace with them.”

Though he expected his competitors to be taking the game(s) seriously, he wasn’t expecting the degree to which they were enjoying themselves. It wasn’t all gags and giggles, but it wasn’t the grim-faced opponents he’d been expecting to face.

“I learned that a lot of those kids that were shooting well, were having fun, too,” he noted. “You’d have expected them to be more serious, but they’re a lot looser than you’d think. I noticed that about them.”

He pointed to Hank Leinen in his own 13 & Under division and (overall) Landon Hollingsworth as his most formidable opponents on the JIC circuit, and while hesitant to place himself in the position of being some sort of font of wisdom when it comes to pool, he did have some thoughts on certain principles that prospective junior competitors might want to think about.



With the Junior International Championship going into its second season, it is becoming more and more common for fans to see its top junior players branching out from their success in the junior ranks to succeed in open events.



JAM UP JUNIOR PLAYER

SAVANNAH EASTON

For eleven year old Savannah Easton from Las Vegas, she might be skipping the success amongst her peers and moving full speed into open event success.

Easton outdistanced a field of thirty three other players to win the Griff's Ladies 640 & Under Fargo 9-Ball event over the weekend of January 29th - 30th.

Easton says she has been "hitting balls" on a pool table since she was four and her first real interest in playing the game seriously came from

playing her Dad Larry on the family pool table. It was also words of encouragement from her Dad that helped prepare her for playing the event at Griff's. "My Dad told me that if I shoot with confidence, good things will happen" she said. "I also knew that even if I lost, it would be a huge learning experience for me."

That confidence paid off on Saturday, as Easton (Fargo 447) had wins over Val Porter and Ces Ralston, both higher rated players and both opponents that Easton defeated without the handicap she was getting.

Easton came back on Sunday in the final eight on the winner's side and said that while she was warming up with her Dad she started thinking about possibly making it to the finals of the event. Easton's first two Sunday matches were against Catherine Colosia and Amani Ali. Colosia looked to have things under control against Easton, leading 4-2 in a straight race to 5, but Easton took advantage of errors by Colosia to win three straight for the win. Ali would fall 5-3 in the next match.

The hot-seat match was against Yen Huynh, who had been mowing down

opponents all weekend. Huynh had allowed one opponent to get to the hill against her so far in the event, and was just coming off of an 8-1 drubbing of Janna Nelson. Easton was getting three games in the 8-5 race, but again she didn't need the handicap as she beat Huynh 5-3 to take the hot-seat.

Easton's opponent in the finals would be her toughest challenge yet. California's Gigi Callejas has been a successful player on the west coast for a couple of years and has top finishes in both regional and national tours. Callejas had dropped her second match of the event to Colosia on Saturday but then forged a seven match winning streak on the one loss side. The finals would be true double elimination, but Easton would only need one set to score a hill-hill victory and celebrate the undefeated tournament win. "When I sunk that last 9-ball for the win, I couldn't believe I actually won the whole tournament undefeat-

ed" said Easton days after her victory. "It never really sunk in until the next day because I was so tired".

Easton has hopes to build on this success and says she hopes to become like her idol Margaret Fefilova. She credits Fefilova with helping in her early success, as well as other champions like Tyler Styer, Ralf Souquet, Thorsten Hohmann and Hunter Lombardo who helped her with her technique at the table. More importantly, Easton credits the support that she gets from her Mom and Dad on her "journey to becoming the next World Champion".

Easton is currently sponsored by Predator, Kamui, JamUp Apparel and Bangin Ballz Billiards. Next up for Easton is the Junior International Championship stop in Cape Coral Florida next week, where she hopes to continue her success.



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American Players Absent From BCA Points List Top 15

For over ten years, the Billiard Congress of America has used the BCA ranking system to rank players and to use a fair and transparent system for determining which American players get invited to WPA sanctioned international events such as: the World Pool Championship, the World 10-Ball Championship and the 2022 The World Games.

For players to get points in the BCA ranking system they must play in BCA ranking events. These events include: The Turning Stone Classic, Derby City Classic, US Open, US International Open, the Predator Pro Series events, and the American 14.1. Each event is then weighed and adjusted based on field size, purse total and how many top 20 players competed in the event.

The BCA ranking system does allow for a player to miss or drop one tournament within the calendar year without that player being penalized as this system is a rolling points list based on the last eight professional ranking events.

With the recent lack of participation by some of the bigger American names in professional pool, they have understandably started dropping in the BCA rankings.

After the most recent BCA ranking event, the Predator US Pro Billiard Series in Wisconsin, the BCA updated their rankings accordingly and while there is the usual shift in players moving up and down the list, the biggest story is not in who went up the list, but more about who fell down it.

Shane Van Boening, still the top ranked American player, but formerly ranked 10th on the list, has now fallen completely out of the top 15. Before the Wisconsin tournament, Van Boening was the sole American in the top 15



Bader Al Awadi debuts on the list

but now with the updated and current rankings, this is the first time in over a decade that not only has Van Boening not been in the top 15, but no American player was ranked in the top 15.

Joining Van Boening in falling out of the top 15 were Naoyuki Oi and Jayson Shaw. With these three players falling out of the top fifteen, the list now welcomes Alex Kazakis, Bader Al Awadi and Roberto Gomez to the top 15.

Remaining in the top spot is Fedor Gorst. Mika Immonen is in a distant 2nd with a 124 point difference between him and Gorst. Immonen had been ranked 3rd on the list, but climbed one spot into 2nd after the

Wisconsin tournament and Denis Grafe is also climbing up from 5th to 3rd.

As far as American players on the list, Van Boening currently sits in 18th place, less than 30 points ahead of Tyler Styer and Hunter Lombardo, who are now the 2nd and 3rd top ranked Americans, according to the BCA Rankings.

The next tournament to be BCA Ranking Event in 2022 will be the Predator Pro Series' Alfa Las Vegas Open that takes place on March 22nd - 26th. Hopefully, we will start to see more participation from our top Americans players at this event and hopefully they can regain their status on the BCA Points List.

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James Aranas

Latest Player To Be “Deported” And Banned From Entering USA

Roy Francisco has confirmed on his Facebook page that James Aranas was detained and deported back to the Philippines in the same manner that Dennis Orcollo was detained and deported earlier this year.

In his Facebook post, Francisco said that he feared that Aranas might be on a list of flagged players and his fears were proven true when Aranas was detained at LAX on February 3rd.

Aranas informed Francisco that he was being held in a room with a number of athletes and artists from outside of the United States who were on tourist VISAs. Most of them being from Europe. He was held and questioned

for twenty seven hours before having his VISA revoked, a citation issued and being informed that he was banned from entering the United States for the next five years.

Additionally, Aranas was informed that participating in tournament in the US on a tourist VISA was what he had done wrong and that he would need to obtain an Athletes VISA or a Working VISA.

At least for now, Aranas will be in the same position as countryman Orcollo as they attempt to fight this ban and obtain the required paperwork to re-enter the United States in order to compete.

Francisco expressed his concerns that Orcollo and Aranas will not be the last Filipino players to have these same tourist VISA issues and warns any other Filipino players entering the country to make sure they have the proper paperwork, or are prepared for a quick trip back home.

James Aranas (Courtesy Karl Kantrowitz)



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Van Boening And Barretta Highlight North American World Games Contingent



The list of North American representatives for the 2022 World Games has now been finalized and a team of six players will represent the continent.

On the Men's side, Shane van Boening and Tyler Styer will represent the USA, while John Morra will represent Canada. Van Boening and Styer earned their positions on the list as the top two American players on the BCA Points List.

On the Ladies side, Jennifer Barretta and Monica Webb will represent the

USA, and Brittany Bryant will represent Canada. Barretta and Webb were the top two American players on the WPBA points list and Bryant was the top Canadian on that same WPBA points list.

The 2022 World Games will take place from July 7th – July 17th in Birmingham, Alabama. Competition will take

place in 9-Ball, Snooker and 3 Cushion with players representing various countries throughout the world.

The World Games were last contested in 2017 in Wroclaw Poland with Carlo Biado and Siming Chen winning 9-Ball Gold Medals. Daniel Sanchez won 3 Cushion Gold and Kyren Wilson took Snooker Gold.

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World Record Holder Shaw Gets OnBoard

We are very excited to announce 'Eagle Eye' Jayson Shaw as the latest addition to #teamonboard and can't wait to start working with him.

Jayson is regarded as one of the best, if not the best player in the game at the moment and his status and following is shared world wide. He finished last year strongly with Team Europe beating Team USA

11-6 to win the 2021 Cazoo Mosconi Cup with Jayson going on to become MVP for the second year running!

Moving into 2022 Jayson has certainly started where he left off in 2021 and

couldn't have started the year any stronger. He recorded his 7th Turning Stone Classic title beating Fedor Gorst 13.10 in the final before breaking the Straight Pool World Record, recording an impressive 714 on 18th January, surpassing the previous record holders of 526 by Willie Mosconi and 626 by John Schmidt. This in itself is an outstanding achievement and is one that Jayson is extremely proud of.

We caught up with Jayson and he had this to say:

"It feels great to be joining Onboard Sportswear as they supply some of the best material and clothing you can wear playing pool, quite simply they are the best in the business! The guys have a lot of casual wear for off the table too, allowing the players to be able support their sponsors away from the cameras also. 2022 is going to be a good year and I can't wait to start working together!"

With a stacked calendar of events to come, Jayson is set on making 2022 his year and we look forward to watching him in action at the Nine-ball World Ranking event - Premier League Pool at Milton Keynes next week.



JAYSON SHAW

TeamOnboard

NEW SIGNING

OnBoard Sportswear Signs Team Filler

We are delighted to announce Pia & Joshua Filler (The Killer Fillers) as the latest addition to #teamonboard.

The young Professional German Duo are known world wide for their commitment and talent on the table, with Joshua recently being crowned the 10 Ball BigFoot Champion, Runner Up in the 9 Ball Category and finishing 3rd place all round at the Derby City Classic last month.

When asked how it feels to be signing for #teamonboard the Fillers told us "We are more than happy to be partnering with Onboard Sportswear as our Official Clothing Sponsor. Absolute high quality apparel which is extremely comfortable to wear. We're looking forward to our future together."

2022 promises to be an exciting year for Pia and Joshua and we are thrilled to be supporting them both for the year ahead. With many events already scheduled into an action packed pool calendar, there are many more titles and great things to come from the duo.

Welcome aboard Killer Fillers!





2021 Winners
Christoph Reintjes
& Joshua Filler

Brentwood To Stage 2022 World Cup Of Pool

The Brentwood Centre will host two major professional cue sports events in 2022: Matchroom's World Cup of Pool and snooker's English Open.

The Essex venue will host these events for the first time this year, drawing the biggest stars of 9-ball pool and snooker to Brentwood from around the globe.

Matchroom's World Cup of Pool will bring 32 nations together as two-player teams compete for national pride, the title, and their share of a \$250,000 prize fund from June 13 to 18. The tournament is a straight-knockout format leaving no room for error. Germany are the reigning champions with one of the world's best in Joshua Filler spearheading their defence. The likes of World Number One Albin Ouschan of Austria, the USA's finest Shane Van Boening and Great Britain's two-time Mosconi Cup MVP Jayson Shaw will all look to lead their sides to the title over six action-packed days.

Matchroom President Barry Hearn OBE said: "The World Cup of Pool is one of Pool's most unique tournaments and it promises to be a fantastic spectacle with such a diverse international field set to come to Brentwood. 9-ball is ever growing, and it promises to be an atmosphere and event not to be missed.

We cannot wait to see the likes of Ouschan, and Shaw compete on our doorstep. We're excited to deliver a world class event with Brentwood Borough Council this June live on Sky Sports in the UK and networks worldwide."

Snooker's English Open will run from December 12 to 18, featuring over 70 players, including the top 16 in the world rankings. Winners in recent years include Ronnie O'Sullivan, Judd Trump, Mark Selby, and current champion Neil Robertson.

The world ranking event, part of snooker's Home Nations Series, will be televised by Eurosport and a wide range of other broadcasters around the globe.

World Snooker Tour Chairman Steve Dawson said: "We are delighted to bring a WST event to the Brentwood Centre for the first time. It is a fantastic venue and right in the centre of a traditional snooker heartland as so many great players have come from Essex over the years, including Ronnie O'Sullivan, Ali Carter, Stuart Bingham and many more. This is a fantastic opportunity for local fans to see the very

best players in the world competing for a prestigious title. We look forward to working with Brentwood Borough Council on delivering a top-class event which will be enjoyed by our players and fans."

Brentwood Council Leader, Councillor Chris Hossack, added: "It is fantastic news that Matchroom are committed to bringing quality sports with an international audience to The Brentwood Centre. We are excited to have Matchroom working with us and Everyone Active to continue to put Brentwood on the map with their world class sporting events.

"It has been years since snooker fans have had a chance to see their sport in Essex and to have the World Cup of Pool as well in Brentwood is just brilliant"

Tickets for both of these events will be available in due course and fans will need to book fast to make sure they have the chance to see the greatest cue sports talent on the planet. For details see matchroompool.com and wst.tv/tickets.

World Pool Masters Returns To Gibraltar

Matchroom Multi Sport is delighted to be heading back to the Europa Sports Complex in Gibraltar for the 2022 World Pool Masters, 9-ball pool's biggest invitational tournament, Thursday, 5 May to Sunday, 8 May with tickets on sale Friday, 18 February.

Head to <https://www.buytickets.gi/> to get your tickets on Friday, 18 February!

The top 20 players on the Nineball World Rankings, along with 4 wildcard invites, face off in one of the toughest events of the season for a prize fund of \$100,000. Fans will be able to watch the action for as little as £7 a session.

Last year, fans were treated to a gripping week of action where Alexander Kazakis avenged the woes of 2019 to defeat Shane Van Boening in a stunning 9-0 victory.

Fans will be treated to the best Nineball has to offer with the likes of defending champion Kazakis, World No.1 Albin Ouschan, Shane Van Boening, and recent Mosconi Cup MVP Jayson Shaw amongst the line-up al-

ready confirmed. Fans can see more names announced on the Matchroom Pool social media pages throughout February.

Emily Frazer, Matchroom Multi Sport Managing Director said: "Last year the fans created a fantastic atmosphere as we returned to the Rock for the first time since 2019. It was a unique set up with fans so close to the action and we look forward to working with Gibraltar Ministry of Sport to deliver what will prove to be another exciting week of action and only one winner. The pockets are tight and the action is fast, it is a tantalising spectacle."

The Minister for Sport (Gibraltar), The Hon Steven Linares said: "It is once again a pleasure to welcome the World Pool Masters and Matchroom Multi Sport back to the Rock. We have rec-

ognised that 9-ball pool is expanding its international profile and increasing in popularity amongst the younger generation in Gibraltar, all thanks to Matchroom Sport. Gibraltar is ready to showcase another world class event and promise to deliver a spectacular show for all the visitors, spectators, and players."

Tight pockets, an elite field, and a bruising single-elimination format means only a player at the very top of their game can walk away with the World Pool Masters title. The World Pool Masters is one of the most prestigious tournaments in pool and sees 24 of the world's best battle it out over four days.

Head to <https://www.buytickets.gi/> to get your tickets on Friday, 18 February!

sky sports nineball matchroom DAZN

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5-8 MAY '22

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Brunswick Reborn Under Escalade



At Brunswick Billiards, things are very rapidly changing, again. Up until the mid 1990's, Brunswick had been the undisputed King of the Hill. Brunswick was everywhere you looked.

Their tables were the ones you played on in the poolrooms, they were the ones that you found at tournaments, and they promoted the game heavily. They were the basis of the success that the WPBA had in the early 90's with regular television appearances of their events. Their marketing was everywhere and effective.

Then they simply disappeared, due to their own success. In a nut shell, Brunswick was so successful at expanding into other areas of recreation that they eventually turned the billiards business into a step-child. Brunswick had begun expanding out of billiards and bowling when they purchased Mercury Marine in the late 50's. They even invented recreational pastimes. It was Brunswick, in 1972, that invented Air Hockey. But in the early 90's, they really grew their boat lines by purchasing Sea Ray and Bayliner. With these two gems in their portfolio they went on to dominate the pleasure craft industry.

And billiards suffered. The marine division had become so important to Brunswick that they pushed the billiards division basically over into a corner and ignored it. There were no fresh funds for expansion and the



The GCC (Gold Crown Coin)

power marketing went away. They had to withdraw their sponsorship of the WPBA and most ad dollars went only to local newspapers in markets where they had large dealers. They even quit going to the trade show in recent years, denying buyers a prime opportunity to purchase their tables.

But now, a new light is shining on the company. Since the acquisition by Escalade, the folks at Brunswick are looking at a large future opportunity. Once again they can make new marketing plans and do all the other things that had been taken off their to-do lists for over fifteen years. Roger Blank, long time sales manager for Brunswick, was going to retire. He announced that last year and was

basically wrapping up a long career, but since he heard the plans from Escalade he has decided to stay on and direct sales for a while longer.

New projects are once again encouraged, and plans are being made for future change. As manufacturing costs overseas continue to increase, Brunswick is now looking at how long it might be before they can economically justify the return of some of the table lines to being made in America. Escalade has seen the promise of billiards and likes what they are seeing. They bought Cue and Case (Lucasi) back in 2014 and American Heritage tables in 2020, so Brunswick is not their first foray into the genre. In fact, after their multi-year experience in the field, this marks a major expansion for Escalade.

Escalade is excited about the design of the new line. Their Bar-Box now sports the same design as the Gold Crown and is therefore called the Gold Crown Coin, or the GCC for short. Brunswick fans can now look forward to new designs and products. It may take a few months to turn the ship around, but the crew is all ready to sail back into the sunlight.



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you really have to ask yourself

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opponent...



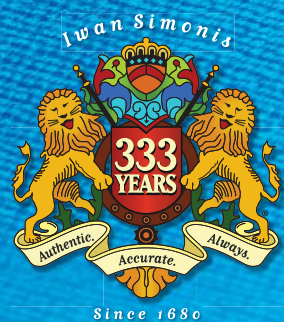
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Tourney Results

Feb 02 - Feb 03

Cajun Coast Classic Action - Justin Hall vs Chip Compton

Pool Do's Sports Bar

Morgan City, Louisiana
1 Chip Compton \$30,000

Feb 02 - Feb 06

4th Annual Cajun Coast Classic Open Banks Division

Pool Do's Sports Bar

Morgan City, Louisiana
1 Roland Garcia \$2,450
2 Carlo Biado \$1,450
3 Can Salim \$1,000

Feb 02 - Feb 06

4th Annual Cajun Coast Classic Open 9-Ball

Pool Do's Sports Bar

Morgan City, Louisiana
1 Alexandros Kazakis \$6,000
2 Roberto Gomez \$3,500
3 Mario He \$2,200
4 Tony Chohan \$1,025
5 Jonas Souto Comino \$700
5 Sergio Rivas \$700
7 Jason Hill \$300
7 Roland Garcia \$300

Feb 05 - Feb 05

Predator Tri State Tour 2022 Stop

Shooter's Family Billiards

Wayne, NJ
1 Jan Mierzwa \$700
2 Jaydev Zaveri \$450
3 Kervens Francois \$285
4 Ty Classen \$175
5 Aiden Wagner \$115
5 Mac Jankov \$115
7 Jay Chiu \$80
7 Nick Torraca \$80

Feb 05 - Feb 06

Sunshine State Predator Pro Am Tour 2022 Stop 1

Stroker's Billiards

Palm Harbor, FL
1 Raymond Linares \$1,200
2 Donny Mills \$800
3 Rich Schau \$600
4 Trenton White \$465
5 Jerry Arvelaez \$350
5 Konnor McFayden \$350
7 Han Berber \$250
7 Robert Batson \$250
9 Bobby Garza \$180
9 Marcus Murillo \$180
9 Mike McGuire \$180
9 Steve Knoll \$180
13 Derek Laprarie \$130
13 Jeannie Seaver \$130
13 Manuel Montas \$130
13 Nathan Rose \$130

Feb 05 - Feb 06

Q City 9-Ball Tour Winter Classic

Break Time Billiards

Winston-Salem, NC
1 Justin Martin \$1,300
2 BJ Ussery \$800
3 Corey Sykes \$600
4 Jeff Abernathy \$400
5 Barry Mashburn \$100
5 Christy Norris \$50
5 Graham Swinson \$200
5 Hunter White \$50
5 Joshua Padron \$100
5 Landon Hollingsworth \$200
5 Niko Konkel \$50
5 Thomas Sansone \$50

Feb 05 - Feb 06

Q City 9-Ball Tour Ladies Winter Classic

Break Time Billiards

Winston-Salem, NC
1 Lisa Cossette \$600

2 Katie Bischoff \$400
3 Shannon Johnson \$170
4 Noelle Tate \$115

Feb 05 - Feb 06

Joss Tour 2022-2023 Stop 8 Second Chance

Utica Billiards On The Boulevard

Utica, New York
1 Aaron Greenwood \$330
2 Bill Goodman \$200
3 Glen Van Court \$140
4 Joe Wysocki \$90
5 Bob Sherwood \$50
5 Mike Renshaw \$50

Feb 05 - Feb 06

Joss Tour 2021-2022 Stop 8

Utica Billiards On The Boulevard

Utica, New York
1 Bucky Souvanthong \$1,000
2 Jamie Garrett \$700
3 Len Gianfrate \$500
4 Damon Sobers \$350
5 Doug Wells \$250
5 Willie Oney \$250
7 Joe Darigis \$150
7 Josh Welsh \$150
9 Bob Forchilli \$100
9 Frank Wolak \$100
9 Jason Reese \$100
9 Tyler Arnold \$100

Feb 06 - Feb 06

Mezz Cues LA 9-Ball Series Stop

Gladi8or Billiards

Los Angeles, California
1 Joshua Farris \$500
2 Rakesh Bunga \$300
3 Jeffrey Jamerson \$220
4 James Harris \$150
5 Rhino Lay \$100
5 Tony Garcia \$100
7 Chris Wedekind \$65
7 Francis Lanag \$65

Feb 09 - Feb 12

Apex Wisconsin Open 2022

Ho-Chunk Casino WI Dells

Baraboo, Wisconsin

- 1 Alexandros Kazakis \$25,000
- 2 Bader Al Awadi \$15,000
- 3 Aloysius Yapp \$7,500
- 3 Lee Vann Corteza \$7,500
- 5 Denis Grabe \$3,000
- 5 Eklent Kaci \$3,000
- 5 Jeremy Seaman \$3,000
- 5 Jesus Atencio \$3,000
- 9 Dan Olson \$1,000
- 9 Darren Appleton \$1,000
- 9 Dimitris Loukatos \$1,000
- 9 Fedor Gorst \$1,000
- 9 Mickey Krause \$1,000
- 9 Mika Immonen \$1,000
- 9 Robbie James Joaquin Capito \$1,000
- 9 Roland Garcia \$1,000

Feb 11 - Feb 13

2022 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 2 - 13 & Under Girls

Diamond Billiards

Cape Coral, FL

- 1 Skylar Hess
- 2 Sofia Mast
- 3 Gianna Fiore

Feb 11 - Feb 13

2022 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 2 - 13 & Under Boys

Diamond Billiards

Cape Coral, FL

- 1 Harry Leinen
- 2 D' Angelo Spain
- 3 Roman Boone

Feb 11 - Feb 13

2022 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 2 - 18 & Under Boys

Diamond Billiards

Cape Coral, FL

- 1 Joey Tate

2 Ivo Linkin

3 Landon Hollingsworth

Feb 11 - Feb 13

2022 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 2 - 18 & Under Girls

Diamond Billiards

Cape Coral, FL

- 1 Bethany Tate
- 2 Sofia Mast
- 3 April Gonzales

Feb 11 - Feb 13

2022 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 2 - Pro Am

Diamond Billiards

Cape Coral, FL

- 1 Trenton White
- 2 Joey Tate
- 3 Nathan Childress

Feb 12 - Feb 13

Q City 9-Ball Tour Event

Gate City Billiards Club

Greensboro, NC

- 1 Buzzy Gonzalez \$900
- 2 Josh Heeter \$650
- 3 Hank Powell \$400
- 4 Daniel Adams \$200
- 5 Jerry Stone \$150
- 5 Kelly Farrar \$150
- 7 Dakota Ash \$75
- 7 Gene Parker \$75

Feb 12 - Feb 13

2022 Maryland State Women's 9-Ball Championships Open Drop In Tournament

Brews & Cues on the Boulevard

Glen Burnie, Maryland

- 1 Jimmy Varias \$462
- 2 Brandon Williams \$330
- 3 Steve Fleming \$198
- 4 Rick Winpigler \$132
- 5 Brian Jones \$66
- 5 Glen Loveland \$66
- 7 Jamie Moody \$33
- 7 Joe Wright \$33

Feb 12 - Feb 12

Garden State Pool Tour Amateur Stop

Rockaway Billiards

Rockaway, NJ

- 1 Joe Valania \$1,000
- 2 Robert Calton \$650
- 3 Onexi Flores \$450
- 4 Kevin Scalzitti \$300
- 5 Christian Jay Orque \$200
- 5 Dave Juis \$200
- 7 Fernando Bentercourt \$150
- 7 Jorge Cappillo \$150
- 9 Frank Kassetta \$100
- 9 Jaydev Zaveri \$100
- 9 Julie Madlener \$100
- 9 Paul Madonia \$100

Feb 12 - Feb 13

2022 Maryland State Women's 9-Ball Championships

Brews & Cues on the Boulevard

Glen Burnie, Maryland

- 1 Nicole Nester \$630
- 2 Tina Pawloski Malm \$450
- 3 Eugenia Gyftopoulos \$270
- 4 Colleen Shoop \$180
- 5 KanKan Yu \$90
- 5 Kelly Daniel \$90
- 7 Christina Madrigale \$45
- 7 Theresa Tascarella \$45

Feb 14 - Feb 21

Premier League Pool

Stadium MK

Milton Keynes, Bletchley

- 1 Albin Ouschan \$20,000
- 2 Joshua Filler \$12,500
- 3 Jayson Shaw \$8,000
- 3 Shane Van Boening \$8,000
- 5 Skyler Woodward \$7,000
- 6 Alexandros Kazakis \$6,250
- 7 David Alcaide \$5,250
- 8 Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz \$5,000
- 9 Mieszko Fortunski \$4,750
- 10 Omar Alshaheen \$4,500
- 11 Aloysius Yapp \$3,750
- 12 Oliver Szolnoki \$3,500

- 13 Naoyuki Oi \$3,250
- 14 Kelly Fisher \$3,000
- 15 Maximilian Lechner \$2,750
- 16 Eklent Kaci \$2,500

Feb 16 - Feb 16

7th Texas Open 10-Ball Championship Open Mini

Skinny Bob's Billiards

- Round Rock, Texas
- 1 Sanjin Pehlivanovic \$800
 - 2 Carlo Biado \$500
 - 3 Gerason Martinez \$240
 - 3 Roland Garcia \$240
 - 5 Alex Pagulayan \$80
 - 5 James Ray Davis \$80
 - 5 Mickey Krause \$80
 - 5 Pijus Labutis \$80

Feb 16 - Feb 21

7th Texas Open 10-Ball Championship Ladies Division

- Skinny Bob's Billiards
Round Rock, Texas
- 1 Mary Rakin \$1,750
 - 2 April Larson \$950
 - 3 Chris Fields \$550
 - 4 Jenna Bishoff \$400
 - 5 Melissa Rushton \$225
 - 5 Tam Trinh \$225
 - 7 Ada Lio \$150
 - 7 Kim Sanders \$150

Feb 16 - Feb 21

7th Texas Open 10-Ball Championship Scotch Doubles Division

Skinny Bob's Billiards

- Round Rock, Texas
- 1 Carlo Biado \$1,000
 - 1 Mary Rakin \$1,000
 - 2 Alex Pagulayan \$637
 - 2 April Larson \$637
 - 3 Chip Compton \$350
 - 3 Michelle Cortez \$350
 - 4 Chris Reinhold \$225
 - 4 Emily Sumrall \$225
 - 5 Cristina DeLaGarza Schneider \$112

- 5 James Ray Davis \$112
- 5 Jennifer Kraber \$112
- 5 Justin Espinosa \$112

Feb 16 - Feb 21

7th Texas Open 10-Ball Championship

Skinny Bob's Billiards

- Round Rock, Texas
- 1 Gerason Martinez \$8,000
 - 2 John Morra \$4,000
 - 3 Alex Pagulayan \$2,500
 - 4 Lee Vann Corteza \$1,825
 - 5 Jonas Souto Comino \$1,100
 - 5 Tommy Tokoph \$1,100
 - 7 Christopher Tevez \$650
 - 7 Mickey Krause \$650
 - 9 Chip Compton \$460
 - 9 Chris Reinhold \$460
 - 9 Jesus Atencio \$460
 - 9 Shane Wolford \$460
 - 13 Carlo Biado \$340
 - 13 Ernesto Dominguez \$340
 - 13 Josh Roberts \$340
 - 13 Roberto Gomez \$340
 - 17 Eric Aicinena \$200
 - 17 Jerry Arvelaez \$200
 - 17 Manny Chau \$200
 - 17 Nick De Leon \$200
 - 17 Raed Shabib \$200
 - 17 Robbie James Joaquin Capito \$200
 - 17 Sean Black \$200
 - 17 Tommy Sanders \$200
 - 25 Elmer Sabillon \$125
 - 25 José Martinez \$125
 - 25 Michael Yednak \$125
 - 25 Pijus Labutis \$125
 - 25 Robert Flores \$125
 - 25 Sanjin Pehlivanovic \$125
 - 25 Sharik Sayed \$125
 - 25 Trent Stith \$125

Feb 18 - Feb 20

Jay Swanson "Swanee" Memorial 9-Ball Tournament 2022

Griff's

- Las Vegas, Nevada

- 1 Oscar Dominguez \$3,000
- 2 Ruben Bautista \$2,100
- 3 Max Eberle \$1,500
- 4 Ronnie Wiseman \$1,000
- 5 Ian Costello \$700
- 5 Jordan Holman \$700
- 7 Bret Huth \$500
- 7 Tim Daniel \$500
- 9 Ernie Rivas \$300
- 9 Marshall Jung \$300
- 9 Matt Hardwick \$300
- 9 Mike Hutcheson \$300
- 13 Charles Jacques \$200
- 13 James Davee \$200
- 13 Johnathan Monroy \$200
- 13 Marty Turpin \$200

Feb 19 - Feb 20

Q City 9-Ball Tour Event

Borderline Billiards

- Bristol, TN
- 1 Scott Roberts \$560
 - 2 Corey Morphey \$300
 - 3 Eric Roberts \$200
 - 4 Adam Pendley \$100
 - 5 Chris Cowan \$50
 - 5 Scott Howard \$50

Feb 19 - Feb 20

Northeast 9-Ball Open XXXIII Second Chance

Sharpshooters Billiards & Sports Pub

- Amsterdam, NY
- 1 Jim Kearney \$300
 - 2 Greg Bombard \$200
 - 3 Joe Wysocki \$160
 - 4 Jamie Garrett \$100
 - 5 Ed Pacillo \$60
 - 5 Nick Coppola \$60

Feb 19 - Feb 20

1st Annual 2022 B & L Short Rack 8-Ball Championship

Center Pocket Billiards

- Bowie, Maryland
- 1 Grai Rasmechai \$520
 - 2 Lukas Fracasso-Verner \$260
 - 3 Jimmy Varias \$170

- 4 Mike Young \$130
- 5 Robbie Daniels \$90
- 5 Roland Freolo \$90
- 7 Matt Clatterbuck \$70
- 7 Tuan Chau \$70
- 9 Andrew Tu \$40
- 9 Gary Mohammed \$40
- 9 Justin Pelech \$40
- 9 Lai Li \$40

Feb 19 - Feb 20

Northeast 9-Ball Open XXXIII

Sharpshooters Billiards & Sports Pub

- Amsterdam, NY
- 1 Jeremy Sossei \$1,100
 - 2 Bucky Souvanthong \$850
 - 3 Marko Clarke \$600
 - 4 Ron Casanzio \$450
 - 5 Bruce Carroll \$300
 - 5 Damon Sobers \$300
 - 7 Bud Robideau \$200
 - 7 Tito Ortiz \$200
 - 9 Dawn Fox \$100
 - 9 Fred Gokey \$100
 - 9 Len Gianfrate \$100
 - 9 Tom Acciavatti \$100

Feb 19 - Feb 19

Capital City Pool Tour 2022 Event 1

Breaktime Billiards

- Cary, NC
- 1 Mike Davis \$680
 - 2 Tony Pete \$420
 - 3 Jason Rogers \$300
 - 4 Soloman Pope \$200
 - 5 Barry Mashburn \$100
 - 5 Christy Norris \$100

Feb 19 - Feb 20

1st Annual 2022 B & L Open 10-Ball Championship

Center Pocket Billiards

- Bowie, Maryland
- 1 Shaun Wilkie \$3,300
 - 2 Raphael Dabreo \$1,640
 - 3 Kang Lee \$1,080
 - 4 Paul Krimes \$820

- 5 Thomas Haas \$600
- 5 Tom Zippler \$600
- 7 BJ Ussery \$440
- 7 Derek Benavides \$440
- 9 Caleb Koury \$320
- 9 John Moody Sr. \$320
- 9 Justin Muller \$320
- 9 Mike Saleh \$320
- 13 Coen Bell \$220
- 13 David Choi \$220
- 13 Grai Rasmehchai \$220
- 13 Matt Clatterbuck \$220
- 17 Carl Morgan \$160
- 17 Derick Daya \$160
- 17 Henry Cha \$160
- 17 Joe Scott \$160
- 17 Levie A. Lampaan \$160
- 17 Lukas Fracasso-Verner \$160
- 17 Paul Oh \$160
- 17 Tony Long \$160

Feb 20 - Feb 20

New England 9-Ball Tour 2022 Stop #2

Crow's Nest

- Plaistow, New Hampshire
- 1 Darren Belliveau \$500
 - 2 Everett Belliveau \$320
 - 3 Ben Savoie \$220
 - 4 Xhuljiano Kamxhiu \$100

Feb 26 - Feb 27

Tiger Florida Tour 2022 Stop 2

Stix Billiards Oldsmar

- Tampa, Florida
- 1 Carrie Vetrone \$700
 - 2 Jeannie Seaver \$500
 - 3 Kaylee McIntosh \$325
 - 3 Stephanie Mitchell \$325
 - 5 Danielle Fee \$150
 - 5 Jessica Karacia-Human \$150
 - 5 Kim Housman \$150
 - 5 Sofia Mast \$150
 - 9 Helene Caukin \$100
 - 9 Michell Monk \$100
 - 9 Miranda Orange \$100
 - 9 Vanessa Seaver \$100

Feb 26 - Feb 28

Dynamic Billard Lasko Open 2022

Hotel Thermana Park Lasko

- 1 Wiktor Zielinski \$6,677
- 2 Joshua Filler \$5,119
- 3 Eklent Kaci \$3,338
- 3 Wojciech Szewczyk \$3,338
- 5 Dimitri Jungo \$1,669
- 5 Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz \$1,669
- 5 Jonas-Kvaslund Hansen \$1,669
- 5 Radoslaw Babica \$1,669
- 9 Aleksa Pecelj \$1,112
- 9 Daniel Maciol \$1,112
- 9 Denis Grabe \$1,112
- 9 Fedor Gorst \$1,112
- 9 Jonas Souto Comino \$1,112
- 9 Jose Alberto Delgado \$1,112
- 9 Niels Feijen \$1,112
- 9 Roman Hybler \$1,112
- 17 Alexandros Kazakis \$667
- 17 Besar Spahiu \$667
- 17 Chris Melling \$667
- 17 Francesco Candela \$667
- 17 Jakub Koniar \$667
- 17 Juan Carlos Exposito \$667
- 17 Kamil Szaszor \$667
- 17 Marco Dorenburg \$667
- 17 Mario He \$667
- 17 Mustafa Alnar \$667
- 17 Oliver Szolnoki \$667
- 17 Ralf Souquet \$667
- 17 Ronald Regli \$667
- 17 Sanjin Pehlivanovic \$667
- 17 Sergey Lutsker \$667
- 17 Szymon Kural \$667
- 33 Andreas Daniel \$333
- 33 Daniel Guttenberger \$333
- 33 David Alcaide \$333
- 33 Fabio Petroni \$333
- 33 Francisco Diaz-Pizarro \$333
- 33 Georg Hoerberl \$333
- 33 Karol Skowerski \$333
- 33 Marc Bijsterbosch \$333
- 33 Mats B. Schjetne \$333
- 33 Mickey Krause \$333
- 33 Mieszko Fortunski \$333
- 33 Roberto Bartol \$333
- 33 Saki Kanatlar \$333
- 33 Sami Erkan Koylu \$333

33 Thorsten Hohmann \$333
33 Tobias Bongers \$333

Feb 26 - Feb 27

2022 Predator Womens Lasko Open

Hotel Thermana Park Lasko

1 Amalia Matas \$1,668
2 Oliwia Zalewska \$1,112
3 Hannan Memic \$890
3 Line Kjorsvik \$890
5 Ana Gradisnik \$667
5 Melanie Suessenguth \$667
5 Natalia Zubtsova \$667
5 Sara Rocha \$667

Feb 26 - Feb 26

Garden State Pool Tour Amateur Stop

Clifton Billiards

Clifton, New Jersey
1 Mike Johnson \$600
2 Gary Barnish \$450
3 Kervin Santamaria \$240

4 Steve Persaud \$150

Feb 26 - Feb 27

Q City 9-Ball Tour Event

Rock House Tavern

Gastonia, NC
1 Clay Davis \$900
2 Paul Johnson \$700
3 Rory Dover \$400
4 Cole Lewis \$285
5 Runal Bhatt \$100
5 Trent Talbert \$100
7 Andrew Carlisle \$75
7 Matt Lucas \$75
9 Hank Powell \$50
9 Hunter White \$50
9 Ronnie Anderson \$50
9 Zach Martin \$50


Feb 26 - Feb 27

2022 DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop 2

Stixx And Stones Billiards

Lewisville, Texas
1 Daniel Herring \$1,220

2 Tony Top \$860
3 Aloysius Yapp \$650
4 Sharik Sayed \$480
5 Juan Parra \$340
5 Matt Wilson \$340
7 Denny Sneed \$210
7 Tony Loeper \$210
9 Crispian Ng \$120
9 Darryl Smith \$120
9 TJ Davis \$120
9 TJ Thetford \$120
13 Andy Kiesling \$100
13 Barry Emerson \$100
13 Josh Hemsoth \$100
13 Neil Nabil Saidawi \$100
17 Clint Palaci \$90
17 Eric Hammond \$90
17 Fahad Alrawi \$90
17 Highway Sigadi \$90
17 Joe Pelayo \$90
17 Michael Oman \$90
17 Rafeen Rahman \$90
17 Robbie Cleland \$90



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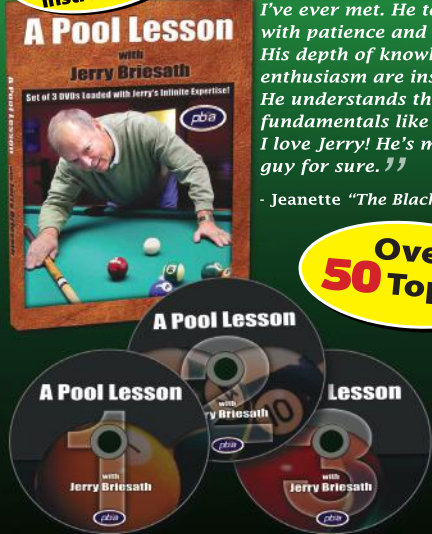
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Upcoming Tournaments

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.

FEBRUARY

2022 Scotty Townsend Memorial

Mar 01 - Mar 06

Arena Billiards
West Monroe, LA

Dynamic Billiard European Pool Championships 2022

Mar 02 - Mar 12

Hotel Thermana Park Lasko,
Lasko

Sunshine State Pro Am Tour 2022 Stop 2

Mar 05 - Mar 06

Cue-Phoria Billiards and Cafe
Winter Park, Florida

Mezz Pro Am Tour 2022 Stop 1

Mar 05 - Mar 06

Markley Billiards
Norristown, PA

12th N.E. Pool & Billiard Hall of Fame 9-Ball Open

Mar 05 - Mar 06

Snookers - Sports Billiards, Bar & Grill
Providence, RI

Arizona Women's Billiards Tour 2022 Stop 2

Mar 05 - Mar 06

Griff's
Las Vegas, Nevada

JPNEWT Tour 2022 Stop #1

Mar 05 - Mar 06

Triple 9 Bar & Billiards
Elkridge, MD

Mezz Cues LA 9-Ball Series Stop

Mar 06 - Mar 06

Gladi8or Billiards
Los Angeles, California

Oklahoma Winter Classic

Mar 08 - Mar 13

Deep Pockets Billiard Bar & Bistro
Tulsa, Oklahoma

2022 Southeastern Triple Crown of Billiards

Mar 09 - Mar 13

Zingales Billiards
Tallahassee, Florida

New England 9-Ball Tour 2022 Stop #4

Mar 12 - Mar 12

Branford Brew & Cue
Branford, CT

2022 On the Ball Ladies Tour Stop 2

Mar 12 - Mar 13

Betsy's Billiards
Austin, Texas

Mezz Pro Am Tour 2022 Stop 2

Mar 12 - Mar 12

Q-Ball Billiards
Vineland, NJ

2022 Maryland State 8-Ball Championships

Mar 12 - Mar 13

Brews & Cues on the Boulevard
Glen Burnie, Maryland

2022 DFW Ladies 9-Ball Tour Stop 2

Mar 12 - Mar 12

Snookered Billiards
Frisco, TX

2022 Midwest Open Billiards Championship

Mar 15 - Mar 20

Michael's Billiards
Fairfield, OH

WPBA Classic Tour Stop

Mar 16 - Mar 20

Northern Lights Casino
Walker, MN

Andy Mercer Memorial 9-Ball Tournament 2022

Mar 18 - Mar 20

Rum Runner
Las Vegas, NV

New England 9-Ball Tour 2022 Stop #3

Mar 19 - Mar 19

Crow's Nest
Plaistow, New Hampshire

Mezz Pro Am Tour 2022 Stop 3

Mar 19 - Mar 19

South Jersey Billiards
Somedale, NJ

Joss Tour 2021-2022 Stop 11

Mar 19 - Mar 20

Brickhouse Billiards
N. Syracuse, New York

AZBILLIARDS MONEY LIST

	NAME	COUNTRY	\$ AMOUNT	
	Fedor Gorst	 RUS	93.212,00 US\$	
	Joshua Filler	 GER	47.269,00 US\$	↑
	Alex Kazakis	 GRE	39.567,00 US\$	↑
	Jayson Shaw	 SCO	38.450,00 US\$	↓
	Franciso Sanchez-Ruiz	 ESP	30.969,00 US\$	↑
	Roland Garcia	 PHI	28.535,00 US\$	↓
	Josh Roberts	 USA	25.170,00 US\$	↓
	Albin Ouschan	 AUT	24.550,00 US\$	↑
	Bader Al Awadi	 KUW	18.050,00 US\$	↑
	Mieszko Fortunki	 POL	10.950,00 US\$	↓

Upcoming Tournaments

FEBRUARY

2022 DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop 3

Mar 19 - Mar 20

Snookered Billiards
Frisco, TX

Stroker's Spring Classic

Mar 19 - Mar 20

Stroker's Billiards
Palm Harbor, FL

2022 Alfa Las Vegas Open

Mar 22 - Mar 26

Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino
Las Vegas, NV

2022 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 3

Mar 25 - Mar 27

The Rack & Grill III
Aiken, SC

Mezz Pro Am Tour 2022 Stop 4

Mar 26 - Mar 26

South Jersey Billiards
Somedale, NJ

Bar Box Bonanza Series 1200 & Under Scotch Doubles 10-Ball

Mar 26 - Mar 27

Brews & Cues on the Boulevard
Glen Burnie, Maryland

WPA World 10-Ball Championship 2022

Mar 28 - Apr 01

Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino
Las Vegas, NV

WPBA Predator Event

Mar 31 - Apr 03

Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino
Las Vegas, NV

Readers,

THIS IS YOUR **CHANCE**
T O H A V E Y O U R
CREATIVITY RECOGNIZED
RIGHT HERE IN THE PAGE OF THE **BILLIARDS BUZZ.**

WE ARE POSTING

ONE PHOTO EACH MONTH
on our Facebook account and in the AzBilliards forums.

It is up to you readers to send us your **best caption** for the photo and we will
PRINT THE BEST ONE HERE EVERY MONTH.

There were some great suggestions, but our favorite this month came from **William Howard** on Facebook.



That look when you hear a coin hit the felt



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APRIL 3-5

US  OPEN

10 BALL CHAMPIONSHIP
RACES TO 9-FINALS 13

APRIL 8-11

US  OPEN

1 POCKET CHAMPIONSHIP
RACES TO 4/3-FINALS 5

APRIL 5-8

US  OPEN

8 BALL CHAMPIONSHIP
RACES TO 8-FINALS 11

APRIL 11-14

US  OPEN

BANK POOL CHAMPIONSHIP
RACES TO 5/4-FINALS 6

\$10,000 ADDED PER EVENT
\$5,000 ADDED ALL-AROUND
(\$2,500-1,500-1,000)

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