

# Billiards Buzz

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## ASIAN MAGICIANS

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# FROM THE Head Rail

MIKE HOWERTON

**W**ell, I enjoyed a couple of months without traveling to any events, but that comes to an end in November. It's time to get back out on the road, to help cover the 2024 International Open.

This one looks to be better than ever, with the inclusion of the International Straight Pool Open (formerly the American 14.1 Straight Pool Championship) to the festivities this year.

As always, this event is a Pat Fleming Production and Pat has moved the event to the Renaissance World Golf Village Resort in St. Augustine Florida. He has also added a \$10,000 added Semi-Pro 9-Ball event for players rated below 650 in Fargoate.

This event will be five days of Pro 9-Ball, mixed with the five day Semi-Pro event. The four day Straight Pool event will kick off after those two events finish, along with a two day Bigfoot Invitational 10-Ball event that will be held at the same time as the Straight Pool.

Complete information, including tickets and links to purchase the PPV coverage of the event is available online at [www.intlopen.com](http://www.intlopen.com).

Until next time,  
Mike



*Meucci*



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# STICK THE LANDING

**The ability to “stick the landing” is one of the major skills of any gymnast, and one that can turn an excellent routine into a great one, and one that wins medals.**

**S**imilarly, a pool player’s ability to land well is a major skill that’s vital to the process of setting up in a great position for playing your shots. And yet, strangely enough, this key skill is done poorly in actual play by far too many players, and working on it is usually ignored in practice.

So, it follows that if you land well, then you are on your way to playing a fine shot. And when you don’t, you have to make some oftentimes sizeable in-stance adjustments. If you don’t make these corrections, your shot is likely doomed to failure.

The process for setting up in great position for each shot begins with your standing position. You want to be aligned along the line-of-aim that runs from the cue ball to the position it will be at when contact is made with the object ball. To get to this position, it is best to walk to the line-of-aim and face down it rather than walking to it from the side and turning to make your stance.

I want to ensure that you have the habit of landing well, so I am suggesting that you run through a series of diagnostics that will show you just how well you are lined up after making your stance. This set of exercises is focused on the results you get with a series of shots. Your successes or failures will show you just how well you have landed.

## TWO APPROACHES

There are two approaches to these exercises. The first is to land without making any adjustments or use no warm-up strokes (WUS). Try to leave about a half inch between your tip and the cue ball. The next step is to push the cue ball at the object ball. Then assess just how accurately you were able to set up for the shot. This is determined by your makes, your misses, and the closeness of those misses. On the easier shots in the series you should be making the ball. On the tougher shots a near miss or better indicates that your landing was well done.

The second approach to these exercises also requires that you land as well as you can, and make no adjustments or take no WUS. The only difference is that, when playing these shots, you can take a one inch long back stroke and tap the cue ball instead of pushing it, as you did in the first approach. This method may be preferable for the longer versions of these exercises where you need enough power to send the object ball to the pocket. This micro stroke may also be needed on moderate to thin cuts because less force is transferred from the cue ball to the object ball. And remember to when shooting with both approaches to move your cue through the cue ball without trying

to augment your position once you have landed.

On shots using both approaches cue about a half tip above the center of the cue ball on the vertical axis. If you are landing well, you could try a tougher version of these shots by cuing a half tip below center on the vertical axis. Be sure to follow through several inches past the contact point. The shots will be shot at soft speed (a 3 on the Spectrum of Speeds).

## MASTER THE LANDING

When you land well, you will short-circuiting many of the flaws that might appear during the rest of your WUS routine and during your final stroke. In addition, when you land well your stroke will feel like it is on track and in the groove. This negates the need to spend much time fine during your WUS on tuning up your stroke, and this also enables you to spend more time on aiming and on developing your feel for speed.

## SET UP BALLS AT DIFFERENT DISTANCES

You will be setting up this series of shots in this Land and Shoot Exercise in various lengths and angles. The matrix below shows the 9 basic combinations of distance – for the

object ball to the pocket, and for the cue ball to the object ball. The distances are in diamonds, which on a regulation sized table are 12.5" long. The distances are short (1 diamond), medium (2 diamonds), and long (3 diamonds).

When I give the specs for a test shot, the first number is the cue ball to the object ball. The second is the object ball to the pocket. For example a short where the cue ball is 2 diamonds from the object ball and the object ball is 1 diamond from pocket that would be shown by a 2/1. These numbers are provided in the table below.

The cut angles are straight (no angle), 15, 30, and 45. If you go through the entire workout, you would be testing your landing position 36 times (9 combinations of distance x 4 angles). If you repeated the exercise using the one inch stroke, that would add up to 72 reps.

**9 BASIC COMBOS**

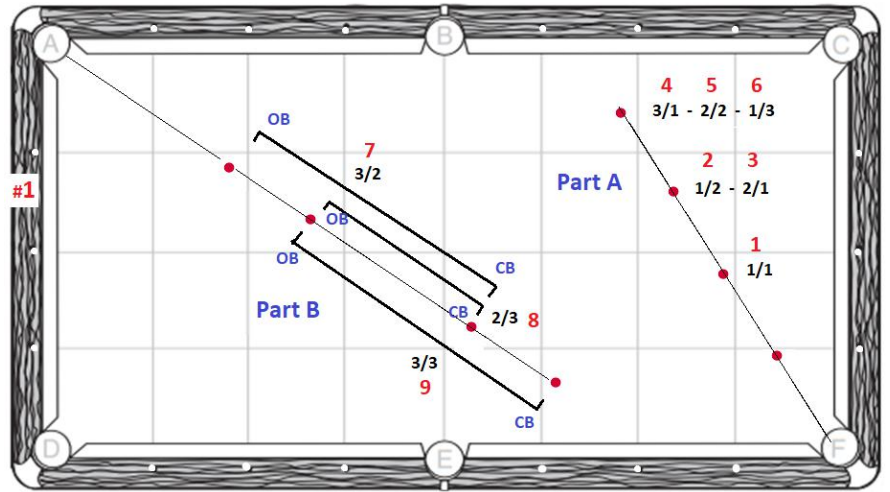
CB to OB	OB to Pock.	Specs
Short	Short	1/1
Short	Medium	1/2
Short	Long	1/3
Medium	Short	2/1
Medium	Medium	2/2
Medium	Long	2/3
Long	Short	3/1
Long	Medium	3/2
Long	Long	3/3

**DEFINITIONS**

Short	1 diamond
Medium	2 diamonds
Long	3 diamonds

**STRAIGHT IN BUT DIFFERENT**

Even though a Straight In Shot is a Straight In Shot, not all are the



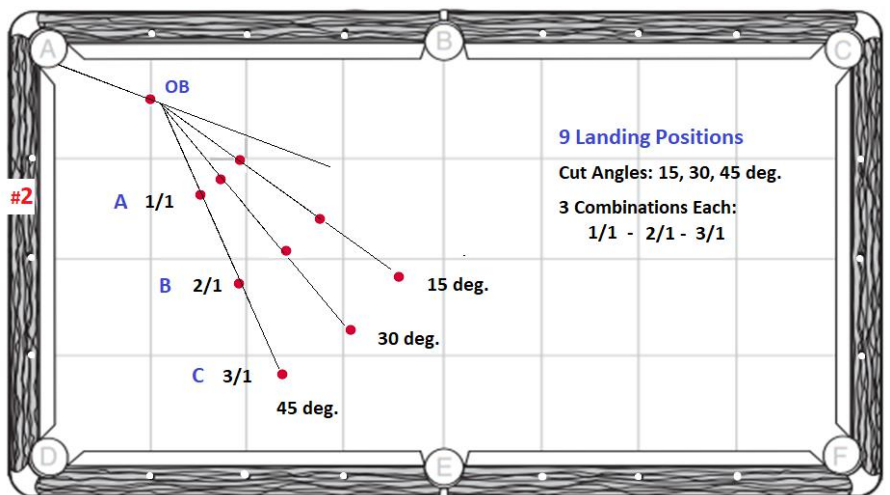
same. When you make a straight in shot into the dead center, you have almost assuredly made several compensations. Why? Because no one has a perfectly straight stroke, and because no one aims perfectly. So, when you make a dead straight in, you probably made minor but necessary compensations in your aim and stroke.

These size of these compensations are not the same, for example, on a 1/1 shot as they are on a 2/3 shot. So, I suggest that you take notice of which of these shots split the pocket, those that you make off center, and those that you miss, and to

which side of the pocket. Once you have passed the straight shot diagnostics to your satisfaction, you are ready to play a variety of cut shots.

So, one of the best ways to start your diagnostics is with different combinations of straight in shots as discussed above. One such sequence could be the one shown in the last column of the specs and in **Diagram #1**.

In Part A the labels show six different combinations of the locations of the cue ball and object ball. In the middle (#2 and #3), for example, the cue ball can be shot 1 diamond



**9 Landing Positions**

Cut Angles: 15, 30, 45 deg.

3 Combinations Each:  
1/1 - 2/1 - 3/1

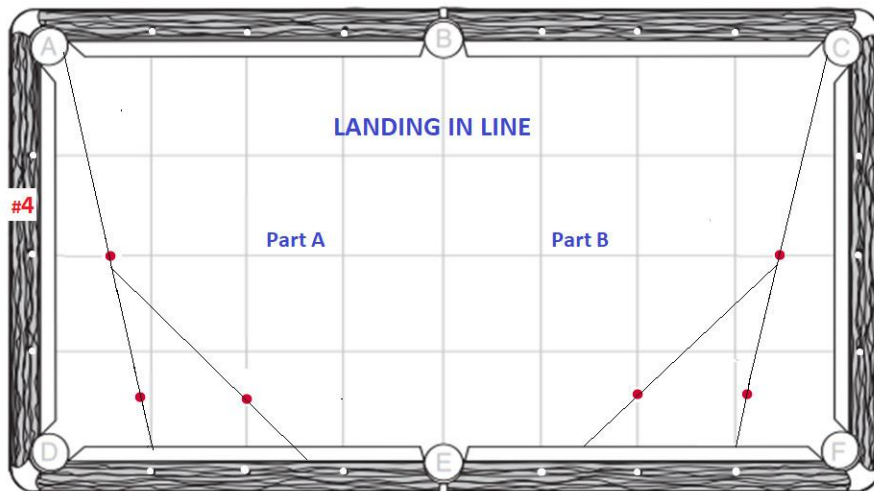
into an object ball that's 2 diamonds from the corner. And it can be shot 2 diamond lengths into an object ball that is a diamond from the pocket.

In Part B, when you play Shot #7 (the 3/2 shot) you will be sending the cue ball 3 diamonds into an object ball that's 2 diamonds from the pocket. The other two are self-explanatory. These 9 positions showing a variety of straight in shots are a part of the test that should give you much useful information. This includes how well you were aligned upon the landing, which is determined by the accuracy of the shot. So, did you stick the landing, or not?

### LANDING FOR CUT SHOTS

**Diagram #2** shows a series of nine landing positions. The object ball is in the same position for every shot. The cue to object ball distances are 1, 2, and 3 diamonds. And each distance is shot at one of the three different cut angles.

This series of shots will show you how well you landed as indicated by your makes and missed shots. The idea on all of these shots in this exercise is to take your stroke and you



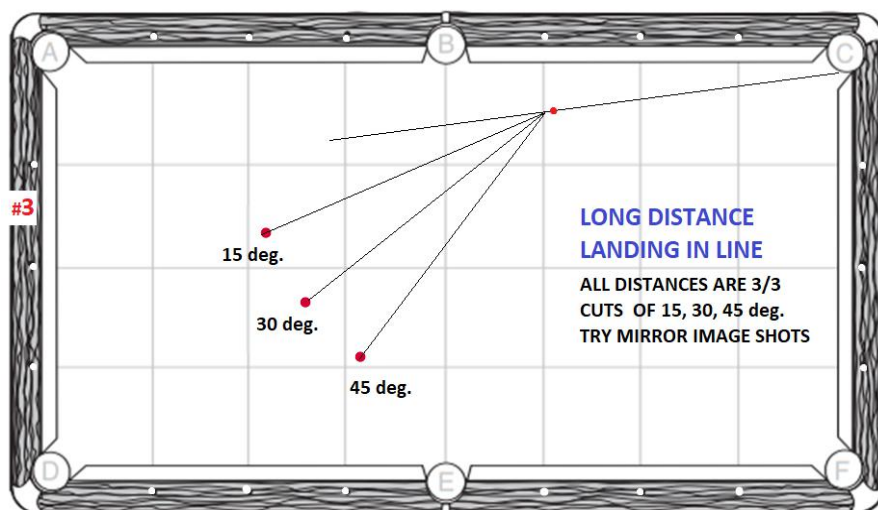
post landing adjustments out of the equation. What remains is the direction that your cue is pointing. You want to push, or use a micro stroke of about one inch straight down the line you have assumed upon your landing.

Diagram #2 shows a series of cuts to the left. You are also advised to set these shots up in the mirror image position so that you are cutting the object ball to the right. On the next round of cut shots you will be placing the cue ball 2 diamonds from the object ball. The cue ball to object ball distances are 1, 2, and 3 diamonds from the object ball.

### LONGER RANGE CUT SHOTS

**Diagram #3** is The Great Flaw Revealer. With the object ball 3 diamonds from the pocket and the cue ball 3 diamonds from the object ball, making this series of long range cut shots is a tall order when you can adjust your position and go through your WUS routine. But in this land and shoot exercise you can't, so you had better land extremely well if you hope to make the shot, or to come close. Indeed, I could call these shots the Simone Biles Exercise after the seven times Olympic gold medal winner, who knows how to stick the landing! In pool, one of the best at landing well is Alison Fisher.

So, you can expect to miss a fair percentage of these shots. But that is the point – if you can miss close and make a few, you have a skill at landing down the line-of-aim that will simplify your adjustments and that will have you feeling loose and nearly ready to pull the trigger as you take your WUS. And if you are missing far and wide, you have a skill that needs some serious work.



## LANDING ON RAIL SHOTS

According to the study I did for *Capelle On 9-Ball*, both Efen Reyes and Johnny Archer used a rail bridge on over 27% of their position plays. Therefore, it pays to master your landing for this category of shots. **Diagram #4** shows two straight in shots, one cut to the right (Part A) and one cut to the left (Part B). Landing precisely on line when bridging on the rail is a little more difficult than making a standard bridge because the rail is a significant part of your landing position.

## A FINAL WORD

It is also worth noting that you may have to lean over the table or conform your body and stance to the table. On shots like these it will ob-

viously be tougher to land on the correct line of aim. This could result in fewer makes and more misses by a larger margin.

You will discover that on some of these shots that the table and your body will come together, in which case you should take even more care

to land well. On these kinds of shots it pays to slow down a bit during the post landing period so you will have the time necessary to make any needed adjustments. I suggest that you do the same shot two times in succession. With a feel for the landing, hopefully the second will be as good if not better as the first shot.

## ABOUT PHIL CAPELLE

Beginning in 1968, Capelle spent 27 years competing in money games, leagues, and tournaments. In late 1994 he founded Billiards Press, and has since written 12 instructional books on pool. Over the last eight years he has conducted extensive research in preparation for his upcoming book, *Pool Is The Answer*. For a detailed profile of Phil Capelle, see his interview with Melinda Bailey in the April 2019 issue of the Billiards Buzz.

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# THE SILENT GAME: HARNESSING MENTAL STRENGTH FOR SUCCESS

ANTHONY BEELER

**In pool, physical skill and technical prowess are crucial, but they often take a backseat to the mental game. Mental toughness can be the deciding factor in high stakes matches, where focus, resilience, and strategy can outplay raw talent.**

**C**onversely, tiredness—whether physical or mental—can undermine even the most skilled player’s performance. This article addresses the interplay between mental toughness, tiredness, and tournament success.

## Understanding Mental Toughness

Mental toughness is the ability to remain focused, resilient, and confident under pressure. In pool, where matches can stretch over several hours and involve high stakes, players must maintain composure and sharp decision-making abilities. Key components of mental toughness include:

**Focus:** The capacity to concentrate on the task at hand and block out distractions, whether they come from the environment or self-doubt.

**Resilience:** The ability to bounce back from mistakes or losses. A strong player can quickly shake off a missed shot and refocus for the next one.

**Confidence:** Believing in one’s skills and abilities. Confidence can be bolstered through practice and positive self-talk, impacting a player’s performance.

**Stress Management:** The capability to handle pressure without losing

composure. Effective stress management techniques, such as deep breathing or visualization, can help players maintain their focus during critical moments.

## The Impact of Tiredness

Tiredness in pool can be both physical and mental. Physical tiredness affects a player’s stamina, shot execution, and overall energy levels. Mental tiredness, often stemming from prolonged concentration, can lead to lapses in judgment and focus. Signs of tiredness include:

**Decreased Focus:** Difficulty concentrating on shots or strategies.

**Slower Reaction Times:** Reduced ability to respond quickly to game situations.

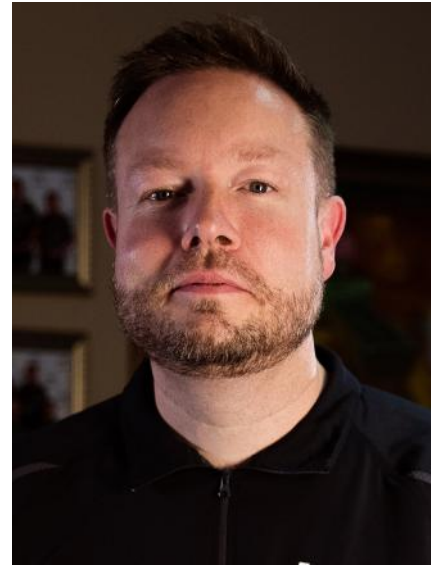
**Increased Errors:** Higher likelihood of missed shots and poor decision-making.

## The Relationship Between Mental Toughness and Tiredness

Mental toughness can help mitigate the effects of tiredness. Here’s how:

**Maintaining Focus:** A mentally tough player can push through fatigue, maintaining concentration even when tired. This ability to focus can be developed through practice and experience, allowing players to manage their energy better during matches.

**Resilience to Setbacks:** Players who cultivate mental toughness are better equipped to handle the frustration that comes with tiredness. Rather than succumbing to fatigue, they can find ways to regroup and refocus.



**Positive Mindset:** A strong mindset can help players reframe tiredness as a challenge rather than a hindrance. Instead of thinking, “I can’t do this because I’m tired,” they can adopt a mantra like, “I can push through this.”

**Effective Recovery Strategies:** Mentally tough players recognize when to take breaks, hydrate, and recharge. This awareness allows them to combat tiredness proactively, keeping their performance levels high throughout long sessions.

### Building Mental Toughness

Players can strengthen their mental toughness through various strategies:

**Goal Setting:** Establishing clear, achievable goals for practice and matches can provide motivation and focus, making it easier to push through fatigue.

**Visualization:** Imagining successful shots and positive outcomes can help

players build confidence and prepare mentally for pressure situations.

**Mindfulness and Relaxation Techniques:** Practices such as meditation or deep breathing can improve focus and reduce anxiety, enhancing overall performance.

**Regular Competitive Play:** Engaging in tournaments and high-pressure matches can build resilience and prepare players to handle the mental challenges of competitive play.

### Conclusion

In pool and billiards, mental toughness is as critical as technical skill. The ability to stay focused, resilient, and confident can significantly influence a player’s success, particularly in the face of tiredness. By recognizing the effects of fatigue and actively developing mental toughness, players can improve their performance and elevate their game. Balancing physical

preparation with mental conditioning creates a holistic approach that leads to success on the table, transforming challenges into opportunities for growth and achievement.

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

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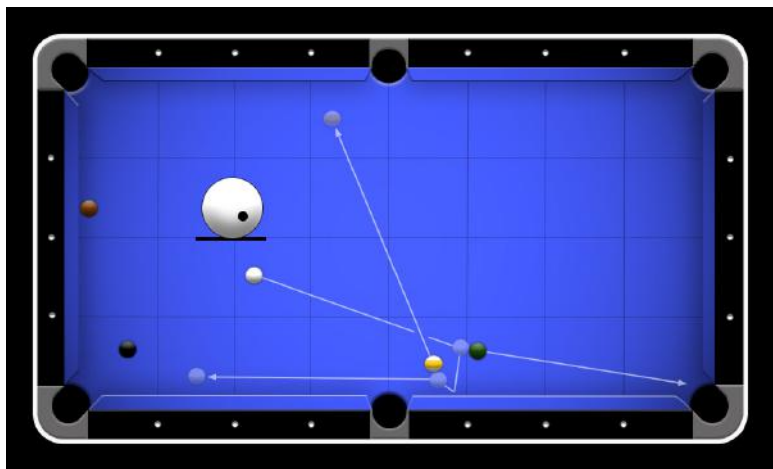
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**F R O M**



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

This month, we are featuring the 2023 International Open 9-Ball Championship.

“The Lion” Alex Pagulayan was left with this tricky six-ball against countryman Lee Vann Corteza.

We’ve all seen players playing shape off of a carom with another ball, but how about shape off a rail and then a carom? That’s what Alex came with on this great shot.



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# Gospel Trick Shot #57

## Noah and the Ark

**History of the Trick Shot:** This show was created from a melding of trick shots. GTS RACK Team members Jason Lynch and Michael Hewitt combined their collective creative artistic talents on a Blackball pool table to come up with this shot. The brainstorm happened live right before a Gospel Trick Shot show at the WPA 2024 World Artistic Blackball Championships in Bridlington, England in October of 2024. This tournament ran alongside the Blackball International (BI) World Team Championships as countries from four continents were represented. Jason and Michael represented the USA in the team championships along with Tom Rossman, Phil Ball, and Steve Lillis.

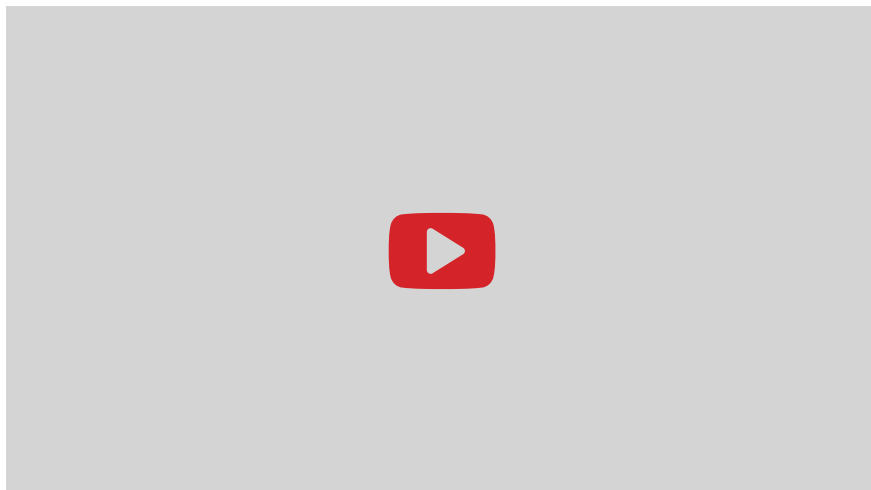
**GTS Name and Why:** Jason named this shot “Noah and the Ark” due to the pairs of balls and the chain reaction. We know that the animals came from all over to the Ark in pairs of two. The rack on the table represents the animals that have already found their way to safety in the Ark. The other balls on the table are the remainder of the animals coming two by two to the ark and the 8 Ball is Noah waiting at the door. The moral to this Bible story is that God is not only a God of judgment in flooding the world but he also saves. The people in the days of Noah were corrupt and Noah was righteous. The question is are you on the Ark of safety with Jesus as the Captain of your ship as you sail through the stormy seas of life.

**Scripture References (NIV):** Genesis 7:1-3 - The LORD then said to Noah, “Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation. Take with you seven pairs of every kind of clean animal, a male and its mate, and one pair of every kind of unclean animal, a male and its mate, and also seven pairs of every kind of bird, male and female, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth.

**Cue Ball Placement:** In hand as in diagram.

**Object Ball Placement:** This shot uses all 15 object balls on the blackball pool table. Six yellow balls are placed in the rack to add weight so the cue ball caroms off the rack correctly. Four red balls are set up on chalk cubes, three other red balls and the remaining yellow ball are frozen against the stacked balls as shown in the diagram. The 8 ball is in the pocket very close to the edge of the slate cut so that it cannot stay out of the pocket when contact is made.

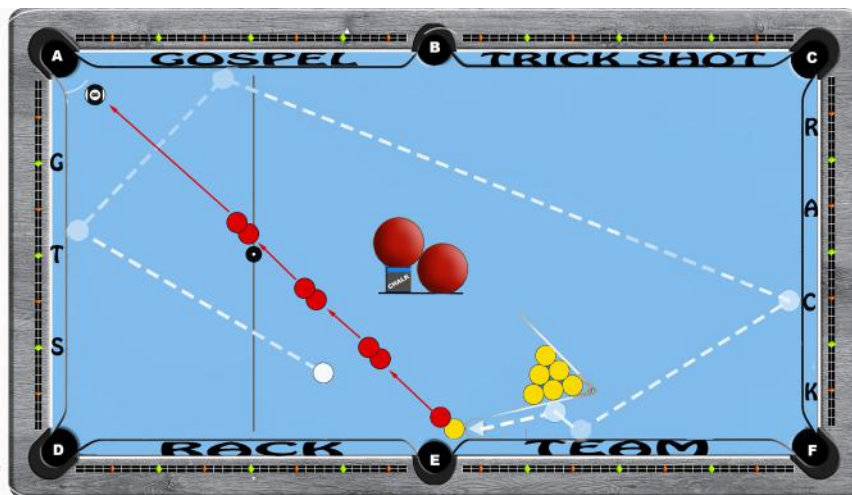
**Objective:** Aim to hit a 4-rail carom kick shot off the back of the rack so the cue ball is guided



toward the yellow and the first chain reaction. The yellow will be pocketed and the chain reaction will start and finally pocket the black 8-ball. It is worth noting that in Blackball, if you pocket the last of your colors and in this case that final yellow ball assuming the other 6 yellow balls sitting in the rack have already been pocketed, then pocketing the 8 ball is a win. So, this is a win on the table for you and for Noah.

**Special Notes:** If you find that the chain reaction slows down or stops it is likely that one of the sets of balls is not completely frozen. Also, you made need to hit the 4-rail bank shot to the rack with a bit more pace.

**Crowd Reactions:** Again, this was the first time this shot was performed and it happened in Bridlington, England during the 2024 WPA World Artistic Blackball Championships. You will see in the video that the crowd loved it and also received the message. The shot also reminds us that all things are possible with God and faith. Noah believed God and was faithful to build the Ark according to the Bible over a period of 120 years even though he was mocked and ridiculed because it had never rained. God blessed his faith by saving his family and all the animals of the earth. The next time you see a beautiful animal or pet your dog or cat thank God for his mercy and love!





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# TEAM ASIA Dominates Reyes Cup

Story by JACK MITCHELL - Matchroom Multi Sport / Photos courtesy ERWIN DIONISIO

Match One: **Team Europe 5-4 Team Asia**

Match Two: **Ko Pin Yi & Aloysius Yapp 5-2**  
Francisco Sanchez Ruiz & David Alcaide

Match Three: **Duong Quoc Hoang 5-2** Eklent Kaçi

Match Four: **Jayson Shaw & Mickey Krause 5-3**  
Johann Chua & Carlo Biado

Match Five: **Aloysius Yapp 5-4** Jayson Shaw

Match Six: **Team Europe 3-5 Team Asia**

Match Seven: **Francisco Sanchez Ruiz 3-5 Ko Pin Yi**

Match Eight: **David Alcaide & Eklent Kaçi 2-5 Duong Quoc Hoang & Aloysius Yapp**

Match Nine: **Mickey Krause 3-5 Carlo Biado**

Match Ten: **Team Europe 1-5 Team Asia**

Match Eleven: **Jayson Shaw & Francisco Sanchez Ruiz 5-4** Johann Chua & Ko Pin Yi

Match Twelve: **Jayson Shaw & Eklent Kaçi 3-5 Carlo Biado & Aloysius Yapp**

Match Thirteen: **David Alcaide 5-4** Johann Chua

Match Fourteen: **Francisco Sanchez Ruiz & Mickey Krause 3-5 Ko Pin Yi & Duong Quoc Hoang**

Match Fifteen: **Jayson Shaw 5-3** Carlo Biado

Match Sixteen: **Jayson Shaw 5-2** Duong Quoc Hoang

Match Seventeen: **Francisco Sanchez Ruiz 1-5 Aloysius Yapp**



**T**eam Asia emerged with the lead after the opening day of the inaugural Reyes Cup, held at the stunning Ninoy Aquino National Stadium in Manila, Philippines, from October 15-18, 2024.

In partnership with Puyat Sports, this landmark event saw Asia's top players go head-to-head against Europe's finest, in a high-stakes competition on the World Nineball Tour. The tournament was showcased globally via local broadcaster Cignal TV and Sky Sports in the UK.

Day one opened with a dramatic Teams Match, where Team Europe rallied from 4-1 down to secure a thrilling 5-4 victory over Team Asia.

Ko Pin Yi and Aloysius Yapp secured Team Asia's first point in the event, defeating Francisco Sanchez Ruiz and David Alcaide 5-2 in a doubles match.

In the first Singles Match of the tournament, Vietnam's Duong Quoc Hoang faced off against Albania's Eklent Kaçi. The match stayed close most of the way, until Duong broke and ran



*Aloysius Yapp and Johann Chua*

and then ran from a dry break by Kaçi, to secure the point for Team Asia.

Despite Johann Chua and Carlo Biado squaring off in the Hanoi Open semi-finals just days prior, the Filipino duo combined forces to face Europe's Jayson Shaw and Mickey Krause in the second doubles match of the evening. The Filipino pair led this match 3-0, before dropping five straight racks for a 2-2 overall score.

Mosconi veteran Jayson Shaw returned to the table to face Aloysius Yapp in the final match of the day, which would determine which team would take the lead in the race to 11 points. This match went to hill-hill before Yapp finally pocketed the case 9-ball to put Team Asia ahead 3-2 as the first day of competition came to a close.

**Team Asia extended their lead with a dominant whitewash on the second day of the event.**

Team Asia secured their first Teams Match victory to kick off Day Two of the Reyes Cup, despite falling behind early on. This one went back and forth before Chua's break and run against Kaçi and Duong won a safety battle against Sanchez-Ruiz to earn the match win for Team Asia.

In the first singles match of the day, former World Champions Ko Pin Yi and Francisco Sanchez Ruiz squared off. This one was also tied at 3-3 and saw Ko run out from an FSR dry break to earn another point for Team Asia.

In the doubles match, Duong Quoc Hoang and Aloysius Yapp dominated, storming to a swift 3-0 lead over David Alcaide and Eklent Kaçi. Team Europe fought back to 3-2, but the Asian team



*Carlo Biado*



broke and ran the final rack for a 6-2 overall lead.

In the final match of the day, European Open champion Mickey Krause faced off against Carlo Biado, hoping to prevent Team Europe from being whitewashed.

The pair exchanged racks but Biado reached the hill first in the seventh rack. Krause fought to level the match, but a tight safety on the 5-ball left him snookered, forcing a foul that gave Biado ball in hand. Biado made no mistakes, running out the final rack and completing Team Asia's whitewash of Team Europe, securing a commanding 7-2 lead at the close of day two.

**Team Asia delivered another powerful performance on the third day of the event, widening their lead over Team Europe in this historic competition. With only one day remaining, Team Asia held a commanding 9-3 lead.**

Team Europe won the lag in Match Ten and raced to a quick 4-0 lead, with thanks to wins by Yapp, Duong, Biado and Ko, before Eklent Kaçi finally put Europe on the board with a break-and-run of his own, but Aloysius Yapp sealed Asia's victory with a final runout, ending the Teams Match 5-1.

In Match Eleven, the wildcard pairing of Jayson Shaw and Francisco Sanchez Ruiz brought Team Europe back into the contest, edging out Hanoi Open finalists Johann Chua and Ko Pin Yi in a thrilling doubles match.

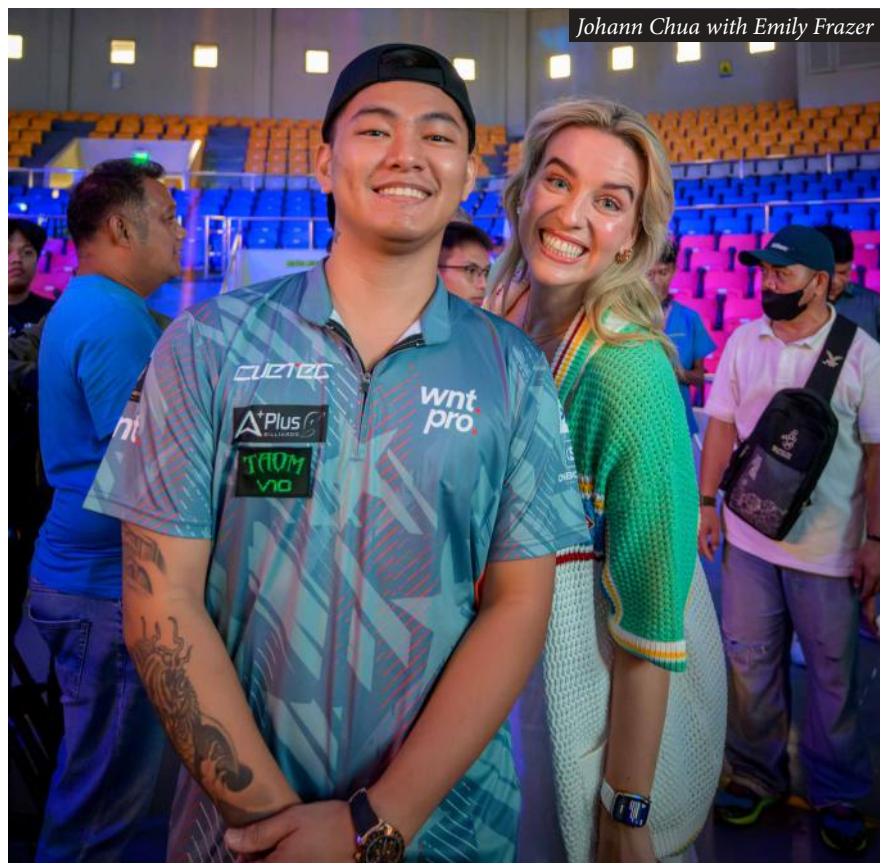
In the second doubles match of the evening, Eklent Kaçi teamed with Jayson Shaw and kicked things off

with his second golden break of the tournament, giving Europe an early lead. The teams traded racks until they reached 3-3, with Europe still holding the advantage on the break.

Kaçi's missed 2-ball in the seventh rack provided Biado and Yapp the opening they needed to get ahead and reach the hill. A dry break from Team Asia led to a safety exchange on the 1-ball, but Biado was the first to capitalise. The Filipino duo quickly ran out the final rack, redeeming Team Asia's previous doubles loss and winning the final match of the day 5-3.

**Team Asia emerged victorious at the inaugural Reyes Cup, defeating Team Europe 11-6 in a thrilling finale**

The day kicked off with a nail-biting match between Johann Chua and David Alcaide. Chua's dry break in the first rack gave Alcaide the early advantage, though a miss on the 2-ball left Alcaide scrambling. Chua had his chance to close the gap, but a twitch on the 7-ball allowed the Spaniard to seize control.





Ko Pin Yi and Duong Quoc Hoang

Quoc Hoang. Shaw dominated the opening frames, racing to a 4-0 lead as Duong faltered under pressure. Although Duong fought back, winning two consecutive racks, Shaw's precision proved too much, and he secured his second singles win of the day with a 5-2 victory.

The decisive moment came in the final match of the day, where Aloysius Yapp faced Francisco Sanchez Ruiz, with Team Asia just one win away from clinching the title. Yapp capitalised on a missed 7-ball from Ruiz to claim the first rack, but Ruiz quickly responded after Yapp scratched on the break. However, Yapp took charge, hooking Ruiz on the 3-ball and forcing a foul, setting up a 3-9 combo to win the third rack. A break-and-run from Yapp put him at 3-1, and after forcing another foul from Ruiz, Yapp reached the hill.

With his final break-and-run, Aloysius Yapp secured the match and the Reyes Cup title for Team Asia, capping off an outstanding individual performance that earned him the MVP award for the tournament. Team Asia's historic win in the first-ever Reyes Cup marks the beginning of a new chapter on the World Nineball Tour, with fans already anticipating next year's showdown.

Chua managed to fight back with a clever bank shot, but another twitch on the 9-ball allowed Alcaide to take a 3-1 lead. Chua then pounced on Alcaide's scratch with a 2-9 combo and levelled the score after a missed shot from Alcaide. However, a golden break from Alcaide brought the match to a thrilling 4-4, and when Chua scratched in the deciding rack, Alcaide secured the win.

The second match saw Francisco Sanchez Ruiz and Mickey Krause pair up against Duong Quoc Hoang and Ko Pin Yi. After trading break-and-runs in the first two racks, the European duo gained the lead after Team Asia missed a 6-ball. But Ko and Duong responded swiftly, levelling the score and then taking control with a clean sweep of the next rack. A dry break from Duong gave Europe a chance to recover, but Ruiz's miss on the 2-ball in the seventh rack handed Ko and Duong the opportunity to capitalise, bringing them to the hill. A crucial miss on the 5-ball by Duong nearly gave the Europeans a lifeline, but Ruiz repeated the mistake, allowing Ko and Duong to take the final rack and edge Team Asia closer to victory.

Jayson Shaw, Europe's Mosconi Cup captain, was up next, facing off

against Carlo Biado. Despite breaking dry, Shaw quickly regained momentum after Biado failed to pot the 1-ball, taking the first rack. Shaw then went on a run, clinching the third rack with a 3-9 combo and stealing the fourth after Biado missed a 2-6 carom. Although Biado mounted a comeback by taking two racks due to Shaw's errors on the 6-ball and 3-ball, Shaw eventually sealed the match with a 5-3 win, keeping Europe's hopes alive.

Shaw's momentum continued in his next singles match against Duong



Team Asia Celebrates

# **TKACH COMES FROM THE LOSS SIDE TO WIN WPBA CUESPEED NAPA INVITATIONAL IN LOUISVILLE**

Story by **SKIP MALONEY** - AzB Staff / Photos courtesy **WPBA** and **ERWIN DIONISIO**

It was unbelievable and yet . . . it happened. Kristina Tkach and Margarita Fefilova-Styer played twice during this past weekend's (Oct. 10-13) WPBA CueSpeed NAPA Invitational at Railyard Billiards in Louisville, KY. Hot seat and finals.

Margaret Fefilava-Styer and Kristina Tkach



It was unbelievable and yet... it happened. Kristina Tkach and Margarita Fefilova-Styer played twice during this past weekend's (Oct. 10-13) WPBA CueSpeed NAPA Invitational at Railyard Billiards in Louisville, KY. Hot seat and finals. Although the two had not faced each other at the last WPBA event, the Olhausen Colorado Classic (Sept. 26-29), which Styer had won and Tkach had finished in the tie for 9th, the two had ended that outing as the top two women in the WPBA's rankings, Tkach ahead of Styer. Separated by a single, FargoRate point as they came into the event (Tkach on top, 733-732), expectations ran high as they approached each other from opposite ends of the bracket and won five straight to get into the hot seat match.

*Kristina Tkach*



Tkach would lose the hot seat match and come back from the semifinals to win their final match, claiming title to the \$15,000-added event that had drawn 64 entrants to Railyard Billiards. The 'unbelievable' would happen much later; three days and four hours later, to be precise, after they had stepped up to the tables for their opening matches.

Nothing in particular prepared either of them, or anybody who was watching (live or streamed), for the drama that unfolded. Tkach had gotten into the hot seat match on the strength of a five-match, aggregate game score of 40-9. Two shutouts, over Kaley Sullivan in the opening round and Emily Duddy in the third, helped. In between those two, she downed Tracy Cantrell (2), and after, defeated Pam Kelly (3), to draw Pia Filler in one of the winners' side semifinals.

Styer, in the meantime, opened with two shutouts versus Tonya Wiser and Shanna Lewis, before allowing Kennedy Meyman and Janet Atwell to chalk up five against her. In her winners' side semifinal, Styer drew Allison Fisher, who came into Louisville ranked third in the WPBA.

Tkach sent Filler off 8-4 to the loss side's 5th/6th matches, as Styer dispatched Fisher to the same location 8-2. After which, the opening steps of the Anticipation Waltz got underway.

Though Styer got out to a commanding 6-1 lead in the race-to-8 hot seat match, doing so on the heels of a two and four-game run, Tkach kept inching forward, getting back into the game, winning the eighth and a break-and-run ninth rack (her first) to draw within three at 6-3.

Off her own break in game 10, Styer responded by eventually using a carom shot to drop the 9-ball and reach the hill first. Tkach responded with her second break-and-run to pull back within three, but Styer responded to that by chalking up her second break-and-run to claim the hot seat.

It should be noted that Saturday night's (Oct. 12) matches concluded after the two winners' side semifinals had put Allison Fisher and Pia Filler on the loss side and the matches determining 5th/6th had been played, advancing two to the quarterfinals. In effect, that Anticipation Waltz took an overnight break and resumed on Sun-

day with the hot seat match and quarterfinal commencing at noon.

On the loss side, in what proved to be the last Saturday night matches, Pia Filler had arrived to pick up Caroline Pao, who'd been shut out by Allison Fisher in a winners' side quarterfinal and then defeated Ashley Rice 8-3 and Kristina Zlateva 8-6. Fisher drew Veronique Menard, who'd lost a second-round match to Pam Kelly 8-5 and set out on a six-match winning streak. In the last two matches of that streak, ahead of her match versus Fisher, Menard battled and defeated, double hill, both Monica Webb and Kaylee McIntosh.

Filler advanced to the quarterfinals 8-2 over Pao. Menard's attempt to join her was frustrated in what proved to be her third double-hill fight with advancement to the quarterfinals on the line. Allison Fisher stopped her streak just before midnight on Saturday.

New dawn, new day. Presumably well rested, the Final Four Females took to the tables. As noted, Styer grabbed the hot seat, as Fisher and Filler went at it in the quarterfinals. Filler won it 8-3 and advanced to meet a very de-

terminated Kristina Tkach, 10 minutes later, in the semifinals.

One hour and 45 minutes later, Tkach had dropped the last semifinal 9-ball and earned her second shot at Styer. Two hours and 20 minutes after the conclusion of the hot seat match, the finals got underway.

On the surface, it would appear that the two+ hours between matches had interrupted Styer's momentum, while the same two+ hours for Tkach had improved hers.

"I think this one is going to be a barn-burner," said Lonnie Fox-Raymond, commentating on the stream just after the final, race-to-10 match got underway, "but I don't know. I don't have a prediction on this one."

"I think Kristinia wants to basically avenge her loss in the hot seat match," said co-commentator, Ada Lio, "and it's going to be a fight to the death."

Raymond chuckled at that dramatic prediction, but coming out of the laugh, she said "But I promise you this, Margaret's not going down without a fight."

Oddly enough, Tkach, in the first break of the match, fouled in her attempt to fulfill the three-point rule, which assigns a point to any dropped balls and one point to each ball that travels past the head string; three points required for a legal break. She dropped one ball, but only one other ball, the 1-ball as it turned out, passed the head string and she immediately turned the table over to Styer.

In a harbinger of things to come, Styer stepped to the table, dropped the 1-ball and then, in an unforced error, missed a very makeable 2-ball. Kristina cleared the table to take the first of 10 straight games to claim the title.

The shutout aside, Raymond was right, in that Styer did not go down

Margaret Fefilava-Styer



without a fight, but for every 'punch' she threw, Tkach had an answer, either ducking away from it or counterpunching. For every safety Styer tossed into her path, Tkach responded by putting Styer in an equally difficult position.

Tkach played smart, repeatedly refusing to take any 'bait' that Styer left on the table; tempting, but low percentage shots that with the game or match on the line, Tkach would have attempted, and likely made. Instead, employing the 'safe' choice that would invariably leave Styer in a bad position for any kind of response. It didn't help that Styer made a critical unforced error in three out of the first four games, with Tkach chalking up her first 'break and run' in the midst of them, to take a 4-0 lead.

In rack 6, Styer completely missed a 2-ball that Tkach had maneuvered into an unreachable position, allowing Tkach to make it 6-0 and then, recording her second 'break and run' for a 7-0 lead. Another unforced error in rack 8 and a scratch by Styer shooting at the 1-ball in rack 9, eventually put Tkach on the hill.

Styer broke rack 10 and scratched. Tkach finished it. The mutual congratulations were cordial and in the booth, Lonnie Fox-Raymond reminded those who'd watched the match, that in the context of the entire tournament, "runner-up is no slouch."

Tkach and Styer remained at the top of the WPBA rankings, with Allison Fisher (in attendance, watching the final) maintaining her position in third place.

WPBA representatives thanked the ownership and staff at Railyard Billiards for their hospitality (while indicating an intention to return to the site), along with sponsors (player/hostess) Michelle Griffin, Poolshooters.com, Billiard Life Apparel, Cue-Speed, North American Poolshooters Association, Diamond Billiard Products, Simonis Cloth and Aramith Balls.

The next stop on the WPBA calendar, scheduled for the weekend of Nov. 21-24, will be the \$15,000-added Capital City Invitational, to be hosted by Capital City Billiards in Concord, NH.



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# MANSION SPORTS HANOI OPEN

# JOHANN CHUA

## CROWNED KING OF HANOI

Story by JACK MITCHELL - Matchroom Multi Sport / Photo courtesy TAKA WU - Matchroom Multi Sport

Johann Chua has been crowned the 2024 Mansion Sports Hanoi Open Pool Champion, triumphing over the 'Filipino Slayer,' Ko Pin Yi, in a thrilling final at the Hanoi Indoor Games Gymnasium, set in the vibrant city of Hanoi.

Returning for its second edition, this highly anticipated Hanoi Open Pool Championship is presented in partnership with leading sports investment firm Mansion Sports & Entertainment Group and renowned broadcaster Vietcontent.

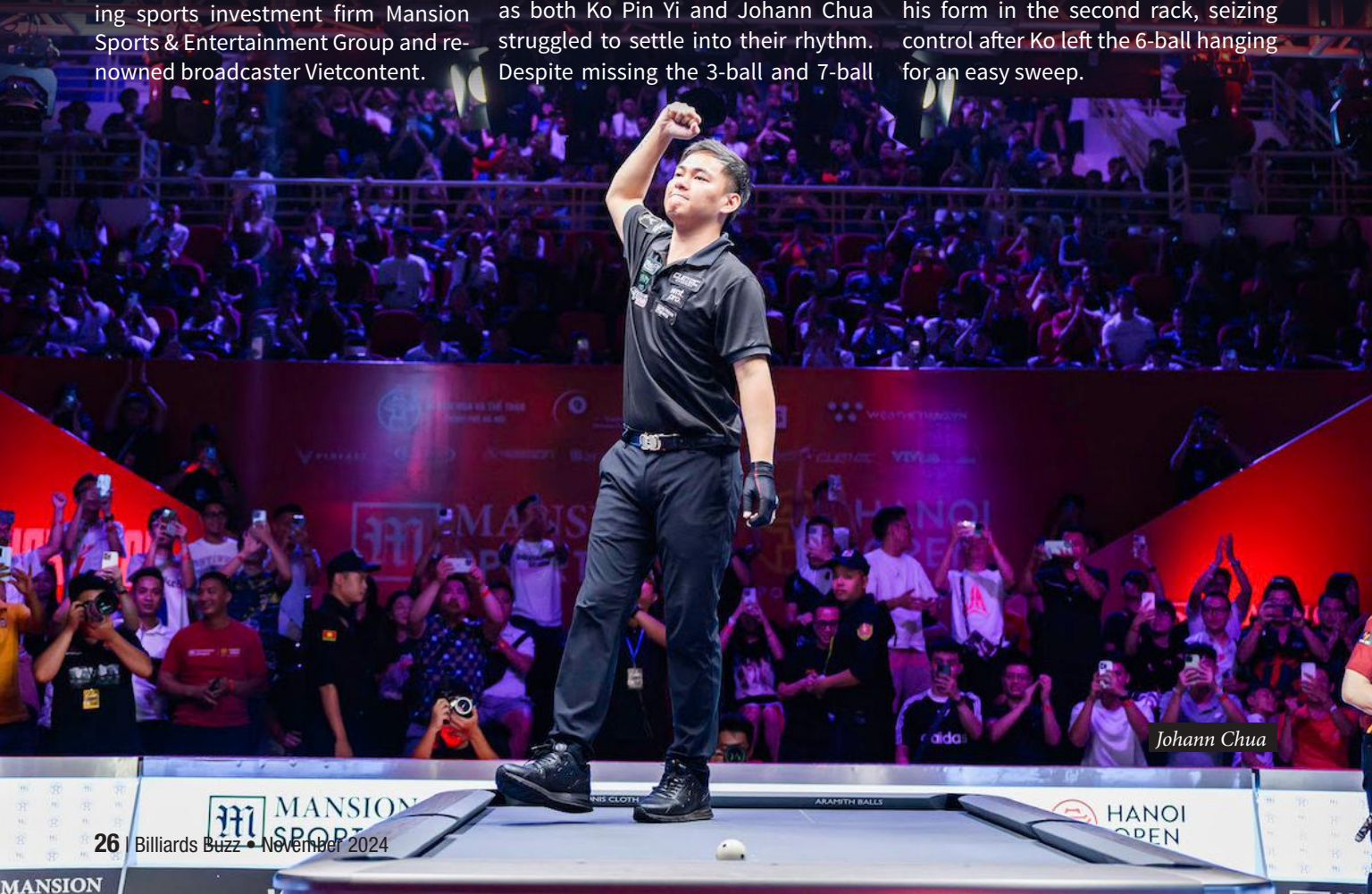
### Final Result

#### Johann Chua 13-7 Ko Pin Yi

Nerves were apparent from the start, as both Ko Pin Yi and Johann Chua struggled to settle into their rhythm. Despite missing the 3-ball and 7-ball

early on, Ko redeemed himself with a crucial safety to claim the first rack.

After a shaky start, Chua quickly found his form in the second rack, seizing control after Ko left the 6-ball hanging for an easy sweep.



Johann Chua

“ **WITH THE FINAL BREAK, CHUA CLEARED THE TABLE ONCE MORE, SECURING THE FINAL RACK AND HIS FIRST MATCHROOM MAJOR TITLE.** ”

This sparked Chua’s momentum, and “Bad Koi” went on to string together four consecutive racks, showcasing his sharp safety play and precise jump shots.

A dry break in the sixth rack allowed Ko back to the table, where he fluked a 1-9 combo to cut Chua’s lead. Ko then tried to keep the pressure on by hooking Chua on the 5-ball, but Chua responded with a fierce jump shot, regaining control and extending his lead to 7-2.

The tenth rack saw a shift when Chua hooked himself on the 2-ball, giving

Ko a chance to claim two racks in a row. However, Ko’s attempt to close the gap faltered in the twelfth rack when he scratched on the 3-ball, handing Chua another rack.

A miss on the 2-ball in the thirteenth rack seemed to turn the tide in Ko’s favor as he narrowed the deficit further, pulling off a 3-9 combo to bring the score to 8-7. Just one rack away from levelling the match, Ko fouled on the 2-ball in the next rack, giving Chua breathing room to extend his lead to 9-7.

Despite Ko’s effort to close the gap again after Chua missed the 6-ball, he

missed a crucial 9-ball that could have brought him back into contention. Chua capitalised, reaching the hill at 10-7.

”

With the final break, Chua cleared the table once more, securing the final rack and his first Matchroom Major title. His triumph in Hanoi not only crowns him the new king of Hanoi, but also completes a remarkable journey—from the World Championship semifinals to the European Open final, and now the prestigious Hanoi Open title and Reyes Cup qualification. Johann Chua has undoubtedly enjoyed one of the best runs on the World Nineball Tour this year.

For all the latest news and announcements follow Matchroom Pool on **Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram.**

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# BIADO RULES

## HO CHI MINH CITY OPEN

### AFTER SURVIVING PEHLIVANOVIC SCARE IN SEMI-FINALS

Story by **BEN HUDD** - [absolute-pool.com](http://absolute-pool.com) / Photo courtesy **Ho Chi Minh City Open**

**Carlo Biado has been crowned the inaugural Ho Chi Minh City Open champion in the Vietnamese hotbed, overcoming Mario He 13-8 to win the \$35,000 top prize at the WPA-sanctioned event.**

**B**iado was one of the pre-tournament front runners at the Ho Xuan Huong Gymnasium and he lived

up to expectations, landing his biggest nine-ball title since winning the US Open Championship three years ago.

The legendary Filipino had began his campaign with a routine 9-3 win over Nguyen Quoc Trung, before coming



Carlo Biado



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“ **THE WPA-SANCTIONED HO CHI MINH CITY OPEN WAS THE BEGINNING OF A TREBLE-HEADER IN VIETNAM, WITH THE WORLD NINEBALL TOUR NOW RETURNING FOR ITS PERI OPEN AND THE PRESTIGIOUS HANOI OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP.** ”

from 8-6 down to deny Taiwan's Lin Ta-Li in a hill-hill affair to qualify for single elimination.

Biado then defeated Yuya Tanaka and Wang Hung-Hsiang in closely-contested matches as well as Valeriano Pajuyay to reach the quarter-finals, where he completed an 11-4 rout of Anton Raga.

It was in the semi-finals that the former world champion received his stroke of fortune, as Sanjin Pehlivanovic missed position and therefore squandered his attempt on the eight ball at hill-hill, allowing Biado to reach the final as an 11-10 winner.

Both Biado and He opened the final with break and runs in the alternate break format and remained locked at seven apiece as the contest progressed, before the Filipino claimed successive racks to gain a two-rack buffer.

Biado soon put together back-to-back break and runs when breaking to move onto the hill at 12-8 in front, where he battled through a brief safety exchange to etch his name onto the Ho Chi Minh City Open trophy.

Austria's He had beaten WPA number one Alexander Kazakis to reach one of the biggest finals of his career, notably beating Indonesia's Edward Koyongian in the quarter-finals and denying Ko Ping-Han in an 11-10 thriller.

Elsewhere, WPA number two Denis Grabe endured two defeats in three matches as he failed to qualify for

single elimination, suffering deciding rack losses at the hands of two Vietnamese players in Nguyen Ba Manh and Nguyen Hoang Phong.

Indonesia's Edward defeated the likes of Wu Kun-Lin, Alex Pagulayan and Michael Baoanan on his way to the quarter-finals, while Nguyen Phuc Long was the last-standing Vietnamese player after beating recent China Open runner-up Hayato Hijikata to reach the last 16.

British hall of famer Darren Appleton survived back-to-back hill-hill affairs against Vietnamese prospects in Nguyen Dang Tuyen and Vu Quang Huy, although he was ultimately beaten in the last 64 at the hands of Tran Minh Khai.

Dennis Orcollo also exited in the last 64 following an 11-10 loss to Chien Ching-Ju, while Thorsten Hohmann, Aleksa Pecelj and Jose Alberto Delgado endured defeats at the same stage.

The WPA-sanctioned Ho Chi Minh City Open was the beginning of a treble-header in Vietnam, with the World Nineball Tour now returning for its Peri Open and the prestigious Hanoi Open Championship.

With this victory, Ruiz reaffirms his status as one of the top contenders in international pool. He now sets his sights on the upcoming Mansion Sports Hanoi Open, where he hopes to continue his winning streak and secure his spot on Team Europe for the Mosconi Cup, alongside Eklent Kaçi and Mickey Krause.

As the World Nineball Tour season progresses and players vie for the final Mosconi Cup spots on Team Europe and Team USA, events like the 2024 Peri Open are pivotal in shaping the sport's future and defining the path of its top competitors.



# TSUBASA

PREMIUM JUMP TIP



# FRANCISCO SANCHEZ RUIZ

## CLAIMS VICTORY AT 2024 PERI OPEN

Story by JACK MITCHELL - Matchroom Multi Sport / Photo courtesy Peri Open

**Francisco Sanchez Ruiz secured a hard-fought victory at the 2024 Peri Open in Da Nang, Vietnam, after defeating Dimitris Loukatos 13-11 in the final.**

**T**he Spaniard's win not only added another title to his already impressive career but also

brought Ruiz a step closer to securing a spot at the highly anticipated Mosconi Cup later this year.

Ruiz started the match in commanding fashion, racing to an early 4-0 lead, showcasing his signature 'El Ferrari'

Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz



style. However, Loukatos, determined not to go down easily, clawed his way back into contention. In a pivotal moment during the 18th rack, Loukatos executed a stunning kick shot on the 2-ball, escaping Ruiz's safety and sparking an impressive five-rack run. This surge gave Loukatos an 11-10 lead, putting him within sight of victory.

Just as the momentum appeared to shift, Ruiz responded. After escaping a tough safety laid by Loukatos, Ruiz regained control of the table, reaching the hill before clearing the table in the final rack to secure the 13-11 victory.

Ruiz said: "Winning the Peri Open is unbelievable. I really had to dig deep in the Last 32 against Thorsten Hohmann when I was down 8-5, but I managed to turn it around and win 9-8. The semi-final against Mickey Krause was another intense battle which reached hill-hill. This has definitely been one of

**“ WITH THIS VICTORY, RUIZ REAFFIRMS HIS STATUS AS ONE OF THE TOP CONTENDERS IN INTERNATIONAL POOL. ”**

the toughest tournaments I've played, and to come out on top, especially with so many fans here in Vietnam, is an incredible feeling.”

Ruiz's journey to triumph in Da Nang was no easy feat. Along the way, he defeated some of the sport's top talents, including Scottish Open champion Duong Quoc Hoang, UK Open champion Robbie Capito, and European Open champion Mickey Krause. His triumph earned Ruiz not only the Peri Open trophy but also a crucial \$25,000 in ranking points, strengthening his chances of representing Team Europe again this year at the Mosconi Cup.

With this victory, Ruiz reaffirms his status as one of the top contenders in international pool. He now sets his sights on the upcoming Mansion Sports Hanoi Open, where he hopes to continue his winning streak and secure his spot on Team Europe for the Mosconi Cup, alongside Eklent Kaçi and Mickey Krause.

As the World Nineball Tour season progresses and players vie for the final Mosconi Cup spots on Team Europe and Team USA, events like the 2024 Peri Open are pivotal in shaping the sport's future and defining the path of its top competitors.

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# **KRAH GOES UNDEFEATED**

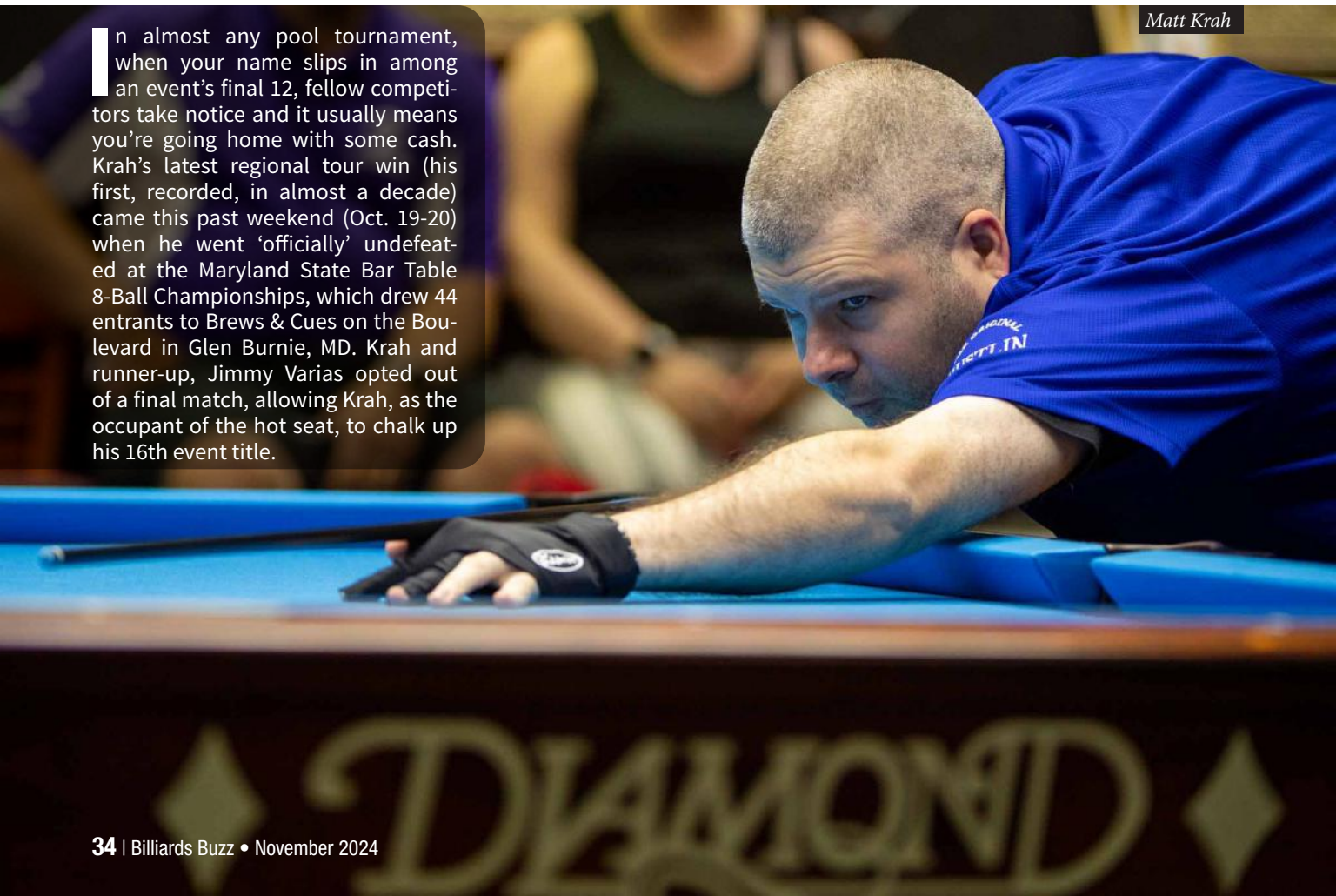
## **TO CLAIM ONTHEHILL PRODUCTIONS' MD STATE 8-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE**

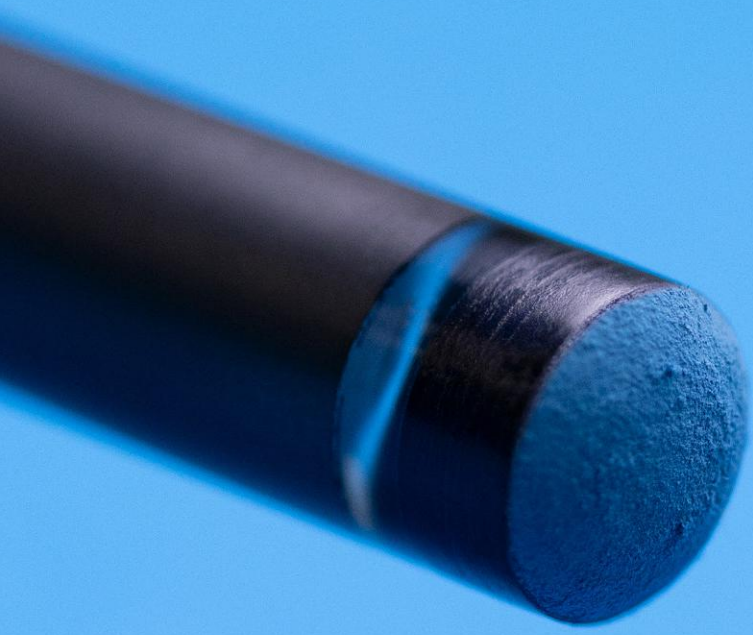
Story by **SKIP MALONEY - AzB Staff** / Photos courtesy **On The Hill Productions** and **ERWIN DIONISIO**

**In his 159 (recorded) cash finishes since he first showed up in our database in May of 2000, Delaware's Matt Krah has finished among the top 10 in 121 of them, including 16 event victories.**

In almost any pool tournament, when your name slips in among an event's final 12, fellow competitors take notice and it usually means you're going home with some cash. Krah's latest regional tour win (his first, recorded, in almost a decade) came this past weekend (Oct. 19-20) when he went 'officially' undefeated at the Maryland State Bar Table 8-Ball Championships, which drew 44 entrants to Brews & Cues on the Boulevard in Glen Burnie, MD. Krah and runner-up, Jimmy Varias opted out of a final match, allowing Krah, as the occupant of the hot seat, to chalk up his 16th event title.

*Matt Krah*





# ENGAGE

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It was an event that drew a long list of long-time Mid-Atlantic competitors; Varias, among them, along with the likes of Tom Zippler (3rd), Dylan Spohr, Brandon Shuff, Brett Stottlemeyer, Bobby Pacheco, Rick Molineiro, Shaun Wilkie, Brian Dietzenbach and Steve Fleming, to name just a few that competed regularly on the VA-based Action Pool Tour and a variety of other Mid-Atlantic tours and independent events.

Krah faced only two on that list. Zippler and Varias, back-to-back as it turned out. He opened with a 6-1 victory over Miroslav Stojanovic and then, locked up in a double-hill battle against Mark Ford. He advanced to down Mike Newport (2) and Joe Healy (3), arriving to face Zippler in one of the winners' side semifinals. Varias, in the meantime, after an opening-round bye, came out with 'guns ablazin,' giving up only four racks in his first 22 games; one to Rob Cord in the 2nd round, none at all to Eric Brobst and three to Rick Molineiro. Varias drew Brandon Shuff in the other winners' side semifinal.

Both battles for advancement to the hot seat match came within a game of double hill, but at 6-4, it was Krah (over Zippler) and Varias (over Shuff) who advanced. In what would prove to be Krah's last match and the defining match for the title, Krah downed Varias 6-3.

The loss side was full of potential 'spoilers.' Earlier in the evening (Saturday), as the bracket moved into the 'money' rounds (9th/12th), five of the Mid-Atlantic veterans noted above were still on the list, with one of them, Dylan Spohr, having knocked out a sixth, Shaun Wilkie, in the 13th/16th place round.

Tom Zippler came over from the winners' side semifinal and drew Spohr, who'd lost his second-round match to Molineiro and won six straight, including three from the 'Mid-Atlantic' list; Wilkie 5-2, Pacheco 5-1 and Stottlemeyer 5-3. Shuff picked up Grai Rasmehchai, who'd lost a double-hill, winners' side quarterfinal match to Zippler and then defeated Brobst 5-2 and David Zecena 5-3.



Matt Krah and Jimmy Varias

Rasmehchai eliminated Shuff 5-3 and in the quarterfinals, drew a rematch against Zippler, who'd defeated Spohr 5-1. Zippler shut Rasmehchai out in those quarterfinals.

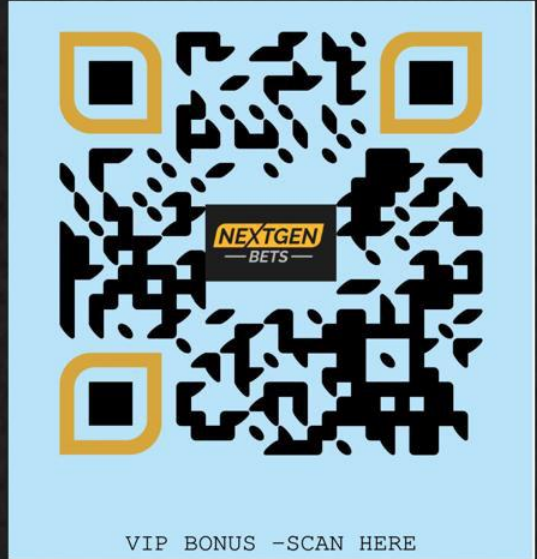
As Saturday night slipped into Sunday morning, Zippler and Varias squared off in the semifinals. Both had already assured themselves of chalking up their first recorded cash finish of 2024 and were looking to increase the pay day by a minimum of \$120 and a maximum of \$470, which would require getting by Krah, waiting for one of them in the hot seat. Varias downed Zippler 5-2 to earn his second shot against Krah.

It never happened. Krah and Varias negotiated a split of the top two prizes, granting Krah, as the undefeated occupant of the hot seat, the official event title.

OnTheHill representatives thanked the ownership and staff at Brews & Cues on the Boulevard for their hospitality, along with sponsors digitalpool.com, Aramith Billiard Balls and Simonis Cloth. This weekend (Sat., Sept. 26), OnTheHill Productions will bring a '1050 and under' Partners Tournament to The Bank Shot Bar & Grill in Laurel, MD. Two weeks later, Saturday, Nov. 9, Brews and Cues on the Boulevard will host the Maryland State, '1250 and under' Jack and Jill 9-Ball Bar Table Championships.

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A screenshot of the NextGen Bets website interface. The top left shows a Bitcoin price of \$0.99 with a +420.95% change. Below this is a search bar and a main menu with options for Casino, Sports, and Crypto. There are also sections for "Earn Rewards" (Rank Up, Invite Friends, Promotions, Affiliates) and "Others". The main content area features a large banner with the text "Live The Ultimate Casino Experience!" and a yellow "Explore Games" button. Below the banner are three promotional tiles: "Bet On 150+ SPORTS" with a soccer ball icon, "10,000+ CASINO Games" with a roulette wheel icon, and "Invest In CRYPTO" with a Bitcoin icon. The background of the banner shows a man and a woman in a casino setting.

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# **BENOIT** **DOWNS CORR**

***TWICE TO CLAIM JPNEWT/PA PRO-AM  
POOL'S 2ND ANNUAL 8-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP***

Story by **SKIP MALONEY** - AzB Staff / Photos courtesy **On The Hill Productions** and **ERWIN DIONISIO**

As human beings, we do like our 'underdog' stories, which can trace their distinctly Western- culture origins back to the Old Testament's David and Goliath.



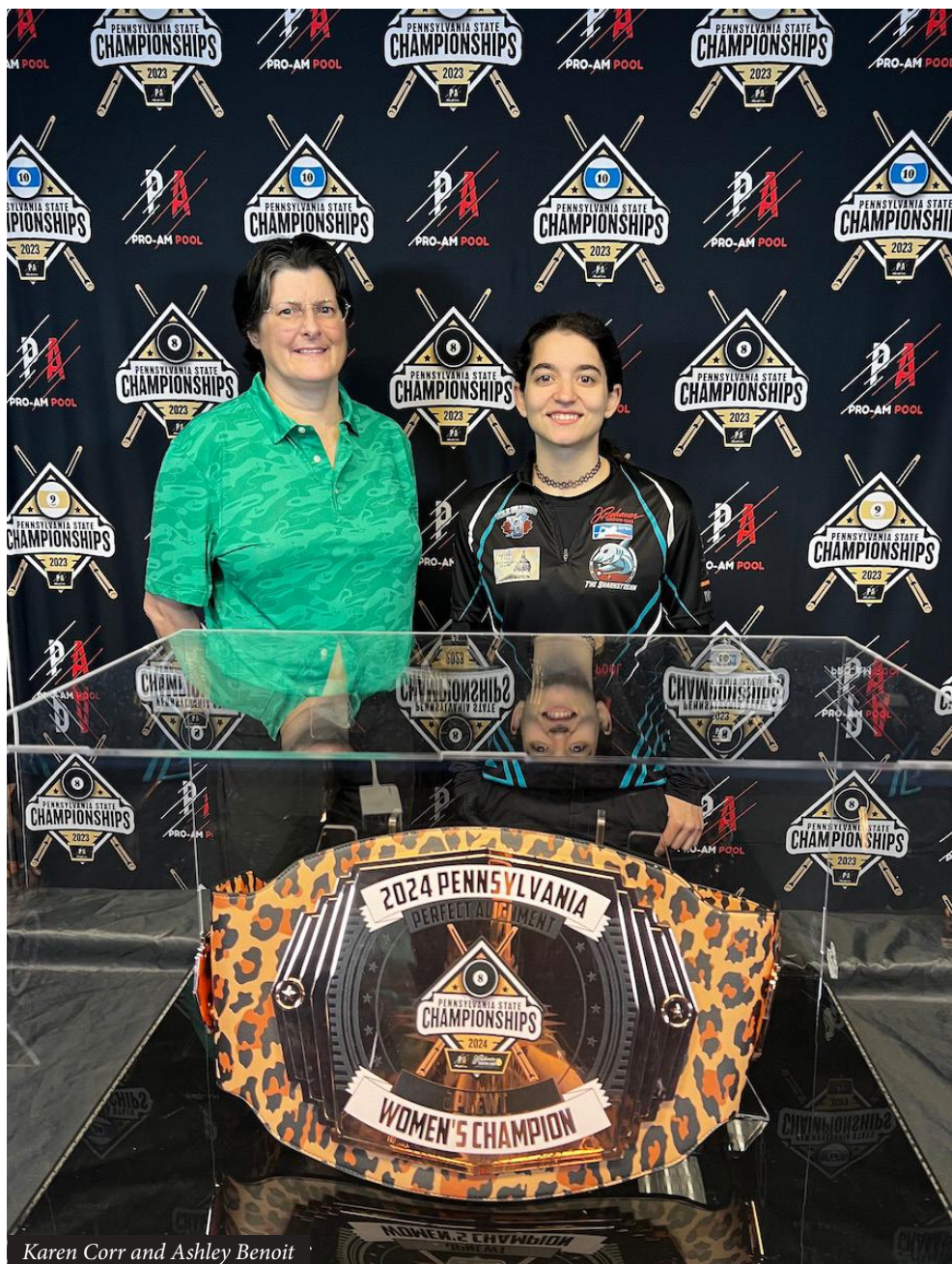
*Ashley Benoit*

**W**e fast-forward through to the ragtag crowd of farmers, blacksmiths and shopkeepers who defeated the mighty British Empire that created out nation and onward, to Dorothy and the witches of Oz and much later, the sports battle between the Giants and Patriots in Superbowl XLII.

To the best of our knowledge, Ashley Benoit and Karen Corr had never met, at the tables, prior to this past weekend's (Oct. 5-6), 2nd Annual Pennsylvania State Women's 8-Ball Championships. Benoit went undefeated and Corr was runner-up at the \$2,000-added event, a collaborative effort of the J. Pechauer Northeast Women's Tour (JPNEWT) and PA Pro-Am Pool, which drew 34 entrants to Bluegrass Billiards in Philadelphia. In its inaugural year, the event crowned Briana Miller as its first champion, with Elise Qui as runner-up and Skylar Hess finishing third. Ashley Benoit finished in the tie for 13th.

Benoit's 'David' credentials begin with the fact that she's only been recording her wins and payouts with us here at AZBilliards for the past three years, recording her first cash payout and her first regional event win at the inaugural Women in Pool's 9-Ball Championships at Yale Billiards in Wallingford, CT (2022). She has, since that time, recorded 17 cash finishes, including six (two wins) on the J. Pechauer Northeast Women's Tour and seven at events of the WPBA, with whom she is currently ranked at #22. She was in the midst of her best recorded earnings year before she showed up in Philadelphia.

Karen Corr's 'Goliath' resume dates back to five months after AZBilliards went on-line in 1998. In her best recorded earnings year (2006), she chalked up 16 cash finishes and won three WPBA titles. In those three WPBA finals, she defeated Kelly Fisher, twice (WPBA's Carolina and Midwest Classic) and Allison Fisher in that year's WPBA Florida Classic). Corr went on to cash



*Karen Corr and Ashley Benoit*

in four other WPBA events that year while competing and cashing in other regional events, like the Joss Northeast 9-Ball Tour (three times) and its Turning Stone competition (Numbers VI and VII, at that point in time). Her runner-up finish in Pennsylvania was, however, her first cash payout in 2024 and her first shot, competing in a final match at an event title, since she was defeated by JPNEWT's tour director

and top-ranked competitor, Briana Miller, in April of 2023. She recorded her last 'official' event victory in 2022, when she and Miller both went undefeated to the finals of a JPNEWT event that employed a Round Robin format, allowing both, through later single-elimination play, to reach the final without a defeat. They opted out of playing that final match and shared the recorded win.



Corr gave up just a single rack to Walters, as Li was busy shutting out Luz. For personal reasons, Lai Li (who'd finished in the tie for 5th in last year's event) withdrew from the quarterfinals, allowing Corr to leapfrog into the semifinals against Skylar Hess, who was looking for her first professional win on either a regional tour/event or the WPBA. Having finished third in this past August's MD State Ladies 9-Ball Championships (behind Briana Miller and Tina Malm), Hess was competing to appear in her first (recorded) professional final. Corr defeated her 4-1 and advanced for the rematch against Benoit.

It was shaping up as another race-to-five, double-hill battle but didn't quite make it. Benoit edged out in front at the end and claimed the PA State Women's 8-Ball title 5-3.

Tour directors Briana Miller from the JPNEWT and Frank Maialetti from PA Pro-Am Pool thanked the ownership and staff at Bluegrass Billiards for their hospitality, along with sponsors J. Pechauer Custom Cues, Kamui, Crossroad Cues, MindForge Nutrition, M & TS Billiard Instruction, Cue Pocket, LLC, Perceptive Lighting, InTheBox Sportswear, Marty Magee's Irish, The Players' Choice Pool Table Repair, Matchroom Pool and Trophy Smack.

The next event on the JPNEWT calendar, scheduled for this weekend (Oct. 11-13), will be Allen Hopkins' 1st Annual Atlantic City 9-Ball Championship at the Showboat Hotel on the boardwalk in Atlantic City. The following week, the JPNEWT will return to Pennsylvania for a \$1,000-added event at Eagle Billiards in Dickson City, PA.

The next event for PA Pro-Am Pool, scheduled for Oct. 26-27, will be the PA State (Open) 8-Ball Championships, once again at Bluegrass Billiards.

In Philadelphia, they met in the opening round of play and battled to double-hill. Benoit sent Corr to the loss side, where she began an eight-match march back to the finals, which ended up including the defeat of another metaphoric 'David,' junior competitor, Skylar Hess in the semifinals.

In races to 5, following her victory over Corr, Benoit followed up by shutting out Kaley Sullivan and defeating Amanda Laverriere (2), to draw Lai Li in one of the winners' side semifinals. Hess, in the meantime, downed Carol Clark (3), Mindy Maialetti (1), and shut out Anna Marks to draw Rachel Walters in the other winners' side semifinal.

Identical 5-3 scores sent Hess (over Walters) and Benoit (over Li) to the hot seat match. Benoit and Hess battled to double hill in that match, until Benoit prevailed and claimed the seat.

Karen Corr played 25 games over the five matches she played to reach Rachel Walters. She won 20 of them, which included the elimination of Giovanna Napolitano 4-2 and Briana Miller 4-1. Lai Li came over from the winners' side semifinal loss to Benoit and picked up Dawn Luz, who'd lost her third-round match to Walters 5-2 and then defeated Kaley Sullivan, double hill, and Rebecca Hilton 4-2.

**“ IT WAS SHAPING UP AS ANOTHER RACE-TO-FIVE, DOUBLE-HILL BATTLE BUT DIDN'T QUITE MAKE IT. BENOIT EDGED OUT IN FRONT AT THE END AND CLAIMED THE PA STATE WOMEN'S 8-BALL TITLE 5-3. ”**

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# WAYNE PARKER

## Crowned first WPA World Artistic Blackball Champion

Story by **STEVE LILLIS**

**From October 11 - 18 Blackball pool players from four continents assembled in Bridlington, England for the 2024 Blackball International (BI) World Team Championships sanctioned by the WPA, and won by France, and for the first time ever the 2024 WPA World Artistic Blackball Championships was held.**

**S**easoned Blackball veteran Wayne Parker of South Africa won the WPA World Artistic Blackball title. A 32-shot program was specifically designed for this Artistic Blackball event. The program is similar to the American Artistic Pool 40-shot program used in WPA World Artistic Pool competition that was recently won by current World Artistic Pool Champion Florian Kohler. These special Blackball Artistic shots were tried and tested by a shot selection committee under the Artistic Blackball Committee of the WPA Artistic Pool Division.

Key sponsors like the WPA and the WPA Artistic Pool Division, McDermott Cues, Gospel Trick Shot Ministries, Inc., Dr. Cue Promotions, The Cue Coach from South Africa, Allentown Tables in Pennsylvania, and Automated Entertainment of California all came together to make this event possible. There were 45 contestants from four continents who completed the entire 32-shot program to qualify to receive prize money and be eligible for the 8 "Olympic style" discipline medals, additional bonus medals, and trophies for the first three places.

*Wayne McDermott*

# WAYNE PARKER

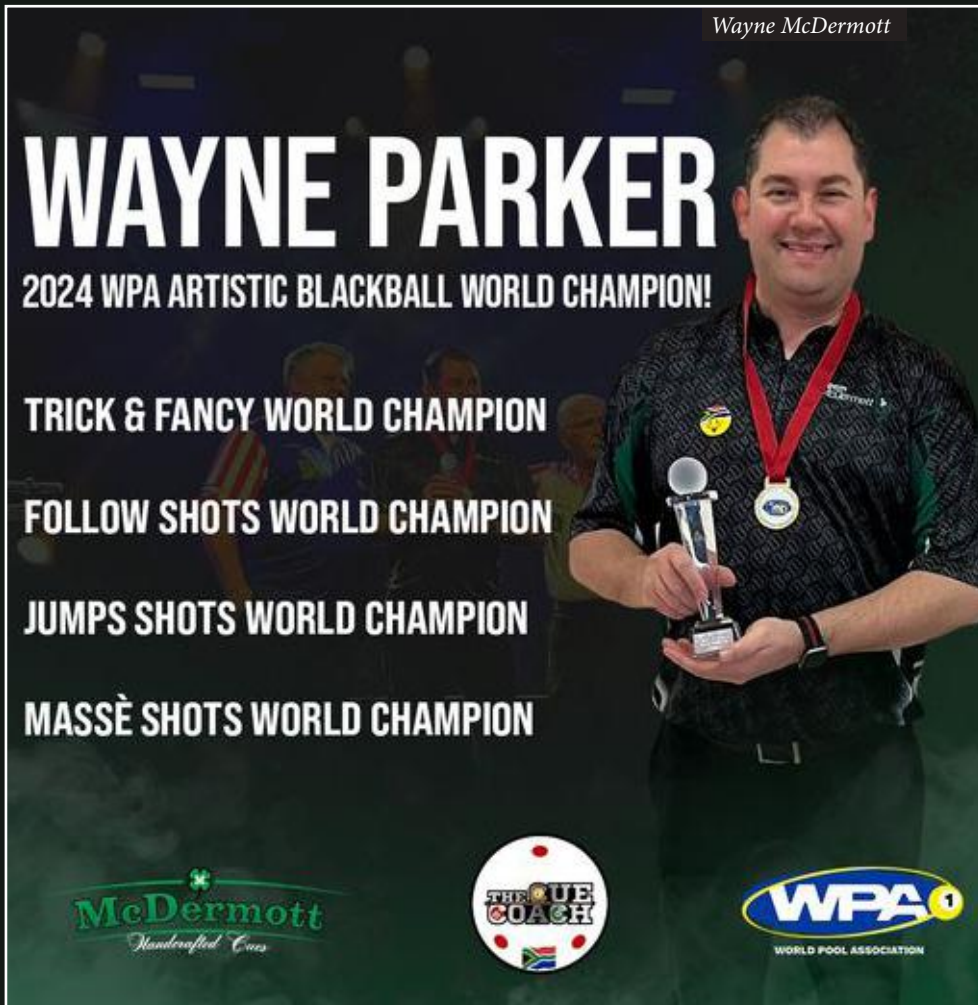
## 2024 WPA ARTISTIC BLACKBALL WORLD CHAMPION!

### TRICK & FANCY WORLD CHAMPION

### FOLLOW SHOTS WORLD CHAMPION

### JUMPS SHOTS WORLD CHAMPION

### MASSÈ SHOTS WORLD CHAMPION



Event Medallists



Joy Willenberg



All contestants who completed the 32-shot program received prize money. All medal winners with two special awards received additional prize money as well.

Four of the eight discipline medals were won by the new World Artistic Blackball Champion Wayne Parker.

Wayne scored a robust 201 out of 240 possible points. Each of the eight disciplines contain a possible 30 points with each of the four shots per discipline varying in degree of difficulty (DOD). Wayne scored a perfect 30 points in the final Masse Discipline 8 which was the only perfect discipline score. He also won the Discipline 1 Trick and Fancy with 26 points, Discipline 4 Follow with 27, and Discipline 8 Jump with 27. Leenash Padayachee

## World Artistic Blackball Championship



Leenash Padayachee

won Discipline 3 Draw with 29 points and Discipline 6 Bank and Kick with 28 points. Llwelyn Sedgwick won Discipline 2 Special Arts with 27 points. Just like in the Olympics these discipline winners are now World Champions in their respective discipline. There is talk that the 2032 Olympics might include Artistic Pool.

teenager Rayaan Williams of South Africa with 150 points who took home third place all received medals and trophies as well.

A special teaching clinic and a Gospel Trick Shot show was also held during the Artistic Blackball time slot. The slogan throughout the event became

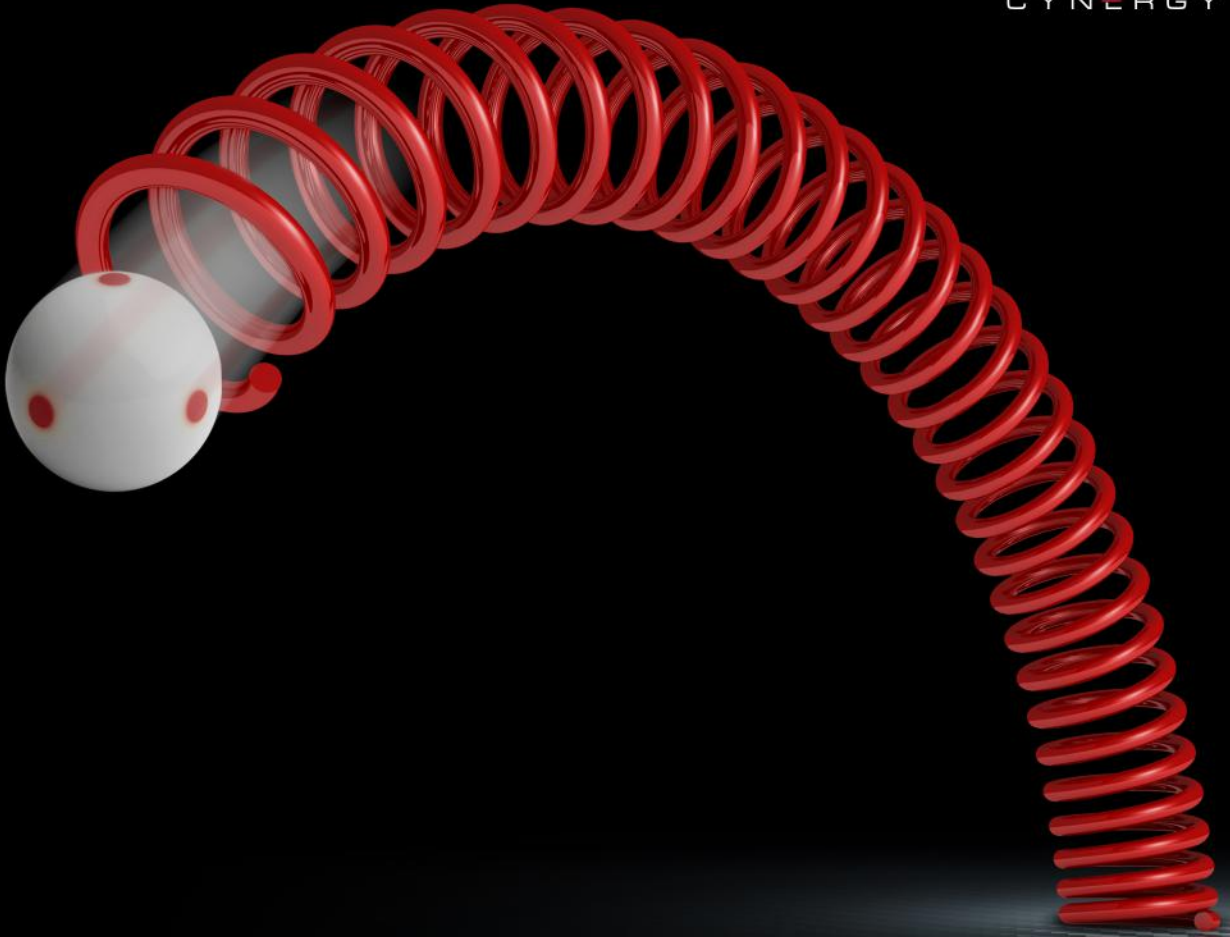
“Enjoy the Roll” as the joy of Artistic Blackball spread through the entire arena. Special thanks to Blackball International (BI) President Vincent Pillay and IPA President and Tournament Director Kevin Barton who did all they could to help make this a success!

Joy Willenberg of South Africa became the first woman Artistic World Champion by winning Discipline 6 Stroke with 27 out of 30 possible points. She adapted her skills to Artistic as she is a top Blackball player who plays for the #1 South African women’s team. Back in her home country she became quite a news story topic and was found in many local papers announcing the news of her victory. Two other special medals were given out. Gary Adams a wheelchair contestant was given the “Enjoy the Roll” Award and Chris Pandazis won the Sportsmanship Award. Overall, first place finisher Wayne Parker with 201 points, second place finisher Afiq Ismail of Morocco with 154 points, and

Llwelyn Sedgwick



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# MEUCCI CUES ANNOUNCES TONY CHOCHAN SPONSORSHIP

Meucci Cues, one of the leading American made cue companies in the sport today, has proudly announced their recent sponsorship of Tony Chohan.

Chohan is a legend in the game of One Pocket and has won just about every major title available in the sport today. He is also one of the top American 9-Ball players and can usually be found in the final rounds of any major event in the states. “Meucci is a long standing company that is made in the USA and it is important to me to back American made products. I am proud to be aligned with their company and I look forward to a long relationship together.” Chohan said.

“We are excited to welcome Tony to Team Meucci. We celebrate his talent and passion for the sport. This partnership highlights our commitment to supporting talented players and professional pool as a whole” said Seth Randall with Meucci Cues.

“For nearly 50 years, Meucci has been at the forefront of Pool, supporting the champions who have defined its legacy. We welcome Tony onto the team as we continue our commitment

to building on this proud heritage and ensuring that our mutual influence in the sport endures for years to come.” added Jeremy Banner with Meucci Cues.

For more information on Meucci cues, visit their website at <https://www.meuccicues.com>.

For more information on Chohan, just watch the winner’s circle at the next major event.



# MEUCCI CUES SPONSORS KAYLEE MCINTOSH

Meucci Cues is adding another champion to their stable of sponsored players with the signing of Kaylee McIntosh.

**M** McIntosh is in her 3rd year as a WPBA Touring pro and is currently ranked #9 on the WPBA points list. She is the 3rd highest ranked American player on tour, trailing only Allison Fisher and April Larson.

McIntosh is a multi time winner on the Tiger Florida Tour and has turned in top eight finishes in her last three WPBA events.

“I couldn’t be more excited to represent the Meucci brand. They are a well respected brand in the billiards community and I love that they are proudly made in the USA. I’m looking forward to the future and a great partnership with Meucci.” said McIntosh.

Seth Randall from Meucci Cues added “Partnering with such a promising talent aligns perfectly with our vision. Kaylee has the skill, determination,

and passion to not only excel but inspire the new generation of pool players. We’re excited to support her journey and be a part of her success story.”

More information can be found on Meucci Cues at <https://www.meucci-cues.com>

Fans can follow along with Kaylee’s career at <https://www.facebook.com/kaylee.mcintosh.1>



# Tourney Results

## Oct 01 - Oct 04

### 2024 Peri 9-Ball Open

#### Vietnam

- 1 Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz \$25,000
- 2 Dimitris Loukatos \$13,000
- 3 Aleksa Pecelj \$6,000
- 3 Mickey Krause \$6,000
- 5 Gallito Paolo \$3,000
- 5 Hoang Tuan Nguyen \$3,000
- 5 Luong Duc Thien \$3,000
- 5 Pijus Labutis \$3,000
- 9 Baseth Mocaibat \$1,500
- 9 Fu Huan \$1,500
- 9 James Aranas \$1,500
- 9 Jeffrey Consigna Roda \$1,500
- 9 Jonas Souto Comino \$1,500
- 9 Raymund Faraon \$1,500
- 9 Robbie Capito \$1,500
- 9 The Kien Do \$1,500
- 17 Alexandros Kazakis \$750
- 17 Aloysius Yapp \$750
- 17 Bao Chau Nguyen \$750
- 17 Bernie Regaliaria \$750
- 17 Bui Truong An \$750
- 17 Carlo Biado \$750
- 17 Mario He \$750
- 17 Moritz Neuhausen \$750
- 17 Naoyuki Oi \$750
- 17 Ronen Nalaunan \$750
- 17 Shane Van Boening \$750
- 17 Tadique Assis \$750
- 17 Thorsten Hohmann \$750
- 17 Viet Nguyen \$750
- 17 Yu-Lung Chang \$750

## Oct 04 - Oct 06

### Clubhouse Billiards King of the Mountain

#### The Clubhouse

- Lynchburg, Virginia
- 1 Scott Roberts \$1,000
- 2 Scott Largen \$650
- 3 Nathan Worley \$350
- 4 Reggie Jackson \$200

- 5 Jason Moss \$100
- 5 Ron Frank \$100
- 7 Collin Hall \$50
- 7 Daniel Adams \$50

## Oct 04 - Oct 06

### Clubhouse Billiards Queen of the Mountain

#### The Clubhouse

- Lynchburg, Virginia
- 1 Katie Bischoff \$900
- 2 Liz Taylor \$600
- 3 Casey Cork \$300
- 4 Jordyn Worley \$150
- 5 Courtney Hairfield \$75
- 5 Jackie Rivera \$75

## Oct 04 - Oct 06

### Clubhouse Billiards Jack and Jill of the Mountain

#### The Clubhouse

- Lynchburg, Virginia
- 1 Jackie Rivera \$400
- 1 Nathan Worley \$400
- 2 Katie Bischoff \$250
- 2 Mike Davis \$250
- 3 Bobby Anderson \$150
- 3 Tasha Collier \$150
- 4 Chuck Cuneo \$75
- 4 Julia Bright \$75
- 5 Charles Maxwell \$50
- 5 Hunter Neighbors \$50
- 5 Jordyn Worley \$50
- 5 Kaitlyn Giddens \$50

## Oct 05 - Oct 06

### Northeast 9-Ball Open XXXVI

#### Utica Billiards On The Boulevard

- Utica, New York
- 1 Bucky Souvanthong \$1,100
- 2 Ron Casanzio \$750
- 3 Brad Guthrie \$600
- 4 Bob Mendenjian \$450
- 5 Jordan Tucker \$350

- 5 Ken Donald \$350
- 7 Bryzen Manipula \$250
- 7 Eric Hamel \$250
- 9 Barry Hetherington \$100
- 9 Kiet Mieu \$100
- 9 Mike Donnelly \$100
- 9 Nick Coppola \$100

## Oct 05 - Oct 06

### 2nd Annual Pennsylvania State Women's 8-Ball Championship

#### Bluegrass Billiards

- Philadelphia, Pa
- 1 Ashley Benoit \$1,200
- 2 Karen Corr \$875
- 3 Skylar Hess \$615
- 4 Lai Li \$425
- 5 Dawn Luz \$275
- 5 Rachel Walters \$275
- 7 Briana Miller \$125
- 7 Rebecca Hilton \$125

## Oct 05 - Oct 06

### Northeast 9-Ball Open XXXVI Second Chance

#### Utica Billiards On The Boulevard

- Utica, New York
- 1 Jake Jackson \$300
- 2 Hendrik Drost \$200
- 3 Frank Wolak \$140
- 4 Dave Mills \$100
- 5 Bruce Carroll \$50
- 5 George Lashoff \$50

## Oct 06 - Oct 06

### New England 9-Ball Tour 2024 Season Finale

#### Yale Billiards

- Wallingford, Connecticut
- 1 Tom Schine \$900
- 2 Walter Palomino \$560
- 3 Nuno Cotto \$400
- 4 Kevin Kiely \$300

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5 Steven Romann \$120

## Oct 08 - Oct 13

### Hanoi Open Pool Championship 2024

#### Hanoi

1 Johann Chua \$30,000  
2 Pin-Yi Ko \$15,000  
3 Carlo Biado \$9,500  
3 Jeffrey Consigna Roda \$9,500  
5 Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz \$6,000  
5 Harry Vergara \$6,000  
5 Jayson Shaw \$6,000  
5 Kledio Kaci \$6,000  
9 Andri Januarta \$4,000  
9 David Alcaide \$4,000  
9 Edward Koyongian \$4,000  
9 James Aranas \$4,000  
9 Jeffrey Ignacio \$4,000  
9 Ping-Chung Ko \$4,000  
9 Shane Van Boening \$4,000  
9 Skyler Woodward \$4,000  
17 Albert Manas \$2,000  
17 Ching-Ju Chien \$2,000  
17 Dean Shields \$2,000  
17 Francesco Candela \$2,000  
17 Georgi Georgiev \$2,000  
17 Jerson Cumayas \$2,000  
17 Jonas Souto Comino \$2,000  
17 Lo Ho Sum \$2,000  
17 Ming Wang \$2,000  
17 Ping Han Ko \$2,000  
17 Po Cheng Kuo \$2,000  
17 Robbie Capito \$2,000  
17 Shane Wolford \$2,000  
17 Tyler Styer \$2,000  
17 Van Huynh Nguyen \$2,000  
17 Yu-Lung Chang \$2,000  
33 Antonis Kakaris \$1,000  
33 Bernie Regalilaria \$1,000  
33 Besar Spahiu \$1,000  
33 Bui Truong An \$1,000  
33 Cong Thanh Nguyen \$1,000  
33 Dang Tuyen Nguyen \$1,000  
33 Duc Thang Nguyen \$1,000  
33 Elliott Sanderson \$1,000  
33 Fedor Gorst \$1,000  
33 Imran Majid \$1,000  
33 Ismail Kadir \$1,000

33 Jian-Bo Fu \$1,000  
33 Jose Garcia \$1,000  
33 Jundel Mazon \$1,000  
33 Landon Hollingsworth \$1,000  
33 Lee Vann Corteza \$1,000  
33 Lin Shih Kai \$1,000  
33 Lo Van Xuan \$1,000  
33 Luong Duc Thien \$1,000  
33 Marvin Asis \$1,000  
33 Max Eberle \$1,000  
33 Michael Baoanan \$1,000  
33 Michael Feliciano \$1,000  
33 Mickey Krause \$1,000  
33 Mustafa Alnar \$1,000  
33 Oscar Dominguez \$1,000  
33 Patric Gonzales \$1,000  
33 Pijus Labutis \$1,000  
33 Quoc Hoang Duong \$1,000  
33 Raymund Faraon \$1,000  
33 Roland Garcia \$1,000  
33 Wang Hung Hsiang \$1,000

## Oct 10 - Oct 13

### WPBA Railyard Invitational

#### Railyard Billiards

Louisville, KY  
1 Kristina Tkach \$8,000  
2 Marharyta Fefilava \$5,400  
3 Pia Filler \$4,000  
4 Allison Fisher \$3,000  
5 Caroline Pao \$2,000  
5 Veronique Menard \$2,000  
7 Kaylee McIntosh \$1,500  
7 Kristina Zlateva \$1,500  
9 Ashley Rice \$1,200  
9 Janet Atwell \$1,200  
9 Monica Webb \$1,200  
9 Pamela Kelly \$1,200  
13 Ashley Benoit \$900  
13 Brittany Bryant \$900  
13 Kennedy Meyman \$900  
13 Teruko Cucculelli \$900  
17 Alice Adams \$600  
17 Emily Duddy \$600  
17 Kari Anderson \$600  
17 Lonnie Fox-Raymond \$600  
17 Olivia Cheng \$600  
17 Stephanie Mitchell \$600  
17 Susan Williams \$600  
17 Tina Larsen \$600

## Oct 10 - Oct 13

### Ninth Annual Seniors One Pocket Classic

#### Bogies Billiards & Games East

Houston, TX  
1 James Davis Sr \$4,000  
2 Nick Varner \$2,000  
3 Frank Nordmann Jr \$1,300  
4 Ike Runnels \$1,000  
5 Ronn Rutan \$650  
5 Sammy Jones \$650  
7 Jerry Matchin \$400  
7 Robert Newkirk \$400

## Oct 12 - Oct 13

### Joss Tour 2024-2025 Stop 5

#### Brickhouse Billiards

N. Syracuse, New York  
1 Eric Hamel \$1,000  
2 Hendrik Drost \$650  
3 Ed Saur \$500  
4 Brad Guthrie \$400  
5 Jay Goyer \$300  
5 Marco Kam \$300  
7 Bucky Souvanthong \$200  
7 Matt Vasilopoulos \$200  
9 Mike Eck \$100  
9 Nick Coppola \$100  
9 Seth Delvillano \$100  
9 Willie Oney \$100

## Oct 12 - Oct 13

### Garden State Pool Tour Amateur Stop

#### Shooter's Family Billiards

Wayne, NJ  
1 Juan Pena \$600  
2 Ron Lichtenberger \$350  
3 Pascal Dufresne \$240  
4 Jaydev Zaveri \$160  
5 Jason Halpin \$120  
5 Michelle Brotons \$120

## Oct 12 - Oct 12

### Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

#### Mickey Milligan's Sports Bar

New Bern, NC  
1 JT Ringgold \$500



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- 2 Jarvis Miller \$320
- 3 Micah McSwain \$180
- 4 Tracy Hardie \$110

## Oct 12 - Oct 13

### Joss Tour 2025-2025 Stop 5 Second Chance

#### Brickhouse Billiards

- N. Syracuse, New York
- 1 Jake Jackson \$300
- 2 Nick Coppola \$200
- 3 Mike Renshaw \$120
- 4 Dave Mills \$80
- 5 Chrstine Cockrell \$50
- 5 Mike Eck \$50

## Oct 15 - Oct 18

### Reyes Cup

#### Manila Philipines

- 1 Aloysius Yapp \$15,000
- 1 Carlo Biado \$15,000
- 1 Johann Chua \$15,000
- 1 Pin-Yi Ko \$15,000
- 1 Quoc Hoang Duong \$15,000
- 2 David Alcaide \$15,000
- 2 Eklent Kaci \$15,000
- 2 Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz \$15,000
- 2 Jayson Shaw \$15,000
- 2 Mickey Krause \$15,000

## Oct 19 - Oct 19

### West Coast Women's Tour 2024 Stop 6

#### Family Billiards

- San Francisco, CA
- 1 Melissa Rushton \$410
- 2 Piper Iwan \$310
- 3 Khanh Ngo \$235
- 4 Lela Andrew \$185
- 5 Gigi Callejas \$135
- 5 Motoko Siguenza \$135
- 7 Donna Mae \$85
- 7 Lara Won \$85

## Oct 19 - Oct 20

### 2024 Maryland State Bar Table 8-Ball Championships

#### Brews & Cues on the Boulevard

- Glen Burnie, Maryland

- 1 Matt Krah \$700
- 2 Jimmy Varias \$350
- 3 Tom Zippler \$230
- 4 Grai Rasmehchai \$180
- 5 Brandon Shuff \$140
- 5 Dylan Spohr \$140
- 7 Brett Stottlemeyer \$100
- 7 David Zecena \$100
- 9 Eric Brobst \$65
- 9 Joe Healy \$65
- 9 Rick Molineiro \$65

## Oct 19 - Oct 20

### 2024 DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop 10

#### VFW Post 2772

- Sherman, TX
- 1 Gavin Mathew \$820
- 2 Jonathan Rawlins \$560
- 3 Chad Hart \$400
- 4 Robbie Smith \$235
- 5 Jesse Wilcoxson \$180
- 5 Keith Diaz \$180
- 7 Brandon Sisemore \$140
- 7 Tim Grunst \$140
- 9 Gene Joslin \$100
- 9 Lance Sullivan \$100
- 9 Mitch Owen \$100
- 9 Rosenbaugh JR \$100

## Oct 19 - Oct 20

### Borderline Billiards "Play for the Cause" Tournament

#### Borderline Billiards

- Bristol, TN
- 1 Dustin Coe \$1,025
- 2 Scott Jones \$725
- 3 Doug Shulz \$375
- 4 Amanda Mann \$250

## Oct 26 - Oct 27

### NWPA Tour 2024 Stop 6

#### Ox Billiards

- Seattle, Washington
- 1 Melissa Rushton \$1,115
- 2 Andy Camping \$780
- 3 Katherine Robertson \$545
- 4 Molina Ortiz \$270
- 5 Kathie MacDonald \$235
- 5 Tylyn Holzapfel \$235

- 7 Regene Lane \$150
- 7 Stephanie Drakulic \$150
- 9 Cassie Francois \$105
- 9 Dora Valdez \$105
- 9 Gwen Townsend \$105
- 9 Jing Liu \$105

## Oct 26 - Oct 27

### Joss Tour 2024-2025 Stop 7

#### The Golden Cue Billiard Lounge

- Albany, NY
- 1 Jeremy Sossei \$1,100
- 2 Christoph Neumayer \$800
- 3 Bucky Souvanthong \$650
- 4 Steve Mack \$450
- 5 Angelo Innes \$350
- 5 Earl Herring \$350
- 7 Bob Mendenjian \$250
- 7 Yesid Geribello \$250
- 9 Doug Masiero \$125
- 9 Frank Sorriento \$125
- 9 Hendrik Drost \$125
- 9 Kiet Mieu \$125

## Oct 26 - Oct 27

### 2nd Annual PA Pro-Am 8-Ball Championship

#### Bluegrass Billiards


- Philadelphia, Pa
- 1 Kenny Rutman \$2,880
- 2 Brandon Shuff \$1,440
- 3 Scott Haas \$1,080
- 4 Tony Chohan \$720
- 5 Marty Ciccica \$360
- 5 Shaun Wilkie \$360
- 7 Ed King \$180
- 7 Lukas Fracasso-Verner \$180

## Oct 26 - Oct 27

### Joss Tour 2025-2025 Stop 7 Second Chance

#### The Golden Cue Billiard Lounge

- Albany, NY
- 1 Pascal Dufresne \$340
- 2 Bruce Carroll \$230
- 3 Tom Acciavatti \$170
- 4 Brian Tierney \$120
- 5 Chris Tiru \$60
- 5 Dave Mills \$60



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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.

## NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

### West Coast Women's Tour 2024 Stop 7

Nov 02 - Nov 02

Jimmy's Billiards  
Milpitas, California

### Joss Tour 2024-2025 Stop 8

Nov 02 - Nov 03

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

### 36th Ocean State 9-Ball Championship

Nov 09 - Nov 10

Snookers - Sports Billiards, Bar & Grill  
Providence, RI

### 1100 & Under 10-Ball Partners

Nov 09 - Nov 09

Center Pocket Billiards  
Bowie, Maryland

### Medalla Light Puerto Rico Open 2024

Nov 11 - Nov 16

San Juan, Puerto Rico

### 2024 International 9-Ball Open

Nov 18 - Nov 22

St. Augustine, FL

### 2024 Capital City Billiards Invitational

Nov 21 - Nov 24

Concord, NH

### 2024 American Straight Pool Championship

Nov 23 - Nov 26

St. Augustine, FL

### Mosconi Cup XXXI

Nov 30 - Dec 03

Caribe Royale  
Orlando, Florida

### 2024 Maryland State Bar Table 10-Ball Championships

Nov 30 - Dec 01

Brews & Cues on the Boulevard  
Glen Burnie, Maryland

### NWPA Tour 2024 Stop 7

Dec 07 - Dec 08

Legends Billiard Room  
Beaverton, Oregon

### 2024 WPBA Aramith / Dr Pool Classic

Dec 11 - Dec 15

Central Wisconsin Convention and Expo Center  
Rothschild, Wisconsin

# 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.**

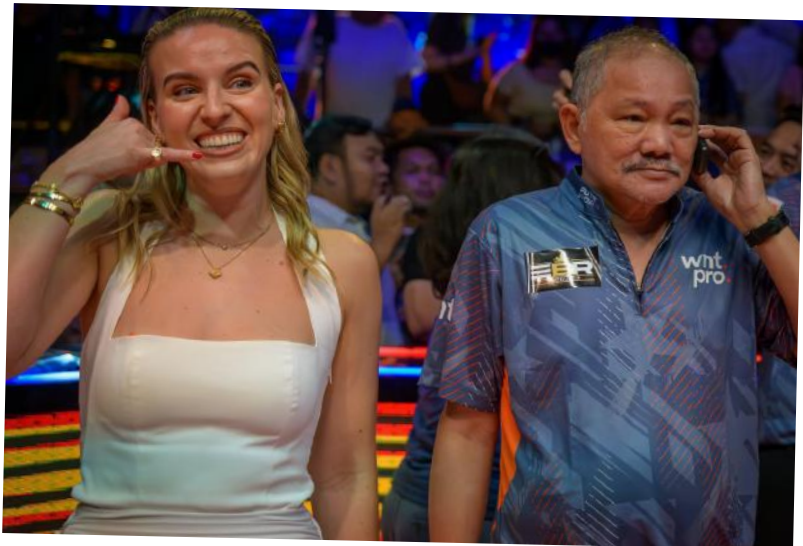
WE ARE POSTING

**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.**

This month's photo is from the recently completed Reyes Cup and it is courtesy of Erwin Dionisio. Our favorite suggested caption was from billiards enthusiast, Stu Mattana.



*Give the guy a WNT pro shirt  
and he acts like he runs the place.*

2024 BILLIARD CONGRESS OF AMERICA

# HALL OF FAME BANQUET

THE BIGGEST NIGHT IN POOL

STAGED AT THE MOSCONI CUP

FRIDAY, NOV. 29, AT 6:00 PM

CARIBE ROYALE HOTEL  
ORLANDO, FLA.

HONORING

AND

MERITORIOUS SERVICE HONOREES



CAPTAIN  
AMERICA

## SHANE VAN BOENING

- World 9-Ball Champion - 2022
- World 8-Ball Champion - 2023
- Five-Time U.S. Open Champion
- 17-Time Mosconi Cup Team USA
- World Pool Masters Champion - 2014, 2015
- Derby City Master of the Table - 2011, 2012
- Four-Time Derby City 9-Ball Champion
- Five-Time U.S. Open 10-Ball Champion



Mike Panozzo  
Billiards  
Digest

Mark Griffin  
CueSports  
International

**LIMITED SEATING!**  
This event will sell out!

**\$130 Per Person**  
**Table of Eight: \$1,040**

(Group must order full table to assure seating together)

▶▶▶ Order at: [www.USBMA.com/HallofFame2024](http://www.USBMA.com/HallofFame2024)

For additional information: Contact Mike Panozzo: [mikep@lubypublishing.com](mailto:mikep@lubypublishing.com) • 312-925-9631

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# AZBILLIARDS MONEY LIST

	NAME	COUNTRY	\$ AMOUNT	
	Fedor Gorst	 USA	453.013,00 US\$	
	Joshua Filler	 GER	285.413,00 US\$	
	Shane Van Boening	 USA	201.388,00 US\$	
	Carlo Biado	 PHI	190.800,00 US\$	
	Eklent Kaci	 ALB	143.007,00 US\$	
	Johann Chua	 PHI	121.250,00 US\$	↑
	Franciso Sanchez-Ruiz	 ESP	118.513,00 US\$	↑
	Mickey Krause	 DEN	103.468,00 US\$	↓
	Ko Pin Yi	 TPE	99.126,00 US\$	↑
	Kristina Tkach	 RUS	84.213,00 US\$	↓



## 70,000,000+ VIEWS!

▶ The Accu-Stats YouTube Channel

▶ 2024 International Open  
PPV+ Nov 18-26!

9-Ball, BIG Foot 10-Ball, Int'l Open 14.1 C'ship,  
Boys and Girls JRs, One Pocket, Bank Pool.  
Don't miss a stroke! Get PPV+.

2024 Accu-Stats Annual **FREE** Catalog  
▶ ON-LINE NOW!

For a **FREE** Catalog Featuring 30+ years of  
Pro Tournament Match Action **Match Action**  
download at [accu-stats.com](http://accu-stats.com)

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It's not just a Catalog, it's a History Book!

### Changing the World of Pool...For Good!

Whether it's via Accu-Stats YouTube Channel, Vimeo OnDemand, PPV+, ROKU Channel, Streaming Video, Billiards TV or, HD DVDs, Accu-Stats delivers your message to the World...FOREVER!

Actually, it's **71,097,487** LIFETIME views with **29.8** MILLION watched hours!  
**WE THANK YOU ALL!**



**PPV+ : BENEFITS:**

Review **ALL** the action with OnDemand **PLUS** access for 30 days after the event: **NO Time Zone issues!**

**YOU** won't miss a stroke!  
Get PPV+ at [accu-stats.com](http://accu-stats.com)



Yapp and Filler dominate the International Open and DCC XXV.  
**NEW** products from Earl, Jayson, Capelle, and Zero X Billiards.



Action Photography ©mediumpool

PAT FLEMING PRESENTS

Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> 2024

2024



INTL

THE 2024 INTERNATIONAL OPEN

9 9-BALL 10 10-BALL 14 14.1



AT THE RENAISSANCE RESORT IN ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA

Mon. Nov. 18 - Fri., Nov. 22

9 2024 INTERNATIONAL 9-BALL OPEN

128 Player Field — \$750 Entry — \$40,000 First Prize

TOTAL PRIZE FUND \$171,000, PAID TO THE TOP 32 PLAYERS — DOUBLE ELIMINATION (SINGLE ELIMINATION FINAL 16)

\$75,000 added

9 INTERNATIONAL 9-BALL SEMI-PRO OPEN

200 Player Field — \$125 Entry — \$6,000 First Prize

SINGLE ELIMINATION WITH A \$50 BUY-BACK — 650 FARGO MAXIMUM

\$10,000 added

Sat. Nov. 23 - Sun. Nov. 24



BIG FOOT INVITATIONAL 10-BALL

8 Professional Players — \$500 Entry — \$4,000 First Prize

SINGLE ELIMINATION — 10-FOOT DIAMOND TABLE — TOP FOUR FINISHERS SHARE IN THE \$8,000 PURSE

\$4,000 added

Sat. Nov. 23 - Tues., Nov. 26

14 INTERNATIONAL STRAIGHT POOL OPEN

Formerly Peter Burrows' American 14.1 Straight Pool Championship

48 - 64 Players — \$400 Entry

ROUND ROBIN FORMAT — FINAL 16 WILL ADVANCE TO SINGLE ELIMINATION — FIRST PRIZE \$10,000

\$30,000 added

NEW EVENTS!

REWARDS MINI'S:

NOV. 23-24 - SHORT RACK BANKS  
NOV. 25-26 - ONE-POCKET

ENTRY  
\$125.00  
\$125.00

ADDED  
\$2,000  
\$2,000

PLAYERS  
80  
80

TO ENTER  
FOR INFORMATION:  
CALL 973-615-3519

WWW.INTLOPEN.COM

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 973-615-3519



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