

American Poolplayer Association



# LOCAL BYLAWS

Last REVISED October 2019

## LEAGUE OPERATORS

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All players are governed by the rules and regulations of the APA, the Official Team Manual, and these Bylaws.

## 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 I: GETTING STARTED

### MEMBERS:

Anyone with current membership in the APA in good standing, and who is currently participating on an active team in the Hudson County APA Pool League.

### AGE REQUIREMENTS:

The APA allows players of age 18 and up to participate in League play. However, since most play is conducted in bars, players under the age of 21 are advised that they may not be allowed in some venues. It will be at the sole discretion of the venue as to whether they will allow a player under 21 to enter their location. Teams with players under 21 should understand, and it is their responsibility to check with the location before their scheduled League match. Teams without enough players due to this situation will not be granted make up matches, nor will they be able to change locations.

### OFFICE HOURS:

League Office hours are Monday through Friday, 10 AM to 8 PM and Sunday from 3 PM-6 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 [www.hudson.apaleagues.com](http://www.hudson.apaleagues.com).

This website allows you to:

- a. Get the latest up to date information on playoffs, tournaments or any other Hudson County 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 [@hudsoncountypapa](https://www.facebook.com/hudsoncountypapa) 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.

## **FEES:**

### **1. REGISTRATION & RENEWALS**

- a. New players must pay their \$25 APA registration fee and complete an application by the first night of play.
- b. APA Renewals must be paid by the first night of play. Team Captains may submit personal checks, or money orders in payment of APA membership fees, team registration fees or weekly fees, but should the check bounce, an additional \$30 fee will be assessed, and the team will forfeit all points won by that player. One returned check will mean non-acceptance of any future checks from that player.

### **2. WEEKLY FEES:**

For 8-Ball, \$40 per week, per team. For 9-Ball, \$40 per week, per team. For Double Jeopardy, \$70 per week, per team. These fees are regardless of the number of matches played. A portion of this money is allocated to support the tournament fund, travel assistance fund, awards, patches, trophies, and other events and items sponsored by the League. The travel assistance fund helps pay the travel and lodging expenses of teams that advance to the World Pool Championship in Las Vegas. The team fee is adjusted during the local playoffs. 8-Ball and 9-Ball playoff matches have a \$30 flat fee. Double Jeopardy playoff matches have a \$90 flat fee.

- a. The weekly fee, is a not a "per player match fee." Each week, all teams are responsible for the full weekly fee.
- b. If a full team does not show up and forfeits the entire night's matches, both teams are still responsible for paying their weekly fee.
- c. It is possible that the League Office may become responsible for collecting the Host Location's greens fee on League night. If this is the case, the greens fee will come out of the collected money first. Any shortage will be applied to the team's weekly dues and may possibly affect the bonus points.

## **SCORESHEETS:**

It is the Team Captain's responsibility to see that scoresheets are kept neat and legible. These are kept on file by the League Office for 2 years and are the official records for advancement to national play. They are, in effect, the winning team's passport to higher level play. The scoresheet must be filled out completely. Accurate and conscientious score keeping is the Team Captain's greatest contribution to the smooth operation of the handicap system and the prevention of sandbagging. The League Operator may deduct points from a team if, after a warning, scoresheets continue to be sloppy, Inaccurate, Incomplete or have missing

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information. Any team caught falsifying any part of a scoresheet may have any or all of its players subject to one or more of the following penalties:

- a. Forfeit the falsified match.
- b. No points for that week.
- c. Written warning.
- d. Suspension from the League

### **WEEKLY POINTS:**

- a. 8-Ball
  - 1) Standard APA scoring is used. Please consult your handbook or APA site for details.
  - 2) Byes: Team receives 8 points (plus bonus points) for a total of 10 pts.
  - 3) Forfeits: Teams will receive 2 points for each match. A full team forfeit is 8 points plus 2 bonus points. New teams entering a session will receive a points total equal to that of the last place teams minus two points.
  - 4) Teams receive 8 points plus 2 bonus points for a bye.
- b. 9-Ball
  - 1) Each team will receive their cumulative match score over the 5 matches for that night. ii. Byes: Team receives 60 points (plus 10 bonus points) for a total of 70 points.
  - 2) Forfeits: Teams will receive 15 points for each match forfeited by their opponent. If an entire team doesn't show up, the team that is present will receive points as if they got a bye.
  - 3) New teams entering a session will not receive more than 10 points less than the last place team at the time they are added. If the last place team has less than 10 points, the new team will receive 0 points.
  - 4) 10 bonus points will be awarded to each team based on the criteria explained below. (Section 5, Bonus Points)
  - 5) New teams creating a bye will receive the bye points for the last week before their first match and/or the make-up points as described above.

### **BONUS POINTS:**

In order to be eligible for bonus points, all of the following must be done:

- 1) For Sunday and Monday teams, completed team envelopes must be at the drop off point by 4:00 pm on the Tuesday immediately following play.
- 2) For Tuesday and Wednesday teams, completed team envelopes must be at the drop off point by 4:00 pm on the Thursday immediately following play.
- 3) Scoresheets must be complete and neat.
- 4) All weekly team fees are paid, and no past dues.
- 5)

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Bonus points are not retroactive.

- 1) 8-Ball - 2 Possible Bonus Points
  - a) 1 point will be awarded for the entire weekly fee being included in the payment envelope and the team being current on all fees due.
  - b) 1 point will be awarded for accurate, complete, and on time scoresheets.
- 2) 9-Ball - 10 Possible Bonus Points
  - a) 5 points will be awarded for the entire weekly fee being included in the payment envelope and the team being current on all fees due.
  - b) 5 points will be awarded for accurate, complete, and on time scoresheets.

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

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

1. Match start/end time are complete
2. Innings are filled in for every game
3. The winner and loser of every game is marked with the number of racks won
4. Final match score is filled in
5. Scoresheet is signed by both teams
6. All fees are up to date, and fee section is complete on scoresheet
7. The scoresheet is neat, clean, and complete
8. No abusive comments are written

c. Bonus Points for Bye Week:

1. 8-Ball – 8 Bye Points + 2 Bonus Points
2. 9-Ball – 60 Bye Points + 10 Bonus Points

d. The League Office has the right to make special arrangements with teams unable to drop off their paperwork on time.

### **PAST DUE:**

If a team is past due by three weeks' worth of fees or more, the team will receive a warning on their scoresheet. If total amount is not paid by the following week the team Captain and Co-Captain may be suspended from the League. Alternatively, the Team Captain and/or the Co-Captain may be made ineligible until the past due is paid. Make all checks out to Hudson Billiards Association LLC. Bonus points will not be received for any team that is past due.

Past Due Procedure

1. First Week Past Due: Scoresheet will be stamped Past Due.
2. Second Week Past Due: Captain will be contacted.
3. Third Week Past Due: Captain and Co-Captain will be contacted; scoresheet will be marked FINAL NOTICE.

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4. If the fees are not brought current by the fourth week, both the Captain and the Co-Captain will be suspended until all fees are paid.
5. 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.
6. Teams that are habitually late with fees may be required to replace their Team Captain with another, more responsible player.

### **PATCHES:**

Patches are available for the following accomplishments:

1. 8-on-the-Break: You make the 8-ball on the break.
2. 8-Break-and-Run: You make at least one ball on the break and then run the rack.
3. 9-on-the-Snap: You make the 9-ball on the break.
4. 9-Break-and-Run: You make at least one ball on the break and then run the rack for ten points.
5. Rackless: You win the lag and each following match, thus never touching the rack.
6. Skunk: 9 ball – you win your match 20-0.
7. Grand Slam: In one season, you get an 8 on the break, an 8 ball break and run, a 9 on the snap, and a 9 ball break and run.
8. Mini Slam: break and run and 8 or 9 ball on the snap in one match.
9. Clean Sweep: your team must win all of your matches in one night.

Patches are awarded the week after they are earned and will be included in your team envelope.

## **SECTION II: LEAGUE PLAY**

### **STRUCTURE:**

#### **1. MEMBERS:**

Anyone with current membership in the APA in good standing, and who is currently participating on an active team in the Hudson County APA Pool League.

#### **2. BOARD OF GOVERNORS, (BOG)**

- a. The Board will consist of Division Representatives of the Hudson County APA Pool League, Division Managers, and the League Operator. The Board will act in accordance with approved APA guidelines, and will act as the Handicap Review Board and Player Complaint Committee.
- b. All requests to review a player's skill level must be submitted in writing. Any complaint regarding sandbagging, unsportsmanlike conduct or matters thought to be of interest to the BOG should be brought to the Team Captain's attention, put in writing and forwarded to the League Operator via your team envelope, or an email to [office@hudsonpoolleague.com](mailto:office@hudsonpoolleague.com).
- c. Meetings of the BOG will be held as the need arises, called by the League Operator.

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- d. A quorum for conducting business of the BOG shall be not less than 50% of the members empowered to vote.
- e. If a Division Representative misses three consecutive meetings he/she will be subject to removal from office. Missing two consecutive meetings will allow that Division Rep. to remain, but they will have to pay for League play in the session immediately following the second missed meeting.
- f. TEAM CAPTAINS must pass on all League activity information, League materials and flyers to team members. It is essential that all players be informed of League activity. The Team Captain is responsible for the conduct of team members and associates during League play. The Team Captain is responsible for the security of the team envelope and seeing that it is at the drop off point on time. Full payment of the weekly team fee is a team responsibility.

### 3. DIVISION REPS:

Division Representatives are appointed by the League Operators. They are a person of integrity and are consistently active in the League. They make sure that notices and League information and materials are distributed to and understood by the Team Captains in their division. They may be called upon to help run tournaments and to distribute trophies. They may be consulted during League play to help settle disputes.

### **MATCH TIME:**

Start times per town are as follows:

- Hoboken 8 ball 8pm Wednesdays, 9 ball 7pm Mondays
- Harrison/Kearny: 8 ball: 8pm
- JC: Tuesdays Double Jeopardy 7:30; Monday 9 ball 8pm; 8 ball Wednesdays 8pm
- Bayonne Sunday 8 ball 1:30pm; Monday/Tuesday 8ball 7:00; Wednesday 9 ball: 7 pm

Unless otherwise stated. Allow 15 minutes grace time to start match and 30 minutes grace time for new teams the first four weeks of a session. If a team is going to be late they are encouraged to call the team or bar and notify the opposing Team Captain. A team consistently late is subject to sportsmanship violations and penalties.

### **IDENTIFICATION:**

All members must have a valid photo I.D. If a player is carded and is unable to produce a valid I.D., they may finish the match in progress but must produce a valid I.D. before the night's matches are finished in order for their team to avoid a match forfeit and any other penalties that may apply. If no I.D. is produced, both teams must write "Forfeit No Photo I.D. " in the area of the score sheet where the match was recorded and place a "W" in the "WL" box of the team "winning the forfeit."

**SCHEDULES:**

Be aware that the schedules may change during the first few weeks of a session. New teams could be added and/or dropped from the schedule. Always check for a new schedule and notify your teammates, and Host Location of any changes.

**MAKEUP MATCHES:**

Only the League Operator or the Division Rep. may approve a makeup or rematch. If a match is rescheduled it must be played within two weeks. If makeup matches are not played, 0 points will be awarded to each team. Bonus points will be awarded if team is in good standing. If a makeup match is scheduled and one team doesn't show up, we will treat it as a normal 'no show' and the team that did show up will receive forfeit points.

- a. During the last two weeks of a session, the League Office cannot accept late scoresheets. Any teams turning in their scoresheet late will not get their bonus point(s) for that week.
- b. If both teams that play a match do not turn in their scoresheet on time, at least one of those teams will need to text or email the scoresheet to the League Office. If both scoresheets are not received by the League Office within one day of the scheduled match, the teams are at risk of having that match not count towards the session standings.
- c. Please note that the League Office must enforce this policy in order to have the standings updated at the end of the session and have the Wild Card Draw prepared on time.

**FORFEITS:**

Any team qualifying for Division or Tri-Annual Playoffs will forfeit their playoff spot if they have any outstanding fees. Any team ending the season with an outstanding debt will not be eligible for the Wild Card Draw

- a. Teams not showing up for the last week of play will be required to pay their weekly dues plus the weekly dues of the opposing team and are not eligible for Wild Card Draw.
- b. In all cases, teams forfeiting an entire match during any week will receive 0 points. Bonus points will not be awarded for teams that forfeit or don't show up

**DISPUTES:**

The two players shooting should try to come to some type of agreement. Team Captains should first let the players try to work out a solution. If the two shooting players cannot come to an agreement, Team Captains should try to reach a compromise. Please review your Official Team Manual before calling your Division Rep. The Division Rep is the person to call in the event of a dispute – not the League Operator(s). If no compromise can be reached, rerack and replay the game. Under no circumstances should you refuse to play a match,

unless there is danger of a fight starting. If you feel that you, a team member, or your team is in danger, pack up your sticks and leave the area. File a protest with the League Office the following day.

**PROTESTS:**

Review protest procedures in your Official Team Manual. Protests written on scoresheets will not be considered an official protest.

**TIME LIMITS:**

- a. A player must shoot each ball within a 30 second time period. Once he shoots his first ball, he should take no longer than 30 seconds to shoot his next ball unless he calls an official time out.
- b. One minute is allowed for coaching. Refer to your team manual for more information on coaching.
- c. Intentional slow play or consistently taking extra-long coaching time outs will be considered sportsmanship violations.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY:**

Severe weather warnings or traveler advisory warnings are reason enough for rescheduling team matches. You must notify the opposing team and League office when rescheduling.

**SECTION III: SPORTSMANSHIP AND CONDUCT**

**REFUSAL TO DO BUSINESS WITH:**

The vast majority of players have a great time in the League and display true sportsmanship. We seek to promote those who personify the APA spirit. Every APA member has the right to be treated with respect and in a sportsmanlike manner, and members who display offensive behavior will not be tolerated.

At any time, at the sole discretion of the League Operators, Hudson APA can refuse to do business with any individual regardless of whether the individual's APA membership is in good standing. Most often, players who are unwelcome in the League will be those who are disruptive to the League, repeatedly complain about handicaps or who otherwise deride the League in public.

**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.

**SUSPENDED PLAYERS:**

**American Poolplayers Association of Hudson County will honor any suspensions from a neighboring APA area.**

## **SECTION IV: LEAGUE PLAYOFFS AND TOURNAMENTS**

### **PLAYOFFS:**

- 4-5 team divisions: First place team in the division will play the wildcard winner for a Tri-Cup spot.
- 6-7 team divisions: First place team in the division will earn an automatic Tri-Cup spot; Second place in the division will play the wildcard winner for a Tri-Cup spot.
- 8-16 team divisions: First place team in the division will earn an automatic Tri-Cup spot; Second place in the division will play the wildcard winner for a Tri-Cup spot; and Third place in the division will play the fourth place team for a third Tri-Cup spot.

### **PAST DUES:**

Players who owe past League fees will be ineligible to compete in any playoff match, Tri- Cup, or Gold Cup.

### **WILD CARD**

To be eligible for the Wild Card Draw, teams must be current with all APA fees and cannot have more than 5 forfeits.

### **PLAYOFF LOCATION**

When two teams from the same bar are scheduled to play home, the team who is highest seeded stays home and the other team travels to the opponent's bar. If the opponent's bar is unavailable, a neutral bar should be chosen. Neutral bars should be one that is currently playing in the League. If a neutral bar within the League is not available, any bar willing to allow you to play that night will be acceptable.

- a. If a Host Location has multiple tables, all tables will be utilized before considering the Host Location "unavailable" and moving the match to the lower seed's location. In the case where one table is primarily used for the regular weekly League matches, that table will be considered the 'home table' and given to the 1st place team's match. The alternate table will be used for the 2nd place team's match. In the event of a dispute, or in the event that neither table is considered the primary table for regular weekly play, the League Office will decide which match is played on which table. Please note that this decision will be discussed and finalized at the Wild Card Draw.
- b. If a playoff match is rescheduled, it will not change who is home and who is away.

**TRI-CUP:**

The Tri-Cup will be held after each session. The teams who win the divisional playoff will also advance to the Tri-Cup. If byes are necessary in the Tri-Cup, they will be assigned to teams at random draw.

- a. Teams advancing to the Tri-Cup will be guaranteed a payout provided no past dues are owed.
- b. Teams that do not show up for the Tri-Cup will forfeit any prizes awarded for that tournament. This includes, but is not limited to, prize money and qualifications to higher tournaments. Teams must show up ready to play and be able to field a minimum of 3 players.
- c. Any monies not paid out because of forfeits will be put into future events.

**GOLD CUP:**

The top finishing teams (based on team count) from the three Tri-Cups throughout the year (Summer, Fall, Spring), will advance to the Gold Cup. If byes are necessary in the Gold Cup, they will be assigned at random. The top finishing teams (based on team count) from the Gold Cup will qualify for the World Pool Championship in Las Vegas, which is run by the National Office in St. Louis.

**GOLD SLOTS:**

At least Six Gold Cup 8-Ball and at least two 9-Ball slots will be awarded in the Summer session, at least Six Gold Cup 8-Ball and at least two 9-Ball slots in the Fall session and at least Six Gold Cup 8-Ball and at least two 9-Ball slots in the Spring session. All gold slot teams will be taken from qualified teams making it to the Tri-Cup.

**TRAVEL ASSISTANCE POLICY:**

Teams advancing to Las Vegas will receive \$599 in travel assistance per player on the roster. Players will be required to book their own travel and submit their flight itinerary / receipt in order to receive travel assistance. Players not going on the trip will be required to return any travel assistance money.

**WORLD POOL/POOLPLAYER CHAMPIONSHIPS:**

Teams going to Las Vegas for any Championship (team / singles, doubles, etc.), are representing the Hudson County APA, and all players within it. They are expected to abide by the code of conduct and the dress code listed above. Players will not wear clothing of competing Leagues at this event. In addition, teams are required to show up for their matches and compete in the tournament. Teams taking the trip to Las Vegas that forfeiting their matches will forfeit their winnings and be responsible for returning all money paid for their trip and entry into the World Pool/Poolplayer Championships.