

# Professor-Q-Ball's

*National Pool & 3-Cushion News*

Issue 1 • Volume XVIII • February/March 2017

[www.professorqball.com](http://www.professorqball.com)



## Derby City Classic



**Thorpe, Orcollo &  
Bustamante**

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Turning Stone

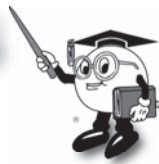
JOB 2017 Music City 9-Ball Open

New England Tour



United States Billiard Association Newsletter

# Professor-Q-Ball's



Rack for February/March 2017

Issue 1 • Vol XVIII



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All persons interested in submitting articles for publishing consideration, are welcomed. Material submitted becomes the property of Professor-Q-Ball. Submissions may be returned if accompanied by a self addressed envelope. All advertising, articles, and photos must be submitted by the 15th prior to the issue date to be considered for the following issue.

Subscriptions Rates • \$25/year

PQB National Pool & 3-Cushion News  
 2916 Waterleaf Dr. • Germantown, TN 38138  
 (901) 756-2594 • Email: paul@professorqball.com

Published bi-monthly. .

Postmaster: Send address changes to

Professor-Q-Ball, 2916 Waterleaf Dr.,  
 Germantown, TN. 38138

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# 2017 Derby City 9-Ball Banks

Stories by Ricky Bryant

The 19th Derby City Classic started on Friday with 9-Ball Banks. The major sponsors were Diamond Billiard Products, CYCLOP Pool Balls, OB Cue and Simonis Cloth. The DCC consist of three events, which were played with CYCLOP pool balls on Diamond 9 foot tables covered with Simonis cloth. The event had a field of 435 players. The event was single elimination with one buy-back option at the discretion of the player. There was a re-draw every round of the remaining players after each round.

The event spanned five days and fourteen rounds. There were seven players going into round 12, all with one loss Francisco Bustamante, Billy Thorpe, Larry Nevel, Ike Runnels, Shannon Murphy, Dennis Hatch and Warren Kiamco. Bustamante eliminated Thorpe, Nevel eliminated Runnels and Murphy eliminated Hatch. Warren Kiamco had the bye for the round. There were four players remaining going into round 13. Bustamante eliminated Kiamco and Nevel eliminated Murphy.

This set up a final against Larry Nevel and Francisco Bustamante. Bustamante had previously won the banks in 2013. Bustamante broke the first rack and dropped one ball but missed on his opening shot. Nevel banks four balls on his turn to the table. Again Bustamante fails to make a ball. Nevel closed the first rack on his turn to the table. Rack two Nevel breaks dropping four balls but misses on his opening shot. Bustamante banks three balls before missing. Nevel makes two on his turn. Bustamante tries a full table bank but misses. Nevel misses but gets safe on Bustamante who then just plays contact. Nevel fires but misses and so does Bustamante. On Nevel's next turn to the table he makes 2 banks to take the second rack and reach the hill. The score was Nevel 2 and Bustamante 0 in a race to 3.

Nevel broke the third rack and dropped two balls but missed is opening bank, as did Bustamante. Nevel fired a cross corner bank but it rattled out. Bustamante plays a contact safe. Nevel misses two-rail bank. Bustamante drops a ball in the wrong pocket. Nevel makes two banks then plays safe off the three balls previously spotted. Bustamante plays a shot to rearrange the table. Nevel banks one taking a 3 to 0 ball lead. Bustamante plays safe. Nevel banks the 6 ball but almost scratches but the cue ball holds up in the jaws of the pocket. Nevel is forced to play safe with a 4 to 0 ball lead, only needing one ball. Bustamante plays safe dropping a ball which spots. Nevel banks for the match but missed. Again Bustamante played safe and rearranged the table. Larry misses and Bustamante banks to tie up ball. Larry tries a bank but scratches, which cost him a ball, ball count not 3 to 0. Bustamante on his next turn to the table final made two banks. Nevel misses a four-rail bank. The score is now 3 to 2 and Bustamante. Nevel misses a full table bank on



the 9 ball. Bustamante makes a bank to tie the ball count at 3 apiece. The game gets tight with both players moving balls and playing safe looking for an opening. Finally Bustamante makes a bank then shooting for the game scratches costing him a ball, score back to 3 all. Nevel misses but opened up the table. Again Bustamante makes a bank but hangs the next one. Nevel makes a bank to tie the ball count at four each. Each player had shots for the rack and for Nevel the match but it was Bustamante the finally got the third rack. Match score 2 to 1, Nevel.

Rack four had Bustamante breaking and he drops one ball and misses his opening bank. Larry plays safe and rearranged the table. Bustamante plays safe tying up the cue ball. Nevel tries to play out but scratches, ball count minus one. Both players miss shots Larry has another unfortunate scratch. This eventually led to Bustamante taking rack 4 and tying up the match two all.

Bustamante breaks the fifth and deciding rack but comes up dry. Nevel makes two banks and misses. Bustamante plays safe and so does Nevel on his next turn. Bustamante has a tight bank but makes it and then misses but drops a ball that spots. Nevel misses but drops a ball that spots. Bustamante makes a bank and misses. Larry misses a bank on his turn. Bustamante makes two banks to get on the hill for the game and match but misses the winning ball. Larry makes a bank but missed. Bustamante closed out the match on his turn to the table.

## 9-Ball Banks-435 Players

1	<b>Bustamante, Francisco</b>	\$10,000
2	Nevel, Larry	\$4,000
3	Kiamco, Warren	\$2,000
4	Murphy, Shannon	\$2,000
5	Hatch, Dennis	\$1,400
6	Runnels, Ike	\$1,400
7	Thorpe, Billie	\$1,400
8	Bergman, Justin	\$1,100
9	Chohan, Tony	\$1,100
10	Melling, Chris	\$1,100

Event payout a total 113 places for a total of \$53,500

## One Pocket

The DCC One Pocket event started on Sunday, day 3 of the DCC. The event started with 347 players. The event is a race to 3 and was played over 5 days with 14 rounds of play. The 10th round the field was down to ten players. Three players without a loss and still holding a buy-back, Billy Thorpe, Alex Pagulayan and Skyler Woodward. The 10th round would see three players eliminated and two receive their first loss.

Billy Thorpe eliminating LeeVann Corteza

Dennis Orcullo eliminating Efen Reyes

Jeremy Jones eliminating Shannon Daulton

Josh Roberts over Alex Pagulayan

Shane McMinn over Skyler Woodward

Round 11 was down to seven players with only Billy Thorpe with no losses and still holding his buy-back. Skyler Woodward would get the bye and free pass to round 12. Alex Pagulayan would eliminate Jeremy Jones, Dennis Orcullo over Shane McMinn and Billy Thorpe over Josh Roberts.

Four players going into round 12 but only three would survive. Eliminated in the 12th round was Skyler Woodward by Dennis Orcullo. Billy Thorpe would suffer his first loss at the hands of Alex "The Lion" Pagulayan.

Billy Thorpe gets the bye in the 13th round and the pass to the final, round 14. Alex ended Dennis Orcullo's run to move to the final against Billy.

Alex the reigning DCC one pocket champion was on a Quest to secure one last win which would give him three consecutive DCC one pocket championships. The first game went fast with Alex making a ball for Billy who would then run 7 and out. Alex would take game two and looked to be on come back, tying the match at one apiece. Billy blew through game



3 to go on the hill. Alex, always known to move and duck, played his best but Billy was on his own Quest and took game 4 for win and the 2017 Championship. Billy Thorpe made history at just barely 20, born August 31 1996. He is the youngest player to win one of the three majors in the 19 year history of the Derby City Classic. Congratulations Billy, I'm sure we will see more in the future.

### One Pocket-347 Players

1	<b>Thorpe, Billie</b>	\$12,000.00
2	Pagulayan, Alex	\$6,000.00
3	Orcullo, Dennis	\$4,150.00
4	Woodward, Skyler	\$3,000.00
5	Jones, Jeremy	\$2,000.00
6	McMinn, Shane	\$2,000.00
7	Roberts, Josh	\$2,000.00
8	Corteza, LeeVann	\$1,375.00
9	Daulton, Shannon	\$1,375.00
10	Reyes, Efen	\$1,375.00

Event payout a total 82 places for a total of \$58,375.00

## Master of the Table

The points for the All Around Championship are earned in the three main events of the DCC. The three main events are 9-Ball Banks, One Pocket and 9-Ball, occurring in that order over 9 days. The higher you finish in each event the more points you receive. Francisco Bustamante took the points lead in the All Around by winning the first event, 9-ball Banks. Billy Thorpe would move to the top when he won the One Pocket event and having finished 7th in the banks. Bustamante had only finished 26th in the one pocket. The other people contending needed to be in the top 10 in both events and to no surprise we find Efen Reyes. Efen is the only person to win the All Around more than twice with five wins to his credit. Shane with two All Around titles was an outside contender this year with a 22nd finish in banks and not cashing in the one pocket. The 9-ball, as always was the deciding factor. **Dennis Orcullo** with a 13th finish in Banks and a 3rd place finish in One pocket sealed the deal with the bye draw in the twelfth round of the 9-ball to move to the final. This makes Dennis's second DCC All Around title having won it 2015. He is the fourth person with two wins joining, Francisco Bustamante, Shane VanBoening and Alex Pagulayan. Dennis got an extra \$20,000, Second worth \$3,000 went to Billy Thorpe and Francisco Bustamante took home an extra \$2,000 for third in the All Around.



## 19th Derby City 9-Ball

The 9-Ball event started on Wednesday January 25th, the 6th day of the DCC with 320 players. They played 13 rounds over the last 4 days of the DCC. The 9-Ball event was a Mosconi Cup point's event as selected by Matchroom Sports. The event was a race to 9; winner breaks and rack your own. The nine on the break counts. The events at DCC were no jump cue events but jumping was allowed, with a shooting cue (no break cue for jumping), in the 9 ball.

There were sixteen players going into round 9. After the chalk dust settled there were two without a loss and holding a buyback, Dennis Orcollo and Ramon Mistica. Six players were eliminated in the round Shaun Wilkie, Dennis Hatch, Billy Thorpe, Darren Appleton, Carlo Biado and Tomoo Takano.

There were still ten players going into round 10, Dennis Orcollo eliminated Ruslan Chinakhov, Donny Mills eliminated Enrique Rojas, Efren Reyes eliminated Dimianos Giallourakis and Shane VanBoening eliminated Justin Hall. Ramon Mistica suffered his first loss at the hands of sixteen-year-old Fedor Gorst.

There were six players going into round 11. Dennis Orcollo with no losses eliminates Efren Reyes, Ramon Mistica eliminates Donny Mills and Shane VanBoening eliminated young Fedor Gorst. The 9 ball was now down to 3 players and Dennis Orcollo got the bye and pass to the final. Shane VanBoening with his crushing break had an easy time with Ramon Mistica but Ramon did get two wins.

The final was the reigning champion Shane VanBoening against Dennis Orcollo who was still undefeated and had a buyback. Shane would need to defeat Dennis twice to retain his crown. Nine days earlier Dennis had defeated Shane in the first round of the Bigfoot 10 Ball and Shane didn't have good finishes in the Banks for One Pocket. Shane's crushing break disappeared in the finals but both players had struggles in the final. Shane won the lag but broke dry break. Dennis missed a 3 to 9 combo but Shane capitalized making the combo to take the first game. Shane had a better break on the second rack dropping three balls but had a bad kick for safe. Dennis came to the table and ran out to tie the match at one all. Dennis has a dry break in rack three and Shane plays a push out. Dennis and Shane swap safeties until Dennis fouls. Shane with ball in hand runs out going back in the lead 2 to 1. Rack four Shane again broke dry and Dennis ran out to again tie the match. Rack five was a dry break for Dennis. Shane on a run out missed the 8 ball. Dennis makes the last two to take the lead 3 to 2. Rack 6 Dennis drops a ball can see the one ball but no pocket so he pushes out. Shane gets an opening on the two ball but hits it hard to see it jaw out. Dennis is open on the two and runs the remaining six balls. Dennis has a dry break in



the 7th rack. Shane makes the 1 ball then combos the 2 on the 6. He then missed. Dennis with the opportunity runs the remaining seven balls to go up 5 to 2. Dennis makes the 1 ball on the break in rack 8. He then plays a 2 to 8 combo which sets up a 2 to 9 combo for the game. Dennis has another break and run in the 9th rack extending his lead to 7 to 2. Dennis has a dry break in rack 10th rack. This was another extend game with multiple safeties but again Dennis puts another one on the wire and get on the hill. Rack 11 breaking for the match and the championship Dennis came up dry. Another hard fought rack but eventually Shane scratched out his third win of the match. Shane drops one ball on the break in rack 12 but plays a bad safety. Dennis again capitalizes by running out to win the game. This is the second DCC 9 ball championship for Dennis having won in 2011.

### Nine Ball-320 Players

1	<b>Orcollo, Dennis</b>	\$16,000.00
2	VanBoening, Shane	\$8,000.00
3	Mastica, Ramon	\$5,650.00
4	Mills, Donny	\$3,500.00
5	Gorst, Fedor	\$3,500.00
6	Reyes, Efren	\$3,500.00
7	Chinakhov, Ruslan	\$1,500.00
8	Giallourakis, Damianos	\$1,500.00
9	Hall, Justin	\$1,500.00
10	Rojas, Enrique	\$1,500.00

Event payout a total 81 places for a total of \$73,000.00



ATTENTION POOL PLAYERS

ATTENTION POOL PLAYERS

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## DCC Spotlight Events

Derry City is Heaven for pool players. There are the main events and lots of mini tournaments but there are two Spotlight Events, the Truman Hogue Ring and the George Fels Memorial Straight Pool Challenge. The Banks Ring Game is always a fan favorite. There are 6 players who pay a \$1,500 entry with Diamond adding \$3000. The standard Banks rules are in place with the following exceptions.

10 ball rack is used instead of 9.

Kicks of 3 rails or more count until play is down to 2 players

No safety play if more than 2 players

The players are given 30 chips valued at \$50 each. The ball value starts at \$50 and increases in different racks until it maxes out at \$1,000 per ball. There is a draw for shooting position and re-draws during the game. Play is continued until

reached \$600 per ball when Shannon Daulton put Jason Shaw out followed by Skyler Woodward. Shannon with his good friend at ring side, race car driver, Tony Stewart, was unstoppable!

The George Fels Memorial Straight Pool Challenge started on Sunday with a four day qualifier and followed by an 8 player single elimination bracket play-off. In the qualifier a player gets 12 tries for \$100. The player starts with 14 balls racked and the 15th ball and cue ball in hand to start their run. They run until they miss. Each day the top three runs are paid \$300, \$200 and \$100 respectively. The player with the high run in the qualifier gets an additional \$1,000. There was also a bounty of \$1,000 if anyone could beat Jason Shaw's record of 227 set in 2015. The 8 players with the highest runs from the four day qualifier are drawn in a standard single elimination bracket. The matches are a race to 125 played under World Standardized Rules. The eight players that qualified were

(name followed by their qualifying high run):

- Chris Melling – 225
- Dennis Orcollo – 210
- Alex Pagulayan – 197
- Johnny Archer – 182
- Jayson Shaw – 175
- Darren Appleton – 154
- Mika Immonen – 146
- Li Wen Lo – 141



**Shannon Daulton, Truman Hogue, Skyler Woodward**

one player has all the chips. The winner of the ring game gets \$8,000 and second place gets \$4,000.

The six players for 2017 were: Shannon Daulton, Billy Thorpe, Skyler Woodward, Francisco Bustamante, Danny Smith and Jason Shaw.

Francisco Bustamante, the winner of the 2017 DCC Banks Championship, was the first knocked out of the ring game. Danny Smith was given his exit papers shortly after Bustamante. Billy Thorpe was the third casualty. The Game progressed faster this year than in the past. The ball value only

Round one, Melling eliminated Li Wen Lo, Shaw eliminated Archer, Appleton eliminated Pagulayan, and Immonen eliminated Orcollo. Round two would not be played due to time constraints on two of the players still in other events. Shaw gave a pass to Melling and Appleton gave a pass to Immonen to put them in the final. Chris Melling defeated Mika Immonen in the final 125 to 89 played on the Accu-Stats streaming table. The pay outs were:

Chris Melling	\$6,500
Mika Immonen	\$4,350,
Jason Shaw and Darren Appleton	\$2,000 each
Lo Li Wen,	
Johnny Archer	
Alex Pagulayan	
Dennis Orcollo	\$1,100 each



## Big Foot 10 Ball Challenge

This was the fifth year for the BIGFOOT 10-ball challenge which is the only Pro event at the Derby City Classic. All of the other DCC events were Pro-am. The event started in 2013 with Dennis Orcullo taking the opening event. Shane VanBoening took the next two in 2014/15. Jason Shaw won in 2016 and was the reigning champion.

The event is by invitation only, with sixteen professional players invited by Diamond Billiard Product to compete in the event. The entry for each player was \$1,000 for the single elimination event. Diamond added \$16,000 to bring the total prize fund to \$32,000. The event is played with CYCLOP balls on a Diamond 10 foot table covered with Simonis cloth. The official rack is the Outsville templet, [WWW.Outsville.com](http://WWW.Outsville.com). All of the matches were live streamed from the ACCU-STATS arena and will be available on DVD at [www.accu-stats.com](http://www.accu-stats.com). The event used a standard single elimination bracket format beginning with a random draw and was a race to 11. The Tournament director was Steve McDonald and Officiated by Ken Shuman. The special rules of the tournament:

No jump sticks but you could use your break cue or shooting cue to jump. This was not a call shot event. Ten on the break in any pocket counted. There was a 40 second shot clock with one automatic extension per rack. Also if down on the shot before the clock expired was not a foul unless you didn't shoot.

This was an all ball foul event

The first round was played on Friday and Saturday:

**Skyler Woodward 11 over John Gabriel 10**

**LeeVan Cortezza 11 over Johann Chur 10**

**Dennis Orcollo 11 over Shane VanBoening 9**

**Jayson Shaw 11 over Nick Ekonomopoulos 1**

**Thorsten Hohmann 11 over Karl Boyes 6**

**Alex Kazakis 11 over Alex Pagulayan 5**

**Fedor Gorst 11 over Darren Appleton 10**

**Carlo Biado 10 over Ruslan Chinakov 8**

The four round 2 matches were played on Sunday:

**LeeVan Cortezza 11 over Skyler Woodward 7**

**Jayson Shaw 11 over Dennis Orcollo 7**

**Alex Kazakis 11 over Thorsten Hohmann 6**

**Carlo Biado 11 over Fedor Gorst 7**

This was the first time to Derby for 16 year old Fedor Gorst from Russia but from his level of play I expect to see him back

again. His coach is Johan Ruijsink, who has been selected to be the American Mosconi Cup Team Captain.

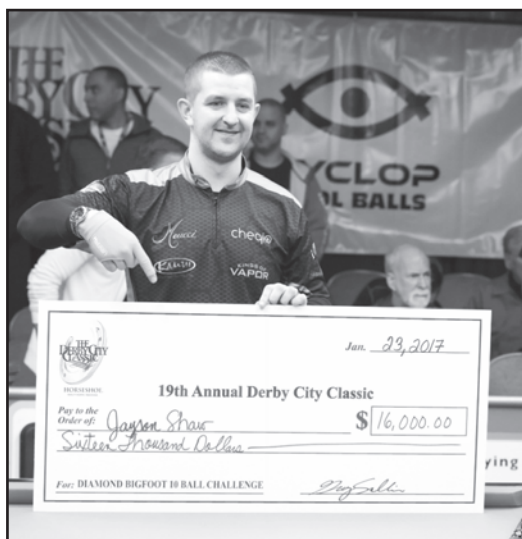
All players advancing out of round 2 were in the money and guaranteed a minimum of \$4,000 pay day. The match ups and results of the two semifinal matches were:

**Alex Kazakis 11 over Carlo Biado 10 (\$4,000)**

**Jason Shaw 11 over Dennis Lee Van Cortezza 10 (\$4,000)**

This would set up a final between Alex Kazakis of Greece and Jason Shaw of Scotland. Alex won the lag and made a ball on the break and then runs two balls but missed the 3. Jayson and Alex swapped safeties and played for a hit until Jayson got ball in hand to run out the first rack. The second rack was

break and run for Jayson. Rack 3 Jayson drops five balls on the break and runs two balls but gets out of line on the 3 and plays safe. Alex kicks and gets contact and rewarded with a safe. They both played some shots until Alex finally drops the 3 and runs out to win the rack. Rack 4 Alex makes two balls but plays safe on the 1. Jayson gets a hit but left the 1 open but no easy shot. Alex hangs the ball in the corner. Jason runs the table to take a 3 to 1 lead. After a foul by Shaw in Rack 5, Alex with ball in hand ran out the rack. Rack 6 Alex had a break and run to tie the



match at 3 all. Rack 7 Alex broke dry; Jason runs three balls and plays safe on the 4. Alex makes a tough cut shot and runs the rack to take the lead 4 to 3. Rack 8 was another break and run for Alex, extending his lead to 5 to 3. Rack 9 Alex breaks dry and Jason runs the rack. Rack 10 was a break and run for Jason, tying the match at 5 all. Jason would take Racks 11 and 12 to go up 7 to 5. Alex came right back and takes Racks 13 and 14 to tie the match at 7 all. Rack 15 Alex broke dry. Jason was open on the 1 ball but no pocket so he played safe. Alex kicks at the 1 and makes it in the side but has to kick safe on the 2. Jason gets a hit and the two swap safeties on the 2 until Jason opens it up for Alex. Alex runs down to the 5 ball and plays safe. Jason gets a hit but opens the 5 ball up for Alex. Alex plays a lockup safety on the 5 ball. Jason misses 5 giving ball in hand to Alex. Alex misses an easy shot in the side on the ball with ball in hand. Jason jumps to the table and runs out to take the lead 8 to 7. Jason now under a full head of steam runs the next three racks to take the match at 11 to 7. Jason got \$16,000 for first and Alex took home \$8,000 for second.

Congratulations to Jason Shaw for becoming the second player to have back to back wins in the Bigfoot 10 ball event.



# 2017 Music City Open 9-Ball Championships

Nashville, Tennessee

by Steve McDonald, Tournament Director

It was the 30th annual Music City Open at JOB Billiards Club in Nashville, TN held January 11-15, 2017. The event was sponsored by Budweiser, Alex Brick Custom Cues, Diamond Billiard Products, Simonis Cloth, The Accu-Rack by Outsville, and Rockin' Ray Hansen's poolactiontv.com. Rockin' Ray, Scott, and Schwartz covered all the action this year via live streaming on poolactiontv.com. Check out his site at poolactiontv.com.

Tournament Directors Steve McDonald and Bob Hunt had a very busy weekend, as a waiting list crowd showed up. Director Bob Hunt rode his motorcycle to the event from Memphis. Bob recently rode across country and was awarded the coveted "Iron Butt" Award. Congrats Bob! A full field of 128 open division players and a field of 41 ladies division players convened at JOB's for the competition that was held on 7-foot Diamond Smart Tables with Simonis 860 Cloth.

Action got kicked-off Wednesday night with a 9-ball, race-to-7, single elimination mini tournament. A full field of 64 players entered this event and Nick Hickerson got off to a great start as he topped the field with a win after placing second last year in this mini. Second place went to Sean King.

The main tournament format is 9-ball, winner breaks, double elimination, race-to-11 in the Open Division and race-to-7 in the Ladies Division. This tournament has always been a full double elimination format, and this year, as usual, the Open went the full two rounds. There were a lot of break and runs too this year with the Accu-Rack by Outsville. Fans sure enjoyed seeing all the run outs!

In the open division, past champion, Jonathan Hennessee, came from the one loss side to double dip last year's winner Skyler Woodward in the finals. Roberto Gomez came in third and Shane Winters finished fourth for the second year in a row. In the ladies division, Allison Hardwick went undefeated thru the entire tournament to beat Jessica Mollinet in the final with Lisa Porter, who also played in the open division, finishing third and Birmingham's Robin Parker taking fourth

On Saturday night, it was the JOB's legendary Midnight Madness event. This is always an action packed event, and the crowd loves it. This year we had 8 top players in this single elimination format, race-to-11. It is a \$500 entry fee, winner take all!! This year's winner was Skyler Woodward to take home the \$4,000 prize.

A beautiful \$2,000 Alex Brick Custom Cue, one of the last that Alex made, was raffled off and given away just before the



Open division .

**Jonathan Hennessee, 1st & Skyler Woodward, 2nd**

finals. The lucky winner was Shane Little from Cleveland, TN and he was present to collect his cue.

On a sad note, we lost former Music City Open Champion, Scotty Townsend, in a tragic motorcycle accident back in December. He was always a colorful character and sure added an upbeat tune to any tournament. Scotty will be missed by all.

## Tournament Results

### Open Division – 128 Players – \$6000 Added

1st	Jonathan Hennessee	\$4,000
2nd	Skyler Woodward	\$2,600
3rd	Roberto Gome	\$1,700
4th	Shane Winters	\$1,100
5th/6th	Shane McMinn / John Gabriel	\$780 ea
7th/8th	Sean King / Daniel McKenney	\$470 ea

### Ladies Division – 41 Players – \$1000 Added

1st	Allison Hardwick	\$1,000
2nd	Jessica Mollinet	\$695
3rd	Lisa Porter	\$380
4th	Robin Parker	\$275
5th/6th	Michelle Hicks / Sharon Miller	\$210 ea
7 th /8th	Beverly Cook / Brenda Anderson	\$175 ea
9-12	Erin King / Heather Middleton Kathy Sanders / Michelle Dunn	\$85 ea

### Mini Tournament – 64 players

1st	Nick Hickerson	\$550
2nd	Sean King	\$350
3rd/4th	Lee Alford / Lee Uhles	\$190 ea
5-8	Jonathan Hennessee / Shane Winters Skyler Woodward / Robert Frost	\$80 ea

### Midnight Madness – 8 players Winner-take-all

1st	Skyler Woodward	\$4,000
2nd	Roberto Gomez	\$0



## **Chico Billiards Academy**

by **Jacqueline Karol** • House Pro at Oais Bar & Grill Chico Ca.,  
League Operator & Tournament Director .

### **Win Even If You Lose - 3-Ball Rotation Drill**

**T**he 3 most important and commonly missed parts of the pre-shot routine are: choosing an exact spot for the cue ball to arrive (“Spot”), pausing before the shot (“Pause”), and being smooth and still during the delivery (“Stroke”).

For this drill, throw out 3 balls and mark their places with hole reinforce stickers. Each player gets up in front of the class with ball in hand on the first shot. There is a total of a possible 9 points per 3-ball scenario (3 points per shot), which are NOT earned by pocketing balls and focusing on future results. They are also NOT earned by choosing the best pattern, English, etc. (Those things which, of course, are very important are discussed and analyzed at other times). Rather, they are earned by practicing good habits in the present moment, which will ultimately allow you to make more balls and win more games.

The player must say 3 words and 3 words only while executing each of the 3 vital pieces of the pre-shot routine “Spot”, “Pause” and “Stroke”. If the player misses or scratches, they get ball-in-hand on the next shot and can still get their 3 points per shot if they executed each thing.

Three other people watching are each assigned as judges to determine whether or not the player earned a point or not. The judges are to take into consideration the quality of each part. For example, did the player say the word while performing it? did they say it at all?, did they walk around the table to be able to accurately choose a spot or were they lazy and guess a larger area?, did they have a distinct pause or a rushed jerky stroke?, was their stroke smooth and did they stay down to complete their shot regardless of whether or not they made it?

This is a really fun drill and keeps everyone engaged. Saying each step out loud helps enforce the action and helps develop a rhythm. I hope you enjoy this drill as much as my students. Make this a part of your regular practice, and I know you’ll get more consistency in your game!:)

### **Billiards: The Official Rules and Records Book**

The Billiard Congress of America (BCA) with support from the World Pool and Billiard Association (WPA) today announced the publication of the 2017/2018 edition of the official World-Standardized rule book, *Billiards: The Official Rules and Records Book*. The new rulebook is the completion of a standard five-year review cycle and is a collaborative effort by the WPA General Assembly to monitor developments and respond with modifications that keep the best interests of the game at hand.

The most significant changes in the new edition are:

**Three Point Break Rule** - (Regulation 18) essentially states that on the break shot, a minimum of three object balls must either be pocketed, or touch the head string, or a combination of both. For example, if one object ball is pocketed, then at least two object balls must touch the head string line; or if two object balls are pocketed, then at least one object ball must touch the string.

**Ball Rack Template Foul** - (Rule 6.16, Ball Rack Template Foul) states that it is a foul when a Ball Rack Template, removed from the playing surface, interferes with the game.

**Ten Ball Continuation** - (Rule 9.8, Ten Ball Continuing

Play) now includes that if a player nominates and legally pockets the ten ball prior to the ten ball being the last remaining ball, the ten ball is re-spotted and the shooter continues.

In addition to the revised rules, all amateur and professional records have been updated through 2016. Further, the Billiard Congress of America Hall of Fame section has also been updated to include all inductees through 2016.

Skip Nemecek BCA’s WPA Representative said, “The revisions in this rule book reflect years of work and consultation from the WPA Board of Directors. The amendments and modifications in this Rule Book will continue to preserve and enhance the games of billiards, while also continuing to ensure that they reflect the natural evolution of the sport.”

Printed copies of the 2017/2018 edition of *Billiards: The Official Rules and Records Book*, are now available from the Billiard Congress of America at [bca-pool.com](http://bca-pool.com).

For more information on bulk pricing discounts available to active BCA and PBIA Members please click [here](#).





# Tony Ruzzano Goes Undefeated to Win the 2017 New England 9-Ball Series Winter Classic.

Ninetyfive players came out to play for the \$2,000 added event, at Snookers in Providence, RI. Here is a list of notables in attendance Jodge Rodriguez, Jarred Clowery, Nelson Oliveria, Kerry Mcauliffe, Ricky Gatta, Charlie Matarazzo, and Clyde Matta.

Tournament format split Brackets pro open A, s B in upper bracket Lower Brackets C,s D,s

The upper bracket final was Jodge Rodriguez (pro) vs Tony Ruzzano (B)

11-5 race Jodge Rodriguez would start of quick with the fist 6 racks. Tony would win the next 2 to make it 6-2 Jodge would win the next 3 to make it 9-2. In game 12 Jodge would scratch on the 9 Ball, that is all it would take Tony would win the next 2 games to take the set 5-9

The lower Brackets Final Charles Matarazzo (C+) vs Martin Flagg (C+) race to 5

This would be a very close match it would go down to wire with Martin ending up with a 5-4 Victory.

Hot seat Tony Ruzzano (B) vs Martin Flagg (C+) 7-5. This match was a one sided Tony would win 7-1 and take his place in the finals.

Semi Finals Jodge Rodriguez (pro) vs Martin Flagg (C+) 12-4 this match was a barn burner and it would go right down to the wire and Martin made a spectacular

Bank on the 8 ball and go perfect on the 9 Ball Jodge Rodriguez would have to settle for 3rd place.

Finals Tony Ruzzano (B) vs Martin Flagg (C+) 7-5. This match was a thriller It would go down to the wire with Tony Ruzzano wining by a hair 7-4 to take the title.

1st Tony Ruzzano B \$1,100  
2nd Martin Flagg C+ \$600



**New England Tour/2nd Martin Flagg & 1st Tony Ruzzano**

3rd	Jodge Rodriguez Pro-	\$450
4th	Jiten Patel C-	\$350
5/6th		\$100 ea.
7/8		\$125 ea.
9/12th		\$100 ea.
13/16th		\$75 ea.
17/24th		\$50 ea.

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# 2017 Mosconi Cup

## Ruijsink is New Captain America

Johan Ruijsink, the authoritative Dutchman who led the European side undefeated through seven Mosconi Cups, makes a return to the competition after a two year absence as he takes the reins of Team USA in an attempt to revive America's flagging fortunes in the transatlantic team event.

Ruijsink last captained the European side at Blackpool in 2014 when they ran out comfortable 11-5 winners over the USA. He promptly announced his retirement from an event that he had come to over-shadow after turning Europe from regular losers into the dominant Mosconi Cup force.

Following three barren years with Mark Wilson at the helm, it was felt that the Dutchman's fantastic experience and his progressive methods in producing winners were ideally suited to get America competitive again.

Commented Ruijsink, "The reason to take on the job is quite obvious; I am an authentic lover of the game and especially of the Mosconi Cup. In 25 years of coaching, the Mosconi has proven to be by far the most exciting event in the world of pool.

"When Europe was in trouble I thought that was unnecessary – one win in ten years - as I now feel it is not correct that the US is in trouble. Both sides have great players and the MC should bring this greatness out of every player competing.

"As a coach in pool, there is no higher goal then working in the "home of pool", the USA. Although the number of players is not as big as when I started, there is still a huge number of players and lovers of the game in the US.

"My entire coaching career has been founded on seeing the American players compete at the World Championship in Bergheim, Germany in 1990. There I saw Earl, Varner, Davenport, Mizerak, Mataya, Lebron and a young Johnny Archer and they made me love the game even more. It also ignited the wish to understand why and how they played at this incredible level, so from that time onwards I have been chasing for my players to perfect their performance.

"Now, 25 years later, it hurts to see these great players having trouble to show their high standard in the MC and it is a great honour to be given the opportunity to help them in doing just that.

"I sincerely hope that people will see me neither as an intruder (from the US side)

nor a traitor (from the European side) and I hope the pool scene will understand that as a coach, there is no bigger challenge today and as a pool lover it is my greatest wish to see a competitive US squad at the Mosconi Cup. The players, audience and the pool world deserve just that," he concluded.

Matchroom Sport Chairman Barry Hearn said, "It was a big decision to make in appointing a non-American to guide Team USA. However, in this day and age sport and success is an international business and there are plenty of precedents. For example, the USA men's and ladies' soccer teams both achieved great accomplishments managed by a German and a Swede respectively.

"Johan is passionate about pool and about creating winning mindsets for players. He leaves no stone unturned and I know he will be giving it everything he's got between now and the evening of the 7th December when the outcome of the 24th annual Mosconi Cup is determined.

"Make no mistake, this is one tough job. The Americans have won just once in the past 11 years and there is plenty of work to be done, but I believe that if anyone can get the USA competitive again, Johan can."

**Mosconi Cup XXIV**  
**Las Vegas**  
**Dec 4-7 2017**  
**matchroompool.com**



## Jayson Shaw Wins the Turning Stone Classic for the Fifth Time

We call that domination. And we call Jayson Shaw a player. Rarely do fans get to witness a player who is so hot. We saw it in Greenleaf and Mosconi back in their day, and more recently we saw it with Mike Sigel, Nick Varner, Johnny Archer and Earl Strickland and most recently with Shane Van Boening (whose streak is coincident to Shaw's.) All of these players went through stages where they seemed to win everything they entered. And now we are seeing it with Jayson Shaw. The only question that remains is for how long he will be able to maintain this high level. Some burn out on it, others prosper in the heat.

Shaw defeated Rodney Morris in the finals of Turning Stone 13-6. Rodney made a late comeback after trailing 7-1 but this one was in Shaw's control the whole way. and with the exception of Shaw, Rodney Morris had a very good week. He defeated the likes of Dennis Hatch (9-7) and Amar Kang (9-4). He then lost the hot seat match to Shaw (9-3) and that sent him way left to take down Hatch with a convincing 9-3.

Then he had to go face Shaw again in the finals and that just didn't work out well at all. Shaw jumped out to a large early lead and while Rodney fought back gallantly he just had too much road to get there by darkness and Shaw seated him in second place 13-6.

Here is the complete order of finish for our Joss Northeast 9-Ball Tour's, "Turning Stone Classic XXVII 9-Ball Open", which was held on January 5-8, 2017. The event was \$25,000 added with a total prize fund of \$41,400. There were 128 players (full field). All players were paid in cash immediately upon their elimination from the event!

1st	\$8,000	Jayson Shaw (Scot)
2nd	\$5,000	Rodney Morris
3rd	\$3,600	Dennis Hatch
4th	\$2,600	Amar Kang
5/6th	\$2,000 each -	John Morra, Thorsten Hohmann (Ger)
7/8th	\$1,600 each -	Oscar Dominguez, Johnny Archer
9/12th	\$1,200 each -	Sebastian Laramee (Can), Darren Appleton (GBR), Jorge Rodriguez, Jarrod Clowery
13/16th	\$850 each	
17/24th	\$550 each	
25/32nd	\$300 each	

Our Second Chance event had 32 players (full field) with a total prize fund of \$1,600.

1st	\$500	Spencer Auigbelle
2nd	\$300	Rob Sakell
3/4th	\$200 each -	Chad Bowling, Phil Davis





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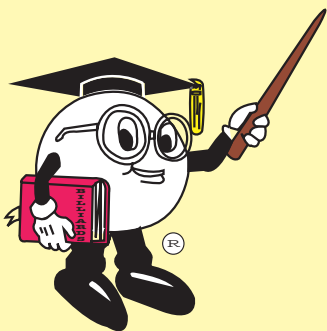
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