

Billiards & Buizz

an **A Z B** publication

vol.7, Issue May 2022



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

WORLD POOL CHAMPIONSHIP

1989	Neil Robertson	1990	Mark King
1991	John Parrott	1991	John Parrott
1992	John Parrott	1992	John Parrott
1993	John Parrott	1993	John Parrott
1994	John Parrott	1994	John Parrott
1995	John Parrott	1995	John Parrott
1996	John Parrott	1996	John Parrott
1997	John Parrott	1997	John Parrott
1998	John Parrott	1998	John Parrott
1999	John Parrott	1999	John Parrott
2000	John Parrott	2000	John Parrott
2001	John Parrott	2001	John Parrott
2002	John Parrott	2002	John Parrott
2003	John Parrott	2003	John Parrott
2004	John Parrott	2004	John Parrott
2005	John Parrott	2005	John Parrott
2006	John Parrott	2006	John Parrott
2007	John Parrott	2007	John Parrott
2008	John Parrott	2008	John Parrott
2009	John Parrott	2009	John Parrott
2010	John Parrott	2010	John Parrott
2011	John Parrott	2011	John Parrott
2012	John Parrott	2012	John Parrott
2013	John Parrott	2013	John Parrott
2014	John Parrott	2014	John Parrott
2015	John Parrott	2015	John Parrott
2016	John Parrott	2016	John Parrott
2017	John Parrott	2017	John Parrott
2018	John Parrott	2018	John Parrott
2019	John Parrott	2019	John Parrott
2020	John Parrott	2020	John Parrott
2021	John Parrott	2021	John Parrott
2022	John Parrott	2022	John Parrott

CONTRIBUTORS:

Skip Maloney
Chris Stankovich
Anthony Beeler
Steve Lillis
Keith Paradise / CSI
Sam Korte

Michael Day - Ultimate Pool Group
Erwin Dionisio
Tony Fox
Matchroom Multi Sport
Matt Porinsky / Predator
Chris Reinhold

COVER PHOTO:

Taka Wu / Matchroom Multi Sport

GRAPHICS AND LAYOUT:

Natasha Dolovacki
Nebojsa Dolovacki

© 2017-2022, *The Billiards Buzz* is an online only monthly publication.

It is published on or around the 30th of each month. All opinions & information expressed herein are exclusively those of the writers or advertisers and do not necessarily reflect those of the AzBilliards. All persons interested in submitting articles and material of interest are invited to do so. Submission of such articles constitutes permission for AzBilliards to use these articles in this publication or online on AzBilliards.com. Article submission or advertisers queries can be sent to us at info@azbilliards.com

FROM THE Head Rail

MIKE HOWERTON

How cool was it to see Shane Van Boening finally get this first World Championship? Shane has won just about every title available in the sport (most of them multiple times), but a World Championship had eluded him for all of these years. Shane is just one of the great stories that we have in this sport that we all love. What made it even more of an accomplishment to me is that he won it in this period where we have so much talent at the top of the sport. When Shane was dominating the sport, a win like this was expected. Now that it seems like there is a different winner every other event, seeing him get to the top of the hill was even more of an achievement.

Speaking of that talent, congrats to Wojciech Szewczyk for his World 10-Ball Championship win. Winning titles is one thing, but those World Championships are hard to come by.

On a personal note, I've teased things for long enough. I can proudly announce that I have acquired Accu-Stats Video Productions. I am humbled by Pat's trust in me to keep what he has built alive and flourishing. There will be an announcement later this month, but personally I am honored to allow my friend to step away from the day to day of the business and enjoy some of the success that he has worked so hard to accomplish.

Until next time,
Mike



BRING THE HEAT

- 🔥 EXPERIENCE THE NEXT LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE
- 🔥 TORRIFICATION PROCESS PRODUCES A NATURAL LOW DEFLECTION
- 🔥 THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS: LOW DEFLECTION AND DURABILITY OF CARBON FIBER WITH THE SOUND AND FEEL OF TRADITIONAL WOODEN SHAFTS



EXPERIENCE IN PERSON
BCA BOOTH #903 & 1003

INTRODUCING THE NEW PUREX[®]

FUZE

KIELWOOD
PERFORMANCE SHAFT

BURN YOUR COMPETITION SUMMER 2022
PRE-ORDER YOURS TODAY

AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY
CUE & CASE

VISIT WWW.CUEANDCASE.COM
OR CONTACT 800-835-7665

PSKW
MSRP
\$399.00



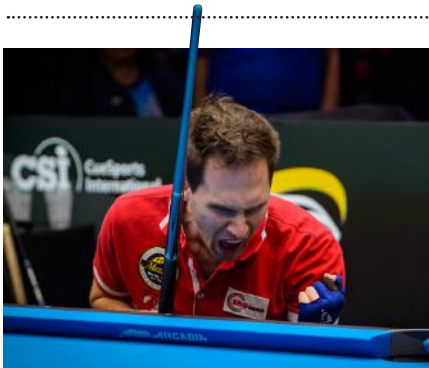
Billiards Buzz Contents

May 2022
vol.7, Issue 67



14 Van Boening Wins World Pool Championship

Article by Matt Lynch / Matchroom Multi Sport
Photos courtesy Taka Wu / Matchroom Multi Sport



26 Szewczyk Wins World 10-Ball

Article courtesy Keith Paradise / CSI Staff
Photos courtesy Matt Porinsky / Predator



30 Del Sim Takes NBL Title

Article courtesy Skip Maloney - AzB Staff
Photos courtesy Erwin Dionisio

06 Using Data To Improve Your Game

Dr. Chris Stankovich

08 Improve Your Mental Approach

Anthony Beeler

10 Gospel Trick Shots

Steve Lillis

16 Super Billiard Expo Wrap-up

Article courtesy Skip Maloney - AzB Staff

Photos courtesy Erwin Dionisio

22 Kelly Fisher Wins Again

Article courtesy Skip Maloney - AzB Staff

Photos courtesy Corby Dayhoff - Servitude Photography

34 Junior Player of the Month - Joey Tate

Article courtesy Skip Maloney - AzB Staff

Photos courtesy Chris Reinhold and AzB Staff

40 Johnny Kling Profile

Sam Korte

44 ACA 2022 Awards Recipients

Photo courtesy of Tony Fox

46 Russian Player Ban Legalities

Article courtesy Sam Korte

Photos courtesy Erwin Dionisio

48 Ultimate Pool Group

Article and photos courtesy Michael Day

52 2022 World Pool Masters Field Locked In

54 US Open Signs Deal With Harrahs

56 Matchroom Renews Onboard Partnership

58 Tournament Results

62 Upcoming Events

64 AzBilliards Money List

67 Caption This



WORLD POOL MASTERS

5-8 MAY '22

EUROPA POINT SPORTS PARK, GIBRALTAR
#WORLDPOOLMASTERS | #VISITGIBRALTAR

THE OFFICIAL TABLE OF WORLD POOL MASTER



R RASSON
BILLIARDS

OX

R RASSON
BILLIARDS

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

RASSON CONTACT
www.rasson.cn | kevina@rasson.cn

More Dealers are Welcome on Board

USING DATA TO IMPROVE YOUR GAME

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

Objective/subjective evaluations of your game

How do you know when you are on top of your pool game? We regularly hear players talk about “*how well they are hitting them*,” but with comments like that what do we really know? Performance appraisal is this week’s article, as how you grade your play will make a big difference when it comes to your confidence, focus, motivation, and resiliency as they contribute to your future success.

Types of measurement

There are two ways to measure a performance: objectively and subjectively. Objective measurements are made by counting things, like how many balls you made and games you won. Objective measurements are nice in that it keeps scoring equal among participants, meaning that it is very easy to count observable evidence. Subjective measurements are fuzzier

in that they rely on a person’s biased opinion --- for example, a player might say he’s not playing well, but beyond his opinion there is no evidence to back up the claim.

Interestingly, both means of measurement are good for pool players. Objective measurements, especially as this applies to how many games you win, are important as they provide truth relating to your game. For example, if you won 3 games and lost 3 games, the numbers show that you are a .500 player (average). With this number you can set future goals that include a greater number of wins. Subjective measurements, while not nearly as accurate, still impact a player’s game. For example, if you *feel* like your game is improving but have yet to win a tournament, the confidence you have in your game will help you stay focused and confident as you commit to improving your game. Not everything can be observed and



counted, especially as this applies to how we feel about ourselves, making subjective measurements important to note.

Apply what you learn

Regardless of whether it is objective or subjective measurement, what is most important is that *you learn from the data you gather*. For example, if you see you are trending favorably based on your recent winnings, ask yourself why? What are you doing well, and how do you improve in your areas of weakness? Similarly, if you *feel* like something is off your game (maybe you are rushing your shots), your subjective understanding will capture your feelings far better than an objective measurement. Remember, data collection is one thing, but it’s what you do with the data that counts!

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



CARBON FIBER SHAFTS

Available now!



LD

PRO

12.50 mm

12.00 mm

FUTURE IS HERE!



WWW.TIGERPRODUCTS.COM
800-5-TIGER-5



IMPROVE YOUR MENTAL GAME APPROACH

ANTHONY **BEELER**

We marvel at the playing skills today's professional players possess. The game of pool is as physical as ever and yet there's still one deciding factor that often gets overlooked: the mental game.

The game of billiards is as much a challenge between you and yourself as it is you and your opponent. At Virtual Billiard Academy we see a lot of students struggling to perform while under pressure; many seem to have lost the enjoyment they once had for pool, and before enrolling in my class some seriously considered quitting the game altogether.

This article will discuss strategies to improve your mental approach, so you can become more successful and most importantly, gain more enjoyment, both on and off the table.

I believe there are five specific principles that will improve your mental game; *Play in the Present*, *Maintain a Positive Attitude*, *Relax Your Mind Between Games*, *Evaluate: Don't Analyze*, and *Visualize Success*.

PLAY IN THE PRESENT

How often during a match are players thinking about what happened in the past or what may happen in the future? Dwelling on previous mistakes is never a good thing, the past is the past. All too often players lose several games in a row because they are annoyed with something that happened a few games back. Conversely, too often there is the tendency to begin thinking about the outcome or how good it will feel to walk up to your opponent and shake hands after the win.

It is vital to play in the present moment. To play in the present moment you must have a sound pre-shot routine that you follow on every shot. At Virtual Billiard Academy we can help you develop a solid routine that will keep you playing in the present!

MAINTAIN A POSITIVE ATTITUDE

Have you ever watched the 1990 US Open 9-ball match between Nick Varner and Mike Sigel? Varner, after being behind 9-2 and corner hooked, was the mastermind of one of the greatest come from behind victories in the history of the game. Instead of being

deflated and getting down on himself due to the circumstances, he maintained a positive attitude and took advantage of every single opportunity given to him from that point on. It's important to stay positive, keep your head up, and never show an opponent weakness. And if you feel yourself getting negative, take a moment, regroup, and keep trudging forward.

RELAX YOUR MIND BETWEEN GAMES

Pool matches are long and there are lots of opportunities to overanalyze, stress and micro-manage. Take a moment to regroup, refresh and relax



your mind between games. This will help you maintain a fresh perspective when you return to the table.

EVALUATE: DON'T ANALYZE

Finding a balance is important. It is good to process what is happening but at the same time try not to obsess. Paralysis through analysis can become an unwelcome reality. Many of us are guilty of being over-thinkers and a pool match provides endless opportunities to overdo it. Finding patterns matter but do not overthink every single shot. Focus on subconscious delivery of the shot and try not to become too mechanical.

VISUALIZE SUCCESS

When you are trying to play your best pool, positive visualization cannot be overlooked. Stay positive, stay confident and get in the habit of envisioning success. Picture what you want to accomplish. See it happen in your

mind and turn your visualizations into reality.

YOU ARE THE VALIDATOR OF SUCCESS

At Virtual Billiard Academy we often hear potential students say, I must win this tournament, or my practice was a failure. Nothing could be further from the truth. What defines you is not the result, but rather how you approach the process. It is good to have big picture goals, but once you do, put them to the back of your mind and focus on the small steps that will help you achieve them. That might mean watching instructional videos

or scheduling in person meetings with your coach.

DO NOT WAIT AROUND

Very rarely do problems or stressors resolve themselves by sitting around and waiting. Come up with a plan, review related lessons and strategies and get to work. Perfect practice makes perfect. You must practice the right things to overcome obstacles in your way. Mental toughness is not something you are born with; it is developed over the course of weeks and years. Make focusing on your mental game a priority! Practice sound strategies and be patient. Good results will follow!

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.

NEWLY UPDATED ONLINE COURSE!

Master Instructor
ANTHONY BEELER'S

VIRTUAL BILLIARD ACADEMY

Instructor of the Decade!

POOLTEACHER.COM
#1 IN POOL INSTRUCTION
(606) 669-8401

SPM MAGAZINE
ACS
McDermott
pbia
Billiards Buzz

Gospel Trick Shot #27

Beginner Shots

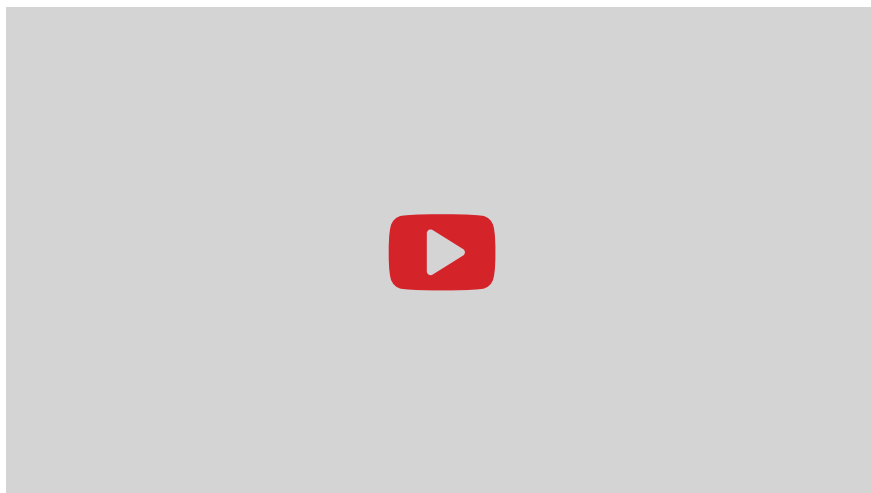
History of the Trick Shots: Here are three of our most simple but amazing trick shots with a message that any would be Gospel Trick Shot artist can add to their own personal repertoire! The Gospel Trick Shots are all set up at one time to be made in under one minute with a short message attached to each. To do all three at once as performed in the video by yours truly Steve “Leap-in” Lillis takes some extra practice. Sometimes when I start a Gospel Trick Shot show I use this technique as my opening. I saw this first done by Steve Mizerak over 40 years ago in the famous Miller Lite Beer commercial called “Just Showing Off.” Obviously, I am not doing the trick shots to show off but to demonstrate that all shots done in my Gospel Trick Shot show have a powerful message which is much more important than making the trick shots.

GTS Names and Why: The first shot executed in the video is Gospel Trick Shot #22 which came out in December of 2021 and is called the “3 in 1” or the “Trinity Shot.” Which one goes in first? They all go in the same time and are equal just like Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in the Trinity. The next shot executed seconds later in the video is Gospel Trick Shot #16 which came out in June of 2021 and is called the “Audience Participation Shot” or is a type of obstacle shot because life is full of obstacles. Finally, the third and final shot performed in the video is the classic Gospel Trick Shot #6 which came out way back in April of 2020 entitled “Be Still.” Three balls disappear while a cue ball remains still on the table illustrating the Scripture verse found in Psalm 46:10 “Be still and know that I am God.”

Scripture References in NIV Translation: The Trinity is found in John 17:11. Second Corinthians 4:17 mentions that our obstacles and troubles are only temporary. Psalm 46:10 mentioned above is the key Scripture for the “Be Still” shot.

Cue Ball(s) Placement: A cue ball is not used in the first shot for 3 in 1 and for the second shot the “Obstacle Shot” a cue ball is stationary and positioned as such in the diagram frozen to the two object balls. In the last shot called “Be Still” another cue ball sits frozen on the rail between two object balls as in the diagram while another cue ball that was used in the preceding “Obstacle Shot” is in hand as in the diagram.

Object Ball(s) Placement: For the “3 in 1” shot the 1, 2, and 3 balls are placed near the side pocket as diagrammed allowing for one ball width of directional throw on the 2 and 3 balls aiming to the outside of the opposite side pocket for the 2 ball and the inside of the corner pocket that will



receive the 3 ball. For the “Obstacle Shot” line up the combination kiss shot on the 6 and 7 ball allowing for directional throw on the 7 ball by aiming to the outside of that corner pocket with the 6 ball kissing into the opposite corner pocket. The 4 and 5 balls near the center of the table must be frozen to the cue ball and aiming to the outside of the side pockets to allow for one ball width of directional throw. In the final shot “Be Still” the 10 ball is in line with the first diamond on the bottom rail and the cue ball and the 9 ball are all frozen together as diagrammed.

Objective: Shoot the one ball straight into the opposite corner pocket as shown in the diagram and all three balls will disappear at the same time. Then shoot a few seconds later the cue ball

straight into the 6 ball with center ball and all 4 balls will disappear. Pick up that cue ball and reposition as shown in the diagram and hit about 1/4 of the 9 ball to pocket the balls leaving the cue ball in the center of the 9 and 10 balls on the rail frozen and still.

Special Notes: Directional throw (friction between ball surfaces) on all shots can be more or less depending 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: All of these shots have been well received through 25 years of Gospel Trick Shot Ministry. When put together all at once like in the video people really get excited to see the entire show and listen to the messages!



DIAMOND

BILLIARD PRODUCTS, INC.



CHECK OUT
OUR NEWEST
DEALERS

Simonis
SIMONIS CLOTH

PARAGON

NEWEST JEWELS IN DIAMOND'S CROWN

...THAT'S HOW I ROLL
aramith
The True Belgian Billiard Balls

AMERICAN BILLIARD COVERING - Matthew Suite

26055 Laurel Grove Road
Mechanicsville, MD 20659
(301) 399-4376
americanbilliardcovering.com

CROSBY BILLIARD AND DART SUPPLY

5110 Commercial Way
Spring Hill, FL 34606
(352) 556-4855
www.crosbypooltables.com

OMEGA BILLIARDS - Mike & Joanne Hoang

440 West Pipeline Rd.
Hurst, TX 76053
(817) 280-9902
omegabilliards.com

KINNEY BILLIARDS

525 South Glenstone
Springfield, MO 65802
(417) 831-0209
kinneybilliards.com

SOUTHWEST BILLIARD SUPPLY

5052 S. 40th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85040
(702) 882-0672
www.southwestbilliardsupply.com

GOLDEN WEST GAMES

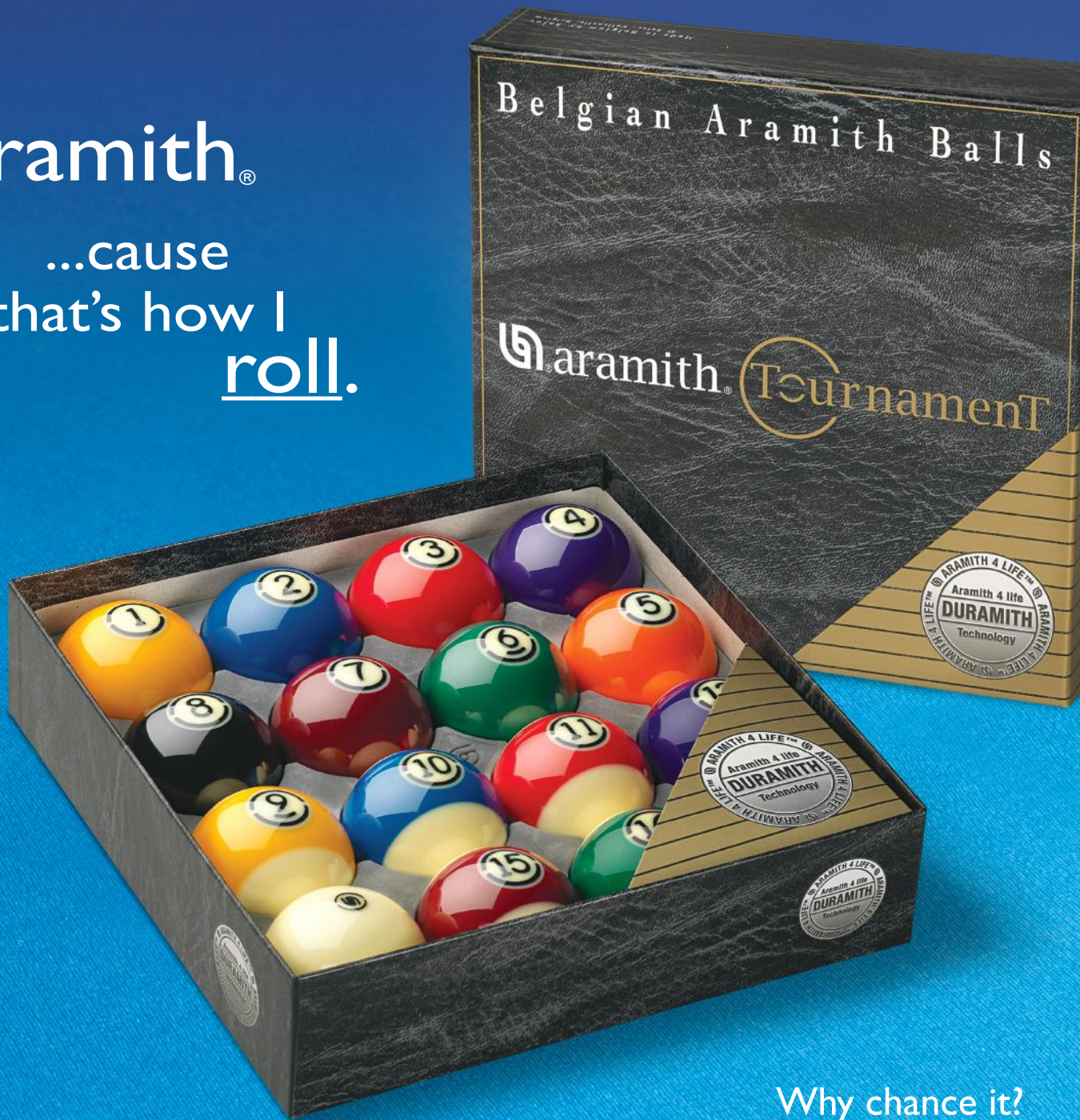
5225 Tacoma Mall Boulevard
Tacoma, WA 98409
(253) 475-2322
goldenwestgames.com

WWW.DIAMONDBILLIARDS.COM

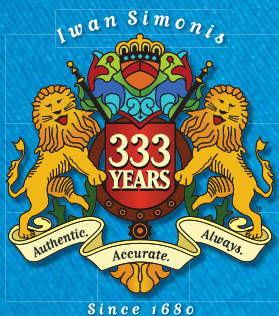
DIAMOND BILLIARD PRODUCTS, INC. ♦ 4700 NEW MIDDLE ROAD JEFFERSONVILLE, IN 47130 ♦ (812)-288-7665

Aramith®

...cause
that's how I
roll.



Why chance it?
Aramith balls deliver the truest roll.



...THAT'S HOW I ROLL 
aramith®
The True Belgian Billiard Balls
www.aramith.com

Contact your Aramith Distributor for more information



Changing the World of Pool...For Good!

Whether it's via Accu-Stats FREE YouTube Channel, Pay-Per-View
Vimeo On Demand, Subscription Service, Streaming Video, or High-Def DVDs
Accu-Stats delivers your message to the World!

With 12,476,148 views in 2021, we thank you ALL!

MAY Premieres
8pm EST
View in HD FREE



Pool's Greatest Players
Their Greatest Matches

FREE! Remastered in HD



Sun. 1st



Tue. 3rd



Thu. 5th



Sun. 8th



Tue. 10th



Thu. 12th



Sun. 15th



Tue. 17th



Thu. 19th



Sun. 22nd



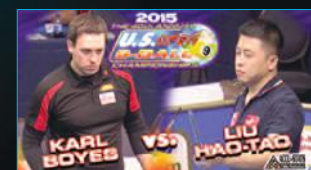
Tue. 24th



Tue. 26th



Thu. 28th



Sun. 31st

800.828.0397

accu-stats.com

Shane Van Boening

Is Champion Of The World

Article courtesy MATT LYNCH - Matchroom Multi Sport

Shane Van Boening is the champion of the world after beating Albin Ouschan in the 2022 World Pool Championship final at the Marshall Arena, Milton Keynes. Coverage live on Sky Sports in the UK/Ireland, DAZN in the USA, Canada, Brazil, Spain, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, and Austria as well as Viaplay and networks worldwide.

Van Boening won the lag before taking the opening rack in a comfortable fashion. The American was pegged back in the second though after missing a routine 2 ball to the bottom pocket. At that, Ouschan found his groove to put daylight between them both at 3-1 after four racks. At 3-1, Van Boening got some table time and made the most of it as he twisted the screw with a pinpoint jump shot on the 3 followed by a raking effort to pot the 4 and make it 3-2.

Ouschan did reassert a two-rack difference in the sixth rack, but it was short-lived after scratching on the break in the resulting rack. It was a case of blink, and you miss it as Van Boening turned the contest on its head to take the eighth rack to level at 4-4 before a simple 1-9 combo put him in front for the first time since 1-0.

A tie between two modern greats was always going to deliver with very little to separate the pair. As quick as Van Boening took the lead at 5-4, it was soon Ouschan back ahead at 6-5 with a break and run. The crowd was kept entertained throughout and the duo put on a clinic in safety play with a standout moment coming in the 12th as Ouschan found himself with no eye on the pocket on the 1, he played a sweet safety to tuck the cueball be-





Albin was left wondering what might have been.

“Matchroom is the best thing to happen to this sport. Without them, this would never even be possible. A big thank you to Matchroom and the whole team. It is a dream come true. It makes me hungry for more, I will go home and go fishing for a bit but then I will be working hard again.”

“To the middle of the match, it was back and forth. I played a safety then didn’t make a shot for the rest of the match. Shane played a great tournament with great comebacks. He deserved it today. I am disappointed, but it is fair to say he played better. He had some rolls but without that, you cannot be world champion” – Ouschan said.

Van Boening’s win sees the American shoot up to the Live 2023 Nineball World No.1 with over £60,000 in prize money. The win puts Van Boening in a commanding position to keep his place in the Team USA Mosconi Cup team this November 30-3 December at Bally’s Las Vegas.

hind the 4 and 6 ball whilst leaving the 1 ball near the bottom pocket. Despite what looked like an effortless safety, Van Boening kicked out like the demon he is to make the 1 ball and soon level again at 6-6.

Van Boening’s cue action has delighted many for so long and it was a case of it being as clean as ever and no better rack showed that than the way he kept the cue ball on a piece of string. From 6-6, it was the American who quite literally ran home with an expert performance and deliver his first-ever world title leaving Ouschan with very few opportunities at the table as he wrapped up an emotional 13-6 win. It was effortless and breathtaking at the same time in a watershed moment for the South Dakota Kid.

An emotional Van Boening said: “I have been trying for years. Two times I’ve been in the final and two times in the final. I just knew I was going to win the World Pool Championship. I dreamed I would be World Champion. It teaches you to work hard, follow your dreams and never give up.”

“It was just a fantastic week. That match for me against Mika changed things. I could’ve been going home

at 10-3 down. But I fought my way through. I am lost for words. I am so happy for myself, thank you to all the fans of this sport.

I put in so many hours in my career. I dreamed of being a world champion. Today is that moment.”

“ I DREAMED I WOULD BE WORLD CHAMPION. IT TEACHES YOU TO WORK HARD, FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS AND NEVER GIVE UP.

– Shane Van Boening ”



An overwhelmed Shane Van Boening

Super Billiards Expo

returns for its 28th year after 18-month postponement

For a lot of common-sense reasons, a great deal of timely reporting on the Super Billiards Expo (as, or soon after it occurs) focuses on the players and their matchups, especially when it comes to high-profile players like Jayson Shaw, who won this year's Pro Players Championship, Kelly Fisher, who won the WPBA's Championship event and Chris Bruner, who won the 996-entrant Amateur Players Championship.

With all of the details that go into their stories, it's easy to lose sight of what a massive, annual project the SBE is; to plan, procure materials, and execute within six days of almost mind-numbing, constant pool-matches and the overall supervision of it all.

Thanks to Allen Hopkins and his staff, including his son, Allen Hopkins, Jr., a great deal of the planning, up to the opening of doors that occurred this year on Monday, April 18, allowed the SBE to launch into its six days of non-stop activity without any discernible issues. From there, the 240,000

square feet of floor activities reverted to the work of the event's tour directors; Doug Ennis, working the Pro events, and Cecilia "Ceci" Strain, with the much more player-heavy Amateur events. They've both been at it for a number of years, which, of course, were interrupted by the pandemic. Ennis has been in the Pro TD role since 2013 and for Strain, it was, effectively, her 11th year at the helm of the Amateur events. Her 10th year was 2019, Her 11th was 18 months, bridging three calendar years, later.

It is generally a thankless task, because Ennis and Strain are the arbi-

ters of so many kinds of decisions that come up in any kind of a single pool event, let alone 13 of them, hosting (with some event crossovers) over 2,000 participants. Everybody's got something to gripe about and stopping by Ennis' or Strain's base of operations for the Pro and Amateur events to drop off a compliment about what a good job they were doing did not appear to be on many participants' agendas. They fielded grumbling about all manner of things, from payouts not being posted in a timely fashion on the brackets, to questions about the way in which the WPBA was seeded for its single elimination



phase, to minor complaints about too many things to mention. That said, it's not as though the complainants created long lines at either the central Amateur desk (raised up on platforms that had a way of creating a degree of distance from the people who staffed it) or the Pro desk; folding tables set to the immediate right of the entrance to the 16-table Pro arena.

Through it all, Ennis and Strain exhibited extraordinary amounts of patience and professionalism, no doubt developed over the many years of doing the job. They also demonstrated, if you happened to be paying attention, that the foundation of that patience and professionalism was their enjoyment of the work.

"*Inside Pool* quoted me one time, saying that the SBE is something akin to the Mecca of pool," said Ennis. "All roads lead to SBE, whether one is a vendor, an amateur player or a professional player."

"The family of pool needed to come together for this," he added. "Many have been waiting for three years to see each other again and you could sense a sigh of collective relief."

Ennis noted that it can be difficult to juggle one's responsibilities as TD with making time to talk to old acquaintances (like a certain reporter who spent a lot of time around the



Pro Am BarBox Winner Joe Dupuis

Pro event 'front desk') and new ones, plus spectators who just want to ask a question. But it's done because that's part of the job.

"Obviously," said Ennis, "people came for the pool, but the people are what make it special."

"Ceci" Strain emphasized the 'positives,' too. She had, by far, the largest group of competitors to deal with and fielded her share of issues, but on reflection, what came out first was, as with Ennis, about the people.

"It was wonderful seeing everyone back and ready to compete," she said. "It was great seeing Chris Bruner finally get his win in the Amateur event.

I've been directing tournaments with him since he was a junior player."

She noted, too, that the quantity and quality of junior competitors, some of them competing in Pro events, was impressive.

"There were so many impressive junior players," she said, "ready to hop-skip into professional-level play. I was super-impressed with their poise, professionalism, and their playing ability."

"Watching 16-year-old Joey Tate win four matches in the ProAm event was exciting," she added. "There is so much hope for this sport."

Ennis was ably assisted on the Pro desk by Jordan Kreiner, who's been the assistant to the tour director for the last few years and Ricky Bryant came on board as a referee this year.

"They were both very patient with me," Ennis wrote, with an 'LOL' at the end.

He's also of the opinion that Allen Hopkins does not get enough credit for what he has done and continues to do for the players,

"He has a staff that is very loyal and sees little turnover," he said. "There is



Jayson Shaw



Darren Appleton

a camaraderie and a family-like bond amongst the staff.”

Strain, with a larger staff to accommodate her tour direction of all but two of the SBE’s events, noted that it was “fantastic having some of the old crew back,” mentioning Jamie Doellinger, Hatter and Donna Reynolds, Keith Connolly, Don Mokauer, her bilingual referee, Carlos. Newest additions to the crew were Jenna Davis and James Tipton. She also gave a shout out to her ‘overnight mini-tournament crew,’ “who assisted during some of the more chaotic times; Raymond Walters, Rick Thompson, Scotty Wilburn and Soo Emmet.

So, with ‘crew in place’ and acknowledged for their invaluable contributions to the events, we can take a look at the event highlights that are likely to be remembered by many of those who attended.

Amateur events feature long-time competitor winning his first and an event debut

Excitement in the world of sports is often less dependent on the quality of play than it is by the balance of quality between the competing individuals, teams, or, for that matter, horses.

A pool match between lower-ranked players, played out with ‘beads on the wire’ handicaps is like a low-level claiming race, featuring horses that are being offered for sale. With odds at the pari-mutuel windows, they can generate the same kind of excitement as a high-level, thousands of dollars stakes races in which horses with histories of winning compete. In pool, matches between lower-ranked players (in leagues for example), can be as tense for participants and spectators alike, as the most anticipated match at the annual SBE, which happened, this year, to be a quarterfinal match-up between Russia’s Fedor Gorst and UK’s Jayson Shaw, or the Kentucky Derby.

The excitement of the introduction of a new game to the SBE proceedings emanated from the fact that a lot of the competitors had never played the game of 6-ball before. Played out on Diamond ‘bar box’ tables, the game operates under standard 9-ball rules, just with three fewer balls. The SBE debut of the game was won by Danny Mastermaker, who downed Fred Goodman III in a two-set final; the first title to be claimed in the week. Daniel Dagotdot, who finished in the tie for 3rd place (single elimination bracket), was among those experiencing the game for the first time.

“It is so hard to make a ball on the break,” he noted of his first experience, “and if you break and don’t drop a ball, 90% of the time, you lose.”

“I do like the game,” he added, “and you can’t ever really say you don’t get a chance.”

As noted by its tournament director, ‘Ceci’ Strain earlier, the 996-entrant Amateur Players Championship was won by Chris Bruner, a former tour champion on the VA-based Action Pool Tour, whose been trying to claim the title for 20 years. He finished third at the last SBE in 2019 and has placed 5th on a number of occasions.

“I’m still on Cloud Nine,” he said, about three hours after the event had ended, around 6:30 on Sunday night. “I’ve been so close for so many years.”



Jennifer Barretta

ASPIRE

WITH PREDATOR ONE SHAFT

WHEN YOU ARE
READY TO GET SERIOUS
ABOUT YOUR GAME.



www.PredatorCues.com

© 2021 Predator Cues. All rights reserved.
Predator is a registered trademark of Predator Group.

A field of 166 entrants competed in the Women's Amateur Players Championship. Tina Malm went undefeated through that field to claim the title, downing Ashley Benoit in the finals.

Not including the two junior events for ages 17/Under and 12/under, the total entrants for which were not recorded, the nine amateur events of the 2022 SBE drew a total of 1,965 entrants (with some crossover between events). This brought the total number of participating pool players to 2,101. The two Pro events (73 Open and 63 Women) thus represented just 6% of the total number of players who competed this year. Trying to detail 9 events, especially the 996-entrant Open Amateur would be unwieldy, so we offer some information about and congratulations to the 94% percent who were the largest participating contingent of pool players at the 2022 SBE.

6-Ball Amateur Players Championship (200) – 1st Danny Mastermaker, 2nd Fred Goodman III, 3rd Jared Demalia/Daniel Dagotdot

Early Bird Super Seniors (58) – 1st Ike Runnels, 2nd Martin Ciccio, 3rd Al Muccilli/Flaco Rodriguez

Open Amateur (996) – 1st Chris Bruner, 2nd Pat McNally, 3rd Jomax Garcia/Derick Daya

Senior Amateur (364) – 1st Raymond McNamara, 2nd Chris Sutzer, 3rd Javier Perez/Efrain Morales

Super Seniors (149) – 1st Gene Rossi, 2nd Ed Matushonek, 3rd Frank Sorriento/Ace Aughty

Women's Amateur (166) – 1st Tina Malm, 2nd Ashley Benoit, 3rd Nicole Nester/Bethany Tate

Junior (12 & Under) – 1st Jim Powell, 2nd D'Angelo ("Jaws") Spain, 3rd Noah Majersky, 4th Evan Demelo



Kelly Fisher

Junior (18 & Under) – 1st Brent Worth, 2nd Payne McBride, 3rd Landon Hollingsworth, 4th Yan Pena

ProAm BarBox (32) – 1st Joe Dupuis, 2nd Alan Rolan Rosado, 3rd Bart Czapl/Joey Tate

Shaw and Fisher earn the two Pro event titles

By Saturday night, the WPBA's 63-entrant Women's 9-Ball Professional Championship had whittled down to its 16-entrant single elimination phase. The 16 women advancing (in fact, the entire field of the event) featured many of the most highly recognizable names in women's pool and with the exception of two from the UK (the Fishers, Kelly and Allison), all were from the North American continent; two, being Canadians (Brittany Bryant and Veronique Menard). Among the 47 who did not make the cut were a few junior competitors - Skylar Hess, Savannah Easton and Hayleigh Marion - along with Jeri Engh, who, in her 80s, was the event's oldest participant. Women of the J. Pechauer Northeast Women's Tour were well-represented, along with the presence of, though not participation on the part of the tournament's

director, Linda Shea. Along with Kia Burwell and Caroline Pao, who did become two of the final 16, and C.C. Strain, who acted as the tournament director for all of the SBE's Amateur events, tour members Ada Lio, Kathy Friend, Eugenia Gyftopoulos, Judie Wilson and Shanna Lewis competed.

On Sunday morning, the final eight paired up in four quarterfinal matches. The marquee pairing among them featured the Fishers, who'd last met in the finals of the WPBA's Northern Lights Classic last month. Joann Mason-Parker took on Caroline Pao, Jennifer Baretta faced Kim Newsome and Canada's Veronique Menard matched up with Teruko Cucculelli.

In races to 11, Kelly Fisher defeated Allison Fisher 11-8 and Joann Mason Parker downed Caroline Pao 11-2. "9mm" Baretta shot down Kim Newsome 11-6 and Cucculelli eliminated Menard 11-9. In the semifinals that followed, Kelly Fisher defeated Mason-Parker 11-4 and in the finals, met Baretta, who'd defeated Cucculelli 11-4.

Fisher and Baretta traded racks through the first five games, after which Kelly was ahead 3-2. She added a rack, off Baretta's break for a two-

rack lead before Baretta came back with two to tie things for the third time at 4-4. Fisher won seven of the next eight games to claim the title.

The international 'feel' of the event was most evident in what was easily among (if not "the") most anticipated matchup of the four-day event, between the UK's Jayson Shaw and Russia's Fedor Gorst. The matchup, which occurred in the single-elimination quarterfinals, lived up to its billing, as the two battled to double hill before Shaw advanced. More on this later, along with the final matchup between Shaw and Darren Appleton, which waited until the 17th of its potential 21 games before Shaw pulled away to win the next two and claim the title.

There were quite a few "wish I coulda been there" matches throughout the event's four days, up to and including matches among the final 16, which were, for obvious reasons, witnessed by the SBE's largest crowds in the Pro arena. Pre-single-elimination, there was the double hill battle between Shaw and Billy Thorpe, which moved Shaw into the final 16, the Fedor Gorst and Ralf Souquet (new school/old school) match that sent Gorst to the final 16, and Appleton's two straight

double hill matches; one win (Jeff Beckley) and one loss (Mhet Vergara), which sent "Dynamite" to the loss side, where a single win, over Bucky Souvanthong, sent him (Appleton) to the final 16. And, as always, any match featuring Earl Strickland as a competitor is always entertaining, whether because of exuberant antics or just plain rock-solid shooting.

Moving into the semifinals, Shaw drew Mario He, who'd earlier defeated Jonathan Pinegar 11-7 and Oscar Dominguez 11-9. Appleton's path to the finals from the final 16 started out against Earl Strickland. He got by him 11-6 and then downed Joseph Spence 11-3. In the semifinals, Appleton drew Billy Thorpe, who'd recently eliminated Robbie Capito 11-9 and Souquet 11-8.

Shaw downed He 11-7, as Appleton was busy dispatching Thorpe 11-4. The all-UK battle was on.

The excitement of the final was evident right from the start as the two players started out by winning racks on their opponents' breaks. The went back and forth that way until Shaw was ahead 4-3. At the end of rack #12, Shaw was ahead by two 7-5. On Appleton's break of rack #13, he dropped



12 & Under Winner Jin Powell

one ball, but almost immediately gave the table to Shaw, who missed hitting the 1-ball, completely. Shaw saw an obvious 1-9 combination awaiting Appleton's arrival at the table, so, gentleman that he was, he picked up the cue ball and placed it in the position it needed to be for Appleton to make the combination. He did so without handling the cue ball Shaw had set for him.

With a skill display of (among other things) jump shots by both Shaw and Appleton, they advanced to a 9-8 lead for Shaw, who broke and ran the 18th rack to reach the hill first. Appleton broke the 19th rack, sinking one ball, but couldn't see the 1-ball. He pushed (the one and only time that happened all match) and Shaw finished the game to claim the event title.

Hopkins and his staff, along with tour directors Doug Ennis and 'Ceci' Strain thanked all of the players, spectators and vendors who made the 28th SBE possible, along with the TAP League (which held two events at the SBE) and sponsors Ivan Simonis, Diamond Billiards Products, Tiger Products, Run Out Sportswear and Predator Carom Cues.



Women's Amateur Winner Tina Malm

“KWIKFIRE” GOES UNDEFEATED To Win Second Straight WPBA Title

Story by SKIP MALONEY - AzB Staff / Photos courtesy CORBY DAYHOFF - Servitude Photography

Fresh off her undefeated win two weeks ago at the WPBA's Northern Lights Classic in Minnesota, where she faced Allison Fisher for the first time in a final match since 2016, Kelly Fisher came to the CSI/Predator US Pro Billiard Series' Alfa Women's Las Vegas Open, held this past weekend (March 31-April 3) and went undefeated a second time to capture her second straight WPBA title.

Though Allison Fisher was, once again, 'in the house,' the two did not meet up at this latest event. Allison was eliminated in the opening round of the single-elimination final phase to which they'd both advanced. The event drew 64 entrants to the Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas.

The event was divided into two phases; an opening, 64-entrant, double-elimination Phase 1, followed by a 16-entrant, single-elimination Phase 2 that eventually crowned Kelly as the champion. The format was best-two-out-of-three races to 4. If the competitors were tied after two matches,

a "spot shootout" followed to determine the winner.

Kelly, who was in a 16-player, Phase 1 bracket that included eventual runner-up, Brittany Bryant, advanced to be among the eight winners' side entrants in Phase 2 without having



Kelly Fisher



to play a third match. She played a total of 27 games against three opponents in Phase 1 and gave up only three of them, downing Sarah Kapeller (4-0, 4-1), Ashley Burrows (4-0, 4-0) and Cathy Metzinger (4-1, 4-1). To join Kelly in advancement to Phase 2, Bryant, in the meantime, had to play 44 games and lost 18 of them. She got by Anna Riegler and junior competitor Savannah Easton, both 4-2, 4-2, before facing Jennifer Baretta, who won the opening set 2-4. Bryant came back to win the second set and the “spot shootout,” both double hill.

Angela Ticoalu got by Jeannie Seaver, Nicole Keeney and Woojin Lee with an aggregate score of 24-15 to qualify for Phase 2, as did Susan Williams from the same 16-entrant section of the opening bracket. Williams sent June Maiers, Vang Bui Xuan and Joanne Ashton to the loss side to join Ticoalu in the winners’ side advancement to Phase 2.

Allison Fisher chalked up an even more impressive Phase 1 than Kelly had. She, too, advanced to Phase 2 without

Brittany Bryant



having to play a third match against any of her three opponents, downing Susan Wilbur, Veronique Menard and Naomi Williams and giving up only two racks (to Menard, in their second race-to-4). Kyoko Sone joined Allison

in advancement to Phase 2 from the same 16-entrant section of the opening bracket, downing Sandy Badger, 13-year-old junior competitor Sofia Mast and Amalia Matas Heredia.

Rounding out the field of eight winners’ side competitors to advance to Phase 2 were Jasmin Ouschan and Line Kjorsvik. Ouschan got by two of her opponents without having to play a “spot shootout” third match, downing Tamami Okuda 4-2, 4-1 and Beth Fondell 4-1, 4-2, before splitting her first two against Mary Tam 1-4, 4-3. Ouschan won the shootout 3-2 to advance. Kjorsvik did not play a third, tie-breaking “spot shootout” against any of her first three opponents either, joining Ouschan in advancement after defeating Gigi Callejas (4-1, 4-2), Camille Campbell (4-2, 4-0) and Melissa Helland (4-0, 4-1).

After five losers’ side rounds, Kaylee McIntosh, Woojin Lee, Angela Janic, Heather Cortez, Melissa Helland, Mary Tam, Amalia Matas Heredia and Ashley Burrows joined the eight winners’ side competitors in advancement to



Amalia Matas

Phase 2, which in some ways, was notable for those left behind as much as for those who advanced. Among those who failed to make the cut were long-time WPBA veterans (in no particular order) Stephanie Mitchell, Teruko Cucculelli, Monica Webb, Jeanie Seaver, Liz Cole, Kim Newsome, Emily Duddy, Dawn Hopkins, Loree Jon Brown, Janet Atwell and Caroline Pao. It should also be noted that while both 13-year-old junior competitors, Sofia Mast and Skylar Hess, failed to advance, one (Mast) fell to an opponent (Angela Janic) who was among the final 16 and the other (Hess) was eliminated by someone (Cucculelli) who arguably should have been. It was the first appearance for these two extraordinarily talented and professionally-composed young women and WPBA competitors should be on notice that these two will be back and barring any unforeseen life changes, for many years to come.

The Final Four in this event competed in plenty of time for those so inclined to turn their attention to the NCAA Final Four, which got started well after the four ladies in Vegas got underway at about 2 p.m. on Saturday. It was an International Final Four, which was absent representation from the United States. Kelly Fisher, representing the UK was matched up against Austria's Jasmin Ouschan. Spain's Amalia Matas Heredia, who, in February, chalked up her first win on the European Ladies' Tour, faced Canada's Brittany Bryant.

Kelly Fisher had kept her no-third-match streak going through the opening round against Heather Cortez, whom she defeated 4-1, 4-0 before drawing Angeline Ticoalu, who took



Jasmin Ouschan

the opening set against Fisher 4-2. Fisher came back to win the second set 4-1 and then, in something of a nail-biter, the "spot shootout" 6-5. Ouschan, who got by Kaylee McIntosh 4-0, 4-1 in the opening round of Phase 2 had her own nail-biter in the second round, where she won two straight double hill fights against Kyoko Sone to draw Kelly.

Advancing to the other semifinal, Bryant had played 24 games against two opponents, eliminating Woojin Lee 4-2, 4-1 and then Ashley Burrows 4-2, 4-3 to advance. Heredia proved to be Allison Fisher's downfall in the opening round of Phase 2. Fisher took the opening set, double hill, but Heredia came back to win the second set and the "shootout," double hill. Heredia

went on to down Mary Tam 4-1, 4-3 to pick up Bryant.

Kelly Fisher downed Ouschan 4-2, 4-1 in their semifinal matchup. She was joined in the finals by Bryant, who'd defeated Heredia 4-2, 2-4 and 4-2 in the "shootout."

It's not hard to imagine Fisher's "I've got this," and Bryant's "Uh, oh, trouble right here in Sin City" when Fisher shut Bryant out in the opening set of the final. It's also not hard to imagine the spectator's rooting for Bryant in the second set when she and Kelly finished the 6th game, tied at 3 apiece. Fisher, though, completed her undefeated run by winning the second set to claim the event title.

Tour representatives thanked the ownership and staff at the Rio All-Suite Hotel and Casino, as well as sponsors and partners the WPBA, Alfa Coin, CueSports International, Predator Group, Kamui, Seybert's, Medalla Light, Rums of Puerto Rico, BCA Pool League and the USA Pool League.

“ FISHER, THOUGH, COMPLETED HER UNDEFEATED RUN BY WINNING THE SECOND SET TO CLAIM THE EVENT TITLE. ”

LUXURY DESIGNED FOR YOU

LX

INTRODUCING MAY 2022
LIMITED EDITION LUCASI LUX

• ONLY 200 MADE •



LUX56

MSRP
\$535.73

Matte finish Midnight Black cue,
Green & Dark Green veneer points,
Genuine Black Leather Wrap,
12.75mm Uni-loc® Lucasi® Zero Flexpoint
Solid Core Shaft w/ Everest tip



SAVE UP TO **10% OFF** LUCASI LUX'S CUE OF THE MONTH!

CUE & CASE

VISIT WWW.CUEANDCASE.COM
OR CONTACT 800-835-7665

Szewczyk Survives

To Win Predator World 10-Ball Championship

Article by KEITH PARADISE - CSI Staff Writer / Photos by MATT PORINSKY - Predator

Things weren't looking so great for Wojciech Szewczyk Friday evening. In fact, they were looking downright bad.

Facing defending champion Eklent Kaci in the semifinals of the World 10-Ball Championships, the 31-year-old from Poland had just watched his opponent break-and-run to build a 9-7 lead in a race to 10.

Approximately five hours later, Szewczyk was in the arena at the Rio All-Suites Hotel and Casino, letting out a primal yell and raising his fists in the air as the new World 10-Ball champi-

on. Szewczyk had been close in major events before – including a runner-up finish at this year's European Championships in men's 10-Ball and placing in the top-10 at the 2019 World 10-Ball Championships – so his championship is hardly a surprise. But, making the title more impressive is the route the Pole took, wiping away deficits in the semifinals against Kaci and the championship against young upstart Christopher Tevez of Peru to earn

his first major and the \$60,000 that comes with it.

Using a powerful and smashing break, Tevez had been pounding people on his path through the final stage of the event, beating David Alcaide 10-5 in the round-of-32 and Darren Appleton in the quarterfinals. So, when the Peruvian jumped out to an early 3-1 on Szewczyk and was in the process of clearing the table again, it appeared that the finals could be yet another quick

Wojciech Szewczyk and Christopher Tevez



match. Then Tevez left the 10-ball on the shelf of the corner pocket, quickly turning a possible 4-1 lead into a 3-2 score instead. Szewczyk took full advantage of the opening, using a pair of unforced errors by his opponent to win four straight racks and build a 5-3 lead.

After Tevez tacked on two wins thanks to a victorious safety exchange and a missed shot by his opponent, Szewczyk regained the lead thanks to successful jump and combination shots. He had a chance to open up a two-rack lead but missed a 10 ball of his own, handing the table and an easy shot back to his opponent. The two players traded racks for the next four games until Szewczyk scratched on the break in the 17th rack with the score tied 8-8. With the balls clustered on the table a safety exchange ensued, and when Tevez attempted a jump shot after a safety he scratched. Rather than attempt a run out, the crafty European tied the cue ball up in safeties and forced his opponent to foul three time in the game, an automatic loss which put the Pole on the hill at 9-8.

When Tevez broke in the 18th rack he pocketed a ball but again didn't have an open shot at the 1 ball. The Peruvian initiated a safety exchange on the 1 ball, then missed a kick shot on the object ball that left an opening. Szewczyk used a combination shot on the 2 ball to methodically run out the rack to clinch the win. Overcome with emotion, he stared at the ceiling with his arms raised in victory then sat in his chair with a look of joy as well as relief.

The start of the semifinals was delayed by a couple of hours as the quarterfinals turned into a logjam, with multiple matches taking close to three hours to complete. Two of the competitors who were tangled in such long battles were defending cham-



Jayson Shaw

pion Kaci and Szewczyk, who had both gutted out hill-hill thrillers. Kaci came from behind to defeat last year's runner-up Naoyuki Oi, clearing the table in the deciding 19th rack with a run-out that included a lengthy safety battle on the 1 ball, a near scratch after pocketing the two and a table length cut on the 4 ball. A couple of tables away, Szewczyk was straining through a duel of his own, coming from behind to defeat Edgie Geronomo 10-9.

So, it only made sense that Kaci and Szewczyk face each other in the semifinal mere minutes after their quarterfinal matches concluded.

The two again found themselves in a topsy-turvy struggle that saw momentum turning over as frequently as the cards in the Rio's casino. The 27-year-old from Poland struck early, taking advantage of Kaci failing to pocket a ball on the break as well as missing a shot and fouling to build an early 4-1 advantage. The Albanian then used a break-and-run followed by a victorious safety exchange to pull within 4-3, only to fail to pocket a ball on the break in the eighth rack. Szewczyk cleared the table to push his lead to 5-3, then watched as his op-

ponent took advantage of a dry break and a missed 7 ball in the 10th rack by the Pole to tie the score.

After Szewczyk used a break-and-run to win two of the next three racks to take a 7-6 lead, Kaci came alive. He used a jump shot on the 1 ball in the 14th rack to run out and tie the match, cleared the table in the next game after his opponent jumped the cue ball off of the table on the break, then tacked on a break-and-run to build a 9-7 advantage and climb to within a game of advancing to the finals.

Just when it appeared Kaci was on his way to defending his title, the wheels came off. After Szewczyk won the 17th game on a safety exchange, the young man from Poland tied the score in the next rack when his opponent failed to pocket a ball on the break. With the match now tied 9-9, it was Szewczyk's turn to break and not land a ball in a pocket. With the rack clustered together, Kaci pocketed the 1 ball and then played safe on the 2 ball. His opponent would eventually land the 2 ball and knock the 3 ball up table for another safety. The Albanian kicked at the ball and missed completely, handing ball-in-hand to Szewczyk, who broke up a tied up 5 and

World 10-Ball Championship

8 balls for the win, collapsing to the floor after pocketing the game-winning 10 ball.

The next semifinal matched Tevez against reigning Mosconi Cup Most Valuable Player Jayson Shaw, who had breezed through the event the entire week and continued to make things look easy in the early stages of the final day. Shaw opened the day with a 10-5 defeat of Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz in the round of 16 and qualified for the semifinals with a 10-4 victory against reigning European 10-ball champion Sanjin Pehlivanovic.

This time, it would be the unknown underdog Tevez who seemed to be in cruise control. He built an early 3-1 lead until Shaw used a pair of missed shots by his opponent to tie the score. As the match progressed, Tevez powerful break consistently pocketed balls while his opponent struggled with his opening shot throughout, as Shaw broke dry five times in eight

Eklent Kaci



attempts. The Peruvian capitalized, winning four straight racks to build a commanding 7-3 advantage until Shaw took advantage of a dry break and a missed shot by his opponent to win three straight and close the gap to 7-6. Tevez, who had shown no fear throughout the five-day tournament, pocketed four balls on the break in

the 14th rack and ran out to increase his lead to 8-6 and then cleared the table again when Shaw again failed to pocket a ball on the break. Standing at the table with a chance to close out the match, Tevez again pocketed a ball on the break and closed out the match with a victorious safety exchange on the 1 ball.

A Z B **MARKETPLACE**
The Official Billiard Supply For AZBers

P3 REVOLUTION

Powered By **SEYBERTS.COM**
SEYBERTS BILLIARD SUPPLY

CYNERGY
10.5



THE CENTURY CLUB IS NOW ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS.

1:1 LIFE-SIZE, PURE POTTING PERFECTION | CUETEC.COM

CUETEC

Sim Downs Hohmann

in Second Set of NBL 8-Ball Double Elimination Final to Claim Event Title

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

Originally from Scotland, the man they call The Highlander – Del Sim – has chalked up two breakout performances in the past two weeks.

On the weekend of April 9-10, he finished as runner-up to Jeremy Sosseiat Stop #13 on the 2021/2022 Joss Northeast 9-Ball Tour and then, this past weekend (April 16-17), he went undefeated to win the National Billiard League's (NBL) 8-Ball Championships, hosted by the league's flagship venue, Sandcastle Billiards in Edison, NJ. Combined, those two finishes have earned Sim more than all of his (reported to us) payout finishes over the past six years. This past weekend was the only victory (reported to us) since he won a stop on the Tri-State Tour in 2016.

"Well, well, well. . . I finally snapped off a title," he wrote on the NBL's Facebook page. "Doesn't happen very often."

"I feel reborn," he wrote later, noting that the victory meant a lot to him for reasons that went beyond the tables. In addition to 8-ball being his favorite game among the many available, the win brought back cherished memories of his father, who would "beam with pride" when he would win in league play as a younger player.

"(It's been) 8 years since he passed, almost to the day," he added, "and I feel he would have enjoyed this one the most, with lots of drama and high-level play by all."

Arguably, the highest drama of the event came in the second set of the double elimination final. Having been defeated by Thorsten Hohmann 8-2





Thorsten Hohmann

Del Sim and Thorsten Hohmann

The field of 32 for this NBL 8-Ball Championship, which, due to last-minute cancellations, became 29 by the time it got underway, was drawn from 13 out of 16 scheduled qualifying events that took place around the country over the past few months. It is a formula that was part of the plan from the beginning, according to league founder Ed Liddawi and employed to hold the league's 10-Ball Championships this past December.

"The three slots that were available," explained Liddawi, "were filled by a runner-up and two, third-place finishers from the largest-field qualifiers."

"We ended up with 16 amateurs and 13 Pros," he added.

The NBL was to have been launched at about the time the country began its ongoing battle against the pandemic. Its start was delayed and as it has slowly begun its re-launch, it has been designed with far fewer qualifiers and main events than originally planned; a circumstance that Liddawi is planning to rectify in 2023.

Everything at this 8-Ball Championship, according to Liddawi, went ac-

“ WELL, WELL, WELL. . . I FINALLY SNAPPED OFF A TITLE. DOESN'T HAPPEN VERY OFTEN. ”
– Del Sim

in the opening set, Sim stepped to the table, on the hill at 5-3, with all of his striped balls on the table. Six of Hohmann's solids were 'running interference' against any hopes that Sim was harboring of running to the 8-ball and finishing things right then and there.

"I knew this could be my last opportunity," he would say later, as he provided commentary to a three-minute video clip of the event's final rack.

He stepped to the table and ran the rack. Game, set and match.

"Del played a great second set against me," commented Hohmann, "and made a heck of an out to win."

That 'out' entailed a planned route for the cue ball, which came off striking Sim's last striped ball. The target ball dropped into a corner pocket, while the cue ball embarked on a journey that ran above, through and below

four of the six solid balls still on the table, coming to rest in a position that allowed Sim to line up and pocket the winning 8-ball in the only pocket that it could have been done.



John Morra

ording to plan, with (as featured in December's 10-Ball championships) live music, a comedian (Frank Del Pizzo, with, reportedly, some pool humor in his repertoire) and a mixture of amateurs and pros facing off against each other at various points throughout the event. Two amateurs battled for the hot seat, as, on the loss side, Thorsten Hohmann, was finishing up what would be an eight-match, loss-side winning streak that started with a 6-1 loss to amateur competitor Joe Dupuis and eventually, took him to the finals.

Sim's path to the winners' circle went through Kenny Tran, Jason Lynch and John Morra to arrive at a winners' side semifinal against Shane Albaugh. Al Lapena, in the meantime, got by Jerry Dunne, Lukas Fracasso-Verner (double hill), and Frankie Hernandez, to arrive at his winners' side semifinal against BJ Ussery.

Lapena and Ussery locked up in a double hill fight that eventually sent Ussery to the loss side. Lapena was joined in the hot seat match by Sim, who'd sent Albaugh over 8-5. Sim claimed the hot seat 8-6 over Lapena and watched, no doubt with some level of anxiety, as Hohmann worked through the final stages of his loss-side run.

On the loss side, Albaugh drew Hohmann, who'd recently chalked up loss-side wins #4 & #5 against Frankie Hernandez 6-3 and Dennis Spears in a shutout. Hohmann got by Albaugh 6-4 and in the quarterfinals, faced Morra,



Al Lapena

who'd survived a double hill match versus Ussery.

Hohmann and Morra (predictably) locked up in a double hill match that did eventually send Hohmann to the semifinals, where he eliminated Lapena 6-2. The Pro vs. Amateur battle was joined. The recent Hall of Fame inductee versus a competitor looking for his first (recorded) win in six years.

Things didn't look too good for the amateur in the opening set of the true double elimination final. The Hall of Famer took that set 8-2. Sim 'caught a gear' in the second set, getting out in front in the shortened race-to-6 and on the hill, two racks ahead at 5-3. In the final rack, which took a little less than four minutes and was later to be commented on by Sim himself, Sim stepped to the table and ran the rack, taking it, as always recommended,

one step at a time. He finished with a commendable display of skill and proverbial nerves of steel that earned him the event title.

That display is on display as an archived match at the NBL Web site. It is recommended that you watch the live stream of it and switch to the NBL Facebook page to watch Sim run the final rack and comment on his thinking, from start to finish.

The NBL will begin its next season in December, with a schedule of to-be-determined dates at 64 sanctioned locations. The plan, as it was originally intended, will feature four Pro/Am main events, fed by a 2-stage series of eight qualifying tournaments. Further information can be found on the league's Web site at <https://www.nblusa.com/> and on the National Billiard League's FB page. In addition to its immediate success, defined by accomplishing stated objectives with no apparent serious 'glitches' in the logistics of it all, this latest 8-Ball Championship is a model for Liddawi's larger plan for the NBL.

"It was," he said, "a 'proof of concept' event to show that this business model works."

“ THE THREE SLOTS THAT WERE AVAILABLE, WERE FILLED BY A RUNNER-UP AND TWO, THIRD-PLACE FINISHERS FROM THE LARGEST-FIELD QUALIFIERS. WE ENDED UP WITH 16 AMATEURS AND 13 PROS.

– Ed Liddawi ”



ITALIAN CUEMAKER
SINCE 1945

LONGONICUES.COM



Joey Tate

Joey Tate, 17, of Elm City, NC is the first sibling among 12 to benefit from the recent and substantial growth of junior player competition, exemplified by the Junior International Championship series of tournaments, now in their second year.

As such, Joey has become something of a flagship for his younger siblings, two of them in particular at the moment, who accompany him on the 'open seas' of junior, as well as adult competition. At the most recent Super Billiards Expo, Joey was accompanied by younger sisters, Bethany (15) and Noelle (12), who followed in his footsteps (sometimes, literally) as they moved about

the massive SBE complex, either on their way to specific competition, or just perusing the cue vendors and other assorted industry manufacturers.

This 'trickle down' family phenomenon had its origins with the family patriarch, Randy Tate, born in 1971 and playing pool at a Chicago area Teen Center by the time he was 12. Three

years later, when *The Color of Money* was released and pool halls became flooded with players, Tate rode the wave into a local pool hall – Harold's Pool Parlor, in Roselle, IL, owned by Harold Simonsen, who, in 1983, had founded Pool & Billiard Magazine, selected as a consultant to the film, as Simonsen himself had been cast as the tournament director of the film's final tournament.

“Pool was a big part of my life from the age of 16 to about 21,” said Randy, “and that’s when I started to play for money.”

In 1994, Tate was runner-up to the winner of that year’s American College Union International’s Collegiate Pocket Billiards National Championship, Max Eberle. And at that point, Tate’s focus in the sport began a shift toward equipment. After attaining an undergraduate degree in Management, he started selling tables, and then, “got out of the industry for a while,” as he married Shellie in 1996 and had an even more significant shift, when he pursued and attained a Master’s Degree in Divinity and became a church pastor for 10 years in Lake Zurich, IL. He returned to the sport and became owner of two companies; Bar Pool Tables, LLC, selling and refurbishing coin-op bar tables and Ridgeback Rails, making coin-op replacement rails.

At about the time that his third son and sixth child (Joey) turned 12, the

family moved from the Chicago area to Elm City, North Carolina, where Randy kept his businesses going, started a Pool After School program in one of his business properties and eventually, before Joey was able to drive, became something of a shuttle driver to tournaments in which he and his son and eventually, his daughters would compete. Unlike many junior competitors, Joey was not blessed with a pool table in his home, because as Joey came to realize, “a lot of homes in North Carolina are not built with a basement.” Within a year of his arrival, in a new and completely different environment from the Chicago area, and two months after he’d captured the Billiards Education Foundation’s Junior National title in its 14 & Under division, Joey had chalked up his first win on the Viking Cues’ Q City 9-Ball Tour.

“He’s the only player on my tour to ever be sponsored by me,” said Tour Director Herman Parker. “He has a pass into every tournament; as many as he wants.”

“He’s a great kid; great attitude, honest, just a tremendous person,” Parker added.

Parker’s decision to sponsor the junior competitor was more or less sealed on the occasion of the youngster’s first ‘official’ tour victory. As was reported at the time, he and Corey Sykes decided to opt out of a final set in the event’s true double elimination final (Sykes had won the opening set) and split the top two prizes. Tate, as occupant of the hot seat at the time, became the ‘official’ winner. It was the first time in memory that a final match was negotiated from happening because one of the two opponents had to be in school the following morning. Tate was also about 10 days away from an appearance at the World Juniors 9-Ball Championships in Moscow, where he would finish in the tie for 9th place.

Tate and Sykes had faced each other twice in the Q City event, with Tate winning their first battle, for the hot seat; Sykes racing to 9, Tate to 6. It became a turning point; for the game, the match and for the tour’s sponsorship of the junior competitor.

“In the last game of that double hill match,” Parker recalled, “Corey came up to me at the scoring table to ask me a question. When he turned around, Joey stepped up and handed him the cue ball.”

“I fouled,” Tate told him.

“Nobody knew that Joey had tapped the cue ball with his stick,” said Parker, “but he picked up the cue ball in a double hill game and gave it to Corey.”

“From that point on,” Parker added, “I was convinced that not only was he going to be a good player, but a great person, too.”

The ‘good player’ part has played out over the five years that have followed. He won the BEF Junior Nation-



Junior Player of the Month

al Championships for a second time the following year and has gone on to cash in 23 events, including three more wins on Parker's tour, and victories at the Billiard Sports Network Cup, and the Dynaspheres Cup. He has also, in the past two years, been among the top competitors on the Junior International Championship series.

In its first year of events (2021), Tate won two of the eight ProAm events (designed for, but not restricted, to players in the 18-20 year-old range, to include female competitors), was runner-up twice, third once and finished

the first season as the top-ranked player in that division. His fellow BEF Junior National Champion, Landon Hollingsworth was second, having won a single ProAm event; the last one, in which he defeated Tate in the finals. Tate finished 4th in the 18 & Under rankings and was runner-up to Hollingsworth in the 18 & Under championship tournament, which played out at Pat Fleming's Accu-Stats International Open in Norfolk, VA last fall. Hollingsworth, who'd competed in all eight events of the 2021 series had never finished higher than third in the 18U division and was 7th in the end-of-regular-season rankings. He

defeated Tate twice, in the hot seat and finals of the division's championship tournament.

Like the Sophia Mast and Skylar Hess rivalry that has developed in the JIC's 13 & Under Girls Division, the Tate/Hollingsworth rivalry in the 18 & Under Division has drawn a lot of attention, creating interest and excitement, not only in the rivalry itself, but in the entire JIC series of events. With three events under their 2022 JIC belts so far, Tate and Hollingsworth have both learned that while their rivalry shone brightly in the JIC's first season, it has not translated into automatic success in the sec-

ond season. Lazaro Martinez stepped up and won the opening event, leaving Landon in 4th place and Joey in the distant tie for 17th. At stop #2, Joey got by Landon in a winners' side semifinal and went on to claim the hot seat and final match over Ivo Lemon, who'd defeated Landon in the semifinals. At stop #3, it was Logan Whitaker who won, with Lazaro Martinez as runner-up. Landon was 4th and Joey was in the tie for 5th place.

In the ProAm division of the first three events, the Tate/Hollingsworth rivalry finished 2nd/1st, 2nd/17th and 2nd/3rd. It reflects Tate's thinking that the important part of a rivalry, whether it be consistent with one specific opponent or over time against many, is that it doesn't do any good to bask in the glow of past victories, or losses for that matter. For Tate, the rivalry is just a part of the overall story.

"I feel like it's an underlying question all the time; Who's best? Who's best?" he said. "We go back and forth. We all win different events, beat each other at different times, but in terms of a (specific) rivalry, it's easy to get fixated on one person (to the point where) it can keep you from having a relationship with that person."

"I feel as though I'm growing with that," he added. "Getting more comfortable with Landon. Same with Lazaro (Martinez). I want to beat him now, just as much as I did before. . . no, I take that back. I want to beat him more. It's just that now, I know him a little better."

Tate, in fact, welcomes the idea of having rivals. It is, he believes an important component of growth, not just in pool, but in any endeavor where people strive to be the best.

"I just feel that there should never be a time when there's no competition at the top," he said, "because if a person feels like they're at the top all the



JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
© Chris Robinson

time and no one can beat them, then they're not really ever going to get better."

The fact that he does have competition every time he shows up at a JIC event, that there's someone rivaling him for the top, has a way of inspiring him. The frustration of losing to a given individual has a way of sending him back to the tables, practicing harder because he's fired up and done with losing to whoever it may be. It's motivation to be better.

"For sure," he said, "because everyone has the desire to be the best. If you're *recognized* as the best all the time, you're not only not going to get any better, but there's no goal, nothing for you to really strive for."

"You can't ever just be stagnant, resting on the wins you already have," he added, "so I'm thankful for the rivalries, always thankful for the challenges that are ahead of me. I always need them and always hope they're there."

For the time being, his 'rivals' appear more than willing to accommodate him, as they move toward this month's fourth stop on the JIC series, scheduled for May 6-8 in Phoenix, AZ. This leaves Tate to battle, primarily, with his own plans for a future. Plans which entail his personal plans for growth and eventually, his own decisions regarding how pool will or perhaps may not be a full-time career.

If it's to be pool in his career-future, Tate already knows what that path will entail. Like the person in New York City who was asked how to get to Carnegie Hall and responded with "Practice, practice, practice," Tate sees the road ahead of him and has few illusions about just the quality of his talent doing the work for him.

"Skill and discipline," he said. "Everybody has (varied amounts) of one or the other. If they don't have at least one of them, then they probably don't

want to play the sport."

Put another way, he noted, it's about talent and drive. While talent is necessary, it's the 'drive,' he believes, that is the most significant factor among today's top players.

"The best players in the game today have the most drive," he said. "Take Jayson Shaw, for example. He has an insane amount of talent, but I also think that there have been times in his life when he's worked his butt off with the repetition of knowing how to shoot a particular kind of shot and do it 100 times in a row, regardless of the situation, whether it's the finals or whatever, you have to have that repetition. It's about knowing what it takes to be the best and doing better. You have to fight for everything you can in terms of knowledge of the game and practicing like no one else ever has."

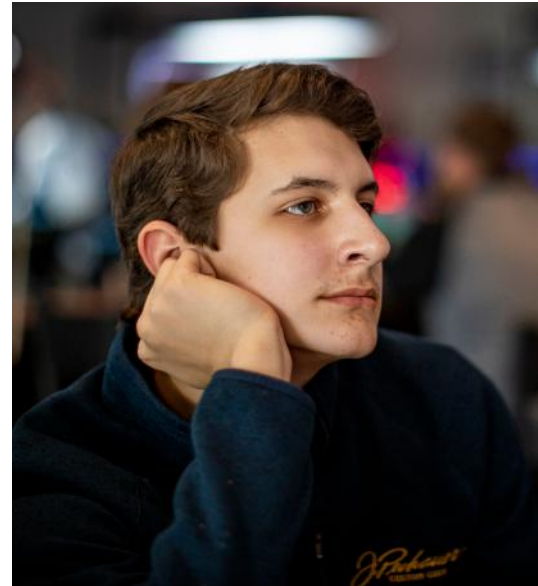
He sees the same drive in Shane Van Boening, the strive to gain knowledge of the game and the repetitive practice to make shots second nature.

"No one has put the amount of time into their game as he has," he said. "The reason that Shane is the best, is that he's worked harder than anybody else."

"Talent," he added, "can be created through discipline."

It's an awareness that should serve him well, as he ponders his next move. He's already involved with a school program that allows him to take college courses while still in high school, and, in fact, was participating in classroom work, virtually, as he was competing at the Super Billiards Expo. He's cognizant of the financial pitfalls of a potential career in pool and has doubts that being a professional player would work for him.

"It would have to be a really good situation," he said, "so, most likely not. I would never want to have to say to



myself, 'If I miss this ball, I can't feed my family' and I'm not going to go the gambling route. There's been a perception that in order to be the best, you have to gamble, but I never have and I'm trying to see how long I can ride that wave."

"I'd love do something related to my Dad's businesses," he added. "Apprentice with him and start my own."

For now, under the sponsorship of J. Pechauer Custom Cues, Jam Up Billiards Apparel, Breaktime Billiards (Winston-Salem, NC), Ten Ten Auto Service (Apex, NC), Ridgeback Rails, Dynaspheres' Next Gen Balls, Championship Billiards Fabric and Golden State Billiards Supply,

he's content with his role as flagship to the Tate family armada. With four, soon to be five, 'ships' already away from home and on their own - Simeon (25), Sam (23), Mary (22), Sarah (20) and Julia (18) - he'll play 'Master' and apprentice Bethany (15), Lily (13), Noelle (12), Chloe (10), Eden (8) and Selah (5) for as long as he can and they're willing.

"I don't know how they feel about it," he said, "but I definitely try to set an example for them."

DEFY tradition.

DEFY deflection.

DEFY vibration.

DEFY from McDermott.



DEFY

12

15

Defy gives you the unparalleled accuracy and control that you expect from carbon fiber, but uses state-of-the-art technologies to shatter its limitations. Our super-smooth coating reduces friction, allowing the shaft to glide through your fingers with ease like a wood shaft. Only Defy's insane energy transfer and accuracy will remind you that you're using a carbon fiber shaft.

Order yours today at mcdermottcue.com/defy



nineball.



WORLD POOL

matchroom
pool series

CHAMPIONSHIP

06-10 APRIL

2022

LIVE ON



WATCH THE WORLD POOL CHAMPIONSHIP
LIVE ON DAZN IN THE USA AND CANADA

Johnny Kling

Pool's First Two-Sport Champion

Story by SAM KORTE

It seems unfathomable that someone would walk away from a starring role with the World Champion Chicago Cubs to shoot pool full time.

And that it would be possible to make more money playing pool than professional baseball. But “Noisy” Johnny Kling, the starting catcher for the 1908 Chicago Cubs,

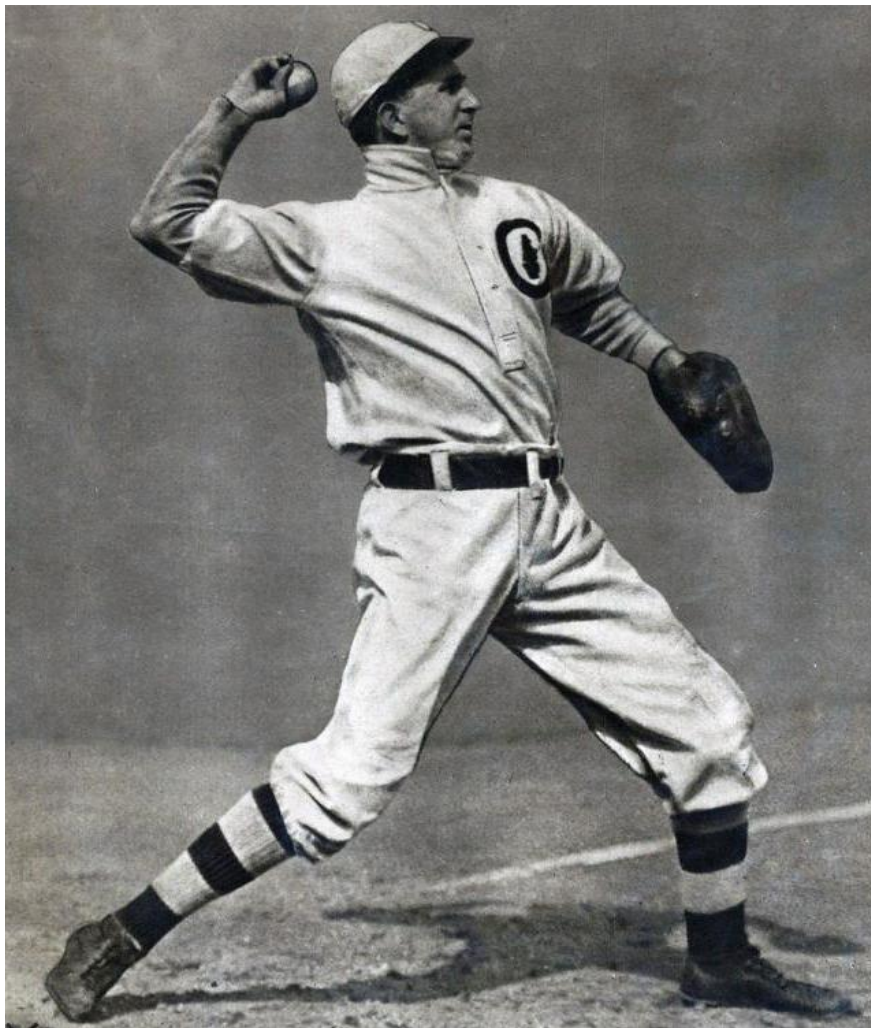
blazed this incredible path over 100 years ago.

Kling grew up in Kansas City playing both pool and baseball. The future

two-sport star spent his days on the baseball diamond and his nights at one of the dozens of pool rooms that dotted the growing city. By the time he turned 18, Kling was the top pool player in Kansas City, winning the city championship most years with unmatched skill at continuous pool. Continuous pool—in which all fifteen balls are pocketed and reracked so the shooter’s run can continue with a full rack—was the pocket billiards tournament game in the years before 14.1 was invented.

Kling’s rising pool and baseball skills went hand and hand. Kling attributed his ability to throw out baserunners not only to his strong arm, “but to (his) eyesight, sharpened each night by close games with the cue.” After a few years of semi-professional baseball and pool, the young catcher was signed by Chicago (not yet the Cubs) in 1900. Kling earned the moniker “Noisy” due to his constant barking at opposing batters. A sharp eye was not the only asset Kling brought from the pool hall to the baseball diamond.

Kling continued to play competitive pool even after joining the ranks of baseball’s professional catchers. He competed in both pool tournaments and challenge matches, occasionally coming within a few balls of beating the great players of the era. The press and top billiard professionals specu-





championship. Kling, ever the shrewd businessman, hosted the championship match at his eponymous pool hall. Weston, a former cowboy who was a dominant pool force for decades in the early 20th century, was the betting favorite until he arrived in town with a noticeable limp. Weston was suffering from a bout of rheumatism that caused noticeable pain with every movement. Years riding horses on the open range had extracted a steep toll on the Cowboy. Kling defeated the weakened Weston, earning a coveted Brunswick championship diamond emblem to match his World Series rings. Weston, a gracious loser, heaped praise on Kling. According to Weston, Kling's stroke was second to none and he was the "best in America" on long shots. But Weston cautioned "there is more to pool than merely pocketing the balls" and that

lated that the young catcher could be world champion if he focused on pool instead of baseball. But, for the time being at least, Kling was happy to shoot pool in the baseball offseason. He quickly earned a reputation for high-stakes gambling by betting large on pool—often wagering up to \$10,000 per match in today's dollars.

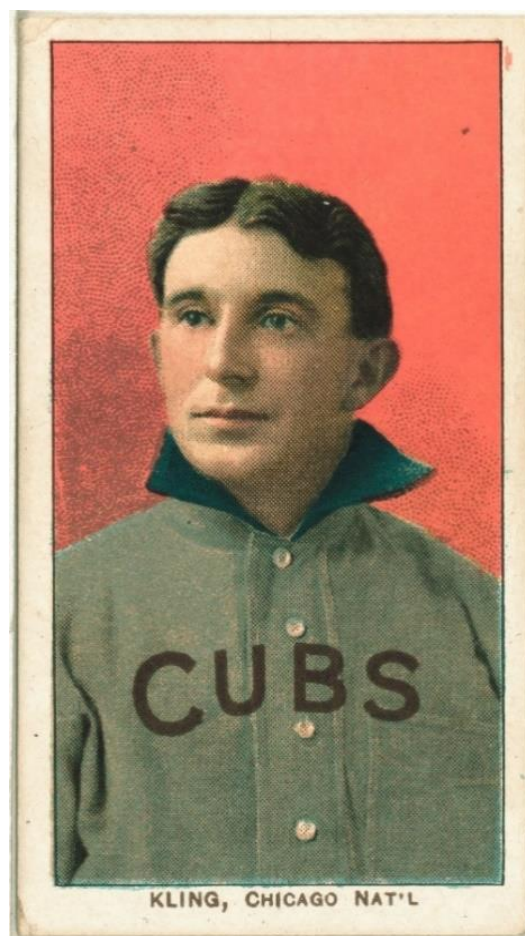
Even without his full attention, Kling's pool talents increased and earned him a shot for the world championship in 1908 against Thomas Hueston. Kling, despite years playing championship baseball, suffered from "stage fright" and Hueston ran away with the match 600 to 371. Kling missed easy shots and was outmaneuvered by Hueston's defensive strategy and combination play. Hueston's run of 45 balls was a notable feat for the continuous pool era.

Although Kling lost the pool world championship, the Chicago Cubs were on top of the world. Three straight National League pennants and back-to-back World Series victories heralded the arrival of a new baseball dynasty. The team included four future Hall of

Famers and the game's best catcher in Kling. However, as with any championship team, perfection never lasts. Kling, despite being one of the top paid players in all of baseball, was not happy with his salary and threatened to sit out the upcoming 1909 season. He had opened his own pool hall in 1906 and his earnings, from both the pool hall and money matches, easily exceeded his \$4,500 annual salary with the Cubs.

With this safety net, Kling prepared to challenge the Cubs for more money—a reported \$10,000 per year. When the Cubs' owner held firm, Kling followed through on his threat and walked out, breaching his contract with the Cubs. Kling's walkout created a storm in the baseball world as few players, in those more innocent times, had left a championship baseball team over money. Players were expected to compete for the love of the game. But Noisy John loved pool (or money) more than baseball.

Within of a few months of his baseball walkout, Kling faced "Cowboy" Charles Weston for the world pool



KLING IS POOL CHAMPION.
Beats "Cowboy" Weston 800 to 789
in Match for the World's
Championship.

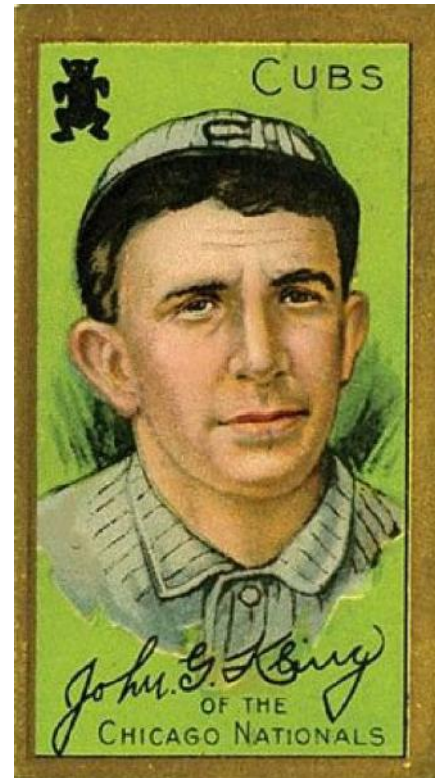
Kling needed work on his defensive play. "Safety play is the wheel upon which all champions revolve" advised the grizzled former champion.

Kling's time at the top of the pool world was short lived and, just 60 days after his victory over Weston, Kling again faced Thomas Hueston. The still "Noisy" Johnny Kling lost to Hueston in a replay of their 1908 match. Cowboy Weston's prediction proved prophetic. Hueston prevailed through safety play and defensive strategy while Kling relied solely on shot making. Safeties hold oversized importance in continuous pool, in which long runs are exceedingly difficult due to the inability to predict pocketing on 15-ball breaks.

The Cubs fared poorly without their star catcher, and by 1910, were willing to negotiate for his return. Want-

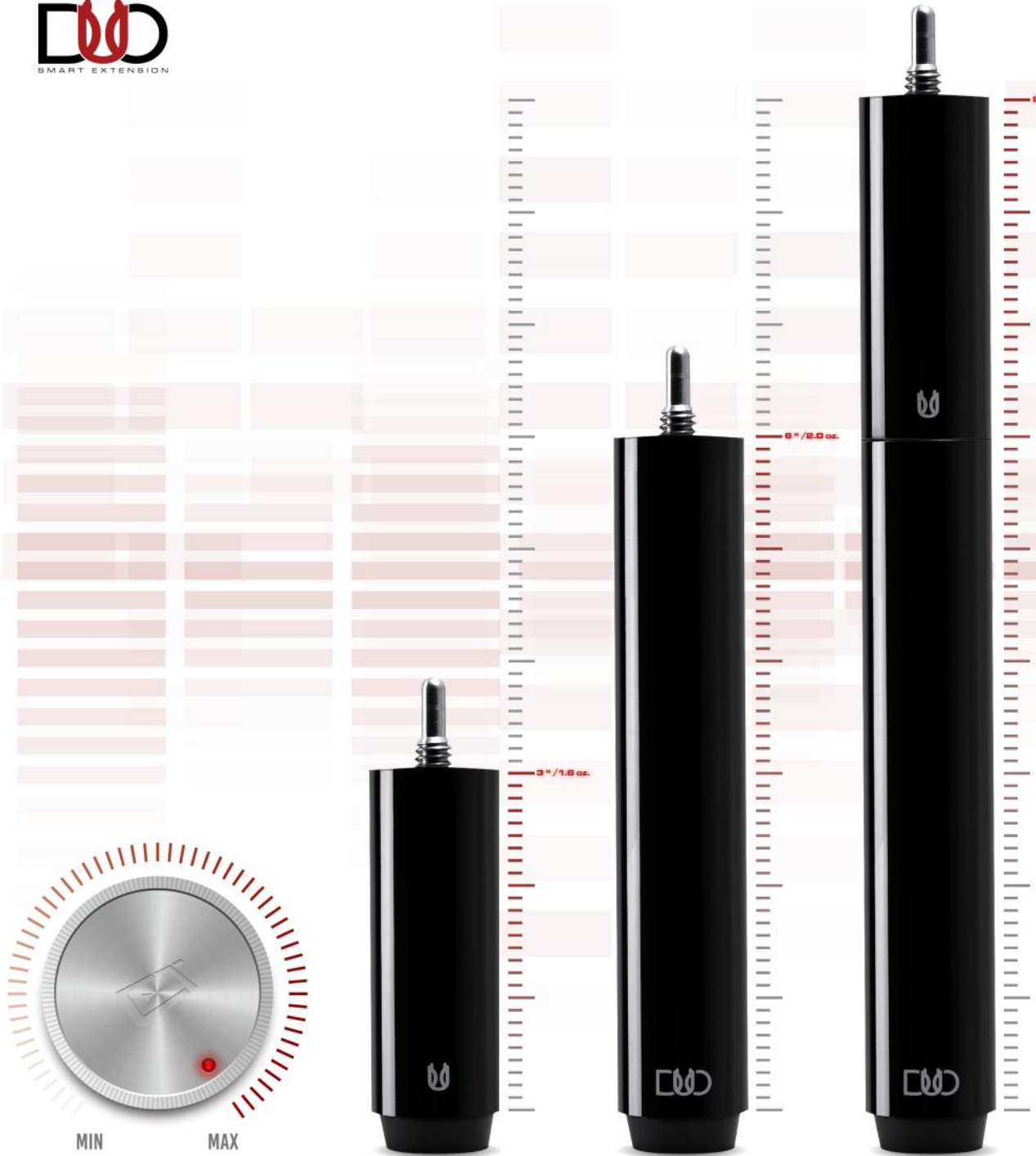
ing to avoid a protracted legal fight, the National League fined Kling only \$700 for breaking his contract. The former pool champion—perhaps missing baseball's unique thrills—returned to his spot behind the plate for the remainder of the 1910 season at his old salary. With Kling's help and strong play from the Cubs' other stars, the Cubs won the pennant again and would play for their third World Series title in four years. Perfection evaded the Cubs and they ultimately fell in the World Series 4-1 to the Philadelphia Athletics. And Kling, having worn out his welcome with Chicago's owner, was traded in the offseason to the Boston Braves.

Kling would play a few more years in the major leagues, while focusing more each year on his pool room and other business interests in Kansas City. He became a mentor to his



young nephew, and future 14.1 world champion, Benny Allen. Kling's room was soon renamed Kling & Allen—an institution that stood for decades as one of the premiere pool venues in the world. Brunswick would honor Kling and his opulent pool palace with a line of "Kling" tables, still treasured today as among the finest pool tables ever made. The Cubs, of course, would have wait over 100 years to win another World Series.





CRANK THE **VOLUME** ON YOUR GAME'S REACH.

The devil really is in DUO's details. Cuetec's all-new, all-composite DUO smart extension set was designed and developed to provide players with multiple solutions to the game's vast array of positional situations. Each DUO extension set can be deployed as a stand-alone 3-inch and 6-inch extension, or can be combined to create a 9-inch extension – all with just a few quick twists of the wrist. Harness your game's range with DUO.

AVAILABLE FOR ALL CYNERGY & AVID CUES | CUETEC.COM

CUETEC

American Cuemakers Association Announces 2022 Awards Recipients

The American Cuemakers Association (ACA) is proud to present three special awards at this year's annual banquet at the Allen Hopkins' Super Billiards Expo. The Expo will be held April 20-24 2022 at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center at Oaks Pa.

The ACA was formed in 1992 to both educate the public on and promote the American made cue, as well as establish a standard of excellence in the art of cue making.

The first award is for the "Cuemaker of the Year." This award was begun in 2008 to recognize an ACA member who has provided a top quality product in an ethical, honorable, and professional manner through the years. The 2022 ACA "Cuemaker of the Year" award goes to Diveney Cues. Pat Diveney started making cues in 1998. Diveney Cues is now a family operation with his son Danny and wife Fina. They are long standing members of the ACA and can routinely be seen at various tournaments around the country. Diveney Cues are most recognizable by their overlapping butterfly style that is rather unique.

The second award to be presented is the prestigious "Lifetime Achievement Award." This award will be presented to Dan Janes of Joss Cue Ltd. Dan Founded Joss Cues in 1968 and is currently located in Towson, MD. Dan works with his son Stephen building cues while his wife Debbie runs the office. Dan has made cues for several BCA Hall of Fame players such as Mike Sigel, Nick Varner, Minnesota Fats, and Jimmy Caras. He has also made cues for many popular celebrities but is probably most known for the cue featured in the movie "The Color of Money." The Balabushka cue in the

case is actually a Joss cue that you can still order today.

The third award to be presented at the banquet on Saturday, April 4, is the "People's Choice Award." This award acknowledges the public's choice of their favorite cue on display at the

ACA booth at this year's Expo. Every ACA member can display one cue which they have built for this show. Attendees at the show can then cast their votes for their favorite cue. The cue maker whose cue receives the most votes will be recognized with the "People's Choice Award."



Pat Diveney and Dan Janes

AVANT

ULTIMATE CUSTOMIZED EXPERIENCE



THE WEIGHT AND BALANCE YOU DESIRE

FOREARM
LOADING SYSTEM



BUTT END
LOADING SYSTEM

The revolutionary AVANT with its Dual Loading System offers unparalleled customizability allowing the AVANT cue to be balanced and weight adjusted at the same time. Optimum weight and balance can be achieved through 8 different bolts which can be inserted in butt end and forearm to adapt the weight and balance in 0.25oz increments.

*The AVANT is sold as a butt only model. Player may purchase any shaft of their choice and hence further the experience of having a truly original cue.

The Dubious Legality of Pool's "Russian" Ban

Story by SAM KORTE

Professional pool's odd combination of governing bodies, and their Olympic aspirations, can have far reaching impacts on players in the United States. When the International Olympic Committee (IOC) recommended that Olympic sports ban Russian and Belarusian players from competition, the result was a ban that applies to major pool tournaments.

Although sport eligibility is a trivial topic in the time of war, the ban—and its resulting impact on foreign players in the United States—raises unique legal and historical issues for professional pool.

The Alphabet Soup of Pool's Governing Bodies

Billiards is not an Olympic sport. But, for nearly thirty years, the World Con-

ederation of Billiards Sports (WCBS) has been eagerly accommodating the IOC in the hopes that billiards will someday be accepted into the Olympic Games. So, when the IOC recommended on February 28, 2022, that Russian and Belarusian players be banned from international sporting competition, the WCBS quickly agreed on March 3, 2022. The World Pool-Billiard Association (WPA), as part of the

WCBS, endorsed this ban and immediately applied it to all WPA-sanctioned tournaments. Pool does not have separate governing bodies for professional and amateur events, so the WPA claims authority over all of pool. As most major pool tournaments are WPA ranking events—including all Matchroom and CSI Pro Billiard Series events—the IOC's ban bars Russian and Belarusian players from most





Room Proprietors Association of America (BRPAA) banned Cisero and all other African-American players from world championship events. The BRPAA would have to change its tune after the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Facing boycotts from the NAACP and other professional pool players, the BRPAA finally relented and allowed Cisero to play in the 1965 World Championship. Cisero would win that event—defeating Luther Lassiter in the final—becoming the first player to win a world championship on the first attempt. Courts would soon apply the 1964 Civil Rights Act across the sporting world to extinguish events like “Whites Only” professional golf tournaments.

professional pool tournaments in the United States.

Notably, pool is the only professional sport in the United States to have followed the IOC’s recommendation. Other Olympic sports—such as basketball (NBA) and hockey (NHL)—have not banned Russian or Belarusian players. Nor have any U.S. tennis (ATP) or golf (PGA) tournaments. And professional sports like bowling, that are also eager to someday join the Olympic pantheon, have not adopted the IOC ban.

Billiards has never come close to earning a spot in the Olympic Games. It will not be part of the 2024 Games in Paris or the 2028 Games in Los Angeles. The 2032 Games in Australia has not finalized its event list yet, but it’s widely expected that local favorites rugby and cricket will be selected and not billiards. That leaves the remote chance that billiards will be added to the 2036 Summer Games as the WPA’s reason for banning players today.

The WPA itself does not run tournaments in the United States. Promoters, like Matchroom and CSI, organize tournaments and seek status as WPA ranking events. Promoters can either follow the WPA’s requirements—in-

cluding banning Russian players—or lose their status with the WPA. It perhaps is an impossible choice. U.S. Soccer recently faced a similar dilemma (and lawsuit) when FIFA rules required that women players must earn less than men players. As part of the resulting \$24M settlement, U.S. Soccer had to break with FIFA rules to comply with US non-discrimination laws.

The 1964 Civil Rights Act

Sports in the United States has a complicated and close history with civil rights. From Jackie Robison in baseball to Cisero Murphy in pool, African-American athletes were often excluded from participation in pro sports. In 1964, the United States passed its landmark set of civil rights laws to combat widespread discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, and national origin. And, although the 1964 Civil Rights Act is not limited to sports, it had an immediate impact on sports that were openly discriminating against participants.

For 14.1 great Cisero Murphy, it meant a chance to finally play for the world championship. Although Cisero had won dozens of major 14.1 tournaments in the early 1960s and was a top-ranked professional, the Billiard

Sixty Years Later

Although decades have passed since enactment of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, its laws remain on the books and serve to protect all people in the United States from unlawful discrimination. Title II of the Act (42 USC 2000a), which bars discrimination based on race or national origin in places of public accommodation, is the cornerstone of the Act that applies to sports. Professional pool events like the upcoming U.S. Open, which are literally “open” to all interested players on a first-come-first-serve basis, fall squarely within the “public accommodation” protections of the 1964 Civil Rights act, just as baseball stadiums, billiard halls, and golf courses once did for the athletes of the 1960s.

It seems very unlikely that the WPA’s ban will face any scrutiny in U.S. courts given the limited number of affected Russian and Belarusian pool players. But as war continues and the world looks for solutions, “national origin” discrimination will become a more common topic in sports and elsewhere. When the Wimbledon tennis tournament—not subject to U.S. laws—banned Russian players, an avalanche of criticism soon followed along with public discussion about the legality of its move.

HILL, MELLING AND WHELAN WIN ULTIMATE POOL PRO SERIES TITLES

An exciting new era for English 8-Ball Pool has got underway over the past couple of months with the opening tour stops on the expanded 2022 Ultimate Pool Series.

Now taking place in big hotel venues to accommodate entries, this year's Ultimate Pool Series consists of the Professional Series (up from 34 to 48 players), the amateur-only Challenger Series (up from 128 to 288 players per event) and the new Women's Series (84 players per event).

In total, over 400 cueists have travelled to each of the first two weekends in March and April, pursuing titles, ranking points and a slice of the £388,500 prize money on offer across the four long-weekends throughout the year.

KING OF THE HILL

On the top tier Professional Series, world champion trio Michael Hill,



Chris Melling and Jack Whelan have lifted trophies so far.

During the opening weekend in Blackpool, reigning six-time world champion Hill made his intentions clear for the campaign by claiming the Event 1 title and pocketing £10,000.

Having lost two finals in the inaugural 2021 season, third time was a charm for 'The Machine' as he joined the Ultimate Pool winner's circle. Hill dropped just 11 frames in four matches getting to the final – eliminating former world champions Carl Morris and Phil Harrison on the way – before dispatching former World Masters winner Neil Raybone, 8-2.



Jack Whelan

Whilst Potts will be disappointed to lose in two finals this year, so far, he has now reached finals in three successive Pro Series weekends, stretching back to his victory at Event 7 last year.

New to the Ultimate Pool professional ranks this season – although certainly no stranger to claiming major titles within the sport – Whelan hasn't taken long to land his first accolade after triumphing at Event 3.

A world champion in 2015, 'The Wonder' scored one for the 'new' generation on the Series, coming from the preliminary round to eventually defeat recent Professional Cup winner Jordan Shepherd 8-4 in the final.

Both Melling and Whelan seem to have already secured elite top 16 berths come the end of the season, meaning they would avoid the bother of the preliminary rounds in 2023 as professional numbers rise again to 80.

QUARTET COMPLETE THE CHALLENGE

Neil Brittain, Josh Corkett, Cameron Tolley and Callum Singleton respectively won the opening four events on this season's Ultimate Pool Challenger Series. Each player won £7,000 for

Having tasted success, Hill had a thirst for more, doubling up in Birmingham the following month by winning Event 4.

The 42-year-old Englishman saw off three of last year's top four ranked players in Declan Brennan, Shaun Storry, and then career rival Gareth Potts in a blockbuster final.

Arguably the two greatest English 8-ball pool players of all-time with 10 world titles between them, Hill and Potts – who have defeated each other in world finals – rekindled their famous rivalry on the big stage for the first time in over 11 years. However, in front of a packed and enthralled audience, Hill ran out a comfortable 8-1 victor to become only the second player to achieve Pro Series success on consecutive event weekends.

Hill's two-title triumph puts him top of the provisional rankings; a position he would dearly like to occupy come the end of the season.

MELLING AND WHELAN JOIN THE CLUB

Elsewhere during the trips to Blackpool and Birmingham, Melling and Whelan became Pro Series champions for the first time.

Melling has been one of the most prominent and successful figures on the Ultimate Pool circuit since its creation less than 18 months ago, although his title victories at the 2021 Champions League and Champion of Champions were both in invitational events and unranked.

'The Magician', though, would be celebrating his maiden ranking event within the organisation following glory at Event 2 where he denied a string of world-class opponents, culminating in an 8-4 win over Potts in the final.



Josh Corkett

their title wins and earned valuable ranking points in their pursuit of earning promotion to the professional ranks next season. At the end of this term, the top 16 ranked Challengers will all go up into the big time.

Brittain – perhaps better known for his success on the money match scene – defeated Aaron Priest 7-5 in the final to claim Event 1, whilst Corkett was the other winner in Blackpool after he ousted Ian Whitehorn 6-5 in the Event 2 title match.

In Birmingham, Tolley defeated fellow experienced campaigner Matt Cooke 7-2 for glory in Event 3; Singleton – a former World Masters champion – went two steps better than his semi-final finish in the opening event of the season by denying Connor Jones 7-5 in the Event 4 final.

Special mention for Jones who had a memorable weekend at the venue and bounced back from a narrow last four final frame loss to Tolley in Event 3 where he missed the 8-ball in the decider to go through.

HAYNES AND BEAUCHAMP ARE WOMEN'S SERIES WINNERS

A welcome addition to the Ultimate Pool circuit this year is the inaugural Women's Series which has already



been a very popular hit with capacity having been raised more than once.

As well as unprecedented exposure and prizes on offer for the women's game, the Series is an official pathway to the organisation's professional ranks, with the top ranked player at the end of the season earning promotion to the top tier.

A seriously impressive field featured in both the opening events, highlighted by two of the sport's current world champions triumphing.

Possibly the best women's player on the planet right now, Harriet Haynes made history by winning the first-ever Women's Series event in Blackpool after defeating Sandy King 5-2 in the main arena and in front of the live television cameras.

The following month, though, and it was the turn of Amy Beauchamp – arguably the most decorated women's player over the past few years – who was celebrating glory again when she lifted the Event 2 trophy soon after denying Portugal's Alexandra Cunha 5-2 in the title match.

With Beauchamp and Haynes tied on the same number of ranking points, we are set for a thrilling climax to the season, with further 2022 Ultimate Pool Series stops scheduled for June (24-26) and December (9-11).

Please visit ultimatepool.tv for full tournament information. Fans around the world can subscribe to ultimatepool.tv and receive live coverage of weekend and Monday Night Prime Time Pool programmes, the extensive Video on Demand library, and exclusive video series' with several of the sport's top stars.



READY TO

ENGAGE

ENGAGE

12.3

18" EXTREME PRO TAPER
LOWEST DEFLECTION
TOP ACCURACY

ENGAGE

11.8

14" PRO TAPER
EXTREME LOW DEFLECTION
EXTREME ACCURACY

YOUR **NEXT** CARBON FIBER SHAFT
BORN FOR THE BEST **GAME EXPERIENCE**

DISCOVER MORE
becueofficial.com

 **becue**

2022 WORLD POOL Masters Field Locked In

The field for the 2022 World Pool Masters is set shaped by the 2022 Nineball World Rankings as 24 players, take aim for one of pool's most prestigious prizes in some of the toughest conditions against the top contenders.

Pool's most famous invitation-
al tournament gets underway
from May 5-8 at the Europa
Point Sports Complex, Gibraltar
with tickets from £7 per session.

BUY TICKETS FROM £7 AT <https://www.buytickets.gi/events/world-pool-masters-2022-457>

Defending champion Alexander Kazakis will lead the field as No.1 seed

closely followed by newly crowned World Champion Shane Van Boening who will be seeded as the No.2 seed. The top 20 players on the Nineball World Rankings were given automatic wildcards with the top eight seeds avoiding the preliminary stage of the tournament.

Four wild cards join the 20 off the rankings with two-time champion Niels Feijen returning to the Rock off

the back of claiming the European Championship 9-ball title earlier this year. Dimitri Jungo of Switzerland will make his World Pool Masters debut on the back of a stellar run at the World Pool Championship for the Swiss cueist after reaching the Last 16. The final two wild cards were given to Hong Kong, China's rising star Lo Ho Sum who beat both David Alcaide and Eklent Kaçi at the World Pool Cham-

A promotional banner for the 2022 World Pool Masters. The background is a dark, rocky landscape. In the foreground, five pool players are featured: three in the back row and two in the front row. The player in the front right is holding a large, ornate trophy. The text 'WORLD POOL MASTERS' is prominently displayed in the center, with '5-8 MAY '22' below it. The location 'EUROPA POINT SPORTS PARK, GIBRALTAR' is also mentioned. Social media handles '#WORLDPOOLMASTERS' and '#VISITGIBRALTAR' are included. Logos for sponsors like sky sports, nineball, viaplay, DAZN, matchroom, and others are visible at the bottom.

sky sports nineball viaplay DAZN

WORLD POOL MASTERS

5-8 MAY '22

EUROPA POINT SPORTS PARK, GIBRALTAR

#WORLDPOOLMASTERS #VISITGIBRALTAR

matchroom MINISTRY OF SPORT GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR PREDATOR RASSON aramith buytickets

pionship and Kuwait's World Pool Championship semi-finalist Abdullah Alyousef who joins compatriot Omar Al-Shaheen in the field of 24.

Full Field (Seeded players 1-8 move into Last 16 based on 2022 Nineball World Rankings)

1. Alexander Kazakis (GRE)
2. Shane van Boening (USA)
3. Albin Ouschan (AUT)
4. David Alcaide (ESP)
5. Max Lechner (AUT)
6. Aloysius Yapp (SIN)
7. Naoyuki Oi (JPN)
8. Joshua Filler (GER)

Unseeded players who face the preliminary stage

- Ko Ping Chung (TPE)
- Eklent Kaci (ALB)
- Omar Al-Shaheen (KUW)
- Ko Pin-Yi (TPE)

- Jayson Shaw (GBR)
- Oliver Szolnoki (HUN)
- Skyler Woodward (USA)
- Francisco Sanchez Ruiz (ESP)
- Denis Grabe (EST)
- Chang Yu-Lung (TPE)
- Mieszko Fortunski (POL)
- Dennis Orcollo (PHI)
- Niels Feijen (NED)
- Lo Ho Sum (HKG)
- Abdullah Alyousef (KUW)
- Dimitri Jungo (SUI)

EVENT FORMAT

The top 8 seeded players enter at the last 16, where they are joined by the winners from the preliminary round, where players ranked 9-24 face off.

All matches race to 7, winner breaks, except for the final which is a race to 9.

The tournament will be played on a Rasson Ox table with pockets measuring at 4 inches.

MATCH SCHEDULE

Thursday 5th May – Evening Session

x4 Preliminary Round matches

Friday 6th May – Afternoon Session

x4 Preliminary Round matches

Evening Session

x3 Last 16 Matches

Saturday 7th May – Afternoon Session

x3 Last 16 Matches

Evening Session

x2 Last 16 Matches / x1 Quarter-Final

Sunday 8th May – Afternoon Session

x3 Quarter Finals

Evening Session

x2 Semi-Finals / Final

Draw

The draw for the Preliminary Stage and Last 16 will be made soon. Keep an eye on the Matchroom Pool social media pages for the draw.

SEARCH. FIND. PLAY.

PlayPool.com

Locations
Amenities
Discounts
Flyers
& more

Available on the App Store

ANDROID APP ON Google play

US Open Pool Championship

To Remain At Harrah's Resort For Next Three Years

Harrah's Resort Atlantic City will remain home to the US Open Pool Championship, the sport's longest-running major for at least the next three years as part of an exciting new partnership with Caesars Entertainment and the Atlantic City Sports Commission, Matchroom Multi Sport is pleased to announce.

After the success of the 2021 US Open Pool Championship last September, Matchroom will return to New Jersey this October 10-15, 2022, with the event televised live on Sky Sports on October 14-15. The event will also see an exciting addition featuring a new amateur tournament that will be run by Diamond Billiards in conjunction with Matchroom at Harrah's Resort Atlantic City.

We're also delighted to announce the 2023 US Open Pool Championship will take place from September 25-30, 2023, live on Sky Sports. 2024 dates will come soon.

Player entries for the 2022 US Open Pool Championship will open at 9am ET on Tuesday, April 12, with the entry fee \$750 per player for the event.

Tickets for the 2022 US Open Pool Championship start from just \$15 for the day with season passes available from \$86. Fans can also take advantage of our season pass with premium seating for the final day meaning a front three-row seat and priority access to the arena for only \$175.

Tickets will go on priority sale to Matchroom Pool Club members on

Tuesday 19, April with General Sale tickets on sale from Tuesday, April 26. Fans will also be able to take advantage of our exclusive hotel room rate at Harrah's Resort, Atlantic City.

The amateur tournament will be situated inside the same space as the US Open Pool Championship with 7ft Diamond Tables.

Filipino Carlo Biado will head back to Harrah's Resort Atlantic City with his eyes on defending the US Open title after defeating Aloysius Yapp in the final in dramatic circumstances from 7-3 down.

A promotional banner for the US Open Pool Championship 2022. The background is a dark, textured surface with red stars and pool cues. At the top, it says "US OPEN POOL 2022" repeated across the width. Below that are logos for CAESARS ENTERTAINMENT, sky sports, YouTube, nineball, viaplay, and DAZN. The main text reads "US OPEN POOL CHAMPIONSHIP" in large, bold, white letters. To the right, "OCTOBER 10-15 2022" is written in a large, outlined font. Below that, "Harrah's RESORT ATLANTIC CITY" is displayed. A blue banner contains "Harrah's Resort, Atlantic City" and "#USOPENPOOL". At the bottom, it says "SIGN UP FOR TICKET ALERTS AT MATCHROOMPOOL.COM". The bottom edge features logos for nineball, DIAMOND, Wm. Mitchell, KAMUI, matchroom, Saramith, PREDATOR, and ATLANTIC CITY SPORTS COMMISSION. Vertical text on the right side reads "2022 • US OPEN POOL 2022 • US OPEN POOL 2022 • US OPEN POOL 2022 • US OPEN POOL 2022 • US OPEN POOL 2022".

Matchroom Multi Sport Managing Director Emily Frazer said: “Since Matchroom took hold of the US Open Pool Championship in 2019, we’ve always strived towards making one of the most historic tournaments in the calendar bigger and better and this new partnership allows us to do just that. We can’t wait to be able to welcome more spectators and amateur players to the arena to play alongside our already blockbuster 256 field in the US Open where the world’s best will do battle.”

“The East Coast pool community is thriving, and I am excited to see where we can take the tournament over the coming years in here Atlantic City together with our partners at Caesars Entertainment and the Atlantic City Sports Commission.”

“The Atlantic City Sports Commission is thrilled for the return of the US Open

Pool Championship. Our continued partnership with Matchroom Pool will bring the most talented billiard players to our seaside destination where our world-class venues and amenities await. We are especially keen on this year’s new amateur program that will allow local billiard enthusiasts to take their skills to new heights,” stated Atlantic City Sports Commission Director of Sports Sales, Daniel Gallagher.

“Caesars Entertainment is thrilled to host the US Open Pool Championship at Harrah’s Resort and bring this high-profile event to Atlantic City for the second year in a row,” said John Koster, Regional President for Caesars Entertainment’s Eastern Division.

“There’s no better location for this world-class sporting event – as both a spectator and a player – than The Waterfront Conference Center at Harrah’s and we are thrilled to intro-

duce our brand of hospitality to the hundreds of visitors from all over the globe who will be traveling to Atlantic City for this event.”

Fans can sign up to the free Matchroom Pool Club for the priority ticket access at <https://matchroompool.com/pool-club/>

Further details on the new amateur tournament ran by Diamond Billiards will follow in the coming weeks.

The US Open Pool Championship will be broadcast live on Sky Sports in the UK/Ireland, DAZN in the USA, Canada, Brazil, Spain, Italy, Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. Viaplay in Scandinavia, the Baltics, Poland, Netherlands, and Belgium. Further broadcasters will be announced soon with fans also able to enjoy the action on Matchroom.Live in selected countries.



Changing the World of Pool...For Good!
Whether it's via the Accu-Stats YouTube Channel, PPV OnDemand, Subscription Service, Vimeo On Demand, or High Definition DVD, Accu-Stats delivers your message to the World!

The Accu-Stats YouTube Channel exploded to 12,476,148 views in 2021. Be a part of it in 2023.

The Accu-Stats YouTube Channel invites YOU to **SUBSCRIBE**

 click here to **View in HD FREE**

VIEW 3 Premieres per week:
Remastered in HD

Or visit YouTube: Search Accu-Stats



**Pool's Greatest Players
Their Greatest Matches FREE!**

See the complete
MAY Schedule
on **page 13**
or our **facebook page**

**2022 Accu-Stats Annual FREE Catalog
On-Line NOW**

For a **FREE** Catalog Featuring
30+ years of Pro Tournament Match Action
download at **accu-stats.com**

800.828.0397

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



Pool fans: Enjoy & Learn from our
NEW and **Historic** tournaments plus,
books, products, and more
to improve your game.

And it's **FREE!**



Action Photography ©mediumpool.com

Matchroom Multi Sport Renews Partnership With Onboard Sportswear

Pool's leading promoter extends partnership with Onboard Sportswear as the official clothing partner of Nineball and other Multi Sport events for at least the next two years following a successful first year.

Matchroom is delighted to announce Onboard Sportswear will continue as the official clothing partner of Nineball events for at least the next two years.

Onboard joined forces with Matchroom Multi Sport to provide official merchandise and player jerseys in April 2021 with the partnership going from strength to strength that will see the official launch of the first-ever Nineball merchandise on Monday, April 25.

As well as the new merchandise range, Onboard will continue to provide the Official Team Jerseys for the Mosconi Cup, as well as Player Jerseys for the World Pool Masters. Onboard Sportswear will also supply official Referee Jerseys for all Nineball events; the World Pool Championship, Mosconi Cup, US Open Pool Championship, UK Open Pool Championship, European

Open Pool Championship, World Pool Masters, World Cup of Pool, and Premier League Pool.

Emily Frazer, Managing Director of Matchroom Sport, said: "We're excited to expand on our already blossoming relationship with Onboard Sportswear. We've had overwhelmingly positive feedback from players and fans over the last 12 months since we first partnered with Onboard. We had some ground-breaking moments like the Champion of Champions jerseys in snooker replacing the more traditional shirt and waistcoat and a Mosconi Cup to remember. Now we cannot wait to push the boundaries over the next two year starting with our new range of Nineball clothing available for pre-order from Monday, April 25.

Ceri Morris, Director at Onboard Sportswear said: "We are thrilled

to announce the new contract with Matchroom Multisport which is a product of the hard work both parties have put into the partnership over the past 12 months. We will continue to be the Official Clothing Partner for all Nineball events and many more for at least the next 2 years ahead and are very much looking forward to continuing to grow our relationship with the Matchroom team. Nineball is in very safe hands with the Matchroom team and we are excited to continue to develop creative performance sportswear and casual wear for all players and supporters of the sport world-wide."

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



Simonis Cloth and Aramith Balls

play so true,

you really have to ask yourself

would you rather play against your

opponent...



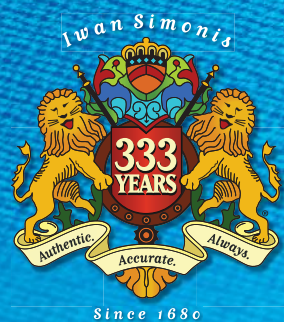
BCA Expo

Booth 625

...or against your
equipment?

Simonis
SIMONIS CLOTH

Authentic. Accurate. Always.
simoniscloth.com



...THAT'S HOW I ROLL
aramith
The True Belgian Billiard Balls

aramith.com

The Winning Combination

Tourney Results

Apr 02 - Apr 02

Garden State Pool Tour Amateur Stop

Rockaway Billiards

Rockaway, NJ

- 1 Michel Couvrette \$650
- 2 Marc Lamberti \$450
- 3 Robert Calton \$270
- 4 Jay Pass \$180
- 5 Joe Valania \$120
- 5 Rich Cardillo \$120
- 7 CJ Chey \$80
- 7 Tiffany Sebes \$80
- 9 Allen Wong \$75
- 9 Nelson Tran \$75
- 9 Paul Raval \$75
- 9 Sumit Bansal \$75

Apr 02 - Apr 03

Joss Tour 2022-2023 Stop 12 Second Chance

Utica Billiards On The Boulevard

Utica, New York

- 1 Peter Servello \$360
- 2 Brandon Fletcher \$260
- 3 Bill Goodman \$160
- 4 Dan Sharlow \$100
- 5 Brian Tierney \$60
- 5 Jamie Garrett \$60

Apr 02 - Apr 03

Joss Tour 2021-2022 Stop 12

Utica Billiards On The Boulevard

Utica, New York

- 1 Lukas Fracasso-Verner \$1,050
- 2 Ron Casanzio \$750
- 3 Nate Marshall \$600
- 4 Aaron Greenwood \$450
- 5 Bob Mendenjian \$350
- 5 Bucky Souvanthong \$350

- 7 Tyler Henninger \$225
- 7 Willie Oney \$225
- 9 Bob Harner \$100
- 9 Len Gianfrate \$100
- 9 Marko Clarke \$100
- 9 Pete Genovese \$100

Apr 03 - Apr 03

Q City 9-Ball Tour Event

The League Room

Parkersburg, West Virginia

- 1 Tanner Elliott \$800
- 2 Tri Hinton \$550
- 3 Dusty Yeager \$300
- 4 Joseph Arbuckle \$120
- 5 Nija Conley \$80
- 5 Shane Albaugh \$80
- 7 Norm Payne \$50
- 7 Tyler Shultz \$50

Apr 03 - Apr 03

Mezz Cues LA 9-Ball Series Stop

Gladi8or Billiards

Los Angeles, California

- 1 Jon Balan \$500
- 2 David Butler \$300
- 3 Chris Wedekind \$220
- 4 Rakesh Bunga \$150
- 5 Jeffrey Jamerson \$100
- 5 Tony Garcia \$100
- 7 Al Garcia \$65
- 7 Chris Santana \$65

Apr 03 - Apr 05

US Open 10-Ball Championship 2022

Griff's

Las Vegas, Nevada

- 1 Fedor Gorst \$9,100
- 2 Lee Vann Corteza \$4,600
- 3 Stephen Holem \$3,000

- 4 Roland Garcia \$2,100
- 5 Carlo Biado \$1,300
- 5 Jesus Atencio \$1,300
- 7 Edgie Geronimo \$750
- 7 Shane Winters \$750
- 9 Joe Spence \$600
- 9 Joven Bustamante \$600
- 9 Roberto Gomez \$600
- 9 Vilmos Foldes \$600

Apr 05 - Apr 08

US Open 8-Ball Championship 2022

Griff's

Las Vegas, Nevada

- 1 Carlo Biado \$8,700
- 2 Roland Garcia \$4,500
- 3 Justin Sajich \$2,900
- 4 Josh Roberts \$2,100
- 5 Jesus Atencio \$1,200
- 5 Stephen Holem \$1,200
- 7 Danny Olson \$800
- 7 Roberto Gomez \$800
- 9 Alex Montpellier \$550
- 9 Edgie Geronimo \$550
- 9 James Davee \$550
- 9 Lee Vann Corteza \$550

Apr 08 - Apr 11

2022 US Open One Pocket Championship

Griff's

Las Vegas, Nevada

- 1 Tony Chohan \$8,800
- 2 Josh Roberts \$4,800
- 3 Justin Hall \$2,900
- 4 Carlo Biado \$2,100
- 5 Robert Herchik \$1,300
- 5 Roland Garcia \$1,300
- 7 Fedor Gorst \$1,000
- 7 Tim De Ruyter \$1,000

Apr 11 - Apr 14

2022 US Open Bank Pool Championship

Griff's

Las Vegas, Nevada

- 1 Scott Frost \$8,000
- 2 Carlo Biado \$4,000
- 3 Roberto Gomez \$3,000
- 4 Stephen Holem \$2,000
- 5 Robert Frost \$1,500
- 5 Roland Garcia \$1,500
- 7 Evan Lunda \$1,000
- 7 Tim De Ruyter \$1,000
- 9 Danny Olson \$600
- 9 Kelly Chuberko \$600
- 9 Michael Delawder \$600
- 9 Tony Chohan \$600

Apr 03 - Apr 14

2022 US Open Series Bonus Money

Griff's

Las Vegas, Nevada

- 1 Carlo Biado \$2,500
- 2 Roland Garcia \$1,500
- 3 Fedor Gorst \$500
- 3 Tony Chohan \$500

Apr 06 - Apr 10

WPA World Pool Championship 2022

Marshall Arena

Bletchley, Milton Keynes

- 1 Shane Van Boening \$60,000
- 2 Albin Ouschan \$30,000
- 3 Abdullah Alyousef \$17,500
- 3 Alexandros Kazakis \$17,500
- 5 Joshua Filler \$10,000
- 5 Jung-Lin Chang \$10,000
- 5 Maximilian Lechner \$10,000
- 5 Oliver Szolnoki \$10,000
- 9 Aloysius Yapp \$6,000
- 9 Darren Appleton \$6,000
- 9 Dimitri Jungo \$6,000
- 9 Naoyuki Oi \$6,000
- 9 Omar Alshaheen \$6,000
- 9 Pin-Yi Ko \$6,000
- 9 Ronald Regli \$6,000
- 9 Thorsten Hohmann \$6,000

- 17 Chia-Chen Hsieh \$3,000
- 17 Jayson Shaw \$3,000
- 17 John Morra \$3,000
- 17 Konrad Juszczyszyn \$3,000
- 17 Lo Ho Sum \$3,000
- 17 Marc Bijsterbosch \$3,000
- 17 Mario He \$3,000
- 17 Masato Yoshioka \$3,000
- 17 Mats B. Schjetne \$3,000
- 17 Mika Immonen \$3,000
- 17 Moritz Neuhausen \$3,000
- 17 Niels Feijen \$3,000
- 17 Petri Makkonen \$3,000
- 17 Ping Han Ko \$3,000
- 17 Ralf Souquet \$3,000
- 17 Wojciech Szewczyk \$3,000
- 33 Bader Al Awadi \$1,500
- 33 Bahram Lotfy \$1,500
- 33 Besar Spahiu \$1,500
- 33 Casper Matikainen \$1,500
- 33 Daniel Guttenberger \$1,500
- 33 Daniel Schneider \$1,500
- 33 Daniele Corrieri \$1,500
- 33 Denis Grabe \$1,500
- 33 Eklent Kaci \$1,500
- 33 Elliot Sanderson \$1,500
- 33 Fabio Petroni \$1,500
- 33 Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz \$1,500
- 33 Imran Majid \$1,500
- 33 Ivo Aarts \$1,500
- 33 Jani Uski \$1,500
- 33 Jonas Souto Comino \$1,500
- 33 Kun Lin Wu \$1,500
- 33 Michal Gavenciak \$1,500
- 33 Mickey Krause \$1,500
- 33 Mieszko Fortunski \$1,500
- 33 Nick De Leon \$1,500
- 33 Nick Ekonomopoulos \$1,500
- 33 Oscar Dominguez \$1,500
- 33 Pia Filler \$1,500
- 33 Pijus Labutis \$1,500
- 33 Ping-Chung Ko \$1,500
- 33 Quoc Hoang Duong \$1,500
- 33 Robbie James Joaquin Capito \$1,500
- 33 Sanjin Pehlivanovic \$1,500
- 33 Shane Wolford \$1,500
- 33 Tomasz Kaplan \$1,500
- 33 Yukio Akagariyama \$1,500
- 65 Ali Al Obaidly \$500
- 65 Ana Gradisnik \$500

- 65 Bashar Hussain \$500
- 65 Billy Thorpe \$500
- 65 Chris Alexander \$500
- 65 Chris Melling \$500
- 65 Craig Osborne \$500
- 65 Daniel Maciol \$500
- 65 Darryl Chia Soo Yew \$500
- 65 David Alcaide \$500
- 65 Dimitris Loukatos \$500
- 65 Eylul Kybaroglu \$500
- 65 Francesco Candela \$500
- 65 Hunter Lombardo \$500
- 65 Ip Tung Pong \$500
- 65 Jakob Koniar \$500
- 65 Jan Van Lierop \$500
- 65 Kelly Fisher \$500
- 65 Marco Teutscher \$500
- 65 Mason Koch \$500
- 65 Mateusz Sniegocki \$500
- 65 Matt Edwards \$500
- 65 Michael Schneider \$500
- 65 Ruben Bautista \$500
- 65 Sebastian Batkowski \$500
- 65 Thanh Kien Dang \$500
- 65 Tobias Bongers \$500
- 65 Toh Lian Han \$500
- 65 Tom Stavely \$500
- 65 Tyler Styer \$500
- 65 Waleed Majid \$500
- 65 Wiktor Zielinski \$500

Apr 09 - Apr 10

2022 Virginia State Women's 10-Ball Championship

Diamond Billiards

Midlothian, VA

- 1 Precilia Kinsley \$900
- 2 Liz Taylor \$550
- 3 Bethany Tate \$350
- 4 Lisa Cossette \$250
- 5 Buffy Jolie \$150
- 5 Hayleigh Marion \$150

Apr 09 - Apr 10

2022 Virginia State 10-Ball Championship

Diamond Billiards

Midlothian, VA

- 1 BJ Ussery \$1,500
- 2 Manny Chau \$950

- 3 Danny Mastermaker \$700
- 4 Nathan Childress \$500
- 5 Landon Hollingsworth \$300
- 5 Scott Roberts \$300
- 7 Chris Bruner \$200
- 7 Joey Tate \$200
- 9 Christopher Wilburn \$150
- 9 Mac Harrell \$150
- 9 Reggie Jackson \$150
- 9 Shane Buchanan \$150

Apr 09 - Apr 10

Q City 9-Ball Tour Event

Rock House Tavern

Gastonia, NC

- 1 Josh Heeter \$900
- 2 Bill Fowler \$600
- 3 Kelly Piercy \$475
- 4 Zach Martin \$275
- 5 Barry Mashburn \$140
- 5 Cole Lewis \$140
- 7 Dayne Miller \$100
- 7 Thomas Sansone \$100

Apr 09 - Apr 10

Joss Tour 2022-2023 Stop 13 Second Chance

Yale Billiards

Wallingford, Connecticut

- 1 Ryan Cullen \$300
- 2 Jamie Gauthier \$220
- 3 Mike Renshaw \$140
- 4 Roger Lakotko \$80

Apr 09 - Apr 10

Joss Tour 2021-2022 Stop 13

Yale Billiards

Wallingford, Connecticut

- 1 Jeremy Sossei \$1,100
- 2 Del Sim \$800
- 3 Aaron Greenwood \$600
- 4 Dan Sharlow \$450
- 5 Frankie Hernandez \$300
- 5 Lukas Fracasso-Verner \$300
- 7 Bruce Carroll \$200
- 7 Nick Coppola \$200
- 9 Bill Kiley \$100
- 9 John Vitale \$100

- 9 Ryan Cullen \$100
- 9 Yesid Garibello \$100

Apr 09 - Apr 10

2022 Maryland State 9-Ball Championships

Brews & Cues on the Boulevard

Glen Burnie, Maryland

- 1 Brett Stottlemeyer \$1,200
- 2 Dylan Spohr \$760
- 3 Rick Miller \$525
- 4 Shaun Wilkie \$400
- 5 Bobby Pacheco \$260
- 5 Jimmy Rivera \$260
- 7 Rick Molineiro \$205
- 7 Scott Haas \$205
- 9 Glen Loveland \$150
- 9 Moe Mozannar \$150
- 9 Paul Krimes \$150
- 9 Paul Oh \$150
- 13 Deo Alpojara \$100
- 13 James Moss \$100
- 13 Jimmy Varias \$100
- 13 Tyler Adolini \$100
- 17 Aldrin Manreal \$70
- 17 Andy Lincoln \$70
- 17 Brian Dietzenbach \$70
- 17 Donald Painter \$70
- 17 Richard Reheard \$70
- 17 Russ Redhead \$70
- 17 Saba Khundadze \$70
- 17 Tarek Elmalla \$70

Apr 09 - Apr 09

2022 DFW Ladies 9-Ball Tour Stop 3

Stixx And Stones Billiards

Lewisville, Texas

- 1 Jennifer Hooten \$495
- 2 Nancy Rios \$310
- 3 Ginger Abadilla \$190
- 4 Jennifer Pavlovick \$120
- 5 Deliza Baumbach \$60
- 5 Krystle Suarez \$60

Apr 09 - Apr 10

JPNEWT Tour 2022 Stop #2

Markley Billiards

Norristown, PA

- 1 Briana Miller \$500
- 2 Kia Burwell \$325
- 3 Linda Haywood Shea \$200
- 4 Nicole Nester \$150
- 5 Alyssa Solt \$100
- 5 Anna Marks \$100
- 7 Carol V. Clark \$65
- 7 Linda Cheung \$65

Apr 10 - Apr 10

New England 9-Ball Tour 2022 Stop #4

Snookers Pool Lounge

Providence, RI

- 1 Anthony Petruzzelli \$250
- 1 Mike Zingarella \$250
- 2 Beau Powers \$175
- 2 Jay Aliomer \$175
- 3 Nicole Albergaria \$125
- 3 Steve Edmiston \$125
- 4 Francisco Salas \$65
- 4 Jean Minyety \$65

Apr 10 - Apr 10

Garden State Pool Tour Amateur Stop

Clifton Billiards

Clifton, New Jersey

- 1 Richard Ng \$400
- 2 John Velez \$300
- 3 Sang Hun Lee \$200
- 4 Kervin Santamaria \$150
- 5 Kathy Croom \$75
- 5 Tae Chang \$75

Apr 14 - Apr 16

2022 National Billiards League 8-Ball Championship

Sandcastle Billiards

Edison, NJ

- 1 Del Sim \$10,000
- 2 Thorsten Hohmann \$7,000
- 3 Al Lapena \$4,000
- 4 John Morra \$2,000
- 5 BJ Ussery \$1,000
- 5 Shane Albaugh \$1,000
- 7 Dennis Spears \$750
- 7 Lukas Fracasso-Verner \$750

- 9 Brett Ross \$500
- 9 Frankie Hernandez \$500
- 9 Jeremy Fedkenheuer \$500
- 9 Justin Martin \$500

Apr 15 - Apr 17

2022 Bob Stocks Memorial 9-Ball

First Break Cafe

Sterling, VA

- 1 Fedor Gorst \$2,080
- 2 Shane Wolford \$1,040
- 3 Brandon Shuff \$600
- 3 Dylan Spohr \$600
- 5 Chris Hansen \$330
- 5 Eric Heiland \$330
- 5 John Moody Sr. \$330
- 5 Manny Chau \$330

Apr 16 - Apr 16

Q City 9-Ball Tour Event

Break Time Billiards

Winston-Salem, NC

- 1 Hank Powell \$800
- 2 Orlando Marcus \$500
- 3 Matt Harrell \$300
- 4 Daniel Shelton \$200
- 5 Eric Stanton \$100
- 5 Joey Tate \$100

Apr 16 - Apr 16

Predator Tri State Tour 2022 Stop

Clifton Billiards

Clifton, New Jersey

- 1 Sean Emmitt \$475
- 2 KC Clayton \$250
- 3 Mike Strassberg \$120
- 4 Ty Classen \$70

Apr 18 - Apr 24

2022 Super Billiards Expo 6-Ball

Greater Philadelphia Expo Center at Oaks

Oaks, PA

- 1 Danny Mastermaker \$1,500
- 2 Fred Goodman \$1,000
- 3 Daniel Dagabot \$750
- 3 Jared Demalia \$750
- 5 Coen Bell \$600

- 5 Jonathan Ailstock \$600
- 5 Manny Perez \$600
- 5 Michael Mathieu \$600
- 9 Clay Davis \$450
- 9 Cody Myers \$450
- 9 Dany Normandin \$450
- 9 Omar Santiago Roman \$450
- 9 Paul Krimes \$450
- 9 Raj Vannala \$450
- 9 Shane Jackson \$450
- 9 Toru Hayakawa \$450

Apr 18 - Apr 24

2022 Super Billiards Expo Women's NineBall Pro Players Championship

Greater Philadelphia Expo Center at Oaks

Oaks, PA

- 1 Kelly Fisher \$10,000
- 2 Jennifer Barretta \$6,000
- 3 JoAnn Mason Parker \$4,000
- 4 Teruko Cucculelli \$3,000
- 5 Allison Fisher \$2,000
- 5 Caroline Pao \$2,000
- 7 Kim White-Newsome \$1,750
- 7 Veronique Menard \$1,750
- 9 Ashley Burrows \$1,500
- 9 Brittany Bryant \$1,500
- 9 Kaylee McIntosh \$1,500
- 9 Monica Webb \$1,500
- 13 Emily Duddy \$1,250
- 13 Kia Burwell \$1,250
- 13 Loree Jon Hasson \$1,250
- 13 Sarah Rousey \$1,250

Apr 18 - Apr 24

2022 Super Billiards Expo Open NineBall Pro Players Championship

Greater Philadelphia Expo Center at Oaks

Oaks, PA

- 1 Jayson Shaw \$10,000
- 2 Darren Appleton \$7,000
- 3 Mario He \$4,000
- 4 Billy Thorpe \$3,000
- 5 Fedor Gorst \$2,750

- 5 Oscar Dominguez \$2,750
- 7 Joe Spence \$2,250
- 7 Ralf Souquet \$2,250
- 9 John Morra \$2,200
- 9 Jonathan Pinegar \$2,200
- 9 Mhet Vergara \$2,200
- 9 Thorsten Hohmann \$2,200
- 13 Earl Strickland \$1,800
- 13 Kang Lee \$1,800
- 13 Robbie James Joaquin Capito \$1,800
- 13 Warren Kiamco \$1,800

Apr 22 - Apr 24

Chris Reinhold vs Shane McMinn Champion's Challenge

Action Palace Billiards & Gameroom

Huber Heights, Ohio

- 1 Chris Reinhold \$50,000

Apr 23 - Apr 24

2022 DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop 4

Rusty's Billiards

Fort Worth, Texas

- 1 Matt Wilson \$1,440
- 2 Daniel Herring \$860
- 3 Paul Villanueva \$660
- 4 Jesse Moore \$530
- 5 Jimmy Davis \$390
- 5 Robbie Cleland \$390
- 7 Clint Palaci \$250
- 7 TJ Thetford \$250
- 9 Jim Dixon \$140
- 9 Nico Arriola \$140
- 9 Robert Kempf \$140
- 9 Roman Bayda \$140
- 13 Jeff Sullivan \$110
- 13 Mike Mallow \$110
- 13 Mike Rountree \$110
- 13 Steven Thorne \$110
- 17 Crispian Ng \$100
- 17 Curtiss Caldwell \$100
- 17 Fahad Alrawi \$100
- 17 Joe Pelayo \$100
- 17 Mark Johnson \$100
- 17 Moe Harbaji \$100
- 17 Rodney Beveridge \$100
- 17 Sam Abusalem \$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.

MAY

New England 9-Ball Tour 2022 Winter Classic

May 01 - May 01

Snookers Pool Lounge
Providence, RI

World Pool Masters 2022

May 05 - May 08

Europa Sports Complex,
Gibraltar

2022 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 4

May 06 - May 08

Bullshooters
Phoenix, AZ

Tiger Florida Tour 2022 Stop 3

May 07 - May 07

Brewlands Bar & Billiards
Lakeland, FL

Mezz Pro Am Tour 2022 Stop 9

May 07 - May 08

South Jersey Billiards
Somedale, NJ

Wolfpack Open 9-Ball

May 07 - May 08

San Antonio, Texas

Predator Bucharest Open

May 13 - May 15

Club IDM,
Bucharest

West Coast Women's Tour 2022 Stop 1

May 14 - May 14

California Billiards
Fremont, California

Mezz Pro Am Tour 2022 Stop 10

May 14 - May 15

Sandcastle Billiards
Edison, NJ

Joss Tour 2021-2022 Stop 14

May 14 - May 15

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

New England 9-Ball Tour 2022 Stop #6

May 15 - May 15

Crow's Nest
Plaistow, New Hampshire

2022 UK Open

May 17 - May 22

Copper Box Arena
London, England

9th Annual Big Tyme Classic

May 19 - May 22

Big Tyme Billiards
Spring, Texas

2022 DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop 5

May 21 - May 22

Snookered Billiards
Frisco, TX

Capone's Super 32 10-Ball Championship

May 21 - May 22

Capone's Billiard Lounge
Spring Hill, FL

JPNEWT Tour 2022 Stop #4

May 21 - May 22

On Cue Sports Bar & Grill
Front Royal, Virginia

7th Annual Buffalo's Pro Classic

May 25 - May 29

Buffalo's Billiards
Jefferson, La

THE PERFECT ENVIRONMENT WHERE ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS TO FOCUS ON YOUR GAME

WWW.PREDATORCUES.COM



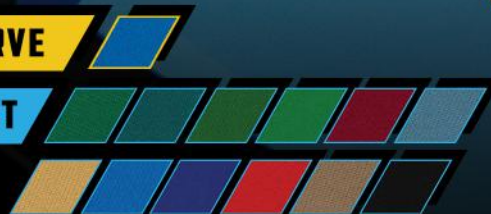
AUSTRALIAN MERINO WORSTED FELT

EXCLUSIVE PREDATOR LOGO RAIL

EXCITING HIGH-SPEED ACTION





















▶▶▶ ARCADIA RESERVE

▶▶ ARCADIA SELECT



©2022 Predator Cues. All rights reserved.
Predator is a registered trademark of Predator Group.

AZBILLIARDS MONEY LIST

	NAME	COUNTRY	\$ AMOUNT	
	Fedor Gorst	 RUS	\$126,442 US	
	Shane Van Boening	 USA	\$75,075 US	↑
	Wojciech Szewczyk	 POL	\$74,338 US	↑
	Jayson Shaw	 SCO	\$73,000 US	
	Alex Kazakis	 GRE	\$57,567 US	↑
	Joshua Filler	 GER	\$57,269 US	↓
	Albin Ouschan	 AUT	\$54,550 US	↑
	Christopher Tevez	 PER	\$42,650 US	↑
	Roland Garcia	 PHI	\$41,710 US	
	Tony Chohan	 USA	\$40,925 US	↓

quickly
becoming
your most
trusted
source in
billiards...

We buy, sell, and trade.
New custom cues on a weekly or bi-weekly basis.

Cue brands typically on the site: Mottey, James White, Southwest, Joss West, Manzino, Scruggs, Runde, Szamboti, TAD, Schick, Gina, Cohen

Authorized Dealer of: Shelby Williams, Larry Vigus, Mike Bender, Josh Treadway, Pete Tonkin, Jim Pierce, Ariel Carmelli in addition to Predator, Pechauer, Viking, Meucci, and Jacoby.

Cues, Cases, Accessories & More!

Top-10
Predator
Dealer

Biggelbachs.com
where pool players are family

THE CUE GUY

602-439-4526

- We Are Dealers For Most Cue Manufacturers
- Meucci, McDermott, Stealth etc
- We Sell New and Used Cues
- We Take ALL Trade-Ins
- We Will Pay You Cash For Your Used Cue Today!

thecueguy.com cueguymark@gmail.com



advanced
HUMAN PERFORMANCE
systems

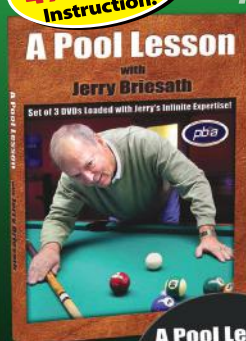
MIND OF STEEL MENTAL TOUGHNESS FOR POOL SUCCESS

Dr. Chris Stankovich
www.DRSTANKOVICH.COM

This is the most comprehensive,
informative & beneficial billiards
lesson DVD on the market today!

More Than
4 1/2 Hours of
Instruction!

BRAND NEW 3 DVD Set!



“Jerry is the greatest teacher I've ever met. He teaches with patience and passion. His depth of knowledge and enthusiasm are inspirational. He understands the stroke fundamentals like no other. I love Jerry! He's my 'go to' guy for sure.”

- Jeanette "The Black Widow" Lee

Over
50 Topics!



Available now at thepoolschool.com
Coming soon to all Internet suppliers!

AMERICAN MADE PERFORMANCE • SINCE 1965

NOTHING CONQUERS A VIKING

Get this design as part of Viking's Exclusive NEW
Apparel line AVAILABLE NOW!

SIEGE
by Viking

Soon to be recognized as legendary, Viking introduces the first model from our upcoming lineup that comes standard with the **Siege Carbon Fiber Performance Shaft**. The new **Viking S2202** is available in 12.25, 12.5 and 12.75 mm tip sizes with your choice of tip and weight and can be tailored to your personal playing style. Call your authorized Viking dealer or visit our home page to define your ultimate playing experience. Take no prisoners. After all, you are a Viking.



www.vikingcue.com

Readers,

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

WE ARE POSTING

ONE PHOTO EACH MONTH

on our Facebook account and in the AzBilliards forums.

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

There were a couple captions that were along the same lines as our winner, but our favorite this month came from Nine ,, corner on the AzB forums.



Better, the same or worse?

NAKED JUMP

NOT RECOMMENDED TO A WOODEN PUBLIC*



* "J" CARBON SHAFT DEVELOPED **EXCLUSIVELY** FOR JUMP SHOTS - CARBON FIBER SHAPED BUTT - **COMPOSITE RESIN** EXTENSION FOR AN EXCELLENT GRIP



DISCOVER MORE
becueofficial.com

 **becue**