

# Billiards Buzz

an  publication

vol.2, Issue October 2017

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**Van Boening Returns to  
Turning Stone with Win**



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would you rather play against your  
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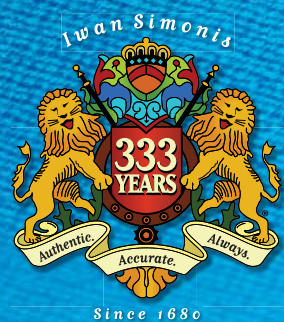


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# FROM THE Head Rail

MIKE HOWERTON

**After a year of players traveling across the US to earn points, Team USA's roster is now complete. Shane, Sky, Dennis, Billy and Oscar will carry the weight of the United States on their shoulders in Las Vegas this December.**



**A**s always, the atmosphere will be absolutely electric in the arena. People who haven't been to pro events will sometimes ask me what events I suggest they go to. Mosconi Cup and Derby City are the two that I suggest to people first (with the US Open and Turning Stone close behind).

Fans who attend Mosconi Cup this year will have the added thrill of being able to attend the ceremony to see Darren Appleton and Tom Rossman inducted into the BCA Hall of Fame. This is the one time each year when fans can see the top players of the game in a casual atmosphere, where they aren't just wanting to destroy each other on a pool table. You never know which members of the Hall of Fame will be in attendance at a dinner like this.

If you live near Vegas, or are willing to travel for a great billiards experience, get yourself to Vegas this December. Tickets for the Hall of Fame dinner can be purchased online at <http://www.usbma.com>.

See you there.

Mike

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# DISTRACTIONS

ANTHONY BEELER

**Distractions epitomize what professional players try to avoid when they are in high-level competition. Distractions can come in many forms and in order for you to eliminate them; you need to recognize what they are. What is a distraction? A distraction is anything that takes your focus away from the game.**



Here are some examples:

- “Sharking”
- Room temperature
- Equipment issues (such as an unlevel table)
- Health issues
- Fatigue
- Worrying about who you play or how your opponent is performing
- Ego – What will others think?
- Memories of past losses

These are just a few of the things that can become distractions during a match. It really doesn't make any difference which of the aforementioned distractions is plaguing your game—all need to be eliminated.

Playing in the present moment is one key to keeping your mind focused and calm. Your mind must focus on one shot at a time and you cannot afford

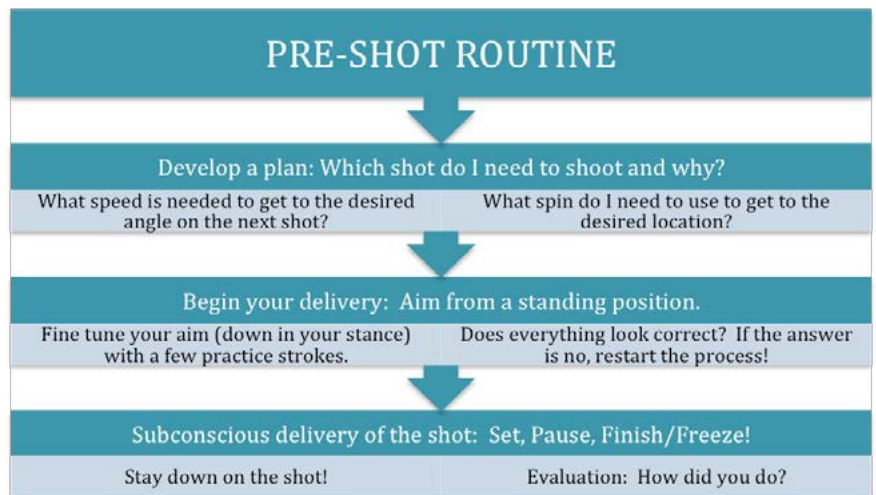
to divide your concentration into multiple areas.

When practiced enough, you can create a habit of focusing on the process for each and every shot. This will not allow any negative thoughts to reside in your mind for any extended period of time. Consequently, your mind will remain positive during your match, which will enable you to play your very best.

Let me suggest for you to begin practicing and implementing a well thought out pre-shot routine. Once you have done it literally hundreds or even thousands of times, it will simply be a pattern of movements and thoughts that are guided by your subconscious. The process serves to separate your mind from distractions and put you into “dead stroke.”

Aside from the process, learn to enjoy yourself. Then, when it comes time to shoot, begin your pre-shot routine and let your subconscious take over.

The next time you see a player trying to “shark” you, challenge yourself to be patient. Let the process serve to separate you from the distraction. If you can't separate yourself, it's best to start the process over. I can remember when I was in the finals of a pretty big tournament. As I got down to pocket the final nine-ball for the title, my opponent stood directly in front of me and started powdering the shaft of his cue. There was so much powder in the air it almost looked like a “dust cloud.” Instead of shooting the ball, I got up and walked around the table and stood right in front of my opponent. I said, “Are you about finished?”



Luckily, he put his powder away and I restarted my pre-shot routine and pocketed the ball. The moral of the story is never shoot until you are completely ready.

On the other hand, if it is a health issue that is distracting you, let that pain be a trigger to induce deeper focus on the present moment. All too often it is our nature to make excuses for our bad play and blame it on some sort of medical condition. In order to play at our best, we have to find ways to stay focused and rise above the challenges we face.

What if you are playing against someone you dislike, and you have this overwhelming desire to win? This person might be way ahead. You must realize that you have no control over

**“ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT IF THE PROCESS DOES NOT BECOME HABIT, YOU MAY STRUGGLE WITH CONSISTENCY.”**

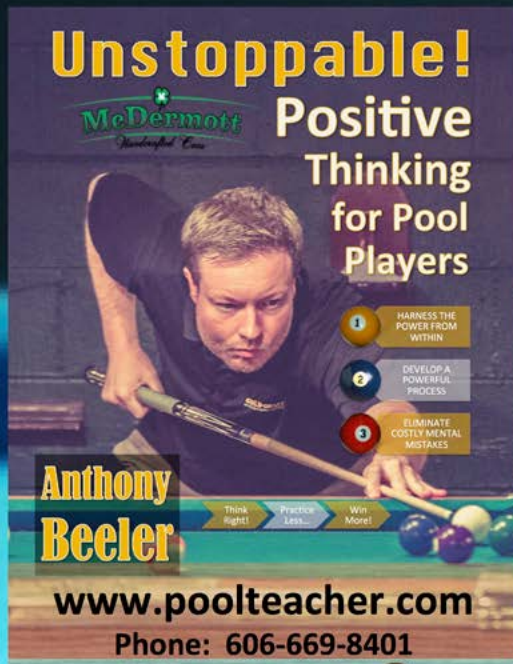
what he is doing and cannot afford to divide your concentration. Good players eliminate thoughts of things they cannot control and learn to focus on the process. If I had to pinpoint one weakness that causes people to play poorly it would be the fact that they worry about things that are out of their control.

Finally, it is critical that we work hard to create good habits that will help us eliminate our distractions. Always remember that if the process does not

become habit, you may struggle with consistency. Creating good habits is a crucial part of eliminating unwanted distractions.

**ANTHONY BEELER** is the 2017 Pool Instructor of the Year and is a former BCAPL National 9-Ball Champion. He has numerous top 25 national finishes and is one of only 8 ACS Master Instructors in the world. He is the primary author of the National Billiards Instructors Manual and has also authored the book Unstoppable! Positive Thinking for Pool Players. Anthony currently has the highest established Fargo Rating of any Master Instructor. He has won over 300 tournaments and has defeated numerous professional players in tournament competition.

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# DOMINANT EYE

This month, Karen brings you part one of her conversation about Dominant Eye with Bill Curran of Curran Opticians.

First, I would like to clarify how to determine which eye is your dominate eye:

- Extend either arm out in front of you and stick up your index finger with both eyes open. **Note:** It's easier if you place your finger in front of a distinct object (example: clock on the wall)
- Close your right eye, if your finger in front of the clock moves, your right eye is dominate
- If nothing happens, you're left eye dominant.

**H**aving your cue under your dominant eye is considered by most to be very beneficial. Having a dominate eye does not mean which eye has the worst or best visual acuity over the other eye. Your dominant eye is the leader or 'preferred eye' that provides a slightly greater degree of input to the visual part of your brain and more accurately relays information about the location of objects.

## Explain how we have a dominant eye?

Having a dominant eye is part of the human anatomy. It's the same reason why we

may be right handed or left handed. Or, why we may prefer to kick a soccer ball with one foot over the other.

## How does fatigue change the dominant eye?

Eye fatigue in general can affect your vision, it doesn't need to be your dominant eye. Eye fatigue causes headaches, pain in or around the eyes, blurred vision, and occasional double vision. All these can have a negative effect on your everyday life, and especially on your billiard game.

## Importance of having the correct glasses for shooting Pool?

Having a pair of billiard glasses when shooting pool is very important!! It's

having the right equipment for the sport. Vision is critical, but it's important that billiard glasses are made just for billiards. Having a huge lens doesn't make a pair of billiard glasses. We've been doing this for our local customers for over 15 years and we perfected our design and took it to customers online. We design the shapes so the lens goes over the brow line and we place the optical centers higher than where they would be normally, so when a player gets low to take their shot, they're looking through the sweet spot of the lenses and not over their lenses. Also, some players get lower than others, that is why we ask for a picture (on our website) of them shooting so we can custom design the lenses for them.

## Does head positions over the cue affect our aim? Like being right eye dominant and shooting over the left eye?

Head positions are very important. If you're right eye dominant and you shoot right handed then your head and body position would be straight. However, if you're right eye dominant but shoot left handed, or vice versa, then adjusting your head to the side so the dominant eye is over the cue can improve your game. You're body position and head position might be off, but it will help your shot. It may take some time to get adjusted, but I would recommend trying it out.



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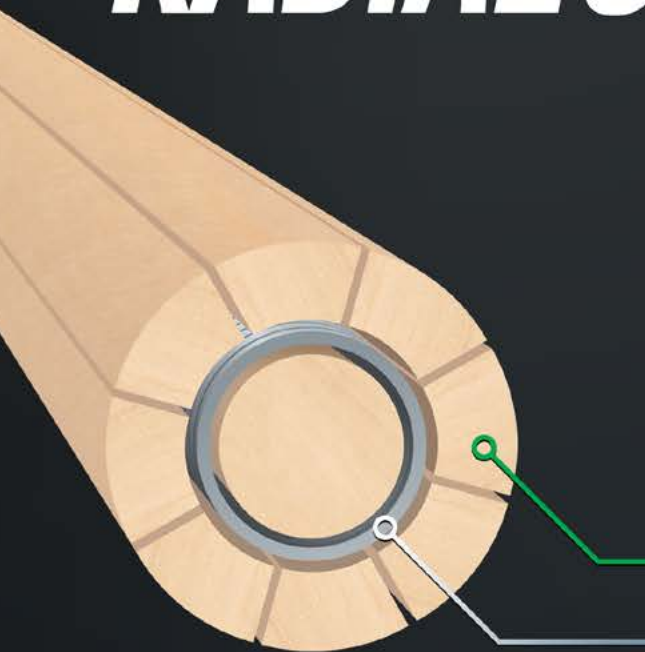
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# FargoRate

**Mike Page is the owner of the famously large Fargo Billiards in North Dakota and is also the genius behind the ranking system “FargoRate.” Let’s find out more about the man, the pool room, and the ranking system.**

**Q:** You can’t go anywhere in the pool world without tripping over the word “FARGO” these days. It looks like Fargo Ratings has some explosive growth and I want to get to that. But first I’d like to learn a little about you before FargoRate. You haven’t always been in North Dakota. Where did you grow up, and when did you get the pool bug?

**A:** I’m from New York, a town called Harrison in commuting distance from New York City along the New Haven line. Harrison had the rich neighborhood, and then it had my neighborhood, near the train station. I started playing pool around 12 at the town rec center, where the one Brunswick on the third floor was in constant use—mostly by the bigger and older kids. So my

friend and I mostly watched quietly—watched that is, until we figured out how to jimmy the fire door and climb the fire escape to get in when the building was closed. We spent countless hours in the closed building practicing in low light what we watched earlier.

**Q:** What was it you watched? What game did they play?



Steve Ernst and Mike Page

**A:** *This was the early 1970s, and the game was straight pool played as short games in a king-of-the-hill format. We called it Fifteen—straight-pool played to 15, so pretty much every game goes a bit into a second rack. It sounds crazy until you realize you are always playing in an end-game situation. So we're brand new players, and already we're trying to freeze the cue ball to the back of a ball. We're already taking intentional fouls. We're already playing safe a lot and learning how to control both balls. Get a few points and then duck. Every shot mattered, and many shots risked a sellout. I still don't know a better way to learn the game of pool.*

**Q:** **I know you're a PhD scientist, so you must have slowed down your pool playing at least a bit. Tell me a little about your science career.**

**A:** *Yeah, I pretty much quit playing for 25 years. I worked in Computational Physics at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington DC for eight years doing quantum mechanics on molecules, and then I got a university position as Associate Professor of Physical Chemistry at North Dakota State University. That's what brought us to Fargo. The math behind FargoRate actually looks a lot like the math doing quantum mechanics on a computer.*

**Q:** **Well, no wonder it can seem complicated. And then you left the university to open Fargo Billiards with —how many—56 tables? That's a pretty sharp pivot.**

**A:** *I quit the university after 16 years and opened Fargo Billiards in 2009. I've often heard comments about moving from the East Coast to North Dakota, about leaving the university and opening Fargo Billiards, and about starting FargoRate. These look like big changes to people. The funny thing, though, is when you're in the driver's seat holding the steering wheel, the path seems natural, and it is other choices that look weird.*

**Q:** **Your pool room is actually titled "Fargo Billiards and Gastropub." Gastropub is a British term for a pub (public house) that is serious about its food. Why was great scratch food and a full service menu and lounge an**

**important and integral part of the place for you?**

**A:** *It was important to us to integrate with community and bring diverse members of the community inside. People have misconceptions about pool halls and pool players. Our strategy has been to disrupt their expectations, and using the unfamiliar word "gastropub" is part of it. We want people to think, 'If I don't understand the name of this place, maybe there are other things about it I don't yet understand.' The main areas people eat and socialize look over the pool tables, so people can't help but be at least a little exposed to the game.*

**Q:** **And you're a pool instructor?**

**A:** *I do small-group instruction occasionally. But it's hard to beat the impact of online videos. I have a bunch of those under "FargoBilliards" on youtube.com that have been up for several years. They've now been viewed collectively over four million times, and there are 63 countries for which my videos have been viewed at least 10,000 times. One of them—Learn-to-play-pool-in-ten-minutes—gets 2,000 new views a day, even though it's been up for almost a decade. You can see I'm a numbers guy;-).*

**Q:** **Your Fargo Rating is about 100 points above mine, which gives me a pretty good idea how you play. Are there any matches that are particularly memorable to you?**

**A:** *Two come to mind.*

*First is a race-to-7 9-ball match against Jesse Engel on a 7-foot table. I'm a recreational player, and Jesse had just beaten Strickland, Morra, Sigel and a few others at the US Open and was feeling pretty sporty. I was getting easy tables and getting out. He was breaking dry, scratching on the break, and just generally getting bad rolls. I ended up beating him 7-0.*

*The second memorable match wasn't a match at all and happened the one time I entered the US Open. This was the first year any women played, and I was scheduled to play Sarah Rousey on the B-side. They called the match on the TV table. So here it was, a match Sarah would likely win against a man at the US Open. Unfortunately I read the time wrong on the hand-written chart, and while Sarah was wait-*

“

**I'VE OFTEN HEARD COMMENTS ABOUT MOVING FROM THE EAST COAST TO NORTH DAKOTA, ABOUT LEAVING THE UNIVERSITY AND OPENING FARGO BILLIARDS, AND ABOUT STARTING FARGORATE. THESE LOOK LIKE BIG CHANGES TO PEOPLE.**

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**FARGORATE IS LIKE ELO RATINGS ON STEROIDS. IF WHAT FIDE DOES IS STICKING A VHS TAPE INTO THE VCR, FARGORATE IS WIRELESS INTERNET STREAMING.**



ing at the TV table I was sitting in my hotel room reading "Girl with the Dragon Tattoo."

I fear I made them both quit playing.

**Q:** What, in a nutshell, are Fargo Ratings?

**A:** Fargo Ratings are world-wide pocket-billiard ratings designed to rate every player on the planet on the same scale based on wins and losses against opponents of known rating.

**Q:** And they're updated every day?

**A:** "Updated" is kind of the wrong word. Every day is like Groundhog Day to us. We come out of our den and take a fresh look at all the players and games starting from scratch. Think of our database as a giant spiderweb of interactions (games) amongst the players. We weave a new web every day that includes not only all the past games, but also the new ones added since yesterday. At the start of the "optimization"—that's what we call the process—each day, Shane Van Boening is no different from an average league player. It is only after the optimization starts seeing that this guy Shane tends to beat people who tend to beat people who tend to beat people that a picture starts to emerge. It's really a massive calculation that takes place using dozens of computers in the cloud.

**Q:** Is this similar to chess ratings?

**A:** Yes and no. The World Chess Federation (called FIDE) has been doing what are called ELO type ratings for decades (the Elo rating system is a method for calculating the relative skill levels of players). FargoRate is like ELO ratings on steroids. If what FIDE does is sticking a VHS tape into the VCR, FargoRate is wireless internet streaming. I predict in two years FIDE will be doing what we're doing and pool will have the largest database of any sport/game.

**Q:** When did you start doing the daily optimization?

**A:** We started quietly in the late Fall of 2014. At that time we had already spent many thousands of hours collecting data, and we had about a half million games and 10,000 players. Now we have ten times as many games and ten

times as many players and an average of 6,000 games a day going in. We didn't announce anything to the world until the next summer, by which time we started working with Cuesports International (CSI) and we had about a million games in the system.

**Q:** Tell me about Steve, the other half of FargoRate.

**A:** I'd like to find a way to describe us as the Yin and Yang of FargoRate, but it's more like I am Yang and Steve is Yin AND Yang. He's a phenomenal programmer, an idea guy, a math guy, and a strong communicator. On top of that he's really passionate about everything we do. Steve used to be a senior developer for Microsoft. Oh, I do have a higher Fargo Rating. There is that.

**Q:** What's next on FargoRate's plate?

**A:** We have league management software (LMS), called "FargoRate LMS," that is tied directly to our database that is being used now for USAPL leagues. Games go in tonight, and ratings are updated tomorrow. We are in late stages of testing LMS for a wide variety of other league formats. We'll get all the current BCAPL divisions on board first, and then it really will be a great option for all leagues small and big. Shortly after LMS is released more broadly, we will release our mobile APP that amongst other things allows a player to review his or her own history, see upcoming matches, and review an aggregate record against any particular opponent. There's a laundry list of ideas, so people can expect something new at regular intervals.

**Q:** Is there a way for an area or a poolroom to get its weekly or monthly tournaments in?

**A:** Yes. In general we will import tournaments for which match scores are shared publicly with the world (peer review is an important part of data integrity) and are straightforward for us to get. The best way to do that right now is to use free tournament software called challenge and send us your username.

**Q:** What are the ways a pool community can use Fargo Ratings once ratings are well established in an area?

**A:** *There are many. One is what you do with the Omega Tour, a traditional handicapped tournament format in which players race to their number and their race-to number is determined by their Fargo Rating. Another is rating-restricted tournaments, like a 500 and under, with no handicaps. Another is a tournament with several possible matches—what we call a match chart—in which the particular match (like 6 to 4 or 7 to 3) for a pair of players is determined by their rating difference. Another one I’ve seen in a few places recently is a non-handicapped tournament with a variable entry fee; lower-rated players pay less. An area can also keep a dynamic performance list of the top 50 players or so. A popular format is a rating cap for a scotch doubles tournament, such as 1100 and under for two-player teams. A fun thing some have been doing recently in Portland OR is challenge matches called FARGUMENTS between players with close ratings. These can be between players at any level. They create a poster, talk it up on social media, and then stream the match with commentary.*

**Q:** “FARGUMENT,” I like that. What is your vision for the future of Fargo Ratings and pool?

**A:** *Pretty much all games played publicly in leagues and tournaments will go in. I think we’ll see players chosen by Fargo Rating to represent localities in regional tournaments, regions in national tournaments, and nations and continents in international tournaments. The power of a truly uniform rating system to unify and grow organizational efforts and advance pool as a sport will be large. League systems and regional tours will consolidate as the largest impediment to healthy cooperation—lack of a uniform rating system—is removed. We will all enjoy the economy of scale. More data makes us stronger, always. I believe Fargo Ratings will be truly transformative for pool.*

**Q:** What advice to you have for areas that don’t have many players currently rated?

**A:** *The wait and see approach makes sense for some big technology changes; let others work out the kinks and then jump on when everything is humming along. But that’s a bad strategy here. Fargo Ratings are only meaningful*

*and useful with sufficient data. So regardless of when you start amassing data, there is a ramp-up period during which ratings are less reliable. There is no short cut to getting through this. The best approach is to get leagues and tournaments on board as soon as possible.*

**Q:** When you and I talk about tournaments I run, (you even said once, “I saw a nice photo of you on Facebook looking bright and cheery on Saturday, and I thought, THAT doesn’t look like a person running a major tournament!” (my answer was: ‘it wasn’t Sunday yet’ haha)), you relate to the complaints and understand deeply the angst that can come from running tournaments. Where did you run tournaments and for how long or how do you know about this side of running tournaments?

**A:** *I’ve run about a dozen larger tournaments, with, say, \$3,000 added and 100 players, about 800 smaller weekly tournaments, and a bunch in between. As you know so well, player ratings—determining them and defending them—are the bane of the existence of many people who run handicapped tournaments. I can happily report that once Fargo Ratings are well established, the ratings complaints just go away. While one of our weekly tournaments has no handicaps, the other has matches as lopsided as 8 to 2, and nobody complains. People trust the ratings, and they trust the implementation.*

**Q:** You have a reputation on the forums and Facebook for responding well and politely to the not-always-polite naysayers. Does this get tiring and how do you not get upset or take it personal?

**A:** *The trick for me is to sift through the comments looking for underlying questions or misconceptions and respond to those. And I imagine I’m speaking not so much to the person making the comments but to others who may have the same questions or concerns and are not expressing them. Another thing is there have been several instances where the most vitriolic this-can’t-work critics later become our biggest proponents in an area. I have more confidence in Fargo Ratings than anything else I’ve ever done. And I think Steve feels the same way. The more people know and understand about what we do, the better.*

“

**I THINK WE’LL SEE PLAYERS CHOSEN BY FARGO RATING TO REPRESENT LOCALITIES IN REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS, REGIONS IN NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS, AND NATIONS AND CONTINENTS IN INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENTS. THE POWER OF A TRULY UNIFORM RATING SYSTEM TO UNIFY AND GROW ORGANIZATIONAL EFFORTS AND ADVANCE POOL AS A SPORT WILL BE LARGE.**

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# *The Beauty of "Ball in Hand"*



**JERRY BRIESATH**

**Running racks of Eightball requires a decent stroke, some knowledge of playing position, the skill level to rarely miss easy shots and most importantly the ability to see and execute patterns. When a good player gets ball in hand the game is usually over because of his or her ability to see and execute patterns.**

**M**any novice players come to me expressing their fear of getting ball in hand because they just don't know where to place the cue ball for the best advantage. It takes years of practice and play to become proficient recognizing the easiest way to play the balls off the table so you can shoot one easy shot after another.

You can cut this learning time from years to a few months by changing one rule when you are practicing for the upcoming league season.

The rule change is as follows — every time your opponent misses a shot, fouls or scratches you get ball in hand and likewise, when you miss, foul or scratch, your opponent gets ball in hand. So now every time you come to the table you start off with ball in hand which gets you thinking about what angle you should leave on the first ball and the speed you might shoot to get the correct angle on the next ball and so forth. I call it "BALL IN HAND POOL".

One more slight rule change — if you make a ball on the break you get ball

in hand — if you don't make one on the break your opponent gets ball in hand.

This is the purest form of Eightball because you either produce or sit on your chair and almost all luck is eliminated.

Whether you are playing Eightball or nine ball, "ball in hand pool" will teach you about pattern play seven or eight times faster than playing the regular way.

Good luck — Jerry



THRONE



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# PLAYING WITH THE HOUSE'S MONEY

Dr. CHRISTOPHER STANKOVICH  
www.drstankovich.com

**Often when I work with clients who struggle to muster up the confidence needed to beat better competition I use a phrase to help them re-frame their thinking. What I do is quite simple – I remind them that when it comes to playing against more talented competition, you are playing with the house's money!**

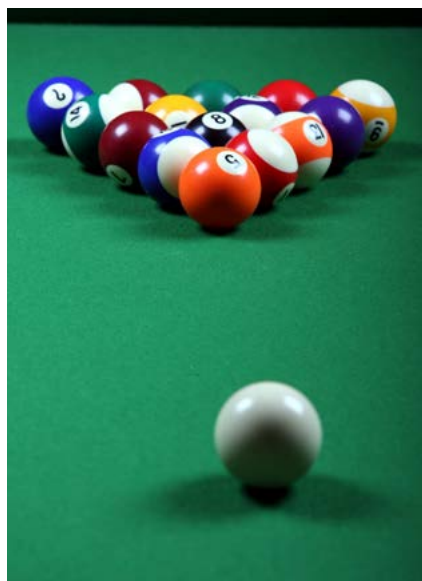
**S**ince you are expected to lose and your competition is expected to win, you (the underdog) actually have nothing to lose if you think about it.

## **Don't beat yourself**

Too many times in life we lose before we have even given ourselves a chance to win. This is especially true in pool, as I have personally witnessed countless players give themselves no chance to win, and they think like this even before the first break. When you go in to situations with this kind of mindset, anxiety sets in, and even the relatively easy shots seem like you are shooting at pockets that are barely open. Interestingly, your competitor isn't beating you, *but instead you are beating yourself.*

## **Re-frame the situation**

Rather than being star-struck playing against a good player, remind yourself that you are not expected to win, and that the reality is you are playing with the house's money. Since you really have nothing to lose (everyone expects you will get beat), why not go



all-out and surprise some folks – including the player you are going up against.



## **Pool provides you opportunities**

The game of pool is unique in many ways, but perhaps the one thing that sets it apart from many other sports and games is that when you're at the table, there isn't a thing your opponent can do to make you miss. Unlike sports like football, basketball, or baseball where an opponent can impact your success level, when it comes to pool it's just you and the table. The truth is if you make balls, you'll likely win a lot of games.

So what do you have to lose when it comes to playing good competition? Not much, especially since not many people have given you a chance anyway. Try to remind yourself that with the right mindset, focus, and confidence, just about anything is possible in the game of pool. You won't have any punishing linebackers to avoid, no 100mph pitchers to hit, or any 7-foot basketball players waiting to swat your shot away --- every shot is just you and the balls on the table.

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

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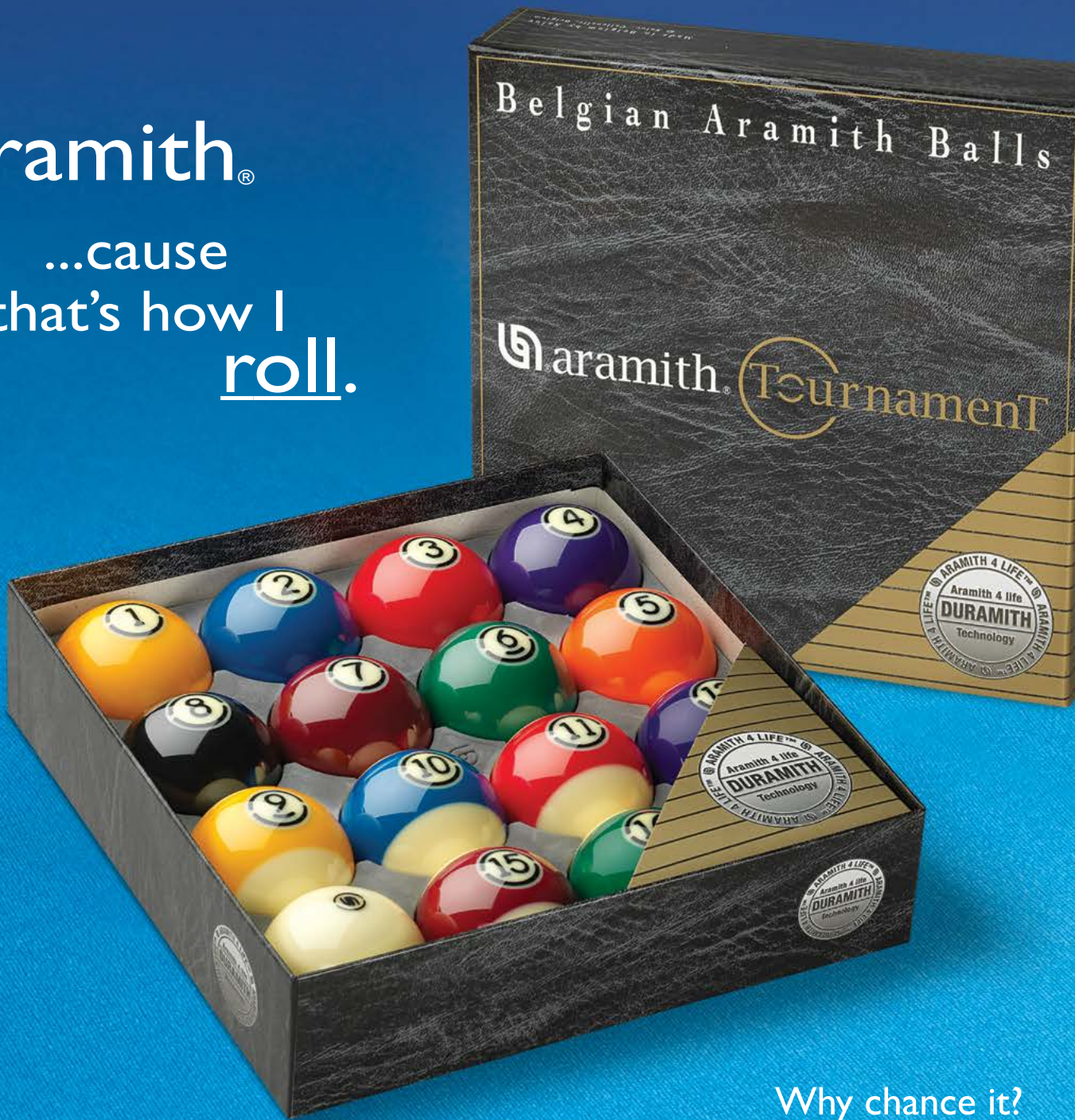


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# Van Boening Downs Shaw for Turning Stone Win

Over the past three years, the Turning Stone Classic has been dominated by Jayson Shaw. Aside from a 7th place finish in January of 2016, Shaw had been unstoppable at this event.



Shaw's five wins were only one behind Johnny Archer's record of six wins. For the better part of four days, it looked like Shaw would be matching Archer's record at the 28th running of this event, held August 31st to September 3rd. In the end though, Shane Van Boening had something to say about when that record would be broken.

Everything looked to be falling into place early for Shaw, and after three days of play he was still undefeated and relatively untested. Shaw's clos-

est match over those three days was a first round 9-4 win over Mike Perhach, and he had closed out Saturday matches with a lopsided 9-2 win over Earl Strickland. "From the very start of the week, I felt great and knew I had what it took to win again" said Shaw.

The other half of the winner's bracket came down to Shane Van Boening vs Donny Mills. Van Boening was making his first appearance at Turning Stone in over a year, but he looked right at home as he raced through three days of play unbeaten.

While not as much of a household name as Shaw and Van Boening, Donny Mills is always dangerous at Turning Stone. He already had two 4th place finishes in this event, and his 9-3 win over Dennis Hatch on Saturday evening showed he was looking for a better finish this time.

Aside from the final four on the right side of the board, the one loss side was littered with the usual group of top players. Johnny Archer's dreams of Turning Stone win #7 were cut short by a second round loss to Billy

**Shane Van Boening**

Lanna, and he eventually settled for a 9th place finish after losing to Strickland. After the Saturday loss to Mills, Dennis Hatch defeated Joey Cicero but then fell 9-6 to Jeremy Sossei for what has to feel like 100 tries without a win at this event for Hatch. Another crowd favorite, Rodney Morris, came up short after back to back losses to Immonen and Bucky Souvanthong on Saturday.

Sunday play kicked off with Shaw scoring a convincing 9-6 win over Immonen, while Van Boening and Mills were locked in a real battle. Mills trailed the match 6-1, before coming back to tie things at 7-7 and take his first lead at 8-7. A two rail scratch on the 8-ball by Mills allowed Van Boening to tie the score at 8-8, and another scratch on the 4-ball in the case game gave Van Boening all of the opportunity he needed to close out the match. Mills wasn't done though, as he then eliminated Strickland and Sossei on the one loss side.

While the hot-seat match between Shaw and Van Boening may have looked like a good one on paper, Shaw kept complete control of the match and raced to an 8-0 lead before defeating Van Boening 9-3.

Van Boening found Mills waiting on the left side of the board, but there was no comeback in Mills this time as

Van Boening took another early lead and then cruised to a 9-3 win to earn the rematch with Shaw in the finals.

The single race to 13 final match started out much more like the crowd expected, with neither player willing to give an inch. At 3-3, Van Boening won back to back safety battles to take his first two rack lead at 5-3. Much to the dismay of Shaw, he would spend the next 20 minutes only leaving his chair to rack for Van Boening as the South Dakota Kid wrapped four table runs around a nine-ball break to take a 10-5 lead. Shaw fought back but it didn't seem like his heart was in it after watching Van Boening's five pack, and Shane finished things off for a 13-4 win and his third Turning Stone Classic title.

**Jayson Shaw**

Shane commented after the event about how important that early lead was in the rematch with Shaw. "After my loss to Jayson earlier, I had to shake it off quickly and re-focus on winning. He's a great player, so I knew that if I had an opportunity to make a move, I had to take it - that's why gaining the early lead was so important."

**Donny Mills**

SHANE  
VAN BOENING

BILLY  
THORPE

SKYLER  
WOODWARD

DENNIS  
HATCH

OSCAR  
DOMINGUEZ



MOSCONI CUP XXIV

MANDALAY BAY LAS VEGAS 4-7 DEC. 2017

TEAM USA

# MOSCONI CUP TEAM USA

Team USA captain Johan Ruijsink has announced the five players who will make up his side and compete in the 24th annual Mosconi Cup which takes place from Monday to Thursday 4th to 7th December at the Mandalay Bay Resort in Las Vegas. With an eight-month period of qualification, Ruijsink selected five players from the top ten.

They are:

**SHANE VAN BOENING (South Dakota)**

Appearances: 10; Wins: 1; Matches: 60; Victories: 27.

**DENNIS HATCH (New York)**

Appearances: 4; Wins: 1; Matches: 23; Victories: 11.

**SKYLER WOODWARD (Kentucky)**

Appearances: 2; Wins: 0; Matches: 10; Victories: 5.

**OSCAR DOMINGUEZ (California)**

Appearances: 1; Wins: 1; Matches: 6; Victories: 3

**BILLY THORPE (Ohio)**

Debut

Commented skipper Johan Ruijsink, "The players have been picked so congratulations to all of them. This group now faces the huge task of trying to bring back the Mosconi Cup to the home country of pool. We will push hard to make it happen

"For now, the process of selection is behind us and we need to go forward and I am grateful for all the support we have received so far. After seven losses in a row, we can't be the favourites in this year's Cup, but we will certainly give it everything that we've got.

So, to Shane, Dennis, Billy, Oscar and Sky... let's go! It's time to get into fight mode and prepare on this quest. Luctor et emergo!"

It is understood that Ruijsink will be taking the five-man squad to Russia shortly to compete in the Kremlin Cup. The tournament runs from 18th to 23rd September in Moscow and following its conclusion the team will heading to a secret location in Russia for an intensive training period.

**Tickets for the Mosconi Cup are available from [www.mosconicup.com](http://www.mosconicup.com)**

The Official Table of

# MOSCONI CUP XXIV

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



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# 2017 “Make-It-Happen” 8-Ball AND Straight Pool Invitationals

**November 11-18, 2017**

**Six of our current top professionals were chosen to compete in Accu-Stats’ 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> “Make-It-Happen” 8-Ball and Straight Pool Invitationals.**

**They are:**

<b>Shane Van Boening</b>	5-Time U.S. Open Champion
<b>Darren Appleton</b>	Chinese 8-Ball World Champion
<b>Jayson Shaw</b>	Defending MIH 8-Ball Champion
<b>Dennis Orcullo</b>	2017 DCC Master of the Table
<b>Corey Deuel</b>	2017 8-Ball Classic Champion
<b>Joshua Filler</b>	2017 China Open Champion

**T**WO, not one, but TWO “Make-It-Happen” events will be featured for eight consecutive days at Sandcastle Billiards in Edison, New Jersey in the Aramith/Simonis TV Arena. With the help of supporters who purchase the “Make-It-Happen” package, this will be our finest MIH event to date. As always, 100% of the support money goes into the event. Accu-Stats takes nothing.

All of the players’ airmiles and lodging are taken care of, and there are no entry fees. A player is usually out-of-pocket about \$2,000 at most pro events after paying for airfare, lodging, and entry fee. At “Make-It-Happen” events, the players get a free ride... HOW NICE IS THAT? They only have to focus on pocketing \$1,000 for each win.

The 8-Ball matches will be races to 10. The Straight Pool matches will be 150 points. The two separate consecutive events will be played on a 9’ Diamond Pro-Am Table with Simonis 860 Cloth and Aramith Balls. The round-robin

format has everybody playing everybody else. Every match is of “finals” caliber. With each event, after playing five matches each, the two players with the best won-lost record will advance to the finals for the title and another payday.

Every match is played in the TV arena, so whether you are there live, watching on the Internet, or viewing on VIMEO later, you won’t miss a single match. Each match is covered in its entirety with expert commentary.

Also, some of our supporters will be contest winners and will be sharing \$2,000 in cash (\$1,000 for each discipline). Where else does that happen? Nowhere! Don’t hesitate to call me

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Accu-Stats **"Make-It-Happen" Invitationals: 2 for 1**

# 8-Ball & 14.1

**Aramith/Simonis Arena • Sandcastle Billiards: NOV 11-18**

**Shaw**



**Van Boening**

**Orcullo**



**Appleton**

**Deuel**



**Filler**

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“  
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**Pat Fleming**  
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personally at 973-838-7089. You can "Make It Happen".

And last but certainly not least is that this promotion is known as a "two-fer". Supporters of both MIH events get them for a combined price of \$300, previously the price for one MIH event!

Does this interest you? Read on.

## Where Does Your \$300 Go?

In addition to the prize money, Accu-Stats covers each player's travel and lodging expenses. They incur no entry fee costs either. Our professional production crew is flown in for

the Internet viewing and recording. Accu-Stats provides shuttle service for the contestants as well as the attendees at no charge. And let's not forget the value of the products that YOU receive. Considering all of these expenses, the budget for this event is over \$75,000, really! And none of the money goes to Accu-Stats. It all goes to the production of the event. And THAT's why we need your support.

## What Do You Get for Your \$300?

1. All 16 matches from each event for a total of 32 matches will be yours

# World #2 JAYSON SHAW joins the DigiCue Team

We are proud to announce that Jayson 'Eagle Eye' Shaw has joined the DigiCue Team of Pro Players. Jayson is currently the WPA #2 ranked player in the world, one of the hottest players on the world tournament circuit and a threat to win any event he competes in.

So why would one of the best players in the world endorse a billiard training aid? Jayson Shaw: "As good as I am playing right now, every now and then

my stroke gets a little out of line. We all have bad habits that surface from time to time so when I practice with the DigiCue it immediately alerts me with a vibration when my stroke is not

where it needs to be. When most people think of training aids they think they are only for beginners but I really do believe that the DigiCue can benefit any player of any skill level."



Introduced by OB Cues in November 2016, the DigiCue has been one of the fastest selling products in the billiard industry over the last 10 months. It is a small electronic device that slides onto the back of any pool, snooker or carom cue and will alert you with a subtle vibration when it detects your stroke going off line, jumping up on the shot or poor follow through. With an MSRP of \$99.99 and a replaceable battery that is good for 40,000 shots, the DigiCue is a perfect gift and a great compliment to anyone that wants to get serious about their game.

The DigiCue was developed by OB Cues who are headquartered in Plano, Texas and are a leading manufacturer of high performance Pool Cues and Pool Cue Shafts made 100% in the USA since 2005. For more information on the DigiCue, OB Cues, OB shafts or to become an authorized dealer, please visit [www.obcues.com](http://www.obcues.com) or like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/obcues](http://www.facebook.com/obcues)

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# Morra brings home second straight *Texas Open* title, Villareal wins Ladies event

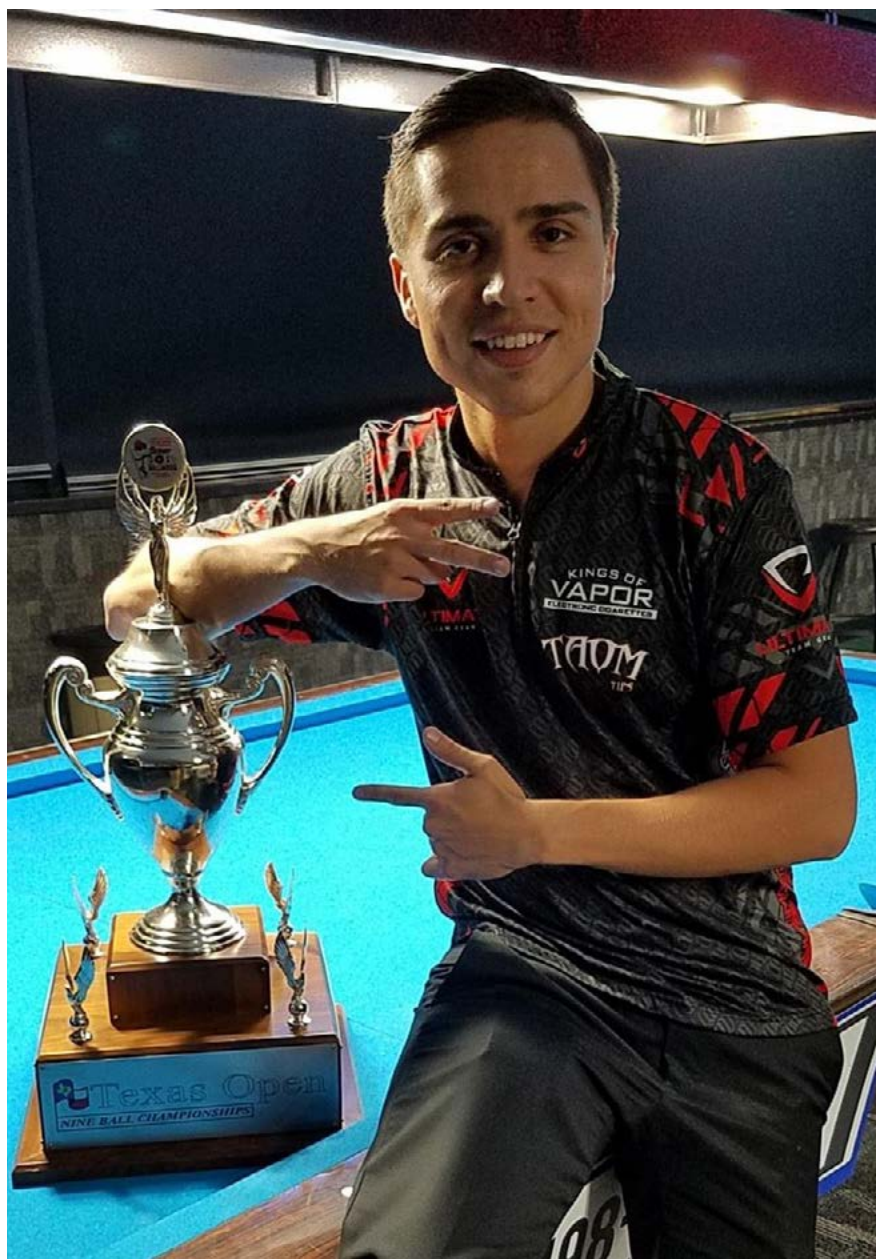
**Y**ou can't be everywhere at once, so candidates vying to be among the top 10 players in the running for selection as a member of the 2017 Mosconi Cup team, had to choose where they'd spend this past Labor Day weekend; at Turning Stone XXVIII in Verona, NY or Round Rock, TX at the 44th Annual Texas Open, both of which were awarding a range of Mosconi Cup points to competitors.

Sitting atop the current list of contenders for selection to the US team, Shane Van Boening picked Turning Stone XXVIII to attend (separate story), and stayed on top of that list by defeating Jayson Shaw in the finals of that event (Shaw is a likely member of the European Mosconi Cup team). At the \$8,000-added, 44th Annual Texas Open, the defending champion, Canadian John Morra, with no known

“

**MORRA TOOK THE OPENING SET 9-3, AND WENT ONE BETTER (9-2) IN THE SECOND SET TO COMPLETE HIS RUN AND CLAIM THE 44TH ANNUAL TEXAS OPEN TITLE FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW.**

”



interest in the acquisition of Mosconi Cup points, went undefeated through a full field of 128 to claim the title a second straight time. Morra became the first person to go back-to-back at this tournament since Jeremy Jones accomplished the feat in 2002/2003. Morra faced Devin Poteet twice in this one, in the hot seat and finals. Like Morra, Poteet had no 'dog in the hunt' for Mosconi Cup points.

In addition to the Open event, the Ladies had a tournament, as well; a \$2,000-added event that commenced on Saturday, September 2, drew 32 entrants and was won by Vivian Villareal. Other features of this long-Labor Day weekend event included a Jack and Jill Scotch Doubles tournament (won by the veteran team of James Davis, Sr. and Jennifer Kraber), a race-to-three 9-ball event, and a Ring Game on Friday night.

Sky Woodward and Justin Bergman were the two Mosconi Cup contenders in attendance who were hoping to add points to their total. Woodward (who won this event in 2015) entered the Texas Open in fourth place among the Mosconi Cup contenders, while Bergman entered at a distant 15th place. They were both sent to the loss side in the early going of this event; Woodward, by Ryan Lane in the fourth round of play, and Bergman, by Morra, in the third round. They ran into each other in the sixth, loss-side round and fought a predictable double hill fight that eventually advanced Woodward to meet Shane McMinn. McMinn defeated him to end his run. Woodward did add 14 points to his Mosconi Cup total with his finish in the tie for 9th place. Bergman's finish in the tie for 13th awarded him 10 points.

Morra and Poteet, in the meantime, advanced to winners' side semifinal matches against James Davis, Sr. and Ryan Lane, respectively. Morra downed Davis 9-6, advancing to the hot seat match, where he was joined

by Poteet, who'd survived a double hill match against Lane. The hot seat match was a battle of the former 'young gun' (Morra, who's now 28) and the up and coming 'young gun' (Poteet, who's 20). It went double hill before Morra was sent to the semifinals.

On the loss side, Davis, Sr. picked up Sharik Sayed, who'd defeated Justin Espinoza 9-7 and Jeff Melton 9-5 to reach him. Lane had what proved to be the misfortune of drawing long-time Texas adversary and two-time winner of this tournament, Jeremy Jones, who was in the midst of a seven-match, loss-side winning streak, to include recent wins over Manny Chau and Shane McMinn, both 9-5.

**“ THE TEXAS TORNADO SIGNED ON TO THE 2017 TEXAS OPEN AND COMPETED IN BOTH THE OPEN EVENT AND THE LADIES EVENT, WHICH SHE WON, UNDEFEATED. ”**

Davis, Sr. moved into the quarterfinals after a 9-6 win over Sayed. Jones joined him after shutting out Lane. Davis stopped Jones' run 9-6 in those quarterfinals, and then had his run stopped 9-1 by Morra in the semifinals ("Not bad for an old guy," said the 65-year-old Davis of his third place finish).

Morra and Poteet had fought to double hill in the hot seat match, but neither of the two, true double elimination matches came close to that. Morra took the opening set 9-3, and went one better (9-2) in the second set to complete his run and claim the 44th Annual Texas Open title for the second year in a row.

### **Villareal goes undefeated to claim Ladies title**

Vivian Villareal did not compete in the 2016 Texas Open, which, some would

argue, left the door open for Ricki Casper to claim the 2016 title. The Texas Tornado signed on to the 2017 Texas Open and competed in both the Open event and the Ladies event, which she won, undefeated. She chalked up three wins in the Open event, before the eventual winner, John Morra, sent her to the loss side. She won a single match there, against Jon Demet, before Alex Calderon eliminated her in the 7th losers' side round.

She advanced through the 32-entrant Ladies field to meet Jennifer Kraber (winner, with Davis, Sr. of the Scotch Doubles tournament) in a winners' side semifinal. Jennifer Yo and Michelle Abernathy met in the other winners' side semifinal. Villareal got into

the hot seat 7-3 over Kraber. Yo joined her in the hot seat match after sending Abernathy west 7-5. Villareal gave up only a single rack to Yo, claiming the hot seat 7-1.

On the loss side, Kraber picked up defending champion Ricki Casper, while Abernathy drew Autumn Duncan. Kraber and Duncan advanced to the quarterfinals; Kraber, double hill over Casper, and Duncan 7-4 over Abernathy.

Two double hill matches followed. The first, in the quarterfinals, went to Duncan over Kraber. The second, in the semifinals, left Duncan in third place and sent Yo back for a second shot at Villareal in the hot seat. Villareal completed her undefeated run in a single set, duplicating her 7-1 hot seat match effort against Yo.

# THE BUZZ SPOTLIGHT

AZB Staff

**THIS MONTH OUR SPOTLIGHT IS AIMED AT THE 2004 U.S. OPEN 9-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP.**



*Figure 1: The celebration included a champagne toast!*

In 2004 Gabe Owen won the U.S. Open 9-Ball Championships that was held at the Chesapeake Convention Center near Norfolk. The win was one that went against the odds as Gabe's best friend, Jeremy Jones, had just won the event the previous year. Owen certainly earned this win. He went undefeated through a tough field and was ever-steady at the table. For his win, Gabe received the coveted green jacket, a \$30,000 payday and he got a very enthusiastic hug from our Founder and Promoter, Barry Behrman.

The first day of any major tournament is fairly predictable. The big guns usually enjoy near-walkovers as the wheat begins to move away from the chaff. By day two though, even some of the top seeds unexpectedly find their way to the one loss side.

At the 2004 U.S. Open the list of top players dropping matches on Tuesday

included Tommy Kennedy, Jose Garcia, Jeremy Jones, Marcus Chamat, Shawn Putnam, Larry Nevel, Scott Frost and Santos Sambajon.

On the feature table Tuesday night, Larry Nevel came out strong but faded as John Schmidt took control of the match and ran away to an 11-5 win. Nevel led 3-1 early as it looked like Schmidt was having trouble getting the speed of the TV table down. That problem didn't last long though, as Schmidt took control of the match and won seven straight games for an 8-3 lead. Nevel earned rack 12 with a table run after Schmidt came up dry on the break but then scratched on the break in rack 13 and watched as



*Figure 2: The Hug. Barry Behrman engulfs Champ Gabe Owen*

In other afternoon matches, Bob Maidhof eliminated Santos Sambajon 11-10 and Shaun Wilkie eliminated Danny Medina 11-9. (ED NOTE: At this time Shaun was an unknown player) Maidhof would face Bruce Choyce in his next match, and Wilkie would take on Marty Sawinski.

Other players advancing in afternoon matches included Shawn Putnam, John Morton, Larry Nevel, Jimmy Reid and Pooky Rasmeloungon.

The day three evening matches saw a number of top seeds sent to the left side of the board. On the feature table, Shannon Daulton made quick work of Canada's Chris Orme 11-1. Canada



Figure 3: Larry Nevel

Schmidt ran another rack for a 9-5 lead. Schmidt was in cruise control by this time and didn't give Nevel much of a chance as he won the last two games. At this moment Schmidt only knew he would face either Troy Frank or Jimmy Reid on Wednesday.

Day three witnessed the elimination of three top players. In the biggest surprise of the day, 'The Freezer' Scott Frost forfeited his match against Wes Warren. Frost had been given bad directions to get to the Convention Center and arrived 10 minutes after the forfeit had been called.



Figure 5: Shannon Daulton



Figure 4: Jimmy Reid

had its revenge in the next feature match as Luc Salvas beat Allen Hopkins 11-7. Salvas' opponent on Thursday would be Tyler Edey, who handed Earl Strickland an 11-9 loss Wednesday evening.

Strickland's loss was not the biggest shock on Wednesday. Reigning World Champion Alex Pagulayan lost an 11-8 decision to Nicolas Guimond and Mike Davis lost 11-7 to Keith Bennett.

The following day, day four of the event, had two great feature matches on the winner's side. In the first match, Jose Parica took control of the



Figure 6: Efren Reyes

match and cruised to an 11-5 win over Johnny Archer. In the second feature match, Efren Reyes looked to be in control and on his way to a win over Corey Deuel before Deuel took over and scored an impressive 11-10 win over Reyes. Parica would face Thorsten Hohmann on Friday, while Deuel took on Buddy Hall. Other marquee matches scheduled for Friday on the winners side included Ronnie Wiseman vs Mika Immonen and Rodney Morris vs Gabe Owen.

On the one-loss side, five time Viking Tour Points Champion Shawn Putnam would be playing the current Joss



Figure 8: Allen Hopkins



Figure 7: Tyler Edey enjoyed a top-twenty finish.

Tour Champion Danny Basavich. Other matches on the one-loss side would see Jeremy Jones vs Allen Hopkins, Larry Nevel vs Joey Korsiak and Pooky Rasmeloungon vs Tony Chohan.

Day five witnessed the elimination of multiple top seeds. Defending champion Jeremy Jones was ousted in a one-sided 11-3 match against Earl Strickland and reigning World Champion Alex Pagulayan was eliminated by Eric Hjorliefson 11-5. Other top players eliminated on Friday were Tony Chohan, Jose Garcia, John Schmidt and Allen Hopkins.

By the end of day five, the field would be thinned to just sixteen players. On the winner's side, Francisco Bustamante would face former World Champion Thorsten Hohmann in one bracket while Mika Immonen took on Gabe Owen in the other bracket. On the one-loss side, Ralf Souquet would play Efren Reyes, Larry Nevel faced Ronnie Wiseman, Tyler Edey challenged Earl Strickland and Chris Orme would play Eric Hjorliefson in a battle of two Canadians.

At the end of Day six the field was down to just four players. Gabe Owen would battle former World Champion

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Figure 9: Earl Strickland

Thorsten Hohmann for the hot-seat, while Corey Deuel played Niels Feijen on the one-loss side. Gabe won his match with Thorsten, Feijen won against Deuel and then, after a dominating 11-6 win over Niels Feijen, Thorsten Hohmann would face Gabe Owen in the finals of the 29th Annual US Open 9-Ball Championship. The winner of this event would pocket \$30,000 in prize money, while the runner-up took home \$15,000. Feijen earned \$10,000 for third place.

Gabe Owen completed an undefeated run through the field to win the 29th Annual US Open 9-Ball Championship. His opponent in the finals, Thorsten



Figure 11: THAT Trophy!



Figure 10: Owen defeated Thorsten Hohmann in the finals

Hohmann, had already lost to Owen for the hot-seat but was ready for the rematch in the finals. That readiness disappeared in the first rack as Hohmann missed an almost straight in 9-ball and didn't win a game until game 4. By that time, Owen was comfortable at the table and he never looked back.

Owen ran the next two racks before Hohmann could win another rack. Before it was over, Owen would run another three racks and execute a crowd

pleasing 2 ball jump bank shot to get out in another rack.

Last year, when Jeremy Jones won the US Open title, he pointed into the stands before his final shot and said "This one's for you". He wasn't pointing at his girlfriend or mom, he was pointing at his best friend and road partner Gabe Owen. This year, before the final 9-ball, Gabe Owen pointed into the stands and said "This one's for you Double J" and then got down to shoot as his opponent Thorsten Hohmann threw in the towel.

When all the cheering had stopped, it was Gabe Owen scoring a dominating 11-3 win and holding the \$30,000 first place check high.

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ATTENTION POOL PLAYERS

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# ***Basement Interior Designers To Follow On Instagram***



Looking for Basement Interior Design inspiration? Like us, if you're looking to put together your perfect man cave or update your pool-playing room, or redo any other room in your basement, we have all the pieces, inspiration and ideas you need here to get your planning started!

We bring you our list of the top basement interior designers on Instagram. We have also included others at the end of our blog that just have man cave pictures to inspire you. Enjoy our list and make sure to share with us your favorite man cave spaces on Twitter @thedelta13!

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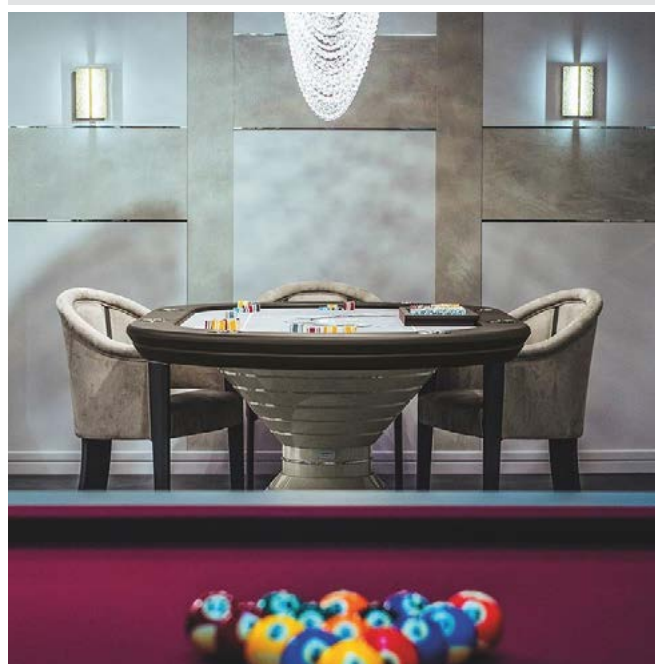
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# Corr goes undefeated

through field of 53 at North American Pool Tour Freedom Classic

**Karen Corr, the Irish Invader, chalked up her second North American Pool Tour (NAPT) Division I Pro event victory on the weekend of September 30-October 1.**

Following her victory at the NAPT Summer 10-Ball Classic at Shooter's Sports Bar & Billiards in Grayslake, IL in August, Corr went undefeated at this past weekend's \$6,400-added NAPT Freedom Classic, that drew 53 entrants to Eagle Billiards in Dickson City, PA.

Corr had to get by Briana Miller twice in this event; a chore rendered more significant by an earlier meeting between the two, which took place in June, during the fourth stop on the J. Pechauer Northeast Women's Tour in Frederick, MD. Looking to secure a second straight win on the 2107 JPNEWT, Miller defeated Corr, double hill, in the third winners' side round of that event. Corr came back through the loss side to defeat Miller in the finals to win her first 2017 JPNEWT title. It was a match Corr remembered when Meredith Lynch interviewed her for the NAPT, following the Summer Classic and asked her about the influx of young female guns.

"There's a lot of great talent out there," Corr said at the time. "Briana (Miller) – I played her there in Frederick. She beat me in the one side and we had a close match in the final. It's challenging for me, too, you know?"

They had two close matches in this Freedom Classic. The first one came in the battle for the hot seat. Victories over Denise Belanger, Krista Walsh, Brittany Bryant (5th in the NAPT Summer 10-Ball Classic) and Naomi Williams set Corr up to face April Larson (7th in NAPT Summer 10-Ball Classic)



in a winners' side semifinal. Miller, in the meantime, having worked her way through Alex Calabrese, Teruko Cuculelli, Nathalie Chabot, Jenna Blahoff, faced veteran LoreeJon Hasson in the other winners' side semifinal.

Corr downed Larson 7-3, while Miller sent Hasson to the loss side 7-4. As might have been expected, Miller and Corr locked up in a double hill fight that eventually sent Miller to the semifinals and put Corr in an NAPT Division I hot seat for the second straight time.

On the loss side, Larson picked up Bryant, who, after her defeat by Corr, was in the midst of a four-match loss-side streak that included recent victories over Jenna Blahoff 7-3 and Stacie Bourbeau 7-4, and was about

to come to an end. Hasson drew Naomi Williams, who'd gotten by Janet Atwell 7-4 and Veronique Menard 7-5 to reach her.

Larson defeated Bryant 7-4, and was joined in the quarterfinal match by Williams, who'd eliminated Hasson 7-4. Larson and Williams locked up in a double hill quarterfinal that eventually sent Williams to the semifinals against Miller.

Miller got her second shot at Corr with a 7-4 win over Williams in the semifinals. The true double elimination final amounted to one set. As they had done battling for the hot seat, Corr and Miller fought to a deciding game, before Corr closed it out to claim her second straight NAPT title.

The next NAPT Division I Pro event – The Desert Shootout - scheduled for November 2-5, will be hosted by Griff's Pool & Billiards Hall in Las Vegas, NV.

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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.

**SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 29**

## World 8-Ball Series 2017 Grand Finale

**09/27 - 10/01**

Steinway Billiards  
Astoria, NY

## NAPT Freedom Classic

**09/28 - 10/01**

Eagle Billiards  
Dickson City, Pa  
Website: [www.playnapt.com](http://www.playnapt.com)

## Lone Star Billiards Tour 2017 Stop 9 Open Division

**09/30 - 10/01**

Bogies Billiards & Games  
Houston, TX  
Website: [www.lonestarbilliardstour.com](http://www.lonestarbilliardstour.com)

## The Hudson Valley Fall Classic

**09/30 - 10/01**

The Spot  
Nanuet, New York  
Website: [www.joss9balltour.com](http://www.joss9balltour.com)

## The Archer Cup

**09/30 - 10/01**

Military College of Saint Jean  
Montreal, Quebec

## Lone Star Billiards Tour 2017 Stop 9 Amateur Division

**09/30 - 10/01**

Bogies Billiards & Games  
Houston, TX  
Website: [www.lonestarbilliardstour.com](http://www.lonestarbilliardstour.com)

## The Hudson Valley Fall Classic Second Chance Tournament

**10/01 - 10/01**

The Spot  
Nanuet, New York  
Website: [www.joss9balltour.com](http://www.joss9balltour.com)

## Tri State Tour 2017-2018

**10/01 - 10/01**

BQE Billiards  
Queens, NY  
Website: [www.thetristatetour.com](http://www.thetristatetour.com)

## Diamond Pool Tour 2017 Stop 7

**10/07 - 10/08**

Kolby's Corner Pocket  
Tempe, AZ  
Website: [www.diamondpooltour.com](http://www.diamondpooltour.com)

## Definition Of A Player Tour 2017 Stop 4

**10/07 - 10/07**

Royal Billiards  
Wilmington, Delaware

## Sunshine State Pro Am Tour 2017 Stop 8

**10/07 - 10/08**

Stroker's Billiards  
Palm Harbor, FL  
Website: [www.sunshinestateproamtour.com](http://www.sunshinestateproamtour.com)

## 3rd Annual Great Dismal Swamp 9-Ball Classic

**10/13 - 10/15**

Colonial Cues  
Elizabeth City, North Carolina

## Gotham City Pro 9-Ball Classic Sharon "Sam" Fagnoni Memorial

**10/14 - 10/16**

Gotham City Billiards  
Brooklyn, NY  
Website: [www.predatorproamtour.com/index.asp](http://www.predatorproamtour.com/index.asp)

## Lone Star Billiards Tour 2017 Stop 10 Open Division

**10/14 - 10/15**

Bogies Billiards & Games  
Houston, TX  
Website: [www.lonestarbilliardstour.com](http://www.lonestarbilliardstour.com)

## Gulf Coast Women's Regional Tour 2017 Stop 10

**10/14 - 10/14**

Bogies Billiards & Games  
Houston, TX  
Website: [gulfcoastregionaltour.com](http://gulfcoastregionaltour.com)

## Joss Tour 2017-2018 Stop 3

**10/14 - 10/15**

Sharpshooters Billiards & Sports Pub  
Amsterdam, NY  
Website: [www.joss9balltour.com/](http://www.joss9balltour.com/)

## JPNEWT Tour 2017 Stop 7

**10/14 - 10/15**

Eagle Billiards  
Dickson City, Pa  
Website: [www.jpnewt.com](http://www.jpnewt.com)

## 2017 American Straight Pool Championship

**10/17 - 10/21**

Diamond Billiards  
Midlothian, VA  
Website: [www.americanstraightpool.com](http://www.americanstraightpool.com)

## West Coast Women's Tour 2017 Stop 5

**10/21 - 10/22**

Diamond Billiards  
Modesto, California  
Website: [www.twcwt.com](http://www.twcwt.com)

## Arizona Women's Billiards Tour 2017 Stop 6

**10/21 - 10/22**

Bullshooters  
Phoenix, AZ  
Website: [www.awbt.net](http://www.awbt.net)

## Joss Tour Junior 9 Ball Championship

**10/21 - 10/22**

Sharpshooters Billiards & Sports Pub  
Amsterdam, NY  
Website: [www.joss9balltour.com](http://www.joss9balltour.com)

## U.S. Open 9-Ball Championship

**10/22 - 10/28**

Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel  
Norfolk, Va  
Website: [www.usopen9ballchampionships.com](http://www.usopen9ballchampionships.com)

## Predator Pro-Am Tour 2017 Stop 17

**10/28 - 10/29**

Spin City Caf  Billiards  
New York, NY  
Website: [www.predatorproamtour.com](http://www.predatorproamtour.com)

## Lone Star Billiards Tour 2017 Stop 11 Open Division

**10/28 - 10/29**

CK Billiards  
Dallas, Tx  
Website: [www.lonestarbilliardstour.com](http://www.lonestarbilliardstour.com)

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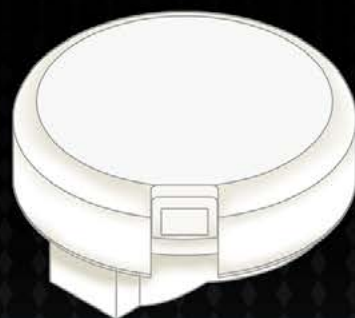
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# Upcoming Tournaments

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.

OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 30

## 6th Annual Steinway Classic

**10/30 - 11/01**  
Steinway Billiards  
Astoria, NY  
Website: [www.predator-proamtour.com/index.asp](http://www.predator-proamtour.com/index.asp)

## Player's 10-Ball Championship

**11/01 - 11/05**  
The Clubhouse  
Lynchburg, Virginia

## 2017 Desert Shootout

**11/02 - 11/05**  
Griff's  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Website: [www.playnapt.com](http://www.playnapt.com)

## OB Cues Ladies Tour 2017 Stop 6

**11/04 - 11/05**  
Legends Billiards  
League City, TX  
Website: [www.obcuestour.com](http://www.obcuestour.com)

## Diamond Pool Tour 2017 Stop 8

**11/04 - 11/05**  
Freezer's Ice House  
Tempe, AZ  
Website: [www.diamond-pooltour.com](http://www.diamond-pooltour.com)

## Joss Tour 2017-2018 Stop 4

**11/04 - 11/05**  
Hippo's House of Billiards  
Yorkville, NY  
Website: [www.joss9balltour.com/](http://www.joss9balltour.com/)

## East Coast Canadian 9-Ball Open

**11/07 - 11/13**  
Almon Billiards  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

## Gulf Coast Women's Regional Tour 2017 Stop 11

**11/11 - 11/12**  
Fat Racks Billiards and Sports Lounge  
San Antonio, Texas  
Website: <http://gulfcoastre-gionaltour.com>

## 29th Ocean State 9-Ball Championship

**11/11 - 11/12**  
Snookers Pool Lounge  
Providence, RI  
Website: [www.joss9balltour.com/](http://www.joss9balltour.com/)

## Accu Stats Make It Happen 8-Ball

**11/11 - 11/14**  
Sandcastle Billiards  
Edison, NJ  
Website: [www.accu-stats.com](http://www.accu-stats.com)

## Sparkle City 10-Ball Open

**11/15 - 11/19**  
Cue Time Sports Bar & Grill  
Spartanburg, SC

## Accu Stats Make It Happen Straight Pool

**11/15 - 11/18**  
Sandcastle Billiards  
Edison, NJ  
Website: [www.accu-stats.com](http://www.accu-stats.com)

## Dynamic Italy Open

**11/16 - 11/18**  
Italy  
Website: [www.eurotouronline.eu](http://www.eurotouronline.eu)

## Diamond Pool Tour 2017 Season Finale

**11/16 - 11/19**  
Casino Del Sol Resort  
Tucson, Arizona  
Website: [www.diamond-pooltour.com](http://www.diamond-pooltour.com)

## Predator Pro-Am Tour 2017 Stop 19

**11/18 - 11/19**  
CueBar Billiards  
Bayside, NY  
Website: [www.predator-proamtour.com/index.asp](http://www.predator-proamtour.com/index.asp)

## West Coast Women's Tour 2017 Stop 6

**11/18 - 11/19**  
Family Billiards  
San Francisco, CA  
Website: [www.twcwt.com/](http://www.twcwt.com/)

## Joss Tour 2017-2018 Stop 6

**11/18 - 11/19**  
Union Station Billiards  
Portland, Maine  
Website: [www.joss9balltour.com](http://www.joss9balltour.com)

## JPNEWT Tour 2017 Stop 8

**11/18 - 11/19**  
Triple 9 Bar & Billiards  
Elkridge, MD  
Website: [www.jpnewt.com/](http://www.jpnewt.com/)

## Sunshine State Pro Am Tour 2017 Stop 9

**11/18 - 11/19**  
Capone's Billiard Lounge  
Spring Hill, FL  
Website: [www.sunshines-tateproamtour.com/](http://www.sunshines-tateproamtour.com/)

## Predator Pro-Am Tour 2017 Stop 20

**11/25 - 11/26**  
Steinway Billiards  
Astoria, NY  
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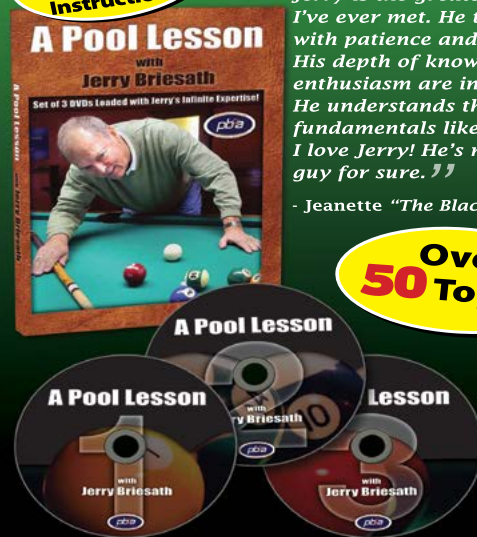
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# Tourney Results

08/31 - 09/03

## Turning Stone Classic XXVIII

### 9-Ball Open

#### Turning Stone Casino

Verona, NY

1 Shane Van Boening	\$8,000
2 Jayson Shaw	\$5,000
3 Donny Mills	\$3,600
4 Jeremy Sossei	\$2,600
5 Mika Immonen	\$2,000
5 Earl Strickland	\$2,000
7 Dennis Hatch	\$1,600
7 Bucky Souvanthong	\$1,600
9 Brandon Shuff	\$1,200
9 Joey Cicero	\$1,200
9 Rodney Morris	\$1,200
9 Johnny Archer	\$1,200
13 Zion Zvi	\$850
13 Billy Lanna	\$850
13 Ron Casanzio	\$850
13 Billy Thorpe	\$850
17 Karen Corr	\$550
17 Jorge Rodriguez	\$550
17 Brent Boemmels	\$550
17 Nelson Oliveira	\$550
17 Shaun Wilkie	\$550
17 Danny Hewitt	\$550
17 Dave Shlemperis	\$550
17 Jia Li	\$550
25 Erik Hjorleifson	\$300
25 Luc Salvaz	\$300
25 Mike Pettit	\$300
25 Clyde Matta	\$300
25 Marco Kam	\$300
25 Earl Herring	\$300
25 Matt Tetreault	\$300
25 Matt Krah	\$300

08/31 - 09/04

## 44th Annual Texas Open - Open Division

### Skinny Bob's Billiards

Round Rock, Texas

1 John Morra	\$6,100
2 Devin Poteet	\$3,400
3 James Davis Sr	\$2,080
4 Jeremy Jones	\$1,240
5 Ryan Lane	\$780
5 Sharik Sayed	\$780

7 Shane McMinn	\$570
7 Kevin Guimond	\$570
9 Manny Chau	\$360
9 Skyler Woodward	\$360
9 Alejandro Calderon	\$360
9 Jeff Melton	\$360
13 Justin Espinoza	\$260
13 Vivian Villarreal	\$260
13 Justin Bergman	\$260
13 Al Mason	\$260
17 John Wright	\$200
17 Jose Ybarra	\$200
17 Terry Ott	\$200
17 Ernesto Bayaua	\$200
17 Benny Conway	\$200
17 Jonathon Demet	\$200
17 Charlie Bryant	\$200
17 Chris Bruhin	\$200
25 Marko Clarke	\$150
25 Rudy Sanchez	\$150
25 Leon Contreras	\$150
25 Rodney Stewart	\$150
25 Hanni Alhowri	\$150
25 Jude Rosenstock	\$150
25 Steve Sheppard	\$150
25 Manny Perez	\$150

09/02 - 09/03

## Predator Pro-Am Tour 2017 Stop 14

### Steinway Billiards

Astoria, NY

1 Gary O'Callaghan	\$1,500
2 Greg Matos	\$800
3 Shawn Sookhai	\$600
4 Troy Deocharran	\$420
5 Paul Lyons	\$250
5 Duc Lam	\$250
7 Max Watanabe	\$200
7 Jason Carandan	\$200
9 Debra Pritchett	\$150
9 Jessica Lynn Greibesland	\$150
9 Annie Flores	\$150
9 Omar Alli	\$150

09/02 - 09/03

## Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

### Gate City Billiards Club

Greensboro, NC

1 Mark Tademy	\$600
2 David Tickle	\$400

3 Don Liebes	\$275
4 Josh Williams	\$150
5 Bo Blakely	\$50
5 Danny Jones	\$50

09/02 - 09/03

## 44th Annual Texas Open - Ladies Division

### Skinny Bob's Billiards

Round Rock, Texas

1 Vivian Villarreal	\$1,170
2 Jennifer Yo	\$780
3 Autumn Duncan	\$590
4 Jennifer Kraber	\$390
5 Ricki Lee Casper	\$295
5 Michelle Abernathy	\$295

09/09 - 09/10

## Diamond Pool Tour 2017 Open Stop 5

### Main Street Billiards

Mesa, AZ

1 Bobby Emmons	\$600
2 Gus Briseno	\$300
3 Tim Daniel	\$120

09/09 - 09/10

## Action Pool Tour 2017 Stop 9 Open Division

### Breakers Sky Lounge

Herndon, Va

1 Shaun Wilkie	\$1,000
2 Brandon Shuff	\$550
3 Tuan Chau	\$350
4 Jimmy Varias	\$240
5 Paul Oh	\$160
5 Rich Glasscock	\$160
7 Steve Fleming	\$100
7 William Moon	\$100
9 Bruce Choyce	\$60
9 Rick Miller	\$60
9 Hamid Nassif	\$60
9 Pat Carosi	\$60

09/09 - 09/10

## Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

### Cue Time Sports Bar & Grill

Spartanburg, SC

1 Chase Smith	\$800
2 Matt Bulfin	\$575

3 Daniel Rutledge	\$375
4 Chris Gentile	\$250
5 Dalton Messer	\$150
7 Brett Underwood	\$100
7 Justin Duncan	\$100

## 09/09 - 09/10

### New England 9-Ball Series 2016-2017 Tour Championships

#### Bo's Billiards

Warwick, RI

1 Tyler Campbell	\$4,000
2 Rich Senna	\$2,000
3 Al McGuane	\$1,510
4 Bill O'Mara	\$1,100
5 Steve Sutton	\$700
5 David Ty	\$700
7 Jay Cunningham	\$500
7 Phil Davis	\$500
9 Joanne Vienneau	\$400
9 Jason D'Angelo	\$400
9 Tony Ruzzano	\$400
9 Geoff James	\$400
13 Adam Blair	\$300
13 Matt Rezendes	\$300
13 Ali Raza	\$300
13 Roy Morgridge	\$300
17 Lukas Fracasso-Verner	\$200
17 Jim Prather	\$200
17 Dave Gavish	\$200
17 Michael Mathieu	\$200
17 Mourad Idrias	\$200
17 Bridget Pierce	\$200
17 Josh Grzasko	\$200
17 Mike Dechaine	\$200

## 09/09 - 09/10

### Diamond Pool Tour 2017 Amateur Stop 5

#### Main Street Billiards

Mesa, AZ

1 Mike Hamman	\$900
2 Manuel Luevano	\$650
3 Miguel Maldonado	\$400
4 Dave Mark	\$200
5 Kevin Nguyen	\$100
5 Jeff Lenschow	\$100

## 09/10 - 09/10

### Action Pool Tour 2017 Stop 9 Ladies Division

#### Breakers Sky Lounge

Herndon, Va

1 Tina Pawloski Malm	\$240
2 Gwen Townsend	\$120

## 09/10 - 09/10

### Tri State Tour 2017-2018 Stop

#### CueBar Billiards

Bayside, NY

1 Thomas Schreiber	\$725
2 Pashk Gjini	\$480
3 Lidio Ramirez	\$300
4 Brian Schell	\$180
5 Luis Jimenez	\$120
5 Ron Lichtenberger	\$120
7 Jaydev Zaveri	\$90
7 Kris Bisram	\$90

## 09/16 - 09/17

### Predator Pro-Am Tour 2017 Stop 15

#### CueBar Billiards

Bayside, NY

1 Alex Osipov	\$1,550
2 Gary O'Callaghan	\$1,150
3 Chickie Romero	\$700
4 Abel Rosario	\$400
5 Brooke Meyer	\$250
5 Kris Bisram	\$250
7 Chris Kelly	\$200
7 Mike Salerno	\$200
9 Alberto Estevez	\$150
9 Omar Alli	\$150
9 Xavier Romero	\$150
9 Michael Fedak	\$150
13 Eddie Kunz	\$90
13 Cord Fields	\$90
13 Andrew Cleary	\$90
13 Elvis Rodriguez	\$90

## 09/16 - 09/17

### Arizona Women's Billiards Tour 2017 Stop 5

#### Griff's

Las Vegas, Nevada

1 Vivian Villarreal	\$790
2 Mary Coffman	\$335
3 Linda Cruz	\$180
4 Robin Verner	\$100
5 Susan Williams	\$75
5 Justine Bishop	\$75
7 Ashea Erdahl	\$50
7 Bernie Store	\$50

## 09/16 - 09/17

### JPNEWT Tour 2017 Stop 6

#### Q-Master Billiards

Virginia Beach, VA

1 Linda Haywood Shea	\$600
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2 Carol V. Clark	\$400
3 Elaine Wilson	\$275
4 Kia Sidbury	\$185

## 09/16 - 09/17

### Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

#### Mr Cues 2

Atlanta, GA

1 Raed Shabib	\$600
2 Jeff Hooks	\$425
3 Jeff Crawford	\$285
4 Justin Duncan	\$150

## 09/16 - 09/16

### Georgia State 9-Ball Championship

#### Rack and Grill II

Augusta, Georgia

1 Belinda Calhoun	\$225
2 Ashley Rice	\$150
3 Tiffany Stidham	\$75

## 09/19 - 09/23

### 2017 Kremlin Cup

#### Olympic Sports Complex

Moscow, Russia

1 David Alcaide	\$11,000
2 Alexandros Kazakis	\$7,760
3 Eklent Kaci	\$4,300
3 Nick Van Den Berg	\$4,300
5 Wojciech Sroczynski	\$2,400
5 Luong Chi Dung	\$2,400
5 Radoslaw Babica	\$2,400
5 Denis Grabe	\$2,400
9 Albin Ouschan	\$1,120
9 Ralf Souquet	\$1,120
9 Konrad Juszczyszyn	\$1,120
9 Petri Makkonen	\$1,120
9 Konstantin Stepanov	\$1,120
9 Ilyas Hayrullin	\$1,120
9 Corey Deuel	\$1,120
17 Nick Ekonomopoulos	\$570
17 Takhti Zarekani	\$570
17 Mario He	\$570
17 Mateusz Sniogocki	\$570
17 Daniel Kandi	\$570
17 Joshua Filler	\$570
17 Le Guang Trung	\$570
17 Ruslan Chinakhov	\$570
17 Dennis Hatch	\$570
17 Mika Immonen	\$570
17 Armin Mahmoudi	\$570
17 Phuc Long Nguyen	\$570
17 Miesko Fortunski	\$570
17 Jason Theron	\$570

17 Oscar Dominguez	\$570
17 Shane Van Boening	\$570

## 09/20 - 09/24

### Carom Room Fall Classic 10-Ball

#### The Carom Room

Beloit, WI

1 Alex Pagulayan	\$8,000
2 Tony Chohan	\$4,900
3 Jesse Bowman	\$3,040
4 Jayson Shaw	\$1,850
5 Larry Nevel	\$1,150
5 Justin Bergman	\$1,150
7 Skyler Woodward	\$725
7 Joey Gray	\$725
9 Sharik Sayed	\$440
9 Charlie Bryant	\$440
9 Jeremy Jones	\$440
9 Chad Elston	\$440
13 Alex Olinger	\$275
13 John Morra	\$275
13 Whitey Walker	\$275
13 Can Salim	\$275

## 09/20 - 09/24

### Carom Room Fall Classic One Pocket

#### The Carom Room

Beloit, WI

1 Jeremy Jones	\$5,000
2 Jayson Shaw	\$3,000
3 Larry Nevel	\$1,000
3 Chip Compton	\$1,000

## 09/20 - 09/24

### Carom Room Fall Classic Saturday Night 10-Ball

#### The Carom Room

Beloit, WI

1 Skyler Woodward	\$4,550
2 Justin Bergman	\$2,450

## 09/23 - 09/24

### Diamond Pool Tour 2017 Open Stop 6

#### Metro Sportz Bar

Phoenix, AZ

1 Martin Romero	\$525
2 Chris Lulek	\$315
3 Tim Daniel	\$200
4 Rick Armbrust	\$100

## 09/23 - 09/24

### Sunshine State Pro Am Tour 2017 Stop 7

#### Park Avenue Billiards

Orange Park, FL

## 09/23 - 09/24

### The Maine Event XI

#### TJ's Classic Billiards

Waterville, Maine

1 Nelson Oliveira	\$1,000
2 Tom Theriault	\$700
3 Cody Francis	\$550
4 Samoth Sam	\$450
5 Xavier Libby	\$275
5 Matt Tetreault	\$275
7 Dillon Nickerson	\$150
7 Tyler Hallowell	\$150

## 09/23 - 09/24

### Predator Pro-Am Tour 2017 Stop #15

#### The Spot

Nanuet, New York

1 Gary O'Callaghan	\$1,400
2 Doug Youmans	\$920
3 Frank Tonn	\$550
4 Troy Deocharran	\$400
5 Abel Rosario	\$250
5 Rhys Chen	\$250
7 Ralph Ortiz	\$150
7 Ed Medina	\$150
9 Luis Jimenez	\$100
9 Juan Melendez	\$100
9 Victor Nau	\$100
9 Robert Pole	\$100

## 09/23 - 09/23

### Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

#### Brown's Billiards

Raleigh, NC

1 Corey Sykes	\$500
2 JT Ringgold	\$300
3 Joey Tate	\$130
4 Jason Rogers	\$100

## 09/23 - 09/24

### Diamond Pool Tour 2017 Amateur Stop 6

#### Metro Sportz Bar

Phoenix, AZ

1 Tracie Hamman	\$900
2 Mike Hamman	\$550

3 Chris Espere	\$350
4 Steve Stowers	\$250
5 Luis De La Luz	\$150
5 Eric Osburn	\$150
7 Joey Barrera	\$75
7 Angel Miranda	\$75

## 09/24 - 09/24

### The Maine Event XI Second Chance

#### TJ's Classic Billiards

Waterville, Maine

1 Ross Webster	\$300
2 Joe Darigis	\$200
3 Kyle Richard	\$140
4 Kyle Pepin	\$100
5 Dan Couture	\$40
5 Greg Murray	\$40

## 09/24 - 09/24

### New England 9-Ball Series 2017-2018 Tour Stop #1

#### Bo's Billiards

Warwick, RI

1 David Ty	\$300
2 Geoff James	\$150
3 Rick Gatta	\$110
4 Bill Phillips	\$90
5 Justin Braley	\$60
5 Bob Hooker	\$60
7 Tim Perry	\$40

## 09/30 - 09/30

### New England 9-Ball Series Stop #2

#### Buster's Billiards

Somersworth, NH

1 Bill Phillips	\$325
2 Carlos Aguilar	\$200
3 Steve Fleming	\$125
4 Charles Rosco	\$100
5 Marco Pirrotta	\$80
5 Brett Chansky	\$80
7 Gilmer Fagundes	\$60
7 Matt Elaine	\$60

## 09/30 - 09/30

### Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

#### The Clubhouse

Lynchburg, Virginia

1 Chad Pike	\$500
2 Tyler Chappell	\$300
3 Collin Hall	\$200
4 Daniel Adams	\$100



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