

North Cook County APA Local Bylaws

APPROVED
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Introduction

We would like to welcome you and your team to the American Pool Players Association!

This document explains the structure of the League at a Local Level and should be used in conjunction with the Official Team Manual on the APA Member Services App and poolplayers.com. These Local Bylaws have been created for the smooth and efficient operation of the League. After all, the APA's motto is: **Have Fun. Meet People. Play Pool.®**

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

Section 1: Local League Information

Age Requirements

You must be 18 years of age or older to compete in North Cook County APA, except in the Junior's Division.

Office Hours

Local League Office hours are Monday through Friday, 12pm-12am. (Please call your Division Rep after office hours; if necessary they will contact us.) 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.

You may also email.

Phone: 847-754-8409

Email: bklicka@apaleagues.com

Team Captain Responsibilities

The Team Captain is the administrator for the team. The Team Captain must have a phone and email address to allow for quick and effective communication with the League Office. The Team Captain's responsibilities and duties include:

- Collecting weekly fees and APA membership dues from the team.
- Submitting payments, forms and other information to the League Office in a timely manner.
- Distributing information from the League Office to all members of the team. This would include rule amendments, tournament announcements, and any other League business.
- Responsibility for the conduct and good sportsmanship of all team members during League play.
- Making sure that proper and accurate scorekeeping procedures are followed.
- Having team players at the scheduled match site on time.
- Returning team envelopes to the drop off location on time.

Division Representative Responsibilities

Division Representatives (Division Reps) are appointed by the League Operator. He or she is a person of integrity and is well respected by League members. Division Reps are your primary point of contact for questions about rules and other general inquiries about their division. They make sure that League information and notices are distributed and understood by their players. They are a spokesperson for their division and ensure that all concerns, queries and questions from the division are addressed. They carry a rule book on League nights and are available to answer any questions when necessary. The Division Rep will call the League Operator on a League night if deemed necessary. Your team captain and co-captain should have the Division reps phone number.

Website

Our website address is northcookcounty.apaleagues.com.

This website allows you to:

- a) Get the latest up to date information on Playoffs, tournaments or any other North Cook 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 and performance charts against all other skill levels in your last 30 matches

In addition, we also have a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/northcookcountypa where you can view and share pictures of tournaments, get updates about the League and chat with fellow APA members.

Please sign up for your Member Services Account and follow us on Facebook today and join our growing online community.

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 always made first online and through our email mailing list – don't miss out on valuable information! The website and email are the Local League Office's most efficient communication tools, helping to ensure that you get the most out of your experience and keeping 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 pertinent to the League.

Team Fees

Team Fees are \$40 per week regardless of the number of matches played, including forfeits and playoffs. If you are paying by check, please make your check payable to Klicka S Pool League. There will be a \$25 charge for any returned checks, plus loss of bonus points.

Team Envelopes

The team envelopes will be delivered to the approved Host Location pick up/ drop off. If you are playing at an approved pick up/ drop off, the folders will be there. If not, it is the visiting team's responsibility to pick up and drop off the folders at their pick up/ drop off location. Envelopes are due at the same Host Location immediately after the end of play. Team Captains are responsible for the pick-up and drop off of envelopes. While some teams will give another Team Captain their envelope to drop off, it is ultimately the team's envelope and their responsibility to insure it gets back to the League Operator via the appropriate drop spot.

Bonus Points

Bonus points will only be awarded 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
- Score sheet 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:** 3 Possible Bonus Points
- **9-Ball:** 10 Possible Bonus Points

As long as your finance and scoresheets are complete and correct, you will receive all of the bonus points, if something isn't correct, you will not receive any points. Remember, these are bonus points that are awarded at the discretion of the Local League Office. Once you have lost the bonus points we are unable to "give them back". If you know you forgot to pay, find the envelope in your car in the morning etc. call the Local League Office and let us know!

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 the opportunity to compete in tournaments. Teams/individuals with past dues will also be removed from random drawings (including the drawings for Las Vegas).

Bonus Points for Bye Weeks

Some divisions will have an odd number of teams, so one team each week will not have a match. In this instance, the team shall be given the following points for the week (these points include the bonus points a team would have received if all the paperwork was correct):

- **8-Ball:** 7 Bye Points + 3 Bonus Points
- **9-Ball:** 50 Bye Points + 10 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.

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 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 Local League Office will not be responsible for fees or monies that have not been paid by the Team Captain or other members designated by the team. 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 asked to replace their Team Captain with another, more responsible player.

Patches

There are no limits on the number of patches you can earn in a session. If you wish to receive a patch for your accomplishment, you must fill out the Patch Request line on the pay envelope and pay the 1.00 fee to the player's fund. Every year a patch winner will be drawn to receive a paid trip to the WPC as an observer. Patches will be awarded each time the player meets the criteria for earning a patch as long as the Patch Request line is completed and sent in to the League Office.

Patches available:

- **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.
- **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.

- Skunked: 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. No tournaments are applied.
- 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 (this patch is paid for by the LO) Please complete the Patch Request section of the pay envelope and mark on your score sheet in the appropriate section so your award does not go unrecognized. Patches are awarded the week after earned and will be in the team envelope.
- Zombie: (8-Ball Only) if your opponent is on the hill and you are able to come from behind and win the match you have come 'back from the dead'

Section 2: Local League Play

Forfeits

Both teams are responsible for the full weekly fees for any week in which a match or portion is forfeited. If a full team of five players fail to show for a match, the opposing team is awarded forfeit points. A full team forfeit will be worth:

- **8-Ball:** 10 Points + 3 Bonus Points
- **9-Ball:** 75 Points + 10 Bonus Points

Preventing Forfeits

(Player May Play Twice on One Night)

The Official Team Manual states **"YOU MAY ONLY PLAY ONCE** in a team match." However, to help prevent forfeits and for matches to be awarded on the table rather than by forfeit, the North Cook County APA has chosen to adopt the Double play/Replay Rule approved by the APA National Office. This rule allows for one player to play twice (we will call this a Double Play Player) on the same night if their team will not have five players present. Please note the following when using Double Play:

- A team that has enough players present is not allowed to use the Double Play Rule unless they cannot comply with the Team Skill Level Limit rule (23-Rule).
- A player may not be sent home and/or made unavailable so that a team may request a "Double Play" from their opponent. Attempts to take advantage of the Double Play Rule should be reported to the Local League Office.
- Teams must notify their opponent of the need to use/or potential need to use the Double Play Rule **prior to the start of the match**. The team must allow the double play; they cannot enforce a forfeit match. (With the exception of special circumstances when double play is not permitted such as tournaments).
- The opposing team gets to pick which player from the other team will play twice as long as it does not force that team to go over the Team Skill Level Limit rule (23-Rule). If the opponent does pick a player that puts a team over 23 they cannot call a violation of the 23-Rule.
- All players who have already played must be available as a choice for the "replay" match. The opposing team must decide who they are choosing to double play by the end of the first match.

- Both teams may utilize the Double Play Rule on the same night if necessary.

There is no limit on how many League nights a team can use the Double Play/ Replay Rule during the regular session based on the above criteria. This rule will **not be allowed in Playoffs, Tri-Cup Tournaments or the World Qualifier.**

Double Jeopardy Double Play: If a double jeopardy team declares they are using the double play option, the opposing team cannot pick **one** player to double play in both 8-Ball and 9-Ball. No one should have to play 4 matches in one evening.

Rescheduling Matches

On occasion, usually due to inclement weather, a match may need to be rescheduled. If you plan to reschedule a match, **you must notify the Local League Office.** Please use the following procedure:

- Contact the Team Captain of the team you plan to reschedule with and notify them of your intent to reschedule.
- If requested to do so, Team Captains must reschedule matches if the team has other pre-qualified League obligations such as a Championship 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.

Inclement Weather

The Local League Office will use school closings and state warnings to determine whether reschedules due to inclement weather will be granted. If you feel that weather conditions may interfere with your match, contact the Local League Office for additional instructions.

Teams in Default

Any team that does not have at least one player show up for a match (no show/forfeit) for two consecutive weeks will be deemed in default and will be dropped from the Division. Additionally, any team that has not paid their League fees for two consecutive weeks is in danger of being dropped from the Division. Teams will be notified and failure to contact the League Office and settle accounts will result in a team default.

Teams that default are still responsible for their team fees for the remainder of the session. The team fees will be divided up among team members, and players will be suspended from the League until their portion of the fees is paid. The Local League Office has the right to assign different portions of the outstanding fees to individual players as deemed necessary. 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 the week if they play and do not clear their past due.

Section 3: Sportsmanship and Conduct

Sportsmanship

It is expected that all teams will treat each other with mutual respect during a match. Sportsmanship is big part of playing in the APA. **This is a weekly night out for many people and a break from the regular work grind. This is not a money league, and any sharking, hustling or anything of that nature will not be tolerated. We are all here to have fun and a good time. Please don't spoil it for others!**

There is a fine line between cheering for your player and against your opponent. As a rule, cheer for your player's accomplishments and not the opponent's misfortunes. Individuals who are consistently deemed to not be displaying sportsmanship values may be subject to match forfeits, probation, suspension or termination of League and/or APA membership. It is fine to cheer for an 8-on-the-Break, but it is considered poor sportsmanship to cheer for the cue ball to scratch as it heads towards a pocket. When you are not playing, please sit, watch and enjoy the match. Let the two players get on with their own match. They will ask for your input if necessary. Sharking is not permitted, and repeated complaints may result in probation or suspension.

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.

Banned Players

If a Host Location has banned a player from entering their establishment, the team must play without them 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

North Cook County APA will honor any suspensions from all APA areas.

Section 4: League Playoffs and Tournaments

Session Playoffs

The Session Playoff structure is described below. The number of teams qualified each session depends on the size of the division (see table). As the North Cook County APA League grows, we will progress to Tri-Annals tournament in order to keep the number of teams at a viable count. At this time, there are 64 slots for teams at the 8-Ball World Qualifier and 32 slots for the 9-Ball World Qualifier this summer. That means even if we have 400 teams in the League, there are only 64 slots in 8-Ball and 32 slots in 9-Ball available. Teams will pay for their Playoff rounds.

NOTE: A team cannot forfeit more than three (3) individual matches within the last two (2) weeks of regular weekly play. Teams who do not adhere to this rule will forfeit eligibility into Playoffs.

Fall & Spring Session, Two Weeks of Playoffs

Number Of Teams In The Division (at the end of the session)	World Qualifier (WQ) Qualification Playoff Structure	Session Award Structure
<p><u>4-5</u></p> <p>One Team Qualifies For The WQ</p>	<p>1st Place vs Wildcard</p> <p>Winner Advances To WQ</p> <p>In a 4-team division, eligibility will not be passed to teams finishing directly behind an already qualified team in the Playoffs</p>	<p>Awards:</p> <p>Playoff Winner will receive the 1st Place Session trophies</p>
<p><u>6-11</u></p> <p>One Team Qualifies For The WQ</p>	<p>1st Place vs Wildcard 2nd Place vs 3rd Place</p> <p>Winner of each round 1 match will play in the Playoff Finals to determine who advances to the WQ</p>	<p>Awards:</p> <p>Playoff Winner will receive the 1st Place Session trophies</p>
<p><u>12-16</u></p> <p>Two Teams Qualify For The WQ</p>	<p>Division Point Leader advances directly to the WQ</p> <p>2nd Place vs Wildcard 3rd Place vs 4th Place</p> <p>Winner of each round 1 match will play in the Playoff Finals to determine who advances to the WQ</p>	<p>Awards:</p> <p>Playoff Winner will receive the 1st Place Session trophies</p>

Summer Session Only One Week Of Playoffs

Number Of Teams In The Division (at the end of the session)	World Qualifier (WQ) Qualification Playoff Structure	Session Award Structure
<p><u>4-5</u></p> <p>One Team Qualifies For The WQ</p>	<p>1st Place vs Wildcard</p> <p>Winner Advances To WQ</p> <p>In a 4-team division, eligibility will not be passed to teams finishing directly behind an already qualified team in the Playoffs</p>	<p>Awards:</p> <p>Playoff Winner will receive the 1st Place Session trophies</p>

<p><u>6-11</u></p> <p>Two Team Qualify For The WQ</p>	<p>1st Place vs Wildcard 2nd Place vs 3rd Place</p> <p>Winner of each Playoff match advances to the WQ</p>	<p>Awards:</p> <p>Playoff Winner will receive the 1st Place Session trophies</p>
<p><u>12-16</u></p> <p>Four Teams Qualify For The WQ</p>	<p>Division Point Leader advances directly to the WQ</p> <p>2nd Place vs Wildcard 3rd Place vs 5th Place 4th Place vs 6th Place</p> <p>Winner of each Playoff match advances to the WQ</p>	<p>Awards:</p> <p>Playoff Winner will receive the 1st Place Session trophies</p>

4-Team Divisions

When getting started, a new division may only have four teams to begin. This is normal but we expect to grow these divisions in order to make them more stable and give players a variety of opponents.

Four-team divisions will qualify ONE team per session, according to the standard Playoff procedure that is outlined in the grid above.

Trophies

End of session awards will be given at the End of Session Tournament to all teams that finish first place in points in their division, as well as the Playoff Champions. Each member of the team will receive a trophy. In addition, each division champion team will be presented with a team plaque at their Host Location so their hosts can share in their accomplishment.

World Qualifier

The World Qualifier is an annual tournament that takes place at the end of the League year in which the winning team(s) win travel and lodging to Las Vegas. They will also receive paid entry and the opportunity to represent North Cook County APA in the APA World Pool Championships.

*A maximum of 64 teams will participate in the 8-Ball WQ

*A maximum of 32 teams will participate in the 9-Ball WQ

**based on available space: less teams in the League means less slots will be available.*

Teams that Re-Qualify for a WQ slot will be the first teams eligible for a random draw into any Bye slots that occur on the WQ boards.

- Teams that qualify for the WQ must remain active in the North Cook County APA to retain their qualified status.
- All qualified teams must finish in the top half of their division in all subsequent sessions prior to the WQ or risk the loss of their qualified status.
- The Players Fund will be used for those teams advancing to the APA World Pool Championships.

If a team chooses not to go to this event, the slot and the Travel Assistance will be given to the team they last eliminated on their WQ board. No Rain Checks!

Players from teams that win the World Qualifier must maintain active status in the following Summer Session in North Cook County APA.

Team Eligibility

All teams must be active with at least 4 original members from the session that they qualified the team in to be eligible to participate in the WQ. Those members must have played every session since qualification on the same team to remain qualified.

Teams and Players That Join Late

- Teams that join an already active division past the cutoff time (which may vary depending on the session) are not eligible to be qualified to the World Qualifier for that session. These teams are still eligible to play in Playoffs and will receive trophies if they win.
- Adding a player past the specified cutoff week makes a team ineligible for WQ qualification for that session.
- Teams that join in the first few weeks will begin at the same number of points as the team currently in last place, less weekly bonus points.
- Please contact us when making changes after week 4 of any session to verify changes to your team's eligibility. **Note:** Any roster changes after week 4 of Spring Session makes your team ineligible for that pool year's WQ!

Rule Clarifications

- If you call a rules violation, please be able to cite the rule, and the page it is on to your opponent. Touching an object ball is not a foul. The opponent must replace the ball.
- The call goes to the shooter on a close/bad hit. If a watch was called the call goes to the watcher. If it is too close for the watcher to call, it goes back to the shooter.
- Taking your cue apart before the match is over is not a foul and it is not conceding the match.
- Breaking a cue over your knee or any other object is a sportsmanship violation with penalties to follow. Call me immediately if this occurs.
- Skill level 1's, 2's, 3's, and non-rated (first match in the APA - they show as a "0") players get 2 coaches. Everyone else gets one. A coach should take no more than one minute. If this is a repeat offense text me the issue and the team so I have a time stamp. Also note this on the scoresheet. A coach can confer with the team.
- Only the coach can come up to the table. If the team calls for a coach and the player refuses, it counts as a coach. If the player calls coach and the team refuses, it is NOT a coach. Any loud table talk that affects the shot the player makes (ex. "I wouldn't shoot that!") is a coach if it comes from the shooter's team. After the shot is made, IT DOES NOT count as a coach.
- Much like the previous issue is delay of game. An average turn takes 20 seconds, and a special shooting situation takes 45 second. See the Time Guidelines section of your team manual. If a team repeatedly violates this rule, it will lead to a sportsmanship violation.
- If you have a problem with the team, text me so I have a time, note it on your scoresheet, notify the opponent that it is a problem and play your game like the lady or gentleman you are. I will address the issue, and repeat offenders will face sportsmanship penalties.