

Billiards Buzz

an   tion

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**ANOTHER MAJOR
FOR
ALCAIDE**

CONTRIBUTORS:

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

Billiard Education Foundation
Matt Lynch - Matchroom Multi Sport
Matchroom Multi Sport
United States Billiard Association
Brittany Bryant

COVER PHOTO:

Taka Wu - Matchroom Multi Sport

GRAPHICS AND LAYOUT:

Natasha Dolovacki
Nebojsa Dolovacki

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FROM THE Head Rail

MIKE HOWERTON

I mentioned last month that it was a great time to be in the Billiards Media game. Maybe I spoke too soon though. All you see on social media right now is people giving their opinions on the Matchroom / WPA battle.

I am encouraged to see how much input the players themselves are posting online. Billiards has needed a player's organization for a very long time. I don't mean a "group of players banding together to make sure they all get paid". That was a failure the last time it was tried.

I want to see a group of players come together to work with promoters on what they can do for each other to make the sport more successful.

Until that is formed though, hopefully the input from such a large number of players can maybe help to persuade (force?) the two sides to come to the table with some resolution that works for both of them, and more importantly, the sport itself.

Hey, a man can dream!



THE BLUE YOU NEED

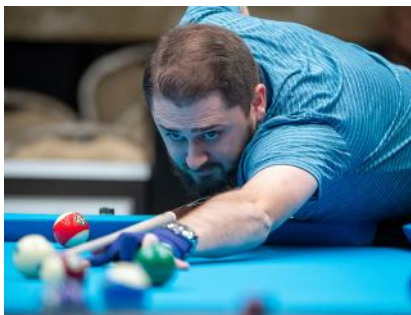
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CORRECT SIDE / WRONG SIDE

INTRODUCTION

The Correct Side/Wrong Side is one of those principles that is so completely obvious – once you know it! Indeed, when it is explained to you, as I am going to do in a moment, you might go, “Well, duh, I knew that.”

But if you watch players below the A Level as I have been doing for over 50 years, it becomes clear that so many players don’t really know it, or they don’t know the nuances and fine points of this principle. But after reading this column you will be well on your way to having a complete understanding of this principle of the Correct side/Wrong Side, which I labeled as one of the Master Key to position play in *Play Your Best Pool*.

So, without further ado, let’s begin this big lesson in position play.

DEFINITIONS

Straight-In Line – A line that runs from the center of the pocket through the center of the object ball and that continues out the other side.

Correct Side – When the cue ball is on the better

side or only side of the Straight-In-Line for playing position.

Wrong Side – When the cue ball is on a side of the Straight-In-Line that makes playing position more difficult, if not impossible.

Either Side – A position play that works well when the cue ball is on either side of the Straight-In-Line.

Ideal Angle – A cut angle on the Correct Side that makes it as simple as possible to play position.

Nearly-Straight-In – A shot with a very small cut angle. It can often be played like a straight in shot by cheating the pocket.

THE EXAMPLES

1 - CORRECT SIDE/ WRONG SIDE

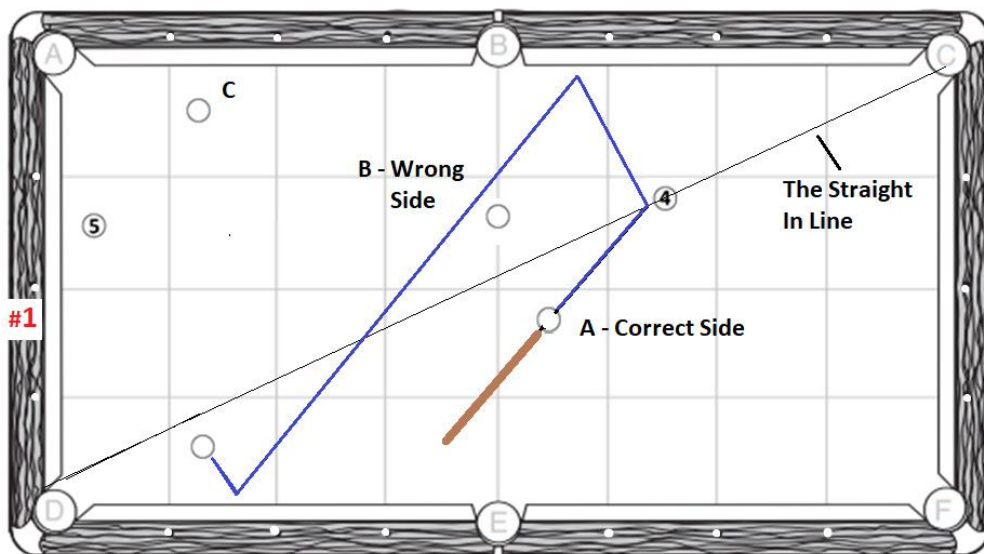
The first step in determining the Correct Side for your next shot is to draw a Straight-In Line from the center of the pocket through the center of the object ball and on to the rail, as shown in **Diagram #1**.

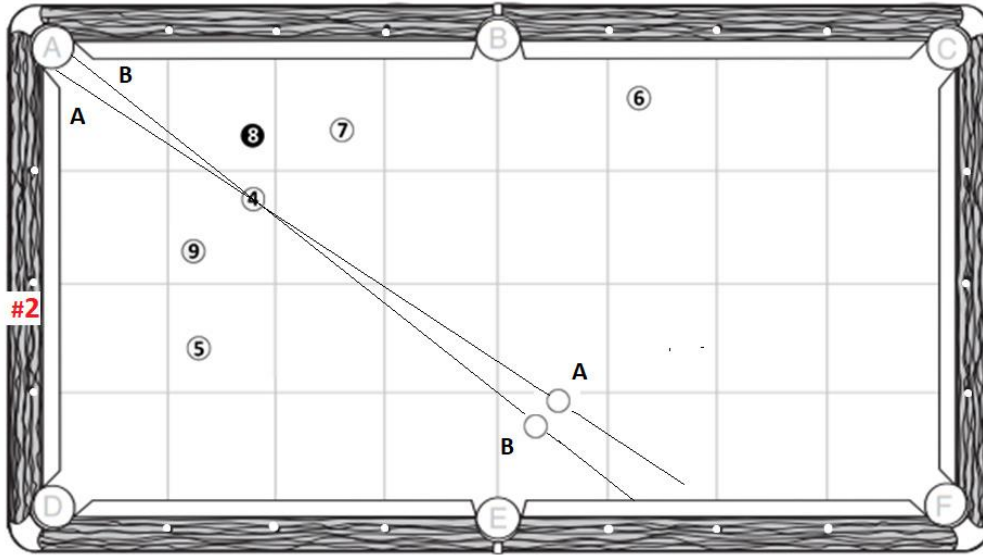
When the cue ball is outside of the straight in line, then it is on one side or the other of the object ball. On most position plays in 9&10 Ball you want to be on the Correct Side of the ball with a cut angle that makes it as simple as possible to get shape on the next ball.

Our illustration shows one of the most commonly played position routes in 9&10 Ball. From the Correct Side, the route from the 4-ball to the 5-ball is a relatively simple 2-rail position play. If the cue ball had been in Position B (the Wrong Side) you would have been forced to play a difficult power draw shot off the bottom side rail and down the table to the short side of the 5-ball as shown by Position C.

2 – STRAIGHT-IN (AND NEARLY SO)

Very few shots are dead straight in, so you can think of a Straight-In-Shot as one that can be played like a Straight-In-Shot into a specific part of the pocket. As a result, shots with very small cut angles can, for all intents and purposes, be thought of as straight in shots.





As mentioned above, on most position plays in 9&10 Ball you want a cut angle. But pool is full of exceptions to its rules and principles, including the position shown in **Diagram #2**. If you were cutting the 4-ball to the left, you might run into the 7 or 8-ball, possible ending up without a shot. And, if you were cutting it to the right, the cue ball might end up close to the 5-ball without a playable shot.

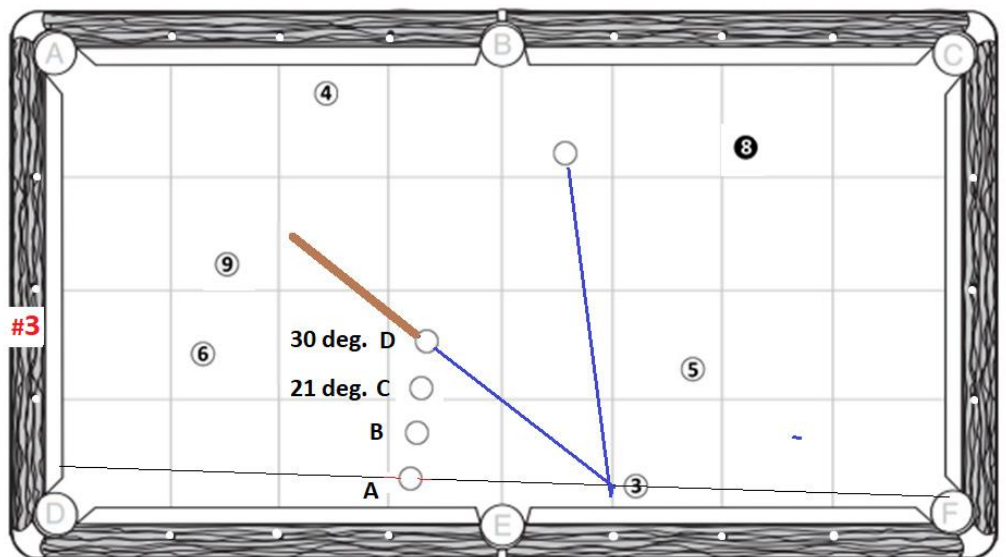
So, in this case we need a Straight-In-Shot, or a Nearly-Straight-In shot. With the cue ball in Position A, you could play the shot like a straight in shot into the left side of the pocket. And, from Position B, you could shoot it into the right side of the pocket. From this distance, I would favor the center of the pocket, accepting a slight drifting of the cue ball to the left (from A) or to the right (from B). The cue ball should end up no more than an inch or two from the Straight-In-Line.

3 – ONE SIDED SHOTS

A fair percentage of balls will come to a stop on or near a rail. **Diagram #3** shows one such position. The 3-ball is close to, but not on the rail. As a result, you could have a small cut to the right. With this angle you could possibly send the cue ball to the right end rail and across and down the table for position on the 4-ball. But this would

require a medium hard (6) follow shot with a half tip of left english, a shot that is easily missed, especially on tables with small pockets. As a result, position plays like this are more like Recovery Routes (see the July issue) – the kind that should be avoided.

The cut angle in Position B is on the shallow side, and is therefore not one that you would purposefully play for. The cue balls



in Positions C (a 21 degree cut) and D (a 30 degree cut) offer very playable position routes to the 4-ball. Playing for either angle or somewhere in between is largely a matter of preference.

In sum, shots like these can help you to improve your concept of the ideal angle on the Correct Side for those positions when the object ball is further from the cushion.

4 – EITHER SIDE WORKS, BUT ONE IS BETTER

On a good share of your position plays both sides can enable you to continue to the next shot, but one may have a decided edge over the other. In **Diagram #4**, you need to plan a sequence from the 5-ball to the 6 in order to set up a critical position play on the 7-ball.

Before I give you my take on this position, take a moment to come up with your

to power the cue ball four rails to Position D. As a testament to the trouble this shot can present, I saw a top pro miss this very same shot at the recent European Open!

6 – HUGE MISTAKE: SMALL ANGLE ON WRONG SIDE #2

Ending up with a small angle on the Wrong Side is such a colossal error that I thought this mistake deserved another example, only this time it involves a shot into a corner pocket.

Diagram #6 shows four possible positions for the 3-ball. Your goal on each of these shots is have the cue ball stop at or near Cue Ball D. Position A is best as you have a simple draw shot off the side rail and out for shape on the 4-ball. From Position B you could possibly kill the cue ball and end up near Position D. If kill shots are not your strong suit, you could send the cue ball across the table

and back for shape on the 4-ball.

Cue Ball C is on the Wrong Side, but at least you have a large enough angle to play a Recovery Route by sending the cue ball across the table and back for shape on the 4-ball.

I saved the worst for last. With the cue ball in Position D, it will be extremely difficult if not impossible to hold the cue ball for the 4-ball. You could try playing a follow shot with inside english, sending the cue ball to the end rail and back out for the 4-ball. However, deflection on shots like this often leads to overcutting the shot. From Position D it's impossible to send the cue ball to the bottom side rail and back.

In sum, a well-played Recovery Route can atone for many of your mistakes. However, should you leave yourself with a small angle on the Wrong Side position could now be very difficult,

if not impossible. In these cases, you may have to consider playing a safety.

WATCHING PROS PLAY

My book/DVD combo, *Capelle On 9-Ball*, analyzed a classic double hill match between Johnny Archer and Efren Reyes. When doing research for this project I would watch the match over and over again – 10 times in all. On each viewing I would isolate some feature, such as speed control, the number of warm-up strokes, or the time they spent planning the shot. When I completed my research, I had learned so much about how these two HOF members best play so well.

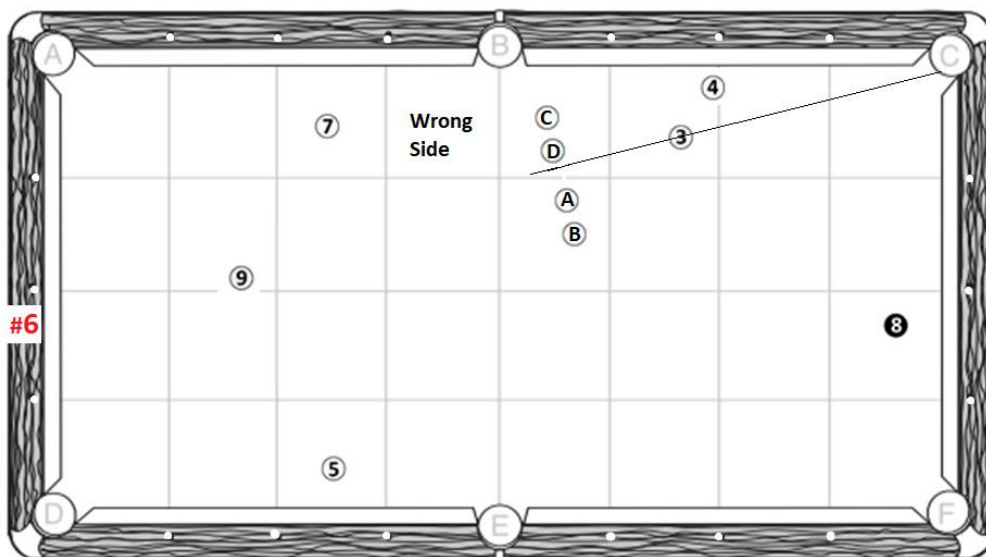
I say all of this because I would like for you to also take this approach to watching videos of the pros on Accu-Stats (which includes the match I mentioned above). Try watching

them with the Correct Side/ Wrong side principle in mind. Hit pause before each shot and take your best guess at which side they are going to send the cue ball, how much angle they are playing for, and why. Then watch the shot and compare your guesstimate with their result.

You will learn a lot about the pro's position routes. And, since pros make mistakes, on some shots your plan might be better than their result! In any case, if you study the pros for several matches using the Correct Side filter, the optimal routes will start to jump right off the table – and into your pool playing brain!

I also suggest that you practice the Correct Side/Wrong Side principle by yourself or with a friend. Try playing the ghost. Break the balls, take ball-in-hand, and keep this principle in mind as you play each shot. If you are practicing with a friend, try planning the shots together as each of you may see things that the other does not.

In sum, I strongly believe that as you begin master the Correct Side/Wrong Side principle and all of the finepoints that are a part of it, that you could experience a quantum leap in your play! And when you do, please drop me a line at capellepublishing@gmail.com and I would be happy, with your permission of course, to share your story with your fellow pool players.



OVERCOMING OVER-CONFIDENCE

Have you ever entered a pool tournament where you were the overwhelming favorite to win and gone two and out? This happens more often than you would think.

There are numerous examples in sports where top-ranked athletes or winning teams were upset by a much weaker opponent.

Despite many cautionary tales, many top-ranked pool players still fall into the “under-estimation” trap when facing a lower-rated opponent. Why does this happen so many times in pool? Well, it all boils down to a false sense of confidence. You can call it over-confidence.

For many professional players, success comes easy. The same players who perform in dominant fashion against a tough opponent also expect

the trend to continue when facing weaker opponents. Sometimes, these players look past their competition and look forward to an opponent they see as more competitive.

When you underestimate an opponent, you are not accounting for how hard your opponent has been working on their game, how motivated they may be to pull off a big upset or the fact that you could be having an off day yourself. “On any given day...” refers to the fact that victory is never guaranteed and given the right circumstances, even the best players in the world often fail. Every game, every match, every tournament, or every



event is filled with competitors, fighting, scratching, and clawing to end up victorious. If you are not willing to give it all you got in your preparation, effort, and focus, then you are opening your next match to the possibility of an upset.

An example of the “under-estimation trap” was the 1979 World Championship matchup between Mike Sigel and Warren “Monk” Costanzo. In the final set, the heavily favored Sigel led 3-2 and was just two shots away from victory. Costanzo showed no emotion while Sigel built the lead. Costanzo appeared defeated and was a tremendous underdog the next time he approached the table.

A safe was impossible. So was a bank. His only chance was to cut the 9-ball straight into the corner—a super-thin cut. A miss and the match was over. Costanzo lined up the shot and then stepped away. Costanzo stepped up to the table again, bent over the shot and, with a brisk stroke, drilled the 9-ball home. Sigel looked to the floor in disgust. The match was dead even with one game to go.

Costanzo calculated his break. With all the power he could muster, he stroked



his cue. The rack exploded, and a cluster of balls burst toward a corner pocket. Amazingly, the 9-ball led the way, stopping a few inches from the pocket. But then the rest of the cluster rumbled toward it, smashed into it and funneled it into the corner.

A delirious circle formed around Costanzo, who was crying and gasping for breath. A good 10 minutes passed. Finally, security guards got to him and helped him toward a sofa, where an oxygen mask was strapped across his face. He had yet to say a word. Then Monk finally spoke: "Does anybody have a cigarette?"

The moral of the story is that no opponent is a pushover. On any given day, weaker opponents can defeat you! No matter how talented you are or how dominant your game is, you will not win every game.

Nevertheless, you need to prepare and approach every competition with the same degree of intensity, no mat-

“

DESPITE MANY CAUTIONARY TALES, MANY TOP-RANKED POOL PLAYERS STILL FALL INTO THE "UNDER-ESTIMATION" TRAP WHEN FACING A LOWER-RATED OPPONENT. WHY DOES THIS HAPPEN SO MANY TIMES IN POOL? WELL, IT ALL BOILS DOWN TO A FALSE SENSE OF CONFIDENCE. YOU CAN CALL IT OVER-CONFIDENCE.

”

ter what the level of your competition. Taking your opponent lightly only makes competition more challenging. As a player it's important to develop the habit of preparing the same way for every single opponent. Practice with the same intensity.

Use the same pre-shot routine. Have a sound game-plan for each match. Find the game within the game to help you get into the flow. Challenge yourself to push your limits. Don't expect to coast by any opponent even if you are the best player.

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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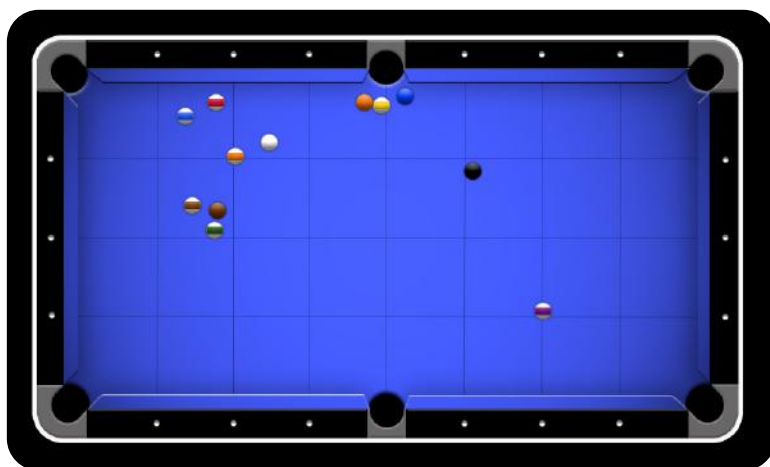
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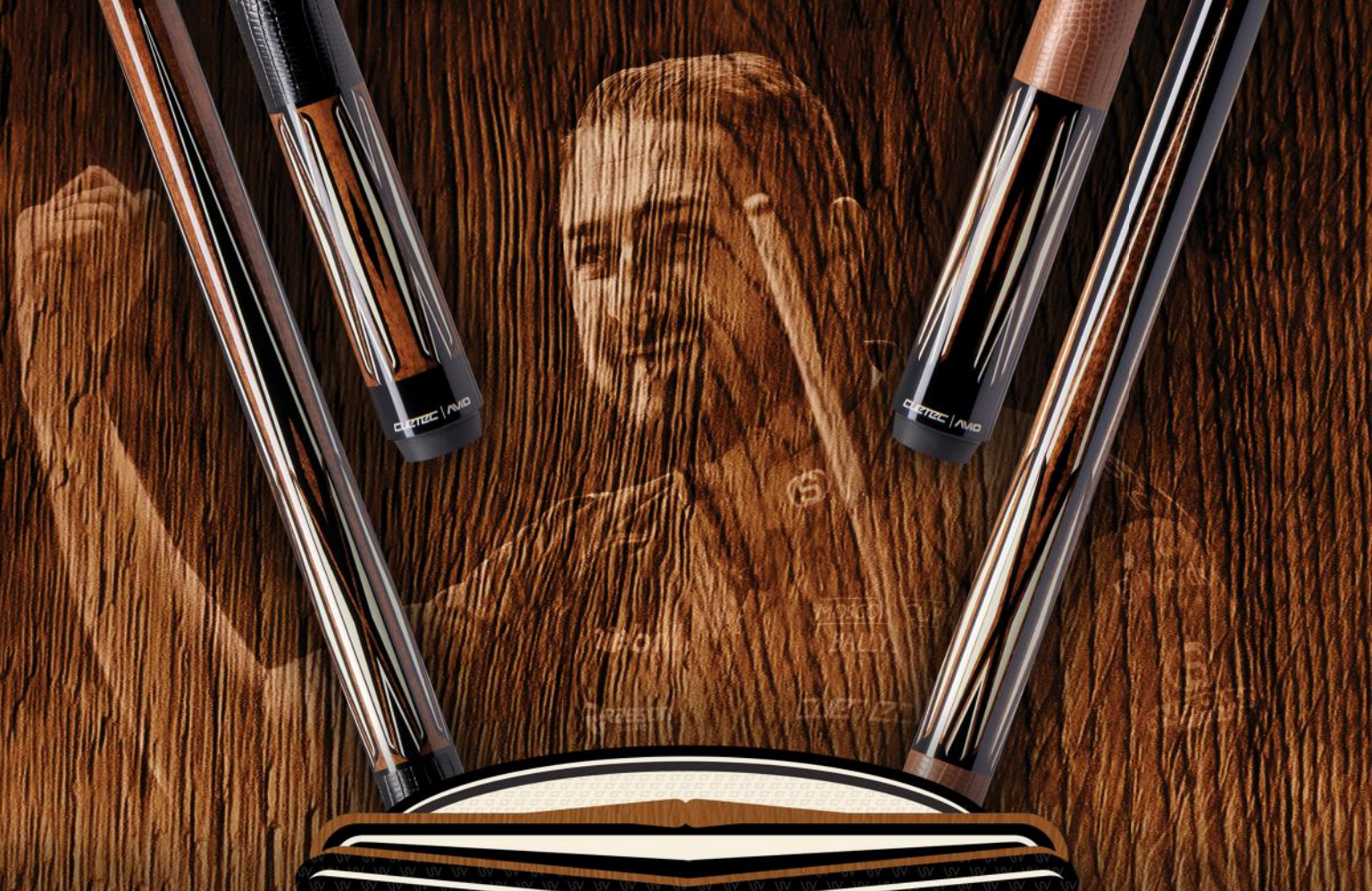


Accu-Stats Video Productions has been bringing us World Class Pool on video for the last 30 years. With this column, we hope to bring you some examples of the best shots that come up between the greatest players who play this game.

This month's shot comes from the 2017 Make It Happen 8-Ball Invitational. Corey Deuel was faced with this tough situation, when an attempted breakout of a cluster didn't work out for him.

He studied this situation for a while, and had commentator Jeremy Jones stumped as to what he would do. Then, as he usually does, Deuel found this creative pattern to finish off the rack.





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Gospel Trick Shot #43

The 'Path of the Wind' Shot

History of the Trick Shot: Wayne Parker from South Africa was discussing with his wife, Chantal, about creating a new Gospel Trick Shot that can somehow demonstrate what it means to be led by the 'wind' of the Holy Spirit, as God often has a different way of working things out for us. Chantal shared that it had to be a shot that at first glance, one could not easily see what the outcome of the shot would be. This is how the shot was inspired. A Shot that at first glance seemed impossible, but worked out in the end, in a way least expected with an element of surprise. Very much like how the Lord at times enjoys getting us out of trouble in ways we least expect.

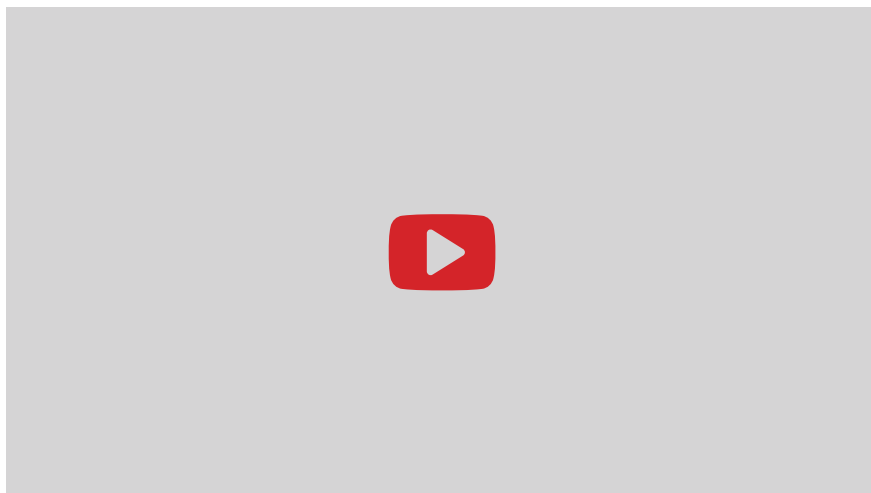
GTS Name and Why: In the video, Wayne shares on John 3:8 and how everyone who is born of the Spirit is like the wind. It is very difficult to predict the direction the wind blows. When we trust in the leading and guiding of the Holy Spirit, we too will be like the wind following the leading of the Holy Spirit through all the obstacles of life. Many times, the Lord will make a way for us that we never expected. He leads us through paths of righteousness for His name's sake and not ours.

Scripture References (NIV): "The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." (John 3:8)

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight" (Proverbs 3:8)

Object Ball(s) Placement: The 3-ball, 1-ball and 6-ball are all frozen to each other with the 1-ball stacked on a single block of chalk and the 3-ball stacked on two blocks of chalk, as shown in the diagram. These three balls are angled in at about 30 degrees toward the rail with the 3-ball almost overlapping the cushion. The other balls are randomly scattered across the table as in the diagram, but ensuring a clear path for the cue ball to travel between them without knocking into them as outlined in the diagram.

Objective: Firmly shoot the cue ball from its diagramed position, with a little right-hand English, to go 7 rails around the table, and



then into the 6-ball to bump the 3-ball off the two stacked blocks of chalk. The 3-ball will fall down onto the edge of the cushion and be deflected across the table into the opposite sidepocket.

Special Notes: First start by setting up the 3,1 and 6-balls with the 3-ball elevated on two blocks of chalk so that the 3-ball is flush with the side rail looking at it from above. The 3,1 and 6-balls are lined up at about 30 degrees into the side rail so that when the 3-ball is knocked off it will clip the edge of the rail and make its way across the table into the opposite side pocket. One can prep the perfect setup of these balls by manually rolling a ball into the 3,1,6 ball setup to see the

direction the 3-ball will travel and make adjustments accordingly. If you need the 3-ball to travel faster toward the side pocket, try placing two or three quarters under the two blocks of chalk.

Crowd Reactions Through the Years: With this shot it is almost impossible to predict what the outcome would be especially after placing the triangle in the way. In the end the 3-ball will unexpectedly make its way across the table, and will barely make it into the pocket building the suspense. Once the 3 ball is made, expect a load roar of applause with cheering and shouting, as it is the element of surprise that will have the crowds responding in jaw-dropping amazement.





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David Alcaide

is 2023 European Open Championship Winner

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

David Alcaide has won the 2023 European Open Pool Championship at Hotel Esperanto, Fulda, Germany beating Anton Raga in the final in a thrilling hill finish live on Sky Sports in the UK, Tap GO in the Philippines, Sport 1 in Germany, DAZN in the USA, and networks worldwide from 6 pm local time. (CEST).

David Alcaide 13-12 Anton Raga

In a match-up of experience and youth, it was the latter who took the opener as Raga pounced on a loose position from Alcaide on the seven that left him chasing the nine from trying to make the eight. A dry break from Raga in the second rack allowed

Alcaide in for the run out and it was 1-1. Nothing could separate the pair early doors as they went toe to toe for 2-2, 3-3, and 4-4.

There was a familiar tale throughout as Alcaide pulled ahead once again at 5-4 after a dry break from Raga put him to the table. In the tenth, Alcaide



had a dry break of his own and soon it was square again at 5-5. Both players were struggling with the break and a scratch from Raga led Alcaide back in to bring up a 6-5 lead through a 4-9 combo. Neither could shake each other's efforts off and a skewiff shape on the nine from Alcaide left the ball hanging and it was 6-6.

Raga made the first break toward the finish line with back-to-back runouts to go 8-6 up. An errant effort on the two from Raga in the 15th rack was all it took Alcaide to cut the deficit to one at 8-7. A confident break and run levelled up at 8-8 and a race to five was on. The 4-9 was on for Alcaide again in the following rack and the Spaniard took charge for 9-8.

Alcaide closed in on the finishing line with another brilliant rack in the 18th to reach double digits first. The experience of Alcaide was starting to shine through with the two-time World Pool Masters champion two away from victory with another break and run for 11-8, it was five racks on the spin. Raga stole the 20th rack and then the following before a tricky break-and-run road map put Raga one behind El Matador 11-10.

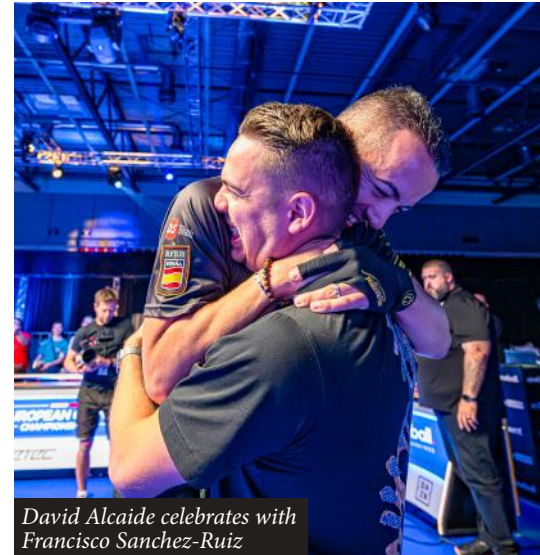
Raga seemed to find the break on his comeback trail but it deserted him in the 22nd with a dry break that allowed Alcaide in to tie Raga in a tough snooker from the two ball. Alcaide made an uncharacteristic miss on the three and Raga stepped in to level up at 11 all, the first time they were level since 6-6. A brilliant bank on the six the pick of the bunch to level up. A tight 23rd rack went Raga's way after a brief battle that saw Alcaide go airborne only to leave the three plum for his Filipino counterpart to pounce and reach the hill first.

A loose safety on the two in the 24th rack saw Alcaide level the tie for a thrilling hillhill finish, in one of the matches of the campaign. In the final rack, Alcaide was hooked on the two causing a brief safety battle which Raga got on top of only for his momentum to be swiftly halted by the 6 failing to drop in the middle pocket meaning Alcaide swooped for a first Matchroom major title since the 2019 World Pool Masters.

Alcaide provisionally moves up to number two in the Race to Mosconi Cup standings and inside the World Nineball Tour Rankings top ten over-



Anton Raga



David Alcaide celebrates with Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz

all: "All my finals go hill hill and I was like oh not another time, please. This is special. Last year I played well but I didn't come up well. This is important for me, I've come up good, and the Matchroom tournaments are always special. Today we celebrate but tomorrow we get back to practice."

"I think 8-7 for him, then I go to 10-8 and I think it's my big chance. 11-10 I miss a chance and then finally I have some luck."

On his way to victory, Alcaide overcame WNT No.1 and best friend Francisco Sanchez Ruiz: "It's difficult when he plays or I play. when we played together, we went to the toilet and we told each other to continue, don't worry! When this champion gives his support, it's special and it gives me confidence."

NEXT MATCHROOM EVENT

The signature Matchroom multi-table and oldest major in the sport, the US Open Pool Championship takes place at Harrah's Resort, Atlantic City, USA from September 25-30 where Francisco Sanchez Ruiz will look to defend his title. The SVB Junior Open will return on September 28-28 with entries open to Juniors aged 17 and under from Thursday, 17 August at 3pm UK time.

SKYLER WOODWARD

Qualifies For Ninth Consecutive Mosconi Cup

Story by MATT LYNCH - Matchroom Multi-Sport

Two-time MVP Skyler Woodward will make his ninth-consecutive Mosconi Cup appearance at Alexandra Palace, from December 6-9th in London live on Sky Sports in the UK and Ireland, after securing the first automatic qualification spot for Team USA through the World Nineball Tour Rankings.

The 30 year old was instrumental in leading the Americans to back-to-back Mosconi Cup titles in 2018 and 2019, and following a run of strong form in 2023 – reaching the semi-finals of both the UK Open and Spanish Open Pool Championships respectively – he'll be aiming to recapture Pool's most prestigious title under returning captain Jeremy Jones.

The first cut-off point for automatic selection for the 30th Anniversary Mosconi Cup arrived at the European Open Pool Championship, with Francisco Sanchez Ruiz confirmed ahead of the tournament as Team Europe's first selection.

With Woodward defeated in the last 32 by fellow American Tyler Styer, Shane Van Boening would have qualified with a place in the final. In beating the South Dakota Kid in the semi-finals en route to the title, David Alcaide confirmed Woodward's spot at the Ally Pally spectacle.

"It feels great to be on the team any year, but to be there for the 30th Anniversary year, it feels pretty amazing," said Woodward. "I feel like I'm playing great, breaking better and better at every event.

I feel like I've got to keep growing, hopefully get a title under my belt.

"Last year I played really well and I feel I like I could've won the last match too and put us in a good position, tied up at 8-8 going into the last day, but I missed a ball and David capitalised on it.

"We know we've had chances. In the last two Mosconi Cups, we've had the lead twice and let it slip away. We just

have to keep pushing and getting the wins to get there.

"I feel like a veteran on the team. Last year I had the second-most amount of appearances on the US side, so I feel like one of the veterans now. The younger guys are stepping up in America and things are starting to look up. I'll talk to them and help them to understand what to expect to try have everybody in the best form.

"There's nothing like the Mosconi Cup, period. To be at Ally Pally is going to be crazy. It would mean the world to get the title. We need to push and grow from everything we've learnt this year."

The stakes have never been higher for the Mosconi Cup with the prize fund ramped up by 30% with all members of the winning side set to take home \$40,000 and runner-ups taking \$20,000 each.

Last year, the crowd in Las Vegas set the barometer for the atmosphere with levels expected to ramp up even further thanks to Matchroom's plans to create a 360 arena in London for the first time as the USA look to win on European waters for the first time since 2018.



There are limited tickets available from £50 per day with a whole host of options available including VIP and following success in the USA, both Gold Sofas and VIP Sofas tickets offering fans the experience of a lifetime from behind the Team Europe and USA benches. VIP ticket holders will get access to the Mosconi Cup VIP lounge before play where they will be treated to a two-course buffet dinner along with unlimited drinks for four hours. Once in the arena, VIP holders will get a premium feel with a padded seat for the extra comfort.

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- Private Bar and Cloakroom in the Mosconi Cup Lounge
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- Daily meet and greet with the Mosconi Cup players and captains
- Exclusive VIP lanyard

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Fans can expect to hear news in the coming months on player qualifications for both sides in what will be a festival of pool in one of the most iconic sporting venues the world has seen.

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SAMEH SIDHOM

WINS CAROM CAFE INTERNATIONAL OPEN

Photos courtesy USBA

Egypt's Sameh Sidhom lived up to his #1 seed to win the 2023 Carom Cafe International Open at the Carom Cafe on July 31st – August 6th.

By virtue of Sidhom's #1 seed, he and #2 seed Tayfun Tasdemir were able to avoid the first round of play, which consisted of ten groups of seven players each.

Americans Hugo Patino and Pedro Piedrabuena led the way out those group stages, both going undefeated through their groups. They were joined by Alexander Salazar, Roland Forthomme, Huberney Catano, Muammer Rahmet, Luis Aveiga, Quoc Tuan Vo, Raymon Groot and Carlos Mario Villegas who were #1 players out of each group.

The top thirty players from the first round groups were then joined by Sidhom and Tasdemir in four groups of eight players.

Top players in each group from this stage were Piedrabuena, Rahmet, Tasdemir and Forthomme with only Piedrabuena and Rahmet being undefeated through their individual groups.

The top sixteen players from those groups were then put into a final single elimination board to determine an event winner. Sidhom, Tasdemir and



Piedrabuena were all first round winners, with Rahmet dropping a 40-25 match to Hugo Patino to finish in 9th place.

The quarterfinal round of play saw Sidhom, Piedrabuena, Tasdemir and Luis Aveiga all advance. Sidhom then eliminated Piedrabuena and Aveiga outlasted Tasdemir in the semifinals.

The final match was a close one, with Sidhom winning 40-37 in 30 innings of play.

The 2023 Carom Cafe International Open was sponsored by Carom Café Billiards, PredatorCRM, Classone, Dynaspheres, Vector, Royal Pro and CaromSports.

Five&Six and AfreecaTV were the official media partners, and the event was sanctioned by UMB (Union Mondial de Billard), CPB (Confederación Panamericana de Billar), USBA (United States Billiard Association).



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Nevada's Savannah Easton And Florida's Sofia Mast Take All Five BEF Junior National Girls Titles

Easton and Mast appear in three of the five divisional finals

Unless, for some reason or another, you've been out of touch with the pool community recently, it shouldn't come as a surprise that Savannah Easton (The Road Runner) and Sofia Mast (The Pink Dagger) won all five of the Girls titles at the 2023 BEF Junior Nationals last week (July 24-30) at the Oakley-Lindsay Center in Quincy, IL. They've been butting heads across a number of junior events for a couple of years now, culminating in this year's Junior Nationals by facing each other three times in the finals of separate divisions. As a prelude to the story that follows, it should be noted that there

are a number of national, notable and ongoing rivalries among many junior female competitors; rivalries between Easton, Mast, Skylar Hess, the Tate sisters (Bethany and Noelle), Courtney Hairfield, Jordan Helfery and Precilia Kinsley (et al) in any number of age-specific combinations.

Easton arrived in Quincy, IL last week to defend her 2022 Junior National 14U Girls 9-ball and 8-Ball titles, accomplishing the former and finishing as runner-up to Sofia Mast in the latter. In addition to the Junior Nationals 14U Girls title (11 entrants), Easton also won the 18U Girls 10-Ball title (23 entrants) and the Junior Nationals'

premier 22U Girls 14:1, straight pool title (31 entrants).

Easton's goal going into the 2023 Junior Nationals was to defend both of her titles and by winning the 18U Girls 10-ball title, qualify for the World Juniors event, scheduled for Oct. 19-22 in Klagenfurt, Austria; an event that has changed its core game to 10-Ball. Two out of three ain't bad, as they say. Easton defended the one title and after winning the 10-Ball title, was nominated to join 10 other Junior National competitors in Austria.

"I am very excited to have exceeded my expectations, defending one of my titles and winning the 18U 10-Ball World Qualifier, along with the first (Junior National) 14:1 Straight Pool title," she said. "It means a lot to me to progress in just one year of time."

The 23-entrant, 18U Girls event was executed in two phases; a double-elimination, first phase that whittled the field down to a final eight, four from each side of the bracket and a single-elimination phase that brought it to a conclusion. You may recognize some of the key competitors in this narrative. Easton had defeated Mast 6-3 in the third and final round of the double-elimination phase. Easton, Kennedy Meyman, and the two Tate sisters (Bethany and Noelle) advanced to the final bracket from the winners' side. Mast, Hess, Helfery and Avah Weems advanced from the loss side.

Meyman executed a double-hill win over Mast in the first single-elimina-



Bethany Tate, Savannah Easton and Sofia Mast



Skylar Hess, Sofia Mast and Savannah Easton

tion round and was then eliminated by Bethany Tate 6-3 in the semifinals. Easton, in the meantime, downed Helfery and in the semifinals, Noelle Tate, both 6-4, to join Bethany in the finals. Through six matches in the two phases, Easton would give up an average of only two racks per game; that average ending up low, when, in the double-elimination phase, she shut out her first two opponents and gave up only three racks to Mast. She would go on to give up four each in the first two matches of single-elimination to Jordan Helfery and Noelle Tate. She gave up only one rack to Bethany Tate in the finals to claim the title and in effect, punch her ticket to Austria.

“I was very determined to win in the finals,” Easton said. “I knew Bethany was a strong player. I needed to bring my A game and stay focused.”

“To be able to represent our country is an honor on its own,” she added, “and if I were fortunate enough to win my first world junior title in the near future, it will be the biggest stepping stone in my career as a pool player; to move forward in the future and make my country proud.”

Easton’s battle to defend her 2022, 14U Girls 9-ball title went through Jordan Helfery, twice. Upon arrival to compete for the hot seat, Easton had yet to give up a single rack, shutting out her first two opponents. She gave up one rack to Helfery to claim the hot seat. Helfery downed Noelle Tate 6-4 in the semifinals and Easton shut her out in the finals to successfully defend her title.

The BEF Junior Nationals’ premier 14:1 straight pool competition drew the largest field (31) of all the Girls events. By the time, the numbers had dwindled down to six (Wednesday evening), the list of ‘usual suspects’ were all that were left; Easton faced Helfery in one of the winners’ side semifinals while Mast and Bethany Tate squared off in the other one. Kennedy Meyman and Precilia Kinsley awaited the results on the loss side.

To that point, in races to 50, the winners’ side matches had been yielding an estimated, winning point differential of between 20 and 25 balls. With some exceptions, like the Tate and Skylar Hess winners’ side quarterfinal that finished with Tate ahead by 10, 50-40. The two winners’ side semifi-

nals, yielded point differentials of 7 and 8 balls; Mast downing Tate 50-43 and Easton defeating Helfery 50-42.

After what was, according to Easton, a difficult start to her week, she was ‘catching a gear.’

“When I first arrived, I was struggling with the humidity, time-zone change and the long traveling,” she said. “After a couple of better nights rest and good breakfasts, I started to warm up to the conditions.”

Not good news for those who had to face her during and after her participation in Wednesday’s 14:1 competition. She finished the event by defeating Mast 50-35 to claim the hot seat and when Mast returned from a 25-18 victory over Bethany Tate in the semifinals, defeated her a second time, 25-6 to claim the Junior Nationals’ first 14:1 title.

The Pink Dagger takes down The Roadrunner in finals of 8-Ball and 16U Girls 9-Ball

By all accounts (their own and those who spend time with them), the two girls are situational friends. They have certainly spent a lot of quality time together, battling back and forth at a pool table in a variety of locations all over the country. Away from the tables, they don’t get much of an opportunity to ‘hang out.’ Their respective homes (Florida and Las Vegas) being some 2,300 miles apart. But you’d never know it from watching them at the tables. Their camaraderie is evident. Their quiet interactions in a game/match are cordial and comfortable; no grim faces or any sign that they’re playing in any kind of consequential event. Their determination and skill underlies a respect and enjoyment of each other’s company (occasionally interrupted by the task at hand), which, in a way, makes their competitive battles a joy to watch.

They met first last week in the 22U Girls 8-Ball event that got underway on Tuesday, July 25 when, according

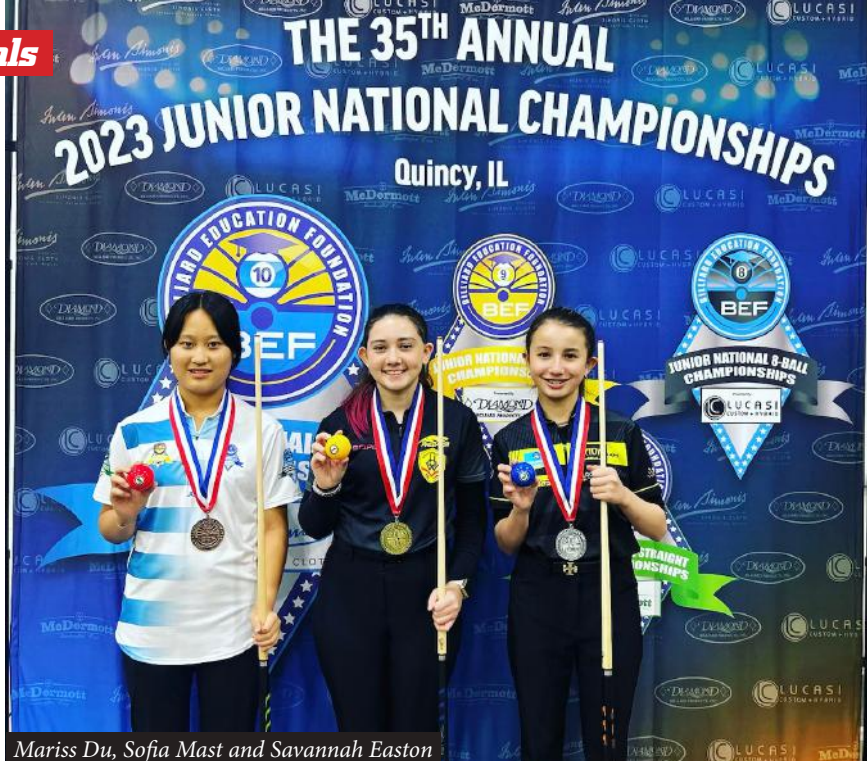
to Easton, she was still adjusting to the atmosphere, literal and figurative. Easton lost her second match in a double-hill battle against Marissa Du, who would go on to win a second straight double-hill battle, against Jordan Helfery, and advance to the hot seat match. Mast, in the meantime, was cruising, giving up two total racks to her first three opponents, one of which she gave up to Bethany Tate in a winners' side semifinal to face Du in the hot seat match. Mast gave up another rack to Du claiming the hot seat.

Easton, in the meantime, in races to 4, had set out on a five-match, loss-side winning streak that had eventually eliminated, in order, Bethany Tate (0), Precilia Kinsley (1) and in the semifinals, Du 4-1; the atmospheric adjustment apparently well underway. The Pink Dagger though, struck quickly and decisively in the finals, giving up just a single rack to Easton and claiming her first 2023 Junior National title.

They met again in the finals of the short-field (9 entrants) 16U Girls 9-Ball event. Mast won five straight matches to claim the title. She gave up a total of only five racks through 41 games; 1 in the opener against Avah Weems, none at all to Jordan Helfery and Massachusetts' Darragh O'Connor. In the hot seat match, she gave up only two to Easton. Easton downed Skylar Hess 7-5 in the semifinals before giving up two more in the finals to Mast who claimed the title 8-2.

Mast will not be joining those who qualified for the World Junior Nationals in October. She'd been among the final eight in the qualifying 18U Girls 10-ball division, but lost, double hill, to Kennedy Meyman in the opening round of the event's single elimination phase. She is most definitely not a teenager that dwells on the past (an early, important lesson in any competitive sport).

"It was crushing," she admitted of her loss in the 10-ball competition, "but I'm happy with my other finishes. I



Mariss Du, Sofia Mast and Savannah Easton

played in four events, winning two of them and runner-up in a third."

Mast was on the hill at 5-2 against Meyman, who rallied to win the match.

"I think I played really well the whole week," said Mast, "so I'm proud of my performance, but the pressure of how much the qualifying tournament meant to me, got to me and at the end of that match, my nerves took over and I just couldn't finish."

"I was shaking even before that match started," she added, "and needing just one more game and one more ball, I lost focus and momentum and let it slip away."

Mast offered congratulations to all of the qualifying competitors and Meyman in particular, because she "de-

serves her spot and my respect for not giving up."

"Go show the world what the US can do," she told all of the qualifying competitors headed for Austria in October.

Easton and Mast won all five Junior National girls titles and met in the finals of three of them. In their private lives, neither has yet to enter high school, though they are both looking at the potential for a long and productive career playing pool. Whether they will maintain their interest and skills to make it a primary career remains to be seen. Alternative careers are possible, but at their age, the existence of at least one career that demonstrates such extraordinary potential is rare, remarkable and a demonstration of two extraordinary young women with at least one extraordinary talent.

QUALIFIERS TO THE PREDATOR JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS ON OCTOBER 19-22 IN KLAGENFURT, AUSTRIA

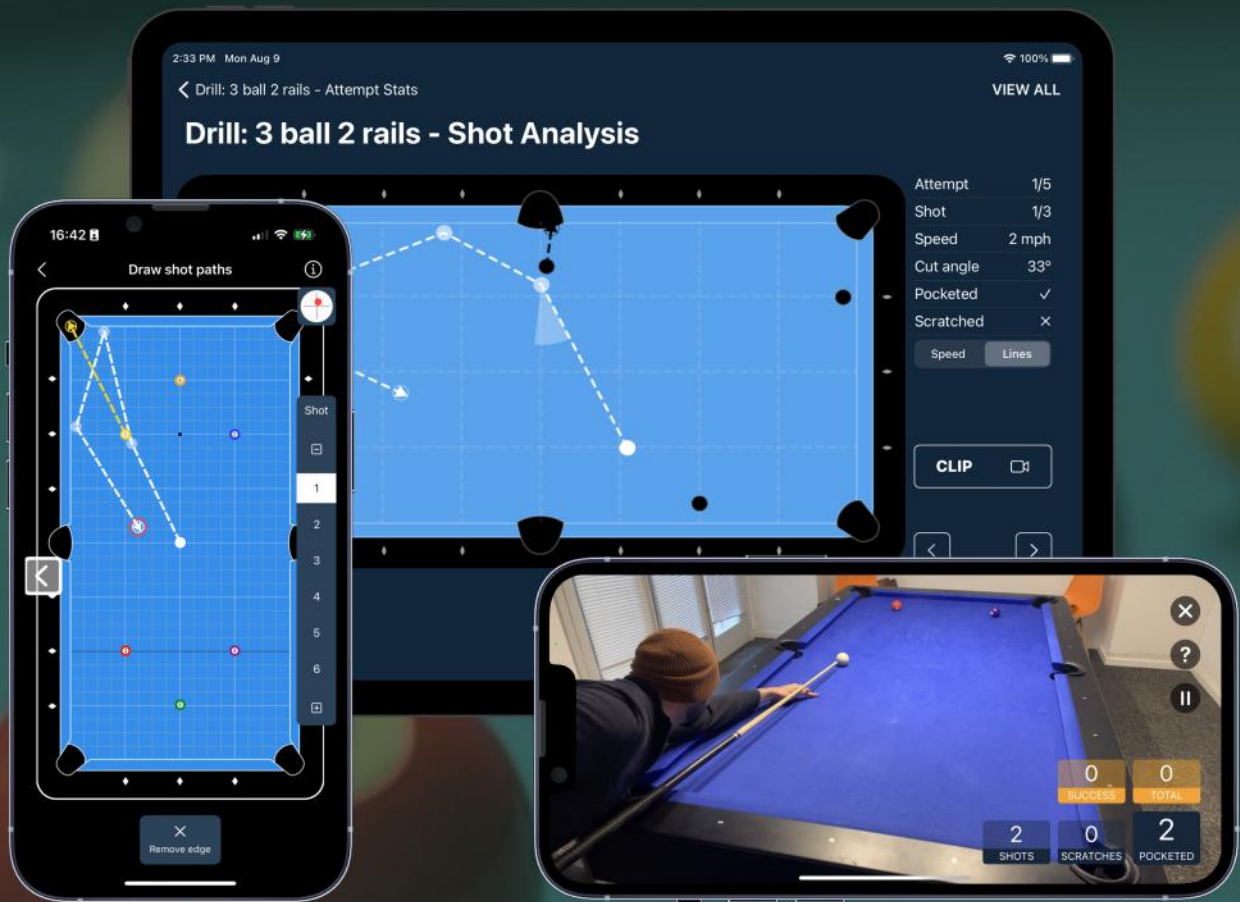
GIRLS UNDER 19 – Savannah Easton, Bethany Tate, Kennedy Meyman, Noelle Tate

BOYS UNDER 19 – Samuel Henderson, Landon Hollingsworth, Garrett Vaughan and Hank Leinen

BOYS UNDER 16 – Adrian Prasad, Hayden Ernst, Jas Makhani and Hank Leinen

(Leinen can't play in both, so he will go in for the 16U division)

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Iowa's Sam Henderson Wins 18U 10-Ball And 22U 14.1 Tournament At BEF Junior Nationals

Eight boys in two divisions qualify for Predator World Junior Championships in Austria

South Carolina's Landon Hollingsworth traveled to Quincy, IL, about five hours south of Chicago last week (June 24-30), in pursuit of what was not exactly, but actually his fifth straight BEF Junior National Championship title. It's complicated.

Hollingsworth had won the 18U and 16U Boys 9-ball divisions in 2021 and last year, though aged out of the 16U Boys division, he won his second 18U

Boys 9-ball title and laid claim to the Junior Nationals' first 10-ball title. In that sense, he was looking for his fifth. But along the way, he and others had established an unofficial sense that the title that 'counted' (of course, they all count) was the one that was a qualifier for the World Junior Championships that generally follows the US event by a few months. In 2021 and last year, that title was awarded to Landon as winner of the 18U Boys

9-Ball event. This year, applying a European standard that's been set for the 2023 Predator World Junior Championships, scheduled for October 19-22 in Klagenfurt, Austria, the World Qualifier in the USA became the 18U Boys 10-Ball event.

In that sense, Hollingsworth was after his third straight 'qualifier' title, or in common sports jargon, looking to three-peat. Though he had three



Cash Lance, Sam Henderson and Joey Tate



Donovan Seymore, Dalton Nelson and Addyson Ruiz

Garrett Vaughn, Adrian Prasad, Payne McBride (double hill in the hot seat match) and in the finals, shutting out Rylan Yoder.

Henderson had seen the 18U Boys 10-Ball showdown against Hollingsworth coming. Pretty much everyone involved with the qualifying event knew about Hollingsworth’s desire for that third title-qualification to the Predator Junior World Championships. While the event title eluded him, his runner-up finish assured him of a spot among the eight who qualified for the World event.

“Yeah,” said Henderson, in a Facebook reel posted by Window’s Open, after he’d claimed the title, “it definitely seemed like he really wanted to get that three-peat and I was like, . well yeah, here we go.”

“I ended up playing OK,” he added.

Just OK?

“In the semifinals (against Hank Leinen and at) the beginning of the (final) match, I was just off,” he said. “It feels good. Better now. I’ve been working on dealing with the pressure and I guess it worked today.”

chances at a fifth Junior National title this year, he had only one shot at winning the Junior Nationals’ World qualifying event for the third time. He’d been awarded his previous two titles in 9-ball. This year, he was going to have to win it playing 10-ball.

The junior competitor who spoiled Hollingsworth’s three-peat party, and as it turned out, his last shot at a fifth Junior National title, was Iowa’s Sam ‘Ryno’ Henderson, who defeated him twice in the World qualifying 18U Boys 10-ball event; once in the final round of the event’s double-elimination phase (8-5), which advanced eight to single-elimination and again, in the finals 8-4. And that (on Saturday night) was after he’d defeated Hollingsworth in the fourth round of the 22U 14:1 tournament (Wednesday) and Brent Worth had subsequently eliminated him (Hollingsworth) in one of the tightest matches (50-48) in the entire 14:1 competition. Henderson advanced to win the 14:1 tournament, downing Joey Tate 75-29 in the finals and collecting the first of his two titles in one week.

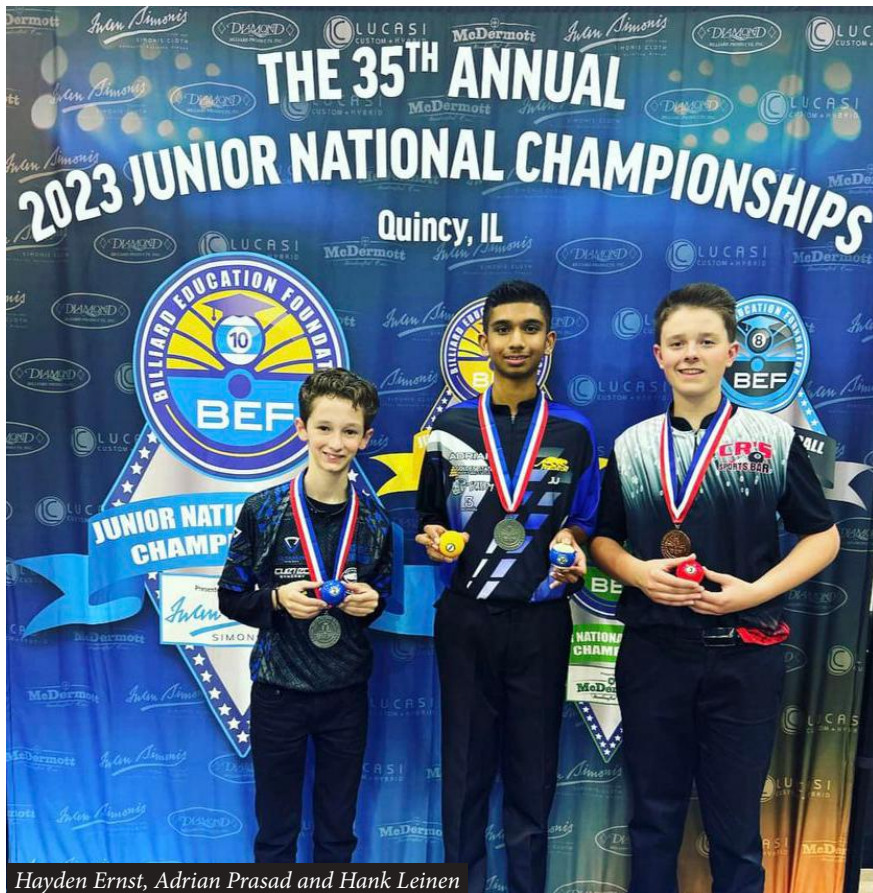
Henderson did not face Hollingsworth in the mostly-Tuesday 22U Boys 8-ball event, which drew the Junior Nation-

als’ largest field (48). Hollingsworth was eliminated from that event by Dakota’s Rylan Yoder. Henderson, who’d lost his opening round match in the 8-ball event to Brent Worth, was later eliminated by North Carolina’s 14-year-old Jas Makhani, who’d go on to win the 14U Boys 9-ball event (more on him in a bit).

The 22U Boys 8-ball title went to North Carolina’s Joey Tate. He’d go undefeated through the field, defeating (along the way) Hank Leinen,



D'Angelo Spain, Jas Makhani and Hayden Ernst



Hayden Ernst, Adrian Prasad and Hank Leinen

The new, now-twice Junior National Champion has a nickname. His middle name is 'Ryne,' like former Chicago Cubs second baseman Ryne Sandberg, who was known as 'Ryno.' Now, so is Sam Henderson. On his sponsor's (McDermott Cues) Web site, his player profile notes that "when Sam is in a match and his opponent misses, Sam charges the table like a "rhino."

"We get excited when we see the Ryno Charge," it goes on to say, "because usually, it means he has a plan."

He has a few, actually. A high school sophomore with a 9 ft. Diamond table at home, Henderson maintains a schedule for pool competition by taking advantage of his Pleasant Valley High School's Online Homeschooling Program, where he maintains status as an all-A/B student. His goal when interviewed for the McDermott Cues sponsorship was "to be a professional

pool player by the time he graduates from high school."

On to a word about the 'other guys' . . .

The eight competitors who qualified for the World Juniors event (the top

four finishers in both the 18U and 16U 10-Ball tournaments) were all recognizable competitors on the Junior 'circuit' that embraces the numerous qualifiers and one annual BEF Junior Nationals event and the ongoing Junior International Championship series of eight multi-division events. The two 10-Ball events produced eight qualified candidates for the World event though Hank Leinen, who finished among the final four in both qualifying events, will be unable to compete in both.

Notably absent among the qualifying eight was North Carolina's Joey Tate, who has certainly been in the upper tier of junior competitors over the past few years and though he did not qualify for the World 10-Ball event (in his last year of eligibility), he did, with his win in the Junior National's 22U 8-ball competition, qualify for that World 8-Ball event, happening at the same time that his two sisters will be competing in the World 10-Ball event. Tate was sent to the loss side by Hollingsworth in the 10-ball event and eliminated on the loss side by Garrett Vaughan, who would go on to be among the seven who qualified for the World 10-Ball competition. Tate had already won the 8-ball competition and finished as runner-up to Henderson in the 14:1 tournament.



Payne McBride, Joey Tate and Rylan Yoder

California's Adrian Prasad, who followed up his 5th-8th place finish in the 18U 10-ball event, claimed the top spot in the qualifying 16U 10-ball event, downing Kentucky's Hayden Ernst 6-1 in the finals. Ernst had defeated Hank Leinen 6-4 in the semifinals, while Prasad was working on a 6-1 victory over Jas Makhani.

"Overall," wrote Prasad in a post-event Facebook post, "I am proud of the way I played and can only get better from there."

"There is still a lot of work to get done and I will be working hard on my game for the next couple months to prepare for the Junior Worlds in Klagenfurt, Austria," he added. "I am excited to be representing the USA at the Junior Worlds, alongside the most talented juniors in United States."

Earlier in the week (Thursday), eventual 18U 10-Ball semifinalist, Jas Makhani, had been defeated by Ernst in the second round of the 14U Boys

9-Ball tournament. After completing a seven-match, loss-side winning streak that culminated in a 6-1, semifinal victory over D'Angelo "Jawz" Spain,

Makhani turned for a rematch against Ernst, waiting for him in the hot seat. Makhani won the rematch 7-4 to claim the 14U Boys 9-Ball title.

OTHER EVENTS 'FILLING THE CUP' OF THE 2023 JUNIOR NATIONALS YIELDED THE FOLLOWING WINNERS:

10U BOYS/GIRLS 8-BALL (7 ENTRANTS) – 1st Dalton Nelson (WI), 2nd Donovan Seymour (CA), 3rd Addyson Ruiz (TX), and 4th Stephen Bao (MA)

14U 10-BALL MINI (6 ENTRANTS) – 1st Hayden Ernst (KY), 2nd Kaden Hillman (WI)

22U 10-BALL MINI (5 ENTRANTS) – Jordan Witkin and Ryan Stejskal (both IL)

15U 8-BALL SCOTCH DOUBLES (8 TEAMS) – 1st Wyatt Andrist (MN) & Noel Montano (CO), 2nd Jas Makhani (NC) and Ezra Seymour (CA)

Billiard Congress of American CEO, Shane Tyree gave a big 'shout out' of thanks and appreciation to Chris Landwehr and his team with the Oakley Lindsay Civic Center in Quincy, IL for their hospitality, along with Tournament Director Cecil Messe, JulieAnn and Walt Wesley at the tournament desks, National Event Coordinator Carol LaRatta, the Billiards Education Foundation's Board of Directors, referees Justin Ballou, Keith Hargrave, Scott Manuel and Dave Pierson, Tournament volunteer Myriah Pierson, and Live Streaming/Podcasting by Collins Newley (with PostUp) and Molina Mike (with Doggin' It).

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WNT Update

Ko Ping Chung

Moves Inside Top 10 In The World

Ko Ping Chung has risen to a career-high on the World Nineball Tour Rankings at ninth in the world after defeating Michael Feliciano in the final of the Sharks International 9-Ball Open in Quezon City, Philippines to claim the \$30,000 first-place prize.

Ko battled his way through one of the toughest fields ever assembled at a ranking event over six days beating the likes of James Aranas and Naoyuki Oi on his way to the final.

Local hopeful Feliciano had the tournament of his life to reach a maiden final and take the \$15,000 runner-up prize that sees the Filipino enter the World Nineball Tour rankings for the first time at world number 54, putting him behind Roland Garcia and US Open champion Carlo Biado who jumped to 43 in the world.

The win for Ko is not only notable for moving into the top ten for the first time, but it also sees him leapfrog brother Pin Yi in the rankings for the first time. Fedor Gorst's run to the Last 16 meant he maintained a strong footing in the top 16 whilst Naoyuki Oi's run to the quarters that included knocking out Gorst saw him move to the periphery of the top 20.

Former world champion and two-time World Cup of Pool champion

and all-round Filipino legend Francisco Bustamante made a good run of it to enter the rankings for the first time whilst it was a welcome return to World Nineball Tour ranking events for the likes of Jeff De Luna, Roberto Gomez, and Garcia to name a few whilst young hotshots such as Anton Raga made their mark.

Coverage from SHARKS was live streamed in the Philippines through the league's website with Matchroom

Pool fans treated to all six days of action through the YouTube channel which tipped over 300,000 subscribers for the first time during the final. **Key matches from the tournament can be watched in their entirety on the Matchroom Pool YouTube channel now.**

The Sharks International 9-Ball Open marked the first World Nineball Tour – Ranking Event to take place in the Philippines with the top 64 on the WNT Rankings invited.



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BRITTANY BRYANT

Sweeps Canadian Women's Championships

Brittany Bryant has won a lot of Canadian Women's Championships. She counted sixteen in her trophy case before competing this year, including multiple 8-ball, 9-ball and 10-ball titles.

Even a Mixed Junior Canadian Championship going all the way back to 2009. With all of those titles won, she had still never pulled off a sweep of the 8-ball, 9-ball and 10-ball titles. Well, not until this year.

This year's events kicked off on August 16th, at The Hidden Spot in Calgary, with eighteen players in the Women's Open 8-Ball Championship. Players were split into two groups of nine players on separate double elimination boards, with the top four players from each group advancing. Bryant had dominating 6-3 and 6-0 wins over Cheryl Maloney and Jessica Wade to advance from her group, along with Janet Ritcey, Joanne Ashton and Sheila King. Advancing from the other group were Veronique Menard, Cathy Metzinger, Brandy Johnson and Naomi Williams.

The final stage of the 8-ball was eight players on a single elimination board. Bryant had wins over Brandy Johnson and Joanne Ashton to make her way to the finals, where she beat Veronique Menard 7-1 for Canadian Championship number 17.

Next up was the Women's Open 10-Ball Championship with twenty ladies playing in the same format. Bryant advanced out of her group this time,



with wins over Lan Phong and Brandy Johnson.

The single elimination board saw Bryant with wins over Paris Shahsavari and Naomi Williams to get to the finals where she faced Veronique Menard again. Menard had wins over Desiree Church and Joanne Ashton on her way to the finals, but still couldn't get past Bryant in another 7-1 Bryant win and Canadian Championship number 18.

The fourteen player 9-ball division was a shorter trip to the single elimination phase for Bryant, as she caught

a bye and then beat Janet Ritcey to qualify for the final stage.

Bryant finished off the clean sweep through the final stage with wins over Naomi Williams and Toni Sakamoto before an 8-5 win over Janet Ritcey in the finals for Canadian Championship number 19.

Bryant said after the wins that she felt her late Father's calming presence at the table all week long. "I was really just hoping for a good showing and to control my emotions. I truly felt my dad with me and that allowed me to have no nerves throughout the entire event. That is a feeling I will crave for the rest of my life," she said.

Bryant also credited her new sponsor for helping provide the equipment she won with. "To have my first win as a Predator Team member at the Canadian Championships is perfect! I'm becoming a more consistent and stronger player and this might be the confidence boost I've needed." she said.

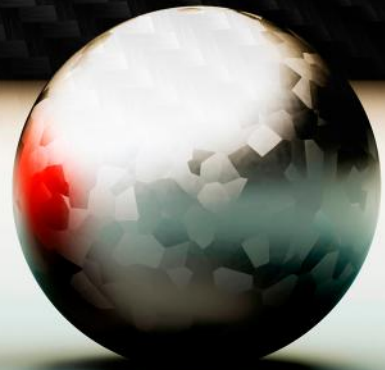
Even with the three new trophies she is making room for, Bryant says she has a solution to the issue of possibly running out of space. "I will keep building more trophy space. If I'm entering an event I'm planning on winning."

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WNT Ranking Update

Pecelj Takes Maiden Title In Bosnia & Herzegovina

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

Aleksa Pecelj has won the Longoni Visoko Open in Bosnia & Herzegovina for a first World Nineball Tour title beating Croatia's Ante Šola in the final 9-3 to move to world number 23 and into the Mosconi Cup reckoning at number six leading into the 2023 European Open Pool Championship.

Pecelj headed to Visoko off the back of a solid start to year so far and the Serbian continued that form to defeat Mustafa Alnar twice including in the semi-finals, Ana Gradisnik, and Vanja Kovacevic to lift the title.

The previous winner in Visoko, Niels Feijen travelled looking for a second title in

as many tournaments. Still, it was Alnar that ended the world number 15's hopes of going back to back in the Last 16 while JS Junior Open winner Maks Benko lost out to Roberto Bartol in a hill-hill finish at the same stage.

World Pool Championship finalist Mohammad Soufi saw his run ended by

Šola in the quarter-finals comprehensively 9-1 while previous finalist Sanjin Pehlivanovic fell at the semi-finals to Šola on his run to a maiden final.

Spasian Spasov and Vanja Kovacevic both registered their best finishes in a World Nineball Tour event by reaching the quarter-finals as over 20 nationali-

ties took centre stage over the weekend event.

Pehlivanovic's run sees him leapfrog Spanish Open Pool Championship champion Dang Jin Hu, Mieszko Fortunski and Denis Grabe to become the new world number 24. Feijen remains at number 15 with Soufi number 16.



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2023 Mosconi Cup Captains Revealed

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

Ralph Eckert and Jeremy Jones will lead Team Europe and USA respectively for the 2023 Mosconi Cup, the 30th anniversary edition, at Alexandra Palace, London from December 6-9 live on Sky Sports in the UK, DAZN in the USA, and networks worldwide.

World-renowned instructor Eckert will follow in the footsteps of compatriot Oliver Ortmann in captaining Team Europe when the trans-Atlantic tussle gets underway in London later this year and will bring a wealth of experience that has seen him at the top level of the game since 1982.

Team Europe go into the Mosconi Cup in red-hot form with the side undefeated for the last three editions of the cup having tasted victory in Las Vegas last December, 11-7 as Joshua Filler picked up the Cuetec MVP crown in an electric four days of action that saw the USA push their European counterparts all the way.

Eckert is aware of the weight of responsibility on his shoulders: "I am overwhelmed. It's a very big honour. You can be captain of a local team or squad or national team but to be captain of a whole continent is something special. The atmosphere and the flashing lights of the Mosconi Cup is special. It's an honour to follow in the footsteps of Oliver."

"There certainly be some pressure but in general, I enjoy that. I am motivated by that pressure. It doesn't matter which topic it is, if there is some pressure, the recipe is still the same. We have to prepare and be optimistic

and positive. We have to be calm and relaxed to deal with that we need to."

"I will see how the two other automatic spots fill out then I will consider our wild cards. It's a team event, you have to have an experienced player, someone young up and coming, someone who takes the fun part, and someone who brings back together with he same mission. They're opponents for most of the week so you have to remember to have the same goal during the Mosconi Cup."

"I'M UP FOR IT. I DO NOT WORRY TOO MUCH." – Ralph Eckert

Eckert's team will be made up of three automatic selections coming from the World Nineball Tour Rankings with WNT number one Francisco Sanchez Ruiz already locking down the first spot in the side off the back of a year that has seen the Spaniard snap off the World Pool Championship title in February.

A further automatic selection will follow after the US Open Pool Championship at Harrah's Resort, Atlantic City from September 25-30 before one final automatic slot is confirmed after the inaugural Asian Open Pool Championship from 10-15 October in Hanoi City, Vietnam. The final two players



for both Europe and the USA will be captain's wild cards meaning there is still a lot to play for on both sides.

Jones returns as the USA captain for a fourth year having tasted victory in 2019 as vice-captain. Double J is a heavyweight of the game with a knowledge bank of the USA pool scene like very few making him the standout candidate to strike a tune out of his side having run Team Europe so close in the last two editions of the cup.

With the European Open Championship still ongoing, it's not yet known who will take the first automatic spot on Team Europe with Skyler Woodward the red hot favourite. Mosconi Cup veteran Shane Van Boening must reach the final stages to prevent Woodward from qualifying at the end of this week."

"We have to keep the guys positive. They realise they were in a position to win the last two years. We need to feed off the positive and realise where we went wrong and I include myself in that. Our team is there to fight. That's our biggest asset. We will keep reminding them of that. We're there to go toe to toe with them. It's going to be the best Mosconi Cup yet, we go there (London) expecting a victory."

Jones is fully aware that their Mosconi Cup woes must end in London: "It feels really good. It's something I really wanted to do again. I want to get better at what I've done over the last few years. I was super proud of my team last year. They competed really well and stuck to most of the information we went over. It was a great week and we were in a position to win that cup but a few things got away. We have to look at that though and move forward. I've learned a lot."

"It's easy to get very involved and let the boil blood too quickly and easily. You have to stay in the moment. All those cliches stick around for a rea-

son. We have to keep the team and me in the moment and slow things down. We need to let the chips fall where they may. I've looked at a lot of things already in anticipation of being captain again.

WE HAVE TO KEEP THE TEAM AND ME IN THE MOMENT AND SLOW THINGS DOWN. – Jeremy Jones

The stakes have never been higher for the Mosconi Cup with the prize fund ramped up by 30% with all members of the winning side set to take home \$40,000 and runner-ups taking \$20,000 each. Last year, the crowd in Las Vegas set the barometer for the atmosphere with levels expected to ramp up even further thanks to Matchroom's plans to create a 360 arena in London for the first time as the USA look to win on European waters for the first time since 2018.

There are limited tickets available from £50 per day with a whole host of options available including VIP and following success in the USA, both Gold Sofas and VIP Sofas tickets offering fans the experience of a lifetime from behind the Team Europe and USA benches. VIP ticket holders will get access to the Mosconi Cup VIP lounge before play where they will be treated to a two-course buffet dinner along with unlimited drinks for four hours. Once in the arena, VIP holders will get a premium feel with a padded seat for the extra comfort.

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- VIP Table – Includes VIP Hospitality package and front row seat with a table – £300 a day
- Gold Sofa – Comfiest seat in the house like you're watching from home – does not include hospitality – £165 a day
- Gold – £65 a day
- Silver – £50 a day

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- Enjoy a two-course course buffet dinner in the Mosconi Cup VIP Lounge before play
- Unlimited wines, beers, and soft drinks for 4 hours – cut off at the start of the last rack.
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- Private Bar and Cloakroom in the Mosconi Cup Lounge
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World Professional Nineball Pool Corporation

Launches To Expand The Sport Of 9-Ball Pool Globally

Matchroom Sport has today launched its latest exciting expansion with the new formation of the World Professional Nineball Pool Corporation.

The WPNPC is a limited company – headed up by Matchroom Sport chairman, Eddie Hearn – to expand and commercialise opportunities for pool players worldwide and to participate on a global Professional Tour.

In what is a landmark moment for the sport, the WPNPC is:

- Wholly owned subsidiary of Matchroom Multi Sport
- Follows in footsteps of Professional Darts Corporation and World Snooker Tour
- Board to consist of Matchroom Chairman Eddie Hearn, WST Chairman Steve Dawson, PDC CEO Mat-

thew Porter, and Matchroom Multi Sport CEO Emily Frazer.

The World Professional Nineball Pool Corporation, owned and organised by Matchroom Sport, is firmly built on the company's core values of a Tour for anyone and everyone; an objective for amateur pool players to turn their dreams into reality, by turning professional under the WPNPC.

The launch of the commercial independent organisation will deliver structure to 9-ball pool professionally and globally. Setting the stage for a fully professional tour, Matchroom shall broaden its involvement in the future growth of the sport, with the

WPNPC laying the foundation with independent drug testing, independent integrity unit, commercial expansion, consistency of rules as well as worldwide television exposure and presence to inspire the next generation of professional players.

The World Professional Nineball Pool Corporation officially recognises the World Nineball Rankings, all World Nineball Tour events and the official World Nineball Event Rules, providing clarity for players and fans worldwide. The World Nineball Tour 2023 schedule currently hosts 50 events, including five annual Junior Open events with the World Professional Nineball Pool Corporation working with 20

different promoters and organisers throughout the world.

Following in the footsteps of the Professional Darts Corporation, World Snooker Tour and Matchroom Boxing, the World Professional Nineball Pool Corporation will be the turning point for professional pool globally, led by a passionate team of Matchroom Chairman Eddie Hearn, WST Chairman Steve Dawson, PDC CEO Matthew Porter and Matchroom Multi Sport CEO Emily Frazer.

Matchroom Sport chairman, Eddie Hearn said: "The formation of the World Professional Nineball Pool Corporation heralds a progressive new era for the sport. Matchroom is proud to have pioneered an incredible mainstream shift in Boxing, Snooker and Darts – now it is time for our dynamic team to level up the world of Nineball. The WPNPC will deliver first-class entertainment for fans and exciting opportunities for the game's elite players

matchroom.

with more events, more locations and greater prize money than ever before. Innovation is at the heart of everything we do here at Matchroom and this monumental move will lay the foundations for a fantastic future ahead."

Matchroom Group Director, Emily Frazer, said: "This is a landmark day for 9-ball Pool. With 37 nationalities represented within our top 128-ranked players, we will deliver the game to the masses in new territories through the formation of the WPNPC. We will continue to work closely with those within the sport who choose to support our cause as we aim to enhance Nineball to greater heights – including potential tour cards. Our sole aim is to create the biggest and best opportunities for the players and we believe

this will not only inspire the next generation to participate but it will also ignite the flame for fierce competition amongst the game's leading stars and new contenders – providing unmissable entertainment on a huge global platform. With the European Open Pool Championship to look forward to next week, this really is the bright, new beginning that Nineball needs."

The World Pool Championship will remain sanctioned by the World Pool Association. Matchroom looks forward to continuing its support for the WPA in order to grow the sport to its full potential.

For further media opportunities or interviews, please contact the Matchroom's media team.

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Tourney Results

Aug 05 - Aug 07

Longoni Visoko Open

Bosnia and Herzegovina

- 1 Aleksa Pecelj \$3,285
- 2 Ante Sola \$1,642
- 3 Mustafa Alnar \$876
- 3 Sanjin Pehlivanovic \$876
- 5 Mohammad Soufi \$438
- 5 Roberto Bartol \$438
- 5 Spasian Spasov \$438
- 5 Vanja Kovacevic \$438
- 9 Ana Gradisnik \$219
- 9 Benjamin Mujcic \$219
- 9 Christos Papageorgiou \$219
- 9 Kalin Varbanov \$219
- 9 Maks Benko \$219
- 9 Marko Lisnic \$219
- 9 Niels Feijen \$219
- 9 Slaven Kozaric \$219
- 17 Alen Salic \$109
- 17 Bilge Alacan \$109
- 17 David Petrovic \$109
- 17 Dejan Mihic \$109
- 17 Diliyan Tiklev \$109
- 17 Efe Ozkutayli \$109
- 17 Emre Celik \$109
- 17 Georgi Georgiev \$109
- 17 Halim Sikira \$109
- 17 Hamza Alowaidi \$109
- 17 JJ Faul \$109
- 17 Lazar Kostic \$109
- 17 Luka Bugarski \$109
- 17 Milan Bugarski \$109
- 17 Nicolas Rimbot \$109
- 17 Tarik Becirhodzic \$109

Aug 05 - Aug 05

Mezz Cues LA 9-Ball Series Stop

Gladi8or Billiards

- Los Angeles, California
- 1 Spencer Ladin \$600
- 2 Rakesh Bunga \$420
- 3 Chris Wedekind \$300
- 4 Rhino Lay \$200
- 5 Jerry Lazzareschi \$130
- 5 Joe Hanink \$130

- 7 Doug Byrd \$85
- 7 Scott Doucette \$85

Aug 05 - Aug 05

Stokers Pool Tour Stop

The Clubhouse

- Lynchburg, Virginia
- 1 Daniel Adams \$437
- 1 David Parker \$437
- 3 Collin Hall \$250
- 4 Robert Cuneo \$125

Aug 05 - Aug 05

Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

Borderline Billiards

- Bristol, TN
- 1 Reid Vance \$500
- 2 Jeremy Sartain \$300
- 3 Dona Selman \$200
- 4 Zach Wilson \$100
- 5 Brian Bagwell \$55
- 5 Mike Holmes \$55

Aug 08 - Aug 13

European Open 2023

Hotel Esperanto

- Fulda, Germany
- 1 David Alcaide \$30,000
- 2 Tony Raga \$15,000
- 3 Joshua Filler \$9,500
- 3 Shane Van Boening \$9,500
- 5 Fedor Gorst \$6,000
- 5 Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz \$6,000
- 5 Mario He \$6,000
- 5 Wojciech Szewczyk \$6,000
- 9 Aloysius Yapp \$4,000
- 9 Daniel Maciol \$4,000
- 9 Jani Uski \$4,000
- 9 John Morra \$4,000
- 9 Mieszko Fortunski \$4,000
- 9 Oliver Szolnoki \$4,000
- 9 Tim De Ruyter \$4,000
- 9 Tyler Styer \$4,000
- 17 Albin Ouschan \$2,000
- 17 Aleksa Pecelj \$2,000

- 17 Alexandros Kazakis \$2,000
- 17 Dimitri Jungo \$2,000
- 17 Dimitris Loukatos \$2,000
- 17 Gary Wilson \$2,000
- 17 Imran Majid \$2,000
- 17 Johann Chua \$2,000
- 17 Karl Gnadeberg \$2,000
- 17 Konrad Juszcyszyn \$2,000
- 17 Naoyuki Oi \$2,000
- 17 Pin-Yi Ko \$2,000
- 17 Ralf Souquet \$2,000
- 17 Skyler Woodward \$2,000
- 17 Thorsten Hohmann \$2,000
- 17 Tobias Bongers \$2,000
- 33 Amil Andre Gangflot \$1,000
- 33 Can Salim \$1,000
- 33 Cong Thanh Nguyen \$1,000
- 33 Daniel Guttenberger \$1,000
- 33 Denis Grabe \$1,000
- 33 Elliott Sanderson \$1,000
- 33 Fitim Haradinaj \$1,000
- 33 Georgi Georgiev \$1,000
- 33 Jan Van Lierop \$1,000
- 33 Jani Siekkinen \$1,000
- 33 Jayson Shaw \$1,000
- 33 Jonas Souto Comino \$1,000
- 33 Jung-Lin Chang \$1,000
- 33 Kun Lin Wu \$1,000
- 33 Luong Duc Thien \$1,000
- 33 Marc Bijsterbosch \$1,000
- 33 Mateusz Sniegocki \$1,000
- 33 Mats B. Schjetne \$1,000
- 33 Maximilian Lechner \$1,000
- 33 Michael Schneider \$1,000
- 33 Mickey Krause \$1,000
- 33 Mika Immonen \$1,000
- 33 Moritz Neuhausen \$1,000
- 33 Nick Malai \$1,000
- 33 Omar Al Shaheen \$1,000
- 33 Petr Urban \$1,000
- 33 Quoc Hoang Duong \$1,000
- 33 Radoslaw Babica \$1,000
- 33 Ramazan Akdag \$1,000
- 33 Szymon Kural \$1,000
- 33 Wiktor Zielinski \$1,000
- 33 Yuma Dornier \$1,000

Aug 12 - Aug 13

DL Billiards Tour Open Stop 5

Bogies Billiards West

Houston, Texas

- 1 Raed Shabib \$800
- 2 Leon Contreras \$450
- 3 Joshua Pangilinan \$275
- 4 Bill Fuller \$150
- 5 John Braud \$75
- 5 Kenny Price \$75

Aug 12 - Aug 13

Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

Mickey Milligan's Sports Bar

New Bern, NC

- 1 Josh Heeter \$600
- 2 Justin Knuckles \$360
- 3 Eddie Almonte \$250
- 4 Jeff Underwood \$155

Aug 12 - Aug 12

Stokers Pool Tour Stop

Wolf's Den Billiards

Roanoke, Virginia

- 1 Jayce Little \$440
- 2 Jody Musselman \$330
- 3 Zachary Hampton \$220
- 4 Daniel Adams \$110

Aug 16 - Aug 17

Canadian Cue Sports Championship Women's Open 8-Ball 2023

The Hidden Spot

Calgary,

- 1 Brittany Bryant \$1,500
- 2 Veronique Menard \$900
- 3 Joanne Ashton \$450
- 3 Naomi Williams \$450
- 5 Brandy Johnson \$100
- 5 Cathy Metzinger \$100
- 5 Janet Ritcey \$100
- 5 Sheila King \$100

Aug 18 - Aug 20

Oceania Tour Event 1

Empire Bat & Pool

Adelaide,

- 1 Marco Teutscher \$7,438
- 2 Mark Lacey \$3,206
- 3 James Georgiadis \$1,667
- 3 Nick Pera \$1,667
- 5 Andy Nguyen \$801

- 5 Chris Calabrese \$801
- 5 Greg Jenkins \$801
- 5 Simon Singleton \$801
- 9 Aaron Bolling \$545
- 9 David Ewing \$545
- 9 Justin Sajich \$545
- 9 Kane Weekley \$545
- 9 Kenneth Huang \$545
- 9 Kurt Dunham \$545
- 9 Matt Edwards \$545
- 9 Michael Cacciola \$545
- 17 Alvin Wijaya \$256
- 17 Ben Foster \$256
- 17 Bruno Nguyen \$256
- 17 Christopher Moreno \$256
- 17 Danny Stone \$256
- 17 David Rothall \$256
- 17 Ivan Liu \$256
- 17 Joe Chao \$256
- 17 Luke Foster \$256
- 17 Michael Hayes \$256
- 17 Ricky Watson \$256
- 17 Robert Foldvari \$256
- 17 Ryan Mountford \$256
- 17 Shaun Oglesby \$256
- 17 Siva Veerasamy \$256
- 17 Vinnie Calabrese \$256

Aug 18 - Aug 19

Canadian Cue Sports Championship Women's Open 10-Ball 2023

The Hidden Spot

Calgary,

- 1 Brittany Bryant \$1,400
- 2 Veronique Menard \$900
- 3 Joanne Ashton \$450
- 3 Naomi Williams \$450
- 5 Cathy Metzinger \$100
- 5 Desiree Church \$100
- 5 Paris Shahsavari \$100
- 5 Toni Sakamoto \$100

Aug 19 - Aug 20

NWPA Tour 2023 Stop 4

Legacy Billiards Bar & Grill

Spokane, Washington

- 1 Sofia Mast \$1,060
- 2 Kathie MacDonald \$745
- 3 Liz Cole \$450
- 4 Regan Hoko \$305
- 5 Dora Valdez \$215
- 5 Marion Poole \$215
- 7 Katherine Robertson \$160

- 7 Stephanie Drakulic \$160
- 9 Aundria Reynolds \$120
- 9 Chelsea Reiter \$120
- 9 Dyamelle Castilleja \$120
- 9 Kaitlen Stengil \$120

Aug 19 - Aug 20

JPNEWT Tour 2023 Stop #6

First Break Cafe

Sterling, VA

- 1 Briana Miller \$500
- 1 Kia Burwell \$500
- 3 Judie Wilson \$220
- 3 Linda Haywood Shea \$220

Aug 19 - Aug 19

Tiger Florida Tour 2023 Stop 4

Palm Beach Billiards

North Palm Beach, Florida

- 1 Kaylee McIntosh \$700
- 2 Mitchell Monk \$450
- 3 Nicolle Cuellar \$200
- 3 Stephanie Mitchell \$200
- 5 Gianna Fiore \$100
- 5 Miranda Orange \$100
- 5 Roe Guarnero \$100
- 5 Shanelle Loraine \$100

Aug 19 - Aug 20

5th Annual Brendan Crockett Memorial

Hard Times Billiards - Sacramento

Sacramento, CA

- 1 Shane Van Boening \$5,000
- 2 Tyler Styer \$3,000
- 3 John Morra \$2,000
- 4 Nick De Leon \$1,500
- 5 Ernesto Dominguez \$800
- 5 Spencer Ladin \$800
- 7 Adrian Prasad \$650
- 7 Angelo Innes \$650
- 9 Bobby Lees \$500
- 9 James Cabal \$500
- 9 John Smith \$500
- 9 Stephen Holem \$500
- 13 Brian Parks \$300
- 13 Joshua Farris \$300
- 13 Miguel Morfin \$300
- 13 Oscar Dominguez \$300
- 17 Chong Vang \$155
- 17 Dan Louie \$155
- 17 Flora Ritarita \$155
- 17 Jeff Nesbihal \$155

17 Jeremy Long \$155
17 Joao Sias \$155
17 Marharyta Fefilava \$155
17 Oscar Valdiviezo \$155
25 Carl Wilson \$80
25 Doug Whaley \$80
25 John Hernandez \$80
25 Lance Salazar \$80
25 Loren Mah \$80
25 Mark Vinogradov \$80
25 Mike Lin \$80
25 Savannah Easton \$80

Aug 19 - Aug 20

Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

Big Backs Burgers & Brews

Princeton, WV

1 Josh Ball \$325
2 Mike Clevinger \$200
3 Mike Robertson \$150

Aug 19 - Aug 20

Garden State Pool Tour Amateur Stop

Diamond Jim's Billiards

Nanuet, NY

1 David Marchant \$650
2 Levy Lempaam \$300
3 Robert Durling \$200
4 Vicki Moore \$150
5 JoAnn Mason Parker \$110
5 Mike Strassberg \$110
7 Mike Tritto \$80
7 Noe Videz \$80
9 Alfred Fox \$60
9 Marc Lamberti \$60
9 Mark Watt \$60
9 Richard Hourihan \$60

Aug 19 - Aug 20

1st Annual Rack Race Event Fifteen

The Rack & Grill III

Aiken, SC

1 Josh Roberts \$4,485
2 Mike Davis \$2,195
3 Logan Whitaker \$1,300
4 John Stallings \$900
5 Ricky Boughman \$430
5 Scott Rabon \$430
7 Dave Cook \$230
7 Larry Jackson \$230
9 Bradley Harrelson \$175

9 Brian White \$175
9 Eddie Wahdan \$175
9 Mike Staubes \$175

Aug 19 - Aug 20

Canadian Cue Sports Championship Women's Open 9-Ball 2023

The Hidden Spot

Calgary,

1 Brittany Bryant \$1,100
2 Janet Ritcey \$700
3 Joanne Ashton \$350
3 Toni Sakamoto \$350
5 Cathy Metzinger \$100
5 Naomi Williams \$100
5 Veronique Menard \$100
5 Yvette Capo \$100

Aug 19 - Aug 20

2023 DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop 8

Rusty's Billiards

Fort Worth, Texas

1 Greg Sandifer \$1,275
2 Gus Briseno \$950
3 TJ Thetford \$680
4 Blake Kamiab \$440
5 Daniel Herring \$250
5 Joshua Paredes \$250
7 Clint Palaci \$160
7 Shane McMinn \$160
9 Eric Aicinena \$100
9 Jonathan Rawlins \$100
9 Mark Johnson \$100
9 Mike Stankiewicz \$100

Aug 26 - Aug 27

On The Snap Tour Stop #7

Jeffro's Billiards

Canton, Tx

1 Rick Stanley \$960
2 Gus Briseno \$640
3 Robert Clark \$400
4 Jamie Cummings \$200
5 Cameron Cummings \$100
5 Joey Bourgeois Jr. \$100

Aug 26 - Aug 27

Va State 10-Ball Championship 2023 LADIES

Diamond Billiards

Midlothian, VA

1 Liz Taylor \$700

2 Katie Bischoff \$400
3 Reene Driskill \$200
4 Pamela Perry \$100

Aug 26 - Aug 27

Va State 10-Ball Championship 2023

Diamond Billiards

Midlothian, VA

1 BJ Ussery \$1,450
2 Gregorio Sanchez \$1,000
3 Brandon Shuff \$650
4 Mike Davis \$350
5 Joey Tate \$200
5 Nathan Childress \$200
7 Brent Worth \$150
7 Shaun Swindell \$150
9 David Hunt \$100
9 Heath Thomas \$100
9 Shane Buchanan \$100

Aug 26 - Aug 27

2nd Annual Weir Memorial 9-Ball Tournament

Golden Fleece

Everett, Washington

1 Shane Van Boening \$10,000
2 Spencer Ladin \$6,000
3 Stan Tourangeau \$3,400
4 Robb Saez \$2,000
5 Dan Louie \$800
5 Daniel Sardonicillo \$800
7 Chris Reinhold \$600
7 Damion Pongpanik \$600
9 James Davee \$500
9 John Morra \$500
9 Steve Lingelbach \$500
9 Steven Weakly \$500
13 Blake Baker \$400
13 Corey Deuel \$400
13 Jeremy Armijo \$400
13 Oscar Dominguez \$400

Aug 26 - Aug 27

Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

Dot's Cue Club

Rocky Mount, NC

1 Randy Tate \$750
2 Phillip Richardson \$550
3 Bethany Tate \$320
4 Jeff Underwood \$200
5 Jas Makhni \$115
5 Ulisses Reyes \$115

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Upcoming Tournaments

SEPTEMBER

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.

LA 9-Ball Series Stop

Sep 02 - Sep 02

Gladi8or Billiards
Los Angeles, California

2023 China Open

Sep 03 - Sep 10

Shanghai, China

The Maine Event XV

Sep 09 - Sep 10

TJ's Classic Billiards
Waterville, Maine

Raxx 10-Ball Open Tournament

Sep 09 - Sep 10

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

Raxx MVP Tour Open 2023

Sep 14 - Sep 17

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

Arizona Women's Billiards Tour 2023 Stop 6

Sep 16 - Sep 17

Bullshooters
Phoenix, AZ

NWPA Tour 2023 Stop 5

Sep 16 - Sep 17

The Golden Fleece
Kenmore, WA

On The Snap Tour Stop #8

Sep 16 - Sep 17

Stixx And Stones Billiards
Lewisville, Texas

JPNEWT Tour 2023 Stop #7

Sep 16 - Sep 17

Bluegrass Billiards
Philadelphia, Pa

DL Billiards Tour Open Stop 6

Sep 16 - Sep 17

Big Tyme Billiards
Spring, Texas

DL Billiards Tour Ladies Stop 6

Sep 16 - Sep 17

Big Tyme Billiards
Spring, Texas

Joss Tour 2023-2024 Stop 2

Sep 16 - Sep 17

Run Em Racks Billiards
Johnston, RI

Seyberts Open 2023

Sep 19 - Sep 23

Kellogg Arena
Battle Creek, Michigan

Michigan Women's Open 2023

Sep 21 - Sep 24

Kellogg Arena
Battle Creek, Michigan

CueLee's Connecticut 9-Ball Open

Sep 22 - Sep 23

US 1 Billiards & Bar
West Haven, CT

2023 U.S. Open 9-Ball Championship

Sep 25 - Sep 30

Harrah's Resort Atlantic City
Atlantic City, NJ

WPBA Iron City Invitational II

Sep 27 - Oct 01













Iron City Billiards
Birmingham, Alabama

Joss Tour 2023-2024 Stop 3

Sep 30 - Oct 01

The Golden Cue Billiard Lounge
Albany, NY

AZBILLIARDS MONEY LIST

	NAME	COUNTRY	\$ AMOUNT	
	Fedor Gorst	 RUS	163.166,00 US\$	
	Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz	 ESP	143.895,00 US\$	
	Joshua Filler	 GER	121.912,00 US\$	↑
	Eklent Kaci	 ALB	120.950,00 US\$	↓
	Shane Van Boening	 USA	93.569,00 US\$	↑
	Ko Ping Chung	 TPE	87.505,00 US\$	↓
	Ko Pin Yi	 TPE	74.740,00 US\$	↑
	Skyler Woodward	 USA	62.150,00 US\$	↑
	Wiktor Zielinski	 POL	61.878,00 US\$	↓
	Jayson Shaw	 SCO	56.638,00 US\$	↑

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PAT FLEMING PRESENTS

Oct. 30th - Nov. 4th

2023 INTL

THE 2023 INTERNATIONAL OPEN
9-BALL 10-BALL JR 9-BALL



MONDAY OCTOBER 30 - SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4, 2023

AT THE SHERATON NORFOLK WATERSIDE HOTEL, NORFOLK VIRGINIA

\$50,000 added

Mon, Oct. 30 - Sat, Nov. 4

2023 INTERNATIONAL NINE BALL OPEN



128 Player Field — \$500 Entry — \$30,000 First Place
MATCHROOM POINTS AWARDED — WPA SANCTIONED — DOUBLE ELIMINATION (SINGLE ELIMINATION FINAL 16)



\$8,000 added

Mon, Oct. 30 - Wed, Nov. 1

2023 DIAMOND BIG FOOT TEN BALL CHALLENGE



16 PLAYER FIELD — INVITATIONAL — \$8,000 FIRST PLACE

PLUS

Thurs, Nov. 2 - Sat, Nov. 4

2023 JUNIOR 9-BALL INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



16-PLAYER JUNIOR MEN'S and 8-PLAYER JUNIOR WOMEN'S DIVISIONS



BCA HALL OF FAME BANQUET — Fri. Nov. 3

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