



LOCAL BYLAWS

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Introduction

We would like to welcome your team to the American Poolplayers Association!

This document explains the structure of the League at a local level and should be used in conjunction with your Official Team Manual provided by the APA. These bylaws have been created for the smooth and efficient operation of the League. After all, the **APA is all about having fun, meeting people, and playing pool!**

Please read these bylaws carefully and keep them with your Official Team Manual for your reference. All local bylaw documents with dates prior to the revision date of this document are null and void.

Section 1: Getting Started

Age Requirements

You must be 21 years of age or older to compete in Granite State APA.

Office Hours

League Office hours are Monday through Thursday, 11 AM to 7 PM and Friday from 11 AM to 3 PM. If no one is available to take your call, please leave a message, including your phone number and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Website

Our website address is granitestate.apaleagues.com

This website allows you to:

- a) Get the latest up to date information on playoffs, tournaments or any other Granite State APA events
- b) Set up your Member Services account to:
 - View schedules, team rosters, standings and individual records for your division; and
 - View your lifetime APA statistics, including win percentage, tournament history, On the Breaks, Break and Runs, etc.

In addition, we also have a Facebook page at your **Granite State APA** where you can view and share pictures of tournaments, get updates about the League and chat with fellow APA members.

If you have not already done so, please join our online community by signing up for a Member Services Account and following us on Facebook today.

Even if you don't sign up for your Member Services account, please make sure we have your email address on file. All announcements are made first online and through our email mailing list. Having an email address on file can keep you from missing out on valuable information! The website and email are the Local League Office's most efficient communication tools. They help to ensure that you get the most out of your experience and keep you up to speed on what is happening at all times, be it upcoming playoff match locations, wild card picks, tournaments or any other information you and your team need to know about the League.

Team Fees

Team Fees are \$50 per week (\$100 for Double Jeopardy) regardless of the number of matches played. Full Team Fees must be paid for playoff matches and forfeit. If you are paying by check, please make your check payable to Granite State APA or Dynamite Billiards LLC. There will be a \$25 charge for any returned checks, plus a loss of bonus points.

Team Envelopes

The team envelopes will be mailed to the team captain unless otherwise specified. Envelopes are to be postmarked no more than **2 days** after match.

Your team will receive bonus points if **all** of the following occur:

- Innings are filled in for every game
- The winner and loser of every game is marked with the number of racks won
- Final match score is filled in
- Scoresheet is signed by both teams
- All fees are up to date
- No abusive comments are written

The bonus points awarded will be as follows:

- **8-Ball - 1 Possible Bonus Point:**
 - a. will be awarded for the entire weekly fee being included in the payment envelope and the team being current on all fees due.
 - b. will be awarded for accurate and complete scoresheets.
- **9-Ball - 20 Possible Bonus Points:**
 - a. will be awarded for the entire weekly fee being included in the payment envelope and the team being current on all fees due.
 - b. will be awarded for accurate and complete scoresheets.

Remember these are bonus points that are awarded at the sole discretion of the League Office.

Keeping current with your weekly fees is important. If you fall behind in payments, you may risk more than your bonus points. You may lose your place in the playoffs and/or the opportunity to compete in tournaments.

Bonus Points for Bye Weeks

Whenever a division has an odd number of teams one team each week will not have a match. In this instance, the team with the bye shall be given the following points for the week. (including the bonus points a team would have received if all the paperwork was correct)

- 8-Ball – 8 Bye Points + 1 Bonus Point
- 9-Ball – 60 Bye Points + 20 Bonus Points

Note: Teams do not need to submit paperwork or fees for bye weeks.

Past Due Procedure

First Week Past Due: Scoresheet will be stamped Past Due – Captain / Co-Captain will be called.

Second Week Past Due: Scoresheet will be stamped Final Notice – Entire Team will be called. (Penalty points will be issued: 8-Ball 2 points and 9-Ball 10 points)

Third Week Past Due: Team Name will be changed to **TEAM DROPPED DUE TO NON-PAYMENT** and all players will be marked ineligible.

Any team that falls two weeks behind in paying their team fees will receive a FINAL NOTICE on their next scoresheet.

- If the fees are not brought current by the third week, the team will be dropped from the League for non-payment.
- All players on the team will become equally responsible for their share of the fees that are due, including those for the remainder of the session, and will not be able to rejoin the League until they have paid their portion.
- The League Office will not be responsible for fees or monies paid to a Team Captain or other team member not ultimately paid to the League. Teams having rosters with players who owe money to the League will not be able to participate in any matches until such monies are paid.
- Teams that are habitually late may be required to replace their Team Captain with another, more responsible player.

Membership Fees

Please refer to “Fees” under League Structure (section 1) in your APA Official Team Manual.

“**All members**” annual dues should be paid the first night they play, or by week 4 of the session (whichever comes first). New members should fill out a membership application in addition to following the guidelines established for new members. Teams will not earn bonus points if playing a player whose membership fees have not been paid.

Handling of Weekly Scoresheets, Team Fees, Applications

Team Captains are required to collect all League fees, membership dues, and membership applications from the players on their teams. Scoresheets and weekly team fees are to be placed in the provided return envelope and mailed the day following your match. In order for teams to receive bonus points, the postmark on the envelope must be within **2 days** of play and the scoresheet and full payment must also be enclosed. Failure to do so will result in a loss of bonus points.

Comments on Scoresheets

All concerns should be written on the scoresheet in a courteous and professional manner. This will guarantee that your concern is considered, documented and addressed. Abusive language directed at the League or the League Operator will not be tolerated on the scoresheets. Abusive comments or complaints are considered unsportsmanlike and will be treated appropriately.

Patches

Patches are available for the following accomplishments:

- 8-on-the-Break: You make the 8-ball on the break.
- 8-Break-and-Run: You make at least one ball on the break and then run the rack.
- 9-on-the-Snap: You make the 9-ball on the break.
- 9-Break-and-Run: You make at least one ball on the break and then run the rack for ten points.
- Rackless: Your opponent didn't break during your match. **(8-Ball Only)**
- Clean Sweep Patch: For both 8-Ball and 9-Ball matches, if a team wins all 5 matches in one night (forfeited matches do not count), each person who played that night will receive a Sweep Patch.
- 20-0 Shutout: You win 20-0 in 9-Ball.
- Mini Slam: 8-on-the-Break and 8-Break-and-Run **or** 9-on-the-Snap and 9-Break-and-Run on the same League night. Not available during tournament play.
- Grand Slam: *Earning an 8-Ball Mini Slam and a 9-Ball Mini Slam within the same session.*
- Sportsmanship: You may nominate a player for a good sportsmanship patch. Write the nomination on your scoresheet and the League Office will determine if the patch will be awarded.
- I Beat the League Operator
- I Beat a 7 **(8-Ball Only)**
- I Beat a 9 **(9-Ball Only)**

Section 2: League Play

Rescheduling Matches

On occasion, usually due to inclement weather, a match may need to be rescheduled. If you wish to reschedule a match, **you must make a request to the League Office**. Upon receiving approval from the League Office please use the following procedure:

- Contact the captain of the team you are scheduled to play and notify them of your intent to reschedule.
- If requested to do so, captains must reschedule matches if the team has other pre-qualified League obligations such as a National Tournament.
- Rescheduled matches **must be played within two weeks** of the original scheduled match date. No make-up matches will be allowed in the last two weeks of the session. Exceptions with special conditions may be made by the League Office.
- **Teams must pay for all matches by scheduled match date or they will lose bonus points.**
- Requests for make-up matches MUST be in writing via email to gstateapa@gmail.com from both captains with (1) date of make-up and (2) reason for request of make-up.

Inclement Weather

Rescheduling for inclement weather is generally a result of snow or icy conditions but can result from any condition that makes it dangerous for players to travel to their match locations. The League Office will use school closings and state warnings to determine whether it is appropriate to reschedule matches due to inclement weather. If you feel that weather conditions may interfere with your, or your team's ability, to get to your scheduled match location, contact the League Office for additional instructions.

Teams in Default

Any team that does not show up for its match for two consecutive weeks will be deemed to be in default and will be dropped from the Division.

Additionally, any team that has not paid their League fees for two consecutive weeks can be dropped from the Division. Teams who have failed to pay their League fees for two consecutive weeks will be notified of the past due status. If their account is not made current in a timely manner, the team will be deemed in default and may be dropped from the division.

Teams that are in default are still responsible for paying their team fees for the remainder of the session. Each member of the defaulting team will be responsible for paying his/her share of the team fees owed. The defaulting team's players will be suspended from the League until their portion of the fees is paid. The League Office has the right to assign different portions of the outstanding fees to individual players as it deems appropriate. If your team has a player that is past due on your roster, you will receive no points for that person's match (even if they win) and no bonus points for any week they play while their fees are past due.

Writing Utensil

Granite State APA teams should use **BLUE OR BLACK PEN** when filling out scoresheets.

Additions to Teams

No player may join a team after the fourth week without prior approval from the League Office. During Spring Session, teams CANNOT make any changes after week 4 regardless if they are qualified or not for WPQ.

Forfeits

A team may begin play with one player present. Once the first match is over, the team putting up next has two (2) minutes to name a player, and then the opposing team has two (2) minutes to name a player. The match must start immediately once both players are named for the match. If the team does not have a player available, that entire individual match will be forfeited. During the final two (2) weeks of the regular session if a team forfeits three (3) or more matches they will be ineligible for playoffs and/or the wild card draw. The only exception to this rule is in the situation where a team is forfeiting a match due to their skill levels forcing them to utilize the "19-Rule". The match is a scheduled match, therefore both teams are responsible for full payment to the APA for that given match. So whether there is one forfeit or the entire match has been forfeited, both teams are required to pay the team fees in full directly following the date of the scheduled match.

Section 3: Sportsmanship and Conduct

Protests and Disputes

Sportsmanship complaints, handicap complaints, and official protests must be submitted in writing, preferably on the night of play, but no later than twenty-four (24) hours after play. Complaints should be submitted on the appropriate form from the Granite State APA website. No fee shall be required to issue a complaint or to file an official protest. The APA office will only discuss a player's handicap with the player him/herself.

Banned Players

If a Host Location has banned a player from entering their establishment, the team must play without him/her when playing at that location. The League does not have the right to require a Host Location to permit access to a banned person for a League match.

Members Barred from Host Locations

If a team has a member on its roster who is barred from a Host Location, that member will only be allowed to play with the permission of the Host Location Owner or Manager. This is beyond the control of the APA. Also, the Granite State APA stands behind its Host Locations.

Suspended Players

Granite State APA will honor any suspensions from a neighboring APA area.

Section 4: League Playoffs and Tournaments

Session Playoffs

During the last two weeks of a session's regular weekly play, a team cannot forfeit more than three individual matches. Teams who do not adhere to this rule will forfeit their eligibility in the Playoffs.

During each session, the 1st round of Playoffs will be scheduled on the same day of the week as your regular League play.

In accordance with Official Team Manual. The **Session Playoff Site** will be chosen at or prior to the Team Captains' Meeting at the beginning of the session and will be indicated on the schedule. It is possible a Playoff match will be held at a neutral location or at the home location of one or both of the teams involved.

Player Eligibility: Players must have played at least 6 times with the team during the session to be eligible to play in the Session Playoffs. If two (2) teams are scheduled for home at playoffs and the Host Location has only one table, the higher ranked team will have the home advantage and the other team will need to pick an alternate location and coordinate the details with the alternate location owner and opposing Team's Captain. This alternate location does not have to be the opponent's Host Location; it can be at any location in the area. It is not the obligation of the APA office to designate an alternate site. Double Jeopardy Divisions will be held at the location with the most tables.

Trophies

The division winner with the most points at the end of the session will receive individual plaques and the 1st place trophy/or plaque to be awarded at the Tri-Cups.

Trophies will also be awarded at the World Pool Qualifier. Each member of the first-place team will receive an award. In addition, each winning team will also receive a team trophy/or plaque that can be put on display at their Host Location to show off their accomplishment.

World Pool Qualifier

The World Pool Qualifier is an annual tournament that takes place at the end of the League year. The winners of the World Pool Qualifier receive **travel assistance** to Las Vegas and the opportunity to represent Granite State APA in the APA World Pool Championships.

Travel Assistance for the World Pool Championships

Each 8-Ball or 9-Ball team that qualifies during the World Pool Qualifier for the APA World Pool Championships in Las Vegas will receive travel assistance. Granite State APA will reimburse Team Captains up to \$450.00 for airfare for each eligible team member going to play in the World Pool Championships. In addition, Granite State APA will book 3 hotel rooms per 8-person team during the World Pool Championship tournament dates (up to six nights); due to the growing size of the event, hotel location is **NOT** guaranteed to be at the Westgate Hotel and Casino. Reimbursement checks for airline tickets will be issued upon receiving airline ticket receipts. Winning teams will be asked to submit proper photo identification, a list of names for hotel rooms and will be required to complete the necessary paperwork for team registration for the APA World Pool Championships.

If the League Operator can reserve airline tickets and rooms for a significant savings, they will book them accordingly for all teams traveling to Las Vegas. This will be at the discretion of the League Operator. In addition, each winning team will receive a team World Pool Qualifier trophy and /or individual trophies for each player. **Should a team elect not to go to the World Pool Championships, the team will forfeit all awards and travel assistance. If the team withdraws after the given deadline, the team will be required to repay the entire amount spent on the travel assistance for that team to the APA Players' Fund.** Failure to do so will result in suspension of membership for each member of the team until the travel assistance money has been repaid. In the event a qualified team decides not to participate in the World Pool Championships and there is ample time for a replacement, the team that finished in 2nd place in that World Pool Qualifier/State Cup will advance to the World Pool Championships.

The Tony/Toni Awards

Players from each division will be given the opportunity to vote for the person (one male and one female) in their division that they look forward to seeing on pool night—someone who keeps it light and helps others enjoy their time playing in the APA. After all, the APA is about having fun and enjoying the time spent playing the game. Winners must be active Granite State APA members on a team during the current Summer session and have played during the last pool year. The trip winner will be drawn and awarded at our Player appreciation party.

Playoffs are to determine which teams will be advancing to Tri-Cups.

In a division of 4 teams, the 1st place team will play one Wild Card team, the winner will advance to Tri-Cup. In a 4-team division, and eligibility will not be passed to teams finishing directly behind an already qualified team in the standings.

In a division of 5 teams, the 1st through 3rd place teams and one Wild Card team advance to playoffs. There will be one week of playoffs and two teams total will advance to session's Tri-Cup.

In a division of 6-9 teams, the 1st place team will automatically advance to the session's Tri-Cup. The 2nd through 4th place teams and one Wild Card team will advance to playoffs. There will be one week of playoffs and three teams total will advance to the session's Tri-Cup.

In a division of 10-16 teams, the first-place team will automatically advance to the session's Tri-Cup. The 2nd through 6th place teams and one Wild Card team will advance to playoffs. There will be one week of playoffs and four teams total will advance to the session's Tri-Cup.

Wild Card Drawing for Playoffs

When drawing for the wildcard to participate in playoffs, the drawing will be weighted according to final standings of the teams that did not earn an automatic bid into the playoffs. The number of entries into the wildcard draw will be dependent on the number of teams in the division, as well as a team's final standing in the division. The last place team will receive 1 entry into the wildcard draw, the 2nd to last place team will receive 2 entries into the wildcard draw, the 3rd to last place team will receive 3 entries into the wildcard draw, so on and so forth. Setup for session playoffs may vary session to session and is at APA discretion.

Number of Matches Needed to Participate in Playoffs

In order for a player to participate in the session playoffs he/she must have played at least four (4) matches with the team during the session, prior to playoffs beginning. In order for a player to be eligible to participate in the World Pool Qualifier in June (World Pool Qualifier/State Cup), a player must have a skill level based on at least ten (10) actual league scores in the format in which he/she is advancing. The ten (10) scores must be attained by the end of the Spring Session in the League year corresponding to the World Pool Championship in which the player is advancing. **Forfeits do not count as a match played.**

NUMBER OF MATCHES PLAYED FOR AN ALTERNATE DIVISION (ONCE A MONTH DIVISION)

Players must have at least 4 matches played in the SPRING session (after January 1) to be eligible for playoffs and Tri-Cups.

Once A Month Divisions

Play for once a month division will be Summer-Spring. During Summer and Fall sessions it will be once a month. For the Spring session, there may be play 2 times a month to enable players to get their required 4 matches if necessary.

EQUIPMENT

Use of **Magic Rack** is not allowed in the Granite State APA.

Big Dawg Award

The 8-Ball team and the 9-Ball team with the most points averaged per week during a session, out of all the divisions competing in that format in the entire League area, will receive the **BIG DAWG AWARD**. In the event that two or more teams are tied for Big Dawg, both/all teams tied will receive the award.

Each team earning the BIG DAWG AWARD will receive a plaque/trophy for each member on the team. In addition to the plaque, the team will gain an automatic bid to the WORLD POOL QUALIFIER/STATE CUP (without needing to participate in playoffs or Tri-Cups). The team must stay in the top half of their division or the team is subject to lose its eligibility. ****YOU CAN ONLY WIN THE BIG DAWG 1X PER CALANDER YEAR. EXAMPLE (IF YOU WIN IN SUMMER OF 2020 YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE AGAIN UNTIL SUMMER 2021) **** Now known as the 13 B.T.A Rule.

Automatic Entries into World Pool Qualifier/State Cup

Any team that gains an automatic entry into the WORLD POOL QUALIFIER (**by winning Big Dawg**) has the option to play in Tri-Cups.

Best of the Rest Tournament

Teams who win at least 1 round at Tri-Cups, will be invited to play in the Best of the Rest Tournament for a second chance to gain entry into the World Pool Qualifier. Byes do not count as win. There will be NO money or trophy won, you will just earn a spot in the World Pool Qualifier. Spring roster is the roster that competes regardless of the session it was won. If any roster changes throughout the league year, then must have 4 original team members still on roster to remain qualified for the tournament. **IMPORTANT:** No more than two (2) additional teams will be qualified from this event.

APA Championship Tournaments

The APA Poolplayers Championships and the APA World Pool Championship frequently coincide with the playoffs in the spring and summer session. Pre-plays and make-up matches will be allowed for all players attending the events.

Pre-plays are always preferred and should be done whenever possible. If pre-plays are not possible, the matches can be made up, but must be completed 3 weeks prior to playoffs. Opponents must be willing to work with players/teams attending events. However, the player/team attending the championship event **MUST** make arrangements with their opponents in a timely manner—**NOT ON THE DATE OF THE MATCH**. Full and partial matches can be rescheduled.

In the event of partial matches being rescheduled, the specifics of how many matches will be rescheduled, and the names of players attending the events and therefore playing a rescheduled match, must be divulged to the opponent. In other words, a team missing one or two players cannot decide they want to reschedule the last one or two matched the night they are playing when 5 players are present. The specifics must be determined ahead of time. This is to prevent abuse or manipulation of the rule by teams.

Best of the Best (MVP) Tournament

At the end of each session, the top 10 point leaders from the MVP list (based on points per match, also sometimes referred to as “percentage of available points”) from each division will be invited to play in the Best of the Best, a cash and trophy tournament. The tournament will be tiered by skill level as follows:

8-Ball: 2 & 3 / 4 & 5 / 6 & 7

9-Ball: 1, 2 & 3 / 4 & 5 / 6, 7, 8 & 9

The tournament will be \$20.00 per player if they choose to play, and the winner of each tier will receive a cash payout (depending on the number of players in the tier) as well as a trophy for their accomplishment of being the BEST OF THE BEST!

You may only win once per League Year which is Summer through Spring.

NOTE: YOU MUST BE ON AN ACTIVE ROSTER IN THE FORMAT BEING PLAYED TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY AND ALL TOURNAMENTS HELD BY THE GRANITE STATE APA.