

# Billiards Buzz

an     on

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## GORST MASTERS DERBY AGAIN

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# FROM THE Head Rail

MIKE HOWERTON

**W**hew, Derby City was a madhouse this year. Big fields of players, combined with tight pockets, led to late late nights. With the event running until 10:00 am on Sunday, they might have to start promoting it as a ten day event. The good news is that the good folks at Bad Boys are already working on solutions to the scheduling issues and I have no doubts that they will be worked out for next year.

I am also sure that we will have the Accu-Stats issues worked out for next year. Internet problems caused major headaches for the Accu-Stats team throughout the event. We apologize for the problems that viewers experienced and thank all of you for your patience. It is a lesson learned and it won't happen again.

Also, a big "Congratulations" goes out to our 2022 Players of the Year, Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz and Kelly Fisher. In a year of so many great stories, they headlined the best of them.

Until next time  
Mike



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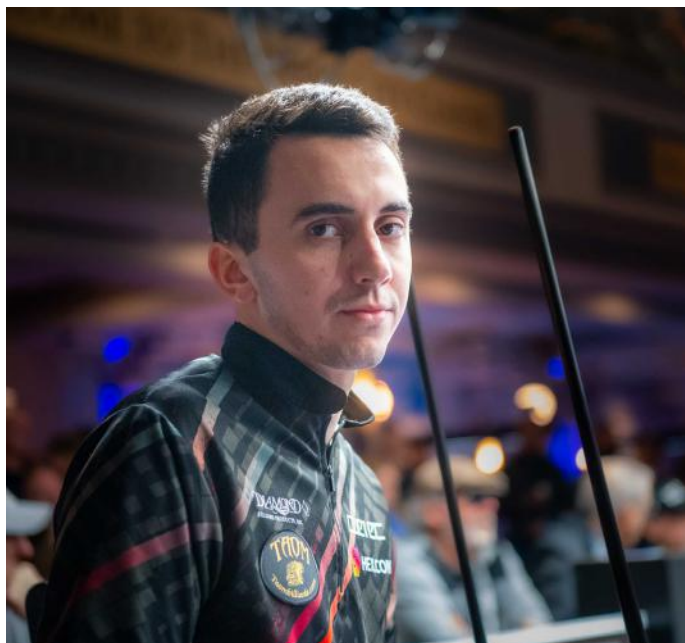
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# SPECTRUM OF SPEEDS

## SPEED CONTROL: IT'S THE MUST HAVE SKILL

When I took up pool back in 1968 one of my first steps was to buy and study *Willie Mosconi On Pocket Billiards*. In it, the great Mosconi emphasized that Speed Control is the one big skill that separates fine players from the rest of the pack. That lesson was quickly seared into my brain and, from that day forward, I made sure that speed control would be the best part of my game.

Your chosen speed for all position plays, safeties, and kick shots will fall on a spectrum that I created for *Play Your Best Pool* (1995) called the Spectrum of Speeds. This useful concept will help you to visualize the speeds you will routinely encounter. The Spectrum of Speeds runs from 1 (extremely soft) to 9 (extremely hard), and it covers all points in between. The learning process is aided by the combination of a number AND a description of that number. The illustration shows you the nine

Primary Speeds – the ones that are in whole numbers. I may also help to learn the Spectrum if you think of the three main groups of speeds – soft, medium, and hard. And then break each of these into three sub-groups as shown.

## PROCESS OF ELIMINATION PLANNING

When learning to estimate the correct speed, try using a Process of Elimination. To help you to understand how this process works, let's take a look at a method that I used when I played golf. On approach shots I would start the club selection process by estimating, for example, that a 5-iron would be too much club, while an 8-iron wasn't enough. That meant that the shot required a 6-iron or a 7-iron. I might further refine my choice by making it between a soft 6-iron, or hard 7.

Turning to your pool game, you can use this technique to zero in on the correct speed of stroke. After looking at a shot's Speed Picture you might conclude

that a 4.0 (a medium-soft stroke) is not going to be hard enough, and that a 6.0 (a medium hard stroke) is too firm. So, the speed you need has got to be a 5.0 (a medium stroke), or close to it. It could, for example, require a speed of 4.8 or 5.3.

When playing in competition you obviously should not be thinking of a number when down over the ball – but learning to think along a Spectrum of Speeds can enable you fine tune your speed for the shot you are about to play.

### SPEED CONTROL –

Your ability to control the cue ball's rolling distance after contact.

### SPECTRUM OF SPEEDS

– A scale that runs from 1 (softest) to 9 (hardest) for position plays, safeties, and kick shots.

### SPEED PICTURES –

The position of the balls and your target for the cue ball combine to give you a good idea of the speed you will need.

## USING YOUR CUE TO PLAN YOUR SHOTS

Another useful technique in planning your shots is walk over to where you will be standing for your next shot. Point your tip where you want the cue ball to go, and align your cue down your desired line-of-aim. Many top pros use this method, including Justin Bergman, who is an expert at previewing his shots. This visualization helps you to program precisely where you want the cue ball to go.

Precision Speed Control must be developed in your mind, so it helps to have a starting point, and pointing your cue down the line-of-aim is an effective way to kickstart the process.

## DEVELOPING YOUR SPEED OF STROKE

When planning your speed of stroke, the first step is to evaluate the **Speed Picture**, which is made up of the position of the cue ball, the object ball, AND your position play target. This involves searching your memory bank for similar shots. With sufficient experience, this process happens very quickly, maybe even subconsciously.

Once you have chosen the required speed and the

other elements of the shot, it is time for the execution phase of your routine. Part of this process requires translating your idea of the correct speed into a feeling for speed of stroke for that shot. After standing on the line-of-aim, you may wish to take a few Air Warmup Strokes (AWUS). These help you to loosen up your stroking arm and to develop a feel for speed. (Note: a very high percentage of pros now use this technique on most if not all of their more challenging shots.)

Once you land in position for the shot, you will further refine your feel for speed as you take your Warmup Strokes (WUS). And after you have fully developed your feel for speed, your line-of-aim, and the type of stroke you are going to use, it is time to play the shot! (In a moment I will go through a list of techniques for playing power shots.)

## YOUR PRACTICE TIME

When practicing emphasize shots in the 4-6 range because they form the foundation of your position play routes (see table). Be sure to spend a fair amount of time on shots with speeds of 2-3, especially if you play a lot of Straight Pool, Eight Ball, and 1-Pocket, games that require a lot of softly played position routes and safeties.

I think you will enjoy practicing shots in the Soft Category (1-3) because

they place no special burden on your stroke (unlike Power Shots). Pay close attention to your speed while practicing these routes and you will quickly dial in a sizeable number of valuable and commonly occurring position plays – AND safeties, too!

For soft shots (1-3), try using a little shorter bridge, limit your wrist action (if any), and take as many WUS as needed to zero in the precise speed required. Be sure to accelerate smoothly, and follow completely as you would with the higher speeds.

## PLAYING POWER SHOTS

Now, for the Power Shots, which make up the 7-9 segment of the Spectrum of Speeds. In my book/video, *Archer vs. Reyes*, you will find 18 examples of position plays at speeds of 7, 8, or 9. They are listed in the book second half of the book.

Top pros like Joshua Filler, Shane Van Boening, Fedor Gorst, Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz, and Jayson Shaw have such solid fundamentals that they, like Archer and Reyes in their prime, see only the most modest decline in the precision and accuracy of their strokes when playing shots at these high speeds. In contrast, amateur's strokes tend to break down when they attempt to play power shots. If this describes you, then help is on the way:

## Techniques for Playing Power Shots (7-9)

- 1) Do some AWUS before landing,
- 2) Add several inches to your bridge,
- 3) Add several super smooth WUS to your pre-shot routine,
- 4) Emphasize a smooth transition during your WUS,
- 5) Cock your wrist on your final stroke,
- 6) Use a smooth transition like you did on your WUS,
- 7) Accelerate smoothly into contact,
- 8) Be sure to release the cue freely into contact,
- 9) Follow through completely, and
- 10) Pose for a picture.

This list may appear a bit daunting, but you can master these techniques by adding one or two elements at a time during practice. When you have mastered an element, add another, then another. In time these techniques will become second nature, thus requiring little to no conscious effort to execute at an acceptable to high level.

As a bonus, while you emphasize speed control in practice – which includes a smooth stroke, a gradual transition, and acceleration patterns that begin slowly and smoothly – you will find that your quest for a solid and straight stroke may be met as a byproduct of improving your speed of stroke!

### SPECTRUM of SPEEDS

- 1 – Extremely Soft
- 2 – Very Soft
- 3 – Soft
- 4 – Medium Soft
- 5 – Medium
- 6 – Medium Hard
- 7 – Hard
- 8 – Very Hard
- 9 – Extremely Hard

### TYPICAL SPEED PROFILES

For a B Player and for a Top 50 Pro

	B	Pro
1 – Extremely Soft	B+	A
2 – Very Soft	B+	A
3 – Soft	A	A+
4 – Medium Soft	A	A+
5 – Medium	A-	A+
6 – Medium Hard	B	A
7 – Hard	B-	A-
8 – Very Hard	C	B+
9 – Extremely Hard	C-	B+

### SPECTRUM OF SPEEDS

A sample from *Archer vs. Reyes*

	#	%
1 – Extremely Soft	0	0.0
2 – Very Soft	10	7.6
3 – Soft	20	15.3
4 – Medium Soft	30	22.9
5 – Medium	26	19.8
6 – Medium Hard	27	20.6
7 – Hard	8	6.1
8 – Very Hard	6	4.6
9 – Extremely Hard	4	3.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>131</b>	

### PRIMARY CATEGORIES

	#	%	1 in every ..
Soft	30	22.9	1 / 4.4
Medium	83	63.4	1 / 1.6
Hard	18	13.7	1 / 7.3

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**EXAMPLES OF THE SPECTRUM**

**Diagram #1** shows 1 and 2-rail position plays along the Spectrum of Speeds, from Soft (3.0) to Medium (5.0). It features the cue ball's ending spots for speeds in the whole numbers, and a couple more in the gap between these speeds. In practice, you will need to be able to fine tune your speed along all points on the Spectrum. In our example, there are two such speeds – 3.6 and 4.5. Obviously there could be plenty more, such as 2.8, 3.4 and 4.7.

As a practical matter, when you are playing you will not be thinking about numbers like these. I am simply showing them to give you an appreciation of the huge range of speeds that you must have at your

command if your goal is to compete successfully at higher levels – say B+ or above.

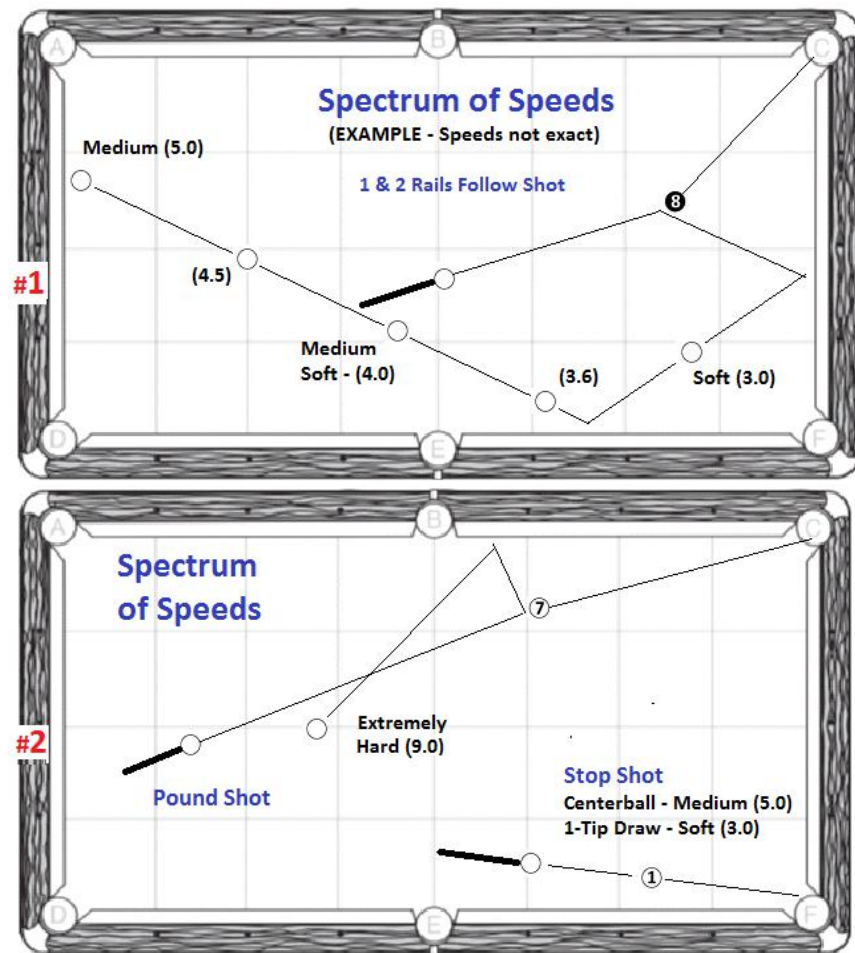
Back to our example, I suggest that you set up this shot and try to send the cue ball to the five locations shown, and others in between these positions. As you play these shots, focus on developing your speed during your WUS. Hold your follow through and evaluate your results. Zero in how your stroke felt, and how the cue ball's location compares to your objective.

**Diagram #2** shows a stop shot, and a shot at 9.0, which is extremely hard. Interestingly, you can stop the cue ball dead using various combinations of cueing. In our example, centerball cueing with a medium stroke (5.0) will give you the desired result.

You can also stop the cue ball dead in its tracks by using a soft stroke and a tip or so of draw. In play, you will encounter a wide variety of stop shots. When the cue ball is more than a little more than a diamond from the object ball, you will need to use draw. The amount of draw and your chosen speed will largely be a matter of preference – a softer stroke with more draw, or a firmer stroke with less draw. So, experiment to find out which combinations work best for you.

The shot on the 7-ball shows a Pound Shot. This category of position plays is employed when you've left yourself with a cut angle that's smaller than ideal – one that requires that you use a speed in the upper range of the Spectrum of Speeds. To play shots like this, I suggest that you use the list of ten techniques that I mentioned previously. These will combine to give you the kind of stroke that does not break down at the faster speeds, and that is up to the challenge that these shots present. If you can master shots in the 9.0 range, you will own a skill that can separate you from your peers.

In closing, while skill at aiming and shotmaking are mandatory for playing fine pool, in truth, being able to consistently pocket routine to mildly challenging shots is only the price of admission to playing at the upper levels of the game. To be top player, you must be able to control the distance that the cue ball rolls after contact. In your efforts to master this critical segment of the game, I believe that the Spectrum of Speeds could be of great value. Good luck!



Beginning in 1968, Capelle spent 27 years competing in leagues, money games, and tournaments. In late 1994 he founded Billiards Press, and has since written 12 instructional books on pool. Over the last seven years he has conducted extensive research on pool in preparation for his upcoming book, *Pool Is The Answer*.

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# HOW TO PLAY YOUR BEST IN 2023:

## 3 mental tips from 3 pool legends

ANTHONY BEELER

### 1. Mosconi's ability to focus

It would be impossible to summarize the entirety of Willie Mosconi's mental greatness into only a single tip. From his childhood, Mosconi was primed to become a pressure player — defeating every great player that lived during his generation. His transformation into the greatest player in the world was both preordained and historically significant.

But that is not to say there's *nothing* you can learn from Willie Mosconi's

mental greatness. Sure, you might not have the added benefit of prodigious ability or a lifetime of training, but there is always room for improvement, especially when that improvement comes from one of the greatest players of all time.

Steve Cook once asked Mosconi, "What do you do to focus?" He said, "Actually, I hear everything." Mosconi's point: the key isn't to try to avoid the noise — it's to grow comfortable in it. To hear everything but pay no attention to it. In some ways, that's easier said than



done. A great way to practice this skill is to read with the TV on.

For your game, practice the same. Learn to be comfortable in a distracting environment without losing concentration on the shot at hand.

### 2. Ronnie Allen's "no bad days" approach

Every pool player is going to have bad days. They're inevitable, and in one of the delightful ironies of the sport, they have a nasty habit of showing up in the precise moment we need them least (like, for example, a big tournament or during pool league). Bad shots, in that very same vein, are nothing more than a fact of life for a pool player.

But *reacting* to bad shots and bad days? Now, that's where champion players set themselves apart, at least, in the mind of Ronnie "Fast Eddie" Allen.

Allen said one of his biggest lessons was to learn how to forget the bad — or at least learn to live with it.

"That's one of the things I've learned — or maybe just matured into, I guess,



is the right word — is learn how to forget bad shots and move on to the next,” he said. “It’s not the end of the world. I’d be upset for about a minute or two and then I’d move on to the next shot and if something else pops in my mind I’d try to focus on my pre-shot routine. You got to learn to go out there and do your best. Even after a little bad luck, you still got to be a fighter, a competitor, and just see what happens.”

### **3. Lassiter’s endurance**

It is perhaps the biggest mental hurdle faced by amateur pool players: they’re capable of focusing, they’re not capable of *keeping* focused for numerous games. Sure, for 2-3 games their focus is good, but then what? Ultimately, isn’t the goal for every player to be locked in for the entire tournament? And if it is, how do you get there?

The answer, it seems, is the same as if you were a marathon runner working towards a race: train for it. At least, that’s the answer according to seven-time World Champion Luther Lassiter.

Shortly after winning the World Championship, Lassiter shared that he’d been playing insane amounts of pool in the lead-up to the tournament, all with the goal of “elongating” his focus. Here’s what he said:

“I’m just making more and more progress just by trying to elongate my focus. I might try to play 10 hours a day

and try to focus on each shot so that when I go out and play for 6 it doesn’t feel like it’s that much of a strain. I’m trying to use my mind like a muscle and just make it stronger by working it hard. As I’ve gotten older, it’s been more difficult for me to maintain focus, good visualization and see the shot.”

If you’re struggling with maintaining focus through the entire tournament, perhaps your best bet is to play *longer sessions during practice*. Hey, it worked for one of pool legends, maybe it can work for you, too.

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

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# DISCIPLINE YOUR GAME FOR SUCCESS

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

**As serious players work to improve their pool game, it is important to employ discipline to play at a high level. Discipline can come in the form of many different things, including having discipline to refrain from drinking while playing pool all the way to making sure not to rush through shots that require more time to properly assess.**

**O**ften players beat themselves by doing things they shouldn't, including not getting enough rest or losing focus during tough matches. Again, discipline is what helps players manage challenging situations and continue to improve.

## **Examining discipline**

Discipline is simply defined as being able to train using self-control. When you examine your game, how disciplined are you? Below are a few places to examine your level of discipline:

- Do you adhere to a generally healthy diet, sleep schedule, and exercise?
- Do you set time aside to practice pool, and keep your schedule?
- When practicing, do you keep your focus on self-improvement or instead get lost in conversation with

others or do other things other than play pool?

- Do you regularly maintain your equipment?
- Do you seek advice from superior players when faced with shots and situations on the table that you haven't yet mastered?
- Do you refrain from playing under the influence of alcohol/drugs?
- Do you keep track of your progress by means of a journal or some other way to take notes?

Being disciplined won't make you a great player, but it will put you in the best position to succeed. Conversely, by *not* being disciplined you will never reach your full potential, prompting the big question: How good do you really want to be?

When you study the world's best at anything – pool, business, education,



etc. – one constant you will always see is a high degree of self-discipline. Often it is not their natural talents that sets them apart, but instead it is their willingness and commitment to doing everything that is necessary to be the best – and this starts with self-discipline. No, there are no short cuts to being the best, and the quality of your game can improve dramatically by getting away from cutting corners and instead putting in the work.

## **Final thoughts**

The great thing about discipline is that not only does discipline lead to peak performance, but it is also something every one of us can improve if we are serious about being great. You may not have been blessed with an eagle eye, but you have every opportunity to outwork the competition and develop the discipline needed to overcome adversity – good luck!

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

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# Gospel Trick Shot #36

## Mike Massey Blackball Lost Sheep

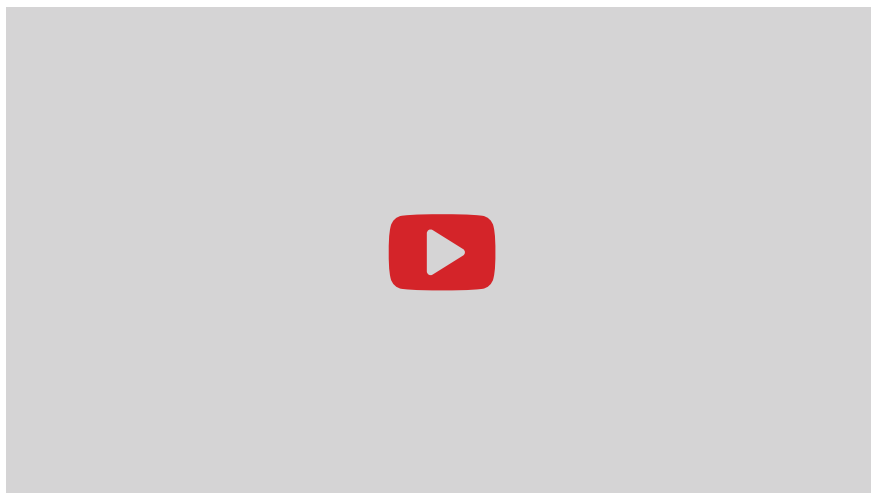
**History of the Trick Shot:** This shot was previously Gospel Trick Shot #12 entitled “Showing Off” which was featured on an American pool table by yours truly Steve Lillis in the December 2020 Buzz issue but now is reinvented on the Blackball pool table by Mike Massey about two years later. This is a timeless shot that has been done by many trick shot artists on American pool tables for years and particularly was made famous by the late BCA Hall of Famer Steve Mizerack in the early 1980’s on a Miller Lite beer commercial. Mike Massey as you will see in the video performed this shot on a Blackball pool table in front of a live audience in the main arena at the 2022 Blackball International (BI) World Championships in October 2022 in Tangier, Morocco during a Gospel Trick Shot Show. The USA for the first time sent a team of five American pool players to Morocco to compete in that event. For two consecutive nights the main arena was reserved for GTS Artistic Blackball shows with BCA Hall of Famers Mike Massey and Tom Rossman and with yours truly Steve “Leapin” Lillis, the first President of the newly formed USA Blackball Association.

**GTS Name and Why:** In the video Mike Massey does an excellent job of explaining why this Gospel Trick Shot is called the “Lost Sheep.” He explains that the blackball pool table represents the entire world. Mike further points out there is a number of people (souls) who know they are going to heaven in the sheep fold which are represented by the five yellow balls clustered near the side pocket. There is one yellow ball in the far corner pocket which represent one person who has lost his way (lost soul). Jesus who is the Good Shepherd and is represented by the cue ball goes all the way around the world to get that one lost soul.

**Scripture Reference in ESV Translation: Matthew 18: 10-14 and Luke 15:4** says “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it?”

**Cue Ball Placement:** The cue ball on a Blackball table is 1 7/8 inches and is smaller and lighter than the 2-inch object balls. Place cue ball in hand as shown in diagram.

**Object Ball(s) Placement:** Place a yellow object ball as shown in the diagram favoring the left rounded corner (snooker style pocket) of the side cushion line. This first ball is most important in the setup! Then place another yellow object ball directly in front with a third yellow ball pointed to the corner pocket on a combination shot allowing for directional throw. Two yellow balls will be placed frozen to each other on the upper side



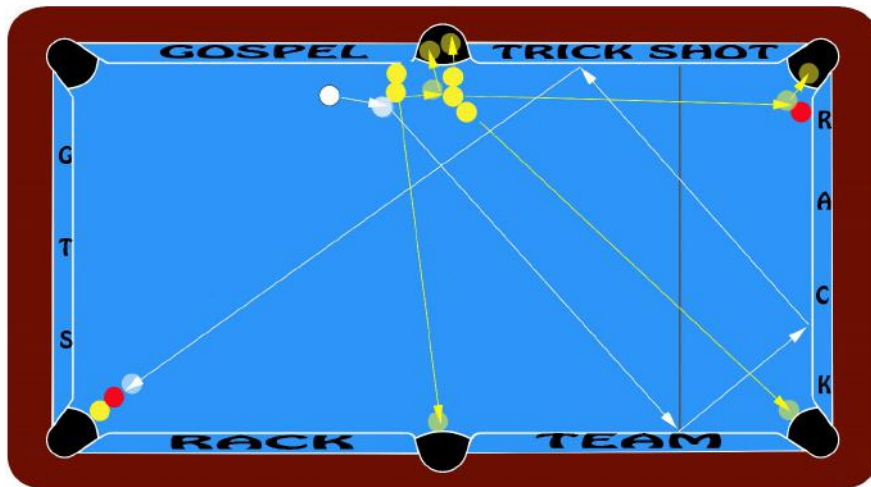
cushion as shown about one inch from the side pocket as shown in the diagram. Place another yellow ball hanging in the corner pocket at the other end of the table as shown in the diagram. The red object balls are used to help execute the shot but do not go in the pockets. You can make the shot without the red balls if desired but is more difficult.


**Objective:** Hit the cue ball with top left (running) English catching about 1/3 of the outer yellow object ball of the two frozen balls on upper left side rail. The cue ball should strike about 10 inches up from corner pocket (there are no diamonds on a blackball pool table) on the opposite right lower side rail before the outer ball of the combination shot reaches that corner pocket. All five yellow balls will disappear with the cue ball coming

around the table three rails before depositing that final yellow ball in far corner pocket.

**Special Notes:** As noted above the red balls in the diagram only help make the shot easier which might be necessary before a live audience. When shooting a video, you can obviously repeat without the red balls as many times as needed to make the shot successfully for the camera.

**Crowd Reactions Through the Years:** You will see in the video how moving this was for Mike Massey as he could not get through the shot without weeping and you will notice in the video the emotional response of the live audience! There was complete silence while Mike was explaining the shot and then thunderous applause and a standing ovation when he completed the shot! Enjoy and God bless!



A large, textured blue circle is centered on a blue background with a fine, pebbled texture. The circle has a slightly darker, more saturated blue color than the background, creating a subtle contrast. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern, emphasizing the color and texture of the product being advertised.

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# Diamond Derby City Classic XXIV

January 20-28, 2023

## Caesars Southern Indiana, Elizabeth IN

By DAVID THOMSON - MEDIUM POOL

### Diamond Billiard Products would like to honor the memory of Mark Griffin.

**M**ark was an important part of Diamond's evolution. He was there from the beginning, developing with owner Greg Sullivan, the table that has made pocket billiard history.

With 1469 total entrants, Diamond Derby City Classic XXIV surpassed all previous attendance records.

\$370,250 was awarded in total prize money. Another record!

Diamond's president Chad Scharlow was ecstatic. "Our primary sponsors, Caesars Southern Indiana, Simonis

Cloth, and Aramith Belgian Billiard Balls are very impressed.

"It's truly humbling, that such a worldwide array of pool superstars had the desire to succeed here in Indiana."

DCC creator Greg Sullivan piped in, "Including 'The Magician' himself. It's a real compliment to have Efren return, year after year—and that the Derby is the only tournament where he still competes."

Reyes, as always, had registered in the Bank Pool, One Pocket, and 9-Ball disciplines where points are award-

ed towards becoming Master of the Table; As a 5-time titlist, Reyes has captured more than any other yet, he has one missing from his resumé, The Bank Pool Championship. At 68 years young, is he still capable of winning? Let's see.

Are you ready? It looks like we're in for a raucous week. Little did we know!

### MASTER OF THE TABLE LEADERBOARD

**Fedor Gorst: \$20,000**  
**Tony Chohan: \$3,000**  
**Alex Pagulayan: \$2,000**

Fedor Gorst



Some say that there is no sportsper-son better equipped to pull an all-nighter than the Pool Player.

Once in action, they can't quit. They have to hang with it until their op-  
position collapses or is "broken" so to speak. That's how they earn their "chops." And evolve to become Cham-  
pions.

Tonight or, should we say this morn-  
ing, Muscovite Fedor Gorst proved his  
commanding pro-pool omnipotence  
by retaining his Master of the Table  
title after competing, not just all day  
through the wee small hours but, until  
10 o'clock the following morning.

The players were not alone in this  
adventure, the videos had to be cap-  
tured not only for the Accu-Stats' his-  
toric library but for posterity. Fans will  
reminisce about this one for decades.

Thankfully, with Pat Fleming at the  
helm to keep accurate scores and  
press that all-important record but-  
ton, it can be seen and believed.

Gorst, earlier in the week, repeated  
his 2022 Bank Pool title and captured  
his first DCC 9-Ball Championship.

Now, like Alex Pagulayan, he became  
the second player in history to have  
claimed all three Derby City Classic  
Championships in the same week.

Asked at his acceptance speech how  
he was feeling, one word said it all,  
"Tired." He was half joking. He had  
been awake for 28 hours. And, still  
had time for a smile.

Read on to the activities in pool's most  
punishing, and rewarding, arena.

We can bet that former World Champi-  
on Dynamite Darren Appleton, a huge  
fan of DCC, would have attended.

Daz, you are conspicuous by your ab-  
sence. We all wish you the speediest  
of recoveries. See ya next year!

Speaking of surgery, America's #1  
Shane Van Boening's Cuetec was  
swinging confidently after a trouble-  
some lump was removed from his bi-  
cep without incident.

## **THE DIAMOND BIG FOOT 10-BALL CHALLENGE**

**LIVE** from the Accu-Stats TV Arena.

Format: Race to 11, single elimina-  
tion, alternate break, foul on all balls,  
no jump cues. 10-Ball does not win on  
the break tho' beware, lucky shots do.

The Derby's 4th event, the Diamond  
Big Foot 10-Ball Challenge, is exclud-  
ed from the MoT point system.

Mosconi Cup captains Jeremy Jones  
and Mark Wilson are in the Accu-Stats'  
commentary booth. Who better to  
impart the nuances of our sublime  
sport?

One more thing; BIG Foot's tight, pro-  
cut pockets are now tighter – 4 1/8"  
tight! Do not try this at home!

## **SVB vs Max Eberle**

Still swinging, Shane strode into a  
comfortable lead.

Max, soon swooning, struggled to get  
going. Sadly, he never quite caught  
the gear that led him toward the hill  
against Mika last year.

At 11-4, Shane is in the quarterfinals.

## **Jayson Shaw vs Skyler Woodward.**

Woodward hasn't tasted much suc-  
cess against Jayson in recent BIG Foot  
encounters.

Unfortunately, today was no ex-  
ception. Sky seemed unfocused; he  
missed makeable balls. Maybe, the 4  
1/8" pockets were the distraction.

Accu-Stats Total performance Averag-  
es(TPA) of .910 and .768 revealed all.

What about the Filipino contingent?  
5 of the 16 BIG Foot competitors are  
represented.

There probably would have been  
more but, sadly, Bustamante, Aranas,  
and Orcollo have US immigration is-  
sues.

**Alex Pagulayan and Roberto Gomez**  
led the Filipino fray.

Until 6-6, Pagulayan was pulling his  
weight.

Gomez always likes to please the  
crowd with his power draws and su-  
perlative shotmaking.

The jaws of these diminished pockets  
started spitting balls back onto the  
tabletop. When have you seen Alex's  
TPA under 800?

Gomez's respectable .853 got him  
thru.

One bonus was their multi-series  
exchange was demonstrating their  
expertise of getting out of a snooker  
by laying a snooker: The Filipino kick-  
safe technique. Learn from it.

## **Fedor Gorst vs Jeffrey DeLuna**

The billion-buck question on most  
minds was whether Fedor Gorst could  
replicate the 900+ TPA consistency  
that he dominated BIG Foot with last  
year.

Jeffrey De Luna is no slouch. Plus, he's  
gifted with a sledgehammer break.

The Break Demon speed tester soft-  
ware captured the stats. FYI: 22.8 mph  
was the highest recorded throughout  
the event.

Sure the break is important but not  
so much against Gorst. His cueball-  
on-a-string theory is truly mesmeriz-  
ing: Pure physics as the beauty of his  
speed-control spins rail after rail...to  
land perfectly on the necessary posi-  
tion to complete the rack.

De Luna couldn't compete. Nor could  
his .694 with Gorst's sublime .939.

### DAY 2. Mika Immonen vs. Mieszko Fortunski

The match was progressing favorably for both players until Mika missed a simple 6-ball. Then things sped sideways for him. Now down 6-9, Mika found his feisty side and seized the next 2 games. It looked like he'd overcome his earlier misstep.

Unfortunately, we'll never know as Fortunski, constructing a fearless .883 TPA, respectably advanced to the quarters.

### Roland Garcia vs. Lee Vann Corteza.

As fellow Filipinos, these guys have grown up conferring, competing, even practicing together. Pool is in their DNA. The challenge now is to forget all that camaraderie stuff and deliver the death blow. There is a \$16,000 check. Plus, bragging rights.

I guess Garcia didn't get the memo. Lee Vann did: He was off and running...out! His TPA approached 900. Roland's, in the low 7s.

Their friendship was more than apparent when Roland hit the floor and bowed at Corteza's feet.

### John Morra vs. Konrad Juszczyszyn

Konrad and John have been BIG Foot contenders for around 5 years now. Their tenacity keeps them coming back.

John wasn't on form today. His challenge was to find the "Mr. Smooth" moniker he had so righteously earned, even left handed.

Konrad capitalized on most slips Morra presented him.

More in a moment of frustration, Morra summoned his firepower. He drove a distant longshot into BIG Foot's jaws and drew the cue ball to leave perfect position on the far, far away short rail:

Mr. Smooth was back. They were soon tied at 9 and looking for 2.

Konrad was not impressed. He was first on the hill. When John had the opportunity to join him, he uncharacteristically fumbled shape.

The Pole's .851 had overpowered John's .828.

Elated, Konrad finally had a toehold in BIG Foot.

### Joshua Filler vs. Jesus Atencio

Jesus, the 24-year-old Venezuelan was not at ease. The tighter pro-cut pockets were not accepting his forced stroke shots. The result was Jesus Atencio was leaving 2022 BIG Foot winner Joshua Filler easy finishes.

The result, Joshua soon had an insurmountable lead. The cause, Jesus wasn't getting out when he should have.

Yet, under fire, he could make some courageous decisions.

He summoned the gusto to attempt another distant one, The object ball

found its pocket. Buoyed, for an instant until again, he ran into trouble on the run-out.

Jesus later confessed that, in his eight years as a professional, he had never felt such fear; His hands were shaking and got so wet with sweat that his cue fell from his slippery grip.

Joshua, to his credit, felt no sympathy. He wasn't pussyfooting around, he wanted another BIG Foot on his cv.

### DAY 3. Quarter Finals

#### Jayson Shaw vs. Shane Van Boening

Even "Eagle Eye" had trouble with BIG Foot's brutal diminished pocket dimension. The damage it did to his TPA was unprecedented. When have you ever seen his average nosedive from near .900 to .770...within 2 racks!

Shane wasn't happy either. Altho,' the match commenced with his break-and-run to a 3-0 lead. Jayson quickly tied it up. Then, he couldn't get much action on his break.

Shane sped ahead again and, to cut to the chase, had Jayson 10-6 when Van Boening's cue ball wasn't on a string anymore, it was haywire: 10-7.

Jayson's dry break plague continued.

Shane, again, lost the cue ball and had to resort to a safety that froze the cue ball to the top rail.

Far, far away, about a foot off the bottom rail, lay the 8. Shaw drove it home. Sadly, his cue ball rested straight in on the 9 and nowhere near the 10.

Then came his most miraculous shot of the tournament.

There was only one solution. He had to cheat the 4 1/8" pocket and draw whitey about 8 feet to the bottom rail then another four feet to the long rail where the 10-ball inconveniently lay.





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## Derby City Classic

Whammo! His cue ball screamed back to land about 4" away tho,' it's awkward angle demanded he ran back and forth to swap out which cue extension would work best.

The shot clock was about to explode. "Extension!"

So was his heart, pumping like an oil rig: He pounded it into the back of the pocket: 10-8.

It was SVB's turn at bat. It looked dry...until the last ball rolling trickled in. And snookered!

Now it was Shane's shot of the tournament.

He had a kick-shot off the top rail on the dangling one-ball with the trickiest 3-rail shape: long rail, short rail, long rail, through a minefield to the two.

Perfect! And he finished the match as he began it – break-and-run.

Shaw, gracious as always, approached Shane and commenced a post-mortem to dissect the action.

### Roberto Gomez vs. Fedor Gorst

Fedor was not off to his ferocious formula of forging ahead to leave his opponents in his wake. It was nip-and-

tuck until, at 4-3, Gomez reversed the score with back-to-back wins.

Gorst's struggle continued as Gomez at 7-4 with every opportunity for a 4-game lead, fumbled and allowed Fedor to gain one back to 7-5.

Gorst, usually, when sensing weakness, his killer instinct would come alive: Not today.

Down 9-10, his break got him again.

There is a reason they call Roberto Superman. The out wasn't a walk in the park. He made shots that would have been kryptonite to normal men.

He didn't rush. He knew his cue ball had to be finite. He also knew the punishment that Fedor was capable of administering.

Gorst's loss, a replay of their 2018 BIG Foot final, is probably the motivation Fedor needed to keep moving forward. He had titles to defend.

### Mieszko Fortunski vs. Lee Vann Corteza

10 years ago, Lee Vann Corteza, by defeating Orcollo, won the DCC 9-Ball Championship.

In 2017, he had a higher TPA than Jayson yet, dangled a 7-Ball that

would have surely changed BIG Foot history.

Mieszko Fortunski suffered at the safety play of Joshua Filler one memorable year.

They keep coming back. The Derby's bewitching charm is like no other event, anywhere.

Today, they faced each other. Fortunski has improved greatly since then yet, the edge was Corteza's.

Off to 4-2 lead, and moving to 5-2, Corteza erred and lo-and-behold they were soon tied at 4.

There wasn't much movement either way until 10-9 Fortunski.

Lee Vann, showing true heart, and awesome shot-making, ball by ball, crawled to the hill.

Fortunski had the rack in his grasp tho' the last two balls were tricky. He attempted an acute cut to the opposite corner pocket. It ran awry.

Corteza, pressure increasing now; you could see him exhale and let his shoulders drop.

He faced a long, blind, dogleg that he must back-cut into the intimidating 4 1/8" corner pocket!

And the cue ball had to be let loose to find the 10.

Perfection; And straight-in on the 10!

The crowd erupted. And, Corteza was in the semis, again!

### Joshua Filler vs. Konrad Juszczyszyn

Behind 4-6, Konrad began to miss balls.

A lucky kiss coming out of a snooker kicked in the 10.

He then put his mettle to the pedal and, with 5 in a row, got to 9-6 ahead.



An exhausted Fedor Gorst



Shane Van Boening

With Joshua’s break-and-run, he retrieved one and it’s 9-7.

At 9-8, it’s snooker time. Josh, after a multi-shot kick-safe exchange, rattled the 3 to leave it deep in the jaws.

Konrad, more focused than ever, is on the hill...and breaking!

His one hung in the hole, and it’s 10-9.

Joshua’s break is a carbon copy of Konrad’s; it’s dry, with his one-ball resting on the lip of the pocket!

Cool, calm, and deliberate, he plotted his way through the rack: Flawless execution...of Filler!

Surely, this is one of the most memorable matches in Konrad’s career. He raised his cue in jubilation like he’d just won the tournament. Perhaps he will.

**DAY 4, Semis: Shane Van Boening vs. Roberto Gomez.**

Shane’s and Roberto’s Accu-Stats TPAs of .930 & .895 say a lot. You would say that both players pocketed well and didn’t make too many errors.

Then, when you saw the final score of 11-3, you’d realize that Shane had done all the shooting. And, that Roberto hadn’t made many errors because...Shane had done all the shooting!

The world-class .933 TPA said it all – even on a 9 foot. But this was BIG Foot: 50 square feet of Simonis with 2 1/4” Aramiths squeezed into Diamond, dare we say, “superpro-cut” 4 1/8” pocket openings.

And that’s all she wrote about semi-final #1.

**Semis: Lee Vann Cortez vs. Konrad Juszczyszyn: 11-4**

Konrad Juszczyszyn’s .943 said a lot more. It said that he shot lights out!

Now sadly, Lee Vann Cortez’s .698 said that he had opportunities and didn’t capitalize on them.

“I scratched two times on the break. With the balls wide open, it cost me 4 games right there.”

It’s true; With ball-in-hand, Konrad cleaned up Cortez’s open racks plus, his own break was working for him. With rolls like that, it’s easy to streak ahead.

Slumped a little in his seat, it was obvious that Lee Vann wasn’t feeling it today. He was playing from memory: not able to summon the passion required to catch a stroke.

Compassion be-damned! Konrad was taking no prisoners. He was feeling it. And loving it! He was in his first BIG Foot Finals!

**Finals: Shane Vann Boening vs. Konrad Juszczyszyn: 11-7**

It looked like he was off to a fearsome start when strategy won Shane the opening rack and then followed that with a break-and-run.

The third rack should have been his too, only he took a straight-in 9 for granted and bobbled it.

That focused him. He knew that he had to take Konrad seriously: Look at the damage he’d wreaked on his road to the final: Morra, Filler, Cortez – three DCC champions swept aside by the stroke of his cue.

Juszczyszyn, the 2017 American Straight-Pool Champion, was hungry. And his appetite for victory was strong. He could taste it. He knew he should have been down 3-0. Revitalized, he took the 4th game.

He then committed the ultimate 9-Ball sin; He scratched on his break. Shane devoured that rack then broke-and-ran, again: 4-2.

In fact, Shane had 4 break-and-runs in three matches.

The gap continued to widen: 6-2. It’s hard to make a 4-game comeback with an alternate break format, especially against the power snap of SVB.

Konrad’s fate had turned. Shane had missed, too. When he did, he left nothing. When Konrad missed, he left the rack.

Konrad later confessed, “When I began to miss balls I was making earlier in the tournament, I lost confidence. Then, when I made that long combo on the 10, I got it back for a minute.”

But, it was only for a minute.

In the next rack, Van Boening, with one of those “anything-you-can-do” moments, slammed home a similar length-of-the-table, 10-ball combo.

## Derby City Classic

Their respective TPAs were .843 and .730: Enough said.

Now, Shane has 3 BIG Foot titles; tied with Jayson.

**Shane van Boening: \$16,000**

**Konrad Juszczyszyn: \$8,000**

**Roberto Gomez: \$4,000**

**Lee Vann Cortez: \$4,000**

### DIAMOND DERBY CITY CLASSIC BANK POOL CHAMPIONSHIP

Short Rack. Race to 3.

497 entrants stormed the Derby City battlements. In this territory, Bank Pool's popularity knows no bounds.

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

How about these unfortunate first-round encounters: Joshua Filler over John Morra, Gomez got Juszczyszyn: Welcome to the buy-back Booth.

Since Saturday, Jesus Atencio is on the one-loss side with Scott Frost, Mieszko Fortunski, and David Matlock.

Skyler Woodward was sent homeward by an unbeaten Mickey Krause who then dispatched Lee Vann Cortez to buy-back.

Billy Thorpe, still unbeaten, forward-ed Shane Wolford to hone up on his One-Pocket as did Ike Runnels to John Gabriel.

Local hero Louis De Marco crimped Corey, Shane out-shot Justin Hall, Evan Lunda laid Josh Roberts to rest, Roland Garcia showed Tony Chohan the door, Pagulayan pickled Daulton, Fortunski had the misfortune of encountering Jayson, and Thorpe got the credit for eliminating Efen.

### DAY 4. There was a record 497, now there are 14

Three players are still blessed with buy-backs: Fedor Gorst, Evan Lunda, and Gerson Martinez

Raed Shabib was the surprise in the pack. The virtual unknown had sent Jesus Atencio and Scott Frost home.

Shabib shared that his most exciting encounter was his first time playing Shane van Boening.

A crowd had gathered around the table. The word was out that Shabib was on the hill and Shane needed 2.

Now Raed felt he was a contender.

Of course, Shane won the 4th rack and they were tied at 2 and fighting over the last ball.

It took 20 minutes of serious safety strategy until Shane figured out Raed's weak spot: Leave him long on the short rail.

Now all Raed has to do is figure out Shane's.

Interestingly, Raed is still in while Shane ran afoul by Fedor.

**The FINALS** There was a record 497, now there is one!

Fedor Gorst and Evan Lunda owned the Accu-Stats Arena. Actually, Fedor owned 2/3s of it: Being unbeaten, he had the luxury of a buyback.

And he was going to need it.

It didn't look that way when he and Evan were taking turns in their pre-match warm-ups. Fed couldn't miss. Forget these Diamond Super-pro cut, 4 1/4" pockets, he was banking into basketball hoops.

The "book" would suggest that, as he had been-here-done-that and, as he had 2 bullets to Lunda's one, the money was on him.

Lunda had the advantage of today's TV Arena experience in the first semi-final with Raed Shabib. The Middle Easterner, now residing in Texas, had creamed thru the crop of DCC's finest including Roland Garcia and Billy Thorpe.

Lunda had just eliminated Peru's multi Pan-American 8, 9 & 10-Ball Champion Gerson Martinez, immobilized Mika Immonen, and, oh yeah, this kid from Germany named Joshua Filler.

Shabib was brimming with confidence. Evan won the all-important lag only to break dry. Shabib ran 4. Evan, feeling out the rails, missed a few. Raed soon rolled into a one-nil lead.

Then, his skillset seemed to abandon him; the transition to the subtleties of the arena's atmosphere eluded him. "This table plays so different from out there. I should have practiced more on it."

From there, it was all Lunda. Shabib was allowed only 2 more balls.

Lunda, relieved, was as ready as he'll ever be. He felt that he'd found his footing under the lights, cameras, and



Raed Shabib

AVID

*Sneaky Petes*  
SNEAKY PETES

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Evan Lunda

**Fedor Gorst: \$16,000**

**Evan Lunda: \$8,000**

**Raed Shabib: \$5,700**

### DIAMOND DERBY CITY CLASSIC ONE-POCKET CHAMPIONSHIP

429 one-hole aficionados formed another attendance record.

The bottleneck had begun. The record number of entries had slowed the redraw process. Slower players had held up the schedule. One match took a record 6 hours and 40 minutes...and the score was only 3-1! Did someone say SHOT CLOCK!

Fedor, fired up from his Bank Pool accomplishment, had his 2022 One-Pocket title to defend against 2009 DCC One-Pocket winner John Schmidt.

Fedor, a few rounds back, collided with the skillset of 2022 Texas Open One-Pocket runner-up Yerry Calderon and was, unceremoniously, sent to the buy-back booth.

Now he faced John, a household name as the first player to outrun Willie Mosconi's 526 14.1 record – coincidentally, by the number on every serious straight-pool player's bucket list, 100!

Pattern-play in 14.1 is a renowned asset in One-Pocket.

More drama; John had been to the buy-back booth because of his prior encounter with the robust Roberto Gomez.

In the opening game, Schmidt rallied from a minus two ball deficit to 7-7 only to have Fedor, unflinchingly, deliver his 8th to his hole. 1-0.

Fast-forward to tied at 2 games: John, 5 balls ahead, adopted the strategy of forming the "wedge." The method here is to move all the balls up-table into a corner making it near impossible to run the remaining balls.

action of the Accu-Stats Arena experience.

Gorst, the 2022 DCC Bank Pool Champion had just plowed through a field that included Gerson Martinez, Roberto Gomez, and Alex Pagulayan. He was ready to repeat.

Striding along the wall of pool's prestigious sponsors' ad panels, you could see Fedor felt that he owned this arena.

He was full of friendly fun as he joked with Evan that his draw had been, "Cupcake."

That camaraderie was swiftly about to switch to killer mode.

Lunda won the lag and, after a nervous start from both players, brilliantly closed the first game, 5-1. Winner breaks, and another for Lunda at 5-1. In the 3rd game, he nailed the first set with five balls to zero! What? Gorst only 2 balls...in 3 games?

Time out! The robot required a reboot!

And, of course, to rebuy.

Gorst's transition was astonishing. It was as if the first set was completely wiped clean from his memory.

Closing with three identical scores of 5-2 culminated in a 3-zero win which, most importantly, retained his title of Derby City Bank Pool Champion.

"Winning the lag is so important in this game. In the first set, when Evan got off to such a good start and I was missing, my confidence left me, Fed, confessed.

"I have been in that position many times. My experience allowed me to let that loss go."

Isn't that the ultimate ability of the champion, to be able to let the losses go – get back to a blank slate?

Fedor continued, "I have to run. I have a One Pocket match."

Derby's brutal schedule showed no mercy.

The strategy worked: John soon had his required 3 balls.

Fedor was now left to his fate in the 9-Ball division.

More outer arena action as the crowd gathered as Filler faced Efren. Both being undefeated, one was heading to buy-back hell.

Filler will be the first to admit that his strength in one-hole is applying the aforementioned Straight-Pool methodology and just run-out. In fact, he's quite brilliant at it.

Efren, struggling a little, yet always respectful, awarded Joshua game-ball to go ahead 2-1.

Now, down 1-2, we know, never count Reyes out.

He put the tiller to Filler to hoe two superlative 8-and-outs. Josh had no alternative but to humbly buy-back.

We also know, never count Joshua out: Heaven help his next opponent.

At day's end Wednesday, Efren Reyes, Tony Chohan, Corey Deuel, John Mora, Sky Woodward, Johnathon Pinegar, and Peruvian Gerson Martinez were all undefeated.

Quietly moving thru the cut was the unassuming DCC veteran Johnathon Pinegar. Also unbeaten, he had administered losses to Shane Van Boening and Tyler Styer.

Justin Hall froze out both Scott Frost and Jerry Matchin. He also allowed Billy Thorpe the buy-back experience.

Lunda, while his very proud father "Fenchie" sat ringside, moved out David Matlock.

Roland Garcia eliminated Lee Vann Corteza who had, unfortunately, encountered Mieszko Fortunski, SVB, and Gerson Martinez.

Styer eliminated Jeffrey DeLuna, while Roland Garcia handed Shane Wolford his visit to the booth.

The night closed as Tony Chohan expelled Ellerman.

### **Woodward vs Filler**

Surely, the comeback of the One-Pocket Championship was when Skyler Woodward, who just joined Shane Van Boening and Fedor Gorst at team Cue-tec, faced Joshua Filler.

Woodward fell afoul of his own overly aggressive play which left Filler opportunities to pull ahead.

Sure, had Skyler made the ball, chances are he was out. When the ball didn't fall, Filler filled in the gaps.

Woodward scrambled and they were tied at 2. With only one life left each: Someone's gotta go.

Joshua, energized, jumped to a 5-2 lead.

Sky, disciplined now, had safety in mind. No more firing at fantasies. No silly sell-outs.

All the balls were soon driven upstream, not quite "the wedge" as they weren't confined to a corner.

But, for sure, there was no way to win in one inning.

Either player must earn it – with pure banking skills. One rail, two rails at a time, Sky reversed the seemingly insurmountable lead.

You have to see it for yourself. The match is available OnDemand at Accu-Stats.com thru February, 28.

It's must-see TV!

**Friday, Feb 27**, the bottleneck continues...

### **Johnathon "Hennessee" Pinegar vs Tony Chohan**

As mentioned, Johnathon Pinegar is no stranger to Derby City. Yet, it will be this year's superb performance against SVB, Tyler Styer, Anton Raga,



*Alex Pagulayan*

## Derby City Classic

Billy Thorpe, even his first loss to Tony Chohan, that will be remembered best.

Thanks to the luck of the algorithm, Johnathon and Tony were chosen to meet again immediately, only this time, in the Accu-Stats Arena.

Here, Tony had home-court advantage: He had a few matches “in the can.” He had experienced that the table played slower and banked a little shorter. Plus, he was familiar with the intensity of the 60-second shot clock.

Johnathon found this out the hard way; Mainly as his cue ball didn’t travel as far and interrupted the kind of run-outs he had completed earlier in the outer Diamond Arena.

Tony returned the compliment and, in under hour, FedEx Pinegar to the buy-back booth.

### Pinegar vs Reyes

No rest for Pinegar: He was immediately redrawn to face Efren...in the Accu-Stats arena.

After Efren defeated Alex, Skyler finished off Filler only to lose to Reyes who’s relentless will to win is truly inspiring.

The 68-year-old still had two lives and he’d been competing continuously for 8 tireless days. Plus, six hours today in Pool’s most cerebral discipline. Where is this reservoir of stamina, both mental and physical, coming from?

By 5pm, Efren was definitely tiring. Thus, he erred. Johnathon stole a ball. A few innings later Efren erred again. John ran 7-and-out.

At 0-1, it’s Reyes’ ball that isn’t reaching the pocket. Johnathon, in two innings, ran four balls in each and surged ahead, 2-0.

Not to worry. How many times, this week, has Efren been down 0-2 and won the match?

In game 3, Pinegar erred. Reyes ran five, didn’t get the desired spread from the stack, and frustrated now, attempted a very low percentage combo.

Luckily, he left little.

Yet, it was enough. Pinegar fired in a short rail bank and drew his cue ball to land perfectly on the next indicated sphere. He then masterfully ran out the necessary 8-balls to ensure his seat at tomorrow’s table.

Efren visited the buy-back booth.

And then there were three: Chohan, Pinegar, and Reyes – who was soon snoring like a baby.

### FINAL(s) DAY - Sat. 28.

### Diamond Derby City Classic One-Pocket Championship

Semis 5:30 pm, Finals 8:30 pm

The above times were when the 9-Ball Finals were planned...that was until the record number of entries threw the schedule into total chaos.

One-Pocket is a fickle game. It can take 5-minutes when a player runs all the balls into his pocket in one inning. Or, it can take hours when both players adopt safety strategy and start pushing balls up-table away from their pockets, i.e., the Wedge.

Returning readers may remember the recent comment: “Did someone say shot clock?”

As the Derby redraws after every round, if that round hasn’t been completed, the whole tournament stalls.

That’s the short version of how the One-Pocket event couldn’t be finished until Saturday evening – 2 days later than scheduled.

429 started, three remained: Efren Reyes, the 68-year-old living legend, 6-time DCC One-Pocket Champion, and 5-time Master of the Table.

Tony “T Rex” Chohan. Both respected and feared for his unbounded One-Pocket creativity, dominance, cool craftiness, and for often tossing caution to the wind when the win is big enough.

Fellow finalist, Johnathon “Hennessee” Pinegar. In 14 rounds of races to 3, he had lost only eight games. That tells how well he was competing. “I’ve been practicing a lot in the last months. I’ve been giving strong com-



Jonathan Pinegar

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petition big handicaps, like 12-3, 12-4.”

The 44-year-old Tennessean’s new-found enthusiasm had been rewarded.

Tony and Efren had drawn byes in earlier rounds. DCC rules forbade the same player from receiving a bye twice resulted in Johnathan automatically being in the finals.

### The Semis #2: Reyes vs Chohan

The Accu-Stats Arena was crammed to the rafters. The crowd was intrigued to see if Tony, desperately seeking his first DCC title, could overcome pool’s most revered player in search of his 7th...at 68 years young!

The 41-year-old Chohan had garnered many accolades including two major One-Pocket wins: The US Open One Pocket Championship and The International Open One-Pocket division but the Derby, everyone agreed, was the toughest one to win.

He had gotten close in recent years. It had been 9 since Efren’s 6th.

Reyes quickly found his smooth, silky stroke, and aided by Tony’s missed opportunities, took the opening game.

Tony doesn’t miss for long, the second rack Efren left a shot that was safe for

a normal player. For Tony, the short rail bank was a hanger. 1-1

Game 3: Reyes, aggressive as ever, made one of his shots that earned him the moniker “Magician.”

The rack spread far and wide only, out of nowhere, his white was knocked into Tony’s hole: 2-1 Chohan...and breaking!

Within two innings, Efren had reversed the position and run 5. Safety ensued. Reyes’ cue ball ran short and served Tony an opening. He ran 3 only to miss a dogleg combo that left two, off-angle balls within inches of his hole.

Reyes, bitten by the 4 1/8” jaws, as the ball wobbled and hung ensured Tony’s ticket to the final.

On shaking hands, Tony, respectfully, raised Efren’s to the air honoring his unparalleled performance.

Efren then left the Arena to a rousing standing ovation.

### The Finals: Hennessee vs T Rex

Johnathan “Hennessee” Pinegar’s 15-round trip to the finals was the buzz of the arena. Such honor was the result of slaughtering many opponents at naught.

It took ’til round 12 before Tony “T Rex” Chohan sent the US Open All-Around Bar Box Champion to the buy-back booth.

But how about Johnathan out-shooting Shane Van Boening, Tyler Styer, Anton Raga, and Billy Thorpe? Plus, he gave Efren his first loss.

The trail of Chohan’s onslaught included John Morra, Skyler Woodward, Anton Raga, and big-money Mitch Ellerman.

T Rex is another animal. At 3-1, he cold-bloodedly devoured crowd sentimental favorite Efren Reyes. Now, he was so close to the title, he could taste it.

Tony won the all-important lag. All important because with alternate break a 2-2 tie means first crack at the last rack.

Expert commentary from US Mosconi Cup captain Jeremy Jones and 2010 DCC One-Pocket Champion Scott Frost educate and inspire.

**Rack 1:** Pinegar, back from overnight hibernation, attempted a touch shot: Tony ran 8-and-out: 1-0

**Rack 2:** Tony, attempted a touch shot: Johnathan, still cold, ran 8-and-out: 1-1.

**Rack 3:** An up-table battle, until Tony with 7 balls, on a makeable cross corner bank for the win, fouled. Pinegar pilfered the rack: 2-1.

**Rack 4:** Pinegar exercised discipline, determination, great defense, and the “Wedge.”

Tony, grappled, one ball at a time until, in need of one, undercut it. It hung in his hole as the cue ball bounced two rails to land diagonally near the side pocket. Luckily there were two balls blinding Pinegar from following it in to foul.



Tony Chohan

He raised the butt of his cue to about 45 degrees, jumped over them, and bounced the dangling orb and the cue ball off the table. “FOUL,” cried emcee/referee Ed Liddawi.

Great shot in the poolroom where that would result in both balls being respotted.

The written DCC rules dictated that the game be awarded to the non-offending player: 2-2.

Time-out. Time to reset. And for Pinegar to recover from the blunder.

**The Decider:** Chohan in control; he had won the lag, remember?

After Chohan snuck 3 ahead, the strategy quickly developed into a quasi-wedge affair.

Oh, no, thought the tournament registration crew, not another wedge; Chohan was an integral part of the 9-Ball event and his match was holding up the draw.

Tony had another agenda. He had Pool’s most important One-Pocket title within his grasp. And, as he had come from 1-2 behind, he knew he had the momentum!

Pinegar, disciplined, dedicated, continued to contribute orbs to the wedge.

Like a sniper, Tony picked off the unsuspecting orbs. Within minutes, one by one they dropped until one remained.

Pinegar didn’t linger. He attacked the table, pocketed two, and jawed a third.

It offered Chohan the shot that had cost him the 3rd game.

Not this time. Calmly, he approached the ball and spun it across the table into the opposite pocket.

He followed that with something you don’t usually get from the normally stoic Chohan, he yelled with delight!

“How does that feel? he was asked

With a deep sigh of relief, he responded, “The monkey has dropped from my shoulders.”

Time for a very quick \$16,000 check presentation, fist pumps with fans around the arena, and...

Now, who’s next in 9-Ball?

**Tony “TRES” Chohan: \$16,000**  
**Johnathan “Tennessee” Pinegar: \$8,200**  
**Efren “The Magician” Reyes: \$6,300**

### **DIAMOND DERBY CITY CLASSIC 9-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP:**

Accu-Rack, 9 on the spot, winner breaks.

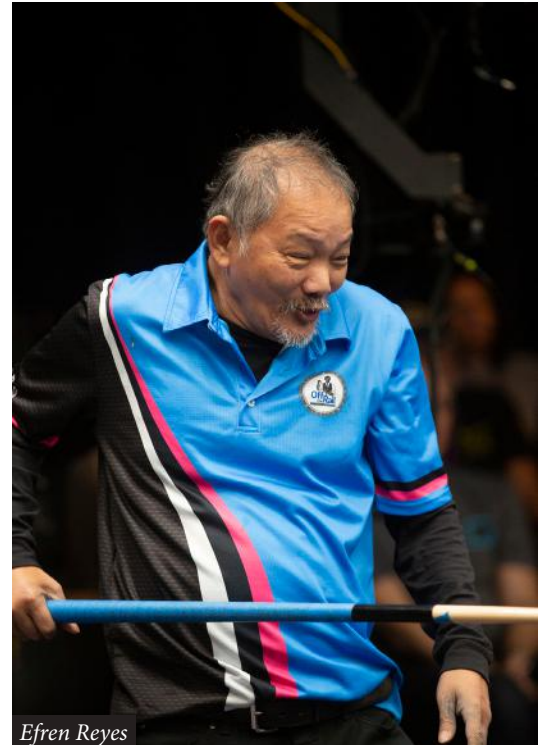
Since Matchroom deemed the Derby’s 9-Ball Championship a Mosconi Cup point-garnering tournament, 9-Ball has become the most populated DCC event.

527 entries smashed the previous attendance statistic!

Another record broken is the number of ladies competing this year: Margarita Fefilova, Sakura Muramatsu, Melissa “Sure Shot” Smith sponsored by Brutal Gear, Emily Sumrall, the up-and-coming Catherine Cool, and the ubiquitous Angela Mears, just to name a few of approximately 20. Diamond thanks you all!

Efren Reyes suffered a first-round loss to Robbie Capito, Roland Garcia got Dan Louie, Evan Lunda laid into Max Eberle.

Mezz-sponsored Mika Immonen opened the proceedings in the Accu-Stats Arena first thing Friday facing Derby City Classic stalwart Dee Adkins.



*Efren Reyes*

Mika was on fire. His early .980+ TPA seemed to intimidate Adkins who wasn’t getting out when he had the opportunity. The more he faltered, the more Mika gained confidence, and the more Dee’s TPA dropped.

The Mezz player-rep of 21 years closed it out 9-0 with a stellar .958.

Thanks to fan demand, Pat Fleming was asked to explain how the Accu-Stats’ Total Performance Average(TPA) is calculated. During the **Mieszko Fortunski vs. Brendan Shuff** match, he shared all.

The aforementioned 527 entries that crushed the previous attendance statistic, compounded by the 423 in One-Pocket and 529 in Banks, made for the strangest Finals in DCC history.

Add a 3-hour One-Pocket final that helped stall the draw, and we have the Derby Syndrome in spades.

### **THE DERBY SYNDROME**

2023 took our sport’s nine most grueling days—and nights—of limited sleep;

catching naps while standing; snacking on nutrition-less junk, and jousting non-stop from one discipline to the next to a whole new depth, it's a wonder some of these guys are alive.

Tony Chohan, winning from down 4-8 against Mika, must have been truly motivated by his stellar performance previously in his One-Pocket semis with Efen

Then, after his 3-hour battle in the Finals, Roland Garcia, understandably, ended him. The added points for his 11th place, 9-Ball finish, earned Tony runner-up as Master of the Table.

Fedor Gorst, at around 9 am on Sunday, had been awake competing, and waiting, competing and waiting, on-and-off for 28 hours, at 9-2, ended Shane.

Both Cuetec-sponsored players were visibly physically spent. It seemed that both had made more accumulated errors than they had in the entire tournament; When have you seen SVB miss two simple shots...in the same rack!

FYI: Fedor's route had doused Alex, twice. Skyler Woodward and Roland Garcia both were allowed one game... each.

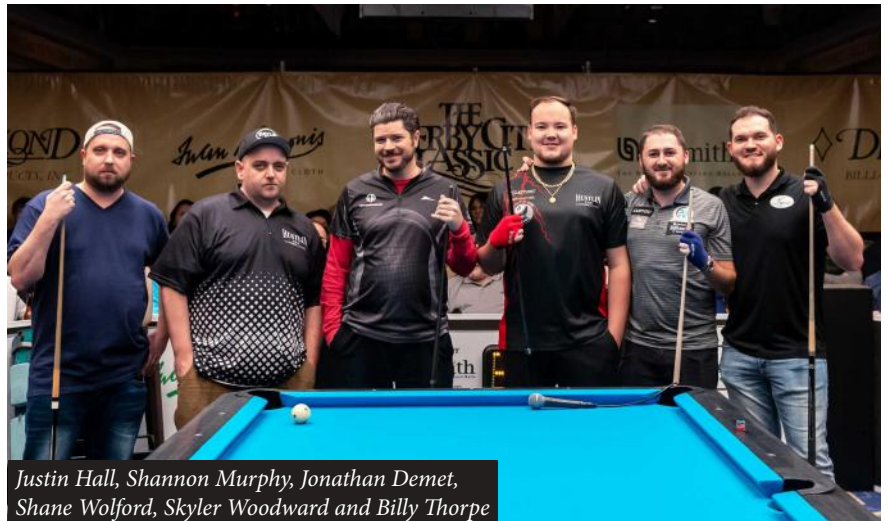
Earlier, Chohan, Tyler Styer, and John Morra were also left in Fedor's wake-pun intended.

Shane was undefeated all the way to the 13th round when Alex sent him buy-back. (Alex had just eliminated Joshua Filler in the 12th).

In the 11th, Shane had Skyler Woodward back at the buy-Back booth

Shane, in the 10th, had Hong Kong's Robbie Capito capitulate. Beware: The 21-year-old Robbie won his first men's national event when he was 12!

All in all, an incredible journey through the night and well past dawn.



As the cameras didn't pause much, most of the above action is available at [accu-stats.com](http://accu-stats.com) until February 28th.

See it to believe it.

It's time for a nap.

**Fedor Gorst: 16,000**  
**Shane Van Boening: \$7,500**  
**Alex Pagulayan: \$5,500**

### DCC's Friday Night Ring Game:

Culminating at \$1,200 a ball, Shannon Murphy robbed them all banking \$5,000. Billy fought gallantly to secure 2nd and \$3000. Skyler Woodward claimed a distant 3rd. Shane Wolford began well. Justin Hall fell fast as did Jonathan Demet.

### ENDGAME.

**DCC 2024 dates: Jan 19-27:** Book your entries/seats now! You know that they're going quickly.

Accu-Stats thanks its Arena Sponsors: Diamond Billiard Products, Simonis Cloth, Aramith Belgian Billiard Balls, Cuetec Cues, Lucasi Cues, Master Chalk, MEZZ Cues, McDermott Cues, National Billiard Academy, and Outsville Accu-Rack.

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With **PPV OnDemand**, you choose when you watch, no matter what you're timezone, **until February 28, 2023.**

[accu-stats.com](http://accu-stats.com) will have matches available on Vimeo On Demand, Subscription Service and, of course, HD DVDs of all the TV table productions.

Thanks to all who contributed to the daily DCC reports. You know who you are: The sultry voice of the event, Bonnie Jones, hubby Ric, Koby Pilgrim, Delana, Diamond Paul and, the truly missed Bill Strong!

[badboysbp.com](http://badboysbp.com) will have alternate Diamond Arena matches available in the coming weeks.

Don't miss a stroke: Visit [accu-stats.com](http://accu-stats.com). Enjoy.

The captured match-ups are available via the Accu-Stats Pay-Per-View OnDemand, 4-camera HD production. Approximately, 60 action-packed hours of pro-pool are projected, **PLUS reruns.** After each match concludes, it is uploaded and available for your viewing pleasure. With **PPV OnDemand**, you choose when you watch, no matter what you're timezone, **until February 28, 2023.**

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# JAYSON SHAW

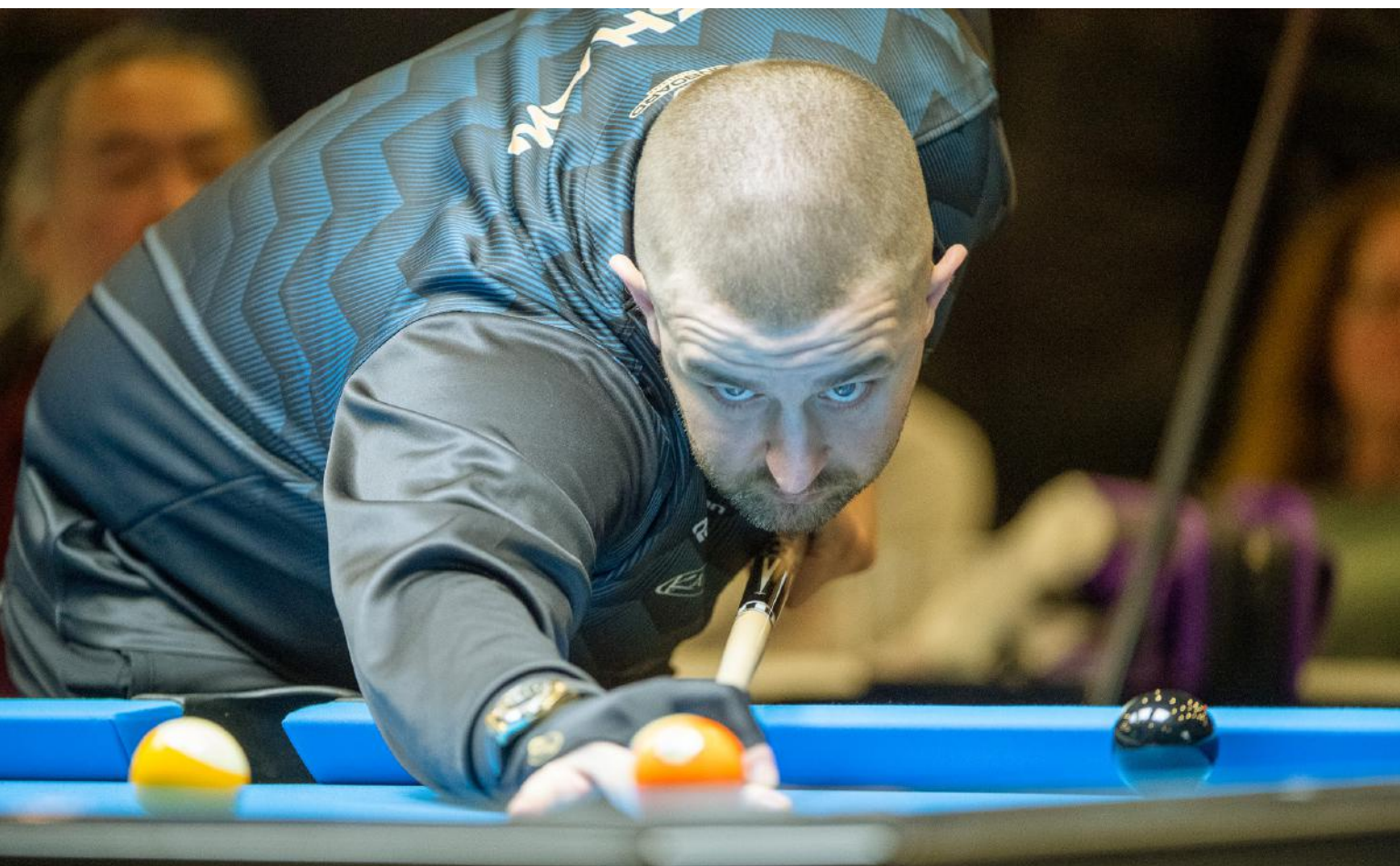
## Wins Record Ninth Turning Stone Title

With a much tougher field to battle with this time, Jayson Shaw still persevered to win a record 9th Turning Stone Classic as the Turning Stone Classic XXXVI in Verona, NY on January 5th – 8th.

Shaw saw his route to a 9th title getting a bit tougher, early on the final day, after he dropped a 9-6 match to Skyler Woodward. While

this match was going on, Jeremy Sossei was making quick work of Joss Tour regular Kevin West. Sossei would find himself on the wrong side of an-

other quick match in the next round, dropping a 9-1 decision to Woodward for the hot-seat.



Shaw got to work on the left side of the board, where he eliminated Japan's Naoyuki Oi 9-6. It was in the next round that Shaw truly got into his usual dominating style at the table. He beat Fedor Gorst for the second time in the event, this time by a lopsided 9-2 scoreline. In the semi-final match, he handed Jeremy Sossei an identical 9-2 beating, to secure his rematch with Woodward in the finals.

The finals were one race to thirteen and Woodward came out of the gate strong, and quickly held a 3-0 lead. A three rack lead is nothing to players of this level, and Shaw made up the 3 rack deficit to tie the match at 3-3. Woodward scratched on the break at 4-4 and Shaw made him pay for that mistake in a big way as he ran out to a 7-4 lead. Woodward played a great 3-9 combo in the twelfth rack, only to see the cue ball follow the 9-ball into the pocket. That mistake cost him two racks as Shaw extended the lead to 9-4.

Woodward won two racks to claw back within three racks at 9-6, but a missed 2-ball by Shaw in the sixteenth rack led to another three racks for Shaw and he held the lead at 12-6. Woodward got one more opportunity when Shaw failed to get out in the nineteenth rack. He made the most of that opportunity as he ran that rack out



for a 12-7 scoreline. Woodward then broke and ran the following rack. And the next. And the next. Before the fans in attendance, and watching the live stream online, knew it, the score was tied at 12-12, with Woodward breaking. Woodward would not be able to complete the comeback though, as he

missed a touchy six-ball, leaving Shaw a relatively simple four balls to run for his third straight, and ninth overall, Turning Stone Classic title.

Shaw celebrated with the \$10,000 first place prize, while Woodward settled for \$6,500 in second place prize money, as well as a nice bump on the Nine-ball Rankings list.

Sunday also included the second chance tournament, that saw Landon Hollingsworth defeat Dave Fernandez in the finals for first place.

The Joss NE 9-Ball Tour will kick off the second half of the 2022/2023 with the Northeast 9-Ball Open at Sharpshooters Billiards in Amsterdam, NY on March 4th – 5th. The next Turning Stone Classic event is scheduled for August 31st – September 3rd, once again at the Turning Stone Resort and Casino in Verona, NY.



# CHOU SHUTS OUT FISHER

## To Win Kamui WPA Women's World 9-Ball Title

Over the last six months, Chieh-Yu Chou of Chinese Taipei has put together a pretty impressive resume.



**A**fter earning a silver medal for her runner-up performance at last year's World Games in Birmingham, Ala., she won the second-annual Predator World Women's 10-Ball Championship in Austria, besting fellow countrywoman Tzu-Chien Wei in the finals with a commanding 9-3 performance.

Playing in the championship match of this weekend's Kamui WPA Women's World 9-Ball Championship, she somehow managed to top that performance, taking advantage of a couple of opportunities left by Allison Fisher early and blanking her opponent, 9-0, at Harrah's Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City. Chou, who earned \$30,000 for the win, becomes the first female competitor to hold the world titles in both 9-ball and 10-ball since Kelly Fisher in 2012.

Chieh-Yu Chou

"I'm very excited and it's like a dream," said Chou after the match. "The last 16 I thought I was going to lose and I won 9-8. I feel very lucky. I focused and continued my game so I'm really happy."

After Chou climbed onto the scoreboard first with a victorious safety exchange in the first rack, the Fisher had a chance to even the score but missed a sharp cut on the 9 ball. Her opponent clicked the ball in to take a two-game lead, then broke and ran twice to increase her advantage to 4-0. Fisher returned to the table in the fifth game when her opponent failed to pocket a ball on the break but couldn't find a clear shot at the 1 ball and opted to exchange safeties, which Chou took advantage of when her opponent left an open shot. Chou cleared the table then broke and ran twice more to increase her lead to a commanding 7-0.

"Today I was very comfortable so I was very focused," she said.

That's putting it mildly. She used another victorious safety on the 6-ball to climb onto the hill then used a tight cut shot on the 1 ball in to the side pocket to break to break-and-run once more and close out the championship match in a lightning fast 49 minutes.

"If you had asked me at the beginning of the week if I would like to be in the final, I would be quite pleased with it," said Fisher. "No one wants to lose nine nil, but I couldn't do anything about it."

The victory ended the surprise run by Billiard Congress Hall of Famer Fisher, who had become a bit of a sentimental favorite after reaching the quarterfinals and pulling off an upset of young Filipino Chezka Centeno Saturday night. Playing another rising young star in Russia's Kristina Tkach in the semifinals, the two competitors split the first 10 games until Tkach rattled the 5 ball in the corner pocket. Fisher cleared the table, then used a safety to force her opponent into a



Chieh-Yu Chou and Allison Fisher

foul and tacked on a break-and-run to pull within one rack of the win.

After Fisher failed to pocket a ball on the break, the Russian attempted to pocket the 1 ball in the side and missed. After Fisher followed that miss with a foul after attempting to kick at the ball, Tkach worked her way through the balls and, with the 9 ball hanging near the corner pocket and the 6 and 7 balls further up the rail, elected to try a combination shot and missed. Fisher approached the table and began pondering her next shot but, failing to realize she had already used her time extension, was forced to drop, aim and fire at the ball as the shot clock was about to expire. She missed and Tkach began clearing the table but missed a makeable 9 ball in the corner pocket, allowing Fisher to rattle the ball into

the corner pocket for the victory and a ticket to the finals.

Chou reached the finals by erasing an early deficit to South Korea's Seo Seoa in the first semifinal of the day.

After taking an early 2-1 lead, Chou missed a jump shot on the 3 ball in the fourth rack. Seoa took full advantage, clearing table and winning the next five games to grab a 6-2 advantage. Standing at the table in the ninth rack, the South Korean attempted a safety on the 1 ball that left an opening which Chou walked directly through, winning three straight to cut the deficit to 6-5 before missing the 5 ball in the 12th rack. Seoa tacked on another win but left another opening in the next rack that allowed her opponent to see the

## Women's World 9-Ball Championship

3 ball after a safety. Chou connected with the ball, then watched as the cue ball knocked the 9 ball into the corner pocket to pull within a game again.

“When I saw that ball, I thought there might be chance,” said Chou. “When I made that I said, “okay, my luck is coming. That was a turning point.”

Chou broke and ran twice to take the lead then used a safety exchange on the 1 ball to close out the match.

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# *Fisher and Sanchez-Ruiz* Wins AzB Player of the Year Awards

**Choosing the winners of the AzBilliards “Player of the Year” is never an easy task. While the Women’s award is usually a pretty easy choice, the Men’s award is a lot more difficult.**

**T**he 2022 AzBilliards Women’s Player of the Year award goes to Kelly Fisher. Fisher appears to be back in the form that she showed in early 2010’s with a dominating year in 2022. Fisher has over \$120,000 in winnings and seven major title wins in 2022. Most of her success came on the WPBA Tour, but she also had a win at the Predator Germany Women’s Open in June and possibly her biggest title of the year with her gold medal at the 2022 World Games in July. This is Fisher’s third AzBilliards Player of the Year award.

As usual, the Men’s Player of the Year was a much tougher decision. Joshua Filler had to be a part of any Player of the Year conversation, with major wins at the World Pool Masters, UK Open, Derby City, EuroTour and European Championships.

Filler looked to be in a Player of the Year race with Fedor Gorst for much of the year, with Fedor literally winning everywhere he was allowed to play.

After his dominating performance at the Derby City Classic (wins in the Banks, One Pocket and Master of the Table) and defending his title at the Arizona Open, the WPA ban of Russian players went into affect and Gorst was forced to limit himself to competing in the US. Gorst made the most of those limitations and led the AzBilliards Money List for most of the year. Gorst has wins in nearly 20 US events (that we have record of) and over \$250,000 in recorded prize money.

While Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz’s year started with a win in the 9-ball event at Derby City, it looked for a couple of months as if Sanchez-Ruiz might have peaked at Derby and he would be off of the Player of the Year radar after that. He continued to play strong throughout the year though with a runner-up finish at the UK Open and then a win at World Cup of Pool (along with teammate David Alcaide). Late in the year, the talented Spaniard really hit his stride with a win on home soil at the PRP Nineball Open and then a



win at the prestigious US Open 9-Ball Championship in mid October. Those wins moved Sanchez-Ruiz back into the Player of the Year conversation and in our opinion, his win a month later at the World 8-Ball Championship was enough to tilt the scales in his direction for the final award. All told, at year’s end, Sanchez-Ruiz had over \$260,000 in prize money and a World Championship to display in his trophy case. He will also have the 2022 Men’s Player of the Year trophy in that case.

Congratulations to both Sanchez-Ruiz and Fisher, and we wish them all of the best rolls in their 2023 quests to defend those titles.





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# GOMEZ & MALM Take Music City

**The legendary JOB Billiards Club in Madison, TN – a suburb of Nashville – presented the \$7,000 added 35th Annual Music City Open this past week. Featuring multiple minis as well as the Open and Ladies Nine Ball events, there was action galore!**

Joining JOB's owner Ricky Gamble in special sponsorship was PoolActionTV.com as well as Aramith, Simonis and Diamond Billiard Products.

Looking to shake off the rust was BCA Hall of Famer Kim Davenport and Shane Wolford looking to defend his

title. Notables spotted around the room were Jesus Atencio, Josh Roberts, Robb Saez, Shannon Murphy, Johnathan ("Hennessee") Pinegar, Chuck Raulston, Jason Foutch, April Larson, Tina Malm, Liz Lovely, Kelly Isaac, Tam Trinh, Janeen Lee and WPBA veteran Suzie Quall. Filipinos Jeffrey de Luna and Bogies (Houston,

TX) House Pro Roberto Gomez as well as Denmark's Mickey Krause and Indonesia's Alvin Angito also joined the fray.

All events were played on seven foot Diamonds and play kicked off with on Wednesday evening with a single elimination race to seven nine ball

*Jeffrey De Luna and Roberto Gomez*



mini tournament. The field was whittled down to Jesus Atencio & Mickey Krause – they split the pot. There was another mini tournament on Saturday night – these two split the pot again!

Players were back on Thursday night for the players auction, meeting & draw. A full field of 128 players entered this race to eleven winner breaks tournament.

Roberto Gomez began his march to the hot seat match after defeating Matt Moore (11-4), Jaime Mitchell (11-3), Rich McDonald (11-1), Johnathan (“Hennessee”) Pinegar (11-9), Jeffrey de Luna (11-9) and Billy Young (11-10).

Mason Koch also advanced to the hot seat match after wins over Ryan Williams (11-4), TJ Hammond (11-1), Jason Bacon (11-5), Jerry Clayman (11-10), Mickey Krause (11-9) and Trey Frank (11-5).

The hot seat match was close but it was Gomez who locked up his seat in the finals 11-7. Mason would have to await an opponent on the one loss side.

Jeffrey de Luna edged out Mickey Krause (11-10) and then faced Koch to see who would advance to the finals. Jeff defeated Mason 11-4 and moved on to the finals. Mason finished in third place.

Since this was true double elimination, de Luna would have to defeat Gomez twice to win the tournament. However, it was not to be as Roberto won 11-9 to add the Music City Open title to his resume! Congratulations, Roberto! Good event, Jeff!

The Ladies Nine Ball division began on Friday night with 49 players playing in this race to seven winner breaks tournament.

Tina Malm advanced to the hot seat with wins over Casey Baldrige (7-4), Elizabeth Shilliam (7-2), Amanda Wilder (7-0), the always tough April Larson (7-5) and Janeen Lee (7-1).



*April Larson and Tina Malm*

Joining Tina in the hot seat match was Liz Lovely. She defeated Allison Hardwick (7-1), Chelsea Hoyt (7-2), Beverly Cook 7-1, Melissa Young (7-4) and Heather Middleton (7-3).

The hot seat match was close but Malm closed it out with a 7-5 victory over Lovely. Liz headed west to await an opponent.

After losing a nailbiter to Heather Middleton in the fourth round 7-6, Kelly Isaac then edged out Amy Theriault (7-6) and beat Melissa Young (7-2) and Janeen Lee (7-0) until she was eliminated by April Larson (7-2). Kelly finished in fourth place.

Larson then defeated Lovely (7-4) to move into the finals. Liz finished in third place.

Again, since this was true double elimination, April had to defeat Tina twice to take the title. April won the first set

7-4 but Tina took the decider and the title with a 7-4 win! Congratulations, Tina! Great effort, April!

PoolActionTV.com would like to thank Ricky Gamble and his staff for their exemplary efforts in taking care of all the players and fans.

We'd also like to thank Tournament Director Jason Hill for doing an excellent job in running all the different events.

In addition, kudos to Larry Schwartz, Mary Kenniston, Josh Roberts and Ray Hansen for their excellent commentary.

PoolActionTV.com would also like to thank our sponsors and fans. Our sponsors include JB Cases, Hanshew Jump Cues, Simonis, Aramith, Lomax Custom Cues, Diamond Billiard Products, Durbin Custom Cues, Savage Billiards, the Action Palace of Dayton, OH and the Fort Worth Superstore of Fort Worth, TX.

# McIntosh

## Goes Undefeated To Win Season-Opening Stop On The Florida Tiger Tour

Coming off a wildly successful year in which she recorded pool earnings that were three times as much as she'd earned in 2021, Kaylee McIntosh was awarded the Tiger Florida Tour's 2022 Most Improved Player award at the tour's season-opening event this past weekend (Sat., Jan. 14). And then, she went undefeated through the \$500-added event that drew 24 entrants to Brewlands Billiards South in Lakeland, FL.

“I played confidently and consistently all day,” she wrote on her FB page, modestly not mentioning her Most Improved Player award. “I hope I can carry (the) momentum into the Kamui World Wom-

en's 9-Ball Championship this coming week (Jan. 19-22 at Harrah's Resort in Atlantic City).”

The event played out with a modified, double-elimination format, with the

last two on the loss-side of the bracket drawing back into the final two on the winners' side. Two, single-elimination semifinal matches were followed by the finals.

*Kaylee McIntosh*



McIntosh opened up against Lisa Perez, advancing to defeat Lauren Kowalski and then, surviving a double hill battle versus Shannon Dunn. This moved her into an advancement qualifier against Michell Monk, determining which of them would immediately advance to the event's final four and which would move to the loss side for an opportunity to draw back in among the final four. From the opposite end of the bracket, Jeannie Seaver, awarded an opening round bye, met and defeated junior competitor Sofia Mast 7-2, downed Stephanie Mitchell 7-1 to face Shanelle Lorraine for the opportunity to advance from the winners' side.

McIntosh defeated Monk 7-1, advancing to the final four, as Seaver got by Lorraine 7-5, also advancing. Monk moved to the loss side, defeated Stephanie Mitchell 5-3 and came right back to face McIntosh a second time in one of the semifinals.

The last slot in the semifinals, destined to face Seaver, proved to be Kimberly Housman, who'd lost her opening match in a double hill battle against Shannon Dunn. Housman ended up winning five on the loss side, defeating tour director Mimi McAndrews, Lisa Perez, Chris Baumg and in one of the defacto quarterfinals, survived another double hill match, against The Pink Dagger, Sofia Mast. This set her up against Shanelle Lorraine. Housman completed her loss-side with a 5-3 victory over Lorraine and turned to join Seaver in the semifinals.

Michell Monk managed to add a single rack to her earlier score against McIntosh, but it wasn't enough, as McIntosh moved into the finals. Seaver joined her after a 7-4 win over Housman. McIntosh completed her undefeated run with a 7-5 win over Seaver.

"It's always a good match when we run into each other," wrote McIntosh, "and it was certainly entertaining."

**“ MCINTOSH DEFEATED MONK 7-1, ADVANCING TO THE FINAL FOUR, AS SEAVER GOT BY LORRAINE 7-5, ALSO ADVANCING. MONK MOVED TO THE LOSS SIDE, DEFEATED STEPHANIE MITCHELL 5-3 AND CAME RIGHT BACK TO FACE MCINTOSH A SECOND TIME IN ONE OF THE SEMIFINALS. ”**

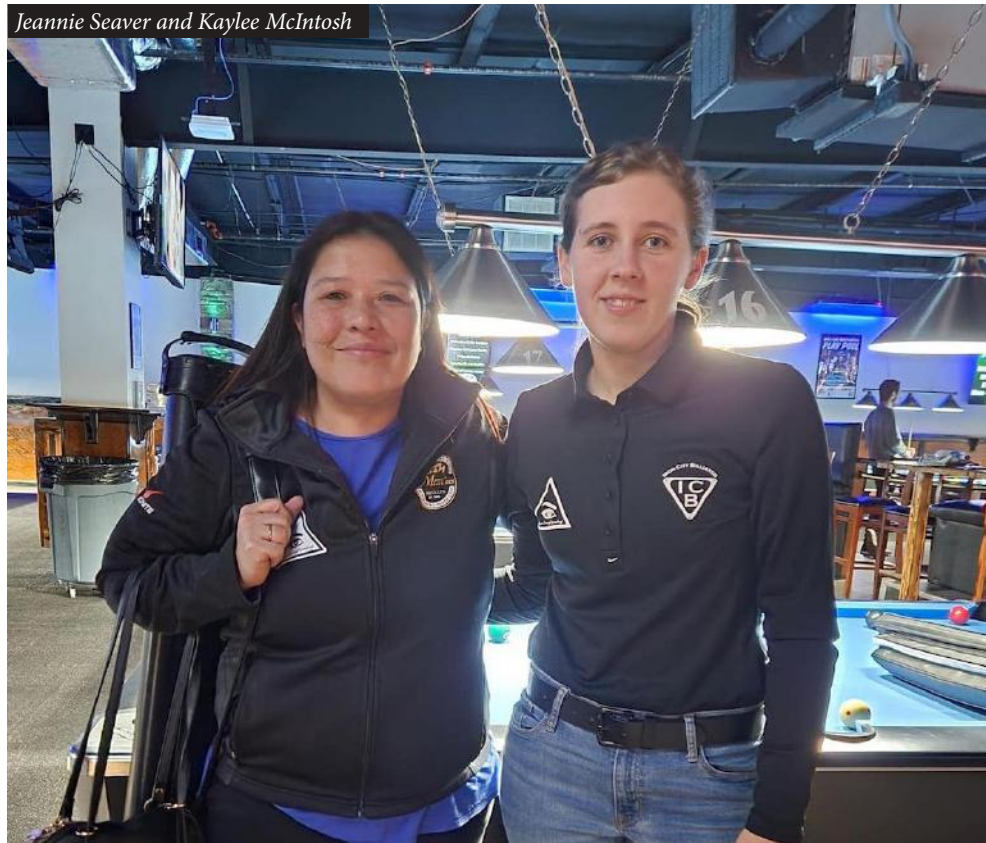
Though Seaver went home as the event's runner-up, she also walked away with the Tiger Florida Tour's 2022 Tour Champion award, her fourth in a row, and the qualifying spot for the West Coast Challenge. The event was also a qualifier for entry into the Women's Pro Event at the Super Billiards Expo later this spring and was won by Kimberly Housman.

Tour representatives thanked Larry Walthal, Mike Dauskart and the Brewlands South staff for their hospitality and continued support for the tour.

Thanks were also extended to sponsors Tony Kalamdaryan and Tiger Products, Brutal Game Gear, Stitch It To Me, Boynton Billiards, AZBilliards, Eastern Billiards, Andy Cloth, Josh Arnold "for running the tournament," Jessica Human "for technical help" and Stephanie Mitchell "for her invaluable assistance in keeping the tour running every year."

The next stop on the Tiger Florida Tour (#2), scheduled for Saturday, Feb 18, will be hosted by Stix Billiards in Tampa, FL.

*Jeannie Seaver and Kaylee McIntosh*



# NOELLE TATE

**makes her own mark,  
joins siblings Joey  
and Bethany on the  
JIC series and beyond**

**E**Im City, NC's Noelle Tate is not a teenager yet, though she will be in April. This means, among other things, that she'll probably need to buy new shoes before you're through reading this profile of her. She won the "Which Tate family member will be the subject of our next Junior Player profile" sweepstakes when, competing in the 18U (not her more age-appropriate 13U) Division championships of the Junior International Championships (JIC) in Norfolk, VA last November, she defeated her older sister Bethany (15, this month) in the semifinals.



Mast is quick to note that their rivalry at the tables offers both of them an opportunity. Mast was picking up a lot of the JIC headlines in the early days of the inaugural and second season and had developed a notable rivalry with Skylar Hess, another 13U Girls competitor. That sense of rivalry has shifted somewhat, though Hess is still around, challenging them both and setting up the potential for some intriguing matchups in the upcoming JIC event, scheduled for the weekend of February 24-26 at Diamond Billiards in Cape Coral, FL.

“Other than hanging out and having fun with Noelle,” said Mast, “I have seen so much improvement in her game. She is the most fierce (competitor); not scared to take any shot.”

“Her combinations, stroke and demeanor at the table have improved a lot,” she added. “It is definitely tougher to play against her now and it was amazing to face her in the finals of the 18U championships last year. I can’t wait to see what the future holds in our friendship and her game.”

According to the family patriarch, Randy Tate, the three pool-playing Tate children (there’s a fourth, Lily, who does not compete with them) did not follow each other into the sport. It happened all at once.

“It wasn’t like all of a sudden, Joey got on the scene and they

Then, four days before Christmas (possibly when she got her *most recent* pair of shoes), she did it again, the hard way, so to speak. Bethany had defeated her in the opening round of a 20U Girls, non-JIC event called “When the Smoke Clears” at Wolf’s Den in Roanoke, VA. But after falling to Sofia Mast in the battle for the hot seat, Bethany found herself, once again, in a semifinal battle with her younger sister. Noelle battled her to double hill and did end up advancing to the finals. Sofia Mast, who was profiled here in the middle of the JIC’s inaugural 2021 season and also competes in both the 13U & 18U Girls divisions, defeated Noelle in both finals.

Adding to her growing list of notable accomplishments, Noelle opened the third JIC series last month by coming from the loss side to chalk up a win in the 13U Girls division. It should be noted, giving sister Bethany her ‘due,’ that at that same event, Bethany knocked her sister out of the 18U Girls division event. The two sisters (along with older brother, Joey) are part of a very close-knit family, so the rivalry between them doesn’t create any serious kind of discord on the home front. That said, discussing the rivalry in any direct way, like asking Bethany how it ‘felt’ to be defeated by her

younger sister, twice, was a topic that didn’t come up in the interviews for this profile.

The rivalry between Noelle and Sofia Mast did. They have become the best of friends. According to Mast, they’re always hanging out at tournaments, as well as calling and texting each other, often. As a result, Mast took advantage of an opportunity to stay with the Tate family for a while, and lest one tends to forget how young they are, Mast indicated that they “had a blast” visiting a trampoline park, roller skating and shopping together.

“Over the past two years,” said Mast, “Noelle has been such a great friend. She is so funny, caring, happy and makes people smile.”



## Junior Player of the Month

followed later,” he said. “They more or less all got involved at the same time.”

Older siblings, Joey and Bethany have each won a Billiards Education Foundation Junior National Championship; Joey winning it twice in the 14U Boys division ('17 & '18), while Bethany won the inaugural (and to date, only) event of the BEF's 11U Girls division in 2018. Since that time, virtually all of the BEF champions, in all eight of its divisions have gone on to compete in the JIC series.

While the billiards skills of the Tate family have certainly caught the attention of the professional pool community, particularly in women's competition, where many JIC competitors, including Mast, Bethany Tate and Savannah Easton, have been invited to compete in WPBA events, one would have a hard time finding anybody more awed by the performance of his children than their father, Randy. Asked specifically about Noelle for this profile of

her, his admiration of what she's accomplished, as well as what she's likely to accomplish on the road ahead of her was evident.

“Noelle has an incredible talent,” he said. “She's got a good 'eye,' and her ability to pocket balls on a 9 ft. table is insane.”

He recalled her early days at the tables, when, at the age of 8 or 9, Noelle would accompany him to Breaktime Billiards in Winston-Salem, NC and begin to work at a table. One would expect that a father would be watching his daughter, but he wasn't alone.

“People would be walking past the tables, watching this tiny girl,” he recalled. “The next thing you know, the crowds would start to build, people walking by, then telling others ‘You gotta see this!’”

He suspects that on that road ahead for Noelle, there's going to have to be

some improvement in her game, particularly in the area of practice discipline. It's an improvement area with which he is very familiar.

“She's like her Dad, actually,” he said. “My practice would be the first match.”

Noelle's coaches are her father and brother, both of whom have noted her improvement over the past year. What they see is good things in store for her, as long as she remains willing to engage in the work necessary to continue that improvement, mixed in with the hangin' out, trampoline parks, roller skating and shopping with her “besties,” not to mention her home-schooling. Has it been mentioned that she's not even going to be a teenager until April?

“The sky's the limit for her,” said Randy, adding that her improvement to date

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**4**

“puts a lot of pressure on Sofia (Mast).”

“If Noelle puts the time into her game,” he added, “she’d be the best. It’s within her.”

Noelle doesn’t remember, specifically, what attracted her to pool, beyond the obvious; the participation of her older sister and brother.

“I was just. . . I’d grown up with the pool table,” she said. “I was seeing my brother and sister, wanted to play and I love travelling. It was just a lot of fun.”

She recalled not being bothered by her own height in those early days at Breaktime Billiards. The tables, particularly the 9 ft. ones, can have a way of dwarfing someone that’s nine years old, but it didn’t phase her in the least.

“I was tall enough to see over the table, so I managed” she said. “I used to pick my feet up above the table.”

She considers the strength of her game at this point to be her “confidence and sportsmanship” and “Oh yeah,” she adds, echoing her father’s sentiments about her skills, “pocketing balls.”

At 12, soon to be 13, plans for an adult future are not exactly on her radar at this point. She does, though, think that when such plans start to emerge, there are a few things that she might consider. She doesn’t really have a ‘favorite’ home-schooled subject, although she does identify math as the first subject on her ‘enjoyable’ list.

“If I (were to think) about something in the future, I think I would like to be a teacher,” she said, pausing for a moment to add, “maybe something in real estate, or a nurse, maybe.”

She’s quick to talk of a more immediate future, though. In the year ahead, her goals are more specific.



“I’d like to be at the top in (JIC) points (at the end of this third season),” she said, “and I’d like to go to a WPBA event.”

Both goals are very attainable for her. Though more likely to earn the JIC’s top points in her age-appropriate division (13U), she could earn them in the 18U division, as well. As competitive as that 18U Girls division is, she did make it to the finals of that division’s championship event, just three months ago. One suspects that she’ll be competing against a very determined older sister in that division. Both of them will be looking for a WPBA event invitation, which is more (though not exclusively) likely to be extended to members of the older group.

The man who’s watched all of the JIC’s young competitors grow, both personally and at the tables, is Ra Hanna, who created the JIC series of year-long junior competitions and with his company, On the Wire Creative Media, continues to do so. His awareness of a large number of the junior players who’ve competed in the now on-going three years of events, is extensive. He

knows them personally and is something of a *de facto* ‘parental unit’ at the events themselves. He sees the potential in Noelle as keenly as her own father, sister and brother.

“I think that with Noelle,” he said, “that potential is found in the fearlessness of youth, as well as in her own determination.”

“She seems to have taken her journey more seriously in the past year,” he added, “and she really believes in herself.”

That ‘belief in herself’ shows up at the tables as a measure of competitiveness that is common in the family. Noelle has had a ‘go’ at swimming competition and it showed up there, too.

“She’s competitive at everything,” said her Dad. “When she started swimming, some guy made a comment about that, asking if it was some kind of family trait.”

“Joey and Beth are very competitive, too,” he added. “They have all been given a gift.”

**“ ‘I WAS TALL ENOUGH TO SEE OVER THE TABLE, SO I MANAGED’ SHE SAID. ‘I USED TO PICK MY FEET UP ABOVE THE TABLE.’ ”**

”

# MARK GRIFFIN – OBITUARY

## Entrepreneur, Patron & Visionary

**M**ark Gelles Griffin, age 76, died peacefully on Friday, January 13, 2023 in his residence in Henderson, NV. He was born on October 31, 1946 in Anchorage, Alaska, baptized Catholic, and grew up in an historic house built by his maternal grandparents. He graduated from Alaska High School in 1964, attended the University

of Alaska, and built a staggering number of businesses in Alaska.

He seemed to excel in whatever he attempted. For example, he logged every pool table he recovered in a book, and only stopped the log when he exceeded 1,000 tables. Because his work had earned the favor of the military in

Alaska, they sent or transported him to recover tables at major bases throughout the state, which led to some unique travel experiences. He was the first civilian to travel the original Haul Road to the Arctic oil fields and he was flown by helicopter to a remote military location—both to cover pool tables.

Mark honed his entrepreneurial skills in Alaska in a true American pioneering tradition. He was a tireless creator of new enterprises. Of his miniature golf course, Mark once said, “I had 200 people playing miniature golf at two in the morning... in Alaska!” He owned a used car lot, started a car and truck hauling service, and bought and sold classic cars. Interestingly, he once owned a novelty car with two front ends, that could be driven in either direction.

In 1985, he married Sue Griffin (Tim) Konke, of Port St. Joe, Florida, who was an active business partner in many endeavors. Their highly successful Alaska Bingo Supply cornered the bingo market, the outstanding Alaska Billiard Palace gained national recognition, and they acquired multiple commercial and residential properties. They also made various investments state-side, including billiard rooms in San Diego. Mark is remembered to this day by the Alaskan billiards community in the Alaska Griffin Cup, a championship which rotates annually between Anchorage and Fairbanks.

Since 1969, Mark has owned nine billiard rooms in Alaska, California, and Nevada, including two of the finest in the country—Alaska Billiard Palace in Anchorage, which preserved numerous classic pool tables; and Griff’s Bar & Billiards in Las Vegas, which set new standards for billiard rooms in America. Shortly before his death, Mark funded a trust for the preservation of Griff’s Bar & Billiards in perpetuity.



Mark's greatest passion has always been the billiard industry. He has served as a master level player, master billiard instructor, master table mechanic, billiard room owner, leading cue and memorabilia collector, member of the BCA Board of Directors, amateur pool league and event producer, table manufacturer—and sponsor, mentor, patron, and promoter of some of pool's outstanding pro events and players.

He founded CueSports International in 2004 in Henderson, Nevada to promote the amateur BCA Pool League in 46 states and in 40 countries worldwide. His investment in Diamond Billiard Products helped propel the manufacturer into the 21st century. He facilitated the development of the successful FargoRate player rating system, and the development of the pioneering pool video streaming service, The Action Report. He created and produced U.S. Open professional pool events in

four disciplines, and numerous other events which remain popular among professionals and amateurs alike. Mark has ensured that these championships will continue long after his demise—at Griff's Bar & Billiards in Las Vegas.

For his leadership and impact on the industry, he was named "Man of the Year" by Billiards Digest in 2009.

During his Las Vegas period, he married his second wife, Chinim Sunny Griffin of Las Vegas, Nevada, and his third, Charmayne Charley Hall of Henderson, Nevada. He was single at the end of his life.

Mark had a good heart and caring nature. He was generous to many a deserving soul, but never spoke of his generosity during his lifetime. Only the beneficiaries of his giving, or those they told, knew that he loaned them money, paid their medical bills, or even financed their education. He possessed a keen sense of who was

truly in need and we will never know how many souls he helped.

Mark was predeceased by his parents, Wanda and Ned Griffin of Anchorage, Alaska; and sister, Katherine Griffin of San Francisco, California. He is survived by his brother, Chuck Griffin (Penny) of Palmer, Alaska; and sister, Marie Trueblood (Tim) of Rapid City, South Dakota.

Mark will be cremated at Palm Eastern Mortuary & Cemetery in Las Vegas. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations to Donate Life America — donatelife.net

Mark has inspired so many—and so many have said they will never forget him. When he knew his time was near, he asked that all his family and friends be invited to his Celebration of Life at Griff's Bar & Billiards in Las Vegas. His celebration will begin at 2pm on Saturday, January 28. According to Mark's wishes, there will be no service at the mortuary.



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Pool Photography ©mediumpool

# Chris “The Magician” Melling JOINS THE CUETEC TEAM

**February 1, 2023 – Cuetec is thrilled to announce that Chris “The Magician” Melling has joined the Cuetec Team of Professional Players and Brand Ambassadors.**

A multi-disciplinary maestro in cue sports, Melling joins Cuetec with a dynamic resume that includes stand-out titles in 9-Ball, 8-Ball, English Blackball, and Chinese 8-Ball. The Englishman has represented team Europe twice at the Mosconi Cup, with his side emerging victorious on both occasions, and has won the Mosconi Cup MVP award as well. Chris also holds two WEPF World Eightball Titles and he has even competed on the World Snooker Tour.

“Chris’s game and resume really speak for themselves. His creativity can be seen every time he competes, no matter what game he’s playing,” said Cuetec Brand Manager Brett Garson. “He sees things a lot of us wish we did at the table, and that makes it a joy to watch him play.”

“Cuetec has been growing into quite the force over the past few years, and I see no signs of that slowing down anytime soon,” said Melling when asked about his new sponsor. “I’m just really excited to begin this next chapter of my career with Team Cuetec.”

Melling will be representing Cuetec on the table with a plethora of new equipment. His playing butt, a Cynergy Truewood II Ebony cue will be paired with several Cynergy shafts depending on the game. Chris will be utilizing the Cynergy 11.8 for 9-Ball, the Cynergy 10.5 for Chinese 8-Ball, and a new Cynergy prototype for the UK’s Ultimate Pool.

“When I tried these three shafts, I was so impressed. They all play great, but

they each bring something different and unique to each discipline. I’m a big believer in using the right tool for the job, and the trust I have in my new equipment has me excited to get to my first event,” said Melling.

“Our family keeps growing. We’re happy to have been able to add Chris to our team,” said Cuetec president Jones Chang. “I love watching him play, I see Chris as one of the greatest cueists to ever grace our sport. I’m looking forward to seeing what he accomplishes next!”

In signing with Cuetec, Melling joins an exclusive roster that prides itself on team and mutual support, despite this being an individual sport. “I was super excited to hear that Chris was coming on board, said Cuetec’s Sky Woodward. “I’ll be rooting for him, right up until we play each other. I

really like Chris, it’s not his fault he’s from Europe.”

Look for Chris next at Nineball’s World Pool Championships where he’ll get a proper welcome from more of his new teammates.

## About Cuetec

Cuetec burst onto the billiard scene in 1989, developing the first composite cue. Today, Cuetec prides itself in offering the most technologically advanced high-performance playing equipment. From Cuetec’s AVID line to the it’s World Championship winning carbon fiber Cynergy line, every product is designed and engineered to give competitors the ultimate in performance and value. For more information, please visit [www.cuetec.com](http://www.cuetec.com). Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CuetecUSA>



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# BECUE

*growth continues and will expand its headquarters in 2023.*



The company achieved a 10% revenue growth in 2022.

**B**ecue, the first and only company worldwide to design and build billiard cues entirely of carbon fiber, is an all Italian company based in Pordenone, Italy. Becue was founded in 2016 with the initiative of Alessandro Bressan and Michele Carniel, who were able to transform their great passion for billiards into a worldwide entrepreneurial adventure.



The idea. Technologically innovating the main instrument of billiards, the billiard cue, and making it entirely out of carbon fiber. «Innovation, research and enthusiasm are still the foundation of our work today explains Alessandro Bressan, co-owner of Becue - our products are known for their extraordinary performance, combined with unique and refined designs, giving our cues characteristics that are conquering the whole world, starting in the USA (the first market for Becue) and continuing through Japan and Northern Europe».

Six years after its start-up, the company has reached close to one million euros in annual revenue. Up 10% last year over the previous year. Becue is now preparing to expand its corporate headquarters in the same building that already houses it, with a new painting plant, a new large showroom and a photo studio to create the multimedia contents needed for international product promotions now and in the future.

«A positive sign - continues Bressan - Commenting on the increase in revenue achieved last year - which arrived after the economic downturn caused by the pandemic and a period of forced slowdown, which gave us the opportunity to replan, optimize

processes and resources and to respond in the best possible way to the challenges of the international market. The results we recorded in the year that has just ended has proved us right. We now find ourselves in the position of needing to expand our current production and exhibition spaces, plus opening up new job opportunities. We are currently looking for new resources to introduce into our operations team».

With the new year there will be several new products that will expand the many choices available to Becue's customers, with a commitment to continuous improvement and technological development.

«Our greatest satisfaction is seeing our customers' loyalty towards Becue - says Bressan - often they first approach the company by purchasing a single shaft and after a short time they buy the complete Becue equipment. This demonstrates the professional quality of our products and their proven performance ».

«The strategy of investing in research and specializing exclusively in carbon fiber is rewarding us with proven excellent world-class quality throughout our entire line of cues and accessories».



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# Tourney Results

## Jan 05 - Jan 08

### Turning Stone Classic XXXVI

#### Turning Stone Casino

- Verona, NY
- 1 Jayson Shaw \$10,000
  - 2 Skyler Woodward \$6,500
  - 3 Jeremy Sossei \$4,000
  - 4 Fedor Gorst \$2,700
  - 5 Kevin West \$2,000
  - 5 Naoyuki Oi \$2,000
  - 7 Mika Immonen \$1,600
  - 7 Vitaliy Patsura \$1,600
  - 9 Billy Thorpe \$1,200
  - 9 Danny Hewitt \$1,200
  - 9 John Morra \$1,200
  - 9 Thorsten Hohmann \$1,200
  - 13 Dylan Spohr \$950
  - 13 Hunter Lombardo \$950
  - 13 Mieszko Fortunski \$950
  - 13 Shane Wolford \$950
  - 17 Bartel Czapla \$559
  - 17 Carlin Sanderson \$559
  - 17 Donny Mills \$559
  - 17 Erik Hjorleifson \$559
  - 17 Frankie Hernandez \$559
  - 17 Jesse Engel \$559
  - 17 Johnny Archer \$559
  - 17 Nicolas Charote \$559
  - 25 Bucky Souvanthong \$400
  - 25 Demitrios Jelatis \$400
  - 25 Earl Herring \$400
  - 25 Lukas Fracasso-Verner \$400
  - 25 Matt Krah \$400
  - 25 Nick Antonakis \$400
  - 25 Oscar Dominguez \$400
  - 25 Ron Casanzio \$400

## Jan 07 - Jan 08

### Garden State Pool Tour Amateur Stop

#### Shooters Family Billiards

- Wayne, New Jersey
- 1 Juan Pena \$900
  - 2 Jaime Tavares \$450
  - 3 Jaydev Zaveri \$280

- 4 John Torp \$200
- 5 Jon Goncalves \$150
- 5 Kris Manuel \$150
- 7 Chris Weick \$110
- 7 Rick Rodriguez \$110

## Jan 07 - Jan 07

### PremierBilliards.com Q City 9-Ball Tour Event

#### Gate City Billiards Club

- Greensboro, NC
- 1 Mike Davis \$640
  - 2 Mark Bolton \$360
  - 3 Kelly Farrar \$200
  - 4 Josh Heeter \$180

## Jan 08 - Jan 08

### Mezz Cues LA 9-Ball Series Stop

#### Gladi8or Billiards

- Los Angeles, California
- 1 Spencer Ladin \$600
  - 2 Beau Runningen \$420
  - 3 Joshua Farris \$300
  - 4 Phong Ha \$200
  - 5 Alfred Martinez \$120
  - 5 Jeffrey Jamerson \$120
  - 7 Chris Wedekind \$70
  - 7 Jonah Vise \$70

## Jan 11 - Jan 15

### Music City Classic

#### JOB Billiards

- Madison, TN
- 1 Roberto Gomez \$4,000
  - 2 Jeffrey De Luna \$2,600
  - 3 Mason Koch \$1,710
  - 4 Mickey Krause \$1,090
  - 5 Billy Young \$780
  - 5 Trey Frank \$780
  - 7 Josh Roberts \$470
  - 7 Shane Wolford \$470
  - 9 David Smith \$275
  - 9 Kim Davenport \$275
  - 9 Ricky Taylor \$275

- 9 Robb Saez \$275
- 13 Eric Opitz \$190
- 13 Jerry Clayman \$190
- 13 Jonathan Hennessee \$190
- 13 Michael Gann \$190
- 17 Chris Swayney \$130
- 17 Daniel Maglott \$130
- 17 Derek Eakins \$130
- 17 Jesus Atencio \$130
- 17 Joe Coleman \$130
- 17 Mark Krech \$130
- 17 Rusty Jackson \$130
- 17 Sam Rowland \$130
- 25 Corey Sykes \$100
- 25 David Taylor \$100
- 25 Derek Formby \$100
- 25 Mike Jones \$100
- 25 Raed Shabib \$100
- 25 Rich McDonald \$100
- 25 Shannon Murphy \$100
- 25 T.J. Hammond \$100

## Jan 12 - Jan 18

### Mini Derby Open One Pocket

#### Railyard Billiards

- Louisville, KY
- 1 Fedor Gorst \$10,000
  - 2 Scott Frost \$6,000
  - 3 Tony Chohan \$3,000

## Jan 12 - Jan 18

### Mini Derby Open 10-Ball

#### Railyard Billiards

- Louisville, KY
- 1 Fedor Gorst \$4,000
  - 2 John Gabriel \$2,000
  - 3 Vitaliy Patsura \$800
  - 4 Mieszko Fortunski \$400

## Jan 12 - Jan 18

### Mini Derby Open 9-Ball

#### Railyard Billiards

- Louisville, KY
- 1 Fedor Gorst \$4,200

- 2 Bartel Czapla \$2,200
- 3 Louis Demarco \$1,100
- 4 Mieszko Fortunki \$500
- 5 John Farrar \$100
- 5 Kyle Akaloo \$100

## Jan 12 - Jan 18

### Mini Derby Open Banks Ring Game

#### Railyard Billiards

- Louisville, KY
- 1 Earl Age \$2,750
  - 1 Fedor Gorst \$2,750

## Jan 14 - Jan 14

### Tiger Florida Tour 2023 Stop 1

#### Brewlands Bar & Billiards

- Lakeland, FL
- 1 Kaylee McIntosh \$425
  - 2 Jeannie Seaver \$300
  - 3 Kim Housman \$200
  - 3 Mitchell Monk \$200
  - 5 Shanelle Loraine \$200
  - 5 Stephanie Mitchell \$200

## Jan 14 - Jan 15

### 2023 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 1 - Pro Am

#### Wolf's Den Billiards

- Roanoke, Virginia
- 1 Joey Tate \$0
  - 2 Nathan Nunes \$0
  - 3 Landon Hollingsworth \$0

## Jan 14 - Jan 15

### 2023 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 1 - 18 & Under Boys

#### Wolf's Den Billiards

- Roanoke, Virginia
- 1 Joey Tate \$0
  - 2 Eddie Vonderau \$0
  - 3 Nathan Nunes \$0

## Jan 14 - Jan 15

### 2023 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 1 - 18 & Under Girls

#### Wolf's Den Billiards

- Roanoke, Virginia

- 1 Skylar Hess \$0
- 2 Courtney Hairfield \$0
- 3 Precilia Kinsley \$0

## Jan 14 - Jan 15

### Bankshots 10-Ball Open

#### Bankshots

- Dunedin, Florida
- 1 Max Eberle \$800
  - 2 Tommy Kennedy \$560
  - 3 Scott Tollefson \$380
  - 4 Anthony Meglino \$240
  - 5 Chris Daly \$120
  - 5 Dave Stem \$120
  - 7 Jared Schlauch \$80
  - 7 Lee Heuwagen \$80

## Jan 14 - Jan 14

### 2023 DFW Ladies 9-Ball Tour Stop 1

#### Rusty's Billiards

- Arlington, TX
- 1 Krystle Suarez \$540
  - 2 Angie Kirkpatrick \$360
  - 3 Julie Collins \$250
  - 4 Tara Williams \$140
  - 5 Anna Billington \$120
  - 5 April Gonzales \$120
  - 7 Jennifer Cayot \$80
  - 7 Nancy Rios \$80

## Jan 14 - Jan 14

### PremierBilliards.com Q City 9-Ball Tour Event

#### Break Time Billiards

- Winston-Salem, NC
- 1 Kirk Overcash \$900
  - 2 Tim Nelson \$500
  - 3 Hank Powell \$350
  - 4 Runal Bhatt \$200
  - 5 Clint Clark \$100
  - 5 Josh Palozzla \$100
  - 7 Jamie Bowen \$100
  - 7 Jeff Underwood \$100

## Jan 14 - Jan 15

### 2023 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 1 - 13 & Under Girls

#### Wolf's Den Billiards

- Roanoke, Virginia
- 1 Noelle Tate \$0
  - 2 Arianna Houston \$0
  - 3 Skylar Hess \$0

## Jan 14 - Jan 15

### 2023 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 1 - 13 & Under Boys

#### Wolf's Den Billiards

- Roanoke, Virginia
- 1 Hayden Ernst \$0
  - 2 D' Angelo Spain \$0
  - 3 Jas Makhni \$0

## Jan 14 - Jan 15

### KC Clayton Memorial

#### Raxx Pool Room, Sports Bar & Grill

- West Hempstead, NY
- 1 Frank Cutrone \$2,600
  - 2 Elvis Rodriguez \$1,800
  - 3 Gordon McDaniel \$1,350
  - 4 PJ Puma \$1,050
  - 5 Caroline Pao \$700
  - 5 Esteban Morrel \$700
  - 7 Ray Lee \$350
  - 7 Troy Deocharran \$350
  - 9 Dave Callaghan \$100
  - 9 Joe DeVito \$100
  - 9 Mac Jankov \$100
  - 9 Tony Kuo \$100

## Jan 19 - Jan 22

### 2023 Kamui Women's World 9-Ball Championship

#### Harrah's Resort Atlantic City

- Atlantic City, NJ
- 1 Chieh-Yu Chou \$30,000
  - 2 Allison Fisher \$20,000
  - 3 Kristina Tkach \$12,000
  - 3 Seo Seo \$12,000
  - 5 Chezka Centeno \$6,500
  - 5 Chihiro Kawahara \$6,500
  - 5 Hye Ju Jin \$6,500
  - 5 Kelly Fisher \$6,500
  - 9 Chia Hua Chen \$4,000
  - 9 Jasmin Ouschan \$4,000
  - 9 Marharyta Fefilava \$4,000
  - 9 Melanie Suessenguth \$4,000
  - 9 Pia Filler \$4,000

9 Wan-Ling Wang \$4,000  
9 Woo-Jin Lee \$4,000  
9 Yuki Hiraguchi \$4,000  
17 Caroline Pao \$2,000  
17 Eylul Kybaroglu \$2,000  
17 Ho-Yun Chen \$2,000  
17 Karen Corr \$2,000  
17 Kristina Zlateva \$2,000  
17 Meng-Hsia Hung \$2,000  
17 Miina Tani \$2,000  
17 Rubilen Amit \$2,000

## Jan 20 - Jan 28

### Derby City Classic 2023 Bigfoot 10-Ball Challenge

#### Horseshoe Southern Indiana

Elizabeth, IN

1 Shane Van Boening \$16,000  
2 Konrad Juszczyszyn \$8,000  
3 Lee Vann Corteza \$4,000  
3 Roberto Gomez \$4,000

## Jan 20 - Jan 28

### Derby City Classic 2023 Bank Pool Division

#### Horseshoe Southern Indiana

Elizabeth, IN

1 Fedor Gorst \$16,000  
2 Evan Lunda \$8,000  
3 Raed Shabib \$5,700  
4 Gerson Martinez \$4,000  
4 Joshua Filler \$4,000  
6 Mika Immonen \$2,700  
6 Roberto Gomez \$2,700  
6 Roland Garcia \$2,700  
9 Alex Pagulayan \$1,700  
9 Billy Thorpe \$1,700  
9 Jayson Shaw \$1,700  
9 Louis Demarco \$1,700  
9 Mickey Krause \$1,700  
9 Mitch Ellerman \$1,700  
15 Brett Hall \$1,000  
15 Efren Reyes \$1,000  
15 Eric Krause \$1,000  
15 Josh Roberts \$1,000  
15 Lukas Fracasso-Verner \$1,000  
15 Robert Frost \$1,000  
15 Scott Frost \$1,000  
15 Shane Van Boening \$1,000  
15 Shannon Daulton \$1,000  
15 Shannon Murphy \$1,000

15 Tony Chohan \$1,000  
26 Charles Mora \$550  
26 David Matlock \$550  
26 Jesse Engel \$550  
26 Jesus Atencio \$550  
26 Justin Hall \$550  
26 Mieszko Fortunski \$550  
26 Shawn Bell \$550  
26 Suad Kantaravic \$550  
26 Tim Diaz \$550  
35 Brandon Shuff \$400  
35 Chris Szuter \$400  
35 Corey Deuel \$400  
35 Glen Rogers \$400  
35 Jacob White \$400  
35 Jason Miller \$400  
35 Jerry Calderon \$400  
35 Joshua Burbul \$400  
35 Justin Martin \$400  
35 Lee Vann Corteza \$400  
35 Marc Horsting \$400  
35 Mel Taylor \$400  
35 Michael DeLawder \$400  
35 Michael Laney \$400  
35 Muqaddim Abdulhaqq \$400  
35 Samuel Kirby \$400  
35 Sergio Rivas \$400  
35 Stephen Holem \$400  
35 Troy Jones \$400  
54 Alvin Anggito \$300  
54 Alvin Randall \$300  
54 Benjamin Baier \$300  
54 Billy Young \$300  
54 Christopher Span \$300  
54 Clay Carman \$300  
54 Clay Davis \$300  
54 Danny Olson \$300  
54 David Krenzel \$300  
54 Dennis Wilson \$300  
54 Estel Walton \$300  
54 George Hershman \$300  
54 Greg Randall \$300  
54 Ike Runnels \$300  
54 James Davee \$300  
54 John Adams \$300  
54 John Morra \$300  
54 Kim Dyer \$300  
54 Mac Ashby \$300  
54 Matt Clark \$300  
54 Michael Almodovar \$300  
54 Mike Ford \$300  
54 Randy Flakes \$300  
54 Richard Kravitz \$300

54 Shahn Hunter \$300  
54 Shane Wolford \$300  
54 Skyler Woodward \$300  
54 Spencer Ladin \$300  
54 Tony Raga \$300  
54 Tyler Styer \$300  
84 Al Fricano \$250  
84 Ben Jones \$250  
84 Bernard Walker \$250  
84 Brad Black \$250  
84 Brett Snowden \$250  
84 Brett Underwood \$250  
84 Brian Wilson \$250  
84 Chris Shingleton \$250  
84 Craig Van deWettering \$250  
84 Dan Fisher \$250  
84 David Grossman \$250  
84 David J. Schroerlucke \$250  
84 Dee Adkins \$250  
84 Demitrios Jelatis \$250  
84 Elliott Sanderson \$250  
84 Eric Chumbley \$250  
84 Frankie Ruiz \$250  
84 Garrett Waechter \$250  
84 Gary Bradshaw \$250  
84 Gavin Tinkey \$250  
84 Greg Estes \$250  
84 Jeff Lawrence \$250  
84 Jeffrey De Luna \$250  
84 Jeremy Slye \$250  
84 John Gabriel \$250  
84 John Reese \$250  
84 Jonathan Pinegar \$250  
84 Justin Turner \$250  
84 Kyle Bova \$250  
84 Kyle Ferguson \$250  
84 Matt Nicholas \$250  
84 Naoyuki Oi \$250  
84 Nick De Leon \$250  
84 Pijus Labutis \$250  
84 Ray Schultz \$250  
84 Reggie Cutler \$250  
84 Richard Andrews \$250  
84 Richie Richeson \$250  
84 Ricky Taylor \$250  
84 Robert Jones \$250  
84 Rusty Jackson \$250  
84 Sullivan Clark \$250  
84 Tom Lantz \$250  
84 Tristan Kinman \$250

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## Jan 20 - Jan 28

### Derby City Classic 2023 One Pocket Division

#### Horseshoe Southern Indiana

Elizabeth, IN

- 1 Tony Chohan \$16,000
- 2 Jonathan Pinegar \$8,200
- 3 Efren Reyes \$6,300
- 4 Skyler Woodward \$4,500
- 5 Alex Pagulayan \$3,000
- 5 Joshua Filler \$3,000
- 7 Evan Lunda \$1,700
- 7 John Morra \$1,700
- 7 Josh Roberts \$1,700
- 7 Justin Hall \$1,700
- 7 Mitch Ellerman \$1,700
- 7 Tony Raga \$1,700
- 13 Billy Thorpe \$1,000
- 13 Corey Deuel \$1,000
- 13 David Krenzle \$1,000
- 13 Gerson Martinez \$1,000
- 13 Jason Brown \$1,000
- 13 Louis Demarco \$1,000
- 13 Roberto Gomez \$1,000
- 13 Roland Garcia \$1,000
- 21 Alex Montpellier \$600
- 21 Anthony Meglino \$600
- 21 Blaine Barcus \$600
- 21 Jason Steman \$600
- 21 Jerry Calderon \$600
- 21 John Schmidt \$600
- 21 Justin Martin \$600
- 21 Kenny Loftis \$600
- 21 Robert Jones \$600
- 21 Shane Wolford \$600
- 21 Suad Kantaravic \$600
- 21 Tyler Styer \$600
- 33 Curtis Thornton \$400
- 33 Daniel Wardrop \$400
- 33 Darren Everett \$400
- 33 David Grossman \$400
- 33 Jeremy Seaman \$400
- 33 Jerry Matchin \$400
- 33 Mario Stahl \$400
- 33 Peter Lau \$400
- 33 Richie Richeson \$400
- 33 Rob Hart \$400
- 33 Shane Van Boening \$400
- 33 Shannon Murphy \$400
- 33 Tom Zippler \$400
- 46 Adam Wheeler \$300
- 46 Alan Rosado \$300

- 46 Billy Young \$300
- 46 Charlie Bryant \$300
- 46 Chris Szuter \$300
- 46 Clay Davis \$300
- 46 Danny Olson \$300
- 46 David Ferguson \$300
- 46 David Matlock \$300
- 46 Dennis Wilson \$300
- 46 Dexter Audain \$300
- 46 Elliott Sanderson \$300
- 46 Fedor Gorst \$300
- 46 Hunter Smutney \$300
- 46 Ike Runnels \$300
- 46 Jeffrey De Luna \$300
- 46 Jesse Engel \$300
- 46 Josh Heeter \$300
- 46 Justin Volk \$300
- 46 Lee Vann Corteza \$300
- 46 Naoyuki Oi \$300
- 46 Neil Jacobs \$300
- 46 Robert Frost \$300
- 69 Andrew Mackey \$250
- 69 Brett Underwood \$250
- 69 Brian Francis \$250
- 69 Charles Mora \$250
- 69 Curtis Mcculston \$250
- 69 David Broxson \$250
- 69 Demitrios Jelatis \$250
- 69 Dominic Brikho \$250
- 69 Garrett Harsey \$250
- 69 Issa Eadeh \$250
- 69 James McCrary \$250
- 69 Jayson Shaw \$250
- 69 Jeff Peele \$250
- 69 John Clayton \$250
- 69 John Daminato \$250
- 69 Joshua Burbul \$250
- 69 Justin Turner \$250
- 69 Ken Lee \$250
- 69 Koka Davladze \$250
- 69 Konrad Juszcyszyn \$250
- 69 Marc Vidal Claramunt \$250
- 69 Marty Turpin \$250
- 69 Michael DeLawder \$250
- 69 Mieszko Fortunski \$250
- 69 Miguel Laboy \$250
- 69 Mike Lullo \$250
- 69 Murat Hraishawi \$250
- 69 Paul Age \$250
- 69 Pijus Labutis \$250
- 69 Ray Shultz \$250
- 69 Reggie Cutler \$250
- 69 Richard Kravitz \$250

- 69 Robert Wilkerson \$250
- 69 Scott Frost \$250
- 69 Sergio Rivas \$250
- 69 Shawn Johnston \$250
- 69 Somerfield Habener \$250
- 69 Stephen Holem \$250
- 69 Steve Wells \$250
- 69 Tyler Fleishman \$250
- 69 Vitaliy Patsura \$250

## Jan 20 - Jan 28

### Derby City Classic 2023 9-Ball Division

#### Horseshoe Southern Indiana

Elizabeth, IN

- 1 Fedor Gorst \$16,000
- 2 Shane Van Boening \$7,500
- 3 Alex Pagulayan \$5,500
- 4 Roland Garcia \$4,000
- 5 Joshua Filler \$3,100
- 5 Robbie Capito \$3,100
- 5 Skyler Woodward \$3,100
- 8 Donny Mills \$2,300
- 8 Jayson Shaw \$2,300
- 8 Tyler Styer \$2,300
- 11 Jesse Engel \$1,700
- 11 Kenny Loftis \$1,700
- 11 Max Eberle \$1,700
- 11 Mieszko Fortunski \$1,700
- 11 Shannon Murphy \$1,700
- 11 Tony Chohan \$1,700
- 17 Billy Thorpe \$1,100
- 17 Elliott Sanderson \$1,100
- 17 Jeffrey De Luna \$1,100
- 17 John Morra \$1,100
- 17 Konrad Juszcyszyn \$1,100
- 17 Mika Immonen \$1,100
- 17 Naoyuki Oi \$1,100
- 17 Pijus Labutis \$1,100
- 17 Roberto Gomez \$1,100
- 26 Chris Reinhold \$700
- 26 Danny Olson \$700
- 26 Gerson Martinez \$700
- 26 Jesus Atencio \$700
- 26 Lee Vann Corteza \$700
- 26 Louis Demarco \$700
- 26 Martinez Kantarevic \$700
- 26 Oscar Dominguez \$700
- 26 Ray Shultz \$700
- 35 Abrin Schaad \$400
- 35 Alex Montpellier \$400
- 35 Bartel Czapla \$400

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35 Efren Reyes \$400  
35 Evan Lunda \$400  
35 Jeff Beckley \$400  
35 Joshua Burbul \$400  
35 Julio Burgos \$400  
35 Kristina Zlateva \$400  
35 Marc Vidal Claramunt \$400  
35 Marharyta Fefilava \$400  
35 Matt Carman \$400  
35 Michael Levick \$400  
35 Mike Newsome \$400  
35 Nick Van Allen \$400  
35 Raymond Linares \$400  
35 Robert Patrick \$400  
35 Scott Frost \$400  
35 Tony Raga \$400  
35 Vitaliy Patsura \$400  
59 Adam Croft \$300  
59 Al Hammond \$300  
59 Alan Rosado \$300  
59 Ben Jones \$300  
59 Brandon Shuff \$300  
59 Curtis Mccuiston \$300  
59 Eddie Yeager \$300  
59 Grayston Scott \$300  
59 Hunter Lombardo \$300  
59 Jason McKenzie \$300  
59 Jeremy Sossei \$300  
59 Jonathan Pinegar \$300  
59 Josh Manes \$300  
59 Koka Davladze \$300  
59 Mickey Krause \$300  
59 Mike Dechaine \$300  
59 Mike Mertins \$300  
59 Mitchell Maynard \$300  
59 Robert Hall \$300  
59 Ruben Bautista \$300  
59 Shane Wolford \$300  
59 Stephen Holem \$300  
59 Steve Hickman \$300  
82 Adam Maloney \$250  
82 Alex Blair \$250  
82 Alex Hepp \$250  
82 Alvin Anggito \$250  
82 Anthony Meglino \$250  
82 Benjamin Baier \$250  
82 Bill Fowler \$250

82 Brady Behrman \$250  
82 Brandon Van Overbeke \$250  
82 Bret Huth \$250  
82 Brett Underwood \$250  
82 Brian Francis \$250  
82 Brian Wilson \$250  
82 Chad Fairchild \$250  
82 Clint McMurphy \$250  
82 Dale Ding \$250  
82 Dan Louie \$250  
82 David Matlock \$250  
82 Derek Pogirski \$250  
82 Emily Sumrall \$250  
82 Emilyn Callado \$250  
82 Greg Hogue \$250  
82 J. Rother \$250  
82 Jason Casey \$250  
82 Jason Netherton \$250  
82 John Gabriel \$250  
82 Josh Roberts \$250  
82 JR Harris \$250  
82 Justin Stewart \$250  
82 Justin Volk \$250  
82 Kamran Jehle \$250  
82 Kenny Tran \$250  
82 Kevin Brown \$250  
82 Lance Chrisman \$250  
82 Mario Stahl \$250  
82 Matthew Deck \$250  
82 Melissa Smith \$250  
82 Michael DeLawder \$250  
82 Nickolas Kontos \$250  
82 Paul Roeraade \$250  
82 Richard Andrews \$250  
82 Rick Gilliam \$250  
82 Ryan Oneill \$250  
82 Sean King \$250  
82 Sergio Rivas \$250  
82 Sullivan Clark \$250  
82 Tony Boyd \$250

## Jan 20 - Jan 28

### Derby City Classic 2023 Master of the Table

#### Horseshoe Southern Indiana

Elizabeth, IN  
1 Fedor Gorst \$20,000  
2 Tony Chohan \$3,000  
3 Alex Pagulayan \$2,000

## Jan 20 - Jan 28

### Derby City Classic 2023 9-Ball Mini

#### Horseshoe Southern Indiana

Elizabeth, IN  
1 Marc Vidal Claramunt \$800  
2 Mario Stahl \$400  
3 David Conroy \$200  
3 Ruben Bautista \$200  
5 Bhambri Sanchay \$50  
5 Frank Hartung \$50  
5 Giancarlo Delgado \$50  
5 Keith Young \$50

## Jan 20 - Jan 28

### Derby City Classic 2023 One Pocket Mini

#### Horseshoe Southern Indiana

Elizabeth, IN  
1 Anthony Meglino \$600  
2 Thomas Kirsch \$400  
3 Neil Jacobs \$400  
4 John Buffe \$200  
5 Benjamin Baier \$50  
5 Chris Shingleton \$50  
5 Jeffrey Jimenez \$50  
5 Peter Lau \$50

## Jan 20 - Jan 28

### Derby City Classic 2023 Bank Pool Mini

#### Horseshoe Southern Indiana

Elizabeth, IN  
1 Tim Diaz \$600  
2 Scott Cohen \$600  
3 J. Rother \$250  
3 Shannon Murphy \$250  
5 Benjamin Baier \$125  
5 Mario Stahl \$125  
5 Michael DeLawder \$125  
5 Rob Hart \$125  
9 Corey Eulas \$50  
9 Earl Age \$50  
9 Jackie Roe \$50  
9 Michael Levick \$50  
9 Mike Berezny \$50  
9 Peter Lau \$50  
9 Troy Honeycutt \$50

## Jan 21 - Jan 22

### 2023 DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop 1

#### Rusty's Billiards

Arlington, TX

- 1 Greg Sandifer \$1,770
- 2 Randy Staggs \$1,130
- 3 Jeff Sullivan \$840
- 4 Telly Shackelford \$720
- 5 Clint Freeman \$500
- 5 Juan Garcia \$500
- 7 Brandon Denman \$300
- 7 Mark Lawson \$300
- 9 Jennifer Hooten \$170
- 9 Juan Parra \$170
- 9 Ryan Lane \$170
- 9 Tony Top \$170
- 13 Don Baker \$140
- 13 Francisco Pineda \$140
- 13 Joshua Paredes \$140
- 13 Justin Espinosa \$140
- 17 Anna Weems \$120
- 17 Brian Cady \$120
- 17 Dave White \$120
- 17 Joe Pelayo \$120
- 17 Marc Oler \$120
- 17 Noel Torres \$120

- 17 Robert Kempf \$120
- 17 Robert Reighter \$120

## Jan 21 - Jan 21

### Predator Tri State Tour 2023 Stop

#### Shooter's Family Billiards

Wayne, NJ

- 1 Pascal Dufresne \$735
- 2 Rachel Lang \$440
- 3 Daniel Feliciano \$270
- 4 Kris Manuel \$180
- 5 Clint Pires \$115
- 5 Eduardo Cardova \$115
- 7 Brook Villa \$80
- 7 Steve Persaud \$80
- 9 Bob Toomey \$60
- 9 Brenda Martinez \$60
- 9 Gustavo Ardon \$60
- 9 Julien Tierney \$60

## Jan 28 - Jan 28

### PremierBilliards.com Q City 9-Ball Tour Event

#### Randolph's Billiards

Hickory, NC

- 1 Hunter White \$800
- 2 Jeff Abernathy \$525
- 3 Ian Watson \$275
- 4 Thomas Sansone \$175
- 5 Marcus Pendley \$100
- 5 Matt Lumston \$100

## Jan 28 - Jan 29

### 9th Annual Dick Cox Memorial

#### Action Lounge and Billiards





















Leonardtwn, Maryland

- 1 Mike Davis \$1,400
- 2 Brett Stottlemeyer \$900
- 3 Joe Wright \$500
- 4 Danny Mastermaker \$325
- 5 Aj Nicholas \$225
- 5 Rick Winpigler \$225
- 7 Clinton Clayton \$150
- 7 Tom Zippler \$150
- 9 Charlie Mattingly \$100
- 9 Joe Stem \$100
- 9 John Hergett \$100
- 9 Steve Johnson \$100
- 13 Don Hanks \$75
- 13 Jason Masri \$75
- 13 Joey Mastermaker \$75
- 13 Rakib Hasan \$75

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	NAME	COUNTRY	\$ AMOUNT
	Fedor Gorst	 RUS	\$75,950.00
	Chieh-Yu Chou	 TPE	\$30,000.00
	Shane Van Boening	 USA	\$24,900.00
	Tony Chohan	 USA	\$24,700.00
	Allison Fisher	 GBR	\$20,000.00
	Skyler Woodward	 USA	\$14,400.00
	Jayson Shaw	 SCO	\$14,250.00
	Roberto Gomez	 PHI	\$12,800.00
	Alex Pagulayan	 CAN	\$12,200.00
	Kristina Tkach	 RUS	\$12,000.00

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# Upcoming Tournaments

Each month *Billiards Buzz* looks ahead at the events on our calendar to give both players and fans the information they may use to plan their activities.

## FEBRUARY

### World Pool Championship 2023

**Feb 01 - Feb 05**

Targi Kielce Exhibition & Congress Centre  
Kielce, Poland

### 2023 Cajun Coast Classic

**Feb 02 - Feb 05**

Pool Do's Sports Bar  
Morgan City, Louisiana

### Arizona Women's Billiards Tour 2023 Stop 1

**Feb 04 - Feb 05**

Bullshooters  
Phoenix, AZ

### Mezz Cues LA 9-Ball Series Stop

**Feb 05 - Feb 05**

Gladi8or Billiards  
Los Angeles, California

### 6th Stella Artois Open

**Feb 10 - Feb 14**

Belgium

### Skinny Bob's Nineball Classic

**Feb 14 - Feb 20**

Skinny Bob's Billiards  
Round Rock, Texas

### Northeast 9-Ball Open XXXIV

**Feb 18 - Feb 19**

Sharpshooters Billiards & Sports Pub  
Amsterdam, NY

### Southwest Cactus Open

**Feb 18 - Feb 19**

Main Street Billiards  
Mesa, AZ

### Tiger Florida Tour 2023 Stop 2

**Feb 18 - Feb 18**

Stix Billiards Oldsmar  
Tampa, Florida

### 2023 Alfa Las Vegas Open

**Feb 22 - Feb 26**

Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino  
Las Vegas, NV

### Alfa Women's Las Vegas Open 2023

**Feb 24 - Feb 27**

Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino  
Las Vegas, NV

### WPA World 10-Ball Championship 2023

**Feb 28 - Mar 04**

Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino  
Las Vegas, NV

### Mezz Cues LA 9-Ball Series Stop

**Mar 05 - Mar 05**

Gladi8or Billiards  
Los Angeles, California

### Joss Tour 2022-2023 Stop 12

**Mar 11 - Mar 12**

Utica Billiards On The Boulevard  
Utica, New York

### Arizona Women's Billiards Tour 2023 Stop 2

**Mar 11 - Feb 12**

Skip and Jan's Sports Bar  
Gilbert, Arizona

### WPBA Sondheim Kiwanis Invitational

**Mar 15 - Mar 19**

Fairfield Arts and Convention Center  
Fairfield, Iowa

### Joss Tour 2022-2023 Stop 13

**Mar 18 - Mar 19**

Brickhouse Billiards  
N. Syracuse, New York

### Tiger Florida Tour 2023 Stop 3

**Mar 25 - Mar 25**

Brewlands Bar & Billiards  
Lakeland, FL

### Capone's 2023 Florida Pro Cup Series Stop 1

**Mar 29 - Apr 03**

Capone's Billiard Lounge  
Spring Hill, FL

# Readers,

THIS IS YOUR **CHANCE**  
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RIGHT HERE IN THE PAGE OF THE **BILLIARDS BUZZ.**

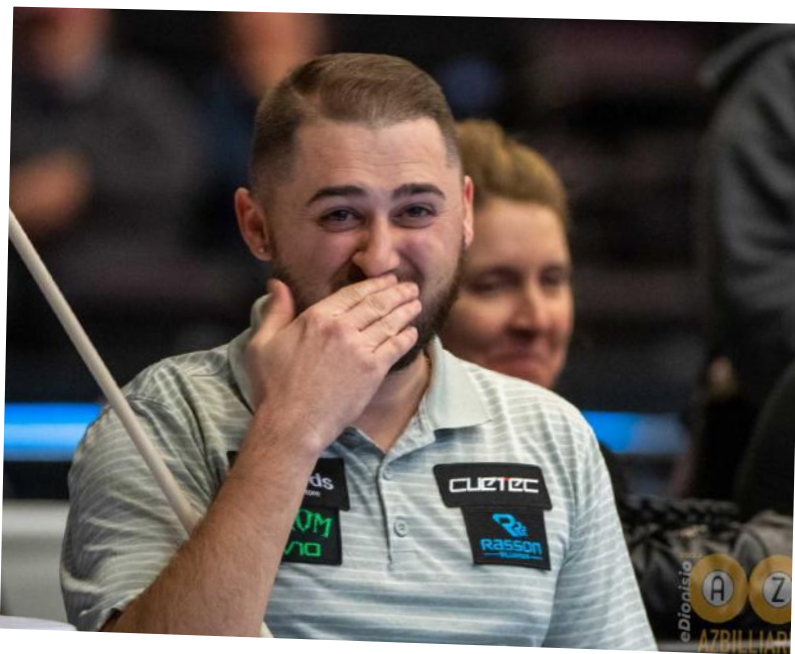
WE ARE POSTING

**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.**

Thanks to Erwin Dionisio for this month's photo. The winning caption was suggested by Luis Cortez on Facebook. His suggestion was "He thinks he has a chance. Lol"



*He thinks he has a chance. Lol*

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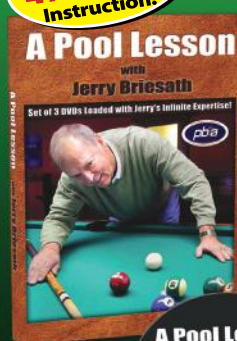
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- Jeanette "The Black Widow" Lee

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