

Billiards Buzz

an  publication

vol.8, Issue July 2023



Dang Right

Volume 8, Issue #81

5115 N Dysart Rd #202-123
Litchfield Park, Az 85392
Ph: 678-919-7665
info@azbilliards.com

Brought to you by the team at
AzBilliards.com

CONTRIBUTORS:

Skip Maloney
Phil Capelle
Anthony Beeler
Steve Lillis
Erwin Dionisio
Tim Gallagher

Matt Lynch - Matchroom Multi Sport
Matchroom Multi Sport
EPBF
Junior International Championship

COVER PHOTO:

Taka Wu - Matchroom Multi Sport

GRAPHICS AND LAYOUT:

Natasha Dolovacki
Nebojsa Dolovacki

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

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

FROM THE Head Rail

MIKE HOWERTON

In honor of the year being halfway over, I thought I might channel my inner "Karmack the Great" this month, (I know, I am showing my age here) and talk about predictions for the rest of the year.

I think it is looking pretty safe to predict that Team USA will have two Shane's on the team this year.

I think in the very near future, Kristina will beat Allison in a finals. And when she does, the rest of the ladies might have a hard time keeping her out of the winners circle for a while. Speaking of the ladies, I don't think it's going to be too long before we see a German player in the WPBA winners circle. Maybe more than one.

With how often we are seeing a new face winning a major men's title out there, it would be pretty easy to predict that October's International 9-Ball will have a new winner, but just like it used to be said that you could lose a lot of money betting against Efren, I think nowadays you can lose a lot of money betting against Jayson in Norkolf.

Finally, we had a hard time choosing a Men's Player of the Year last year, and with this year halfway over, I have no idea who the favorite is to win the title this year.

Until next time
Mike



becue

BIO95
CARE **95**
— CUE LINE —

SHAFT
DEGREASER

CUE BUTT & SHAFT
CLEANER

CUE BUTT
POLISH



becue

BIO95
CARE **95**
— CUE LINE —

CUE BUTT & SHAFT
MAINTENANCE KIT
Biodegradable & Hypoallergenic Cleaning Products
for all types of billiard cue butts & shafts

PERFECT FOR
CARBON FIBER
AND **WOOD**

MAINTENANCE KIT

THE NEW WAY TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR WHOLE CUE





16 Dang Jin Hu Wins Spanish Open

Story by Matt Lynch - Matchroom Multi Sport / Photos courtesy Taka Wu - Matchroom Multi Sport



18 Kaci captures UK Open Title

Story by Matt Lynch - Matchroom Multi Sport / Photos courtesy Taka Wu - Matchroom Multi Sport



20 Kelly Fisher wins Iron City Open

Story by Skip Maloney - AzB Staff / Photos courtesy WPBA

06 Recovery Routes

Phil Capelle

10 How To Close

Anthony Beeler

12 World Class Pool

14 Gospel Trick Shots

Steve Lillis

24 Juszczyszyn Wins Maiden Nineball Title

Story by Matt Lynch - Matchroom Multi Sport / Photo courtesy Erwin Dionisio

26 Wolford Improves Mosconi Cup Standings With Cali Win

Story by Matt Lynch - Matchroom Multi Sport / Photo courtesy Erwin Dionisio

28 Fracasso-Verner Undefeated at Ginky Memorial

Story by Matt Lynch - Matchroom Multi Sport / Photos courtesy Erwin Dionisio

30 New Names Take Top Billing at JIC

Story by Skip Maloney - AzB Staff / Photos courtesy JIC

34 Maks Benko Wants More

Story by Matt Lynch - Matchroom Multi Sport / Photos courtesy Taka Wu - Matchroom Multi Sport

36 EPBF European Championship Medal Winners

38 Neuhausen Joins Team Cuetec

40 Pool World Loses Danny Janes

42 Caroline Pao Gets Onboard

44 Tournament Results

48 Upcoming Events

49 AzBilliards Money List

What does FORTIS mean?
Fortis < (latin); strong, firm, powerful



POWER UNLEASHED!

P20

Onyx 12.0 mm Tip

IB+ Ferrule

LD

Sniper 12.5 mm Tip

IB+ Ferrule

MLNST*

*Multi - Layer Nanotube Seamless Technology



FORTIS[®]
BY TIGER
CARBON FIBER SHAFTS

Available for all major joint types.

www.tigerproducts.com





Recovery Routes

RECOVERY ROUTES vs. OUT SHOTS

In last month's column I discussed Out Shots. These are challenging shots that you mostly inherit from your opponent via their missed shots, safeties, and push outs. It is also possible that an Out Shot may appear in during a run because of the inherent difficulty of a particular shot, not because you made a mistake. Recovery Routes (RR), the subject of this month's column, are also tough shots, but they appear during you runout attempts as a result of Position Play Errors! Big difference.

ADVICE FOR SERIOUS PLAYERS

Any player who is serious enough about their game to have reached the C- level or above is ready to acquire a working knowledge of RR. RR, as the name implies, are position routes that are employed when you miss your position zone, and must play a challenging route to get back *in-line* (see definitions).

The relevance of the RR concept depends in large part on your level of skill. If you are a C Player (average), a good percentage of your position plays will be difficult because of missed position, or because you are still learning to play the basic routes. Still, it can help to look ahead to the kind of game that you aspire to – one where you DO play good to excellent position on most shots, and you are not forced to resort to playing a RR so frequently.

Run out attempts by B Players (above average) are a mixture of mostly well-played position routes and, typically, two to three RR per game. Players at this level can increasingly tell when a rack is the kind that they can run out providing they maintain control of the cue ball. And these players may have the ability to execute most of the RR that they encounter.

The concept of RR has the most relevance for those of who are A- Players or above. These players are

skilled enough to hit their position zones on most shots. Still, in a typical rack – the kind they know they are fully capable of running out – there could be those one or two shots where they are forced to play a RR.

These players have the knowledge to identify a position route (a RR) that can enable them to get back into line, and they possess the skills to play it. As a result, the need to play RR is expected, and is as a normal part of the process of running out.

WATCH THE PROS

I strongly advocate that you watch tapes of the best pros in the world. Many of these can be found in the superbly curated collection of pro matches at Accu-Stats.com.

In today's world of pro pool, I especially like the games of Joshua Filler, Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz, and Eklent Kaci. These three have the ability to make their run outs look SO easy. They are able to

run out with such apparent ease is because they mostly Stay-In-Line, shot after shot after shot, until the game ball is pocketed. Still, even these masters miss position – and I love it when they do because they are then forced to showcase their skills at playing RR! In the examples below I will be featuring several varieties of RR, including a 4-railer by Filler in a recent event.

DEVELOPING YOUR EYE FOR POSITION PLAYS

As your game progresses, you will develop your eye for what good position looks like. You will know when the cue ball has stopped in your position zone, enabling you to play a "regular" route to the next ball. You will also be able to tell when you have missed position, but not so badly that you have to play abandon your run and play safe. These mistakes require that you rise to the challenge and execute a RR well enough that you are able to get

back in sync with your plan for running the rack. Keep in mind that you will occasionally may be required to play two RR in succession to in order to regain control of the cue ball.

A SAMPLER OF RECOVERY ROUTES

The list below is but a small sampling of the kind of shots where a RR is needed. You will, naturally, come across so many more in your matches.

A Thin Cut – It could be an angle beyond your comfort zone – possibly a 55-degree cut when 45-degrees is a challenge for you. Thin cuts often require several trips across the table and they may possibly require a power stroke of about 6+, or greater.

A Power Stroke – A speed of 7+ (hard) may be needed. RR in this category include Pound Shots, Massive Draw Shots, and Long Follow Shots.

Intricate Position Routes – These RR are fraught with danger as scratches, hooks, and Shadow Balls stand ready to derail your run out attempt.

Using The Bridge! – Even with extenders, you may find yourself needing to use the bridge. Since no one purposefully plays shape for a shot where a bridge will be needed, this category of position plays are, by definition, RR!

DEFINITIONS

In-Line – When you have good to great position.

Recovery Route (RR) – A position route that enables you to recover from a mistake, and to get Back-In-Line.

Out-of-Line – A failure to get adequate position, forcing the need for a RR, or a safety.

Stay-In-Line – Playing a succession of good to great position plays, the kind that enable you to keep your runs as simple as possible.

Back-In-Line – A successful recovery route that results in good to great shape.

EXAMPLES OF RECOVERY ROUTES

It's been said (at least by me) that, "A pool diagram

is worth 1,000 words to serious students of our fine sport." And so, without further ado, lets pop the hood and take a look at a few examples of RR.

FILLER'S MASTERPIECE

Joshua Filler was planning to play a routine 2-rail route from Position A to Position C for a simple shot on the 9-ball as shown in **Diagram #1**. But the cue ball stopped at Position B, leaving him with a thin cut on the 8-ball.

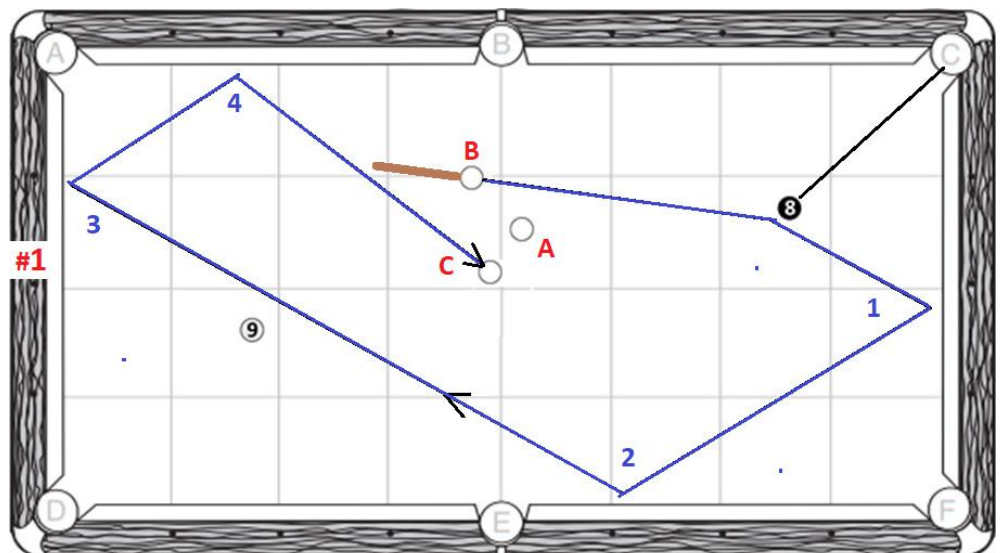
Filler could have used a soft stroke, but he does not normally favor one from this distance. So he, instead, put his superb pool playing imagination to work and was able to conjure up the 4-rail route shown below. The cue ball traveled over 210" (equal to more than two table lengths) before cruising to a stop in near perfect position for the 9-ball!

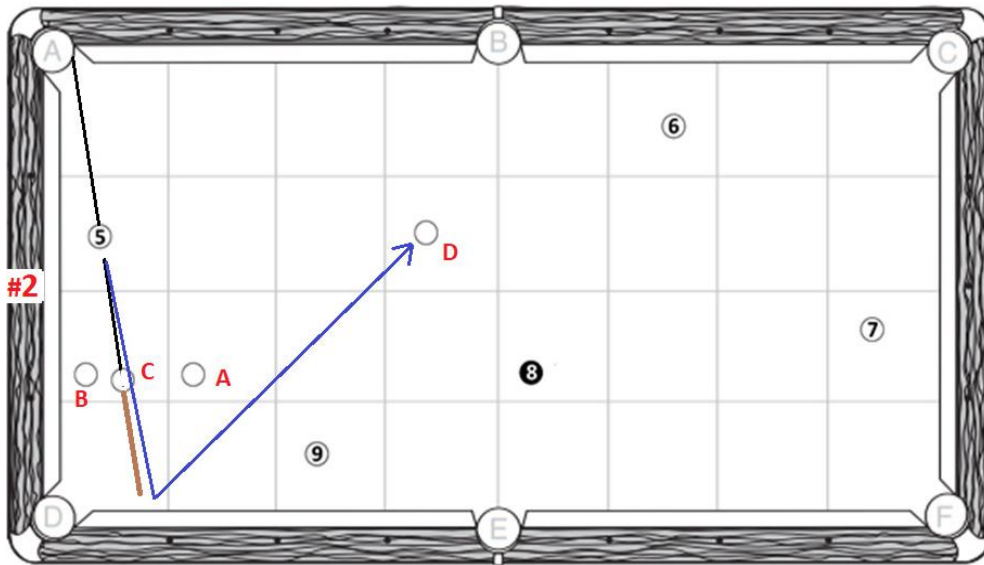
Filler's RR was an exquisite blend of skill at planning, pocketing, directional control, and speed control – skills that we expect to see displayed by the player with the world's highest Fargo Rating (843).

A COMMON BLUNDER

Even the best players in the world will sometimes leave themselves with a straight in shot when the object ball is next to an end rail, and when they need to send the cue ball up the table for their next shot! So, if pros can regularly fall into this trap, it figures that amateurs will also make this mistake on a regular basis.

In **Diagram #2**, Positions A and B each have a cut angle that make sending the cue ball up table for shape on the 6-ball a breeze. However, our player left himself straight in on the 5-ball at Position C, creating the need for a RR.





This RR is played with low left english and a medium hard stroke (6). The proper cueing and speed will send the cue ball off the side rail and up table to at or close to Position D. Notice how the english opened the angle off the side rail, creating the proper path. In addition, the spin also helped to propel the cue ball up the table. Following this RR, our player is Back-In-Line and is primed to complete his runout!

play the 4-ball from Position A. With this 15-degree cut, sending the cue ball to Position C (or close to it) for good shape on the 5 would not have presented much of a problem.

However, the cue ball stopped at Position B. Now our lucky player got to show the world his skill at playing a Thin Cut Multiple-Crossings RR! A touch of inside (right) english will

eliminate the potential for a scratch in the side. This shot requires good speed control while using a hard stroke (7), which is never easy. And, since this is such a thin cut (58-degrees), he will have to aim with great care. As a result, on a shot like this I would advise that you add at least 2-3 warm-up strokes so you have enough time to get really dialed into the aim and the speed that's required.

A MINDSET FOR RR

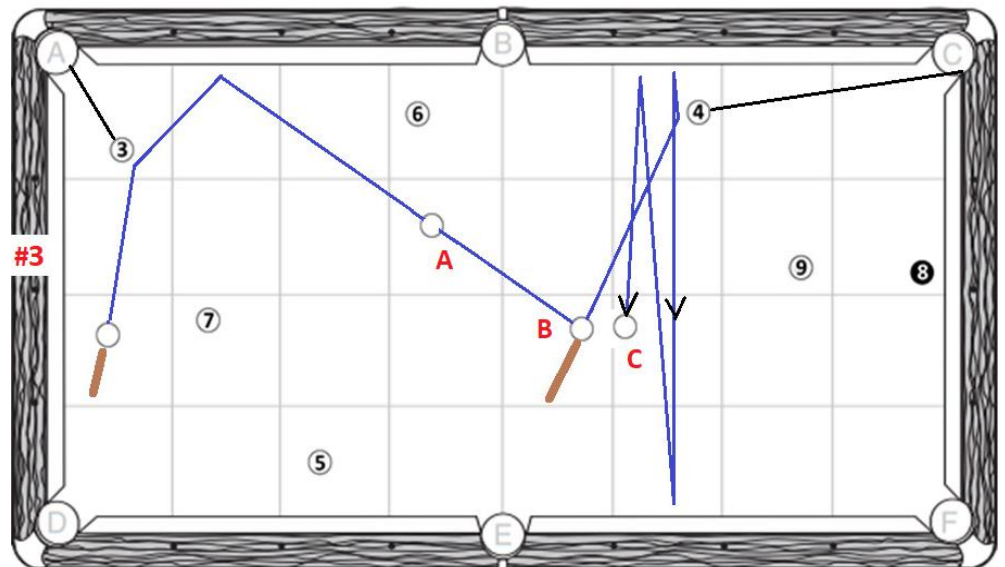
Pool is such an amazing sport. We can experience run outs in which the cue ball is kept on that proverbial string clear through to the gamewinner – the kind that bring us a jolt of satisfaction when completed.

And then there are the position plays that go astray – the ones that enable us to demonstrate our skills with a RR. So, when you do face a RR, don't bemoan your fate. Instead, put on your creative shot planning hat and devise an alternative route that will enable you to get Back-In-Line.

Once you have your route in mind, it's then time to enjoy the challenge of executing what Billy Incardona would call "a real pool shot." When the dust settles, take a moment to admire your handiwork because you certainly deserve to heap a little confidence building praise upon yourself!

2.5 TABLE CROSSINGS!

In **Diagram #3** our player is attempting to get shape on the 4-ball while cutting the 3-ball into the upper left corner pocket. As you know, pattern play in 9-Ball and 10-Ball is largely about playing three balls at a time. In this case, our player is trying to leave a relatively simple route from the 4 (the second ball) to the 5-ball. Imagine what it would have been like to



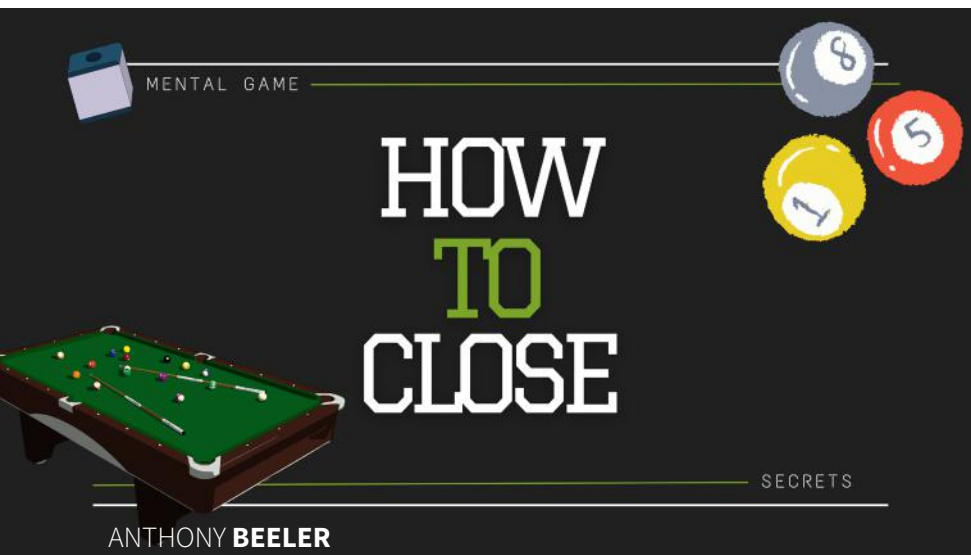


OLD GLORY

UNLEASH YOUR AMERICAN SPIRIT

DISCOVER MORE
becueofficial.com





Pretty much every billiards instructional book on the market teaches you the proper stance, grip, bridge, and stroke.

These skills are essential, but most authors and teaching pros leave out the final chapter: How to Close. You can deliver the world's most elegant pool stroke, but you're not going to get very far if you can't use it to win the final game of a match.

The difficulty is that people start to think of themselves as chokers. There's no such thing. A choker is just a person who's still learning to be clutch. With that hopeful idea in mind, here's my 10-step plan on how to close.

1. Practice with Pressure

Everyone reacts to pressure differently, so before you can overcome your nerves, you need to discover how they manifest for you. Put yourself in tight situations and you'll find out what your tendencies are. Schedule matches with players who are competitive with you, but who you feel you should beat. The prospect of losing to someone lower on the totem pole should get your nervous juices flowing. Pay attention to what happens when they

do— do you start to push, do you go for too much? Whatever your issue is, you can begin to combat it.

2. Practice Your Break

The better your break is, the easier it will be to close out matches. The break is the only shot that can give you the perfect opportunity to spread the balls and close out the match without your opponent getting out of their chair. But like any stroke, it can also break down under pressure, so practice it.

3. Control

Self-confidence isn't a state of being it's a step-by-step process you must constantly repeat. Develop a well-defined pre-shot routine and follow it to a tee. When you've prepared properly for a match, it's easier to keep any doubts you have about winning at bay.

4. Prepare Your Mind & Body

Research has increasingly shown that the same issues that cause players

to break down physically also cause them to break down mentally. You can choke because you're not properly hydrated, or if you haven't slept enough. If you're not physically ready for a match, you won't be as ready mentally, and you'll get frustrated more easily.

5. Harness Nervous Energy

Nerves are essential to helping you perform well. In fact, there's an optimal level of anxiety. You should embrace anxiety as a sign of personal engagement. Anxiety shows that a player is invested, and getting comfortable in that uncomfortable place is key to preventing anxiety from turning into panic. Nerves aren't a sign of weakness; they're a sign that you're progressing toward your goal.

6. Embrace Positive Experiences

When athletes think about themselves screwing up, they're more likely to do it. Conversely, those who think about winning are more likely to win. Keep your self-talk positive, but also reality-based, by recalling past victories. "I've succeeded in this situation before" is a much more powerful self-statement than "I can do this!"

7. Lock Yourself Down

The most famous clutch performance I can ever remember was Nick Varner's come from behind victory against Mike Sigel at the U.S. Open. Despite being outplayed early on, Varner prevailed because he played almost a perfect match at the end. Rather than playing conservatively or aggressively in those moments, Varner found the perfect mixture. You probably can't match Varner's consistency, but you can practice "lockdown mode." Always play the percentages and don't force anything that just isn't there.

8. Keep Thinking

The last thing an athlete should do in a tight spot is think about the task at hand, right? Yet trying to clear your mind may invite negative thoughts. If possible, crowd those thoughts back out by continuing to think strategically. Your mind may be racing ahead, so you need to bring it back to the here

and now. Think about what you need to do on your next shot. Think about where you want the cue ball to go.

9. Redouble Your Rituals

If you're breaking on the hill, you've been doing something right. Now isn't the time to try anything new. I recommend a "20-second cure" that will keep you too busy to get negative. Before each shot, (1) Develop a plan of action. (2) relax by putting your vision center on the shot line, so your eyes have a place to rest; (3) Get into your stance; (4) Stay down, follow through, and evaluate.

10. Savor Your Success

When pool players win, they can celebrate conquering an opponent. But the sport offers another reward: the chance to rise above your own nerves and doubts. Too often we only remember when we choked because negative experiences imprint on our

brains far more powerfully than positive. When you prevail in a tight match, take in as much as you can about that experience for future reference. You're not just a winner now; you're a closer.

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

NEWLY UPDATED ONLINE COURSE!

Master Instructor
ANTHONY BEELER'S

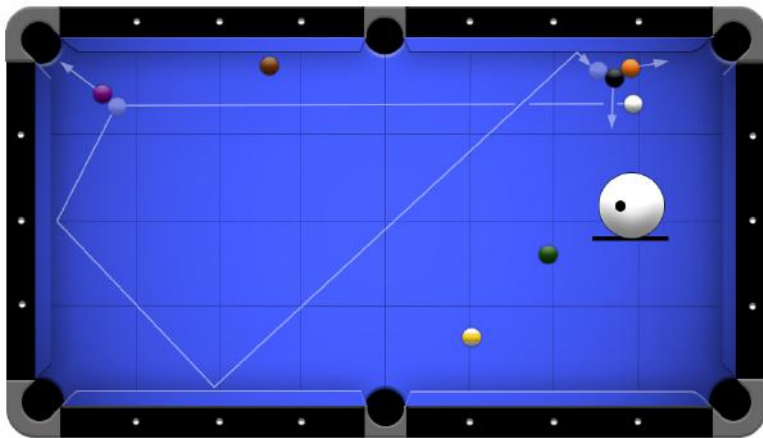
VIRTUAL
BILLIARDS
ACADEMY

Instructor of the Decade!

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

Logos: SPM MAGAZINE, ACS, McDermott, pbia, Billiards Buzz

A large pool ball with the number 8 is shown on the right side of the advertisement.



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

This month's shot comes from early in the the 2022 International 9-Ball Championship semi-final match between Pin Yi Ko and Jayson Shaw.

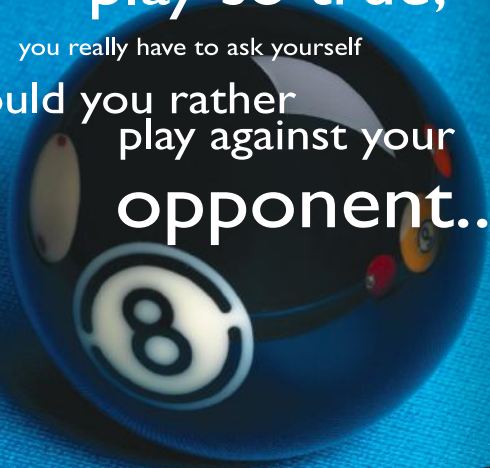
This shot is actually the result of Ko making a great one rail kick shot to make a ball after a safety from Shaw. He left himself with this angle, to come three rails with perfect speed to open up the five-ball. This shot may look routine, but it is only because the greatest players in the world make it look that way.



Simonis Cloth
and Aramith Balls
play so true,

you really have to ask yourself

would you rather
play against your
opponent...



Made
in Belgium.



Iwan Simonis is a registered trademark of Peltzer & Fils S.A.
A.A.A. is a registered trademark of Iwan Simonis, Inc.

...or against your equipment?

Iwan Simonis
SIMONIS CLOTH

Authentic. Accurate. Always.
simoniscloth.com



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

Available from your Aramith distributor

The two half circle logo © is a registered trademark of Saluc SA.
www.aramith.com
www.belgianbilliardballs.com
888.ARAMITH

The truest playing combination.

Gospel Trick Shot #41

Going to Church Shot!

History of the Trick Shot: This particular shot has been an Artistic Pool competition classic shot since the beginning of the modern-day Artistic Pool movement founded in Year 2000 by BCA Hall of Fame pool player Tom “Dr. Cue” Rossman. It has been long listed in the Artistic Pool programs as part of Discipline #4 “Follow” Shots. Another BCA Hall of Famer and Gospel Trick Shot artist Mike Massey took this shot right out of the program and converted into a Gospel Trick Shot that he calls the “Going to Church Shot.” Tom, Mike, and yours truly Steve Lillis have done hundreds of Gospel Trick Shot shows together over the past 23 years since that first WPA Artistic Pool World Championship in Year 2000 that Mike Massey won.

GTS Name and Why: Mike Massey would explain as he was setting up this shot in a Gospel Trick Shot (GTS) show that there was always seemingly obstacles getting in the way of him or perhaps us in going to church. Yours truly Steve Lillis explains in the video that church is more than just going to a building to assemble. The Bible says in Matthew 18:30 that the Lord is where two or three are gathered in his name! Through the years, GTS has held many Bible studies at various billiard events in vendor booths, around the breakfast table, and in hotel rooms! According to the Word of God all of that qualifies as going to church. It has been an honor and a privilege for GTS to bring the church to the billiard industry because the true church is real people and not a physical building. Ironically in the video this shot was going to be shot #36 but became #41 because of certain obstacles preventing it from being published sooner! As Tom Rossman says, “God is the master of irony!”

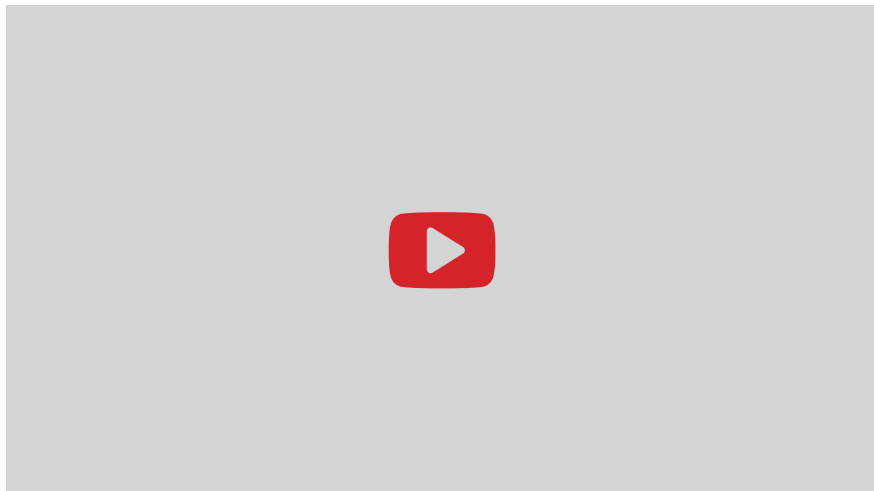
SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

Hebrews 10:25 (NLT) - “And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.”

Matthew 18:30 (NIV) - “For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

Cue Ball Placement: In hand as shown in diagram.

Object Ball(s) Placement - Balls 1 & 2 are frozen to the foot cushion and centered around the 1st diamond. The 8-ball is hanging near



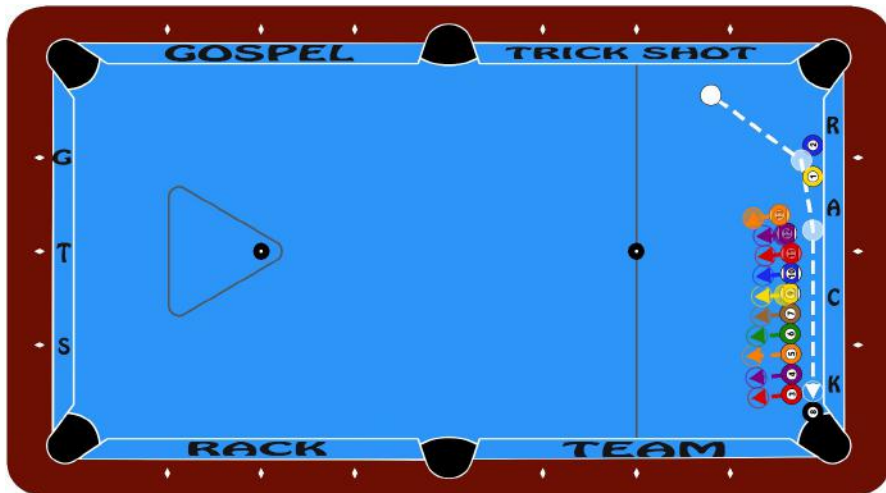
corner pocket as shown. A row of 10 balls is approximately 1 ball’s width off the cushion, but this spacing may be adjusted by the shooter. The row must be straight (parallel to the foot cushion), with the option of adjusting balls 3, 4, and/or 5. If this option is used, those balls must still remain frozen to the others in the line.

Objective - Shoot the cue ball to ball # 1, then carom into ball # 2, and then travel between the row of balls and the cushion. The cue ball will hit at least 4 object balls, and then go on to make the 8-ball.

Special Notes - The cue ball must hit ball 1 first, then ball 2. The cue ball must make

8-ball. It should not be made by an object ball.

Crowd Reactions Through the Years: When Mike Massey does this shot in a Gospel Trick Shot show his presence and celebrity demand a listening ear. I have watched people’s expressions of wonder as they realize that Mike struggles too and that we all are fellow strugglers in paying attention to the things of God! After GTS shows and during billiard events, we invite people to join our GTS team in our morning Bible studies the next day. Many have come through the years and lives have been changed and encouraged in the Lord. How about you? Find a place to go were people gather around the Word of God and listen to HIS voice! God bless you!





H-SERIES

FEATURING OUR

VBP WEIGHT SYSTEM

CARBON FIBER CORE

H-Series cues are built around a full-length carbon fiber core that features our patented **Variable Balance Point** technology.

BENEFITS: Promotes straightness and stabilizes the entire cue for absolute control and predictability.

ADJUSTABLE WEIGHT BOLTS

WHAT THEY DO: These specialized weight bolts can be placed anywhere on our internal rail system within the cue.

BENEFITS: Provides you with complete control over both the weight and balance point of your cue.

VBP STABILIZERS

WHAT THEY DO: Dampen noise and vibration.

BENEFITS: Drastically reduces vibration that is inherent in traditional cues, providing you with a more solid hit.



VBP
WEIGHT SYSTEM


McDermott
Handcrafted Cues

Check out our full H-Series cue line at
mcdermottcue.com/h-series



DANG JIN HU

WINS FIRST-EVER SPANISH OPEN POOL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

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

Dang Jin Hu has beaten Marc Bijsterbosch in the inaugural Spanish Open Pool Championship final in what will go down as one of the best-ever finals in history 13-12 at Pazo de Feiras e Congressos de Lugo, Spain in partnership with The Asociación Gallega de Billar Pool (AGP), live on Sky Sports in the UK and Ireland, DAZN in Spain, the USA, Italy, and Brazil, Viaplay in Scandinavia, the Baltics and Poland and broadcasters worldwide.

Marc Bijsterbosch (NED) 12-13 Dang Jin Hu (CHN)

Bijsterbosch opened up to take the first rack but it turned on its head quickly with Dang responding to gather an early 2-1 advantage. At 2-1 down, Bijsterbosch had the chance to level up at two apiece but the Dutchman's kick went badly wrong to give Dang ball in hand and he took full advantage to gather steam at 4-1 up off the back of the error.

Dang did let it slip though in the sixth rack as an ambitious kick left the six hanging over the pocket allowing Bijsterbosch in for 4-2. The pair were shaky and with Dang taking

the break in the eighth at 5-2, he scratched that again allowed Bijsterbosch his time to take another rack back.

At 5-3, Dang lost control of the cue ball to find himself tight on the two and soon scratching to give Bijsterbosch ball in hand. That moment allowed Bijsterbosch the chance he craved to get back in it and soon we were level at 5-5 with both requiring eight more racks for the title.

For the first time since, 1-0, Bijsterbosch led at 6-5 but it was short-lived after Dang fluked a safety after an effort on the one ball, the former kicked out the hook only to leave the one in plumb position and it was level again.

Bijsterbosch was starting to set an electric pace and a brilliant 2-9 combo kick gave him a two rack buffer for the first time. A break and run in the following rack allowed Bijsterbosch some real breathing space at 9-6.

Dang pulled two quick racks back to 9-8 before Bijsterbosch got a helping hand after what had looked like a good





safety by his Chinese opposition. Bijsterbosch struck hard at the two to get some action on the nine and the two soon trickled into the bottom pocket with cue ball right onto the two.

Double figures were reached first by Bijsterbosch but a brazen swipe at the balls at 10-8 saw Dang close that lead to one with the Galacian crowd inspiring both players with one of the best atmospheres witnessed in recent time.

In the 20th rack, Dang pushed out encouraging Bijsterbosch to take on a raking bank on the two which failed for the 33 seed going into the tournament.

Dang proceeded to punish Bijsterbosch for 10-10. An incredible rack at 10-10 ensued that Bijsterbosch got the better of with arguably the kick of the tournament on the four before a beautiful carom to make the nine when playing the five. It was exhibition stuff, pressure was not showing for either.

The two kept locking horns with Bijsterbosch reaching the hill first at 12-10 but a loose safety from the Bosh led Dang in for a chance to steal a rack at 12-10 to be one away from a hill-hill classic.

Dang broke dry at the worst time to bring Bijsterbosch his moment to pounce and seal the title but it didn't prove to be plain sailing as a brilliant full table bank on the seven led to an awkward cue ball for the eight forcing the bank.

The bank was missed and Dang reached the hill too to punish Bijsterbosch.

In the final rack, it was a familiar tale from Dang who broke dry but his safety proved too much for Bijsterbosch. From there, Dang came through in historic fashion with a huge scream of relief as the final nine dropped for victory. Dang had well and truly announced itself on the world stage once again.

A Z B MARKETPLACE
The Official Billiard Supply For AZBers

P3 REVO

Powered By
SEYBERTS.COM
SEYBERTS BILLIARD SUPPLY

EKLENT KACI IS 2023 UK OPEN POOL CHAMPION

Article by MATT LYNCH - Matchroom Multi Sport / Photos courtesy TAKA WU - Matchroom Multi Sport

Eklent Kaçi has won the 2023 UK Open Pool Championship beating defending champion Joshua Filler 13-4 in the final at the Copper Box Arena, London live on Sky Sports in the UK, DAZN in the USA, Spain, and Brazil as well as on Sport1 in Germany, and Matchroom. Live in Albania.

RESULT

Joshua Filler 4 – 13 Eklent Kaçi

Filler won the lag but scratched from the break to leave Kaçi at the table to clear up before a break and run in the second put the Albanian up by two early doors. Into the third and Kaçi missed the one

Eklent Kaci



to allow Filler to hook his opponent. From there, the table opened up for Filler to come in and run out for 2-1 and soon with a break and run that was 2-2.

Early on, there was uncharacteristic errors from both sides with both finding their feet in the contest. Kaçi took the next two racks to lead 4-2 with a break and run in the sixth to leave Filler two behind once again. Little could split the pair and a dry break in the following rack brought Filler in to be one behind and then level with his own dish up. Filler's dry break at 4-4 led to Kaçi back at the table to take the resulting two racks and nearing the halfway stage.

The contest was well and truly simmering nicely.

Kaçi knew he had to do something special to tame the killer in Filler and he did that with an excellent effort to run out in the ninth after a dry break from Filler before a four-pack put the Albanian in firm control of the contest at 10-4, three more for victory and a maiden Nineball title in a run that included two combos on the nine to be in the ascendancy with the foot down on the throttle.

At 10-4, Filler was afforded a rare opportunity at the table but he saw his jump effort on the three wide of the

Joshua Filler



mark and Kaçi swooped in once again to be two away from victory.

Just a few weeks ago, Kaçi was on the end of heartbreak to Ko Pin Yi just down the A12 in Essex at the World Pool Masters but there would be no repeat of that with his elder brother watching on, it was going to be joy at the end of this run.

A cool figure whenever at the table, it felt like a watershed moment for Kaçi who has come up short on the Matchroom stage on so many occasions,

Filler was tamed and Kaçi was on the hill and eight clear of the German.

Filler had one more piece of table time in the final rack but it was to leave a safety short allowing Kaçi in to seal a memorable win.

Kaçi said: "I feel amazing. This is the first singles event that I have won in the Matchroom arena. Emily always asked me when I would win a trophy! I felt focused and I stayed calm. I played the right shots with no crazy efforts and played safe when I needed to. Joshua didn't have many chances and when you stay in the chair for too long, you do not feel comfortable. I feel I will be a bigger problem in Matchroom events now. A few weeks ago, I played the final of the World Pool Masters. I felt I didn't give him a hard final."

Filler said: "Of course I am disappointed but when you see someone play like that, you have to say he's the deserved winner. He kept me in the chair, I was the first-row spectator! I am happy with my overall performance over the week. Well deserved to Eklent, he played unbelievable."

“

I FEEL AMAZING. THIS IS THE FIRST SINGLES EVENT THAT I HAVE WON IN THE MATCHROOM ARENA. EMILY ALWAYS ASKED ME WHEN I WOULD WIN A TROPHY! I FELT FOCUSED AND I STAYED CALM. I PLAYED THE RIGHT SHOTS WITH NO CRAZY EFFORTS AND PLAYED SAFE WHEN I NEEDED TO.

Eklent Kaci

”

KELLY FISHER

COMES FROM THE LOSS SIDE TO WIN WPBA STOP AT IRON CITY BILLIARDS IN BIRMINGHAM

Story by SKIP MALONEY - AzB Staff / File photos courtesy ERWIN DIONISIO

It is never about just one thing.

Kelly Fisher winning a stop on the Women's Professional Billiards Association (WPBA) tour, or Kristina Tkach claiming the hot seat, then being defeated in the finals. Or a tight, double-hill match in the opening round between the #6-ranked competitor on the WPBA, Tzu-Chien Wei, and the barely-teenaged Sofia Mast (aka The Pink Dagger). Or Mast and not-yet-teenaged WPBA compet-

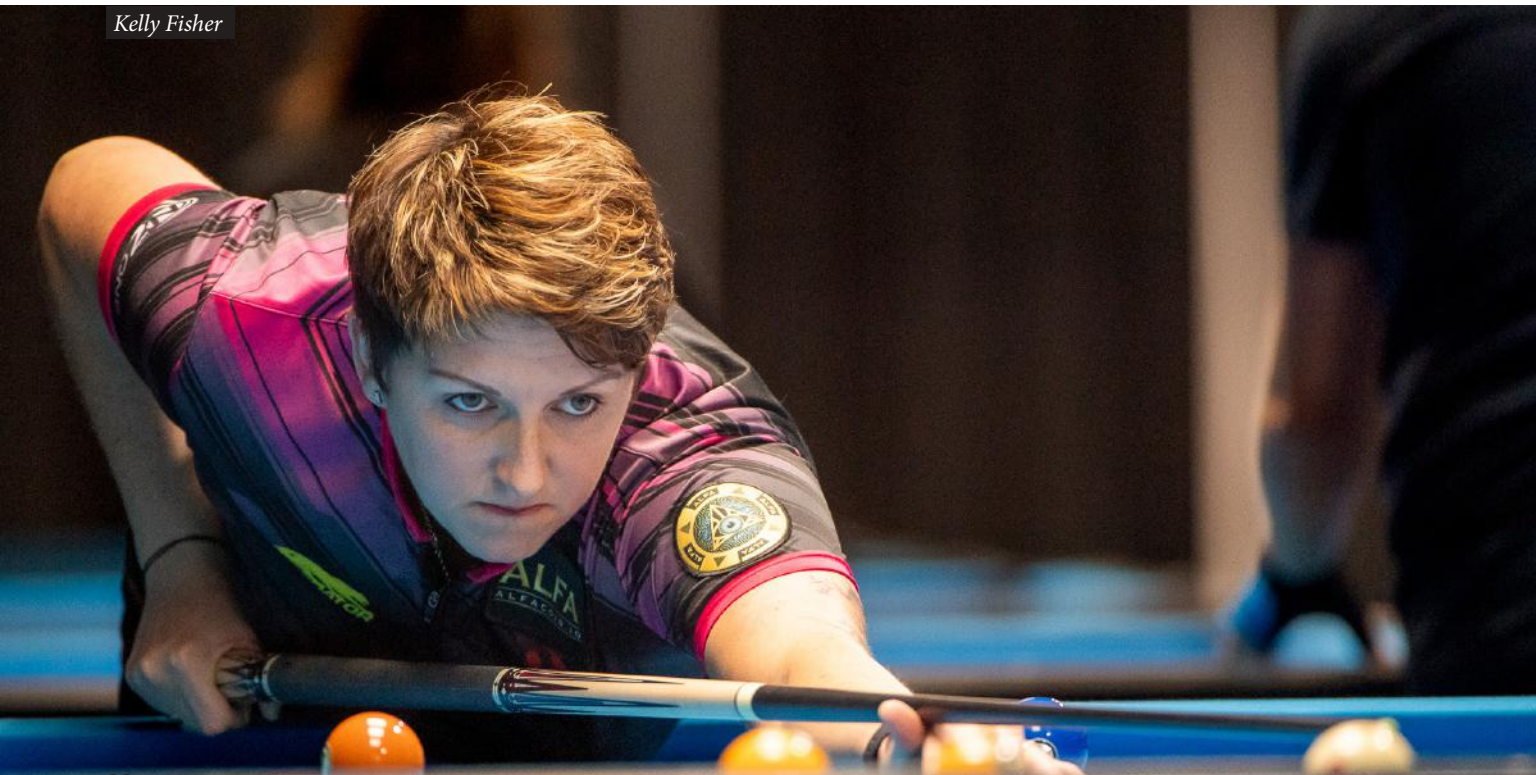
itor, Savannah Easton (aka The Roadrunner) being the commentators on the live-streamed hot seat match between Wei (or Wei-Wei, as she's known to many of her competitors) and Kristina Tkach.

Up and down the roster of 64 players who gathered for the \$15,000-added WPBA stop, hosted by a new tour venue – Iron City Billiards in Birmingham, AL – there were side, back and upfront stories about tough competition, ex-

traordinary resilience and more than just a few surprises.

Kelly Fisher losing her third match and spending more time on the loss side than all but one of her competitors spent on both sides of the bracket was one of those surprises, in a way that her event victory was not. She played 11 matches overall, eight of them on the loss side (counting the final as a 'lose and you're out' match). Brittany Bryant was the only competitor who

Kelly Fisher



Kristina Tkach

played eight total matches, five on the loss side. Fisher is usually dominant, usually on the winners' side of the bracket and rarely (if ever) shows any surprise or evidence that she's playing with little or no room for error.

Then there's the story of Kristina Tkach, who, while well on her way to making 2023 her best earnings year (of nine currently on record), entered the tournament at #24 on the WPBA's rankings. When the event narrowed down to its final four (Fisher/Kaylee McIntosh in the quarterfinal and Tkach/Wei battling for the hot seat), Tkach was sporting the highest game-winning percentage of the four (40-13, 75%). When the last 9-ball dropped in the final match, Fisher ended up with the highest overall game-winning percentage, but only by .003 points (.717 to .714).

There was, too, the aforementioned story of the Pink Dagger (Mast) forcing the Shadow Killer (Wei) to play a 15th deciding game in their opening round match, along with later, in a winners' side quarterfinal, The Grinder (Multiple BEF Junior National Champion, April Larson) doing the same thing. Fargo Rate calculated The Pink Dagger's chances of winning her match against the Shadow Killer at 1.4%. The Grinder had a 10.6% chance in her match. Fargo Rate doesn't have the ability to calculate what either of their chances would have been in a single game, let alone the deciding single game in a double-hill match, but they likely wouldn't have improved.

Last but not least before tracking the top players through their matches, there was the hot seat match between Wei and Tkach, commentated by The Roadrunner (Savannah Easton) and The Pink Dagger (Mast). While certainly characterized by evidence that these young women were very young (they giggled a lot), when it came to the game they were watching, both of them were



all-business and knew the 'language' of the game very precisely; commenting on the difficulty of getting 'jacked-up over balls,' 'rolling up' on others and making quite accurate predictions about what a given player was likely to be doing with the cue ball – where it was likely to travel and exactly how many rails it was likely to encounter on the way. They acknowledged sponsors when the screen graphics indicated them, sought help when some of the "buttons" they were expected to push confused them ("This is what happens when you put a 13-year-old in front of this many buttons," said Mast as she and Easton giggled their 'besties' credentials). Almost as remarkable a performance at the microphone as they'd exhibited at the tables.

Fisher got underway with victories over Nathalie Chabot (2) and Nicole Albergaria (4) before coming up against Yuki Hiraguchi, who challenged and then, defeated her double-hill. Hiraguchi followed her over after she was dealt a dose of her own double-hill medicine by Kristina Zlateva in one of the winners' side quarterfinals. Zlateva drew Tzu-Chien Wei in one of the winners' side semifinals. Wei had sup-

plemented her two double-hill wins over Mast and Larson with in-between victories over Sara Miller (0) and an 8-3 win over Bean (Meng-Hsia) Hung. Tkach, in the meantime, got by Christy Norris (1), Ada Lio (3) and #4 WPBA-ranked Brittany Bryant (4), before downing Susan Williams 8-2, to draw Kaylee McIntosh in the other winners' side semifinal.

Tkach sent McIntosh into an immediate loss-side matchup against Bryant with an 8-3 win. Wei joined her in the hot seat match once she'd sent Zlateva over 8-5 to face Fisher. Tkach sent Wei over to the same fate, claiming the hot seat 8-2.

Fisher had run through a formidable gauntlet of four loss-side opponents that included wins over Monica Webb 8-3, Caroline Pao (the WPBA's top-ranked US player at #5) 8-6 and Margaret Fefilova Styer 8-3 to draw Zlateva. McIntosh drew Bryant, who'd followed her loss to Tkach with wins over April Larson 8-4 and, doing Fisher a bit of a favor, eliminating Yuki Hiraguchi 8-5.

McIntosh defeated Bryant 8-5 and in a clear case of ‘out of the frying pan and into the fire,’ advanced to the quarterfinals against Fisher, who’d defeated Zlateva 8-4. McIntosh had come into the tournament at #9 on the WPBA list and no matter how the quarterfinals turned out, was assured of moving up a notch or two on the rankings ladder. Fisher stopped her bid to go further with an 8-5 victory in those quarterfinals.

Friends since they started competing on the world stage over the past few years, Fisher and Tzu-Chien Wei participated in a number of ‘ghost’ tournaments from their selective locations; Fisher from her home in England and Tzu-Chien from a location near her home in Taipei, when the pandemic threw a monkey wrench into face-to-face competition in pool halls. They welcome the opportunities to compete face-to-face, as she did in the semifinals and win or lose, it has zero affect on their friendship.



“ THE FINAL EXTENDED-RACE-TO-10 MATCH BETWEEN FISHER AND KRISTINA TKACH PLAYED OUT IN A LITTLE OVER THREE HOURS, FISHER NEVER GETTING AHEAD BY MORE THAN TWO RACKS, UNTIL THE VERY END. ”



Fisher defeated Tzu-Chien Wei 8-3 in those semifinals and turned to face her final hurdle.

The final extended-race-to-10 match between Fisher and Kristina Tkach played out in a little over three hours, Fisher never getting ahead by more than two racks, until the very end. She was ahead by two, seven times. Tkach tied Fisher only once, at 2-2 and reduced Fisher’s lead to a single rack, six times. The sixth time she did it, at 8-7, was the last. Fisher won the next two to claim the event title.

Tour representatives thanked the ownership and staff at Iron City Billiards for their hospitality, as well as sponsors Diamond Billiards Products, Iwan Simonis Cloth, Aramith Billiard Balls, DigitalPool, Jam Up Apparel, Outsville, N4N (Nickels for Nipples) and Campana Performance Coaching. The next stop on the WPBA Tour, scheduled for the weekend of July 12-16, will be the \$40,000-added Soaring Eagle Masters, hosted by the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort in Mount Pleasant, MI.



Changing the World of Pool...For Good!
 Whether it's via Accu-Stats YouTube Channel, Vimeo On Demand, Subscription Service, PPV+, Streaming Video, ROKU Channel or, High Def DVDs,
Accu-Stats delivers your message to the World!

The Accu-Stats YouTube Channel surged 35% in 2022 generating 16,656,231 views and 7,260,739 watched hours. WE THANK YOU ALL!

Introducing the
 **Accu-Stats Roku Channel**

The Accu-Stats YouTube Channel
 **invites YOU to SUBSCRIBE**
View in HD FREE
 Visit YouTube: Search Accu-Stats

2023 Accu-Stats Annual FREE Catalog
 **On-Line NOW**

For a FREE Catalog Featuring
30+ years of Pro Tournament Match Action
download at accu-stats.com
800.828.0397
It's not just a Catalog, it's a History Book!





Accu-Stats invites you to even more ways to enjoy and learn from the world's greatest players.
Visit: roku.com search accu-stats

Pool's Greatest Players
Their Greatest Matches FREE!
 Visit **ROKU** for the **JULY** Schedule: search accu-stats

Pool fans: Enjoy & Learn from our **NEW** and **Historic** toumeys plus, **books, products, and more** to improve your game.
 And it's **FREE!**






Photography ©Medium Pool



LANAI

INDOOR / OUTDOOR
— COLLECTION —

AVAILABLE SUMMER 2023

AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY
**AMERICAN
HERITAGE**
BILLIARDS

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



WNT UPDATE

KONRAD JUSZCZYSZYN

SEALS MAIDEN NINEBALL TITLE IN BUCHAREST

Story by MATT LYNCH - Matchroom Multi Sport / File photo courtesy ERWIN DIONISIO

Konrad Juszczyszyn has moved inside the World Nineball Tour's Top 20 with victory in the Mezz Bucharest Open, sealing his first title on the WNT in the process.

Juszczyszyn defeated Ko Ping Chung – who had reached the quarter-finals of the UK Open earlier in the month – 11-10 in a thrilling final.

Juszczyszyn's climb up the rankings sees four Poles move into the top 20. The WNT No. 17 is joined by countrymen Wiktor Zielinski (No. 8), Wojciech Szewczyk (No. 16) and Mieszko Fortunski (No. 20).

Polish pool continues to thrive in 2023, with Juszczyszyn's win being

the country's third of the calendar year – with Zielinski winning in Ljubljana, Slovenia and Szewczyk in Zaragoza, Spain.

Ko, who climbed into the top 20 himself, had beaten older brother Pin Yi – recent victor of the World Pool Masters – in the semi-finals to reach the final.

Pin Yi, the defending champion going into the event, reached his third successive Nineball semi-final.

The Romanian ranking event attracted a stacked field of talent from across the World Nineball Tour, with the likes of Shane Van Boening, Alexander Kazakis and David Alcaide attending

ahead of the inaugural Spanish Open Pool Championship.

Van Boening was knocked out of the tournament by Juszczyszyn in the quarter-finals, with two-time World Pool Master Alcaide defeated in the same round by Pin Yi.

Tobias Bongers had an incredible run to the semi-finals – his best showing at a WNT event. The German potter defeated Petri Makkonen, Kazakis and Walter Laikre on the way.

14-year-old Swedish prodigy Laikre had earlier defeated Britain's Tom Staveley on course for a last 32 finish – following up a strong showing for the teenager at the UK Open.



Konrad Juszczyszyn



BEYOND THE HORIZON

ASTR

 Mezz Cues®

mezzcue.com

WNT UPDATE

WOLFORD SNAPS OFF MAIDEN TITLE TO BOOST MOSCONI CUP CHANCES

Story by MATT LYNCH - Matchroom Multi Sport / File photo courtesy ERWIN DIONISIO

Shane Wolford has won the Chuck Markulis Memorial title at Hard Times Billiards of Sacramento to boost his Mosconi Cup chances with a maiden win on the World Nineball Tour beating Skyler Woodward in the final 11-9.

Wolford, buoyed by a run to the UK Open Pool Championship Last 16, came in firing in California as Oscar Dominguez played host to some of the Americas best with the likes of Woodward, Gerson Martinez, Tyler Styer, and Billy Thorpe all lining up aiming to climb the Race to Mosconi Cup standings.

The competition was fierce with Wolford having to overcome Skip Nikakis, Phil Prentice, and Sean Lewis to reach the single elimination stage before Max Eberle and Nicholas De Leon were downed ahead of a crunch clash

with BJ Ussery who had snapped off the Bob Stock Memorial tournament last month to boost his own Mosconi Cup hopes. With Ussery conquered, Peru's World Cup of Pool representative Martinez proved to be no match in the semi-finals for Wolford who was on a mission.

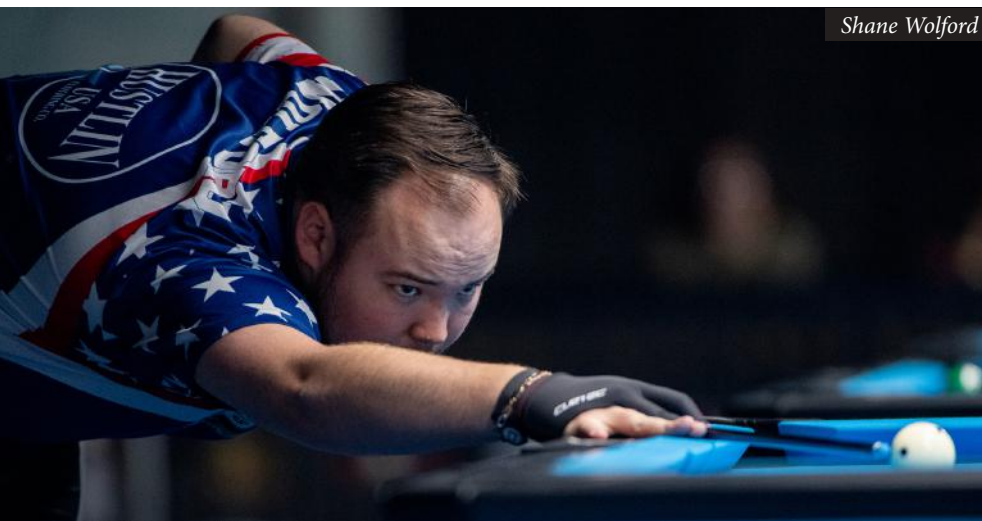
Victory for Wolford in the final over Woodward sees the Virginia native move into one of the three automatic qualification spots on the USA's Race to Mosconi Cup standings whilst Woodward has extended his advantage as the leading player for Team

USA to a difference of nearly \$10,000 over Shane Van Boening. The result also sees Wolford move inside the world's top 32 for the first time whilst Woodward leapfrogs Mohammad Soufi to become the new WNT No. 14.

Styer's hopes of sealing the title were ended by Woodward in the quarter-finals whilst host Dominguez suffered at the hands of Martinez. Thorpe meanwhile fell to Hunter Lombardo in the quarters whilst rising star Lukas Fracasso-Verner lost out to Francis Ritarita.

Three spots for both Team Europe and USA are up for grabs off the World Nineball Tour Rankings with all eyes on the one-year list for hopefuls.

The first automatic pick for each side will be locked in after the conclusion of the European Open Pool Championship set to take place in Fulda, Germany from August 8-13 with the second automatic selection to follow at the US Open Pool Championship from September 25-30 at Harrah's Resort, Atlantic City before the final automatic spot will be given after the conclusion of the inaugural Asian Open Pool Championship from October 10-15.



Shane Wolford

DIAMOND™

BILLIARD PRODUCTS, INC.

THE OFFICIAL TABLE OF THE



RANKED #1 AMONG PLAYERS



DESIGNED BY PLAYERS FOR PLAYERS

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL US AT: 812-288-7665 OR VISIT US AT: WWW.DIAMONDBILLIARDS.COM

FRACASSO-VERNER

GOES UNDEFEATED TO CLAIM HIS SECOND GEORGE “GINKY” SANSOUCI MEMORIAL TITLE

The last time Lukas Fracasso-Verner won the annual George “Ginky” Sansouci Memorial Tournament, back in 2018, he entered the 143-entrant Amateur field and promptly lost his opening match. He had to win 12 matches on the loss side to get into the finals against Chuck Allie. The perseverance of fighting back that long and far from an opening-round loss and then winning was a remarkable feat in and of itself, but what made it even more

notable was the fact that at the time, Fracasso-Verner had yet to graduate from high school. This past weekend (May 27-29) now 21, he signed on to the ProAm division of the 11th Annual “Ginky” Memorial (the event was not held in 2021) and took the ‘undefeated’ route through a field of 21 entrants.

In the absence of the annual event’s defending champion, Mika Immonen, Fracasso-Verner downed five straight

opponents to claim the ProAm title. After being awarded a bye, Fracasso-Verner shut out Ricky Geronimo, and sent veteran NYC-and-vicinity’s Mhet Vergara to the loss side 8-6 to draw Del Sim in one of the winners’ side semifinals. Gregorio Sanchez, in the meantime, also after a bye, downed the eventual runner-up, Raphael Dabreo 8-2 and Aidan Wagner, double hill, to pick up Jonathan Smith in the other winners’ side semifinal.

Lukas Fracasso-Verner



Sanchez and Smith battled to double hill before Sanchez prevailed to punch his ticket to the hot seat match. Fracasso-Verner joined him once he'd sent Sim to the loss side 8-5. Fracasso-Verner claimed the hot seat 8-4 and waited for Dabreo to complete his seven-match, loss-side streak and reach him for the finals.

On the loss side, Dabreo was four matches into that streak when Smith showed up. Dabreo had recently chalked up wins # 3 & #4 against Vergara 8-6 and Ryan Boursse 8-4 to reach Smith. Sim drew Max Watanabe, who was working on his own loss-side winning streak; six matches that would take him as far as the quarter-finals. He'd recently eliminated Aidan Wagner, double hill, and Michael Rodriguez 8-5.

Three of Watanabe's last five matches went double-hill, the last of which



Raphael Dabreo

sent Sim home, while Dabreo was tied up eliminating Smith 8-4. Dabreo ended Watanabe's run 8-2 in the subsequent quarterfinals.

The semifinal was the only double-hill match that Dabreo had played to that point and the second for San-

chez. Dabreo prevailed and turned to compete in his second double-hill battle. He didn't get the chance. Fracasso-Verner and Dabreo agreed to a split, leaving Fracasso-Verner as the official winner of his second "Ginky" Memorial event and his first in the ProAm division.

THE COMPLETE ZERO-X BILLIARDS DVD COLLECTION FROM TOR LOWERY
 NOW IN STOCK IN THE ACCU-STATS ONLINE STORE
WWW.ACCU-STATS.COM

ACCU-STATS Video Productions

FIVE NEW NAMES TAKE TOP BILLING AT 5TH STOP ON THE JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Story by SKIP MALONEY - AzB Staff / Photos courtesy JIC

Two of the five divisional winners making their first appearance in 2023 JIC series

Where else but in Las Vegas might you encounter an event that defies the odds? At this past weekend's (June 16-18) 5th stop on the 2023 Junior International Championship series, hosted by Griff's Billiards in Las Vegas, new

names emerged to take top spots in the event's five divisions. One of the five 'new' names, Savannah Easton, making her first appearance on the JIC, won both of the female divisions, so actually, four new names, one appearing twice.

For most of its two-and-a-half year existence, the five divisions of the Junior International Championships have featured a small group of competitors at the top of each division that became 'household' names for anyone following the exploits of this

Landon Hollingsworth, Lazaro Martinez III and Niko Konkel



very talented group of young USA pool players. Names like Tate (male and female), Hollingsworth and Mast. Hess, Worth and Spain (also male and female). These names, at the 'top' of the JIC heap, competed against each other, regularly.

There were ongoing rivalries, maybe not as well-known or as happening as long as Nadal/Djokovic in tennis, Yankees/Red Sox on the diamonds of baseball or Packers/Bears on the gridiron, but battles where player and spectators alike had expectations of tense, fierce competition, expectations that more often than not, were met. There were the match and 'standings battles' between Joey Tate and Landon Hollingsworth, Sofia Mast and Sylar Hess, D'angelo "Jawz" Spain and just about anybody.

There's always been a second tier of names on the JIC roster. Players who competed regularly but spent a lot of time just below the radar of rivalry territory. And now, in the third year of JIC competition, these junior competitors are moving to higher steps on the JIC ladder. Some, but by no means all, of the competitors who formed the core group that began competing on the JIC series three years ago are moving on to regional-tour and professional



Skylar Hess, Savannah Easton and Courtney Hairfield

arenas. As we'll note, some are still at work on the JIC series.

Inevitable, of course. You're only young once and youth, as defined on the JIC circuit, is limited on the upper end of the scale to about 20 years (the JIC's ProAm division accommodates an open-gender group that has aged out of its four other divisions), while the lower end of the age scale has yet to be tested.

The only winner at Stop #5 who wasn't defying the odds by seeking her first victory on the JIC series was Savannah Easton (aka The Roadrunner), playing in her home 'room' at Griff's. The 2022 BEF Junior National Champion (twice;

14U 9-ball and 18U 8-ball) was 29th on the WPBA's ranking list in her first year of competing on the tour, at the age of 12. She appeared in the opening event of the JIC's 2022 season and finished as runner-up to Sofia Mast (aka The Pink Dagger). The two of them performed as commentators for the hot seat match of the WPBA's Iron City Billiards event a little over a week ago.

Easton entered three of this past weekend's events, competing in both of the female divisions and the ProAm. She went undefeated in the three-entrant 13U Girls, came from the loss side to win the 18U Girls (six entrants) and finished in the tie for 5th/6th in the ProAm division (17 entrants).

Her undefeated run in the 13U girls tournament consisted of a single match. She was awarded a bye as Jordan Helfrey was meeting and defeating Arianna Houston 7-4 in the event's first match. Easton defeated Helfrey 9-5 in the final.

In something of an 'odds-defying' single match, Easton, after being awarded an opening-round bye, lost her first match in the 18U division to Skylar Hess, who came in to the event as the #1-ranked competitor in that division, having won all three of the 2023 JIC stops in which she competed. Hess advanced and defeated Courtney Hairfield 7-5 to claim the hot seat. On the



Landon Hollingsworth, Logan Whitaker and Carlos Jinez

loss side, Easton won three straight, downing Mackenzie Cuda 7-1, Jordan Helfrey in the quarterfinals and Hairfield in the semifinals, both 7-4. She defeated Hess 9-4 in the finals rematch to claim that division title. More on her finish in the ProAm event, a little later.

Just to finish off the younger divisions, North Carolina's Jas Makhani, who came into the event as the #3-ranked competitor in the 13U Boys division, went undefeated to claim the six-entrant, 13U Boys title. In the absence of the division's #1 competitor, Hayden Ernst, who's won three of the four JIC stops this year, Makhani and #2 (Deke Squier) battled twice to claim the title and moved into the #1 (Makhani) and #2 (Squier) spots in the division. Makhani got by Maddox Griggs 7-2 in a winners' side semifinal as Squier was surviving a double hill, winners' side semifinal against Shane Petrick. Makhani defeated Squier 7-2 to claim the hot seat. Squier moved to the loss side and in the semifinals, faced Griggs, who'd defeated Diyin Biq and Shane Petrick, both 7-3 to reach him. Squier defeated Griggs 7-2 for a second shot at Makhani, who then prevailed 9-3 to claim the 13U boys title.

Whitaker & Martinez keep Landon Hollingsworth out of the winners' circle in ProAm/18U boys

Landon Hollingsworth came into the weekend at the top of the JIC's ProAm division and in third place among the 18U boys. He finished as runner-up in both of those divisions in this past weekend's activities, which will allow him to retain his spot at the top of the ProAm standings, ahead of Brent Worth (finishing in the tie for 13th/16th) and Nathan Nunes (finishing 4th at this event). Hollingsworth will move into the top spot in the 18U division, ahead of the same two competitors, Worth (finishing in the tie for 13th/16th in this division as well) and



Jordan Helfrey, Savannah Easton and Aryanna Houston

Nunes (finishing in the tie for 9th/12th in this division).

The winners this past weekend in the 18U Boys and ProAm divisions were Lazaro Martinez and Logan Whitaker, respectively. It's their first victory of the 2023 JIC season. It was Martinez' first appearance on the 2023 JIC. It was Whitaker's third appearance and he entered this past weekend at #11 among the 18U Boys and #15 in the ProAm. Whitaker competed in the season opener and in the 3rd event, finishing 3rd and 6th in the 18U Boys division and 6th, both times, in the ProAm division.

The two of them competed in both events and each went undefeated in their division. They actually faced each other in the 2nd round of the ProAm tournament. Whitaker downed Martinez 7-2 in that match, advancing further through the field to face and defeat Jas Makhani in a winners' side semifinal 7-3 and Carlos Jinez 7-4 to claim the hot seat. Jinez had gotten into the hot seat match by surviving a double-hill challenge from Savannah Easton.

Jinez moved to the loss side and ran into Hollingsworth at the tail end of his five-match, loss-side winning streak that had recently eliminated Savannah Easton 7-4 and Nathan Nunes, double hill, in the quarterfi-

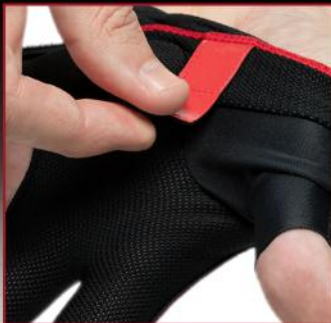
nals. Hollingsworth punched his ticket to the ProAm finals with a 7-2 win over Jinez in the semifinals. Whitaker ended Hollingsworth's streak 9-7 in the finals.

Martinez and Whitaker almost met in the 18U Boys event, as well. Twice, as a matter of fact. Each advanced through the field to arrive at a winners' side semifinal that preceded the hot seat match; Whitaker, facing Niko Konkel and Martinez, squaring off against Hollingsworth. Martinez sent Hollingsworth to the loss side 7-4, but Konkel sent Whitaker over 7-3. Martinez claimed the hot seat 7-2 over Konkel.

On the loss side, Hollingsworth met up with Jas Makhani, downing him 7-3 to meet Whitaker in the quarterfinals. He spoiled the possibility of Whitaker and Martinez facing each other a second time, in the finals, by eliminating Whitaker 7-5 and then, knocking Konkel out 7-1 in the semifinals. Martinez made Hollingsworth a runner-up for what was actually the first time (early, Saturday evening) with a 9-6 victory in the 18U Boys finals.

Tour director Ra Hanna thanked the ownership and staff at Griff's, as well as title sponsor Viking Cues. The next stop on the JIC series, scheduled for the weekend of July 14-16, will be hosted by Railyard Billiards in Louisville, KY.

^ X IS



THE X-FACTOR: BREATHABLE COMFORT FROM ANY ANGLE.

CUETEC.COM

© 2020 CUETEC CO., LTD., ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

CUETEC

MAKS BENKO'S TASTE OF JS JUNIOR OPEN VICTORY LEAVES HIM WANTING MORE

Article by MATT LYNCH - Matchroom. Multi Sport / Photo courtesy TAKA WU - Matchroom Multi Sport

Maks Benko's victory in the first-ever Jayson Shaw Junior Open final against Mika Van Berkel in a hill-hill finish has left the 13-year-old wanting more in his quest to become a leading star of the World Nineball Tour one day.

Benko from Ljubljana, Slovenia only picked up a cue four years ago and hopes his victory is a sign of things to come on the table: "It feels amazing. I had no idea I could win it when I started out. I was playing really well but at the beginning, I was so nervous about the final. I knew

I needed to stay focused and calm and not get angry with myself. I watched the game and tried to use the opportunities I had to win it."

"My father entered me in because they believed I had a chance, I have to thank them so much for giving me the opportunity to come here."

The youngster came from 7-4 down to defeat Van Berkel in the final after overcoming India's Laksh Sharma and Byron McGrail of Gibraltar along the way to clinching the \$2,500 first-place prize as well as a free entry to the 2024 UK Open Pool Championship and to top it all off Shaw offered to pay for

Jayson Shaw and Maks Benko



Benko to enter the 2023 US Open Pool Championship at Harrah's Resort, Atlantic City in September.

A diverse field competed in London's historic Copper Box Arena with over 17 nationalities represented underlining the global appeal of the World Nineball Tour and the opportunities afforded to all players of the game as Matchroom continues to grow the game at a grassroots level.

Shaw was proud to see the juniors competing at such a high level and thinks one day they will be taking his spot in the biggest tournaments: "I watched the final. Maks was down 7-4 and he made a great eight ball that changed. He played really well to win it. Congratulations to Maks. I think the Junior Open players are the future of the game, without them there is no future. It's great to see these guys out here and competing and hopefully, we will see them on the main stage one day soon."



I THINK THE JUNIOR OPEN PLAYERS ARE THE FUTURE OF THE GAME, WITHOUT THEM THERE IS NO FUTURE. IT'S GREAT TO SEE THESE GUYS OUT HERE AND COMPETING AND HOPEFULLY, WE WILL SEE THEM ON THE MAIN STAGE ONE DAY SOON.

Jayson Shaw



On what Benko would do with his winning money, he insists it will be going on further training and also the chance to play in the inaugural Francisco Sanchez Ruiz Junior Open taking place during the Spanish Open from June 23-24: "I will spend the money on my game, more training sessions, and paying for other tournaments coming up so I can become the best player I can be."

The final took place live on the Matchroom Pool YouTube channel along-

side the quarter-finals of the 2023 UK Open Pool Championship with fans in the arena sweating the action as well as thousands online with the tournament supported by official partners Cuetec, Kamui, Iwan Simonis, Onboard Sportswear, Aramith Balls and Diamond Billiards.

All juniors competing were provided with a free custom Onboard Sportswear jersey and a special KAMUI gift pack that included Roku chalk and a set of cue tips.

**quickly
becoming
your most
trusted
source in
billiards...**

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

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

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

Cues, Cases, Accessories & More!

Biggelbachs.com
where pool players are family

**Top-10
Predator
Dealer**

Dynamic Billiards European Championships



Men's Straight Pool: Gold – Kim Laaksonen (FIN), Silver – Yannick Pongers (NED), Bronze – Joao Grilo (POR) / Daniel Maciol (POL)



Ladies Straight Pool: Gold – Tina Vogelmann (GER), Silver – Eyllul Kibaroglu (TUR), Bronze – Melanie Sussenguth (GER) / Diana Stateczny (GER)

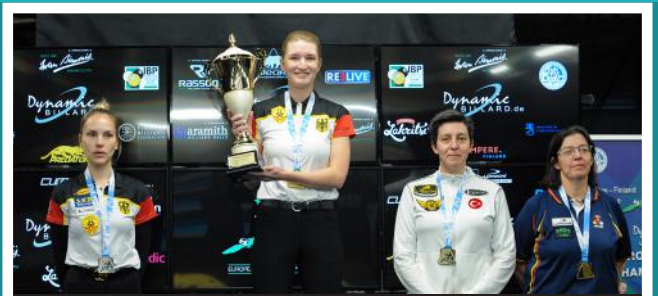


Men's 10-Ball: Gold – Ronald Regli (SUI), Silver – Stefan Casper, Bronze – Mikael Oegaard (NOR) / Wojciech Szewczyk (POL)

2023 MEDAL WINNERS



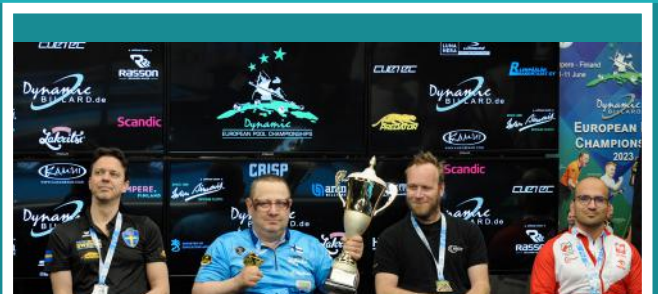
Wheelchair 10-Ball: Gold – Matej Brajkovic (SLO), Silver – Jouni Tahti (FIN), Bronze – Emil Malanowski (POL) / Henrik Larsson (SWE)



Ladies 10-Ball: Gold – Veronika Ivanovskaia (GER), Silver – Pia Filler (GER), Bronze – Eyllul Kibaroglu (TUR) / Silvia Lopez Fibla (ESP)



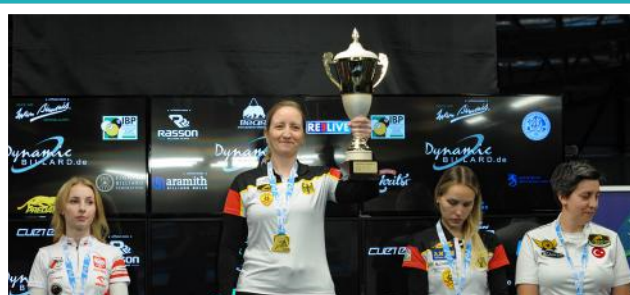
Men's 8-Ball: Gold – Dennis Laszkowski (GER), Silver – Mateusz Sniegocki (POL), Bronze – Ragnar Gronsten (SWE) / Wojciech Szewczyk (POL)



Wheelchair 8-Ball: Gold – Jouni Tahti (FIN), Silver – Henrik Larsson (SWE), Bronze – Emil Malanowski (POL) / Matej Brajkovic (SLO)



Under 23 8-Ball: Gold – Emil-Andre Gangflot (NOR), Silver – Yuma Dörner (GER), Bronze – Luca Montanari (ITA) / Albert-Roman Stensrod (NOR)



Ladies 8-Ball: Gold – Tina Vogelmann (GER), Silver – Oliwia Zalewska (POL), Bronze – Eyllul Kibaroglu (TUR) / Pia Filler (GER)



Ladies Team Poland: Oliwia Zalewska and Monika Zabeł



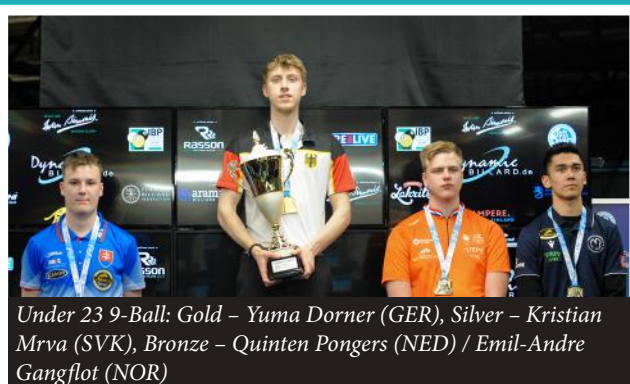
Men's Team Poland: Konrad Juszczyzyn, Sebastian Batkowski, Daniel Maciol, Wojciech Szewczyk and Mateusz Snięgocki



Men's 9-Ball: Gold – Wojciech Szewczyk (POL), Silver – Francisco Diaz-Pizarro (ESP), Bronze – Marc Bijsterbosch (NED) / Kim Laaksonen (FIN)



Wheelchair 9-Ball: Gold – Henrik Larsson (SWE), Silver – Fred Dinsmore (IRE). Bronze – Jouni Tahti (FIN) / Kim-Ronny Nygard (NOR)



Under 23 9-Ball: Gold – Yuma Dörner (GER), Silver – Kristian Mrva (SVK), Bronze – Quinten Pongers (NED) / Emil-Andre Gangflot (NOR)



Ladies 9-Ball: Gold – Pia Filler (GER), Silver – Ana Gradisnik (SLO), Bronze – Veronika Ivanovskaia (GER) / Helena Nyberg Benjamin (SWE)

MORITZ NEUHAUSEN JOINS THE CUETEC TEAM

Cuetec, the game's most advanced cue maker is proud to announce the signing of rising star, Moritz Neuhausen to our team of Professional Players and Brand Ambassadors. With this exciting addition, Cuetec continues with its commitment to supporting the sport and players globally.

Hailing from Sankt Augustin, Germany, the two-time Junior World 9-Ball Champion has quickly made his presence known on the professional scene, producing consistent deep runs in the game's most prestigious events, and effortlessly transitioning from junior champion to touring professional.

"We've been following Moritz for some time now, and since 2017 we've thought of him as one of the most ex-

citing up and coming junior players in our sport," said Cuetec Brand Manager Brett Garson. "The way he sees and processes the game is just incredible – and is far beyond his age. He's a terrific young talent and young man."

Neuhausen's passion for billiards ignited at the early age of 8, and his relentless pursuit of excellence has already vaulted him to numerous junior victories on both the national and international stage. His performances have garnered attention and admiration from both fans and professionals alike, cementing his reputation as a rising star.

When asked about joining Cuetec, Neuhausen expressed his enthusiasm, saying, "I am thrilled and honored to become a part of the Cuetec Team. I am in love with my new equip-

ment and it's a dream to play alongside the likes of Shane Van Boening, Skyler Woodward, and Chris Melling. Cuetec's values and dedication to progressing the sport compliments my own hopes and dreams, and I am confident that their support will help propel me to next level. I am very excited for the future."

Cuetec and the entire team are equally excited to welcome Moritz to the Cuetec family. "This new partnership continues to reflect Cuetec's commitment to nurturing emerging talent and we are delighted to welcome Moritz to the family," said Cuetec's president and founder Jones Chang. "Moritz's character, dedication and passion for the game make him an invaluable addition to our team. We look forward to supporting him as he embarks on this next chapter in his life."



RISE UP

AS PART OF THE QCO TEAM

- New, Exciting Models!
- Made in America Since 1965
- Lifetime Warranty



The Viking B5601 paired with the 12.5mm Siege Carbon Fiber Performance Shaft, a standard upgrade on every current model.



The Player's Choice Since 1965

INNOVATION

Whyte Carbon shafts offer the latest in composite, tubular process technology and materials. With 30+ years of experience to bring you that solid "buttery feel" with every shot.

PERFORMANCE

The seamless shaft construction has uniform bending properties and radial symmetry which lowers ball deflection and offers more predictability than other shafts currently on the market.

CUSTOMIZATION

Offering more options to tailor the shaft to an individual player's style than any other carbon fiber shaft on the market.



Patented, Interchangeable Joint System



WHYTE
CARBON

"Feels like wood, performs like carbon."

When you choose to become part of the Qco Family, you get more than just great product delivered by a team with decades of experience. You join a nationwide family of partners working to deliver a superior end user experience.

With a performance focus infused with our artisanal heritage and a mantra of providing the best value to the customer, there will always be a product in the Qco family of brands that exceeds your expectations for value and performance.



HOME OF



2228 Pleasant View Road
Middleton, WI 53562
1.800.397.0122

vikingcue.com • valhallacues.com • whytecarbon.com

THE PASSING OF DANNY JANES

As many of our friends, colleagues, and customers know Dan Janes has passed away. We lost our dear Dan on June 20, 2023.

Dan's life passion was for making the best cue possible. Throughout his career he had a lifelong quest to continually improve methods, materials, and aesthetics of the Joss Cue while insuring they had the best, solid play possible. Dan, Debbie, and Stephen would sit for hours and plan the approach to perfect a certain technique. The goal always to make the best playing, well-built cues with a range of price points. All cues being equal only some had more inlays or veneers. The play, the same!

And if you wanted to talk to Dan about almost anything, especially cues, he would talk with you. Many people were surprised when it was Dan who answered the phone. He spent many hours with customers creating their image of the perfect cue. He was an inspiration to other cue makers and would spend hours discussing methods, ideas and strategies. Dan shared his knowledge and his many, many pool, life stories. He was a special man.

Dan began his life's cue making journey in a small garage in an area of Baltimore known as Hampden in 1967. Later in 1975 the business was moved to a new industrial park in Towson where Joss still resides. By his side his

wife Debbie and son Stephen helped grow the business. Debbie and Stephen will still run the business and will continue to craft the same superior quality Joss Cue that we have been making since 1967. Dan made sure that Debbie and Stephen were ready for this transition. We have been there every day beside Dan. Stephen has helped the business evolve with his own innovative advances and stands behind every cue he crafts. He has been managing the shop for 44 years. We will carry on the tradition of making quality customized Joss Cues.

Dan will be missed immensely by his family. His daughters Amanda Janes, Kim Moreau and other son Mark Janes are heartbroken.

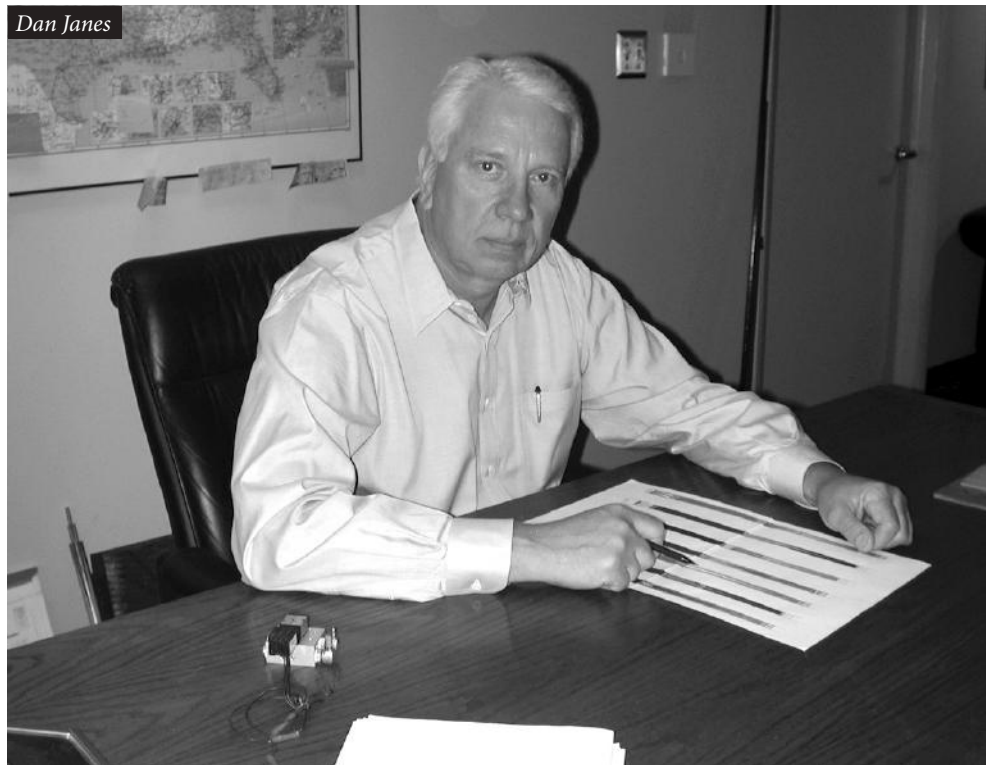
He is also survived by grandsons, a granddaughter, and great-grandchildren.

The pool world has lost a great man of the sport!

We are saddened.

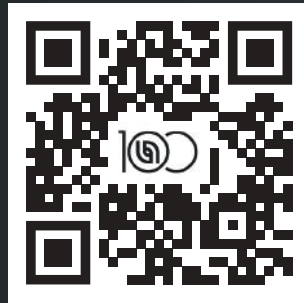
-- Janes Family

Dan Janes





FOR OUR 100TH ANNIVERSARY
WE ARE LAUNCHING
A UNIQUE PIECE OF CRAFTSMANSHIP



[ARAMITH100.COM](https://aramith100.com)

MADE IN BELGIUM

CAROLINE PAO GETS ONBOARD

We are delighted to announce that Caroline Pao is the latest player to join #teamonboard.

Caroline Pao has always been surrounded by pool, a pastime turned into a passion.

She began competing locally then nationally until she started her own business. After almost a 8-year hiatus, Caroline was invited to play in a 2018 WPBA event as an unranked qualifier and managed to finish 7-8th place.

Since then, she continued to compete and performed favourably placing 11th on the WPBA professional tour in 2021.

With the completion of the 2022 season, Caroline is currently the #1 ranked USA player on the WPBA tour and ranked 5th overall. Some of Caroline's additional achievements are 2022 WPBA Tournament Director's Sportsmanship Award, 11th on the Predator Women's Pro Series, 20th on the WPA (World Pool Association) Women's ranking, 7-time JPNW Women's Tour Stop Champion, BCA National Scotch Doubles Champion, 2-time BCA National Women Master's Team Champion, Multiple Female Player of the Year on the Mezz Pro Am and JPNW Women's Tour.



Caroline had this to say on the announcement:

I am very honoured to be part of the Onboard Team. With the wide selec-

tion of designs and high-quality products, I can go into battle with style, comfort and confidence. I look forward to representing Onboard Sportswear in tournaments worldwide.



EXCLUSIVE PRODUCTS FOR YOUR PRO CUES: ORIGINAL ITALIAN LEATHER, NEOPRENE INTERNAL PARTS, LONGONI JACQUARD CANVAS AND MUCH MORE. 4 BUTTS + 8 SHAFTS + SPARES

Giotto

BILLIART ITALY

EXCLUSIVE LEATHER CUE BAGS MADE IN ITALY

Sport



LONGONITM
LONGONICASES.COM

Tourney Results

Jun 03 - Jun 04

Joss Tour 2022-2023 Stop 17

Snookers - Sports Billiards, Bar & Grill

Providence, RI

- 1 Darren Belliveau \$1,050
- 2 Bob Mendenjian \$750
- 3 Steve Tavernier \$600
- 4 Francisco Cabral \$450
- 5 Clyde Matta \$300
- 5 Ray McNamara \$300
- 7 Billy Lanna \$200
- 7 Jiten Patel \$200
- 9 Brian Chase \$100
- 9 John Morlock \$100
- 9 Ranulf Tamba \$100
- 9 Rick Matarazzo \$100

Jun 03 - Jun 04

NWPA Tour 2023 Stop 2

Players Sports Bar

Kennewick, Washington

- 1 Molina Ortiz \$1,030
- 2 Stephanie Drakulic \$735
- 3 Liz Cole \$445
- 4 Raquel Minjarez \$285
- 5 Cindy Sliva \$200
- 5 Sheila Clark \$200
- 7 Katherine Robertson \$160
- 7 Nicole Donisi \$160
- 9 Fran Johnson \$125
- 9 Gwen Townsend \$125
- 9 Jeanne Christiansen \$125
- 9 Jordan Oakes \$125

Jun 03 - Jun 03

Mezz Cues LA 9-Ball Series Stop

Gladi8or Billiards

Los Angeles, California

- 1 Marshall Jung \$760
- 2 David Butler \$399
- 3 Jerry Lazzareschi \$238
- 4 Bob O'Hashi \$171
- 5 Francis Lanag \$100
- 5 Raul Flores \$100
- 7 Al Garcia \$67
- 7 Alfred Martinez \$67

Jun 03 - Jun 04

Joss Tour 2023-2024 Stop 17 Second Chance

Snookers - Sports Billiards, Bar & Grill

Providence, RI

- 1 Veronique Menard \$320
- 2 Steve Edmiston \$220
- 3 John Dennis \$160
- 4 Martin Longmire \$120

Jun 08 - Jun 11

WPBA Iron City Invitational

Iron City Billiards

Birmingham, Alabama

- 1 Kelly Fisher \$7,500
- 2 Kristina Tkach \$5,000
- 3 Tzu-Chien Wei \$3,600
- 4 Kaylee McIntosh \$2,500
- 5 Brittany Bryant \$1,900
- 5 Kristina Zlateva \$1,900
- 7 Marharyta Fefilava \$1,500
- 7 Yuki Hiraguchi \$1,500
- 9 April Larson \$1,200
- 9 Caroline Pao \$1,200
- 9 Loree Jon Hasson \$1,200
- 9 Susan Williams \$1,200
- 13 Eleanor Callado \$800
- 13 Jessica Barnes \$800
- 13 Meng-Hsia Hung \$800

- 13 Monica Webb \$800
- 17 Angela Janic \$500
- 17 Angela Williams \$500
- 17 Emily Duddy \$500
- 17 Janet Atwell \$500
- 17 Kennedy Meyman \$500
- 17 Savannah Easton \$500
- 17 Teruko Cucculelli \$500
- 17 Veronique Menard \$500

Jun 08 - Jun 11

14th Annual Chuck Markulis Memorial 9-Ball Division

Hard Times Billiards - Sacramento

Sacramento, CA

- 1 Shane Wolford \$5,000
- 2 Skyler Woodward \$3,000
- 3 Gerson Martinez \$1,500
- 3 Hunter Lombardo \$1,500
- 5 Billy Thorpe \$750
- 5 BJ Ussery \$750
- 5 Francis Ritarita \$750
- 5 Tyler Styer \$750
- 9 Adrian Prasad \$450
- 9 Eric Stanley \$450
- 9 Lukas Fracasso-Verner \$450
- 9 Nick De Leon \$450
- 9 Oscar Dominguez \$450
- 9 Sergio Del Puerto \$450
- 9 Spencer Ladin \$450
- 9 Tyrel Blowers \$450
- 17 Alex Brown \$150
- 17 Charles Jacques \$150
- 17 Ernesto Dominguez \$150
- 17 Gerardo Jamito \$150
- 17 Joao Sias \$150
- 17 Joe Palley \$150
- 17 Max Eberle \$150

17 Miguel Morfin \$150
17 Nick Gutierrez \$150
17 Oliver Ruuger \$150
17 Ralph Daloian \$150
17 Raymond Linares \$150
17 Ryan Sadumiano \$150
17 Ryan Sadumiano \$150
17 Sean Lewis \$150

Jun 08 - Jun 11

14th Annual Chuck Markulis Memorial One Pocket Division

Hard Times Billiards - Sacramento

Sacramento, CA

1 Gerson Martinez \$2,330
2 Lukas Fracasso-Verner \$1,200
3 Mitch Ellerman \$760
4 Skyler Woodward \$550
5 Billy Thorpe \$340
5 Miguel Morfin \$340
7 Oscar Dominguez \$240
7 Tyrel Blowers \$240
9 Evan Lunda \$160
9 Jeremy Long \$160
9 Joey Gebron \$160
9 Nick De Leon \$160
13 Kings Santy \$80
13 Oliver Ruuger \$80
13 Richey Orem \$80
13 Rudy Estoque \$80

Jun 10 - Jun 10

Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

Mickey Milligan's Sports Bar

New Bern, NC

1 Miguel Castillo \$500
2 Glenn Weatherly \$300
3 JT Ringgold \$150
4 DJ Brads \$100

Jun 10 - Jun 11

Players Madness Tour 2023 Stop #2

Break Time Billiards

Winston-Salem, NC
1 Josh Roberts \$1,530
2 Landon Hollingsworth \$900
3 Hunter White \$600
4 Cameron Hollinsworth \$400
5 Mark Bolton \$200
5 Mike Davis \$200

Jun 10 - Jun 11

Players Madness Tour 2023 Stop #2 Ladies Div

Break Time Billiards

Winston-Salem, NC

1 Pamela Perry \$550
2 Katie Bischoff \$300

Jun 16 - Jun 18

2023 Mezz Bucharest Open

Club IDM

, Bucharest

1 Konrad Juszczyzyn \$5,461
2 Ping-Chung Ko \$2,184
3 Pin-Yi Ko \$1,092
3 Tobias Bongers \$1,092
5 David Alcaide \$819
5 Petri Makkonen \$819
5 Shane Van Boening \$819
5 Wiktor Zielinski \$819
9 Alexandros Kazakis \$436
9 Anthony Brabin \$436
9 Antonis Kakaris \$436
9 Edmond Zaja \$436
9 Jan Rempe \$436
9 Jonas Souto Comino \$436
9 Marcus Chamat \$436
9 Roberto Bartol \$436
17 Dan Afriat \$218
17 Davy Piergiovanni \$218
17 Diliyan Tiklev \$218
17 Fadil Ozdemir \$218
17 Gabriel Cindac Ciprian \$218
17 George Antonakis \$218
17 Hubert Lopotko \$218
17 Ioan Ladanyi \$218
17 Jesper Carlsson \$218

17 John Morra \$218
17 Karl Gnadeberg \$218
17 Mario Toader \$218
17 Marios Komninakis \$218
17 Mika Immonen \$218
17 Nick Malai \$218
17 Walter Laikre \$218
33 Babken Melkonyan \$109
33 Christos Papageorgiou \$109
33 Corneliu Volosciuc \$109
33 Costas Konnaris \$109
33 Dimitris Loukatos \$109
33 Dorin Lusan \$109
33 Georgios Sofronis \$109
33 JJ Faul \$109
33 Jose Alberto Delgado \$109
33 Kristina Zlateva \$109
33 Lyudmil Georgiev \$109
33 Panagiotis Xypoliteas \$109
33 Pawel Boguszewski \$109
33 Serge Das \$109
33 Tom Staveley \$109
33 Tony Drago \$109

Jun 16 - Jun 18

2023 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 5 - 13 & Under Boys

Griff's

Las Vegas, Nevada

1 Jas Makhni
2 Deke Squier
3 Maddox Griggs

Jun 16 - Jun 18

2023 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 5 - 13 & Under Girls

Griff's

Las Vegas, Nevada

1 Savannah Easton
2 Jordan Heffrey
3 Arianna Houston

Jun 16 - Jun 18

2023 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 5 - 18 & Under Girls

Griff's

- Las Vegas, Nevada
1 Savannah Easton
2 Skylar Hess
3 Courtney Hairfield

Jun 16 - Jun 18

2023 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 5 - 18 & Under Boys

Griff's

- Las Vegas, Nevada
1 Lazaro Martinez III
2 Landon Hollingsworth
3 Niko Konkel

Jun 16 - Jun 18

2023 Junior International 9-Ball Championship Stop 5 - Pro Am

Griff's

- Las Vegas, Nevada
1 Logan Whitaker
2 Landon Hollingsworth
3 Carlos Jinez

Jun 17 - Jun 17

JPNEWT Tour 2023 Stop #4

Bluegrass Billiards

- Philadelphia, Pa
1 Briana Miller \$800
2 JoAnn Mason Parker \$600
3 Caroline Pao \$450
4 Emily Duddy \$350
5 Charlene Capers \$225
5 Rachel Walters \$225
7 Ashlee Trinci \$150
7 Kia Burwell \$150
9 Billie Billing \$75
9 Ceci Strain \$75
9 Jay Pass \$75
9 Nicole Nester \$75

Jun 17 - Jun 18

Stokers Pool Tour Stop

Top Shelf Billiards

- Collinsville, VA
1 Jonathan Ailstock \$700
2 Jody Musselman \$460
3 Greg Nall \$340
4 Collin Hall \$240
5 Greg Shelton \$100
5 Michael Neal \$100

Jun 17 - Jun 17

Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

West End Billiards

- Gastonia, North Carolina
1 Zach Martin \$560
2 Marty Shook \$320
3 Amber Jackson \$200
4 Alicia Putnam \$135

Jun 24 - Jun 24

Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

OverTime Bar & Grill

- Columbia, SC
1 Junior Gabriel \$850
2 John Stallings \$575
3 Russell Scott \$350
4 Will Hammer \$200
5 Gatlin Askins \$100
5 Vocy Lesane \$100
7 Jordan Baker \$100
7 Terry Brumble \$100

Jun 24 - Jun 25

Garden State Pool Tour Amateur Stop

Staten Island, NY

- 1 Dinko Busanich \$500
2 Anthony Cancilla \$250
3 Michelle Brotons \$150
4 Jack Sullivan \$100
5 Franklin Ayala \$80
5 Hunter Sullivan \$80
7 Mikhail Kim \$65
7 PJ Puma \$65

Jun 24 - Jun 25

2023 Delaware State Ladies Bar-box 8-Ball Championship

Milford Billiards

- Milford, Delaware
1 Rachel Walters \$500
2 Tina Pawloski Malm \$250
3 Lai Li \$160
4 Liz Taylor \$120
5 Nicole Nester \$85
5 Sandy MacDonald Labar \$85

Jun 24 - Jun 25

2023 DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop 6

Stixx And Stones Billiards

- Lewisville, Texas
1 Max Sun \$1,200
2 Mark Johnson \$855
3 Doug Winnett \$640
4 Curtis Cardwell \$425
5 Clint Palaci \$320
5 Joe Pelayo \$320
7 Rafael Ibarra \$240
7 Shane McMinn \$240
9 Brian Cady \$170
9 Francisco Pineda \$170
9 Jonathan Rawlins \$170
9 Ruben Bautista \$170
13 Gilbert Riggins Jr. \$90
13 Jason Gladden \$90
13 Johnny Garcia \$90
13 Mohammed Alrawi \$90

Jun 25 - Jun 25

B & L Tournaments 10-Ball Mini-Series Stop

Bank Shot Bar & Grill

- Laurel, MD
1 Omer Abbasi \$345
2 Frank Wei \$175
3 Paul Oh \$115
4 John Oliveras \$85

PROLINE



PROLINE 4X8

OUR LATEST BLUEPRINT FOR INTELLIGENT CASE DESIGN.

DESIGNED WITH PURPOSE | CUETEC.COM

CUETEC

© 2023 CUETEC CO. LTD. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Upcoming Tournaments

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

JULY

On The Snap Tour Stop #6

Jul 08 - Jul 09

Tailgaters Sports Bar
Frisco, Texas

Florida Battle of the Junior Champions Qualifier

Jul 08 - Jul 08

Hollenbeck's Cue Club - Sussex Bowl
Sussex, Wisconsin

NWPA Tour 2023 Stop 3

Jul 15 - Jul 16

Phil's Bar & Grill
Salem, Oregon

JPNEWT Tour 2023 Stop #5

Jul 15 - Jul 15

First Break Cafe
Sterling, VA

SE Open 9-Ball Tour Atlanta Charity Event

Jul 15 - Jul 16

Mr Cues 2
Atlanta, GA

DL Billiards Tour Ladies Stop 4

Jul 22 - Jul 23

Big Tyme Billiards
Spring, Texas

DL Billiards Tour Open Stop 4

Jul 22 - Jul 23

Big Tyme Billiards
Spring, Texas

East Regional Pool Tour Stop #6

Jul 22 - Jul 22

Huber Heights, OH

2023 BEF Junior Nationals

Jul 24 - Jul 30

Oakley-Lindsay Center
Quincy, Illinois

Maryland Battle of the Junior Champions Qualifier

Aug 05 - Aug 05

Center Pocket Billiards
Bowie, Maryland

European Open 2023

Aug 08 - Aug 13

Hotel Esperanto
Fulda, Germany

Filler's Junior Open

Aug 11 - Aug 12

Hotel Esperanto
Fulda Germany

DL Billiards Tour Ladies Stop 5

Aug 12 - Aug 13

Bogies Billiards West
Houston, Texas

DL Billiards Tour Open Stop 5

Aug 12 - Aug 13

Bogies Billiards West
Houston, Texas

NWPA Tour 2023 Stop 4

Aug 19 - Aug 20

Legacy Billiards Bar & Grill
Spokane, Washington

Tiger Florida Tour 2023 Stop 4

Aug 19 - Aug 19

Palm Beach Billiards
North Palm Beach, Florida

2023 US Open One Pocket Championship

Aug 20 - Aug 23

Griff's
Las Vegas, Nevada

2023 US Open Bank Pool Championship

Aug 23 - Aug 26

Griff's
Las Vegas, Nevada

Arizona Women's Billiards Tour 2023 Stop 5

Aug 26 - Aug 27

Pockets Billiards
Tucson, AZ

On The Snap Tour Stop #7

Aug 26 - Aug 27

Jeffro's Billiards
Canton, TX

50th Annual Texas Open

Aug 26 - Sep 04

Skinny Bob's Billiards
Round Rock, Texas

Capone's 2023 Florida Pro Cup Series Stop 3

Aug 30 - Sep 04

Capone's Billiard Lounge
Spring Hill, FL

Turning Stone Classic XXXVII

Aug 31 - Sep 03

Turning Stone Casino
Verona, NY

AZBILLIARDS MONEY LIST

	NAME	COUNTRY	\$ AMOUNT	
	Fedor Gorst	 RUS	\$143,341.00	
	Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz	 ESP	\$136,895.00	
	Eklent Kaci	 ALB	\$114,950.00	
	Joshua Filler	 GER	\$103,519.00	
	Ko Pin Yi	 TPE	\$66,740.00	↑
	Shane Van Boening	 USA	\$62,769.00	↓
	Wiktor Zielinski	 POL	\$58,219.00	↑
	Ko Ping Chung	 TPE	\$56,505.00	↑
	Roberto Gomez	 PHI	\$54,010.00	↓
	Jayson Shaw	 SCO	\$53,638.00	

THECUEGUY 602-439-4526

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

thecueguy.com cueguymark@gmail.com

Billiard Congress of America Presents:

THE 35TH ANNUAL 2023 JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



Billiard Congress
of America



Serving the Sport
for 75 Years

July 24-30 | billiardeducation.org

Oakley-Lindsay Center, 300 Civic Center Plaza, Quincy, IL

