

# Billiards Buzz

an **A Z B** publication

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**IT'S A  
FILIPINO  
THING**

world cup  
of pool  
sports

SIMONIS CLOTH

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# FROM THE Head Rail

MIKE HOWERTON

It's not as if the pool world doesn't have a TON of news, seemingly every single week, but it's about to get a lot busier. If there is such a thing as a summer break in the sport, it's going to be ending this month.

The European Open gets things started mid-month, and that leads us to Turning Stone, late in the month. The China Open, Seyberts Open, US Open and the WPBA are all in September, and then the players get to choose between Vietnam, Ohio and Austria in October.

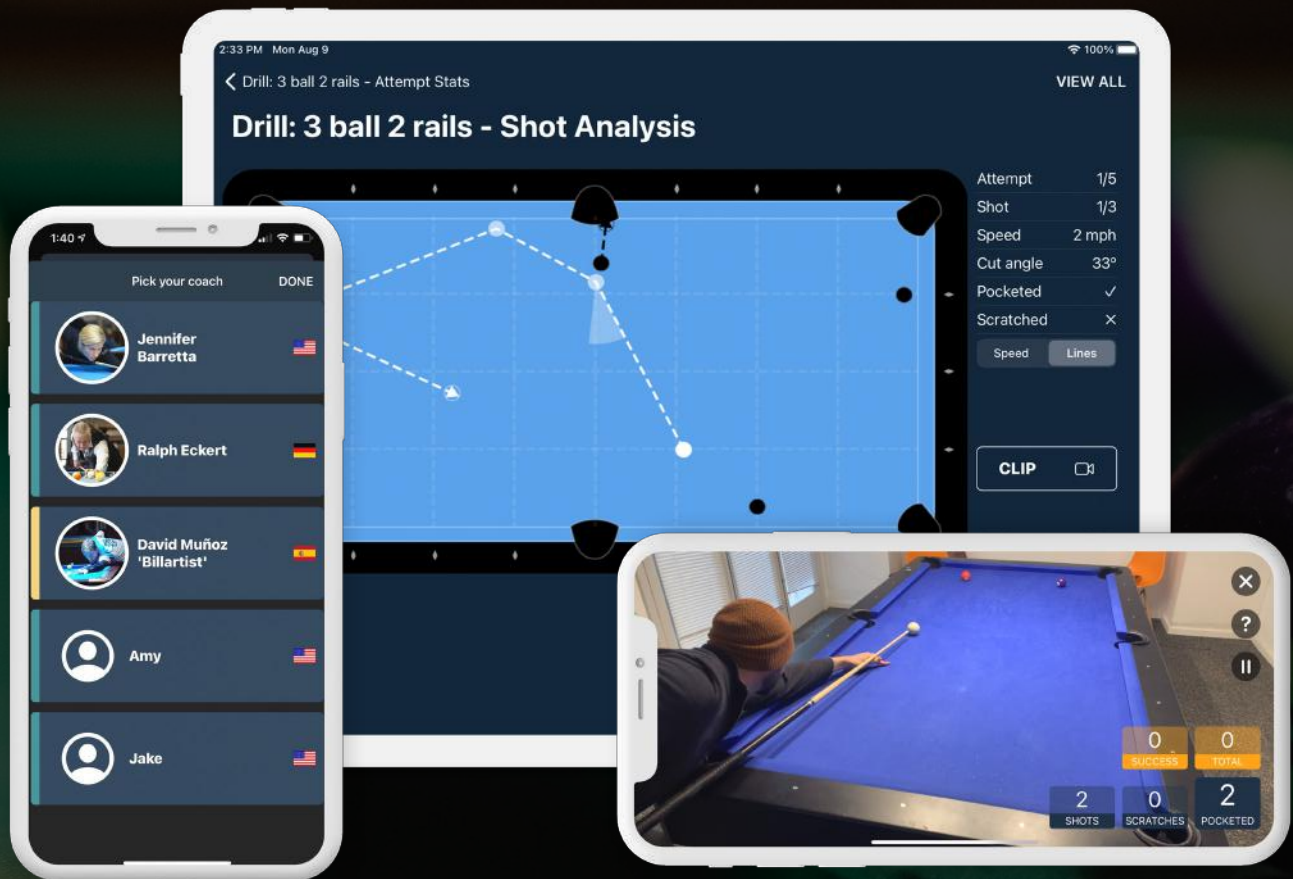
November will have the International 9-Ball, Puerto Rico Open, World Team Championship and there is also the US Open One Pocket and Banks events in Vegas in November.

December has the WPBA and Mosconi Cup.

It sure is a great time to be a member of the billiards media!!



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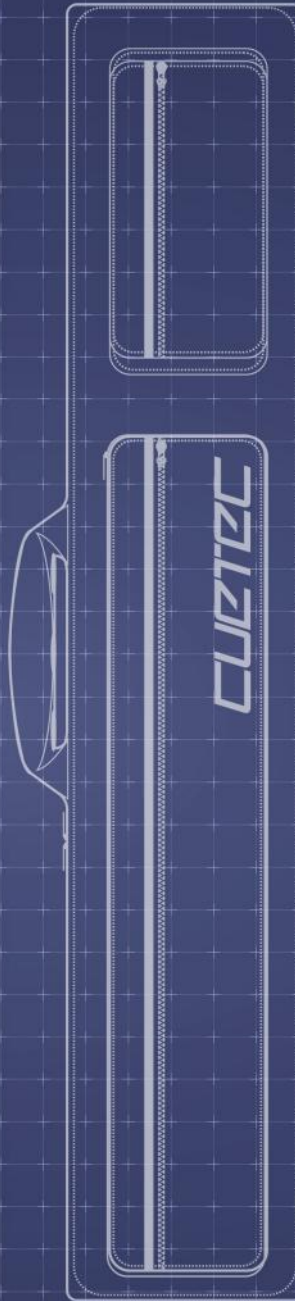
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# PARTNERS POOL

## PARTNERS PLAY - OVERVIEW

Scotch doubles calls for alternating shots (not turns) with your partner. This compendium of ideas on partners play is by no means definitive, as such a list is well beyond the scope of a column. Still, I think that if you and your partner employ my suggestions they will improve your team's performance in competition.

Those of you with experience at scotch doubles will be able to come up with several ideas of your own – you might even have created a playbook that is the foundation of your method for competing in doubles!

One of the biggest doubles events is the World Cup, which is played at 9-Ball and on a 9 foot table. A good number of the matches in the Mosconi Cup are also played in a scotch doubles format. The players also compete in 9-Ball on a 9 foot table. These matches are fun to watch, and they can help in learning the fine points of partners play. At most of the amateur doubles competitions the game is 8-Ball and matches are played on a 7 foot table.

## PICKING A PARTNER PLAYING FOR FUN AND FOR MONEY

In choosing a partner, make sure that it is someone who you look forwards to playing with, match after match! In short, look for that ephemeral quality called chemistry!

Playing fine pool offers its own rewards. Still, it is nice to win some spending money at your hobby, and pool, more than most sports, provides you the chance to cash in big time at the national championships. These events are mostly held in Las Vegas by the major pool leagues, including the APA, VNEA, ACS, and BCAPL. The TAP League's nationals are held near Philadelphia.

So, if you are and your partners are playing to contend and win the big events, it helps if both of you view your partnership and pool as a serious pursuit, albeit a fun one!

## AVOID SLOW PLAYERS

Let's say there are three basic speeds at which people play – Slow, Medium, Fast. If you both are slow players you will likely not play well together because you will frustrate each other with

your snail's pace, which could keep you both from getting into the flow state.

Two fast players may also not work well together because you often need a little extra time to figure to choose the optimal shot. If the faster player rushes ahead and plays on instinct, the subsequent shot might not be best from your partner's perspective!

If I had to rate the combos of playing speed, I would say fast/medium is best, followed by medium/medium. As for slow players, if you want to play doubles, learn to pick up your pace, or stick with singles!

## EITHER HAND WORKS!

Some shots set up better for a righthanded player, and others for lefties. When you are plotting your position route and your partner plays with the same hand, it's largely business as usual. When your partners plays with the opposite hand, you each will need to take that into consideration when planning certain position routes and zones. (Note: you also need to factor in your height and reach as one of you may be able to reach shots that the other can't.) In sum, you can conserve your cogni-

tive resources if you don't have to plug your partner's handedness into your shot planning routine.

Statistically speaking, about 85% of all people are righthanders, so if you are one of these folks, you have a much bigger talent pool to draw from if your desire is to team up with a fellow righthander. Still, it would be a mistake not to consider teaming up with a fine player just because they play from the other side!

As examples of opposite handed pairings we have lefty Joshua Filler, who won the World Cup in 2021 and he finished second in 2023 – both times with righthanded partners. And, in 2018 lefty Wu Jiaqing won this title in partnership with Liu Haitao, who plays righthanded.

## YOUR WEAKER PLAYER

A team is only as strong as your weakest player, a lesson that I learned in a big mixed scotch doubles event in a field that included some of the best players in Southern California. My partner was Susie Massard who was a fine shotmaker. I would tell her what shots to play, which freed her up to concentrate on executing them, which she did quite well. Using this strategy, we were able to beat Keith McCready and his partner. He is obviously much better than me, but he was held back by

his partner, who played well below Susie's speed.

When choosing a partner, try to keep your skill differential as small as possible. Using a nine point rating system (C-, C, C+, B-, B, B+, A-, A, A+) I would recommend keeping the gap as 2/3 of a level or less. For example, a B- player could team up with a C, but not a C-.

## DEFINITIONS

**Scotch Doubles** – Playing with a partner while alternating shots.

**Shot Cycle** – A detailed process for planning and playing complete shots.

**Doubles Shot Cycle** – A customized version of the Shot Cycle that enables partners to collaborate on certain shots.

**Cue Pointing** – Using your cue as an aide in planning your position routes.

## PRACTICING

### HELPING YOUR TEAMMATE

Assuming that you and your partner are serious about improving your games, then both of you probably practice at least a few hours a week. You should think about devoting some of those hours to practicing with your teammate.

The weaker player can be mentored by the stronger one. If you are the lesser player, be willing to try things your more knowledgeable partner suggests! Weaker players can look for

signs that the stronger player is maintaining their top form. In sum, helping each other grow as players will be of great benefit to your team.

One of the best exercises is to play as if you are in a match, alternating shots as you go. When you lose control of the table, continue to play the rack as your opponent's would in competition. These sessions will sharpen your skills, including developing a flow to your play and streamlining your decision making process to the point where you can make your plans quickly and with conviction. Opposite handed partners should also find this exercise to be of great value.

### UNUSUAL SHOTS

Certain difficult shots can win games, so there is a tendency to practice some of them even though they rarely if ever come up in competition. As a result, you will get much more bang for your practice time buck if you stick to the fundamentals, and to commonly occurring safeties and position routes. And, of course, plan on spending time on playing practice as a team, which I discussed above.

## STRATEGY

### DOUBLES SHOT CYCLE

Some shots can be played solely by one player, who does all of the planning and decision making. Still, in some cases, two heads are better than one. So, on these dual planning shots, it helps to estab-

lish a smooth and efficient planning process. Doing so will keep from violating the mistake of "studying long, and studying wrong." Overthinking a shot is a mistake that hurts so many teams, especially when a clock is not being used.

When you are the shooter, your objective is to quickly consider the options and variables, and the particular needs, if any, of the next player. For example, a quick conference could lead to a safety over an offensive shot, or vice versa. Or you might prevent the needs to play a stretch shot.

Every player has a Shot Cycle (see *Capelle's Practicing Pool*) that they have designed for their game. But, with another player to think about, consider creating a special Doubles Shot Cycle. This process includes dual planning and a joint conviction on the chosen shot. You want you be able to voice your perspective as needed while not making a federal case out of your shots.

After the decision has been made, you can end with the non-shooter giving a big boost to the shooter (something like "you've got this," or "be smooth") before they prepare to get into their stance.

Those of you who watch pro golf are familiar with the player/caddie conferences that take place prior to the playing of most shots. These can serve as models for your dual planning shots. And, unlike golf, you both get to serve at times as either the player or the "caddie!"

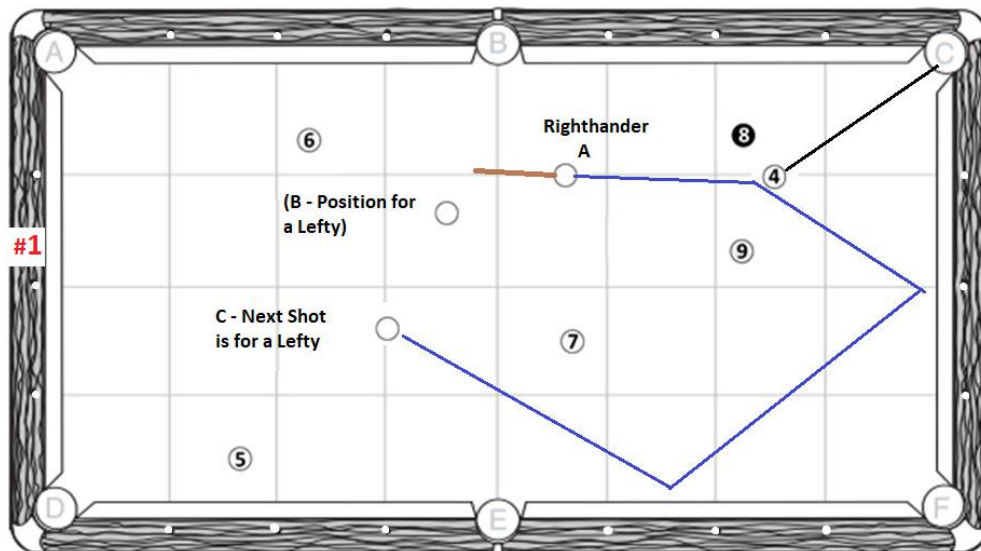
## POSITION PLAY STRATEGY

Last month I talked about playing Recovery Routes, which are difficult position plays that come after a player has missed the ideal shape zone. In doubles play, if one player consistently plays good position and is a fine shotmaker, and the other one not so much, then you should consider balancing your shots in the following manner: have the weaker player play for area shape, the kind that they are capable of. The stronger player will then be faced with a Recovery Route that is quite playable. In other words, the burden for running out is placed largely on the better player, as it should be.

**Diagram #1** shows a position for a team that includes a righthanded and a lefthanded player. Position A shows excellent shape for the righthanded player. If the player on this turn was the lefty, then Position B would be better as it avoids stretching for the shot. Note that the next shot on the 5-ball will be played by the lefty. With the cue ball in Position C it should be easy to play shape on the 6-ball. So, keep in mind that if you are playing on a mixed team, be sure to include making allowances for your handedness as you proceed through your planning process.

### DOUBLE CUE POINTING

Sanjin Pehlivanovic (Fargo 807) is one of my favorite players to watch because



he so expertly makes use of his cue as a pointer to plan his position routes and shape zones. His technique gives him a very specific target to shoot for and, at the same time, he shows viewers where he intends to send the cue ball.

On one shot at the recent World Cup Sanjin and his partner both got into the act, using two cues to plan a shot. This got me to thinking that on many shots in doubles play, both players should be a part of the

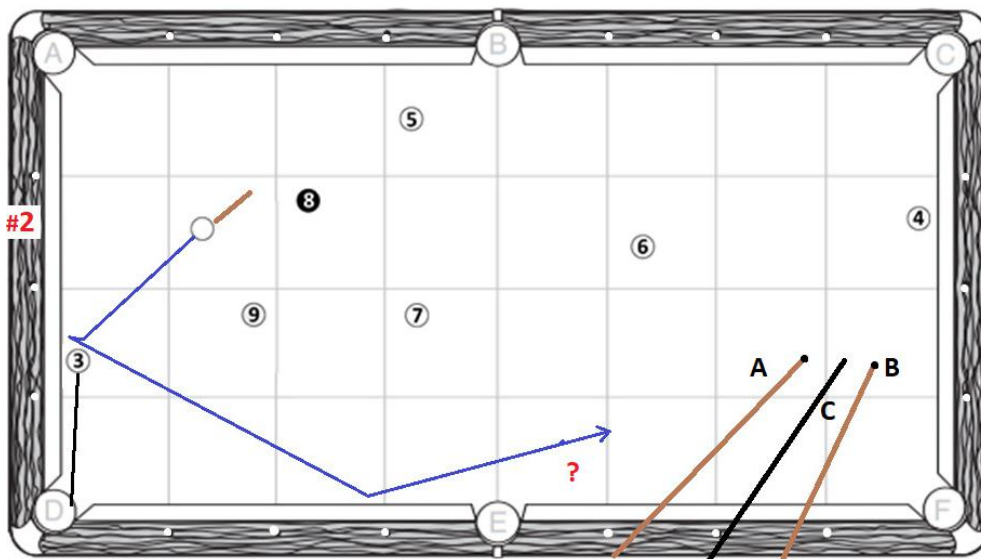
process. The shooter lines up the path to the target, and their partner does the same. Their goal is to come to an agreement on the best place to send the cue ball.

In **Diagram #2** Player A is going to be sending the cue ball down the table for position on the 4-ball. He may point his cue down Line A while Player B points his cue down Line B. After a quick conference they decide that position at the end of Line C is gives Player

B the ideal angle for playing position on the 5-ball.

## MELINDA BAILEY WINNING AT BAR TABLE DOUBLES 8-BALL

Many of you who are long term readers of the Billiards Buzz may be familiar with Melinda Bailey, who did some outstanding interviews for this publication. (Note: Her interview with me appears in the April,



2019 issue.) Melinda is also a top 8-ball player having been a member of many successful teams, including winning three straight Texas state BCAPL Scotch Doubles 8-Ball titles. With her sterling resume, I asked her to share some of her thoughts on how best to win at scotch doubles:

- The number one thing I did to become a top-notch, dependable and great scotch doubles partner was to solidify my 8-ball game.
- In order to be successful in 8-ball scotch doubles, it's crucial for both players to know 8-ball strategies well and know the correct choices and safeties - then you'll be tough to beat. You two will BE the ones to beat.
- If a team has one good player and one weak player, they have to decide which they want to sacrifice - a bad break or perhaps a bad choice of balls after the break.
- I would also review my highlighted areas in the book (Play Your Best Eight Ball) right before every big scotch doubles 8-ball tournament.

I also asked Melinda why she liked to compete in scotch doubles:

"I loved pool and I loved competition and wanted to try for further titles. In addition, scotch doubles at state or national tournaments was always the first tournament in a series, then singles, and then teams. Playing scotch doubles kept the momentum going and got me warmed up to also finish deep in singles."



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# MENTAL GAME STRATEGIES FOR JUNIORS

**Junior pool is more competitive than ever. There are more and more tournaments each year and a greater depth of talent than ever before.**

**T**o be competitive and reach a high level, a junior player not only needs good technical skills, but they need to develop a mental game that can allow them to access those skills under the pressure.

From my 12 years working with junior players on the mental game, I know that they can sometimes struggle with the following, all of which can prevent them from playing their best during tournaments:

- Losing confidence and self-esteem
- Being too focused on the score
- Being too nervous
- Not being able to rebound from poor shots
- Focusing too much on what went wrong
- Trying to please parents/family
- Comparing themselves to their peers.

However, juniors are very “coachable” and can learn new mental skills and change their thinking patterns rather quickly. If you are a parent or coach of a junior, I’d like to share 5 strategies you can help them with.

## 1. REWARD PROCESS NOT OUTCOME

There are so many variables in a game of pool. Without a solid mental game, the mind can shift between all these possibilities, causing performance anxiety and a loss of focus on what’s important. A junior can think: “What will I shoot?” “Will I qualify?” “What will my parents think if I don’t play well?”

This is where “process” comes in. A process simplifies a game and breaks it down into objectives that are 100% achievable. When a player focuses on simple process goals for each match, it immediately relieves performance anxiety felt from having to go out there and win a certain number of games.

First, the junior player needs to define their process goals and be held accountable to them. Each player’s process goals might be different, but it will include what they think is most important for them to focus on in the various stages of a match. It could be the steps they take in their pre-shot routine, how they respond to shots, their attitude, etc. After the match, reward them for achieving the behaviors that are conducive to a good per-



formance, rather than the outcome (score). The more this is repeated, the more they will develop the habits that help them play better.

## 2. SET REASONABLE EXPECTATIONS

Studies show that a junior’s concentration is most affected and physical anxiety reaches its highest point when a parent is expecting them to play well or is overly invested in their success. As a parent you have a lot of influence over your child, but the time before or after a match, isn’t the time to exert that influence.



You might think that it's a positive and a confidence booster to tell your child that "you can win this tournament", but the reality is that it probably adds pressure and creates worry about letting you down. Saying less is better than saying more when it comes to tournament talk.

### 3. WATCH YOUR REACTIONS

As a parent myself, I know that it can be hard not to show your emotions when you're watching your junior play. However, a junior is inherently sensitive to their parents' emotions. If you're showing a full range of emotions while watching, they will pick up on it. They will feel like they are responsible for how you feel, adding more pressure to each shot. Try staying emotionally neutral. Celebrate in their successes afterwards but hold in emotions during match play.

### 4. MISTAKES ARE OK

To keep improving, your junior must be comfortable with making mistakes, and not thinking that you will

be disappointed in them if they do. You don't want them to shy away when things get tough, because they think they might fail, but to develop resilience and perseverance, which requires trying, failing, & learning, many times along the way.

### 5. HELPING BUILD A CONFIDENCE

What you say after each match will have a long-term effect on your child's mental game. If they seem disappointed, let them deal with it. If you jump in and try to make things better, you are interfering with a valuable opportunity for them to gain emotional mastery. If they seem like they want to talk about it, ask them how they felt and be a good listener.

When the initial post-match emotions have had time to settle, point out the things that you noticed that they did well. Once they've had time to reflect, ask them to give you a couple of things they could have done better and how they will improve next time.

### THE VALUE OF IMPROVING A CHILD'S MENTAL GAME

True success in the game of pool comes not from winning, but from what it teaches us about how to succeed in the game of life. With the right approach, parents can facilitate valuable life skills. No matter whether they become the next Shane Van Boening or not, they'll be better and higher achieving individuals.

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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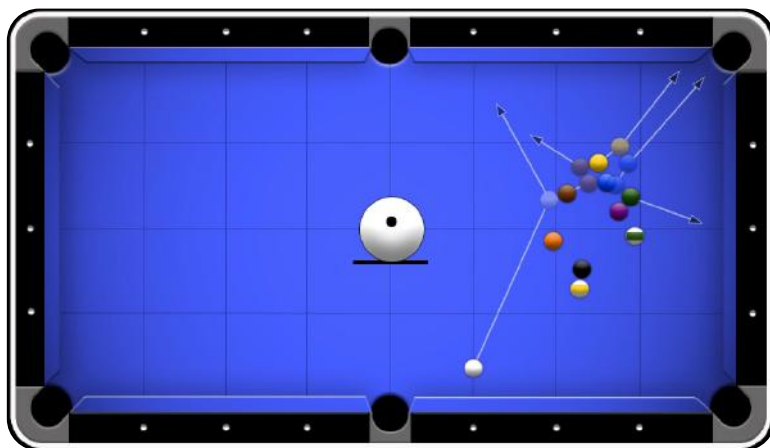
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Pool ball: 8



**A**ccu-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 a match we recently premiered on the Accu-Stats YouTube page. It was Ralf Souquet vs Ming-Wai Chin at the finals of the 2000 US Open 14.1 Championship.

Chin came up way short on his shape for the 14-ball, but found this world class combination-billiard in the rack, to keep his run going.



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# Gospel Trick Shot #42

## The 316 Shot

**History of the Trick Shot:** Wayne Parker from South Africa and member of the GTS Team created this shot in June of 2023. In preparation for his travels to the United States for the GTS Ministries 25-year celebration banquet, he thought of a shot that would fit in line with the theme of the weekend of events which was reaching the ends of the earth with the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.

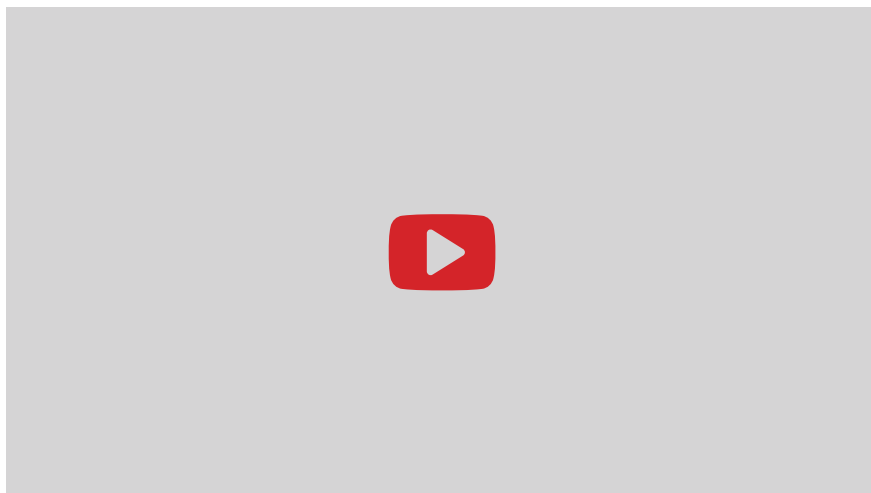
**GTS Name and Why:** In the video, Wayne shares on John 3:16 and how the three, one and six balls represent the gospel message and the disciples who were commissioned in Jerusalem. The cue ball represents the persecution that breaks out against the disciples. The three balls are then made into three different pockets. The closer pocket representing Judea, another pocket representing Samaria and then the furthest pocket representing the ends of the earth. It is really in times of difficulty and persecution that one's message has the ability to be become a megaphone! Your test will become your testimony!

**Scripture References (NIV):** "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria. (Acts 8:1)

**Object Ball(s) Placement:** The 3-ball, 1-ball and 6-ball are all frozen to each other, with the 1-ball and 6-ball also



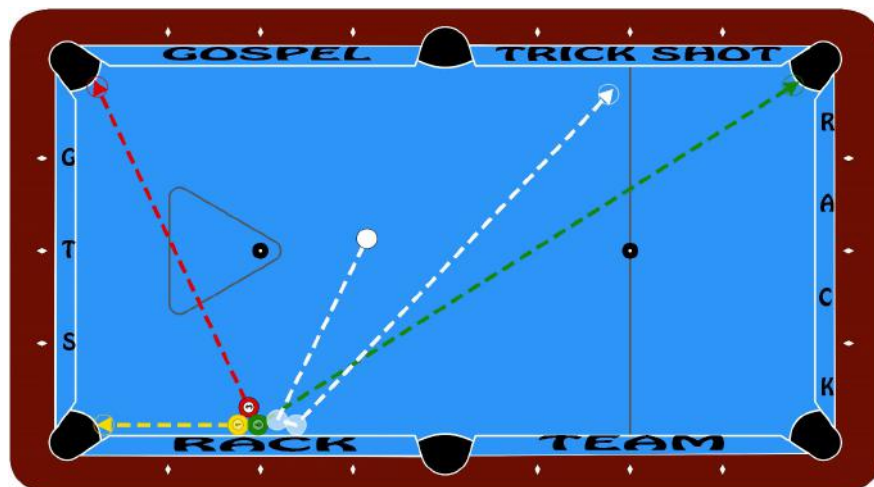
frozen to the cushion as shown in the diagram. The 6 ball is in line with the 2<sup>nd</sup> diamond from the corner pocket.

**Objective:** Shoot the cue ball into the 6-ball, with about a half a tip bottom spin, and make all three balls in one shot in the various pockets as indicated in the diagram.

**Special Notes:** The 6-ball is the hardest ball to make. If the 6-ball does not make it into the pocket, then one can adjust the cue ball closer toward the foot spot. By hitting the 6-ball thinner and harder

will also adjust the angle of the 6-ball toward the pocket.

**Crowd Reactions Through the Years:** Initially the crowd will not know into which pockets all the balls are made into. Once the shot is played the 1 ball and 3 balls are made rather quickly, however the 6-ball will slowly roll across the table and build anticipation as it takes its time toward the pocket. Once the 6-ball drops, one can expect an great eruption of applause and amazement!



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# THE PHILIPPINES CREATE WORLD CUP OF POOL HISTORY

## Germany 7-11 Philippines

**T**he Philippines created World Cup of Pool history by claiming a record fourth title beating Germany 11-7 at Pazo de Feiras e Congresos de Lugo, Spain in partnership with The Asociación Gallega de Billar Pool (AGP), Xunta de Galicia, and EIDF Solar 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.

From the outset, a meeting of two powerhouses of Nineball was always going to deliver drama and there was no let up from the start in a rematch of the 2009 World Cup of Pool final where it was the Philippines who came out on top.

Germany's Joshua Filler alongside Moritz Neuhausen was tasked with taking down the powerful Pinoy duo of Johann Chua and James Aranas and they had the initial upper hand by winning the lag. Despite that, it was

the Philippines who took the opening rack after Filler scratched from the break whilst the second rack swung the other way after Aranas missed the nine. A brilliant break and run out in the third put Germany ahead. The Philippines hit back in the fourth after a loose Filler safety put them in to clear the table from the two.

Aranas and Chua put their nation back in front in the fifth rack after Neuhausen was forced to go airborne to find any contact on the two at 3-2.



The Philippines were gathering momentum in the contest and ramped up to a 5-2 lead after a costly foul from Germany gave the former ball in hand to extend their advantage and be six racks away from victory. A break and run in the following took the Philippines over the halfway stage toward victory. As in the previous two matches, the Philippines were doing all the early running and they built on their lead to 7-2, it was a magnificent showing of cueing.

Chua was incredible and Aranas was sublime as the lead extended to 8-2 after one of the shots of the match from Bad Koi Chua saw him draw back from the three to perfect position to aid the break and run, another one on their tally. Germany had their chance in the 11th rack but Filler fluffed his lines on a rare occasion which allowed Aranas in for the 6-9 combo to be two away from victory.

A rare slip from the Philippines in the 12th rack allowed Germany back in but it was still 9-3, a long way to go for the Europeans. The distance was soon narrowing by the rack as Germany built up momentum to pull things to 9-6 after 15 racks, it was indeed the case of history repeating itself for the Philippines who had already gone through back-to-back matches that ended up going the distance from strong winning positions.

At 9-7, Germany pushed out from the break and it proved to be decisive as the Philippines ran out to reach the hill first. In what was the final rack of the tournament, the Philippines made a brilliant safety which meant Germany made a deliberate foul hoping that Aranas and Chua would not make the two but with the way the pair were playing, it was calling all pockets as the Philippines closed out a historic performance following in the footsteps of Efren Reyes and Francisco Bustamante.



**“ ARANAS PLAYED A CRAZY TWO BALL AND AFTER THAT ALL IN ALL THEY PLAYED BETTER AND DESERVED TO WIN. – JOSHUA FILLER ”**

Chua said: “I feel great. It feels amazing to win a world title. It’s such an honour to win with James. We’ve known each other since we were 13 years old. We went to school together. To win with him is amazing. This has always been our dream. It’s a special achievement to win the World Cup of Pool. I am aggressive at the table. I cannot sleep if I do not approach it like that. It’s my first achievement at this sort of prestigious event. It’s my first world title.”

Aranas started the week with no cues having been lost in transit but felt it was a sign of better things to come:

“For me, I have so many memories, it’s so exciting. This week is unforgettable, spending this moment with Johann too. My cues arrived right on time because they didn’t arrive for the Spanish Open. I want to thank my friends and family and all the Filipinos back home. Without my family, I would not be here.”

Filler said: “It was a tough final. They were breaking better. I said to Moritz we still have to believe. Aranas played a crazy two ball and after that all in all they played better and deserved to win.”

**NEXT MATCHROOM EVENT**

The next signature Matchroom open multi-table event will take place in Fulda, Germany with the European Open Pool Championship from August 8-13 with the world’s elite set to descend on Hotel Esperanto as they do battle for their slice of the \$200,000 prize fund. Buy tickets here.

# NIELS “THE TERMINATOR” FEIJEN ELECTED TO BILLIARD CONGRESS OF AMERICA HALL OF FAME

File photo courtesy TAKA WU - Matchroom Multisport

**The Billiard Congress of America (BCA) Hall of Fame welcomes one of the game’s hardest working and most ferocious competitors when the Netherland’s great Niels “the Terminator” Feijen is inducted into the sport’s most prestigious club.**

**F**eijen, 46, a two-time World Champion, was the clear choice of voters in the Greatest Players category and is the first Dutch-born player to be inducted into the BCA Hall of Fame.

Feijen will formally be inducted into the Hall of Fame on Friday, Nov. 3, at the Norfolk Sheraton Waterside Hotel in Norfolk, Va., in conjunction with the 2023 International Open pool tournament.

“Obviously, this is a huge honor,” Feijen said when informed of his election. “To be in the same club with my heroes — legends like Efren Reyes and Earl Strickland — is an amazing feeling.

“It’s something I really didn’t think about at all until about five years ago. I was still focused on trying to win tournaments. Once I was on the ballot, I know I was close a few times. You

hope, but you have to tell yourself, ‘It will happen when it happens.’”

The road has been long and measured for Feijen, an avid athlete as a youth. After discovering pool in his hometown of The Hague at 16, Feijen’s pursuit of greatness was relentless, with a stint in the U.S. as a 20-year-old, playing against the stars he’d studied on

so many videos. In short order, Feijen began placing in the top 10 in numerous international events. His first major breakthrough came in 2008, when he won the WPA World Straight Pool Championship.

After finishing third in the WPA World 10-Ball Championship that year, and runner-up twice in the WPA World 8-Ball Championship (2010, 2011), Feijen finally captured his second world title at the WPA World 9-Ball Championship in 2014. He won the World Pool Masters in 2013 and repeated as champion in 2018. His biggest years were 2013 and 2014, a two-year stretch in which he added back-to-back World Cup of Pool runner-up finishes, back-to-back runner-up finishes in the Derby City 10-Ball Challenge and a pair of Mosconi Cup wins and MVP honors to his Masters and World 9-Ball crowns. He won the Derby City 9-Ball title in 2007. He has ap-



peared in 14 Mosconi Cups, winning eight times and earning MVP honors four times. He is three-time European 9-Ball Champion, seven-time European Straight Pool Champion and European 8-Ball Champion.

“I remember my father asking me years ago what I wanted to do in pool,” Feijen recalled. “I told him, ‘I want to win a world title and get into the Hall of Fame.’ Crazy that it has happened.”

Voting for the 2023 BCA Hall of Fame was conducted by the USBMA Hall of Fame Board, which consists of USBMA members, elected At-Large members and living members of the Hall of Fame. In his fifth year on the ballot, Feijen was named on 29 submitted ballots (79%). American Corey Deuel was named on 17 ballots (48%). Jeremy Jones, JoAnn Mason-Parker, Stefano Pellinga, John Schmidt, Vivian Villarreal and Charlie Williams completed the 2023 ballot. To be eligible for consideration in the Greatest

Players category, a player (a) must be 40 years old by Jan. 1 of the year of their inclusion on the ballot; (b) must have a professional playing career of

at least 10 years; and (c) must have recorded significant achievements in U.S.-based and international events recognized by the BCA.

### ABOUT BILLIARD CONGRESS OF AMERICA

Founded in 1948, the Billiard Congress of America is a non-profit trade organization dedicated to growing a united, prosperous and highly regarded billiard industry through BCA leadership. The BCA seeks to enhance the success of its members and promote the game of billiards through educational, marketing and promotional efforts, annual industry trade shows, tournaments and other programs designed to encourage billiards as a lifestyle and make pool everybody’s game. For more information, visit [bca-pool.com](http://bca-pool.com) or call 303.243.5070.

### ABOUT UNITED STATES BILLIARD MEDIA ASSOCIATION

Founded in 2007, the United States Billiard Media Association (USBMA) is a non-profit association dedicated to elevating the visibility and status of billiards in the media at large. The USBMA consists of professional print, radio, TV, public relations and Internet media persons who cover cue sports. One of the association’s main functions is electing of billiard media members to the Billiard Congress of America’s Hall of Fame Board for the purpose of nominating and electing players and notable figures to the Billiard Congress of America Hall of Fame.

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# OUSCHAN COMES FROM THE LOSS SIDE TO DEFEND HER WPBA SOARING EAGLE MASTERS TITLE

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

Just shy of a year ago, Jasmin Ouschan was sitting in the hot seat at the WPBA's 2022 Soaring Eagle Masters event in Michigan, waiting for Kelly Fisher to complete a five-match, loss-side winning streak that had begun when Ouschan sent her over in a winners' side quarterfinal.

Ouschan defeated Fisher a second time in the finals of that event to claim her third Soaring Eagle Masters title.

This past weekend (July 12-16), Ouschan claimed her fourth, with the steps to final victory working out just a little differently. This time, it was Fisher waiting in the hot seat for Ouschan, as she completed a five-match, loss-side winning streak that Fisher had not started. That privilege went to

Margaret Fefilova, who would go on to face Fisher in the hot seat match and later, face Ouschan for a rematch in the semifinals. Fefilova finished third in both events.

"I love Soaring Eagle!" shouted Ouschan at the conclusion of the weekend, as well she might.

The \$40,000-added event drew a full field of 64 entrants to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort in Mount Pleas-

ant, MI. When the dust settled and ranking points had been assigned, the 2023 Soaring Eagle competitors were the top four on the WPBA rankings, although not in the same order; Fisher, Ouschan, Tzu-Chien Wei (who finished 4th) and Fefilova.



Jasmin Ouschan

It was a female star-studded event with all of the usual suspects competing for the title, including but not limited to Allison Fisher, Brittany Bryant, Caroline Pao, Kristina Zlateva, Kaylee McIntosh, Kristina Tkach, Janet Atwell and Kyoko Sone. Also on hand were a number of junior competitors, who continue to flex their young muscles against their older counterparts, like Savannah Easton, Sofia Mast and recently-graduated from junior status Kennedy Meyman. It made for a highly competitive series of matches for pretty much everyone involved.

Fisher's path went through Leanne Lini (1) and Jaye Succo (3) before she was challenged in a double-hill battle against Bean (Meng-Hsia) Hung. Fisher survived that to down Yuki Hiraguchi 8-2 and draw Veronique Menard in one of the winners' side semifinals. Margaret Fefilova, in the meantime, got by Kennedy Meyman in the opening round (1), Angela Janic in the second (0) and Janet Atwell (6) before running into a tricky part of her trip by drawing Ouschan in a winners' side quarterfinal. She navigated that encounter 8-6, and drew Tzu-Chien Wei in the other winners' side semifinal.

Fisher defeated Menard 8-3 and was joined in the hot seat match by Fefilova,

who'd sent Tzu-Chien to the loss side 8-4. Fisher and Fefilova played a match that came within a game of double hill (8-6) and left Fisher in the hot seat, waiting for Ouschan to complete her five-match winning streak on the other side of the bracket.

On the loss side, Menard ran into Ouschan, who'd followed her loss to Fefilova with victories over Kaylee McIntosh 8-3 and Kristina Tkach 8-4. Tzu-Chien picked up Kristina Zlateva, who'd lost a double-hill battle against Menard in the 2nd round and embarked on a six-match, loss-side streak that had, among others, eliminated JoAnn Mason Parker (6), Allison Fisher (4), Yuki Hiraguchi (6) and Seo Seo (3). It was Zlateva's birthday on Sunday and she was in the commentating booth for the finals, along with Allison Fisher.



*Kelly Fisher*



*Tzu-Chien Wei*

Zlateva would likely have had just a thought or two about a rematch against Menard in the quarterfinals when she began her match against Tzu-Chien, who spoiled that rematch 'party' with an 8-6 win. Ouschan joined her in the quarterfinals after defeating Menard 8-4. Ouschan defeated Tzu-Chien 8-6 and in something of a 'take no prisoners' kind of way, shut out Fefilova in the semifinals.

In a combination of what was most likely circumstance and a touch of caution, Ouschan and Fisher played their first pair of games in the final very 'close to the vest,' with a number of safety shots that eventually led

to the first tie (1-1) of five. They then settled into a varying pattern that saw them trade the initiative back and forth. Ouschan won her first of two-in-a-row to take a single game lead that was quickly countered by Fisher and they settled into a pattern that brought them to a 4-4 tie.

Fisher chalked up her first two-in-a-row and right at the midway point of the match, chalked up her third in a row and took the match's first two-game lead at 6-4. Ouschan won two in a row to tie things up at 6-6. Fisher chalked up rack #13 to take what would prove to be her last lead.

Ouschan answered with her first (and only) three in a row to reach the hill first, ahead by two at 9-7. Fisher took game #17, but Ouschan closed it out with the final game victory to claim her second straight Soaring Eagle title.

"We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to all of the par-



Margaret Fefilova-Styer

ticipants," wrote Tour Director Jerry Stuckart on the WPBA Web site, "especially Jasmin Ouschan for her outstanding performance. We'd also like to express our gratitude to (the ownership and staff of) Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort for hosting the event, (along with) the WPBA staff and

volunteers and sponsors Diamond, Aramith, Simonis, Outsville and digitalpool.com."

The next stop on the WPBA calendar, scheduled for Sept. 28-Oct. 1 will be hosted by Iron City Billiards in Alabama.



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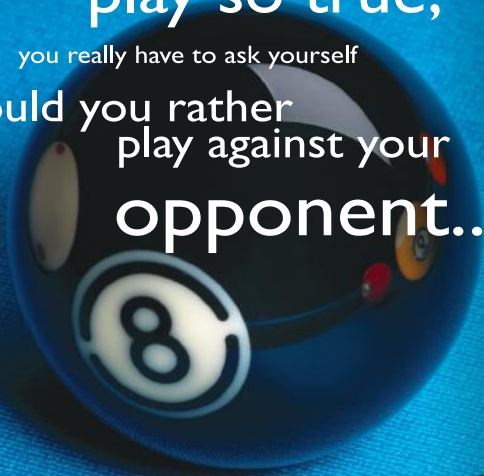





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# WOODWARD, VAN BOENING, DELAWDER & RIVAS ARE THE BIG DOGS

Story by MARY KENNISTON - Photos courtesy ERWIN DIONISIO

**Owners Jim Landrum and Randy Hanson welcomed hundreds of players and fans to Big Dog Billiards in Des Moines, IA for their eighth annual extravaganza and, as usual, it was a huge success.**

In addition to the Cue Expo, there was \$18,000 added to four events – the One Pocket Championship, the Nine Ball Championship, the Bar Table 9 Ball Championship and a Banks Ring Game.

Presented by Diveney Cues, Big Dog Billiards and PoolActionTV.com, other sponsors included Anderson Animal Hospital, 1 Of A Kind Billiard Supply, Everything Billiards, Jacoby Custom Cues, Simonis, Aramith, Guido Orlandi Professional Cue Repair, Kamui, Diamond Billiard Products and Pechauer Rogue. All rack templates were supplied by Outsville.

The double elimination event was to kick off on Wednesday event with the \$5,000 added One Pocket Championship, however, a power outage delayed the start. So, itching to begin, the sixteen player field showed up at 10 AM the following day.

Shane Van Boening drew tough but defeated all in his march to the hot seat match. Fedor Gorst and Tony Chohan both went down 4-2 and Shane Wolford was skunked 4-0.

In the lower portion of the bracket, Sky Woodward started out with a 4-0 blistering of William Haagenson, sur-

vived Scott Frost 4-3 and defeated young gun Lukas Francasso-Verner 4-2.

The hot seat match was a dogfight but Shane came out on top 4-3. Sky headed west to await an opponent.

Both Fedor Gorst and Tony Chohan had battled their way through the one loss side to finally meet. Tony took the match 4-1 to face Sky for the remaining berth in the finals.

This match was also close as both players fought and clawed but Sky finally prevailed 4-3 leaving Tony in third place.

As this was true double elimination, Sky had to defeat Shane twice to win the event and that's exactly what he did – both matches 4-2!

The \$10,000 added Nine Ball Championship was a Matchroom Mosconi Cup Points Qualifying event and began on



Friday evening with forty two players paying a \$300 entry fee. The format was double elimination and winner breaks. Played on nine foot tables, the nine was racked on the spot and the break box was utilized. The nine ball world rankings determined seeding in the first round.

Red hot Van Boening and Woodward tore through the field on their way to the hot seat match. Shane drew a first round bye and then defeated Brian Brekke 9-4, Tony Chohan 9-3, Nicholas De Leon 9-6 and blitzed Tyler Styer 9-0.

Sky also drew a bye in the first round and then beat Jody McLaughlin 9-5, Vitaliy Patsura 9-6, pounded Roberto Gomez 9-1 and BJ Ussery 9-5. Both Shane & Sky would face off the following day to determine the first seat in the finals.

Saturday night was a fan favorite – the \$1,000 added Banks Ring Game. Featuring eight players who posted a \$250 entry fee to play in this single elimination event, the field was whittled down to two – Mike DeLawder and Alex Calderon. Mike was the last man standing!

Sunday saw the finish of both the \$2,000 Bar Table Nine Ball Championship and the Nine Ball Championship.

The hot seat match in the Nine Ball Championship was one-sided as Van Boening secured his berth in the finals with a 9-2 thumping of Woodward. Sky had to await an opponent from the west side.

He didn't have long to wait as Fedor Gorst and Roberto Gomez emerged from the pack. Their match was neck and neck – tied at five until Fedor ran out the set. Roberto finished in fourth place.

The next match looked to be a short one as Gorst shot out to a huge lead! However, not so fast – here came Sky



Shane Van Boening

who tied the match at five games each and then reached the hill first! It was not to be for the Texas transplant as Fedor eked out the win and claimed the other seat in the finals! What a match! Sky finished in third place.

Again, as this was true double elimination, Gorst would have to defeat Van Boening twice for the title but Shane was having none of it – he notched another title 9-5.

And, finally, the \$2,000 added Bar Box Championship wound down to two players – Sergio Rivas and Eric Naretto. Also, true double elimination so Rivas would have to defeat Naretto twice. Sergio won the first set 7-1 & while the second set went down to the wire, he claimed the title 7-6!

Congratulations to Sky, Mike, Shane and Tony & Sergio for becoming the 2023 Big Dog champions!

In addition, many thanks to Jim Landrum and Randy Hanson and their staff who rolled out the red carpet for both players and fans.

PoolActionTV.com would like to thank Tournament Director Ray Hansen and

his assistant, Jason Hill, for keeping things going without a hitch.

We'd also like to thank our commentators Jeremy Jones, Larry Schwartz, Scott Frost, Raymond Linares and Mary Kenniston for a great job.

Last, but not least, thanks to our fans and sponsors. Our sponsors include Lomax Custom Cues, JB Cases, Hanchew Jump Cues, Diamond Billiard Products, Aramith, Simonis, Durbin Custom Cues, Savage Billiards, Matchroom Nineball World Rankings, the Fort Worth Billiards Superstore of Fort Worth, TX and the Action Palace of Dayton, OH.

Our next event is the 50th Annual Texas Open. To be held Skinny Bob's in Round Rock, TX, the Texas Open is the largest and longest running tournament in the world! This year's event features eight divisions – Jack N Jill Doubles, One Pocket, Banks, a 9 Ball mini, a Ladies Ring Game, a Banks Ring Game, Ladies 9 Ball and the main event, the Open 9 Ball Championship. Dates are August 26th- September 4th! Hope to see you there!

# KING FILLER

## RULES IN SLOVENIA

Story and photos courtesy EPBF

**Joshua Filler claimed his sixth Euro Tour title as he defeated Konrad Juszczyszyn 9-6 to win the Dynamic Billard Terme Olimia Open, staged in Podčetrtek, Slovenia. Both players gave it their best but Filler found that additional gear that he can bring into play when a title is on the line.**

It was his third Euro Tour title in 18 months and with no weak aspect to his game, it's easy to see why he starts out as a favourite in any tournament he enters. Juszczyszyn, himself is no slouch but his break let him down a couple of times and in the alternate break format, that can prove fatal against a player of Filler's immense abilities.

The 25 year-old German got the match underway, downing a ball and hav-

ing a nice shot on the 1 but a missed combination saw Juszczyszyn to the table for the first time. From there, the Pole cleared up to take the first rack against the break.

It was a good break from Juszczyszyn but there was no potting shot on the 1 ball so he pushed out. Joshua then played a wonderful safety which Juszczyszyn jumped out of leaving a table-length shot, cueing out of the pocket. Filler dropped the first ball of

the rack and followed it with a crunching bank shot on the 2 ball. A big miss on the 3 ball though, gave the Pole table time.

A good pot on the 3 ball saw him blocked out on the 4. It looked a simple jump shot but with the object ball so close to the pocket, the white followed it in. With ball in hand Filler levelled it up Joshua made a couple off his next break but couldn't go on the offensive and in the end a misplaced



safety allowed Juszczyszyn to make a confident run out.

Three balls off the break from Juszczyszyn left an enticing table but a missed long 3 ball left it at Filler's mercy and he wasted no time in levelling the match at 2-2. Another nice break from Filler allowed him to run the rack. It was the first break and run and the first time a player had won a rack from their own break.

Juszczyszyn made the 1 ball off the break but the 2 ball was tricky. He missed but his two-way shot left Filler blocked. Filler kicked out and put Juszczyszyn in some trouble. His jump shot made contact with the object ball but threw it into the open. Filler seized the chance as he rapidly despatched the table to claim a 4-2 lead.

Sensing his opportunity, Filler hammered the pack and saw three balls disappear and in no time, it was 5-2. Juszczyszyn fired back in the next in a rack that he could ill-afford to lose but he played it well to reduce the deficit.

Another Filler special in the next saw three balls pocketed and a great chance for a run out. Unexpectedly he missed a straight mid-range 2 ball and Juszczyszyn took advantage to drag himself back to 5-4 and very much keep himself in the match.

Despite a forceful break, Konrad fell victim to the 3-point rule which saw Filler return to the table. He laid a nice safety which Juszczyszyn escaped well from but it just gave Filler another chance to lock him up. They went back and forth before Filler left a 3/8 combination along the rail which Juszczyszyn executed to set him on his way to winning the rack and squaring the match at 5-5.

Another great break from Filler allowed him to execute some lovely positional shots to work his way around the table and take the lead once more.



Juszczyszyn made two balls off the break but a difficult shot, bridging over the 7, saw the 3 miss. Joshua was away but was forced into a safety on the 4 ball and played a snooker. Konrad went one rail, made contact but scratched into the centre pocket. With ball-in-hand, Filler cleared up to move to 7-5.

One ball off the break kept Filler at the table and he used his excellent safety game to leave Juszczyszyn in a spot. He jumped out of trouble but the 1 ball was available down table. Filler potted it and from there got himself to the hill at 8-5.

Disappointingly, Juszczyszyn came up with a dry as well as illegal break but was saved when Joshua missed on the 1 ball. It was a life-line which he grabbed with both hands to get a rack back and trail by two. However, another three ball break set Filler up for the winning run out and he looked as good as ever to seal victory.

Commented Filler, "I think my biggest weapon on the Euro Tour is the break. I think I just hit it in the perfect spot and always made two or three balls and got position and this always gives me confidence at these events and a big advantage over other great play-

ers and I think that's why I can come with my best game.

"Overall, I felt good all week so it's amazing to have won here for the sixth time and back-to-back. There are 10 to 15 Polish players and it's always hard to play against those players because they play great but as I said, just with my break and the way I feel, I think it's hard to beat me and when I come out the gate strong and have a good lead it's hard to catch me up," he added.

Earlier, Filler had defeated Marc Bijsterbosch in the semi-finals and the Dutchman's third-place finish will improve his pre-tournament standing of 8th on the rankings. In the other last-four match, Juszczyszyn defeated Georgi Georgiev, who was making his first ever Euro Tour semi-final appearance.

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

# SCHUURMAN TAKES MAIDEN EURO TOUR TITLE

Story and photos courtesy EPBF.

**Jolien Schuurman, playing in only her second ladies Euro Tour event was victorious in Podčetrtek, Slovenia as she took down the EPBF Terme Olimia Open, defeating Slovenia's Ana Gradisnik 7-5 in the final.**

**T**he Dutch girl had initially come to Slovenia to compete in the European Youth Championships last week but didn't have the best of times, trying to build on 2022's multiple gold medal success.

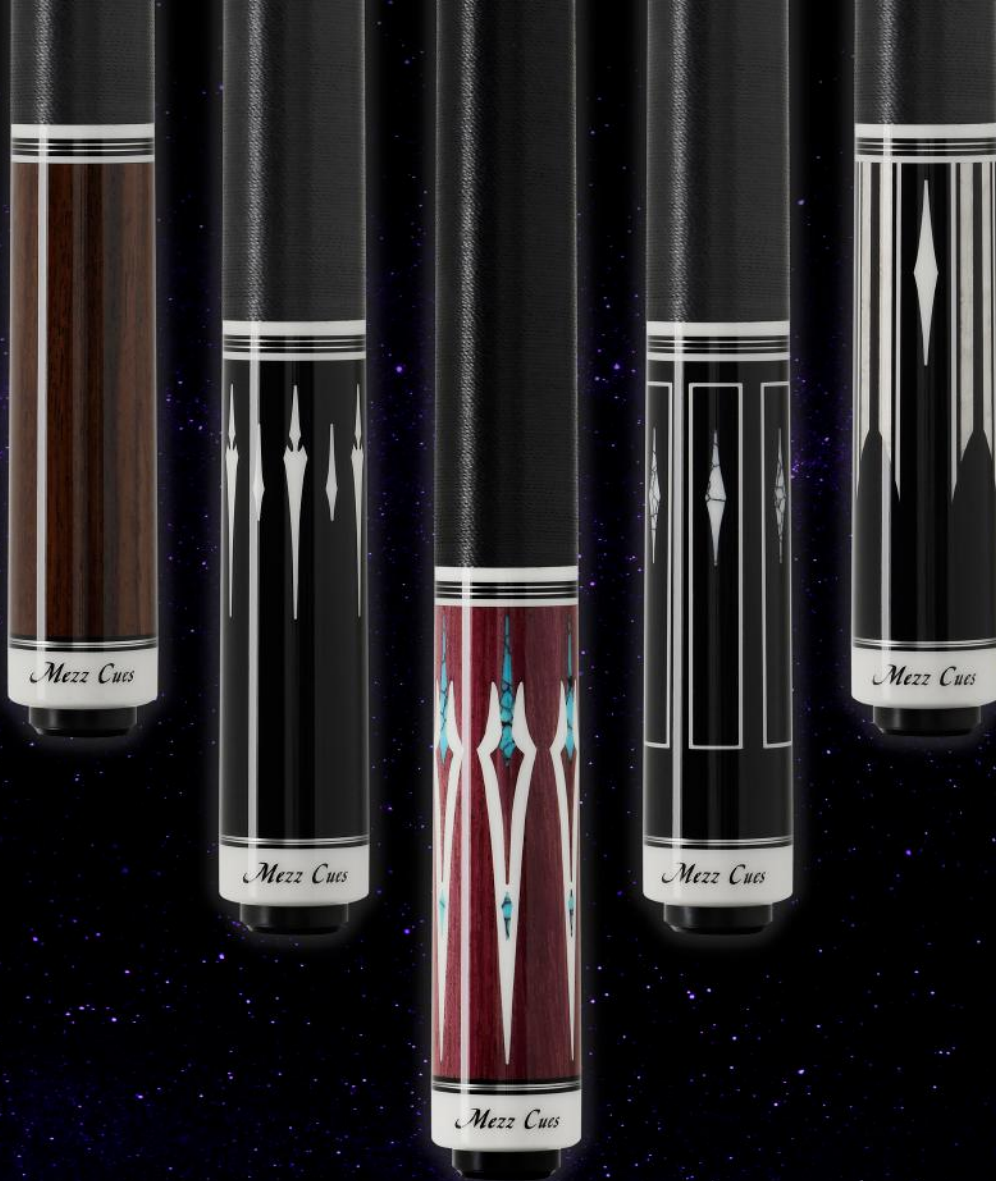
However, she found her form on the Euro Tour despite being relegated to the one-loss side as she went onto beat a host of big names en route to the title. Having just turned 17, there was a gulf in experience between the two players with Gradisnik a veteran of seven Euro Tour finals including two victories and Schuurman just commencing her journey.

There were 29 starters representing 15 countries starting out on Saturday but that was reduced to the final pair and it was Gradisnik who got the match underway. Both players had visits before Schuurman scratched to give her opponent the opportunity, but a positional error from Gradisnik allowed Schuurman back with four balls on the table. She made no mistakes to take the opener.

However, Gradisnik took the next against the break and a nice safety on the blue 2 left Schuurman with a 'hit and hope' shot

Jolien Schuurman





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which left the 2 in a makeable position. A stunning long pot on the 3 ball set Gradisnik up for the runout and the score became 2-1.

Schuurman fell foul of the three-point rule in the fourth game and an attempt at a 1/9 combo from Gradisnik narrowly failed. They both had visits before Schuurman despatched the 1 ball which allowed her to complete a tricky clearance to level the match at 2-2.

The first illegal break from Gradisnik returned her opponent to the table but it was a scratch from the Slovenian which gave ball-in-hand to Schuurman but she failed to pot an almost unmissable 4 ball into the middle pocket. Gradisnik couldn't capitalise on it, and Schuurman more than made up for her error with some fine potting before she missed on the 8 ball to leave it on for Gradisnik who grabbed the opportunity to move into a 3-2 lead.

A solid opener from Schuurman gave her a chance but she once again missed into the centre pocket. She missed again, this time on the 3 ball which gave Gradisnik a great chance but she missed the 9 to present the rack to Schuurman as the scores levelled at 3-3

Another illegal break from Gradisnik got Schuurman back to the table but she couldn't do anything with it. Gradisnik looked set to restore her lead but she left herself a difficult 9 into the centre pocket which went awry. Schuurman stepped in and made a nice cut down the rail to move into a 4-3 lead.

A weak safety from Schuurman gave Gradisnik a chance but her positional shot from 3 to 4 wasn't quite enough and her safety left the 4 on for Schuurman but she too found herself blocked by the 9 ball. They went back and forth before a miss on the 7 ball from Gradisnik left it available to

Ana Gradisnik



Schuurman, who composed herself to take the rack and get to 5-3.

A third illegal break from Gradisnik saw Schuurman pot a long 3 ball and then play safe on the 4. The pair had multiple visits on the 4 ball before Schuurman put it away and was unable to capitalise on it as she missed the 7 ball. Gradisnik had no such qualms as she completed the rack to reduce the deficit to one rack.

A solid break from Schuurman was derailed by a weak positional shot before Gradisnik missed a 5/8 combination. An excellent slow roll on the 5 ball from Schuurman set her up for the run out and she reached the hill, leading 6-4.

Yet another illegal break from Gradisnik gave Schuurman the first look at the table but she once again missed an easy pot, this time on the 3 ball. Gradisnik kept herself in the match as she ran out for 6-5. A dry

break from Schuurman left nothing on but when she got back to the table, a couple of excellent pots followed by a 3/9 combination sealed what was a marvellous victory for the young Dutch girl.

Post-match, Schuurman was stunned by her amazing success; "Well, this year's European Championships was quite a disappointment. I had some trouble knowing that I was a two-time European Champion and your goals change and that's weird. During the European Championships I decided to play the Euro Tour – it was very last minute and winning was something I never expected and it's great!

"I tried to ignore nerves and maybe that sometimes leads to thinking too easy and not giving enough attention to a shot. I don't know what I'm going to do next time but it's amazing to have this title to my name and I'm very happy with the achievement!"

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# WORLD NINEBALL TOUR RANKING UPDATE |

# DAVID ALCAIDE

## BACK IN WNT TOP 20

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

**Two-time World Pool Masters winner David Alcaide secured his first ranking event win of the 2023 campaign beating Great Britain's Phil Burford in the final of the Jacoby 9-Ball Open in Glasgow, Scotland to move inside the World Nineball Tour Rankings top 20 at world number 19.**

**A**lcaide, 44, bounced back from Spanish Open Pool Championship disappointment last month by clinching the title in a hill hill finish with Burford having overcome Switzerland's number one Dimitri Jungo hill hill in the semi-finals and Great Britain's Imran Majid in the last 16 on route to victory.

The Spaniard did it the hard way, losing out to Burford earlier in the tournament 8-5 to be sent to the losers' side of the draw.

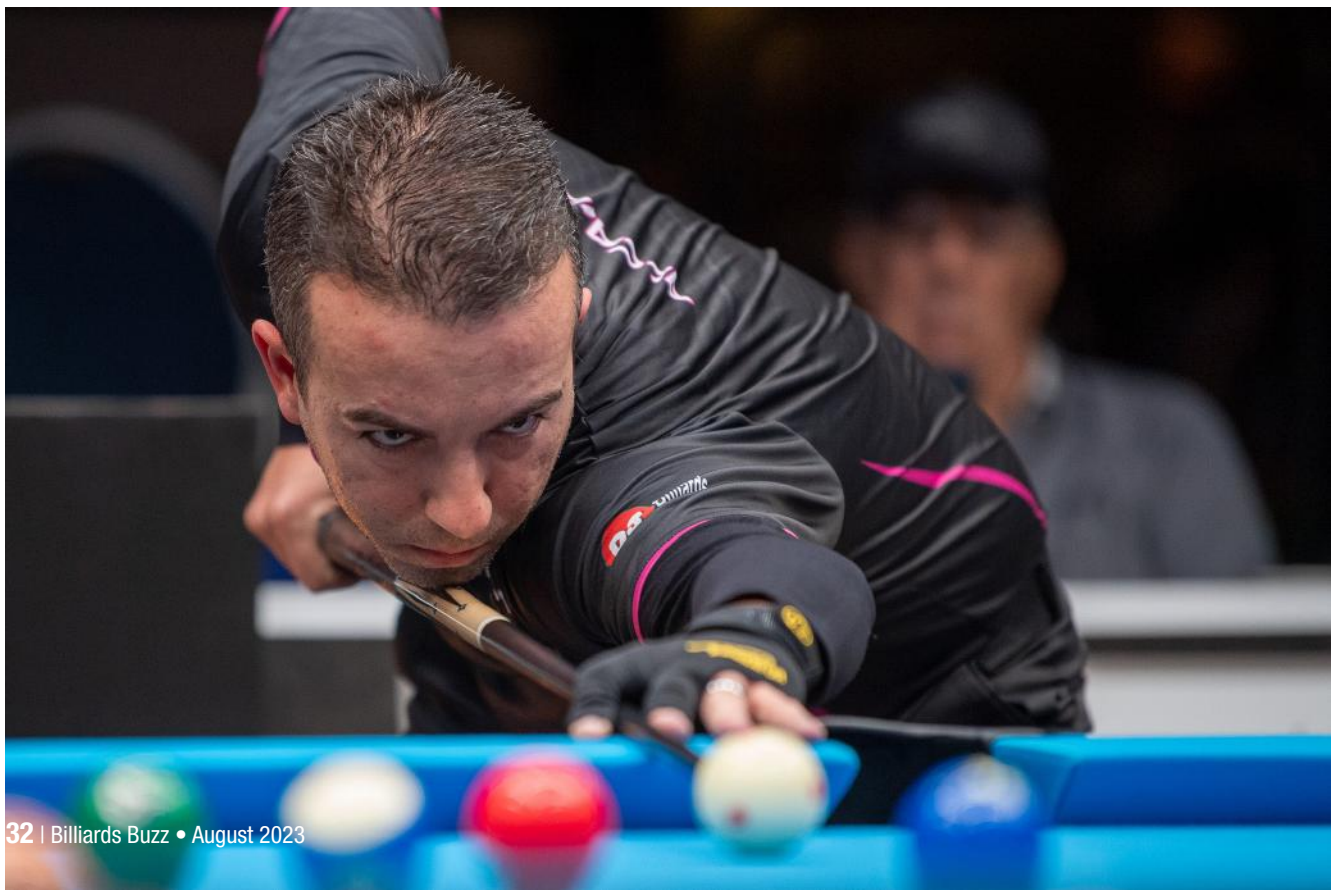
A diverse field made its way to Scotland for the second time this year with McGoldrick's Pool & Sports Bar hosting the Scottish Open in May. Denmark's number one Mickey Krause was joined by multi-discipline cueist Jack Whelan who reached the semi-finals while Great Britain's Chris Alexander's run to the quarter-finals sees him close in on the WNT top 100 at world number 102.

Hosts Paul Corrigan and Great Britain's World Cup of Pool representative Elliott Sanderson both reached the

quarter-finals before defeat to Alcaide and Whelan respectively.

### NEXT MATCHROOM EVENT

The next signature Matchroom multi-table open event comes next at the European Open Pool Championship from August 8-13 at Hotel Esperanto in Fulda, Germany with the first-ever Fillers' Junior Open taking place on August 11-12.



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# VIETNAM'S CAPITAL HANOI CITY TO HOST THE FIRST ASIAN OPEN POOL CHAMPIONSHIP

OCTOBER 10-15 2023

Matchroom Pool is proud to announce the inaugural Asian Open Pool Championship will take place in Vietnam's capital of Hanoi City October 10 – 15 in partnership with the Department of Culture and Sport for Hanoi City and the country's number one sports agency Vietcontent and United Kingdom broadcaster Sky Sports.

Another global stop on the World Nineball Tour, the Asian Open will be staged at the Hanoi Indoor Games Gymnasium inside the Vietnam National Sports Complex as part of an initial three-year partnership with the City.

- Asian Open Pool Championship to take place in Vietnam's capital Hanoi City from 10-15 October 2023
- \$200,000 prize fund for 256 player field event
- WNT top 128 ranked players to feature
- First signature Matchroom multi-table open event in Asia
- Vietnam Junior Open to take place 13-14 October

The Asian Open Pool Championship becomes the fifth signature Matchroom multi-table event on the World Nineball Tour with both Vietcontent and the Department of Sport for Hanoi City instrumental in securing what will be the biggest pool tournament in Southeast Asia as 256 players battle it out for the \$200,000 prize fund over six days.

Led by local World Nineball Tour Vietnamese stars Duong Quoc Hoang, Nguyễn Anh Tuấn, and Asia's biggest names like World Pool Masters Champion Ko Pin Yi, Spanish Open Champion Dang Jin Hu, WNT No. Aloysius

Yapp, and WNT. Naoyuki Oi the tournament promises to be one of the biggest on the calendar with 29 players from the region represented in the top 128 in the world on the latest WNT Rankings alone.

The World Nineball Tour's first Matchroom open event in Asia underlines a commitment to provide playing opportunities for all in every corner of the world with a platform for players to earn their way into the biggest invitational events by order of merit on

the calendar whilst earning a fair living.

Entries will open on Thursday 13, July costing \$250 with the top 128 on the WNT Rankings at the conclusion of the Spanish Open Pool Championship given priority entry. Prior to the Asian Open Pool Championship and following the conclusion of the event, World Nineball Tour ranking events will take place in Southeast Asia as part of the wider growth of Nineball in the region with details to be announced soon.



As part of Matchroom's commitment to growing the grassroots of the game, the Vietnam Junior Open will also take place on October 13-14 alongside the final stages of the main event with a prize fund of \$10,000 on offer for the 64-player field that will be open to juniors aged 17 and under. More details on entry will follow soon.

Ko said: "The opportunity to play a World Nineball Tour major closer to home is brilliant for my brothers and me. We look forward to traveling to Vietnam to experience the Asian Open Pool Championship and everything Hanoi City has to offer. It's exciting to see the expansion of the World Nineball Tour across the world. I know the crowd will welcome us all and create an amazing atmosphere for us all."

USA legend and WNT No. 3 Shane Van Boening cannot wait: "I cannot wait to head to Vietnam for the first time, the country will be the 64th country I've played in, I've heard so much about the pool community in Hanoi City so this is an amazing opportunity to experience another part of Asia. The Asian Open Pool Championship is a massive step forward for the World Nineball Tour and I cannot wait for more stops on the continent to be added – it really shows how quickly Nineball is expanding across the globe and gives me even more chances to explore the globe."

Duong Quoc Hoang said: "It's amazing that such an amazing and beautiful tournament will take place in Vietnam. The Vietnamese fans are very welcoming to everyone and I am sure all our people will be looking forward to this event. They will turn out in their thousands to watch the Asian Open Pool Championship. I am so excited for the World Nineball Tour to come to Hanoi City. I'm excited for this opportunity and want to thank Vietcontent and Matchroom and everyone else who has made this possible."

Matchroom Multi Sport Managing Director Emily Frazer said: "The World Nineball Tour is expanding and we're going to the beautiful Hanoi City in Vietnam. The Asian Open Pool Championship, 256 players, and a \$200,000 prize money on offer led by the top 128 on the WNT Rankings heading to Vietnam. We're really excited. The final two days will be live on Sky Sports. Sky Sports have been instrumental to our push of Nineball following the schedule and putting these events on back to back so they've been really pushing Nineball for us with the calendar. We have a great team on the ground with Vietcontent and the Department of Culture and Sport for Hanoi City."

"We're heading to these locations to push the world Nineball Tour. The Vietnam Junior Open will take place during the Asian Open. It's a great opportunity for Juniors to come onto the main stage and get experience in front of the cameras. We should be traveling the world and getting more global players on the World Nineball Tour rankings. The Asian Open Pool Championship will also be the final stop for the Race to Mosconi Cup standings."

Vietcontent President Ms. Tran Thuy Chi said: Vietnam currently is one of the countries with the largest number of pool players in Asia and the World. In, Hanoi City capital has been considered as a strong city of 9-ball pool for many years until now and the players from capital athletes have

contributed 3 SEA Games gold medals to the Pool National team in 2009. It's the reason for Hanoi to cooperate with Matchroom to host the very first Asian Open Championship in October of 2023. And we the date will coincide with Independence Day of Hanoi so it is the best opportunity to bring Hanoi to the world in bring the world to Hanoi.

"Together with the Hanoi Department of Culture and Sports, Vietcontent is excited to be the host partner of this event, a very meaningful event for billiards fans in Vietnam in particular and sports in general. Vietcontent President Ms. Tran Thuy Chi quote: Vietnam currently is one of the countries with the largest number of pool players in Asia and the World. In, Hanoi capital has been considered as a strong city of 9-ball pool for many years until now and the players from capital athletes have contributed 3 SEA Games gold medals to the Pool National team in 2009. It's the reason for Hanoi to cooperate with Matchroom to host the very first Asian Open Championship in October of 2023. And we the date will coincide with the Independence Day of Hanoi so it is the best opportunity to bring Hanoi to the world and bring the world to Hanoi. Together with the Hanoi Department of Culture and Sports, Vietcontent is excited to be the host partner of this event, a very meaningful event for billiards fans in Vietnam in particular and sports in general."

### ABOUT VIETCONTENT

Vietcontent is top sports agency in Vietnam. In sports licensing we brought to Vietnam NBA, Basketball World Cup, Tennis Grand Slams, Bundesliga, Matchroom Nine-ball Tournaments etc. In sports production our team cover all sports live and at highest standards of Vietnam. We have our own media website, top ranking in sports news website in Vietnam. And we are top sports marketing agency with top experts. We are doing international sports event in Vietnam such as Vietnam International Half Marathon, South East Asia Volleyball League. We keep doing sport because we believe that Sports will make a better life.

# JACK BRYANT MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT RAISES MONEY FOR CANADIAN JUNIORS

**Ask any diehard pool fan, and they will tell you that the future of the game is with our junior players of today.**

**T**wo big proponents of the junior game in Canada were WPBA Touring Professional Brittany Bryant and her father Jack Bryant. “My dad taught me how to play pool and my first big tournament was the Junior Canadian Championship, which I won.” said Brittany. “My dad was there every step of the way, and we developed a real bond over the sport. Since then, my dad and I had always been passionate about the junior players, recognizing that they are the future of pool and a very important part of keeping the game alive.”

With the sudden passing of Jack back in October, Brittany and the rest of her family wanted to create something in his name. It was a cosmo to set up something benefiting the Juniors. “We talked for years about starting an initiative to support the juniors and the costs associated with competing. Since his passing in October my family and I knew it was important to move forward with the pool tournament in his honour.” Thus was born, The Jack Bryant Memorial Tournament, held last weekend (July 22nd – 23rd) at Tony’s Billiards in Guelph Ontario Canada.

The tournament took over three months to plan, but it was well worth the effort. Tony’s was the Bryant’s homeroom, and as expected, the players came out in droves to support the Bryant family. A full field of 96 players came out to support the event, as well as over 60 friends who couldn’t get into the event.

As for the actual competition on the tables, that came down to DJ McGin-

ley and Nick Blancher. McGinley and Blancher went through Saturday play undefeated, and ended up competing for the hot-seat, which was won by McGinley 9-4. Blancher was only on the one loss side for one match, where he beat Jay Williams 6-3 to earn another shot at McGinley in the finals. Blancher would not waste that shot, and he defeated McGinley twice in the double elimination finals for first place.

Much more important than the actual competition side of things, was the way the pool community came together to raise money for the Canadian Junior Players. A Predator cue, as well as many items donated by local friends and professional pool players wanting to help support the cause, were raffled off. There was also a 50/50 raffle that saw the raffle winners donate their money to the fundraiser.

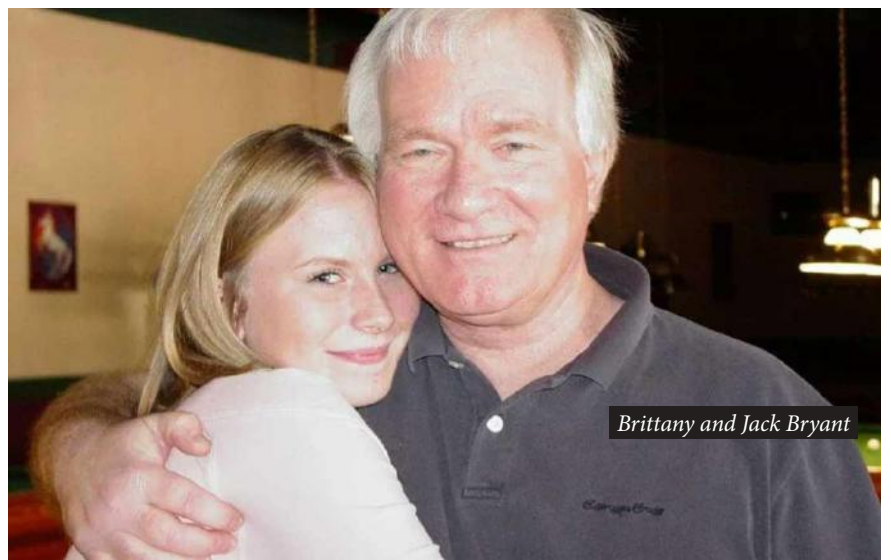
While final totals aren’t calculated yet, Bryant says the event will end up raising over \$7500 to help three top Canadian juniors get to Austria to compete in the Junior World Championships in



*Nick Blancher*

October. “My dad would be so proud. We planned to do something for the Juniors for many years” explained Bryant. “My dad was extremely passionate about charging the growth and path of the game for the better.”

Bryant was reached a couple of days after the event, which coincidentally was her late father’s birthday. “It was a very tough day today, Today is his birthday. But I know he would say this is the best gift I could have given him” she said.



*Brittany and Jack Bryant*

Niels Fejer

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# **GALIEK SAVILLE**

## **HONORED AS THE JERRY BRIESATH INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

**Every year, the Professional Billiard Instructors Association honors a PBI instructor who has made exceptional contributions to the goals of the organization.**

**T**his year, PBI Certified Instructor Galiek Saville of South Africa has been selected as the winner of the prestigious Jerry Briesath Instructor of the Year Award.

The positive impact billiards can have on a youngster's life is first-hand knowledge to Saville. He was born in Cape Town and grew up in Manenberg, South



Africa. Saville describes his hometown as, "one of the most dangerous places in Cape Town, infested with gangsterism and drug abuse." He attributes his positive arc in life to his mentor, Vincent Joseph, his youth billiards coach who exposed him to advanced concepts of the sport and the need to practice continually and avoid the distractions that life provides.

In 2020, Saville's non-profit program, Pool4Change became an associate member of the South African Confederation of Cue Sports and in 2021 Saville partnered with the Billiard Congress of America's Break and Run Premier Junior Instructional Program to develop a curriculum and teaching structure that applies on-line learning to reach more students. Since the collaboration, the program is available in 224 schools serving 14,000 students. Pool4Change ensures that each facility has at least one trained coach to help assist students at any time. The program is currently prioritizing equipment placement in schools and has currently put over 100 pool tables in schools since 2022.

When contacted with the news of his receipt of the Instructor of the Year Award, Saville was overwhelmed. "There can be no greater joy than being recognized for doing something that you love. Teaching, coaching and being a men-

tor to our youth gives me immense joy. Billiards is in my blood and sharing this passion with our youth and watching them perform both locally and internationally is the greatest reward. It is a great honor for me to be given the Jerry Briesath Instructor of the Year Award in recognition for my work as a PBI instructor," said Saville. "Thank you, Roy Pastor, for your faith in me and inspiring me to become an international instructor, the first in my region. My mentor, Mr. Joseph, I know he is looking down from heaven with a broad smile. To my family, you are my greatest strength."

Saville was nominated for Instructor of the Year by Roy Pastor. Pastor is a PBI Master Instructor who specializes in training junior players. Pastor won the Jerry Briesath Instructor of the Year Award in 2020 and inducted into the New England Billiard Hall of Fame in 2018. "No one is more deserving of the 2023 PBI Instructor of the Year award than Galiek. He has spearheaded the growth of billiards in South Africa by focusing on the youth of his country," Pastor explained. "Galiek is a founding member, and chief officer of the Pool4Change program, a non-profit organization dedicated to servicing the needs and challenges of school age children through cue sports. Through instruction, coaching, education, teamwork, and tournaments, the young people of South Africa are given tools through which to thrive. Galiek and the Pool4Change

program have entered into contractual agreements with the school districts of several provinces. They are now working in approximately 320 schools providing opportunities to 14,000 students. Galiek has worked selflessly for his community, the children, and the sport.”

“Galiek has been an outstanding instructor for many years, but his work this past year is especially noteworthy. His Pool4Change/Break and Run youth program has helped young players start toward being the next generation of champions,” stated PBIA Committee Chair Keith Hargrave. “His progressive instruction methods not only reach young players all over South Africa, but his curriculum is also readily adaptable for all skill levels and offers continual motivation to get back to the table and improve. Congratulations Galiek, this recognition is very well deserved!”

### ABOUT BILLIARD CONGRESS OF AMERICA

Founded in 1948, the Billiard Congress of America is a non-profit trade organization dedicated to growing a united, prosperous and highly regarded billiard industry through BCA leadership. The BCA seeks to enhance the success of its members and promote the game of billiards through educational, marketing, and promotional efforts, annual industry trade shows, tournaments and other programs designed to encourage billiards as a lifestyle and make pool everybody’s game. For more information, visit [BCA-Pool.com](http://BCA-Pool.com) or call 303.243.5070.

### ABOUT PROFESSIONAL BILLIARD INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION

The PBIA (formerly the BCA Instructor Program, established in 1992) is the largest international organization of professional billiard instructors. Since its founding, the PBIA has improved its leadership position by growing cue sports through professional instruction, development of training products, contributing instructional articles to industry publications, participating in educational workshops and seminars, acting as certified referees or league officials, and directing some of the most notable billiard tournaments throughout the country. The PBIA’s mission is to provide quality billiard instruction to the public, as well as offer training and certification programs for individuals wishing to become qualified billiard instructors. For more information, visit [PlayBetterBilliards.com](http://PlayBetterBilliards.com) or call 303.243.5070.

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# ARAMITH LAUNCHES A LIMITED EDITION POOL SET

To celebrate their 100th anniversary, the world's leading billiard ball manufacturer just released Aramith100, a collectible pool ball set which is unique in all aspects.

## A TECHNOLOGICAL BREAKTHROUGH

With the launch of Aramith100, Aramith introduces the 5th generation of their phenolic resin and sets a new quality standard in the industry. Resulting from 15 years of Research and Development, this revolutionary resin has been combined with the Duramith™ Technology already used in the Aramith Tournament ball sets to offer unprecedented characteristics.

Thanks to a doubled vitrification layer, Aramith100 is 5 times more resistant to impacts and 3 times more resistant to wear, scratch and stain than any other billiard balls on the market. Aramith100 also provides a better anti-kick effect thanks to enhanced anti-static properties, and offers the best level of consistency within each ball in the set.

## A UNIQUE PIECE OF CRAFTSMANSHIP

To celebrate 100 years of fine Belgian craftsmanship, each object ball is precision-engraved with the Aramith100 logo, its number and the half circles around it acknowledging the use of the Duramith™ Technology. The cue ball is engraved with the Aramith logo

on one side and with the number 100 on the other side.

With its deeper vitrification layer, this pool ball set looks like no others. The engravings are magnified, the colours are sublimated, and their brilliance and glossiness are incomparable.

Aramith100 is packaged in a stylish box made of solid oak which symbolizes strength, longevity and endurance. Inside the box, the lid is covered with a piece of the emblematic Yellow Green Simonis 860 cloth manufactured by Iwan Simonis in Belgium.

## A LIMITED AND DEDICATED EDITION

Behind the quality and performance of Aramith billiard balls, it is the story of highly skilled and dedicated craftspeople who pass on their experience and expertise from generation to generation to ensure the exact same level of excellence and consistency from one ball to another.

This is why each Aramith100 set will come with its own certificate of authenticity, numbered and personally signed by the Factory Director on behalf of all the craftspeople in Calenelle in Belgium.



SIMONIS CLOTH



## The best playing experience

Endorsed by professionals and used in virtually all major events worldwide, Iwan Simonis and Aramith offer players the highest standards, both in terms of quality and performance.

Combined with the Simonis 860 cloth, pool players have with the Aramith Tournament ball sets the ultimate equipment for the most accurate play.



# 2023 INTERNATIONAL OPEN ANNOUNCES FULL FIELD

**Pat Fleming has announced another full field this year, for the 2023 International Open. 128 players, representing 31 different countries are signed up for this year's event at the Sheraton Norfolk in Norfolk, Virginia from October 30th – November 4th.**

**T**wo-time Champion Jayson Shaw will be defending his title win from last year, but he will have his hands full in his journey to capturing his third International Open title. 2018 Champion Chang Jung-Lin and 2021 Champion Albin Ouschan will also be looking to win this prestigious title.

Other top players entered in this year's event include the newest member of the BCA Hall of Fame, Niels Feijen, as well as Fedor Gorst and the Spanish team of Francisco San-

chez-Ruiz and David Alcaide. All three of the Ko brothers will be representing Chinese Taipei. Joshua Filler will lead the contingent of players from Germany, which will also include Thorsten Hohmann and Ralf Souquet. Another strong group of players from the Philippines will include Roberto Gomez, Carlo Biado, and Johann Chua.

Over 50 players will be representing the USA, including Shane Van Boening, Earl Strickland, Corey Deuel, Tyler Styer, Billy Thorpe, and Shane Wol-

ford. While players have not been announced for the 2023 Big Foot Invitational Event, you can expect defending Champion Fedor Gorst to be one of the first players to toss their \$500 entry fee into the hat for this fan-favorite event.

Seats are still available for this year's event and can be purchased online at [www.intlopen.com](http://www.intlopen.com). For fans who can't make it to Norfolk to enjoy this event, Pay Per View coverage will be available all week long, thanks to Accu-Stats Video Productions.



2022 Champion Jayson Shaw

PAT FLEMING PRESENTS

Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> - Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>

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# POOL'S POWER COUPLE TO HOST JUNIOR OPEN EVENT THIS AUGUST

juniors taking part, and publishing the final of the event live on YouTube as well as highlights within the Sky Sports programme on August 12. Onboard Sportswear will provide a free custom Filler's Junior Open jersey so all can feel and look the part as they do battle in the same

**J**oshua and Pia Filler will host the inaugural Filler's Junior Open alongside the European Open Pool Championship in Fulda, Germany from August 11-12.

- \$10,000 prize fund on offer
- Tournament to take place on August 11-12
- Opportunity open to all juniors aged 17 and under

As part of Matchroom Pool's commitment to growing the grassroots of the game for everyone, the Filler's Junior Open becomes the fourth Junior tournament on the World Nineball Tour.

Both Joshua and Pia inspire up-and-coming pool players worldwide with their professionalism and achievements in Nineball with the tournament set to be open to Juniors aged 17 and under. The Filler's Junior Open will offer a prize fund of \$10,000, with 64 spots available following the same format as the SVB Junior Open, JS Junior Open, and FSR Junior Open.

Matchroom Pool is committed to the World Nineball Tour affording opportunities to everyone with entry free to all

main event arena of the second-ever European Open Pool Championship taking place at Hotel Esperanto Fulda from 8-13 August 2023. Aramith will donate the winner the set of Aramith Black balls from their final match so they can take home every memory of their prestigious Junior final.

The Fillers said: "We are super excited to host the Junior Open in Fulda! We are always following the younger generation as they are the future of our sport and it's brilliant to see the passion, love, and fire for pool in the eyes of those young guns!"

"When we've been kids, we didn't have such Junior Events on a big stage, so it's just an incredible opportunity for every junior player, male or female, to improve and gain experience and we are more than happy to support that!"

Matchroom Multi Sport Managing Director Emily Frazer said: The professional game of Nineball is growing, and whilst the top pro's now have a career path and future to look forward to it's important to inspire and build the next generation of Joshua's and Pia's.

The Junior Open events are a great opportunity to give younger players aspiring to become a pool player, giving them experience in a Matchroom arena in front of crowds and television cameras. Khalid Alghamdi won the SVB Junior Open last September and now competes in the likes of Premier League Pool and World Cup of Pool – these events are a major stepping stone for the next generation of Nineball Superstars! Thanks to the City of Fulda, Sky Sports, and our partners Cuetec, Kamui, Diamond, Aramith, and Iwan Simonis for getting behind our Junior Open campaign.

The final will also be live-streamed on the Matchroom Pool social media pages with coverage also set to feature during the live broadcast on Sky Sports in the UK, Sport1 in Germany, and networks worldwide.

Going forward from The Filler's Junior Open in August, players who are eligible will be permitted to enter both the Junior and the main Open events at all World Nineball Tour Open competitions.

However, if a Junior player qualifies for the Last 64 stage of the main event, they will automatically be removed from the Junior event. This is due to both competitions running alongside each other at this stage of the tournament.



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# European Junior Pool Championship



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8-Ball Champions - Felix Vogel, Alara Ghaffari and Yannick Pongers



10-Ball Champions - Dominik Jastrzab, Linnea Hjalmarstrom and Maks Benko

# 2023 EUROPEAN JUNIOR POOL CHAMPIONSHIP



Team Germany - Under 17 Champions



Team Netherlands - Under 19 Champions

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# CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF **GOSPEL TRICK SHOT MINISTRIES** INCORPORATED: AN EVENING TO REMEMBER

Article by: WAYNE PARKER



**O**n the memorable evening of July 15, a celebration unfolded at the Pavilion Hall of the Hawthorne Gospel Church in New Jersey. The occasion marked the prestigious 25th anniversary of Gospel Trick Shot Ministries, a remarkable journey that could not have been possible without the support and love of the 300+ family, friends and supporters in attendance.

GTS President and Founder Steve Lillis had his daughter, Amanda, along with a six-piece band, open the event with song, filling the Pavilion Hall with an atmosphere of love, worship, and gratitude. It was a true testament to the talent and dedication present within the Gospel Trick Shot family.

Wayne Parker, from South Africa, served as the Master of Ceremonies



and being part of the GTS leadership team shared his history with Steve and Gospel Trick Shot Ministries. Wayne then presented a video of a particular Gospel Trick Shot depicting how the gospel message reaches the ends of the earth.

Gospel Trick Shot owes much of its success to the unwavering commit-





ment of its dedicated team members. Co-leadership team members, Pastor Michael Hewitt of Rising Hope Church and Phil Ball joined Wayne in an interview styled presentation to share insightful perspectives on the ministry. Phil shared on the costs of ministry outreaches highlighting the organization's core values, and Pastor Michael Hewitt shared heartfelt testimonies that was the result of some Gospel Trick Shot outreaches. All this deeply moved the attendees, inspiring them to reflect on the ministry's profound impact over the past 25 years. This celebration was a testament to the spirit of unity and purpose that drives the ministry forward.

The banquet's emotional high point came with the screening of a nine-minute video presentation. This remarkable amalgamation of the ministry's history and future prospects left many in attendance teary-eyed and full of gratitude for what the Lord has done through Gospel Trick Shot Ministries. It depicted the incredible journey of the ministry through captivating visuals, heartwarming stories and reminiscing moments. The video served as a powerful reminder of the countless



lives touched and transformed over the past 25 years, inspiring renewed dedication and support for the future.

No celebration is complete without a delightful culinary experience, and the banquet did not disappoint. Angelina's of Hawthorne NJ, known for its authentic Italian cuisine, catered the event, treating the guests to an exqui-

site feast. The mouthwatering main course and irresistible dessert treats was a testament to the celebration of success and community that defines Gospel Trick Shot Ministries.

Behind the scenes, a team of 20 dedicated individuals from the Hawthorne Gospel Church selflessly contributed their time and efforts to ensure the



# Gospel Trickshot Ministries 25th Anniversary

smooth running of the event. From the meticulous set-up to the impeccable service, their contributions added a personal touch that made the celebration even more special. The generous support of table sponsors and partners further contributed to the overall success of the evening, reinforcing the importance of community and collaboration.

The evening ended as Amanda and the band performed the very same



and gratitude. Through the dedication of team members, the powerful video presentation, the delectable catering and the tireless efforts of organizers, sponsors and partners, this celebration became an unforgettable milestone in the ministry's history. The banquet served as a testament to the transformative power of Gospel Trick Shot Ministries, Inc. and the unwavering support from its loving community of friends and family.

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**November 6 - 9, 2023**

Races to 4/3 - Finals to 5

Double elimination

\$330 entry - \$30 GF

Limited field(64)

Secure your spot today

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CHAMPIONSHIP

**\$10,000** ADDED

- **NEW DATES** -

**November 9 - 12, 2023**

Races to 5/4 - Finals to 6

Double elimination

\$330 entry - \$30 GF

Limited field(64)

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GriffsLasVegas@gmail.com

Live Stream: Youtube.com/@GriffsTV

General questions - Contact venue

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# Tourney Results

## Jul 01 - Jul 01

### Mezz Cues LA 9-Ball Series Stop

#### Gladi8or Billiards

- Los Angeles, California  
 1 Jerry Lazzareschi \$600  
 2 Beau Runningen \$420  
 3 James Harris \$300  
 4 Abet Ng \$200  
 5 Jose Centeno \$130  
 5 Steve Kwon \$130  
 7 Jamal Oussi \$85  
 7 Keegan Badour \$85

## Jul 01 - Jul 02

### Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

#### Breaktime Billiards

- Cary, NC  
 1 Jas Makhni \$900  
 2 Landon Hollingsworth \$600  
 3 Brian Bagwell \$350  
 4 Nathan Childress \$225  
 5 Graham Swinson \$125  
 5 Jacob Hyatt \$125  
 7 Noelle Tate \$110  
 7 Rolando Marcus \$110

## Jul 01 - Jul 01

### Stokers Pool Tour Stop

#### Wolf's Den Billiards

- Roanoke, Virginia  
 1 Greg Taylor \$450  
 2 Scott Roberts \$300  
 3 David Booth \$200  
 4 Robert Hamilton II \$100  
 5 Mark Giles \$50  
 5 Timothy Meadow \$50

## Jul 01 - Jul 02

### Simonis Grand Prix Championship

#### Savanna Pool and Snooker

- Whitefield, Manchester  
 1 Dave Beaumont \$324  
 2 Danny Luton \$129  
 3 Gary Swift \$97  
 3 Roy Kimberley \$97

## Jul 07 - Jul 10

### Port City Pool Championship 10-Ball Division

#### Breaktime Billiards

- Wilmington, NC  
 1 Mike Davis \$1,700  
 2 BJ Ussery \$1,100  
 3 Wendell Thompkins \$600  
 4 BJ Hucks \$450  
 5 Barry Mashburn \$300  
 5 Marty Free \$300  
 7 Donnie Stewart \$205  
 7 Jordan Baker \$205  
 9 Garrett Hill \$155  
 9 Joshua Greer \$155  
 9 Kevin Mincey \$155  
 9 Rick Winpigler \$155

## Jul 07 - Jul 10

### Port City Pool Championship 8-Ball Division

#### Breaktime Billiards

- Wilmington, NC  
 1 Mike Davis \$1,500  
 2 BJ Ussery \$1,000  
 3 Wendell Thompkins \$600  
 4 Donnie Stewart \$400  
 5 Michael Rabon \$250  
 5 Rick Winpigler \$250  
 7 Franco Blanchard \$200  
 7 Keno Patel \$200  
 9 Joey Buoniconti \$100  
 9 Junior Faircloth \$100  
 9 Marty Free \$100  
 9 Terry Brumble \$100

## Jul 07 - Jul 10

### Port City Pool Championship One Pocket Division

#### Breaktime Billiards

- Wilmington, NC  
 1 Mike Davis \$1,500  
 2 Larry Pierce \$1,000  
 3 Greg Spano \$650  
 4 BJ Hucks \$450  
 5 Gilbert Holmes \$300

- 5 Marty Free \$300  
 7 Jordan Baker \$200  
 7 Shane Hardie \$200

## Jul 08 - Jul 08

### 2023 DFW Ladies 9-Ball Tour Stop 4

#### Rusty's Billiards

- Arlington, TX  
 1 Tara Williams \$475  
 2 Kitty Gomez \$360  
 3 Jennifer Hooten \$240  
 4 Nancy Rios \$110  
 5 Angie Kirkpatrick \$60  
 5 Linda Long \$60

## Jul 08 - Jul 09

### Garden State Pool Tour Amateur Stop

#### Rockaway Billiards

- Rockaway, NJ  
 1 Henry Cha \$700  
 2 Pascal Dufresne \$700  
 3 Hunter Sullivan \$300  
 4 Jimmy Conn \$220  
 5 Joey Landi \$160  
 5 Lee Kang \$160  
 7 Jesse Duetcher \$120  
 7 JoAnn Mason Parker \$120

## Jul 08 - Jul 09

### Players Madness Tour 2023 Stop #3

#### Break Time Billiards

- Winston-Salem, NC  
 1 Corey Sykes \$800  
 2 Joey Tate \$500  
 3 Bethany Tate \$300  
 4 Bryan Plummer \$200  
 5 Michael Yingling \$100  
 5 Noelle Tate \$100

## Jul 12 - Jul 16

### 2023 Midwest Billiards and Cue Expo One Pocket

## Big Dog Billiards

Des Moines, IA

- 1 Skyler Woodward \$8,400
- 2 Shane Van Boening \$6,300
- 3 Tony Chohan \$4,200
- 4 Fedor Gorst \$2,100

## Jul 12 - Jul 16

### WPBA Masters 2023

#### Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort

Mt. Pleasant, MI

- 1 Jasmin Ouschan \$15,000
- 2 Kelly Fisher \$8,800
- 3 Marharyta Fefilava \$5,000
- 4 Tzu-Chien Wei \$4,000
- 5 Kristina Zlateva \$3,000
- 5 Veronique Menard \$3,000
- 7 Kristina Tkach \$2,400
- 7 Seo Seoa \$2,400
- 9 Brittany Bryant \$1,800
- 9 Kaylee McIntosh \$1,800
- 9 Kyoko Sone \$1,800
- 9 Yuki Hiraguchi \$1,800
- 13 Allison Fisher \$1,300
- 13 Meng-Hsia Hung \$1,300
- 13 Savannah Easton \$1,300
- 13 Stephanie Mitchell \$1,300
- 17 Angela Janic \$1,000
- 17 Ashley Rice \$1,000
- 17 Janet Atwell \$1,000
- 17 JoAnn Mason Parker \$1,000
- 17 Kennedy Meyman \$1,000
- 17 Loree Jon Hasson \$1,000
- 17 Naomi Williams \$1,000
- 17 Teruko Cucculelli \$1,000

## Jul 12 - Jul 16

### 2023 Midwest Billiards and Cue Expo Big Dog 9-Ball

#### Big Dog Billiards

Des Moines, IA

- 1 Shane Van Boening \$8,000
- 2 Fedor Gorst \$4,000
- 3 Skyler Woodward \$2,700
- 4 Roberto Gomez \$2,000
- 5 BJ Ussery \$1,150
- 5 Tyler Styer \$1,150
- 7 Lukas Fracasso-Verner \$700
- 7 Shane Wolford \$700
- 9 Kenny Loftis \$550
- 9 Max Eberle \$550
- 9 Nick De Leon \$550
- 9 Tommy Tokoph \$550

## Jul 12 - Jul 16

### 2023 Midwest Billiards and Cue Expo Banks Ring Game

#### Big Dog Billiards

Des Moines, IA

- 1 Michael DeLawder \$1,800
- 2 Alejandro Calderon \$1,200

## Jul 15 - Jul 16

### NWPA Tour 2023 Stop 3

#### Phil's Bar & Grill

Salem, Oregon

- 1 Kathie MacDonald \$750
- 2 Dyamelle Castilleja \$515
- 3 Kristi Palmer \$330
- 4 Katherine Robertson \$205
- 4 Linda Massey \$145
- 7 Evelyn Hazlett \$115
- 7 Regene Lane \$115
- 9 Alfreda Amoyette \$90
- 9 Jessie Blayden \$90
- 9 Jordan Oakes \$90
- 9 Marion Poole \$90

## Jul 15 - Jul 16

### 2nd Annual JT "Fingers" Thomas Memorial 9-Ball

#### Kickshot Billiards

Phelps, Kentucky

- 1 Shannon Murphy \$2,180
- 2 Anthony Beeler \$900
- 3 Tommy Stephenson \$500
- 4 Brian Wilson \$200

## Jul 15 - Jul 16

### Strokers Pool Tour Stop

#### Brass Tap Billiards

Raleigh, NC

- 1 Josh Roberts \$1,700
- 2 Mike Davis \$1,000
- 3 Scott Roberts \$700
- 4 Mark Bolton \$500
- 5 Barry Mashburn \$295
- 5 Corey Sykes \$295

## Jul 15 - Jul 15

### Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

#### Breaktime Billiards

Cary, NC

- 1 Clint Clark \$550
- 2 Paul Semeta \$350

3 Joe Hyatt, Jr. \$225

4 Jacob Hyatt \$150

## Jul 21 - Jul 23

### Jacoby 9-Ball Open

#### McGoldrick's Sports Bar

Rutherglen, Glasgow

- 1 David Alcaide \$5,150
- 2 Phil Burford \$2,575
- 3 Dimitri Jungo \$1,287
- 3 Jack Whelan \$1,287
- 5 Chris Alexander \$901
- 5 Elliott Sanderson \$901
- 5 Mickey Krause \$901
- 5 Paul Corrigan \$901
- 9 Adam Smith \$515
- 9 Arfan Dad \$515
- 9 Christos Papageorgiou \$515
- 9 Danny Gokhel \$515
- 9 Dean Shields \$515
- 9 Imran Majid \$515
- 9 JJ Faul \$515
- 9 So Shaw \$515
- 17 Ashik Nathwani \$193
- 17 Benji Buckley \$193
- 17 Dawud Qadir \$193
- 17 James Channon \$193
- 17 Richey McDonald \$193
- 17 Robert Stephen \$193
- 17 Spencer Oliver \$193
- 17 Stephen Capaldi \$193

## Jul 22 - Jul 23

### Jack Bryant Memorial Tournament

#### Guelph, Ontario

- 1 Nick Blancher \$1,000
- 2 DJ McGinley \$700
- 3 Jay Williams \$500
- 4 Kevin McCann \$400
- 5 Charles Bowen \$300
- 5 Heng Hout \$300
- 7 Mark Ellis \$200
- 7 Paul Brazil \$200
- 9 Bernie Fulford \$140
- 9 Brad Lucas \$140
- 9 David Puddy \$140
- 9 Jason Shoults \$140
- 13 Jeff Schofield \$80
- 13 Targiv Roham \$80
- 13 Veronique Menard \$80
- 13 Wasana Manamperi \$80
- 17 Bryan Hooker \$40
- 17 Callum Cottrell \$40

17 Che Lemmon \$40  
17 Davy Johnson \$40  
17 Ed Sowa \$40  
17 Justin Kluznik \$40  
17 Nathalie Chabot \$40  
17 Noel Guerzon \$40

## Jul 22 - Jul 23

### 2023 Virginia State Bar Box 8-Ball Championship

#### Peninsula Billiards

Newport News, Virginia  
1 Mike Davis \$2,000  
2 Benjie Piamonte \$1,000  
3 Thomas Haas \$600  
4 Chris Gentile \$400  
5 David Hunt \$250  
5 Nathan Childress \$250  
7 Scott Haas \$150  
7 Tom Czaplicki \$150  
9 Jaime Gonzalez \$50  
9 Jeff Abernathy \$50  
9 Kevin Baggess \$50  
9 Larry Kressel \$50

## Jul 22 - Jul 23

### 2023 DFW 9-Ball Tour Stop 7

#### VFW

Hinsdale, NH  
1 Curtis Cardwell \$1,260  
2 Jonathan Rawlins \$880  
3 Joshua Paredes \$685  
4 Gavin Mathew \$450  
5 Mark Johnson \$340  
5 Mohammed Alrawi \$340  
7 Ruben Adame \$260  
7 Tony Loeper \$260  
9 Bill Sullivan \$180  
9 Jason Gladden \$180  
9 Tim Larson \$180  
9 Tony Mathew \$180  
13 Charlie Smith \$100  
13 Crispian Ng \$100  
13 Donnie Gregory \$100  
13 Tony Sulsar \$100

## Jul 24 - Jul 29

### Sharks International 9-Ball Open

#### Quezon City

Quezon City,  
1 Ping-Chung Ko \$30,000  
2 Patric Gonzales \$15,000

3 John Paul Ladao \$3,750  
3 Naoyuki Oi \$3,750  
5 Andri Januarta \$1,725  
5 Fedor Gorst \$1,725  
5 James Aranas \$1,725  
5 Mark Mendoza \$1,725  
9 Chia-Chen Hsieh \$700  
9 Emmanuel Delgado \$700  
9 Francisco Bustamante \$700  
9 Israel Rota \$700  
9 Jeffrey Ignacio \$700  
9 Jesson Marabi \$700  
9 Punguan Hasiholan Sihombing \$700  
9 Rommel Santos \$700

## Jul 29 - Jul 30

### JPNEWT Tour 2023 Stop #5

#### Stokers Bar & Billiards

Pelham, NH  
1 Briana Miller \$800  
2 Katie Bowse \$600  
3 Ashley Benoit \$400  
4 Erica Testa \$250  
5 Charlene Capers \$135  
5 Jamie Cabral \$135  
7 Jane Imm \$80  
7 Samantha Barrett \$80

## Jul 29 - Jul 31

### Eurotour Terme Olimia Open 2023

#### Slovenia

1 Joshua Filler \$6,593  
2 Konrad Juszczyszyn \$5,054  
3 Georgi Georgiev \$3,296  
3 Marc Bijsterbosch \$3,296  
5 Fitim Haradinaj \$1,648  
5 Mario He \$1,648  
5 Mateusz Sniegocki \$1,648  
5 Ricardo Gutjahr \$1,648  
9 Denis Grabe \$1,098  
9 Karl Gnadeberg \$1,098  
9 Kristijan Hamzovski \$1,098  
9 Luca Menn \$1,098  
9 Mieszko Fortunski \$1,098  
9 Moritz Neuhausen \$1,098  
9 Mustafa Alnar \$1,098  
9 Yuma Dorner \$1,098  
17 Ajdin Piknjac \$659  
17 Daniel Maciol \$659  
17 Dennis Laszkowski \$659  
17 Edin Redzic \$659  
17 Markus Pfistermuller \$659

17 Michal Turkowski \$659  
17 Mikael Ogaard \$659  
17 Nick Van Den Berg \$659  
17 Oliver Szolnoki \$659  
17 Radoslaw Babica \$659  
17 Roman Hybler \$659  
17 Stefan Kasper \$659  
17 Tobias Bongers \$659  
17 Wiktor Zielinski \$659  
17 Wojciech Szewczyk \$659  
17 Yoan Salambashev \$659  
33 Adam Stankiewicz \$329  
33 Benjamin Belhassen \$329  
33 Daniel Guttenberger \$329  
33 David Arda \$329  
33 Dominik Jastrzab \$329  
33 Efe Ozkutayli \$329  
33 Felix Vogel \$329  
33 Francesco Candela \$329  
33 Karol Skowerski \$329  
33 Labinot Markaj \$329  
33 Mika van Berkel \$329  
33 Mykola Moroz \$329  
33 Petr Urban \$329  
33 Ramazan Akdag \$329  
33 Sambor Stachowiak \$329  
33 Szymon Kural \$329

## Jul 29 - Jul 30

### Q City 9-Ball Tour Stop

#### Breaktime Billiards

Cary, NC  
1 Justin Knuckles \$750  
2 Christy Norris \$500  
3 Christian Green \$325  
4 Mike Mullins \$200  
5 Charles Maxwell \$115  
5 Glenn Weatherly \$115

## Jul 30 - Jul 31

### EPBF Women's Terme Olimia Open

#### Slovenia

1 Jolien Schuurman \$1,098  
2 Ana Gradisnik \$824  
2 Nina Torvund \$439  
2 Pia Filler \$439  
5 Eylul Kybaroglu \$219  
5 Melanie Suessenguth \$219  
5 Oliwia Zalewska \$219  
5 Yvonne Ullmann \$219

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# Upcoming Tournaments

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

## AUGUST

### 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

### Flash Fire - Fisher vs Centeno Challenge Match

**Aug 09 - Aug 11**

Quezon City, Philippines

### Filler's Junior Open

**Aug 11 - Aug 12**

Hotel Esperanto  
Fulda Germany

### 2023 US Women's Snooker Open

**Aug 11 - Aug 13**

Ox Billiards  
Seattle, Washington

### 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

### 5th Annual Brendan Crockett Memorial

**Aug 19 - Aug 20**

Hard Times Billiards - Sacramento  
Sacramento, CA

### 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	157.166,00 US\$	
	Francisco Sanchez-Ruiz	 ESP	137.895,00 US\$	
	Eklent Kaci	 ALB	120.950,00 US\$	
	Joshua Filler	 GER	112.412,00 US\$	
	Ko Ping Chung	 TPE	87.505,00 US\$	↑
	Shane Van Boening	 USA	79.069,00 US\$	
	Ko Pin Yi	 TPE	72.740,00 US\$	↓
	Wiktor Zielinski	 POL	60.878,00 US\$	↑
	Skyler Woodward	 USA	60.150,00 US\$	↑
	Roberto Gomez	 PHI	56.010,00 US\$	↓

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TEN BALL OPEN TOURNAMENT

**\$10,000**  
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**\$80** ENTRY FEE BY  
8PM 8/18/23

\$20 GREEN FEE - \$10 SCHOLARSHIP  - \$10 HOUSE & TD

\$20 LATE FEE - \$10 SCHOLARSHIP  - \$10 PRIZE FUND

RACES 7 / 7 | WINNER BREAK

DOORS OPEN AT 10AM | TOURNAMENT AT 11AM



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**AUGUST 19 - 20, 2023**

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