

Professor-Q-Ball's



National Pool & 3-Cushion News

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Pedro Wins 9th USBA National Title



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Samy Behrman
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Appleton and Rossman Elected to Billiard Congress of America Hall of Fame

The Billiard Congress of America Hall of Fame welcomes a transplanted English 8-Ball star and one of the sport's most enthusiastic ambassadors to the class of 2017. The United States Billiard Media Association today announced that three-time World Champion Darren Appleton and "Dr. Cue" Tom Rossman have earned induction as the 69th and 70th members of the sport's most prestigious hall of fame.

Darren Appleton

Appleton, 41, will enter the Greatest Players wing of the BCA Hall of Fame, while Rossman, 67, will be honored in the Meritorious Service category.

Both will be formally inducted during ceremonies later in the year.



Born in Yorkshire in northern England, Appleton split his childhood between English 8-Ball, soccer and boxing. He compiled a 12-4 record as an amateur fighter and won the

junior national English 8-ball championship in 1996, at 16.

Four years later, Appleton decided to devote full time to his cue career, and over the next decade he was the top-ranked player in the world seven times.

In 2006, Appleton left the English game and traveled to the United States to participate in the short-lived International Pool Tour. Appleton's American Pool career took off after his surprising win over Jiaqing Wu in the final of the World 10-Ball Championship in the Philippines. He followed that win with the World Pool Masters title in 2009.

Appleton won the first of his two consecutive U.S. Open 9-Ball Championships in 2010, and captured his second WPA world title in

2012 when he beat Hewen Li of China in the final of the World 9-Ball Championship. Showing a propensity for winning in back-to-back years, Appleton won the Challenge of Champions in 2011 and 2012, and the World Tournament of 14.1 in 2013 and 2014. Appleton's 2013 straight pool win included a run of 200 and out against Francisco Bustamante, the highest recorded run in a major straight pool tournament.

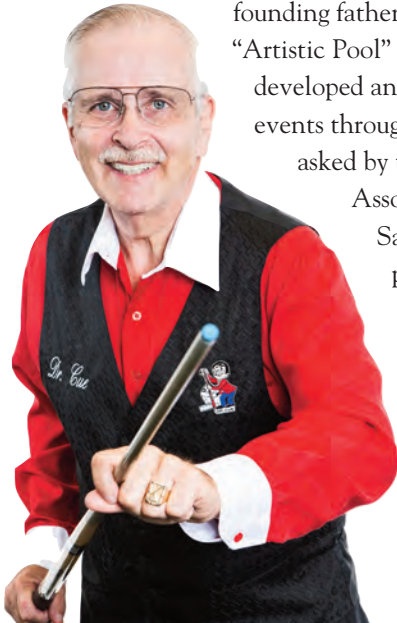
He also scored one his great personal triumphs in 2013 when he edged Taiwan's Jung-Lin Chang, 11-10, to win the gold medal at the World Games in Cali, Colombia. Appleton added the World Cup of Pool title to his resume in 2014, teaming with Karl Boyes. And in 2015, Appleton won his third world crown, this time capturing a world 8-ball title by besting World Snooker Champion Mark Selby in the final of the Chinese Pool World Championship.

"It's really amazing to know I'm in the BCA Hall of Fame," said Appleton from Yorkshire, where he was visiting his ailing parents. "I can't really put it into words. To be playing American pool full time for only 11 years and achieve this recognition is incredible. There is no bigger honor for a pool player. This is the pinnacle. It's been a difficult year for me personally, so this is the kind of news I really needed. I'm very thankful."



Tom Rossman

Rossman was born in Minonk, Ill., and studied business management at Eastern Illinois University. But pool was always Rossman's true passion and he has parlayed that love into a 40-plus year career as a competitor, promoter, innovator, teacher and ambassador in the sport.



Rossman is credited with being the founding father of the modern day "Artistic Pool" movement. Rossman developed and promoted numerous events through the 1990s and was asked by then-World Pool-Billiard Association president Jorgen Sandman to help develop professional artistic pool competitions within the association's worldwide federation and have the discipline formally recognized by the world organization. Rossman served as president of the WPA Artistic Pool Division

for more than a decade. The WPA World Artistic Pool Championship was first staged in 2000, and has been held every year since. Rossman won the title in 2006, and was runner-up on three occasions.

Rossman's efforts in organizing trick shots, as a competitive discipline was also instrumental in the development of the ESPN Trick Shot Magic shows, produced by Billiards International. Trick Shot Magic continues to draw the highest ratings of any televised billiard programming in the U.S.

Rossman is a master teacher as well, certified as an Advanced Instructor by the Professional Billiard Instructors Association and the American CueSports Alliance. He continues to travel the country promoting the sport, reaching thousands of junior players and enthusiasts.

"I am humbled and honored to be elected into the BCA Hall of Fame," Rossman said upon hearing the news. "Starting out as a rack boy at the age of 10 provided an initial foundation for my billiard journey. My wife and business partner, Marty, and I share the joy of the roll with players, fans and students of the game around the world. We have been actively involved with all facets of the billiard industry at the junior, amateur

and professional levels for a long time.

"The Hall of Fame designation is extra special in so many ways. When a person connects with his or her dreams, visions, blessings and passions in a heartfelt manner, he or she may truly rack up a victory in the game and, more importantly, in life."



Voting for the 2017 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. 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.

Appleton easily outdistanced Women's Professional Billiards Association champion Gerda Hofstatter in voting. Appleton was named on 88 percent of the ballots, while Hofstatter was named on 45 percent. Vivian Villarreal, Shannon Daulton and Jeremy Jones were named on less than 20 percent of the ballots.

Rossman's nomination was recommended by the Meritorious Service Committee, which also recommended George and Paul Jansco of Johnston City fame for consideration. USBMA members voted to include Rossman on the final ballot, where he was approved by the Hall of Fame Board.

About United States Billiard Media Association

Founded in 2007, the United States Billiard Media Association 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.

Accu-Stats' Fourth One-Pocket Invitational

"Make-It-Happen"

Photo's by Karl Kantrowitz
Official Accu-stats Photographer

The game of One-Pocket is Accu-Stats' most popular discipline, the "chess game" of pocket billiards. We're proud of assembling a quality field with the best credentials anyone could ask for. This guarantees you matchups that will be as hard as ever to predict winners.

This is Accu-Stats' fourth One-Pocket Invitational, and the tenth event in the "Make-It-Happen" series. After entry fees, travel, and lodging, players are usually out of pocket \$2,000 before a ball is struck, but at "Make-It-Happen" events, the six players pay no entry fee, pay no travel expenses, and pay no lodging expenses. It's the one event players can't pass up. The chosen six will play in a round-robin format where everybody plays everybody else.

This kind of event has succeeded because supporters purchased the "Make-It-Happen" package, as always, 100% of the support money goes into the event. Accu-Stats



Shane Van Boening and Effren Reyes lag for the break.



l-r, Josh Roberts: Top One-Pocket Specialist, Francisco Bustamante: 2013 DCC All-Around Champion, Effren Reyes: MIH One-Pocket Defending Champion, Alex Pagulayan: 2015-16 DCC All-Around Champion, Billy Thorpe: 2017 DCC One-Pocket Champion, Shane Van Boening: #1 Ranked U.S. Player

takes nothing! This is a home run for six talented one-pocket specialists.

This four-day round-robin event was staged in the Aramith/Simonis Arena at Sandcastle Billiards in Edison, New Jersey. In addition to an all expense paid trip, each player will receive \$1,000 for each win and YOU are guaranteed that every match will be of “finals” caliber.

Previous One-Pocket Invationals were races to three. At this event, all races was to four and played on a regulation 9-Foot Diamond Pro Am Table with Simonis 860 Cloth and Aramith TV Balls. The best commentators in the business, Bill Incardona, Danny DiLiberto, and Kenny Shuman provided the play by play.



Shane Van Boening

Finals

Shane Van Boening 4 Efren Reyes 2

Reyes won the lag and broke poorly. Van Boening made a bank combo and one more, then played safe. Reyes missed a bank and left Van Boening with a shot. Van Boening scratched in the far corner on a draw shot. Van Boening 2, Reyes 0. Reyes made one, then missed a combo. Reyes hung a bank and left a cut shot. Van Boening made it, but stuck on the rack. He kicked in the ball in front of Reyes pocket. Van Boening led, 3-2. Reyes made a backcut bank, broke a cluster and made a ball for Van Boening, and completed a run of six and out.

Reyes left Van Boening a shot and he ran four but failed to play shape. Reyes made a long rail bank, then jerked during his stroke and missed. Van Boening now led, 4-1. He had an easy shot to begin with and ran four and out to tie the match at 1-1.

Van Boening played safe, but sold out an easy shot. Reyes had a golden opportunity, but he only ran four, then sold out. Van Boening ran one, but froze on a ball with no shot. He tried a kick, but left a shot. Reyes, who was ahead, 4-1, ran four and out to take a 2-1 lead.

Van Boening made a long shot and ran three more before missing when jacked up. On his next turn he made a bank and ran three more to win the game, 8-0. The match was now tied at 2-2.

Van Boening made a ball for Reyes. He then fouled and Reyes now led, 1 to -1. Van Boening opened with a long back cut, then ran eight more for a superbly played run of nine and out! He now led, 3 games to 2.

Reyes struck first with a cross table long rail bank. Reyes kicked and fouled, and the score went back to 0-0. Reyes hung a bank and he left Van Boening with a single shot, so he made the ball for Reyes. 1-1. Reyes found a dead ball and he blasted the rack wide open – but only ran three, then jawed a bank. He left Van Boening with a hanger and he ran five and then made one for Reyes. Van Boening led 6-5. On his next turn he made a long railer to reach championship point leading 7-5. Reyes tried for a bank, scratched, and Van Boening made an easy shot with ball-in-hand to win the match, 4-2.

Coverage provided by Phil Capelle.
Visit his site at billiardspress.com

Final Won-Lost Standings

Shane Van Boening	5-1	\$5,000
Efren Reyes	3-3	\$3,000
Francisco Bustamante	3-2	\$3,000
Alex Pagulayan	2-3	\$2,000
Josh Roberts	2-3	\$2,000
Billy Thorpe	1-4	\$1,000

Making More Long Shots

by Mark Finkelstein

Pro at Slate and Eastside Billiards, New York City; Instructional Columnist



Growing up playing straight pool, I learned the hard way that low percentage long shots were to be avoided. However times changed and I found myself playing much more of the rotation games where coming with a long shot is a real key to winning. I started to play around with what I needed to do to increase my percentage in making these long shots.

Of course practicing them is key, but, here are some techniques that definitely will increase your percentage of making long shots. Practice them enough and you might even start to like them.

First is having a level stick, and I mean really touching the rail level. At long distances, any slight cue elevation will cause errors in your cue ball path.

Next is being precisely on the vertical axis. Any error here and the slight squirt, will throw off your cue ball path as well.

Now we want to make sure we don't hit the cue ball too high or too low. Many people aim way to high on the cue ball for these shots. This is a bad idea because the target area up high on the cue ball is smaller, and less well known is that the

higher you strike the cue ball, the more of a force pushing in to the table. I call that high squirt. The cue ball is slightly trapped between the cue stick and the table and will not come off the cue stick in a straight line.

We also want to keep our head perfectly still. You can do this by making sure you pull your cue stick back really slow and pausing at the back of your stroke. This gives you time to shift your eyes to the target and focus, settling your head. Now all you need to do is push your cue stick straight through the cue ball.

One last tip is making sure that your grip is unchanging during the stroke. I think the real key to a better grip isn't necessarily focusing on being loose. I think a better focus would be an unchanging grip. Clenching during the swing will jar the tip, causing an error in where you strike the cue ball.

Like everything else in pool, practicing coming to the table and shooting a long shot will make you more comfortable when that situation comes up in a game.

Good luck and see you on the road.

Sunshine State Pro Am Tour

Courtesy Az Staff

Donny Mills and Mike Delawder have faced each other a number of times down in the Sunshine State of Florida, though, pool statistics being what they are, it's hard to know how many exactly. They met again at the third stop on the Sunshine State Pro Am Tour, a \$1,000-added event that drew 74 entrants to Stroker's Sports Bar & Grill in Palm Harbor, FL. They met twice, once early and once late, with Delawder winning the first meeting and Mills, after winning nine matches on the loss side, winning the second in the event finals.

Mills and Delawder were both awarded opening round byes and won their first matches; Mills, 7-1 over Jimmy Neutron and Delawder surviving a double hill match against Billy Burke.

Mills opened his nine-match, loss-side run with a win over Raymond Linares and then downed co-tour director Bobby Garza. He entered the money rounds with a victory over Stephanie Mitchell. He then downed Steve Knoll 7-3 and Tim Barron 7-4 to draw Rose. Delawder drew David

Grossman, who had survived a double hill match versus Han Berber, and eliminated Kyle Bova 7-4.

Delawder downed Grossman 7-3, as Mills was busy eliminating Rose 7-2. For Mills, the long-awaited rematch was at hand. He successfully wreaked his vengeance on Delawder in the quarterfinals 7-3, and then gave up only a single rack defeating Meglino in the semifinals. In an extended race to 11, Mills snatched the title from Richmond in the hot seat 11-5.



l-r, Anthony Meglino, Donny Mills, Steven Richmond

1st	Donny Mills	\$1140
2nd	Steven Richmond	\$785
3rd	Anthony Meglino	\$550
4th	Mike Delawder	\$375
5th	Nathan Rose	\$270
6th	David Grossman	\$270

Karen Corr Comes from B-Side to Win JPNEWT Tour Stop #4

by Meredith Lynch,

A strong and thrilling stop at Champion Billiard Sports Bar in Frederick, Maryland, for the J. Pechauer tour kicked off June 24th with 29 players. The two-day event was jam-packed with some serious competition, visible in the final match, which consisted of not only WPBA hall of famer Karen Corr, but also, 6-time Junior National Champion and ACUI Collegiate Champion, Briana Miller. Both had challengers on their way to the top, and met each other part way through. As a major feather in the 21-year-old's cap, Briana sent Karen to the B-side. Briana also later won the hot-seat match 7-2 against accomplished regional champion, Tina Malm, and awaited the return of Karen Corr in the finals.

Briana started her undefeated journey to the finals with a challenge from Judie Wilson (7-4), going on to defeat Teri Thomas (7-0), and then met the great Karen Corr third round winner's side. Karen had at that point already a 7-2 win against long-time player Anita Sowers, and a 7-1 win against Victoria Mason. The pressure was on the young gun to prove she was capable, and prove she did. Pulling victory from defeat's hands, Briana downed Karen hill-hill.

Karen, not taking this lightly, went on to win against Elaine Wilson (7-1), the previously mentioned match against Gwen Townsend (7-5), Nicole King (7-3), Eugenia Gyftopoulos (7-0), and in the semifinals, Tina Malm (7-2), earning a rematch against Briana in the finals.

And what a finals it was! In a modified race to 7, Karen, coming from the B-side, needed to get to 7 games first to ensure a race to 9. If undefeated Briana reached 7 games first, the match would be over. Starting with back to back break and runs, the score was tied 1-1, with Karen breaking 3rd rack. She scratched on the break, giving ball in hand to Briana who executed a flawless runout from the 1 ball. The next rack showed some safety play, but Karen won that one. Both players were gunning for first, and the next 3 racks were alternated break and runs. At 4-3 with Karen ahead, Briana broke with the hope to recapture her lead. The layout was unlucky and she was left behind the 5 with no way of hitting the 1. After a pushout and some safety play, Karen took that rack. Keeping



l-r: Briana Miller, Gwen Townsend, Nicole King, Tina Malm, Eugenia Gyftopoulos, Karen Corr, Kassy Bein, Heather Platter

with that momentum to run the next rack out, she hung the nine on a sharp, midtable cut. That gift would be Briana's final score as Karen shifted into a higher gear and ran the next 3 racks with little or no opportunity for a challenge.

In the final rack, with the score 8-4, a safety battle ended with an opening for Briana. The young champion ran through to the last 3 balls and had an unfortunate bump to the nine ball that led to her demise. Briana conceded the last two balls to the legendary Karen Corr, making Karen the winner. Congratulations, Ms. Corr!

The JPNEWT tour would like to thank our sponsor, J. Pechauer Custom Cues, Coins of the Realm in Rockville for adding money, Britanya Rapp for sponsoring our streaming, Champion Billiards in Frederick for hosting us, and special thanks to Lights Out Billiard Apparel for sponsoring our all new challenge table! Thank you and come see us at Classic Billiards in Phoenixville, PA, for our next tour stop August 26-27th.

Results(29 player field)

1st	\$800	Karen Corr
2nd	\$400	Briana Miller
3rd	\$300	Tina Malm
4th	\$160	Eugenia Gyftopoulos
5/6th	\$135	Heather Platter
		Nicole King
7/8th	\$100	Gwen Townsend
		Kassy Bein

With his methodical and amazing precision play, Kaci took advantage of several errors by the American in the third set and shot out to a commanding 4-1 lead. Woodward, though, stayed in the moment and didn't get flustered or fazed. Showing tremendous bottle, the American won five straight racks to book his spot in the championship match.

There he would meet a resurgent Appleton, who had been playing some of his best pool in months this week in New York, despite juggling promoting duties at this event, and also having to deal with him mother's illness back home in Pontefract. Earlier in day Appleton met Polish veteran Radislav Babica in the semi-finals. The Englishman won the first set, while the Pole took the second. Appleton picked himself up and put together an excellent run in the third set to make his first World Pool Series final.

Appleton came in to the final a slight favorite, if only because he'd been on the big stage countless times in the past. He also had over an hour to catch his breath, while Woodward had only 30 minutes rest after his arduous 5 and a half hour semi-final against Kaci.

Woodward, though, came out loose and self-assured, as if he didn't have a care in the world. The pair went back and forth early in the first set, but then Woodward stamped his class on the match. With strong confident potting and well thought out patterns, the American took the first set 6-3.

Woodward kept up the relaxed attitude and great shooting in the second set and it was only a few games in that it was clear he had Appleton's number this day. Appleton actually had a chance to tie the set at 3-3, but as he got down to shoot the 8-ball in the pocket, he touched one of Woodward's solids with his arm, resulting in a foul and run out for the American. The gaff put the wind in Woodward's sails as he won the next two racks for the crown.

Afterward Woodward was mobbed by fans at Steinway who all wanted a photo and an autograph with this new American pool star. As he greeted all the well-wishers, Woodward couldn't quite wrap his head around what he had just accomplished. Not only had he won the biggest tournament of his career, but he had done it in the Big Apple against a stacked field. He was sure, however, that it was the start of even bigger things to come.



Darren Appleton

"I played good and steady the whole tournament," Woodward said. "When I finished the match with Klenti I just went and sat down away from the pool table. I didn't even hit a ball, I didn't even look at a pool table until we started the final match. I had a clear head, I was ready to play the finals and I was fresh again. I know I played a little quick but I felt real comfortable."

"You have to capitalize on every mistake that your opponent makes and stay positive. Even when I was down on myself, even when I showed a few emotions, I was still positive."

"It feels crazy. I feel amazing. I still haven't come down off it all the way. It's the biggest win I have ever had. I think it's going to be a big jump for me. I think I'm just going to get better from here."

For winning the RYO Rack Classic Championship

The third event of the World Pool Series, The RYO Rack Classic, is being held at Steinway Billiards in Astoria, Queens, New York City from July 12-15, 2017. The World Pool Series is sponsored by RYO Rack, Aramith, Molinari, Predator, Unilad, Cheqio, Iwan Simonis, Kamui, Billiards Digest, Cuescore, Ultimate Team Gear, and High Rock Productions.

For more information on the World Pool Series, please visit www.worldpoolseries.com.

The World Pool Series is on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/worldpoolseries/>. And Twitter at @WorldPoolSeries

Dont Bend Over Without a Plan

by Tom Simpson, Founder, National Billiard Academy 614 975 8337
Contributing Writer

"Beat People With a Stick!"
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Before you bend down into your shooting position, always ask yourself this one key question: **"How am I going to play this shot?"** What's the plan – exactly?

"Well, duh, of course that's what I'm thinking about," you say. But let's look deeper.

Ideally, you should do all of your thinking and planning while you're standing, while you can see the layout and the angles and imagine the possibilities. Clever instructors like to say, "Don't shoot in the thinking position, and don't think in the shooting position." As you drop down into shooting position, your body takes in a lot of visual & kinesthetic (movement awareness) information, allowing you to land with confidence and good alignment.

Once you're down, it's all about executing the shot you planned when you were standing. If you change your mind, stand up and prepare again. If you have doubts, reset. If it looks wrong, come back up. Don't shoot until you **see your target precisely and vividly**.

During our planning process, we have to consider many levels of strategy: How do I win the current game? What are the layout problems and how do I solve them? Given my skills and confidence level, what's the best shot right now? How do I avoid selling out? Is a defensive move smarter? Considering all the options, eventually I decide on the shot I'm going to take.

Now we're down to the question of exactly how I am going to execute the shot I've chosen. After all, good pool comes down to successfully executing one shot at a time. Our brilliant plans and strategies won't matter if we don't make the shot. We have to perform when it comes time to shoot. And since pool is an insanely precise pursuit, if we're not giving it everything we have, at the moment it matters most, we're going to be disappointed.

If we're not giving every shot our full attention, what are we doing? Why are we playing?

The whole purpose of our pre-shot routine is to guide us to a clear decision, and then move us smoothly and accurately into position to deliver the hit stroke we have in mind. As we progress through our shooting routine, our body aligns to the shot, our mind chatter quiets down, and our focus hones in on the levels of visual & visceral detail our pool skills allow.

When we have a confident, precise plan for the shot, and hold it clearly in mind as we drop and set up, we are far more likely to succeed. If we're still thinking, we're not trusting our bodies. Our bodies know how to do what they've done many times. We just have to get our chattering, worrying "monkey mind" out of the way while we're doing the physical part of the game.

If we are focused 100% on quality execution of the shot, there is no room for negativity. No room for fear, doubt, distraction, or self-consciousness. Fear and doubt lead to rigidity in the body. Distraction and self-consciousness put your attention outside of your physical performance. "How am I going to play this shot?" is a positive question. Dealing with the positive concern shuts out the negative concerns that often nag at us while we play: I'm playing poorly today, I can't draw consistently, I lost to this player last time, this equipment has problems, I'd better not scratch, why can't I play better under pressure, how will I look if I miss this shot? Ya get what ya think about.

Focus on what you can control. Make a decision and commit to it. Control what you're thinking as you begin the physical shooting process. Ask yourself positive questions: How do I want to play this? Where do I want the cueball to stop? How much speed and spin do I need? Accept the problems the game presents. Regard them as rewarding challenges to overcome.

Choose your best plan. Believe it. Expect it to work. See it happen in your imagination. Let it happen on the table.

Top Finishers of the 7th Annual George "Ginky" SanSouci Memorial

Pro Division

1st	\$2,000/\$2,000	Jayson Shaw
2nd	\$1,500/1,200	Frankie Hernandez
3rd	\$1,000/\$600	Mike Dechaine
4th	\$750/\$400	Jeremy Sossei
5/6	\$450	Tony Robles, Mika Immonen
7/8	\$300	Tim Murray, Jorge Rodriguez
9/12	\$100	Jimmy Rivera, Kang Lee, Reymart Lim, Mike Miller

With Jayson Shaw and Mike Dechaine in the house, there's always going to be a little buzz about a potential matchup between the two. It's something about their fiery personalities, and a sense of determination that they bring to the table when they play that makes their matches electrifying to watch. So when it happened, early at the 7th Annual George "Ginky" Sansouci Memorial Tournament's \$2,000-added Pro event on Memorial Day weekend, hosted by Steinway Billiards in Queens, NY, and Dechaine went down 8-5, a little air went out of that balloon.



L-R Jeremy Sossei (3rd), Mike Dechaine (4th), Jayson Shaw (1st), Frankie Hernandez (2nd)

Amateur Division

1st	\$4,200	Phil Davis
2nd	\$2,750	Amy Yu
3rd	\$1,200	Ramon Rodriguez
4th	\$800	Junior Singh
5/6	\$550	Koka Davladze, Gary Bozgian
7/8	\$375	Rhys Chen, Benny Rosado
9/12	\$300	James Conn, James Stevens, Andrew Cleary, Neven Lipovac
13/16	\$225	Willy Santiago, Max Watan, Julie Ha, Bryan Toolsee
17/24	\$175	Miguel Laboy, Annie Flores, Roberto Hung, Sam Islam, Ernesto Gomez, Zourai Z Ellahi, Michael Fedak, Izzy Matos

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Bar Box 8-Ball

**By: Marty Kaczmarowski, APA 7
Contributing Writer**



Before a match, try to remind yourself of all the crazy outcomes, misses and wild shots that can and often do happen during a pool game. You can practice and plan for a lifetime, trying to keep control of the match. And then...BAM! Your opponent kicks out of a safety or makes a hero shot and runs out. How does that happen?! It happens because you can't beat statistics. Eventually an opponent is going to attempt a very hard shot and it's going to work perfectly. Shots like this are going to try to crush your spirit. So prepare for them ahead of time. Do not react in any fashion. No need to yell, talk or sulk. You had no control over their outcome anyway. The randomness of pool makes it exciting. Sometimes exiting also means losing...and that just stinks. So prepare for the wild ride... so it doesn't take you by surprise.

2017 12BET World Cup of Pool • Austria are the Champions!

Austria 10-6 USA

by **Luke Riches**

Matchroom Sport:

luke.riches@matchroom.com

Austria has won the 2017 12BET World Cup of Pool as the duo of Mario He and Albion Ouschan secured the title against Team USA, who had their moments but ultimately could not contain the Austrians.

Winning the prestigious scotch doubles title for the first time, the Austrians secured the magnificent trophy, gold medals as well as \$60,000 to split. Although disappointed, Shane Van Boening and Skyler Woodward can console themselves with a cheque for \$30,000 and the added bonus of playing so well as a team ahead of the 2017 Mosconi Cup in December.

Earlier in the day both teams had assumed the underdog role in their semi-finals but won through, with Austria beating China and the USA getting the better of Chinese Taipei.

That set up the race to 10 final which got underway in sweltering conditions in the famous York Hall in the heart of London's bustling East End.

The two teams sparred through the early stages and the score stood at 2-2 and then 4-4 as neither side managed to assert themselves. They shared the next two before the USA moved into a 6-5 lead.

The critical moment came in the 12th game, when the US took the bolder option of a pot when the safety might have been the option. Woodward missed the pot and from there Austria levelled it at 6-6.

It was to be the USA's last meaningful contribution to the game as Austria took the next four to win the 12BET World Cup of Pool.

A delighted Ouschan said, "It's crazy. After winning against England B with such a bad performance in the quarter-finals we didn't think about lifting the trophy. But I played two almost perfect sets, Mario played incredibly well and made some important shots. I am so proud of him and myself, it is an amazing feeling.



Albin Ouschan, Mario He, Skyler Woodward, and Shane Van Boening

"I played this tournament for the first time five years ago and lost in the second round to USA. Last year we lost to Chinese Taipei and I said to Mario, 'next year we will win' – and here we are with the trophy."

A beaming He added, "It feels amazing, I don't know what to say. I was struggling a little bit early on and I wasn't stroking as well as usual but I played well at the end."

For the USA, it was a disappointing moment but they were optimistic about the future.

Van Boening said, "We had them at 6-5 but we made a mistake when we should have played safe and that was the turn of the match. Only one team can win, that is the game.

"It has been tough for the last eight years but Skyler, he shot better than me. He will definitely be my partner next year. He should be on the Mosconi Cup team, he would be my number one pick."

Woodward added, "It was a great week, I had fun, me and Shane played good all week. We got some back luck off the break but it happens. We made that one error where we didn't think, we should have gone for the dead safety but we thought too fast. I have to get points now for the Mosconi Cup and make sure I get on that team."

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Presents

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Casino Del Sol Resort 5655 West Valencia Rd Tucson, AZ 85757

January 8-13 2018

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USBA Pays Tribute to Bob Byrne at National Championship Banquet

On Thursday, June 8 the USBA paid tribute to one of 3-Cushion's legends - player, author and raconteur Bob Byrne. On hand at the event were all the players in the National Championship who were joined by Bob's wife Cindy and many friends who traveled to the Casino Del Sol Resort in Tucson to join in the gala.

Pete Folsom served as Master of Ceremonies, and POVPool created a tribute video, which was played on the big screen for all the guests to enjoy.

Daniel Busch and Geraldine Thibodeaux of POVPool created and recorded the entire tribute and have made the video available for all. So enjoy the celebration and listen to the kind words of Bob's friends in loving memory of our great friend. Go to <http://tinyurl.com/y7es7ka9> to see some incredible footage of Bob and the many great players who knew him and loved him.

With **Pete Folsom, (right)** a true professional at the podium, the crowd was entertained and informed with stories and memories from the past. Many in the crowd stepped up to say a word about their memories of Bob including his wife Cindy Byrne and USBA president Mazin Shooni.



Cindy Byrne



Mazin Shooni
USBA President



Darrell Stuteman, Cindy Byrne, and
Bob Jewett



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Team Europe Wins 2017 Atlantic Challenge Cup

After the disastrous day yesterday, team USA started out better today. The first two matches were mixed doubles. Leading 7:1, Europe had a big advantage and could enter the arena more relaxed than the US team. The first scotch double was played between Maksim Dudanets and Kristina Tkach versus Ricky Evans and April Larson. Though the US players contended much better than yesterday, they still made mistakes in their pocketing and - even worse - in their shot selection. Instead of going for a good safety shot, they went for the rail shots and most of the time missed them. Still, the first match was quite close and the Europeans were able to win it in the end with 6:4. The second scotch double was even closer. Patrick Hofmann and Diana Khodjaeva went hill-hill against Shane Wolford and Sierra Reams. Rack 11 was the decider in that match. Sierra Reams broke the rack and came up with an illegal break. Both teams exchanged safety shots and none of the players was willing to take any risk while at the table. The safety shots from the European team were better in the end and Shane Wolford had no other chance but trying to hit the 2-ball without committing a foul. He succeeded in doing so but left a shot for Khodjaeva who pocketed the 2-ball and paved the way for herself and Patrick Hofmann to win the rack and the match with 6:5. That took team Europe to 9:1 over team USA. The following individual match between Wiktor Zielinski and Manny Perez also turned out to become a heart-breaker. At 5:5, Zielinski missed the 6-ball with only the 8-ball and the 9-ball on the table. The following safety exchange was won by Perez who consequently took that rack to take team USA to 2 points in the overall score.

The evening session started with another individual. Daniel Maciol was up against Nathan Childress, the youngest player of the US team. That match became a clear affair for Maciol with 6:2, mainly because childress took the wrong shots and his nerves played a trick on him when he tried to pocket difficult or deciding balls. With that victory, team Europe was on the hill with 11:2 over the US Americans. One more point needed for the Cup. That point was earned in the scotch doubles between Wiktor Zielinski and Diana Khodjaeva and Manny Perez and April Larson. Though Perez and Larson were probably the strongest of all US team players, they did not have chance against the Europeans today. 6:3 was the clear result that brought the Atlantic Challenge Cup to team Europe when the youngest team member Wiktor Zielinski



Team Europe
Kristina Tkach
Diana Khodjaeva
Maksim Dudanets
Patrick Hofmann (MVP)
Wiktor Zielinski
Daniel Maciol
Captain Albin Ouschan
Captain Tomas Brikmanis

Team USA
April Larson
Sierra Reams
Shane Wolford
Nathan Childress
Manny Perez (MVP)
Ricky Evans
Captain Johnny Archer
Captain Earl Munson

pocketed the decisive 9-ball.

“Our team came here with a lot of experience already,” stated European captain Albin Ouschan, „the team is really strong. They have won many titles at European Championships so far and I knew I had a great team.“ „The fact that most of these youngsters regularly play the Euro-Tour where they compete with the top players of the game makes these kids even stronger and better“. „The take the right decisions in the respective moments. That is what is missing with the US team. We were much more experienced than them“, added Ouschan. Said US captain Johnny Archer „Europe definitely has the better team. That’s for sure, from top to bottom!“, Archer mentioned. „Although the score this year was one less than last year I think that this team we have something to built on. I was impressed with our team“, Archer continued, „there’s still work to be done but I see things to be built on from this. I know we’re going to lose some players since they will be too old next year but there are players ready to come on.“ „One reason for this huge loss was we had a horrible day yesterday. 0:5 was just a dagger in the heart“, Archer explained. „Today we played better in the mixed doubles and we lost quite close. This shows that Europe does not give many opportunities away. When you do get them, you have to get advantage!“

Dennis Orcollo is the Bigdog In Des Moines

Poolactiontv.com - Jason Walton (helpdesk)

The Scene was The Midwest Billiards & Cue Expo. The place was Big Dog Billiards in Des Moines, IA. The main event kicked off with the One Pocket portion.

Congratulations to Robocop **Dennis Orcollo** for winning the Pro One Pocket. He faced The Lion **Alex Pagulayan** in the finals and won with a score of 7-2 going undefeated. Last year it was also Dennis and Alex in the finals with Alex claiming the prize after double-dipping Robocop. Great finish for T-Rex Tony Chohan as he earned a tough 3rd place and 4th was claimed by Django Francisco Bustamante. Great job everyone! \$8000 Guranteed added

1st	Dennis Orcollo	\$12,000
2nd	Alex Pagulayan	\$6,000
3rd	Tony Chohan	\$4,000

The Bigfoot 10-Ball Challenge on the 10-footer with \$500 entry and single elimination kicked off 7pm Thursday night as well. In the end, Congratulations are in order to T-Rex Tony Chohan having defeated The Rocket Rodney Morris with a score of 11-7 in the finals. Bustamante scored another great 3rd place finish and Jeremy Jones captures a respectable 4th place finish. Excellent job by everyone.

1st	Tony Chohan	\$3,750
2nd	Rodney Morris	\$2,250
3rd	Francisco Bustamante	\$1,500

The Banks Ring Game started late Saturday night and was played on the 10-footer. The game had a 250 Entry Fee with \$1,000 added Winner take all \$3,000. The game was very entertaining to watch and in the end it was The Lion Alex Pagulayan winning it all over Francisco Bustamante. Thanks to everyone who played.

The 9-Ball Open Singles, kicked off Thursday evening with 170 entrants. Lots of talented players and tough matches.

Congratulations to Johnathan Pinegar for snapping it off!

Jason Klatt scored a great 2nd place finish. Somphet Thongsouk earned 3rd and Danny Olson scored 4th.

1st -	Johnathan Pinegar	\$11,55.00/\$1,270.00
2nd -	Jason Klatt	\$770.00/\$950.00
3rd -	Somphet Thongsouk	\$515.00/\$630.00
4th -	Danny Olson -	\$340.00/\$320.00

As always, PoolActionTV.com would like to thank BigDog Billiards and their staff for doing all they could to make everyone feel welcome. Owners Jim Landrum and Randy Hanson and Tournament Director Jon Brown went above and



Robocop Dennis Orcollo & The Lion Alex Pagulayan



Tony Chohan & Rodney Morris-

beyond to make sure everything ran smoothly and make it successful. We would like to also thank tournament Sponsor Patrick Diviney of Diviney Custom cues.

We'd also like to thank our all our sponsors – Lomax Custom Cues, John Barton of JB Cases, Durbin Custom Cues, Hanshaw Custom Cues, Simonis, Aramith, GoPlayPool.com, Kamui, Diamond Billiard Tables and Club Billiards of Wichita, KS. Thank you all for your continued support.

8th Annual Richard Sweets Memorial Tournament

Thursday June 29th

Open 8-Ball - Race to 3 single Elimination

1st \$500 Randy Jordan

2nd \$250 Andy Stewart

Friday June 30th

Open 9-Ball - Race to 3 single Elimination

1st \$500 Ramil Gallego

2nd \$250 Chris Gentile

Saturday July 1st

10-ball main event – Race to 7

1st \$2,200 Ramil Gallego

2nd \$1,150 Antonio Lining Jr

55 players-paid out to 5/6th Place

Sunday

9-Ball Mini

1st Antonio Lining Jr

2nd Ramil Gallego

3/4th Chris Gentile - Tim Orange

Mr Cues 2 Billiards Atlanta would like to thank all our sponsors and players for making the 8th Annual Richard Sweet Memorial Tournament another great success this year.

55 players signed up for our 10-Ball Main Event with over 200 players in all 5 events. The APA players event split for first place winners Jeff Crawford and Anthony Green.

We do appreciate our sponsors and thank you for your continued support Nick Varner, CueStix International, Cue & Case, Steve Lomax Custom Cues, Iwan Simonis Cloth, & Viking Cues!

Thank you Tournament Director Patti Havior! Our biggest thanks to the players that continue to keep our tournament strong in honor of our boss Richard Sweet.

Chris Gentile, and Ramil Galego



Andy Stewart, Randy Jordan



**1st Ramil Gallego, Richard Sweet Owner,
2nd Antonio Lining Jr**



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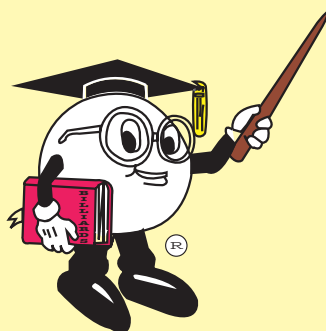
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