

# Billiards Buzz

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**VAMOS HERMANO!**

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# FROM THE Head Rail

MIKE HOWERTON

**T**he BCA Junior Nationals took place last month. There was some talk on social media about the idea of holding calcuttas for the junior players. I know everyone has an opinion and here is mine.

We all understand that gambling is a big part of this sport that we love. If these kids haven't been exposed to it already, they will be exposed to it soon enough, but do we really have to expose them to it at their National Championship? Some of these kids were trying to qualify to represent their country in the upcoming World Championship. That is a big enough goal without them having to worry about how they are performing for someone who owns them in a calcutta. For the ones who weren't competing for Gold, let's let them enjoy the fun of the game before they have to worry about winning money for someone else.

There are two sides of this sport. There is the "late night races to 21 with a rail full of backers" and there is the "professional Matchroom/Predator Pro Series/Euro Tour" side of things. Each side has it's place and both sides will always be there, but the National Championship for kids 14 years and younger is not the place for calcuttas.

Until next time,  
Mike



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# UNDERSTANDING Human Focus

The Sports Doc - Dr. CHRISTOPHER STANKOVICH  
www.drstankovich.com

**There are three human focus orientations: Past, present, and future. While thinking about the past is great for class reunions, it doesn't help much when it comes to improving your pool game and playing your best.**

**S**imilarly, thinking too far into the future will also limit your success, as often easy shots are missed when we take the next shot for granted while preoccupied with the rest of the run. The best place for a pool player's focus is the present --- and even more specific, focus on the NEXT SHOT.

## **Direct your focus to what is relevant**

Great pool players stay in the moment during a run and lock into the *next* shot, while letting go of the last shot and ignoring future shots. What this means is the missed shot last game is out of mind, and the rest of the balls to be run are acknowledged and taken into account, but not thought about

when getting down on the *next* shot. It is important to note that at any given moment of a game the only shot that is important is the next shot, as you can't change the past and looking too far ahead will prevent you from fully executing the next shot.

It is also important to train yourself to restrict your focus to things that are relevant, while letting go of things that are irrelevant. For example, things that are irrelevant include who is watching your game, what's playing on tv, or how cold it is outside. Unfortunately, we sometimes get caught up thinking about things like this, resulting in missed shots and poor play. Instead, turn your focus toward things that are relevant, including:



- Going through your pre-shot routine
- Being well rested, hydrated, and focused
- Making sure your cue is ready, with a backup on hand if needed
- If you are playing in a tournament, the time and table number for your next game

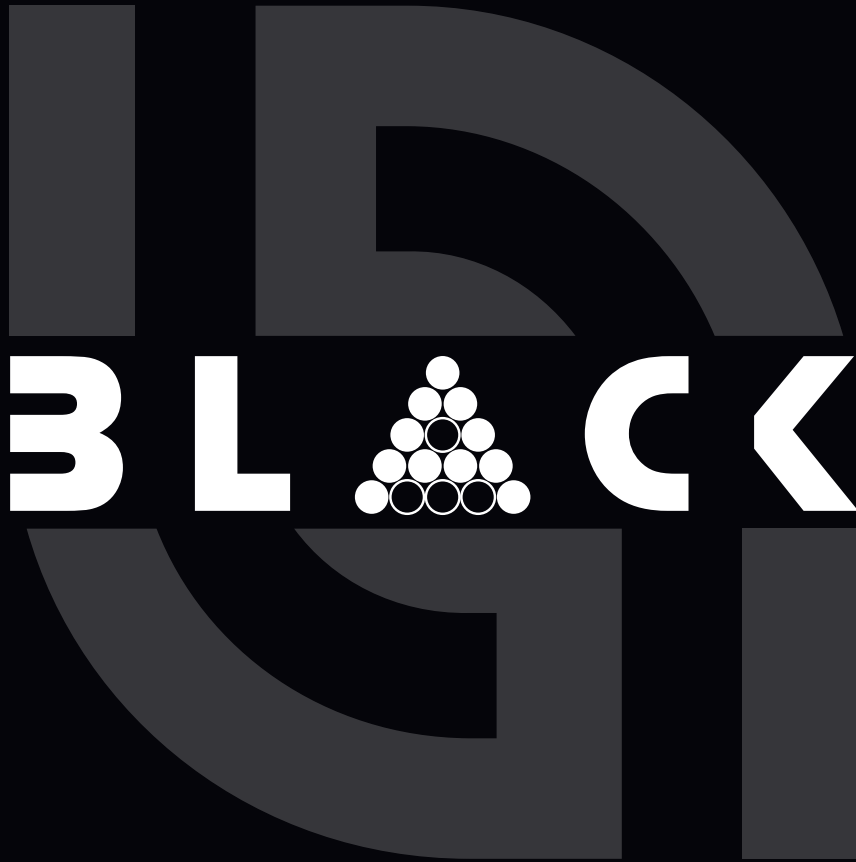
## **Final thoughts**

Work on turning your focus toward relevant factors while letting go of things that do not matter is a challenging task, but one very worthwhile if your goal is to improve your game. Often what holds players back from improvement is the inability to let go of bad shots and games, and turn attention away from things that don't matter in the moment.

*Dr. Christopher Stankovich is a nationally acclaimed expert in Sport & Performance Psychology and the Founder of Advanced Human Performance Systems. For more information on performance-enhancement products, including the popular "Mind of Steel for Pool Success" DVD please visit [www.drstankovich.com](http://www.drstankovich.com)*



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# THREE COMMON STROKE FLAWS

ANTHONY BEELER

Perhaps the most important aspect of a player's game is the ability to deliver a straight smooth stroke on demand. Without a good stroke it's virtually impossible to deliver the tip through the cue ball with precision and accuracy.



A good stroke is characterized by a perfect pendulum motion. As the stroke finishes, and the grip hand goes up, a player's tip should go down.

It's important to note that you need to have your grip hand at 90-95 degrees when the tip is in the "set" position (when the tip is almost touching the cue ball and you are getting ready to shoot). Striking the cue ball when your grip hand is pointed straight to the floor is essential because this is the most level your stroke will ever be. If you strike the cue ball when your grip hand is less than 90 degrees, the tip is already on its way down towards the felt.

Three common flaws can prohibit you from delivering a perfect pendulum stroke. In this month's article we will address all three.

### 1. NOT FINISHING YOUR STROKE:

The most common reason a player's tip may not reach the felt is that they may not be finishing their stroke. After winning a pro tournament in the 1980's Mike Sigel had a bruise on his chest. When asked where the bruise came from Mike explained it was from finishing his stroke perfectly on every shot. Finishing your stroke high may result in you hitting your chest. Just don't hit it as hard as Mike!



**2. ELBOW DROP:** If your elbow drops, it's very common for the tip to either finish fairly level or with an upwards

**3. THE DEATH GRIP:** Believe it or not, but gripping the cue stick too tightly

motion. Usually this is a result of poor stroke mechanics. However, many of today's players are now emphasizing elbow drop and are finishing with a more level delivery. In most circumstances, this is not the norm. Unless you are playing at or near the pro-level, stick with the perfect pendulum motion. Work on your elbow drop so that your tip finishes on the felt.



can also cause your tip not to reach the felt. If this is the case, I recommend that you practice gripping the cue with the index finger and thumb only. Do this for about 3 weeks and learn the correct cue action. Once you learn the correct stroking motion then add two more fingers but not the pinky. The pinky finger is normally the culprit for causing a twisted motion or crooked stroke. Leave the pinky finger off the cue if you want to shoot straight.

Don't fall victim to any of the stroke flaws mentioned above. When you finish your stroke always ask yourself "Where's my tip?" Always finish with your tip touching the felt or at the very least it should be heading in a downward direction. If your tip is not heading down, ask yourself why. Most likely it's from one of the reasons mentioned above. Eliminate all three stroke flaws from your game and your accuracy will improve significantly.



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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Billiards Buzz

# Eddie Cohen

By MICHELLE HUGHES  
Social Media Specialist  
Biggelbachs.com

**Looks and Personality! These cues have it all. You'll not only love them for their sleek designs, but also their playability. Say Hello to Eddie Cohen of Cohen Cues in this month's "Meet the Cue Maker".**



**E**ddie Cohen, 36, resides in Cerritos, California with his family and 2 dogs. While growing up, his hobbies ranged from inline skating to photography and even video editing. This led to him pursuing his degree in Fine Art and Film when he went to college at Cal State Long Beach in 2004. It was there he also began his introduction to pool. While attending college he conveniently had an 8 ft pool table at home which started to draw his attention. He began playing in tournaments at 19 and wanted to improve his game. That year, he purchased his first high end cue; a Schon limited. He also won his first tournament and began realizing the investment in custom cues. As he began collecting, he would start by paying for the cues to be re-tipped which quickly added up. He decided it would be worth it to learn how to do it himself and purchased a small lathe in 2006. A year later, it was at a local tournament that Eddie met cue maker Kent Davis (KD Cues) and was



invited to check out his shop and see the whole process. After purchasing two cues from Kent, he began learning the basic construction of how to put a cue together. It wasn't long until he could build the basic construction and Kent would complete the finish. Advancing quickly, by age 23 Eddie had not only completed his first custom cue, but he'd also built a Sneaky

Pete along with a jump cue. In 2009, Eddie graduated college and was then able to devote more time to the growing hobby. He continued to develop his skill and around 2011 purchased his first professional lathe. Shortly after, fellow California cue maker Ariel Carmeli (Carmeli Custom Cues) took notice and offered to mentor him. He continued learning under Ariel for the next couple years and credits Ariel for teaching him how to do points and inlays. Eddie established his brand in 2012 and went full-time in 2013. He now works out of his 700 sq ft shop near his home in Cerritos, California.

Cohen Cues, now strongly making a name for themselves for over a decade, were originally branded "Elijah".





ing”. Now, having joined the American Cuemaker’s Association (ACA) he looks forward to building something that can be displayed and voted on. He reflects “Building something from nothing and seeing the finished product” is the best part about being a cue maker. Although he appreciates more traditional designs, it’s innovation paired with a classic touch that sets his cues apart. When you play with a Cohen cue, you’re not only getting a sleek design, but a solid hit as well. With talent and creativity coming so naturally throughout his life, it’s no wonder he’s already made a name for himself. We will undoubtedly be seeing much more in the future from the youthful cue maker. If you’d like to get your own Cohen cue, the average price is around \$3,000 with a basic Merry widow starting at about \$1,350. His current waitlist is 2.5 years and growing quickly. The best way to get on the waitlist is by contacting him directly at [cohencues.com](http://cohencues.com). Or you can check current stock through one of his brokers such as Superior Cues, Recollections Cues or Bigglebachs.com. Next year, he will also be at the 2023 Super Billiard Expo if you’d like to catch him in person.

This was Eddie’s name in Hebrew, named after his great-grandfather. However, to streamline the brand, it was changed to Cohen Cues in 2015 and remains unmistakable with a cue craftily hiding in the “he” of the Cohen logo. When it comes to the construction, Eddie states most of his cues are made with the short splice technique. He prefers fancier builds which you’ll often see made from Ebony and include points, veneers and ringwork. On the other hand, he doesn’t shy away from a simpler build when it includes exotic woods such as Amboyna Burl and Purple Heart. Eddie states the hardest aspect of cue building is putting a finish on: “Every wood reacts differently. You can take 10 builds from the same piece of wood, and they would all absorb the finish differently”. After devoting years to refining his skills, he’s created a brand that is often chosen for their looks. Yet they’re fiercely backed with their playability. They’ve even been in the hands of a few pros. Roberto Gomez has previously played with a Cohen cue and it was with a Cohen cue that Chris Reinhold (formerly Robinson) won the Junior Nationals in 2015. To this day, Eddie continues to focus on the hit of the cues and keeps all components built in house except for the joint pins and bumpers. Lastly, the unmistakable Cohen logo will always be

found near the bottom of the cue, engraved on the butt cap. With a yearly production of around 35 cues, Eddie states if the weather is perfect, they take just a few months to build from start to finish. He’s recently added some new equipment and after evaluating his building process, he aims to increase his production to at least 50 cues per year.

Eddie says his career highlight to date has been being invited to the 2017 International Cue Collectors Show (ICCS) in Las Vegas. He states, “even just being invited is quite validat-



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

# Gospel Trick Shot #29

## Star Burst

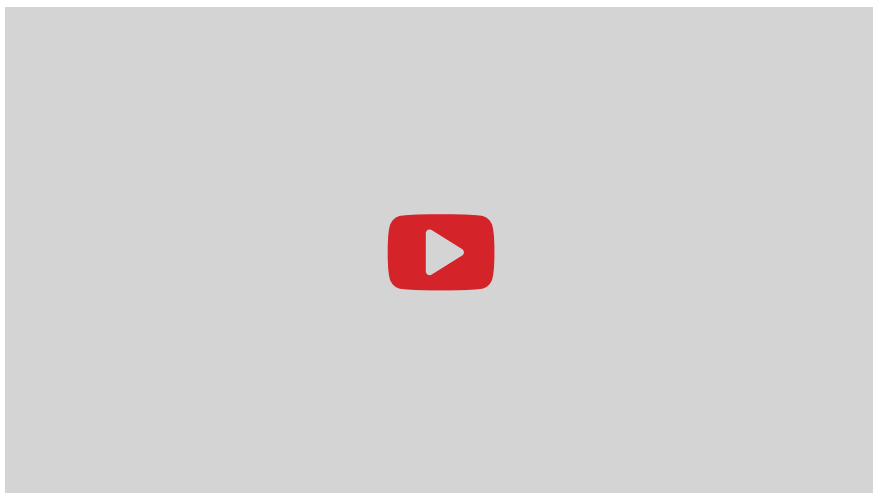
**History of the Trick Shot:** The concepts of this trick shot and many other trick shots that are used today by trick shot artists worldwide and also used in the current WPA Artistic Pool events was introduced by the legendary Japanese trick shot artist Yoshikazu Kimura. Mr. Kimura owned a 3-table pool room in Japan where he practiced his craft. He passed away at the age of 84 in 2016. Tom “Dr. Cue” Rossman popularized this shot in America when he made it on the first attempt at every ESPN Trick Shot Magic and World Cup of Trick Shots event that he participated in on TV. The Star Burst was used to defeat World Champion Mike Massey and future champion at the time Stefano Pelingia to win his first ESPN Trick Shot Magic event in 2002. The “Star Burst” then became a favorite Gospel Trick Shot of Tom “Dr. Cue” Rossman when he traveled with yours truly Steve “Leapin” Lillis to do Gospel Trick Shot Shows all over the globe and across the USA.

**GTS Name and Why:** The name Star Burst as you will notice in the video by yours truly Steve “Leapin” Lillis comes from the visual display of the balls shooting across the table like shooting stars. Another name for this shot is the “Waterfall” for similar reasons. I have seen Tom “Dr. Cue” Rossman do this shot many times in Gospel Trick Shot Shows and each time the “joy” of his amazing life and testimony shines through. God delivered Tom from a serious physical problem just in time to compete and win that 2002 ESPN Trick Shot Magic event which at the time was the highest rated billiard show on TV. The Star Burst not only led him to that first major victory in 2002 on TV but also propelled him to other major Artistic Pool titles and the honor of eventually being selected into the BCA Hall of Fame in 2017. Now Tom uses his credentials and that shot and others to glorify the Lord! God created and had a specific plan for Tom “Dr. Cue” Rossman which is stated in Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV) “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” This is what God has for you too!

**Scripture References in NIV Translation:** God created the stars in Genesis 1:17 and God made mankind male and female in his image in Genesis 1:27 and by the prophet Jeremiah in 29:11 God says he has a great plan for your life!

**Cue Ball(s) Placement:** In this particular shot a cue ball is not needed!

**Object Ball(s) Placement:** Notice in the diagram the position of the first ball which is the 1 ball as it can be placed in a comfortable position in front of the side pocket where you are standing to make the shot. Notice how the 2 ball is frozen to the 1 ball and aimed on a combination to the left side of the opposite side pocket as you are looking at the diagram to allow for directional throw and the 3 ball is lined up frozen to the 1 ball pointed to the inside of the corner pocket to also allow for directional throw as well. With that principle of directional throw, you can now line up the next 4 sets of balls just like in the diagram. You now have a total of 15 balls in 5 sets lined up so that the middle ball in each set forms a straight line to the opposite corner pocket from where you are standing.



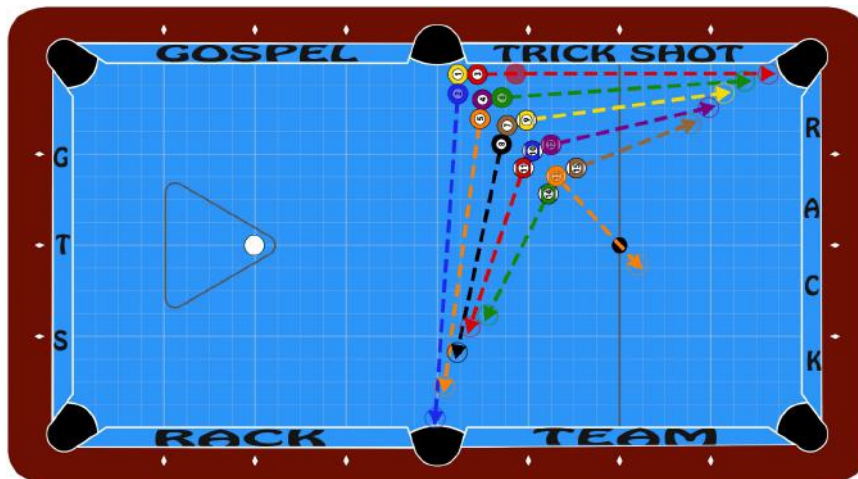
**Objective:** You must shoot the middle ball in each set of balls straight through and into the opposite corner pocket in 5 successive strokes of the cue with a floating bridge above the balls. The floating bridge takes some practice so work with a few sets of 3 balls to get used to that stroke of the cue stick. If the outside balls in the sets are lined up correctly then they will all go in. If you miss just readjust for the proper directional throw for each ball that misses.

**Special Notes:** Please remember that directional throw (friction between ball surfaces) on all combinations, push shots, and kiss shots can more or less depend on the cleanliness of the balls and the humidity in the room. Check that all balls are completely frozen before attempting the shots!

**Crowd Reactions Through the Years:** After having witnessed Tom “Dr. Cue” Rossman use this shot many times in our Gospel Trick Shot shows, I step aside and have Tom share this amazing shot and his testimony

with our audiences. Then I follow-up with how God has a plan for all of us and you do not have to be a champion pool player like Tom because God created all of us unique and special and has a plan for each of us! People are greatly encouraged as everyone wants to feel significant and they are significant in the eyes of their Creator who makes no mistakes! Ask God what plan he has for your life using your unique gifts, talents, interests, experiences, opportunities, and personality! It starts with realizing that Jesus set you free from the penalty of sin and the power of sin by his death on the Cross. Now you are free to pursue your God given path in this life with his Holy Spirit guidance and someday unite with him in the life to come after you leave this present world. God bless you!

For more information on a personal relationship with Jesus and for your own spiritual growth and encouragement, we now have two websites available with the original [www.gospeltrickshot.org](http://www.gospeltrickshot.org) and our brand-new website [www.gtsrackrooms.com](http://www.gtsrackrooms.com).



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# SPAIN CLINCH

## World Cup Of Pool Title For The First Time

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

**S**pain have won the 2022 World Cup of Pool beating Singapore in the final 11-6 at the Brentwood Centre, Essex live on Sky Sports Arena in the UK, DAZN in the USA, Canada, Spain, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, and Viaplay in Scandinavia, the Baltics, Netherlands, and Poland. Singtel in Singapore. Matchroom.Live in territories without a broadcaster.

**Spain 11-6 Singapore – Spain clinch World Cup of Pool title for the first time**

The Spaniards led by David Alcaide and Francisco Sanchez Ruiz reached the final at a canter dropping only eight racks ahead of their match up with Singapore's Aloysius Yapp and Toh Lian Han for a shot of glory.

Alcaide and Sanchez Ruiz won the lag and from there it was a plain sailing opening rack despite it being unconventional with a few early nerves from the two amigos. Into the second rack and despite a weak break by Alcaide's standards, he kept Singapore hooked at his next chance at the table to tuck the cue ball behind the five and keep the two the opposite side. Lian Han



fouled and from there it was a routine Spain run out for 2-0.

Into the third and Sanchez Ruiz broke dry which opened Singapore their moment to take their opening rack only for Yapp to leave no angle on the Lian Han. From there, Alcaide and Sanchez Ruiz came back to the table to keep the break in their hands at 3-0 and soon 4-0.

Singapore had their chance after Alcaide fouled when jumping to make the three. Lian Han and Yapp swooped in to cut the initial deficit to three. Before too long that was two as Yapp and Lian Han found stroke.

Lian Han's safety error was poor in the seventh rack and Sanchez Ruiz and Alcaide pounced to establish a three-rack buffer and to be nearing the halfway stage of victory. That halfway stage was soon reached at 6-2 to Spain.

In the next rack, Yapp went for an ambitions 2-9 combo kicking the two up table only for it to not come off, but the best was yet to come for the US Open runner-up who made an expert jump to pot it before clearing up the table with Lian Han to be 6-3 back.

With Lian Han breaking in the tenth rack, Lian Han left with no shot and Spain came good again to move to seven racks two despite a stroke of fortune from Sanchez Ruiz who banked the one ball into the opposite corner than intended after it had caught the



Team Singapore

other pocket. Alcaide broke dry in the following rack and Singapore were reducing their comeback further at 7-4.

The Singaporeans hadn't really done too much wrong despite the scoreline and a break and run in the 12th rack showed just that as they came back into it at 7-5 and soon 7-6.

Spain were frozen for a short while to their chairs until Yapp scratched on the break as the three kissed the cue ball into the top left pocket. It was a key moment as the Singapore onslaught gathered pace. Alcaide and Sanchez Ruiz had a routine runout from there to

be three away from glory. The distance for victory soon became two for Spain after two hooks in the space of two balls behind the brown seven. Firstly, for Spain on the two which they made only to leave it open for Yapp to fire in. That left Lian Han hooked only for him to scratch and give Spain the table to be close to the finishing line.

Alcaide went airborne to pot the one at the start of the following rack only for him to scratch in the process and give Singapore the table back. Lian Han left Yapp short of a clear shot on the seven forcing him to bank it only to leave it in the middle of the table for an exquisite bank shot from Alcaide to help Spain reach the hill.

Sanchez Ruiz broke in the last rack to leave a beautiful 2-9 combo to seal a special victory for Spain.

“Every day we had more confidence. All the scores, 7-1, 7-1, 9-2, when you look you think this is our time let's go. To be honest, in the semi-final and fi-

**“ THE SINGAPOREANS HADN'T REALLY DONE TOO MUCH WRONG DESPITE THE SCORELINE AND A BREAK AND RUN IN THE 12TH RACK SHOWED JUST THAT AS THEY CAME BACK INTO IT AT 7-5 AND SOON 7-6.**

”

## 2022 World Cup of Pool

nal, we were so nervous at times. But when we had tough shots, we played so good. I think when you play for a team it's more special than when you play singles. This is my little brother. We've played together for ten years and worked so hard. This moment is amazing for us." – Alcaide

"First of all I want to say thank you to everyone. I want to say thank you to my partner. He played an unbelievable combination. We feel so good right now. We work so hard. We travel all over the world. We dream for one moment like this and we got it today." – Sanchez Ruiz

The European Open Pool Championship is next up and takes place in Thorsten Hohmann's hometown of Fulda, Germany at the Hotel Esperanto Fulda from August 9-14 2022 with player entries open Tuesday, 21 June, and spectator tickets available to purchase from Monday 27th June.



Team Spain

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# Loukatos Wins

## **PREDATOR GERMANY OPEN** And **FISHER** Becomes Three-Time Pro Billiard Series Series Champion

Greece's Dimitris Loukatos beat Wiktor Zielinski in a sudden death shootout to win the predator Germany Open on Saturday and in the Women's division Kelly Fisher's dominance in the Pro Billiard Series continued when she beat Eylul Kibaroglu, also by sudden death shootout.

**B**oth champions earn €20,000 after delivering tense drama in their finals. Fisher has now

won three Pro Billiard Series titles in less than nine months. She had battled back from a set and two games

down to take her match to a gripping shootout which she won 9-8 when Kibaroglu missed in the tenth innings.

*Dimitris Loukatos*



Fisher's previous Pro Billiard Series titles meant she had already qualified for the 2022 Predator World Women's 10-Ball Championship, to be staged in Austria in September, so Kibaroglu will receive an invitation.

Loukatos will play the 2023 World 10-Ball Championship in Las Vegas after he ended Zielinski's winning streak in the PBS. The Pole had won 15 straight Pro Billiard Series matches in winning the Alfa Las Vegas Open and reaching the final in Germany.

The Open division final was a tale of two sets. A dry break at the start of the match by Zielinski let Loukatos clear for a 1-0 lead. The Pole missed a 1 in the second game and didn't reach for his cue again until he was 3-0 down in the set.

Zielinski was back at the table after a pushout in the fourth game but miscued over a jump. Another chance arrived for the Polish player when Loukatos had to play safe around the 4, which was tied to the 8, but it was the Greek who got the upper hand in that battle too, and the set was won 4-0.

The final made a 180 turn in the second set. A missed 8-ball bank by Loukatos got Zielinski his first game, the second soon followed, and an errant jump awarded the Las Vegas Open champion ball in hand to make it 3-0.



Loukatos had one last chance in the fourth game but played a poor shot trying to escape a safety and left his opponent with an easy shot on the 2 – the set finished a reverse of the 4-0 score of the opener.

Zielinski missed first in the shootout, failing on his second innings, but when Loukatos missed on his third shot, a final was headed for Sudden Death for a second time on the same day. Both players made their fifth shots but Zielinski couldn't make the sixth, and though the ball rattled in the jaws, Loukatos sent the 10 down

to claim the €20,000 title, winning 4-0, 0-4, 5-4.

Loukatos said: "All this week there has been pressure because I lost my second match and finally, I won this tournament and I can't believe it. It was a very tough match, Zielinski is one of the best players in the world."

Prior to the start of the Open division final, spectators and viewers had been treated to a brilliant championship match in the Women's division. Fisher's third Predator Pro Billiard Series title came with a 1-4, 4-2, 9-8 win at the expense of Kibaroglu, from Ankara, Turkey, who had won the first set with some comfort.

She ran the first game and a 3/10 combo shot gave her the second. A dry break in the third had allowed Fisher off the mark but an errant bank by the Brit afforded her opponent ball in hand, and after making it 3-1, Kibaroglu closed out the set in the fifth game.

Kibaroglu has three European titles to her name and it would have been hard to bet against her adding the Predator

**“ ALL THIS WEEK THERE HAS BEEN PRESSURE BECAUSE I LOST MY SECOND MATCH AND FINALLY, I WON THIS TOURNAMENT AND I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. IT WAS A VERY TOUGH MATCH, ZIELINSKI IS ONE OF THE BEST PLAYERS IN THE WORLD.**

**– Dimitris Loukatos**

”

## Predator Germany Open

Germany Open to her resume as she calmly rolled in another 10 to continue the second set as she finished the first. The Turkish player was clearly in the zone and playing with confidence as she then moved one set and two games ahead.

Fisher needed an opening and she got one in the third game. She left herself a difficult 8 along the rail but showed why she is a World champion with a couple of high-pressure shots to cut her deficit to 2-1. A missed 3 was Kibaroglu's first major mistake of the match but it allowed Fisher back in the fourth game and the set the Turkish player had led 2-0 was soon locked at 2-2.

A 3 left in the jaws by Kibaroglu allowed Fisher to go unpunished when she couldn't make a carom with the jump shot. Kibaroglu then missed two jumps of her own at 3-2 down and the second awarded Fisher ball-in-hand. Perfect position to the 7, which was tied close to the 10, created a roadmap and Fisher took the set 4-2, despite leaving herself a nervy 10 to complete the game.

The Brit missed her first shot of the shootout but was level after Kibaroglu missed in her second innings. At 3-3 after four innings each, the Women's final had come down to Sudden



Death, with Fisher shooting first each innings.

Both players were dealing with the pressure impeccably; neither even touched the jaws in the first four innings of Sudden Death. Fisher breathed a sigh of relief when her fifth did need the side of the pocket, but her opponent again found the middle. Neither player had now missed in a combined 15 shots when the decisive moment finally came on Kibaroglu's next shot; a miss by the Turkish player meant the title would belong to Fish-

er. After such a gripping final, both players received a standing ovation from the German crowd.

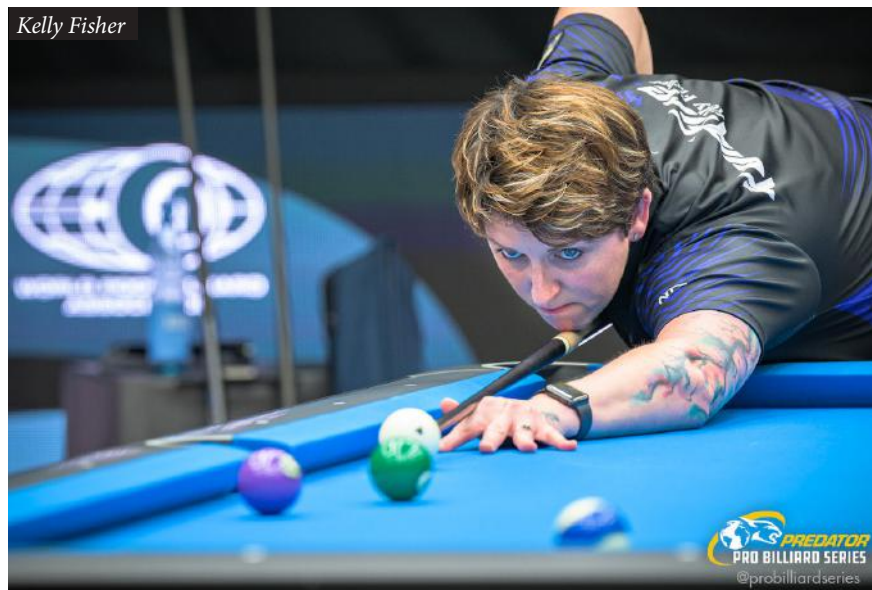
Fisher said: "I thought I was going to lose 2-0. She was playing better than me and I was a little bit off. I managed to scrape the second set, so going into the shootout I just tried to relax. The first few were the most nervous but then I felt quite calm, considering.

"I have been doing this a long time, I don't really have any magic routines before a tournament, I just prepare the best I can, whether I am home or traveling.

"I must say that the equipment, the lights, the tables, the venue, everybody would agree it was spectacular and the conditions were perfect. The table and cloth played the best I have felt in any of the Pro Billiard Series events. It was nice and fast, consistent, for me it was a great setup and perfect conditions."

The next Predator Pro Billiard Series event is the Predator Canada Open in Red Deer, Alberta, from August 16-20.

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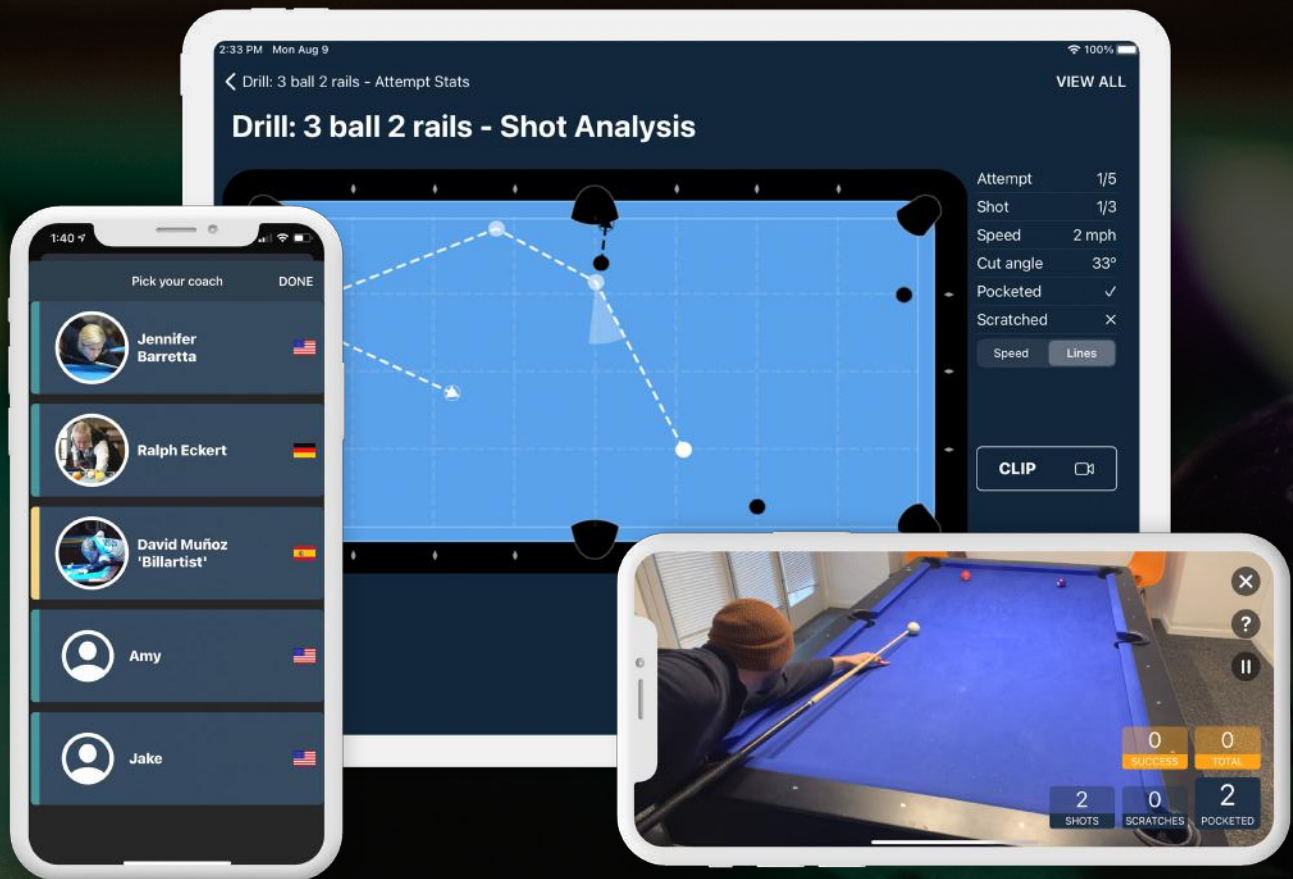
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# **JERRY BRIESATH** and **DENNIS ORCOLLO** *Elected to Billiard Congress Of America Hall Of Fame*

The Billiard Congress of America (BCA) Hall of Fame will welcome a world champion and one of the game's most revered teachers to the Hall of Fame Class of 2022. The United States Billiard Media Association (USBMA) today announced that Filipino star Dennis Orcollo and legendary instructor Jerry Briesath have earned induction into the sport's most prestigious club.

Dennis Orcollo



**O**rcollo, 43, was the clear choice of voters in the Greatest Players category and will be the fourth player representing the Philippines to be inducted into the BCA Hall of Fame, joining Pinoy legends Efren Reyes, Francisco Bustamante and Jose Parica.

Briesath, 85, was a unanimous selection in the Meritorious Service category. The longtime and legendary instructor is considered the father of formal billiard instruction in America, having helped develop and guide the program from concept to its current roster of more than 300 professional instructors across the globe.

Orcollo and Briesath will formally be inducted into the Hall of Fame on Friday, Nov. 4, at the Norfolk Sheraton Waterside Hotel in Norfolk, Va., in conjunction with the 2022 International Open pool tournament.

“Wow!” Orcollo said from his home in the Philippines, where he is awaiting a meeting with U.S. Immigration authorities to petition his return to action in U.S. tournaments. “I never really thought I would be in the Hall of Fame. This is a great award.

“I’m not Efren Reyes,” he laughed. “He is one of the greatest ever. I don’t think of myself that way, so I never really thought about it.”

For Briesath, an active pro player in the 1960’s and ’70s, the award is validation of years of service to players and the sport.

“This is just super,” Briesath said. “The Hall of Fame is about having the admiration of people in the sport and in the industry for what you’ve done. I’ve been to almost all of the Hall of Fame banquets and it was always wonderful to see great players and good people get recognized.”

**“BRIESATH, 85, WAS A UNANIMOUS SELECTION IN THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE CATEGORY. THE LONGTIME AND LEGENDARY INSTRUCTOR IS CONSIDERED THE FATHER OF FORMAL BILLIARD INSTRUCTION IN AMERICA, HAVING HELPED DEVELOP AND GUIDE THE PROGRAM FROM CONCEPT TO ITS CURRENT ROSTER OF MORE THAN 300 PROFESSIONAL INSTRUCTORS ACROSS THE GLOBE.”**

A longtime poolroom owner in Madison, Wis., Briesath helped launch the BCA Certified Instructor Program (now known as the Professional Billiard Instructors Association) in 1992 and the BCA Summer Youth Cue Camps in 1993. He was awarded the BCA President’s Award in 1997 for his ongoing efforts to improve how players learn to play. He later helped create the BCA “How to Play Pool Right” book and video.

In addition to claiming the World Pool-Billiard Association (WPA) World

8-Ball Championship in 2011, Orcollo (known in pool circles as “Robocop”) won the BCA Open 9-Ball Championship (2007), Qatar World Open (2008), World Pool Masters (2010), and the China Open (2012). He has been a dominant force at the annual Derby City Classic, winning the 9-Ball division twice (2011, 2017), the Banks division twice (2014, 2020), and the Master of the Table crown twice (2017, 2020). He holds major titles in 8-ball, 9-ball, straight pool, 10-ball, one-pocket and banks.

Voting for the 2022 BCA Hall of Fame was conducted by the USBMA Hall of Fame Board, which consists of USBMA members, elected At-Large members and living members of the Hall of Fame. In his third year on the ballot, Orcollo was named on 34 submitted ballots (80%). Holland’s Niels Feijen was named on 25 ballots (60%), while American Corey Deuel was named on 15 ballots (39%). Jeremy Jones, JoAnn Mason-Parker, John Schmidt, Vivian Villarreal and Charlie Williams completed the 2022 ballot. To be eligible for consideration in the Greatest Players category, a player (a) must be 40 years old by Jan. 1 of the year of their inclusion on the ballot; (b) must have a professional playing career of at least 10 years; and (c) must have recorded significant achievements in U.S.-based and international events recognized by the BCA.



*Jerry Briesath*

# FANTASTIC FEIJEN

## Claims 11th Euro Crown

Story by LUKE RICHES - EPBF / Photos courtesy EPBF

**Niels Feijen is the 2022 Dynamic Billard St Johan im Pongau Open champion after a string of rock-solid performances, culminating in a superb 9-4 victory over Spain's Francisco Sanchez Ruiz in the title match at the Alpina Sporthotel in the Austrian mountains.**

It is 21 years since the Terminator's maiden Euro Tour win and six years since his last, and this victory was a testimony to Feijen's endurance as one of pool's premier players.

Said a delighted Feijen; "It's a great feeling! I was struggling for a long time on the Euro Tour, not getting any results. It's not that the level is better, there's just more really good players now. I love the game but it's more up and down now than when I was in my 20s and 30s. Sometimes I don't care and sometimes

I really, really want to win and put the effort in like now, and that is super-rewarding when it pays off."

Feijen had enjoyed some hard-fought wins as he progressed through the tournament, none more so than his come-from-behind 9-8 win over Wiktor Zielinski in the last eight but in Sanchez Ruiz he was facing, arguably the form player in the world currently. After dropping the opener, Sanchez Ruiz reeled off the next three racks to open up an ominous lead before Fei-

jen ran out from the break after leaving a very makeable table. In the next, they both had visits, trying to force the error from their opponent, before Feijen potted the pink 4 with some style and he cleared to level the match.

Feijen came with a marvellous table length bank to down the 6 in the next and set up a rack-winning opportunity. It was his third rack in a row and put him into a 4-3 lead. That became 5-3 after Feijen ran a difficult table following an illegal break from Sanchez Ruiz.



Niels Feijen

Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz



The unstoppable Dutchman took the next before a magical 3/9 kicked combo increased Feijen's lead to 7-3 and his reaction showed just how much he enjoyed that one. Sanchez Ruiz wasn't done and a low percentage 1/9 combination table-length jump shot was executed magnificently.

However, it was the Spaniard's last positive contribution as an unlucky scratch in the next gave Feijen ball in hand and he ran the table to put himself on the hill. With the break, Feijen delivered a solid one and was able to run out for a marvellous win.

Feijen added, "It's down to a bit more commitment, and more hard work. I haven't been really, really motivated these past four or five years. Then Corona came, I started some different projects so I'm extremely busy when I'm home. I felt I was playing really good the last couple of Euro Tours. I was breaking better, I won at the Europeans so that was a boost. Me and

Marc (Bijsterbosch) played pretty well at the World Cup, I played good at the UK Open so I felt I was gaining some momentum and the more I play, the better I play; that's a fact.

"In the final I was 3-1 down but my focus was really good. I've always had good solid routines, I'm not on the phone all the time, I meditate, and I'm really good at building my focus up and that showed these past two days. I feel that's my weapon compared to the youngsters who are on the phone for eight hours a day.

"I've never been an up-and-down player, just very consistent and that's down to a solid work ethic. When you want to be a consistent professional for a long time, you have to make good choices," added Feijen.

Sanchez Ruiz was the first to acknowledge Feijen's stellar performance; "I'm not really that disappointed - I think I played good but Niels today

played amazing, like perfect. I missed only one chance to go 4-2 but hats off to him because he played unbelievable. I'm happy because I played really good so let's see what happens in the next tournament."

As well as the prize money, there are Tour ranking points on offer as well as world ranking points, so there is everything to play for. All Euro Tour tournaments are 9-ball and players compete in a double-elimination format, playing down to the last 32 competitors, and then single elimination until the finish. All matches are races to 9 racks with alternate break.

All the matches can be viewed live at [www.kozoom.com](http://www.kozoom.com)

Results, live scoring and draw are available at [www.epbf.com](http://www.epbf.com)

# Flawless Kaplan Takes Home The Title

Story by LUKE RICHES - EPBF / Photos courtesy EPBF

Ina Kaplan is the 2022 Predator St Johann im Pongau Women's Open champion following a dominating performance in the final match as she beat Bojana Šarac (Serbia) 7-1 to lift the trophy.

It is the German lady's third Predator Euro Tour victory and following a hiatus due to Covid and giving birth to her second child, she returned stronger than ever as she finished the tournament undefeated, having never looked in danger throughout.

"I just had the feeling that I could do it and that I just had to calm down and just play my game and be focused. I really feel that when I can get this game all the time, then I can beat everybody!" said a delighted Kaplan.

The German won the lag and took the first rack in the race-to-7 final. Both had visits in the next before Kaplan ran out of position travelling to the 6 ball and her safety attempt allowed Šarac to run the table to level at 1-1. A great break from Kaplan

Ina Kaplan



Bojana Šarac



in the next saw three balls disappear and she worked hard to complete an excellent run out and a 2-1 lead.

An unsuccessful break from Šarac allowed her opponent back to the table and Kaplan took the rack to open up a two-game lead. That soon became a three-game lead before Šarac looked on track in the next but missed a relatively easy 7 ball and Kaplan made no mistakes to increase her lead to 4-1.

Looking supremely confident and in total control of her game, Kaplan ran the next game to put herself within two of victory at 5-1. A solid break from Kaplan gave her a good look at the lowest numbered ball. She came unstuck though, missing the 6 ball but left it safe. Both players went back and forth before it was left to Kaplan to finish it off and reach the hill at 6-1.

Looking calm and composed, Kaplan completed what would be the final rack of the final as she planted the 9 ball to secure a marvellous 7-1 victory.

Commented Kaplan, “I finally got to the knowledge that I don’t have to push myself all the time and to be so intense. Just be calm and play my game as I’m excited enough and have enough adrenaline in this situation. I have to mention Niels Feijen’s Terminator College and the mental programme I took; I finally got the rewards and it’s great!”

For Šarac it was a disappointing ending after she battled hard throughout the tournament after going to the one-loss side at the first opportunity. “I lost my first match 7-6 and felt really bad but I honestly thought I could come back and play really good which I did of course.

“I was also losing in a few matches – the quarter-finals I was losing 5-1 and I came back and I thought I could do the same but she played really great. I do feel like I can win a Euro Tour; this is about my fifth or sixth Euro Tour so I’m still at the beginning.”

Earlier, Ina Kaplan had defeated Turkey’s Eyllul Kibaroglu 7-3 on the main table to book her place in the final. Meanwhile, Šarac got the better of Tina Vogelmann, this time by 7-3.

All Predator Euro Tour Women tournaments are 9-ball and the field contest a double-elimination format, playing down to the last 16 competitors, and then single elimination until the finish. All matches are a race to 7 racks with alternate break. The next event on the Tour is the Predator Petrich Women’s Open which runs from 6th to 8th August in Bulgaria.

All the matches can be viewed live at [www.kozoom.com](http://www.kozoom.com)

Results, live scoring and draw are available at [www.epbf.com](http://www.epbf.com)

# FISHER 'TWINNS' ARE WINNER

## And Runner-Up At 5th Annual WPBA Ashton Twins Classic

Story by SKIP MALONEY - AzB Staff / Photo courtesy WPBA

**A**bout two months ago, Kelly and Allison Fisher squared off in the finals of the WPBA's Northern

Lights Classic, which was the first time they'd met in an event final in six years, when Allison downed Kelly twice in

the 2016 finals of the 19th Annual International Women's Tournament of Champions at the Taj Mahal in Atlantic

Brittany Bryant, Kelly Fisher and Allison Fisher



City. It didn't take anywhere near that long between final meetups this time around, because following their finals match in the Northern Classic (won by Kelly), they squared off again this past weekend (June 23-26) at the 5th Annual Ashton Twins Classic. Allison was the event's defending champion, having defeated Jennifer Baretta in the finals of the event the last time it was held in 2020. Kelly claimed the title this time, coming from the loss side to do it at the event which drew 63 entrants to The Hidden Spot in Calgary, Alberta.

With the Northern Lights Classic and the Super Billiards Expo, the WPBA competitors had been getting back into the stroke of things, to include renewing acquaintances and enjoying the companionship that had marked their days pre-COVID. The Ashton Twins Classic continued that process as the cream of the WPBA crop gathered. Kelly was the event's #1 seed, with Brittany Bryant as #2. Allison was #3 with Caroline Pao #4 and Janet Atwell #5. Rounding out the top 10 seeds were Ashley Burrows, Emily Duddy, LoreeJon Brown, Kim Newsome and Teruko Cuccellelli.

Kelly's path to the hot seat match was relatively undramatic; in races to 8, downing Katherine Robertson (2), Eleanor Callado (2), Kelly Cavanaugh (3) and Maria Teresa Ropero Garcia (1), she drew Pao in one of the winners' side semifinals. Allison, in the meantime, got by Jana Montour (2), Sandra Badger (1), Stephanie Mitchell (1) and Kyoko Sone (6) to arrive at her winners' side semifinal versus Bryant.

**“ KERRY'S PATH TO THE HOT SEAT MATCH WAS RELATIVELY UNDRAMATIC; IN RACES TO 8, DOWNING KATHERINE ROBERTSON (2), ELEANOR CALLADO (2), KELLY CAVANAUGH (3) AND MARIA TERESA ROPERO GARCIA (1), SHE DREW PAO IN ONE OF THE WINNERS' SIDE SEMIFINALS. ALLISON, IN THE MEANTIME, GOT BY JANA MONTOUR (2), SANDRA BADGER (1), STEPHANIE MITCHELL (1) AND KYOKO SONE (6) TO ARRIVE AT HER WINNERS' SIDE SEMIFINAL VERSUS BRYANT. ”**

and Maria Teresa Ropero Garcia (1), she drew Pao in one of the winners' side semifinals. Allison, in the meantime, got by Jana Montour (2), Sandra Badger (1), Stephanie Mitchell (1) and Kyoko Sone (6) to arrive at her winners' side semifinal versus Bryant.

The event's top four seeds went at it in their respective winners' side semifinals. Allison sent Bryant to the loss side 8-3, while Kelly was sending Pao over 8-2. Allison grabbed the hot seat 8-4 and waited for Kelly to get back from the semifinals.

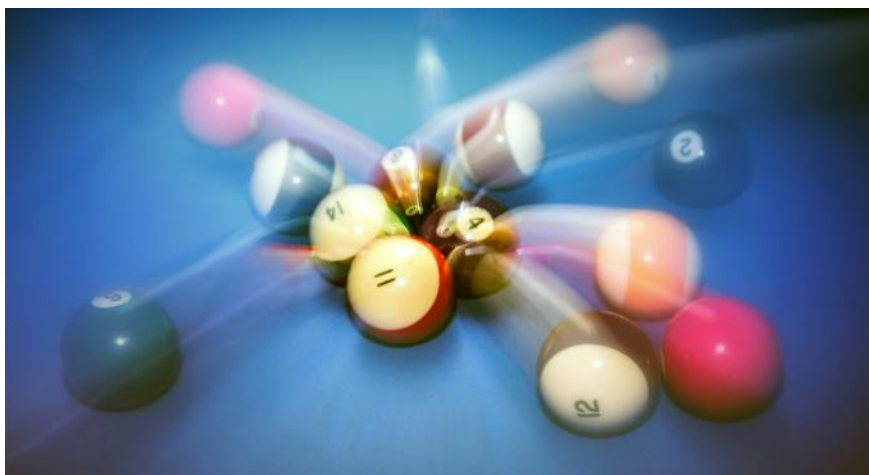
On the loss side, Bryant picked up Eleanor Callado, who'd been defeated by Kelly Fisher in the second winners' side round and was working on a six-match, loss-side winning streak that

had recently eliminated Susan Mello 8-4 and Ashley Burrows in a double hill battle. Pao drew Sone, who, after losing her winners' side quarterfinal to Allison Fisher, had defeated Maryann McConnell 8-1 and Tamami Okuda 8-2. Sone, who was seeded just outside the top 10 (#11), downed the #4 seed, Pao 8-6, while Bryant was eliminating Callado 8-1. Bryant stopped Sone's loss-side run at three matches with a subsequent 8-5 win in the quarterfinals.

And there they were, the event's top three seeds as the last three standing on Sunday afternoon. Kelly Fisher defeated Bryant 8-4 for a second shot at Allison, waiting for her in the hot seat.

The final was a single race to 10. Allison had chalked up twice as many racks as Kelly to claim the hot seat. Kelly chalked up twice as many as Allison in the finals, 10-5, to claim the 5th Annual Ashton Twins Classic.

The Ashton twins, Beverly and Joanne, who finished 49th and 25th, respectively (Beverly allowing Joanne to advance when they were scheduled to meet in the first loss-side round), along with the WPBA thanked the ownership and staff of The Hidden Spot for their hospitality, along with sponsors Simonis, Esports, Diamond Billiards Products, RAD and ATC.



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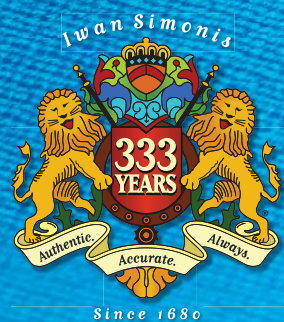
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# HOGUE GOES UNDEFEATED

## To Claim 2022 Sandcastle Open in Edison, NJ

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

### Conflict between expectations and event reality stirs controversy

**G**reg Hogue of Tulsa, OK, has had two good (recorded) earning years at the tables. They stand as bookends to a 15-year pool career

that began in 2006, which remains on record with us here at AZBilliards as his best earnings year. It continues with what is now his second-best earnings year, this one, thanks in large measure to his undefeated performance at the 2022 Sandcastle Open last weekend

(June 4-5). The \$2,500-added event drew 32 entrants to Sandcastle Billiards in Edison, NJ.

Hogue had to face South Dakota's Danny Olson twice in this event. Olson, as it happens, is in the midst of

Greg Hogue



his best recorded earnings year since he first showed up in our player database back in 2011. At the end of the Sandcastle Open, while Hogue had moved up to a career-high spot on our AZB Money Leaderboard (#100), Olson moved up to his career-high spot on the board to #72.

They met first in the winners' side second round. As Hogue was working on an opening round, 7-4 victory over Alex Vangelov, Olson had his hands full with a double hill fight against one of the top players in the world, Jayson Shaw. Olson won that battle, only to be sent west by Hogue 7-4. Hogue advanced to win his third straight 7-4 victory, over Levie Lampaan and pick up Jonathan Pinegar (aka Hennessie from Tennessee) in one of the winners' side semifinals. Meanwhile, Oscar Dominguez from the West Coast had been busy downing his young protege Adrian Prasad, Alex Osipov and Josh Thiele to arrive at his winners' side semifinal battle against Raymond Linares.

Dominguez added another 7-4 win to the batch of them, downing Linares to earn his spot in the hot seat match. Hogue joined him after sending Pinegar to the loss side 7-5. Hogue sent Dominguez to the semifinals, claiming the hot seat 7-5.

On the loss side, Pinegar picked up Danny Olson, four matches into the seven-match, loss-side streak that would end in the finals against Hogue. He'd recently eliminated Mhet Vergara 7-2 and Shane Wolford 7-3. Linares

*Oscar Dominguez*

drew Derek Daya, who was working on a six-match, loss-side streak that included victories over Lampaan 7-5 and knocked Jayson Shaw out of the tournament 7-4.

Daya chalked up his sixth in a row against Linares 7-5, while Olson was defeating Pinegar 7-3. Olson then stopped Daya's run 7-3 in the subsequent quarterfinals.

Olson punched his ticket to the finals with a 7-5 win over Dominguez in the semifinals. Though Olson would chalk up one more rack than he'd managed

against Hogue in the second round, Hogue claimed the Sandcastle Open title 7-5.

### **Old story, new day . . .**

The 32-entrant field, which resulted in the promotional, expected figure of '\$5,000-added' being reduced to the reality of '\$2,500-added,' didn't sit well with the players who showed up. Sandcastle Billiards owner, Ed Liddawi, wasn't too happy about it either. Prior to the event, 55 players had registered to compete. By the time the event started, that number had dwindled to 32, with only two of the 23 players who did not compete, providing reasonable explanations regarding their inability to attend. The flyer promoting the event made it clear that the '\$5,000-added' figure was contingent upon a field of 64 entrants and in the end, Liddawi returned the entry fees to all of the players who had submitted an entrance fee, to include some who reached out to him,

**“ OSCAR DOMINGUEZ FROM THE WEST COAST HAD BEEN BUSY DOWNING HIS YOUNG PROTEGE ADRIAN PRASAD, ALEX OSIPOV AND JOSH THIELE TO ARRIVE AT HIS WINNERS' SIDE SEMIFINAL BATTLE AGAINST RAYMOND LINARES. ”**

## Sandcastle Open

in less than reasonable ways, while he was in the middle of conducting the event they had failed to attend.

In comments that surfaced on our own AZBilliards Forums, some players made the point (in a variety of ways) that financial considerations dictate whether or not someone is going to sign on to compete (entry fees, green fees, calculated travel and living expenses, weighed against the potential for winning enough cash to offset those expenses and hopefully, more). Thus, plans to compete are often contingent on there being sufficient money at stake to make attendance worthwhile. A subsequent and substantial reduction in the amount of prize money available has a way of altering the cost/benefit analysis to the point where not only might a player have to face the reality of not making any money, he/she might end up losing money.

That said, room owners, tour directors and event promoters, like Ed Liddawi, are conducting the same sort of cost/benefit analysis built on the financial burdens they have to assume when considering the creation and promotion of a given event. When,

through no fault of their own, some of the math is thrown off track, then they, too, have to face the reality that instead of an event, that as planned, was designed to benefit their own financial expectations, as well as the expectations of the players, they have to make hard decisions that inevitably impact both sides of the financial equations. Just like the players, they can end up losing money, too.

Not an ideal set of situations for anybody.

The debate, articulated in the Forums and in some cases, personally to us here at AZBilliards is not new and in a polarizing way, familiar to anyone who follows politics these days. It's not enough apparently to just state a given case, it becomes necessary to demonize one's opponents; to call a room owner/event promoter 'greedy,' or complain, in general, about how much 'these people' work toward making a player's life miserable by 'stealing' from them with no regard as to what they, the players have to deal with, or, conversely, that players 'don't understand or care' about what it takes to organize and ultimately run an event

and are 'only interested in themselves.' Those are NOT quotes from any particular individuals, merely examples of the sort of close-minded debate that contributes little or nothing to the solution of a central problem that has plagued pool longer than AZBilliards has been around. Part of the problem is, of course, that there have been in the past and continue to be room owners/event promoters who are greedy, cheat players out of money and act in bad faith, caring little about the fate of the players they're hosting at a given event. But there are also players who act out of bad faith, too, assume they're being cheated and start with that as a premise when they engage in any sort of discussion about a specific controversy.

The specifics of this decades-old controversy, to include actual quotes from players and room owners can be found in our Forums, stretching back over the years, with a great deal of regularity. Complaining falls under the umbrella of individual and "inalienable rights," afforded to greedy room owners/event promoters and self-centered, whining pool players alike. But you can't paint all room owners/event promoters and players with the same brush. It should be noted, as well, that many room owners are players themselves at varied levels of proficiency (Jayson Shaw and Oscar Dominguez, who attended this event, as two examples, and Ed Liddawi, who put it on). Responsible, reasonable room owners/event promoters and responsible, reasonable players do not tend to join the acrimonious debate, especially when it devolves into senseless name-calling and baseless accusations. It is not anyone's intent to censor the commentary or the Forum community, but it should be incumbent on individuals in both 'camps' to seek reasonable solution(s) to the varied and apparently intractable problems represented in the debates themselves.



Danny Olson

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# GORST GOES UNDEFEATED

## *to Claim 1st Annual Hannah Choi Memorial Title*

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

**T**here are times when words are insufficient to the task that they have been set out on a page to perform. So it is with reporting on the B & L Billiard Tournaments' 1st Annual Hannah Choi Memorial, a \$10,000-added event that drew 64 entrants to First Break Sports Bar in

Sterling, VA last weekend (June 11-12). Spearheaded by a trio of Hannah Choi's close friends – Paul Oh, Kristina Tkach and Fedor Gorst – the memorial was organized to commemorate Choi, who went missing from her home in early March and was discovered dead in a Maryland park

weeks later. The person currently being sought in connection with her death, classified as murder, has still not been apprehended.

Choi was an active player at Street Light Billiard Academy in Alexandria, VA, where Tkach, Gorst, Ruslan Chinakhov



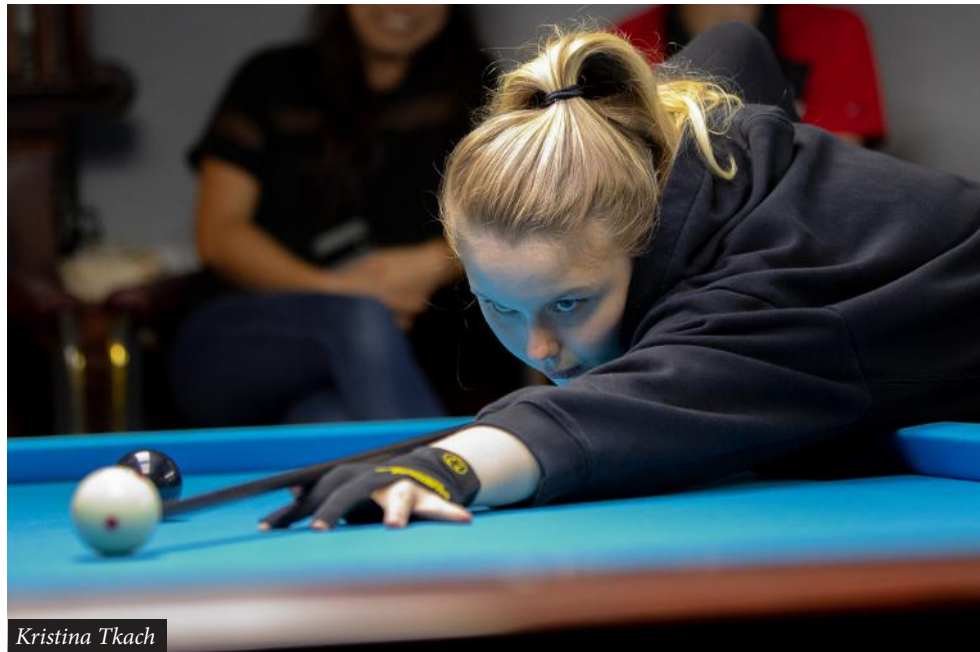
*Fedor Gorst, Shane Wolford, Kristina Tkach, Paul Oh and room owner Anthony Luong*

and other members of “Roy’s Basement,” along with players like Shane Van Boening, Efren Reyes and Nick Varner would gather along with Academy members, offering clinics, challenge matches and exhibitions.

“Hannah became Kristina’s handler, like a family member,” said Oh. “Hannah wasn’t like a professional player, although she was an APA 6, and she became close to Kristina. She was probably Kristina’s closest friend, lived with her whenever she was in-country.”

As a loosely-organized group engaged in the Virginia (and surrounding areas) pool community, the players would discuss any number of things around meals, table practice and tournaments. On more than one occasion, Choi had mentioned to the group the idea of organizing a Virginia-based ProAm tournament, which, for a variety of different reasons, had never really advanced beyond casual talk about it being a good idea.

“We’d had conversations about it,” said Oh, “wanting to hold a tournament in the area, so when Hannah passed, it was a no-brainer.”



Kristina Tkach

Oh reached out to B&L Billiard Tournaments, in the persons of Brian Kilgore and Lai Li, within a matter of days after Choi’s passing. In less than three months, the circle of friends that had known Choi personally, organized the 1st Annual event that would bear her name.

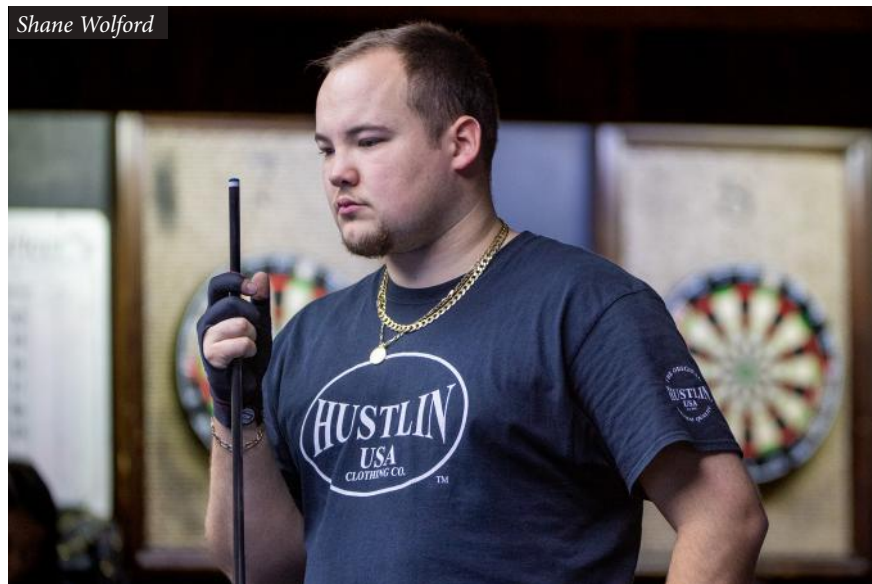
“It meant a lot to Paul, Fedor and Kristina, who was her best friend,” said Kilgore. “Kristina talked to the players (at length) before the tournament be-

gan, telling them all of the things that Hannah Choi had done for her.” Kilgore and the 64-entrant field were all on-hand to hear Tkach’s impassioned words. In retrospect, Kilgore regretted that the moments had not been recorded. Tkach did, though, write about Choi’s passing in an online post.

“I didn’t lose my best friend,” she wrote. “No...I lost so much more than that. I lost my soulmate, my partner, life mentor, my whole world.”

“But you didn’t leave me, right?” she went on to ask. “No, it just can’t be... you are somewhere here now, by my side, kindly looking at me, smiling, listening to me just like you always did.” Tkach continued, eventually confronting the chasm of grief that lay before her; “the pain that doesn’t go away no matter what you do, eating you up from inside.

“But I can’t give up,” she added. “I have to keep grinding, growing and trying to be the best I can possibly be, because that’s what you would want me to do. I promise you will be proud of me.”



Shane Wolford

## Hannah Choi Memorial

At the risk of presumption, one can only imagine that Hannah Choi would have accepted the need and impetus to discuss her passing and the memorial tournament arranged on her behalf, and then, expected all of us to proceed; “grinding, growing, trying to be the best that we can possibly be because that’s what (she) would want us to do.”

The 64-entrant, double elimination bracket that opened the proceedings had a proverbial ‘boat load’ of pool talent on board, including the very people responsible for the tournament’s existence; Paul Oh, Kristina Tkach and Fedor Gorst. Two of those three (Tkach and Gorst) would advance to the single elimination phase of the event and Gorst would win it. Things were set up through the event semifinals for Tkach and Gorst to square off in the final match, but Shane Wolford stepped in and left Tkach in the tie for 3rd place.

In one of the more entertaining matches of the event, Gorst opened up the double-elimination phase against junior competitor, Joey Tate. Live-streamed (as were selected matches



Fedor Gorst

throughout the weekend) by Omega Billiards, Tate encountered some early issues, arguably brought on by an initial concern that he might not make it to the event at all. He’d called Brian Kilgore to relate some ‘timing’ issues and assured him that though he was running late, he would be there in time. He made it on-time, by a matter of minutes and found himself facing Gorst in his opening round.

In the early going, Tate missed some ‘9’s and ‘10’s and found himself in a 3-1 hole after four. But he fought back to be within a single game at 6-5. Gorst prevailed and Tate would go on to lose his first loss-side match.

Gorst advanced and ran into an immediate double hill battle against Atlantic Coast veteran Steve Fleming. He survived that battle as well, and then shut out Kevin West to become one of the eight winners’ side competitors advancing to single elimination. He was joined by fellow ‘winners’ side’ competitors Warren Kiamco, Greg McAndrews, Manny Chau, Roberto Gomez, Shane Wolford, Brandon Shuff and Chris Hansen. From the loss side, Rafael Reyes, Danny Mastermaker, Deo Alpajora, Kevin West, Dylan Spohr, BJ Ussery, Jr., Mhet Vergara and Kristina Tkach advanced to the final 16. Tkach, sent to the loss side by Manny Chau, had worked her way through William Moon, Lukas Fracasso-Verner and Roger Halder to join the loss-side’s group in the final 16.



Warren Kiamco

Tkach got by Roberto Gomez in the opening round of single elimination

and in the quarterfinals, drew Kevin West, who'd eliminated Chris Hansen. Gorst defeated Mhet Vergara and picked up Manny Chau, who'd sent Greg McAndrews home. Wolford, in the meantime, had knocked out Brandon Shuff and faced BJ Ussery, who'd defeated Rafael Reyes to reach him. Kiamco got by Deo Alpajora in the single-elimination opening round and squared off against Dylan Spohr, who'd ended Danny Mastermaker's run.

Tkach downed West 9-7 and in the semifinals, drew Wolford, who'd defeated Ussery 9-7. Gorst eliminated Chau 9-4 and picked up Kiamco, who'd defeated Spohr 9-4.

Wolford put an end to speculation and hopes for two of Hanna Choi's best friends to meet in the finals with a 9-6 win over Tkach. Gorst downed Kiamco

9-5. In the extended race-to-9, Gorst and Wolford came within a game of double hill. Gorst pulled out in front in the end to win by two, 11-9.

The 1st Annual Hannah Choi Memorial was in the books, with Gorst and Tkach proud to have played their part in making it a success. Paul Oh, though less than pleased with his finish 'out of the money,' as it were, was pleased at how well the entire affair had been arranged and executed, as was Brian Kilgore.

"It's amazing to me how it turned out," said Oh, noting that it was a combined effort on the part of the group of friends around Hannah Choi, who, over the years, "had eaten together, travelled together and worked together," to include Anthony Milanesi (who'd donated a cue that he'd made for one of the raffles that helped bring

money to the event), Ken Tranh and his wife, Linda, Joonick Jun and of course, the central trio of Tkach, Oh and Fedor Gorst.

That core group along with Brian Kilgore and Lai Li thanked Anthony Luong and his First Break staff for their hospitality and a portion of the added money, as well as Cuetec Cues. They applauded the efforts of all 64 players who'd made Hannah Choi's first memorial a memorable occasion. As something of an extended tour-promotion unit, they are already looking forward to the 2nd Annual Hannah Choi Memorial. While it's a bit too early to determine how that will shape up, there is consideration being given to another Open event, as well as a Women's tournament.



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# MILLER WINS

## *Her Third On JPNEWT At Triple Nines*

Story by SKIP MALONEY - AzB Staff / Photo courtesy JPNEWT

She won the March season opener at Triple Nines in Elkridge, MD. She won the second stop on the 2022 J.Pechauer Northeast Women's Tour (JPNEWT) in Norristown, PA. The third stop in Sterling, VA had to be cancelled. Brianna Miller did not compete in Stop #4 and tour director Linda Shea won it to move ahead of her in the tour's point standings by a slim 25 points.

**M**iller regained her point standings lead this past weekend (Saturday, June 11) with her third victory on the tour, now having won all three of the tour's events in which she has competed. Shea slipped down to third in the standings, finishing in 4th place this past weekend with a loss to Kia Burwell, who finished as runner-up to Miller and stepped into 2nd place in the standings. With competing events in the area paying homage to a pair of recently deceased members of the mid-Atlantic pool community, Stop #5 on the JPNEWT drew only 10 entrants to Triple Nines in Elkridge, MD.

*Kia Burwell and Brianna Miller*



Miller and Burwell met twice in this event; once in a winners' side semifinal and again, in the finals. Miller, after being awarded an opening round bye, had defeated Kelly Wyatt 7-5 to draw Burwell, who'd gotten by Kathy Friend 7-5. In the meantime, Ellie Kaufman had defeated Kim Martin 7-2 to draw tour director Linda Shea in the other winners' side semifinal.

Miller sent Burwell to the loss side 7-2, while Kaufman was doing likewise to Shea 7-4. Miller snagged the hot seat with a 7-2 victory over Kaufman.

On the loss side, Burwell picked up Shelah Joner, who'd lost her opening round match to Kelly Wyatt, downed Melissa Mason 7-2 and survived a double hill match against Kim Martin. Shea drew Friend, who'd defeated Judy Wilson 7-3 to reach her.

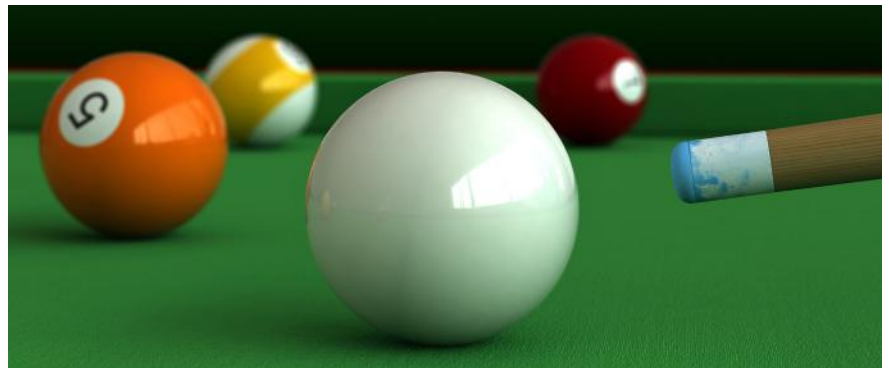
Burwell and Shea, winner and runner-up on the previous tour stop, ad-

vanced to the quarterfinals, defeating Joner and Friend, respectively, both 7-3. Burwell then dropped Shea into 4th place 7-5 and earned her rematch against Miller with a 7-3 victory over Kaufman in the semifinals.

By the look of things at the present time, the final match of the JPNEWT's Stop #5 could be a harbinger of things to come. Their meetup in the finals moved them into 1st and 2nd place in the tour standings and seems likely

to be repeated in the months ahead. Miller claimed the event title this time out, downing Burwell in the finals 7-5.

Tour director Linda Shea thanked the ownership and staff at Triple Nines for their hospitality, as well as title sponsor J. Pechauer Custom Cues and George Hammerbacher (Advanced Pool Instructor, Baltimore, MD). The next stop on the JPNEWT (#6), scheduled for the weekend of July 16-17, will be hosted by Champion Billiards Sports Bar in Frederick, MD.



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# *Cha Double-Dips* **GOBERDHAN**

## **To Win 25th Predator Tri-State Invitational**

Since he first began showing up on the tri-state New York area's payout lists two years ago, Henry Cha has been making steady progress, earning a little more each year since then.

**H**e earned more in 2021 than he did in 2020 (which, full disclosure and thanks to Covid, pretty much everybody did) and now,

midway through 2022, he's already surpassed last year's earnings. He won his first Predator Tri-State Tour stop in back in March and this past

weekend, (June 25-26), he chalked up his second Predator Tri-State win, coming from the loss side to down Jason Goberdhan twice in the true



double elimination final of the tour's \$3,800-added, 25th Invitational Tournament. The annual event, which signals the end of one tour season and the start of another (in this case, '20/'21 to '21/'22) drew 63 entrants to Steinway Billiards in Astoria (Queens), NY.

Cha's trip went through Lidio Ramirez, Raymond Lee and Julian Tierney to arrive at a winners' side semifinal versus Mike Pruitt. Goberdhan, in the meantime, downed Nick Persaud, Jay Chiu, Nick Torraca and Anil Dhenraj to face Linda Cheung in the other winners' side semifinal.

Cha got into the hot seat match with a 7-3 win over Pruitt and was joined by Goberdhan, who sent Cheung to the loss side, double hill. Goberdhan, looking for his first win on the tour since four days before Christmas last year, claimed the hot seat 7-5 in what would prove to be his last win of the weekend.

On the loss side, Jaydev Zaveri, who'd lost his second round, winners' side match to Tierney and then got by Hunter Sullivan and Basdeo Sookhai in the first money round, got a second shot at Tierney. They battled to double hill before Zaveri advanced to defeat Frank Rodriguez, also double hill, and

Henry Cha with John Leyman



drew Mike Pruitt, just over from the winners' side. Cheung arrived on the loss side to draw a rematch against KC Clayton, whom she'd defeated in a winners' side quarterfinal and who'd gone on to defeat Marc Lamberti 6-4 and Anil Dhenraj 6-3.

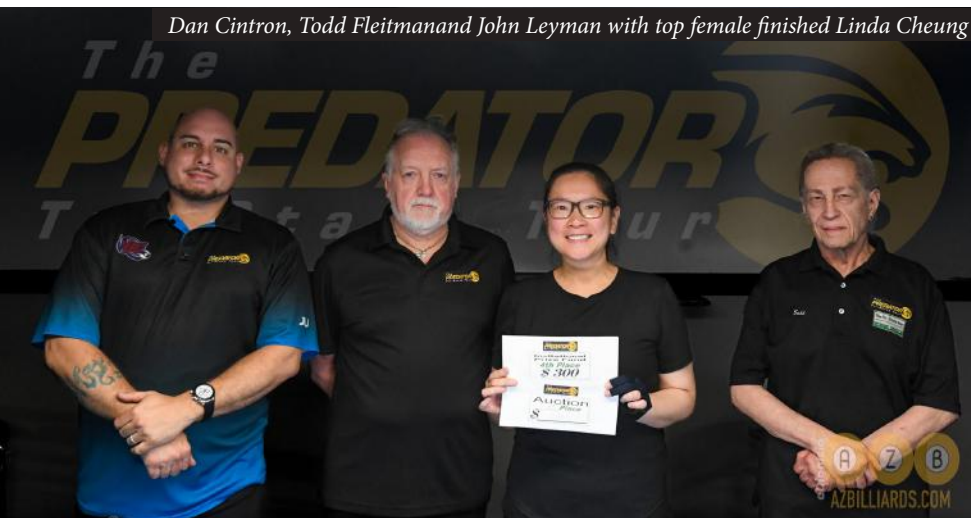
Zaveri defeated Pruitt 7-4 and in the quarterfinals, faced Cheung, who'd eliminated Clayton, double hill. Zaveri ended Cheung's run 9-7 in those quarterfinals.

Zaveri's run ended immediately thereafter. Cha defeated him 7-5 for a second and necessary third shot at Goberdhan

in the hot seat. Cha took both sets of the true double elimination final 8-5 to claim the Predator Tri-State 25th Invitational Tournament. In addition to the prize money they earned, Cha took home a Predator Cue, while Goberdhan and Zaveri each were awarded a Poison Break Cue.

Tour representatives thanked the ownership and staff at Steinway Billiards for their hospitality, as well as title sponsor Predator Cues, Ozone Billiards, Sterling-Gaming, Kamui Tips, Phil Capelle, Pool & Billiards, Professor Q Ball, Bender Cues, Paul Dayton Cues, Bloodworth Ball Cleaner, Joe Romer Trophies and Quick Slick. The next stop on the Predator Tri-State Tour scheduled for the Saturday, July 30, will be a \$500-added, A-B-C-D 10-ball event, hosted by Clifton Billiards in Clifton, NJ.

Dan Cintron, Todd Fleitman and John Leyman with top female finished Linda Cheung



# 8-BALL BY THE BEACH

The third Ultimate Pool Series stop of the year took place at the Grand Hotel in the seaside resort of Blackpool in June. On the Pro Series there was a return to form by Karl Sutton and continued dominance from Michael Hill.

**D**espite winning the Pairs Cup at the start of the year, Sutton continued to struggle for results as an individual on the circuit, but the former European champion and world championship finalist showed

his undoubted class by winning this season's Pro Series Event 5.

Somewhat bizarrely, Sutton had failed to string together two consecutive wins on the series since its creation

last year, but 'Karlos' emphatically changed that record, starting with wins over the experienced Oly Bale 7-4 and current professional number one Shane Thompson 7-3.

Michael Hill



*Karl Sutton*

Sutton continued his momentum by defeating reigning Pro Cup champion Jordan Shepherd 7-3 and pairs partner Shaun Chipperfield 7-2. He then denied event 3 winner Jack Whelan's bid for titles in consecutive weekends with a 7-5 victory.

Another unexpected finalist emerged from the other side of the draw, as former world under-23 champion David McNamara reached his first Ultimate Pool title match.

On his way, 'Deej' eliminated current European champion Dejan Grech, and came through deciding frames against number two ranked Shaun Storry and Grand Slam runner-up Craig Waddingham in the last eight and four respectively.

A final featuring two unseeded players ranked 24 and 25 in the current standings, it was the slightly lower placed Sutton who enjoyed a dream start, breezing into a 5-0 lead before McNamara found a foothold with a four-frame burst of his own to reduce the deficit to just one.

McNamara then had an opportunity to draw level, but when he didn't, the pendulum swung again, and Sutton completed an emotional 8-4 success to bank £10,000 and a place in the provisional top 16.

Later in the weekend, Hill continued his amazing season with a third Pro Series victory in as many competition weekends when lifting the event 6 trophy.

The six-time world champion – arguably the greatest small table pool player of all-time – didn't claim a title during Ultimate Pool's inaugural 2021 season, but 'The Machine' is once again setting the standard as he completes a hat-trick after wins at events 1 and 4 earlier this year.

Hill eliminated former world champion Phil Harrison 7-2, the consummate Brian Halcrow 7-3, Pro Series event winner Declan Brennan 7-6, and then four-time Mosconi Cup winner Karl

Boyes – who during the weekend was returning to his smaller table English 8-ball roots – 7-5 in the semi-finals.

Number 28 ranked Rob Wharne would be the third maiden Pro Series finalist of the weekend after an impressive run of results. A multiple-time world team champion with England, Wharne got the better of Whelan, Thompson, Grech, Jimmy Croxton and event 1 runner-up Neil Raybone en route.

However, an irresistible Hill couldn't be stopped in the final as he registered a comfortable 8-2 win to complete a tremendous trio. From his three finals this campaign, Hill has a frame aggregate score of 24-5.

### Amateur Events

Elsewhere at the venue, Richie Oliver and Jez Graham won titles on the Challenger Series, and Harriet Haynes and Megan Randle respectively won the latest Women's Series and Women's Series Plate titles.

Oliver hadn't been past the last 128 during his previous two outings on the circuit this year, but he ran the gauntlet in event 5, culminating with a 7-5 victory over former snooker professional Lewis Roberts who had reached a second career Challenger Series final.

*Richie Oliver*

“ **A REIGNING WORLD LADIES CHAMPION, HAYNES DROPPED JUST TWO FRAMES IN THE GROUPS STAGE BEFORE FOUR KNOCKOUT WINS LED HER TO THE FINAL WHERE SHE FACED THE EXPERIENCED SHARON JAMES WHO WAS RETURNING TO FORM WITH HER FIRST FINAL APPEARANCE ON THE ULTIMATE POOL SCENE.** ”

Harriet Haynes



Graham collected his second Ultimate Pool accolade of the year following glory at the unranked Challenger Grand Slam back in February.

Since that triumph, Graham hadn't won a single match in the 2022 Challenger Series – losing his opening tie in all three previous events he had participated in. But he got it all right in event 6, ending the hopes of players from five different nations before ousting a gallant Del Redmond 6-5 in the final.

Oliver and Graham each pocket £7,000 and put themselves in a fantastic position to claim a top 16 spot on the Challenger rankings at the end of the year and therefore earn promotion to the 2023 professional circuit.

Haynes made it a double on the inaugural Women's Series as she backed up her event 1 win here in March with event 3.

A reigning world ladies champion, Haynes dropped just two frames in the

groups stage before four knockout wins led her to the final where she faced the experienced Sharon James who was returning to form with her first final appearance on the Ultimate Pool scene.

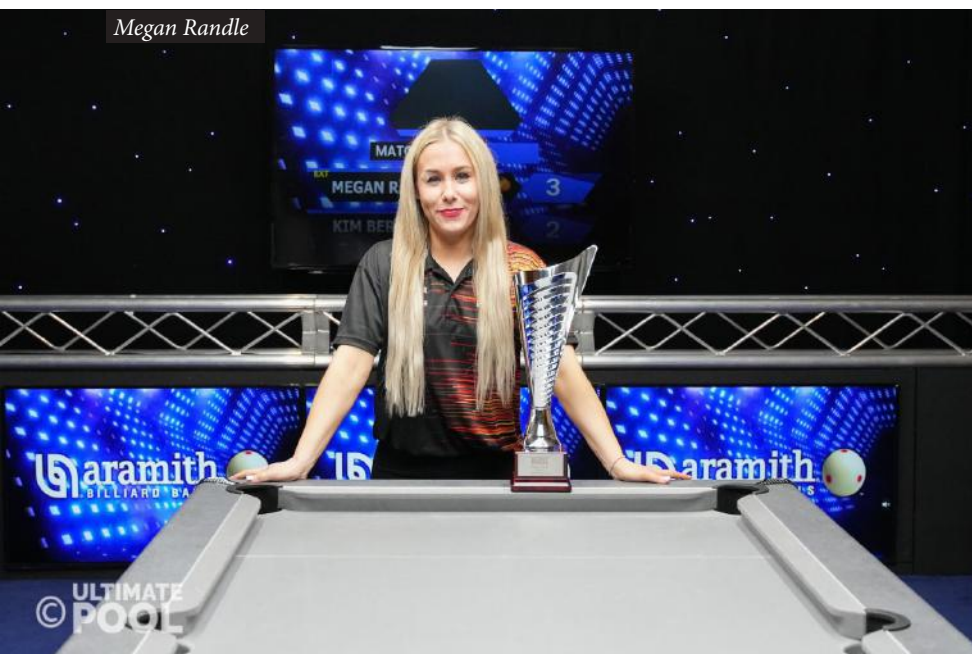
History was made in the final as the outcome was decided by the first-ever 6-red shootout on the Women's Series after normal time ended 4-4 when the match-clock expired.

James recorded a time of 70 seconds going first, an effort which Haynes easily eclipsed to secure the win.

In the plate event – for those that did not reach the knockout stage of the main competition – Randle defeated Kim Beresford 3-2 in the final to take home her first Ultimate Pool trophy.

For more news and information on Ultimate Pool events – and access to watch live action online – please visit [ultimatepool.tv](http://ultimatepool.tv).

Megan Randle



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# 2022 Mosconi Cup Selection Dates Revised

The selection dates for the 2022 Mosconi Cup at Bally's Las Vegas from November 30 to December 3 2022 will change to reflect the movement of the European Open Pool Championship in the Nineball World Rankings Schedule to August 9-14 in Fulda, Germany.

## Selection Process

For the first time, the Live Nineball World Rankings will come into play, with three players from each side who will qualify on order of merit from the Nineball World Rankings. The Live Nineball World Rankings are updated after every event recognised by the Nineball World Rankings Schedule this year and are still poised to grow further. The final two players from each side will be wild cards.

## The Cutoff

- The top player from each team from the Live Nineball World Rankings will be selected after the conclusion of the 2022 European Open Pool Championship at Hotel Esperanto Fulda, August 9-14 2022
- A further two players for each team will then be taken off the Live

Nineball World Rankings after the conclusion of the 2022 US Open Pool Championship at Harrah's Resort, Atlantic City from October 10-15 2022

- Both Team Europe and the USA will then have two wild card picks each as selected by the two respective captains Alex Lely and Jeremy Jones

## Ranking Events Coming Up

- St Johann im Pongau Open – EuroTour – Salzburg, Austria – June 24-27
- Petrich Open – EuroTour – Petrich, Bulgaria – August 6-8
- European Open Pool Championship – Matchroom – Hotel Esperanto Fulda, Germany – August 9-14 2022 – Entries open Tuesday, 21 June
- Slovenia Open – EuroTour – Slovenia – October 1-3
- Sandcastle 9-Ball Open – NBL – New Jersey – October 6-8
- US Open Pool Championship – Matchroom – Harrah's Resort, Atlantic City – October 10-15 – Tickets are available here
- International Open – Accu-Stats – Virginia, USA – October 30 – 5 November
- EuroTour Treviso Open – EuroTour – Treviso, Italy – November 25-27



The 2022 Mosconi Cup returns state-side for the first time since 2019 when the USA secured a famous 11-8 victory over their European counterparts, and they will be looking for a similar scoreline come this fall at Bally's after back-to-back defeats in 2020 and 2021. Tickets went in record time with now only limited availability in certain sections on certain days. Buy your seat here.

The 2022 European Open Pool Championship, US Open Pool Championship, and Mosconi Cup will all be broadcast live on Sky Sports in the UK. DAZN in the USA, Canada, Spain, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, and Viaplay in Scandinavia, the Baltics, Netherlands, and Poland. Matchroom.Live in territories without a broadcaster.



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# European Open

*To Be Staged in Thorsten Hohmann's Hometown Of Fulda, Germany*

**M**atchroom Pool is pleased to confirm the inaugural European Open Pool Championship will take place in Thorsten Hohmann's hometown of Fulda, Germany at the Hotel Esperanto Fulda from August 9-14 2022 with player entries open next Tuesday, 21 June at 3pm BST, and spectator tickets available to purchase from Monday 27th June.

The European Open Pool Championship is the latest event to be added to the Nineball World Ranking schedule with 256 of the world's best set to head to Germany, scheduled live on Sky Sports. The tournament will be played out in the same way as May's first-ever UK Open and the US Open Pool Championship. It will see players fight through a seeded double elimination stage led by the top 32 on the Nineball World Rankings. Only the last 16 will make it through to the straight knockout stage.

Hohmann: "It's always been a dream for me to have a tournament in my home, Fulda. It's in the heart of Germany. It's accessible and it's a beautiful town. It will be perfect for us. The venue. The players and fans will like it. I am just one of many talents to come out of Fulda. We have at least five European champions. We have a big history. Bringing the world to Ful-

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9-14 AUG

**EUROPEAN OPEN**

**HOTEL ESPERANTO, FULDA, GERMANY**

DIAMOND ARAMITH MATCHROOM NINEBALL WORLD RANKINGS

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da is great for Pool in Germany and Fulda.”

“On one hand, I want it to be a success, so I don’t want to play. I just want to be a part of organising it and getting promotion there and getting the residents of Fulda to support the event and for them to experience it on this level with a production level never seen before in Germany. On the other hand, I want to do well and play well.”

Leon Scholz of Team Esperanto said “We as the Hotel Esperanto are pleased to host Matchroom Pool’s inaugural European Open Pool Championship and welcome the players and their fans in Fulda – the hometown of hall of famer Thorsten Hohmann. We are looking forward to an exciting tournament featuring 256 of the best pool players in the world as well

as numerous fans who will follow the event live here at Hotel Esperanto or on TV.”

Emily Frazer, Matchroom Multi Sport Managing Director said: “2022 has been a mighty year for Pool, with our development of the Nineball World Rankings; seedings and ranking events have been a solid progression for the Pool, thrusting a lot of excitement and hope amongst the top professional players. Expanding the volume of hours of Pool shown live on Sky Sports is a major boost for the European Open as we aim to promote the game to a wider audience. Heading to Fulda, the hometown of the superstar Thorsten Hohmann sets the scene for this first-time event; with us taking the plunge to push our events further around the globe. I can’t wait to see what numbers turn out for this, either way, ex-



pect fireworks in traditional Matchroom fashion!”

The tournament will carry vital Major Ranking event status for the Live Nineball World Rankings as well as a \$200,000 prize fund. Player entries will cost only \$250.



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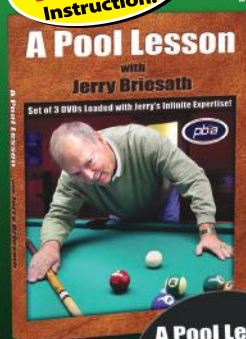
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- Jeanette “The Black Widow” Lee

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# PREDATOR ANNOUNCES

## *Return of World Women's 10-Ball Championship*

**Predator Group, the industry leader in innovative pool billiards products, announced today the resurrection of the Predator World Women's 10-Ball Championship, scheduled for Klagenfurt, Austria September 6-10, 2022.**

**T**his 64-player, double-elimination tournament, will have a \$148,000 prize fund and will be the first World Women's 10-Ball title competed for since Rubilen Amit of the Philippines defeated Great Britain's Kelly Fisher in the Philippines at the 2013 World Championship. Coinci-

dentally, Fisher won the last women's world pocket billiards championship contested before the COVID-19 pandemic shuttered the industry, defeating Austria's Jasmin Ouschan in the finals of the World Women's 9-Ball Championship held in China during December of 2019.

"The women's game is very important for a number of reasons," said WPA President Ian Anderson. "There are a lot of great women's players throughout the world. Unfortunately, we haven't had as many women's events in the past but the more that we can have, the better."



No female competitor has been hotter than Fisher, who was inducted into the Billiard Congress of America Hall of Fame in 2020. The crafty Brit, who won the World Women's 10-Ball Championship in 2011, not only won the first Predator Pro Billiard Series Women's event of 2022 but also took top honors at the WPBA's Northern Lights Open as well as the Super Billiards Expo's Pro Players Championship.

The Predator World Women's 10-Ball Championship is yet another new event in the ever-expanding portfolio of the United States-based billiards manufacturer, which revamped the dormant men's World 10-Ball Championship in 2019 when it partnered with amateur league operator CueSports International to stage the event as part of CSI's annual Expo in Las Vegas. Last year, Predator and CSI launched the U.S. Pro Billiards Series – a series of professional 10-ball events coinciding with CSI state championships – as well as the Austria Open, which featured men's and women's professional competition. The company expanded into the women's game further this year with the creation of women's U.S. Pro Billiard Series events, including April's Women's Professional Billiards Association Alfa Las Vegas Open which Fisher claimed by defeating Canada's Brittany Bryant.

"I really like the current schedule because there are so many events," said Ouschan. "I'm super excited and I really can't wait for the World 10-ball to happen again. And seeing that it's happening in Austria, that's doubly special to me."

"We have Predator doing a number of events plus the World Championships for men and women plus a World Championship for juniors," said Anderson. "Their contribution has been fantastic."



The tournament will be held in hometown of Ouschan, who won the World 10-Ball Championship in 2011. One of the most decorated female players throughout Europe and the world, the Austrian has come close in recent World Championship events only to be turned away in the finals – finishing second at the World 9-Ball Championships in 2019 and 2015 as well as placing second back-to-back years at the Amway World Open.

The event will be a bit of a homecoming for the Austrian who, while well-known in her native land, rarely has a chance to showcase her skills on a large stage in front of her fellow countrywomen and men.

"It's so cool to bring such a huge event to Austria because I and my brother are really known here but the people never really get to see anything," she said. "There's not much pool on television so, bringing a big tournament to my hometown is so special. But, then I know you have an extra portion of pressure that comes with it. Winning a World Championship in my hometown is just a crazy thought."

"We are so excited to be reviving the World Women's 10-Ball Championship and bringing it to Austria in September," said Karim Belhaj, CEO of Predator Group. "We want to give back to all of the professional game, which is why we launched the Women's Pro Billiard Series events this year and have now added the Predator World Women's 10-Ball Championship to our roster. Alongside the men's World 10-Ball and World Junior Championships we are continuing to celebrate the game and we hope that everybody can benefit from the excitement created around the sport."

The Predator Pro Billiard Series is a series of open, professional events held around the world to provide more opportunities for professional and aspiring pool players to compete in high-quality events, earn more income, sharpen their skills and play their way into the Predator World Women's 10-Ball Championship held each year by Predator and the World Pool-Billiards Association. Follow @probilliardseries on Facebook, @probilliardseries on Instagram or @PBilliardSeries on Twitter to follow the next events.

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# Tourney Results

## Jun 01 - Jun 05

### 2nd Annual Diveney Cues Bar Box Classic 8-Ball Division

#### Leisure Time Billiards

East Moline, IL

- 1 Roberto Gomez \$5,500
- 2 Brian Groce \$3,800
- 3 Jesse Bowman \$2,400
- 4 Gene Albrecht \$1,500
- 5 Alex Pagulayan \$1,000
- 5 Corey Deuel \$1,000
- 7 Brandon Heldenbrand \$700
- 7 Fedor Gorst \$700
- 9 Alex Grell \$450
- 9 Blake Baker \$450
- 9 Jamey Bowman \$450
- 9 Jimmy Nosavan \$450

## Jun 01 - Jun 05

### 2nd Annual Diveney Cues Bar Box Classic 10-Ball Division

#### Leisure Time Billiards

East Moline, IL

- 1 Roberto Gomez \$6,300
- 2 Robert Frost \$4,500
- 3 Fedor Gorst \$2,000
- 4 Jesse Bowman \$1,800
- 5 Benny Conway \$1,000
- 5 Houston Rodriguez \$1,000
- 7 Randy Jordan \$700
- 7 Whitey Walker \$700
- 9 Bobby McGrath \$500
- 9 Gene Albrecht \$500
- 9 Jimmy Nosavan \$500
- 9 Jr, Mike Banks \$500
- 13 Alex Pagulayan \$350
- 13 Kash Keaton \$350
- 13 Ricky Evans \$350
- 13 Ryan Ponton \$350

- 17 Blake Baker \$250
- 17 Brad Thompson \$250
- 17 Brandon Heldenbrand \$250
- 17 Corey Deuel \$250
- 17 DaWayne Pearson \$250
- 17 Jeff Richards \$250
- 17 Mason Koch \$250
- 17 Warren Kiamco \$250

## Jun 01 - Jun 05

### 2nd Annual Diveney Cues Bar Box Classic One Pocket Division

#### Leisure Time Billiards

East Moline, IL

- 1 Fedor Gorst \$3,250
- 1 Jesse Bowman \$3,250
- 3 Alex Pagulayan \$750
- 3 Corey Deuel \$750

## Jun 03 - Jun 05

### Sandcastle 9-Ball Open

#### Sandcastle Billiards

Edison, NJ

- 1 Greg Hogue \$4,455
- 2 Danny Olson \$2,785
- 3 Oscar Dominguez \$1,335
- 4 Derick Daya \$780
- 5 Jonathan Pinegar \$555
- 5 Raymond Linares \$555
- 7 Jayson Shaw \$355
- 7 Shane Wolford \$355

## Jun 04 - Jun 05

### Joss Tour 2021-2022 Stop 15 Second Chance

#### Snookers - Sports Billiards, Bar & Grill

Providence, RI

- 1 Bob Darigis \$320

- 2 Martin Longmire \$220
- 3 Demian Provost \$160
- 4 Chris Crawford \$80

## Jun 04 - Jun 05

### Q City 9-Ball Tour Event

#### Borderline Billiards

Bristol, TN

- 1 Mike Skeens \$750
- 2 Landon Hollingsworth \$550
- 3 DJ Brads \$300
- 4 Ricky Bingham \$200
- 5 James Brown \$100
- 5 Thomas Sansone \$100

## Jun 04 - Jun 05

### Joss Tour 2021-2022 Stop 15

#### Snookers - Sports Billiards, Bar & Grill

Providence, RI

- 1 Ray McNamara \$1,050
- 2 Peter Bowman \$800
- 3 Francisco Salas \$600
- 4 Steve Mack \$450
- 5 Bob Mendenjian \$350
- 5 Kerry McAuliffe \$350
- 7 Dan Sharlow \$200
- 7 Frankie Hernandez \$200
- 9 Darren Jevons \$100
- 9 Rich Kravetz \$100
- 9 Ronny Chestna \$100
- 9 Ryan Cullen \$100

## Jun 04 - Jun 05

### Arizona Women's Billiards Tour 2022 Stop 3

#### Main Street Billiards

Mesa, AZ

- 1 Rebecca Wagner \$1,120

- 2 Kaitlen Stengil \$500
- 3 Simone Huskey \$270
- 4 Melinda Huang \$200
- 5 Stephanie Martin \$110
- 5 Susan Williams \$110
- 7 Connie Foschi \$75
- 7 Leandrea Gaff \$75
- 9 Jaye Succo \$50
- 9 Misty Anderson \$50
- 9 Rae Evans \$50
- 9 Terri Johnson McCauley \$50

## Jun 10 - Jun 12

### Hannah Choi 10-Ball Memorial Tournament

#### First Break Cafe

Sterling, VA

- 1 Fedor Gorst \$5,300
- 2 Shane Wolford \$2,700
- 3 Kristina Tkach \$1,500
- 3 Warren Kiamco \$1,500
- 5 BJ Ussery \$830
- 5 Dylan Spohr \$830
- 5 Kevin West \$830
- 5 Manny Chau \$830
- 9 Brandon Shuff \$420
- 9 Chris Hansen \$420
- 9 Danny Mastermaker \$420
- 9 Deo Alpojara \$420
- 9 Greg McAndrews \$420
- 9 Mhet Vergara \$420
- 9 Rafael Reyes \$420
- 9 Roberto Gomez \$420

## Jun 11 - Jun 12

### Predator Tri State Tour 2022 Stop

#### CueBar Billiards

Bayside, NY

- 1 Roberto Rodriguez \$1,125
- 2 Lidio Ramirez \$720
- 3 Silvestre Palacios \$450
- 4 Paul Lyons \$270
- 5 Euryel Castillo \$180
- 5 Hunter Sullivan \$180
- 7 Linda Cheung \$130
- 7 Luis Jimenez \$130

## Jun 11 - Jun 12

### JPNEWT Tour 2022 Stop #5

#### Triple 9 Bar & Billiards

Elkridge, MD

- 1 Briana Miller \$400
- 2 Kia Burwell \$280
- 3 Ellie Kaufman \$200
- 4 Linda Haywood Shea \$120

## Jun 14 - Jun 19

### World Cup of Pool 2022

#### Brentwood, Essex

- 1 David Alcaide \$30,000
- 1 Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz \$30,000
- 2 Aloysius Yapp \$15,000
- 2 Toh Lian Han \$15,000
- 3 Pin-Yi Ko \$7,500
- 3 Ping-Chung Ko \$7,500
- 3 Shane Van Boening \$7,500
- 3 Skyler Woodward \$7,500
- 5 Chris Melling \$4,500
- 5 Dimitri Jungo \$4,500
- 5 Imran Majid \$4,500
- 5 Jani Uski \$4,500
- 5 Marc Bijsterbosch \$4,500
- 5 Mika Immonen \$4,500
- 5 Niels Feijen \$4,500
- 5 Ronald Regli \$4,500
- 9 Alexandros Kazakis \$2,250
- 9 Bader Al Awadi \$2,250
- 9 Besar Spahiu \$2,250
- 9 Denis Grabe \$2,250
- 9 Eklent Kaci \$2,250
- 9 Jason Theron \$2,250
- 9 Joshua Filler \$2,250
- 9 Kyle Akaloo \$2,250
- 9 Mieszko Fortunski \$2,250
- 9 Nick Ekonomopoulos \$2,250
- 9 Oliver Szolnoki \$2,250
- 9 Omar Al Shaheen \$2,250
- 9 Rainer Laar \$2,250
- 9 Thorsten Hohmann \$2,250
- 9 Vilmos Foldes \$2,250
- 9 Wojciech Szewczyk \$2,250
- 17 Albin Ouschan \$1,812
- 17 Aleksa Pecelj \$1,812

- 17 Alex Pagulayan \$1,812
- 17 Ali Al Obaidly \$1,812
- 17 Andreja Klasovic \$1,812
- 17 Anthony Brabin \$1,812
- 17 Ariel Casto \$1,812
- 17 Christos Meligaliotis \$1,812
- 17 Daniele Corrieri \$1,812
- 17 Elliott Sanderson \$1,812
- 17 Francesco Candela \$1,812
- 17 Imad Iagnaoui \$1,812
- 17 Ivan Li \$1,812
- 17 James Georgiadis \$1,812
- 17 Jayson Shaw \$1,812
- 17 John Morra \$1,812
- 17 Lo Ho Sum \$1,812
- 17 Masato Yoshioka \$1,812
- 17 Matt Edwards \$1,812
- 17 Maximilian Lechner \$1,812
- 17 My Cherif Zine El Abidine \$1,812
- 17 Naoyuki Oi \$1,812
- 17 Noppon Saengkham \$1,812
- 17 Petr Urban \$1,812
- 17 Quoc Hoang Duong \$1,812
- 17 Robbie Capito \$1,812
- 17 Roman Hybler \$1,812
- 17 Sebastian Rodriguez \$1,812
- 17 Simon Singleton \$1,812
- 17 Thanh Kien Dang \$1,812
- 17 Thepchaiya Un-Nooh \$1,812
- 17 Waleed Majid \$1,812

## Jun 14 - Jun 18

### Predator Germany Women's Open

#### Bremen, Germany

- 1 Kelly Fisher \$21,055
- 2 Eylul Kybaroglu \$10,527
- 3 Bojana Sarac \$4,737
- 3 Kristina Zlateva \$4,737
- 5 Jasmin Ouschan \$2,368
- 5 Maryse Rivera \$2,368
- 5 My Nguyen \$2,368
- 5 Veronika Ivanovskaia \$2,368
- 9 Amalia Matas \$947
- 9 Chantal Stadler \$947
- 9 Katrina Wan \$947
- 9 Melanie Suessenguth \$947

## Jun 14 - Jun 18

### Predator Germany Open

#### Bremen, Germany

- 1 Dimitris Loukatos \$20,956
- 2 Wiktor Zielinski \$10,478
- 3 Can Salim \$5,239
- 3 Ramazan Akdag \$5,239
- 5 Jan Van Lierop \$2,619
- 5 Mohammad Soufi \$2,619
- 5 Ralf Souquet \$2,619
- 5 Sanjin Pehlivanovic \$2,619
- 9 Daniel Guttenberger \$1,571
- 9 Daniel Maciol \$1,571
- 9 Francisco Diaz-Pizarro \$1,571
- 9 Georgi Georgiev \$1,571
- 9 Mateusz Sniegocki \$1,571
- 9 Mickey Krause \$1,571
- 9 Petri Makkonen \$1,571
- 9 Roberto Bartol \$1,571
- 17 Andres Alonso Aguilar Acevedo \$785
- 17 Arias J. Salas \$785
- 17 Christos Papageorgiou \$785
- 17 Eduard Bregu \$785
- 17 Esteban Robles \$785
- 17 Jonas Kornmesser \$785
- 17 Jose Alberto Delgado \$785
- 17 Mario He \$785
- 17 Michael Schneider \$785
- 17 Moritz Neuhausen \$785
- 17 Mustafa Alnar \$785
- 17 Nick Van Den Berg \$785
- 17 Pijus Labutis \$785
- 17 Sami Erkan Koylu \$785
- 17 Tobias Bongers \$785
- 17 Yuma Dornier \$785

## Jun 17 - Jun 19

### Tony Chohan vs Chip Compton One Pocket Challenge Match

#### Skinny Bob's Billiards

- Round Rock, Texas
- 1 Tony Chohan \$100,000

## Jun 18 - Jun 19

### 2022 DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop 6

#### Rusty's Billiards

- Arlington, TX
- 1 Neil Nabil Saidawi \$1,280
- 2 Daniel Herring \$890
- 3 Greg Sandifer \$665
- 4 Telly Shackelford \$460
- 5 Juan Parra \$350
- 5 Travis Arredondo \$350
- 7 Jesse Moore \$260
- 7 Surmin Omerovic \$260
- 9 Rafeen Rahman \$180
- 9 Robin Barbour \$180
- 9 Steven Adkins \$180
- 9 Tony Top \$180
- 13 Alex Pedraza \$100
- 13 Brian Dluge \$100
- 13 Jamie Cummings \$100
- 13 Tony Ignomirello \$100

## Jun 23 - Jun 25

### Dynamic Billard Sankt Johann im Pongau Open 2022

#### Alpina Sport und Wellnesshotel

- St. Johann im Pongau,
- 1 Niels Feijen \$6,257
- 2 Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz \$4,797
- 3 Dimitri Jungo \$3,128
- 3 Oliver Szolnoki \$3,128
- 5 Daniele Corrieri \$1,564
- 5 David Alcaide \$1,564
- 5 Joshua Filler \$1,564
- 5 Wiktor Zielinski \$1,564
- 9 Aleksa Pecelj \$1,042
- 9 Alexandros Kazakis \$1,042
- 9 Denis Grabe \$1,042
- 9 Eklent Kaci \$1,042
- 9 Jonas Souto Comino \$1,042
- 9 Mats B. Schjetne \$1,042
- 9 Moritz Neuhausen \$1,042
- 9 Tobias Bongers \$1,042
- 17 Andreas Daniel \$625
- 17 Daniel Maciol \$625
- 17 Dimitris Loukatos \$625
- 17 Marco Spitzky \$625
- 17 Mario He \$625
- 17 Marius Skoneczny \$625
- 17 Mateusz Sniegocki \$625

- 17 Maximilian Lechner \$625
- 17 Mieszko Fortunski \$625
- 17 Mustafa Alnar \$625
- 17 Petr Urban \$625
- 17 Petri Makkonen \$625
- 17 Pijus Labutis \$625
- 17 Ramazan Akdag \$625
- 17 Sanjin Pehlivanovic \$625
- 17 Wojciech Szewczyk \$625
- 33 Ajdin Piknjac \$321
- 33 Besar Spahiu \$321
- 33 Christos Papageorgiou \$321
- 33 Elliott Sanderson \$321
- 33 Georgi Georgiev \$321
- 33 Imran Majid \$321
- 33 Jakub Koniar \$321
- 33 Jaroslav Polach \$321
- 33 Kevin Lannoye \$321
- 33 Ladislav Hajsman \$321
- 33 Nick Ekonomopoulos \$321
- 33 Radoslaw Babica \$321
- 33 Ronald Regli \$321
- 33 Sebastian Batkowski \$321
- 33 Thorsten Hohmann \$321
- 33 Tomasz Kaplan \$321

## Jun 23 - Jun 26

### 2022 WPBA Ashton Twins Classic

#### The Hidden Spot

- Calgary, Alberta
- 1 Kelly Fisher \$7,765
- 2 Allison Fisher \$4,658
- 3 Brittany Bryant \$3,726
- 4 Kyoko Sone \$2,950
- 5 Caroline Pao \$2,251
- 5 Eleanor Callado \$2,251
- 7 Ashley Burrows \$1,552
- 7 Tamami Okuda \$1,552
- 9 Maria Teresa Roper Garcia \$1,086
- 9 Maryann McConnell \$1,086
- 9 Susan Mello \$1,086
- 9 Teruko Cucculelli \$1,086
- 13 Amalia Matas \$776
- 13 Emily Duddy \$776
- 13 Emilyn Callado \$776
- 13 Kim White-Newsome \$776

# MONEY LISTS

	NAME	COUNTRY	\$ AMOUNT	
	Fedor Gorst	 RUS	147.592,00 US\$	
	Joshua Filler	 GER	122.413,00 US\$	
	Shane Van Boening	 USA	93.627,00 US\$	
	Franciso Sanchez-Ruiz	 ESP	92.623,00 US\$	↑
	Wojciech Szewczyk	 POL	80.106,00 US\$	↓
	Jayson Shaw	 SCO	78.167,00 US\$	↓
	Tony Chohan	 USA	71.425,00 US\$	↓
	Kelly Fisher	 GBR	67.820,00 US\$	↑
	Alex Kazakis	 GRE	66.201,00 US\$	↓
	Albin Ouschan	 AUT	60.112,00 US\$	↓

- 17 Ada Lio \$582
- 17 Aryana Lynch \$582
- 17 Farla Salmanovitch \$582
- 17 Kelly Cavanaugh \$582
- 17 Khanh Ngo \$582
- 17 Stephanie Mitchell \$582
- 17 Susan Williams \$582
- 17 Toni Sakamoto \$582

## Jun 24 - Jun 26

### Predator women's Sankt Johann im Pongau Open 2022

#### Alpina Sport und Wellnesshotel

- St. Johann im Pongau,
- 1 Ina Kaplan \$1,564
  - 2 Bojana Sarac \$1,042
  - 3 Eylul Kybaroglu \$834
  - 3 Tina Vogelmann \$834
  - 5 Ana Gradisnik \$625
  - 5 Kristina Grim \$625
  - 5 Monika Zabek \$625
  - 5 Pia Filler \$625

## Jun 25 - Jun 26

### Delaware State Barbox 8-Ball Championship

#### Milford Billiards

- Milford, Delaware
- 1 Josh Brothers \$850
  - 2 Kevin West \$430
  - 3 Shaun Wilkie \$320
  - 4 Joe Stem \$220
  - 5 Dave Barnes \$140
  - 5 Steve Johnson \$140
  - 7 Joey Bean \$80
  - 7 Rick Winpiger \$80

## Jun 25 - Jun 26

### Predator Tri State Tour 2022 Stop

#### Steinway Billiards

- Astoria, NY
- 1 Henry Cha \$1,000
  - 2 Jason Goberdhan \$700
  - 3 Jaydev Zaveri \$500
  - 4 Linda Cheung \$300

- 5 KC Clayton \$200
- 5 Mike Pruitt \$200
- 7 Anil Dhenraj \$150
- 7 Frank Rodriguez \$150
- 9 Julien Tierney \$100
- 9 Mac Jankov \$100
- 9 Marc Lamberti \$100
- 9 Nishant Narang \$100
- 13 Adrian Daniel \$50
- 13 Amanda Andries \$50
- 13 Erland Lami \$50
- 13 Shawn Sookhai \$50

## Jun 25 - Jun 26

### Q City 9-Ball Tour Event

#### Rock House Tavern

- Gastonia, NC
- 1 Jesse Draper \$800
  - 2 Brian Francis \$530
  - 3 Joey Fox \$340
  - 4 Dustin Coe \$230
  - 5 Aaron McClure \$100
  - 5 Bill Fowler \$100

# 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.

**JULY**

## Capone's Firecracker Open 9-Ball

**Jul 02 - Jul 03**

Capone's Billiard Lounge  
Spring Hill, FL

## The World Games 2022

**Jul 07 - Jul 17**

Birmingham, Alabama  
Birmingham, Alabama

## Scott Frost vs Fedor Gorst One Pocket Challenge Match

**Jul 08 - Jul 10**

Railyard Billiards  
Louisville, KY

## Sunshine State Pro Am Tour 2022 Stop 4

**Jul 09 - Jul 10**

Livingston's Billiards  
Bradenton, FL

## Arizona Women's Billiards Tour 2022 Stop 4

**Jul 09 - Jul 10**

Pockets Billiards  
Tucson, AZ

## 2022 DFW Ladies 9-Ball Tour Stop 4

**Jul 09 - Jul 09**

Rusty's Billiards  
Arlington, TX

## Tiger Florida Tour 2022 Stop 4

**Jul 16 - Jul 16**

Shooters Billiards  
Port St. Lucie, Florida

## JPNEWT Tour 2022 Stop #6

**Jul 16 - Jul 17**

Champion Billiards & Sports Café  
Frederick, MD

## WPBA Masters 2022

**Jul 20 - Jul 24**

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort  
Mt. Pleasant, MI

## NWPA Tour 2022 Stop 1

**Jul 22 - Jul 23**

Legends Billiard Room  
Beaverton, Oregon

## 2022 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 6

**Jul 22 - Jul 24**

The League Room  
Parkersburg, West Virginia

## 2022 DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop 7

**Jul 23 - Jul 24**

Stixx And Stones Billiards  
Lewisville, Texas

## 4th Annual Brendan Crockett Memorial

**Jul 30 - Jul 31**

Hard Times Billiards - Sacramento  
Sacramento, CA

## Weir Memorial 9-Ball Tournament

**Jul 30 - Jul 30**

Twisted Rose  
Algonquin, IL

## Bar Box Bonanza Series Open Fargorate 9-Ball

**Jul 30 - Jul 31**

Brews & Cues on the Boulevard  
Glen Burnie, Maryland

## JPNEWT Tour 2022 Stop #7

**Jul 30 - Jul 31**

Shooter's Family Billiards  
Wayne, NJ

## 2022 Midwest Junior Championship

**Aug 05 - Aug 07**

Twisted Rose  
Algonquin, IL

## 8th Annual Junior Norris Memorial Shoot Out

**Aug 07 - Aug 14**

Sikes Senter Mall  
Wichita Falls, Texas

## European Open 2022

**Aug 09 - Aug 14**

Hotel Esperanto  
Fulda

## New England 9-Ball Tour 2022 Stop #7

**Aug 13 - Aug 14**

Snookers Pool Lounge  
Providence, RI

## West Coast Women's Tour 2022 Stop 3

**Aug 13 - Aug 13**

Buffalo Billiards  
Petaluma, California

## JPNEWT Tour 2022 Stop #8

**Aug 13 - Aug 14**

Triple 9 Bar & Billiards  
Elkridge, MD

## WPBA Predator Event

**Aug 17 - Aug 21**

Calgary, Alberta

## Hex.com Pro Am

**Aug 17 - Aug 21**

CR's Sports Bar  
Coon River, Minnesota

## 2022 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 7

**Aug 19 - Aug 21**

Big Dog Billiards  
Des Moines, IA

## 2022 DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop 8

**Aug 20 - Aug 21**

Snookered Billiards  
Frisco, TX

## Stroker's Master's Open Championship

**Aug 20 - Aug 21**

Stroker's Billiards  
Palm Harbor, FL

## US Women's Snooker Open

**Aug 26 - Aug 28**

Seattle, Washington

# Readers,

THIS IS YOUR **CHANCE**  
T O H A V E Y O U R  
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WE ARE POSTING

## **ONE PHOTO EACH MONTH**

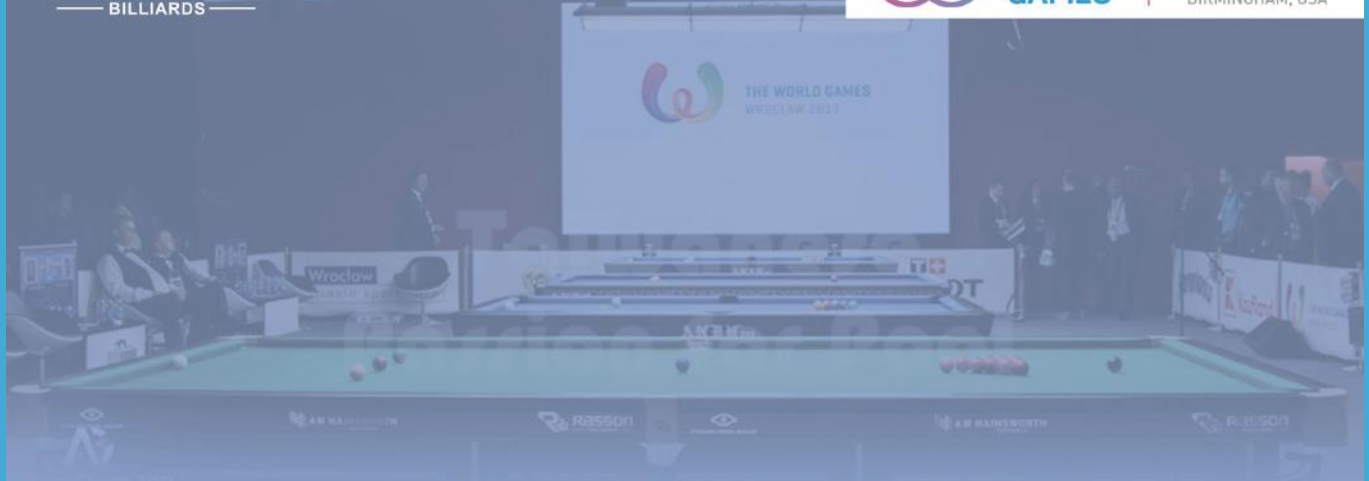
on our Facebook account and in the AzBilliards forums.

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.**

Thanks go out to Karl Kantrowitz for this month's photo. We love the photoshop work that some of you have been doing on AzB for these photos, but our winner this month is Garrett Williams from Facebook with...



*I know what I'd do. I know what I'd do.  
What do I do?*



COOPERATIVE SUPPLIERS FOR THE 10TH AND 11TH WORLD GAMES



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**THE WORLD GAMES 2017**

**OFFICIAL MATCH TABLE FOR POOL AND SNOOKER IN 2022 WORLD GAMES**

USA | CANADA | PANAMA | UK | SWEDEN | NORWAY | PORTUGAL | POLAND | AUSTRIA | FINLAND | SPAIN | PORTUGAL  
ROMANIA | BULGARIA | RUSSIA | GEORGIA | LITHUANIA | THAILAND | PHILIPPINES | VIETNAM | CHINA | TUNISIE | INDONESIA  
SWITZERLAND | UAE | SAUDI ARABIA | NEW ZEALAND | MALAYSIA | AUSTRALIA | INDIA | PAKISTAN | ITALY | FRANCE | GERMANY