



Logan County

Logan County APA

LOCAL BYLAWS

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You must be 18 years of age or older to compete in
Logan County APA.

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Logan County APA

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Introduction:

I 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 and to help clear up common issues that will allow you to focus on your game. 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 previous local bylaw documents are now null and void.

Section 1: Getting Started

Office Hours

League Office hours are Monday through Thursday 12:00pm-10:00pm. 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.

Phone: 217-671-1339

E-mail: doug.gellner@apaleagues.com

Team Captain Responsibilities:

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

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

Division Representative Responsibilities:

Division Representatives (Division Reps) are appointed by the League Operator. There is one Division Rep per division. He or she is a person that has played in the League for a long time, 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. Division Reps also sit on the Board of Governors. You will find your Division Rep's phone number on each scoresheet.

Board of Governors:

The Board of Governors consists of Division Reps, and the League Operator. The Board will act in accordance with approved APA guidelines and will advise on disciplinary actions regarding complaints received. The Board meets towards the end of every session to discuss any improvements, suggestions, or general comments about the League. The input from players is invaluable so please ensure your Division Rep is made aware of your feedback before the end of the session and they will bring these up at the meeting for review. It is essential that all players have a forum for their voice to be heard and to understand that the League takes the wishes of its members in the highest regard when making decisions or changes. After the Board convenes, the Division Rep informs their division of any conclusions that were reached.

Handicap Advisory Committee:

The Handicap Advisory Committee (HAC) will consist of mainly higher skilled players that the League Office has appointed. This committee will review any handicap related complaints that come about during the session. The identities of the HAC will not be made public so they can watch games inconspicuously.

Website:

Our website address is logan.apaleagues.com This website allows you to:

- a) View schedules, team rosters, standings and individual records for your division
- b) Print your scoresheets on-line.
- c) Get the latest up to date information on playoffs, tournaments or any other Logan County APA events
- d) Communicate with other members in the forum. You can use the forum to make suggestions on the League, recruit players, find a team yourself or just engage in general chat

Team standings will be posted on the website as soon as possible. They will generally be posted by Sunday for the preceding weeks play.

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

Please sign up for both of these today and join our growing on-line community.

Even if you don't sign up for the website, please make sure we have your e-mail address on file. All announcements are always made first on-line and through our e-mail mailing list – don't miss out on valuable information! The website and e-mail 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 \$35 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 Logan County APA. There will be a \$30 charge for any returned checks.

Team Envelopes:

The team envelopes will be delivered to each Host Location by 6:00 pm on Monday. The team envelopes will be picked up at each Host Location by 6:00 pm Friday.

Scoresheets:

The League will place great emphasis on proper scorekeeping. Be careful not to lose points for your team by submitting an incomplete scoresheet. Make sure the scoresheet is legible, has all appropriate areas completed and has the signature of both Team Captains

Past Due Procedure:

Any team that falls two weeks behind in paying their team fees will receive a FINAL NOTICE on their next scoresheet. Additionally, the Team Captain (& other players) may be marked ineligible to play.

- If the fees are not brought current by the next week, the team will be dropped from the League for non-payment.
- Teams that are habitually late may be asked to replace their Team Captain with another, more responsible player.

Abusive Language:

No abusive language directed at the League or the League Operator will be tolerated on the scoresheets. All concerns should be written up in a calm and professional manner. This will guarantee that your concern is looked at, documented and addressed. Abusive comments or complaints are considered unsportsmanlike and are likely to be ignored.

Patches:

There are no limits on the number of patches/pins you can earn in a session. Patches/pins will be awarded each time the player meets the criteria for earning a patch.

- 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.
- Clean Sweep: Winning all 5 matches 5-0.
- Mini-Slam: You make the 8 or 9 on break and have an 8 or 9 break and run.

Patches are awarded the week after earned and will be in the team envelope. Please mark clearly on your scoresheet that you earned a patch, so your award does not go unrecognized. If you don't receive your patch the week after you earned it, please write a note on the scoresheet so we can provide one next time.

Incentives:

From time to time, we will run incentives and promotions for new teams, new Team Captains, or new Host Locations. These could be in the form of team credits or APA apparel or merchandise. All incentives will be posted on-line as well as in the team envelopes.

Section 2: League Play**Adding New Teams:**

Occasionally, in order to fill a bye, the League Operator may add new teams to a division during the first six weeks of a session. If team make-ups are not possible, the new team will be issued points equal to one point (15 in 9-Ball) less than the last place team's total team points to that date.

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 – 8 points
- 9-Ball – 60 points

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

Rescheduling Matches:

On occasion, usually due to inclement weather, a match may need to be rescheduled. If you plan to reschedule a match, you and the opposing Team Captain must notify the 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 National Tournament.
- Requested reschedule must be made in a timely manner. Anything within 24 hours is heavily scrutinized and may be denied by League Office.
- Both teams must agree to the reschedule. They also must agree on a date and time for the makeup match, and it must be approved by the League Office.
- The home team must notify the Host Location of the reschedule.
- Rescheduled matches must be played within two weeks of the original scheduled match date. There will be no reschedules allowed the last two weeks of the session. Exceptions with special conditions may be made by the League Office.
- A team may not seek a reschedule more than twice a session. Exceptions for emergencies may be made by the League Office.

Inclement Weather:

Inclement weather is generally, but not limited to, snow or ice conditions. The League Office will use Lincoln Weather Center 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 League Operator for additional instructions.

Forfeits:

Arriving late is disrespectful to the waiting team. Their time, as well as yours, is valuable. If you think your team may be late for a match, try to contact the opposing Team Captain.

Unless otherwise specified, all League matches will begin promptly at 7PM on the scheduled night of play. Play will begin immediately even if only one player from a team is present and it is past 7PM. Matches may start even if one or both available players do not have scoresheets. However, the match must still be scored even if it is on a blank piece of paper. This information can be transferred when the player with the scoresheet arrives.

If no members are present (two members for each team playing to start the match within the 15 minute grace period, a full team forfeit will be called. The offending team will lose all points and still be responsible for their weekly fees.

After beginning the match, play must be continuous. Please be ready to play when your match is called and not use this time to go the bar, take a smoke break, or use the bathroom. Continuous play applies during an individual match too. You cannot agree with your opponent to take a smoke break during your match. You are holding up everyone else!

In the event of a full team forfeit or no-show, the team receiving the forfeit is required to call the Division Rep and notify them that the opposing team has not shown up. The Division Rep has to verify you have 5 players there and 15 minute grace period has expired.

Simultaneous Hit:

A simultaneous hit is considered a good hit. A watch must be asked for, if no watch was asked for it is the shooters final call.

Time Outs:

Players with a skill level of three (3) or below receive two time-outs per game. All other players (skill levels 4 and above) receive one time-out per game. Time-outs should not exceed two minutes.

EXCEPTION: Only one time-out per game will be allowed during Doubles Matches, Playoffs and WQ tournament play, regardless of skill level.

Any Physical action toward the table (other than the shooter), will be a time out. Unless a watch has been called for. No other players, besides the shooters, should be walking around and looking at the table, unless a time out has been called.

Matches Played:

In order for a player to participate in playoffs, Tri-Cups and World Qualifier tournament play they must have six (6) matches played with the team during the Spring Session. They must have (4) matches played with the team during Summer and Fall Sessions.

Repeat Player Process:

There is no longer a repeat player option. You may not repeat a player, if you do not have enough players, you must forfeit.

Teams in Default:

Any team that does not show up for a match 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 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. For example, jumping out of your chair during a match that you are watching to say a hit was bad or the 8-ball was not marked, will be deemed poor sportsmanship, and the player is liable to a suspension. 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.

The League office has set the following guidelines to handle verbal abuse, bad language (profanity), physical contact and other sportsmanship problems. A few examples are breaking cue sticks, throwing objects or sharking your opponent.

Note: These guidelines are the minimum suggested penalties and are not limited to these recommendations. Based upon the specific circumstance, the League Office has the option to impose an even stronger penalty. It is important that those ladies and gentlemen, who cannot act as such, adjust their behavior appropriately or risk being removed from the League.

Sportsmanship (continued):

Verbal abuse consists of name calling, threats, profanity or any other language that could be considered as harassment or that could cause embarrassment to other League members or non-members. Physical contact is the hostile physical contact between two players or player and non- member(s). This contact can be in the form of bumping, shoving, pushing or hitting.

Infraction	First Offense	Repeat Offenses
Profanity	Warning Letter	30 Day Suspension
Arguing Rules and Policies	Warning Letter	30 Day Suspension
Verbal Abuse	Warning Letter to a 30-60 day Suspension	60-90 Suspension
Threatening Remarks Threatening Behavior	Warning Letter to a 1-year Suspension	1 Year Suspension to a Permanent Suspension
Throwing Objects Breaking Objects	60-90 Day Suspension	1 Year Suspension to a Permanent Suspension
Physical Fighting	Suspension (length to be determined by due process) to a Termination of Membership by the American Poolplayers Association	
All Other Physical Contact	Suspension (length to be determined by due process) to a Termination of Membership by the American Poolplayers Association	

Please refer to the Official Team Manual or call your Division Representative for further clarification.

Refusal to Do Business With:

At any time, at the sole discretion of the League Operator and with qualified input from Division Reps, Logan County APA can refuse to do business with any individual. These individuals will not be suspended from the APA but will not be welcome in our League. This will typically be used for people who are disruptive to the League, constantly complain about handicaps or otherwise and deride the League in public.

The vast majority of players have a great time in the League and display true sportsmanship values. We have met some great people that personify the APA spirit, and we want to promote that. 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.

Banned Players:

If a Host Location has banned a player from entering their establishment, the team must play without him/her that evening. The League has no right to insist a Host Location allow a person in to their establishment for a League match. Logan County APA will honor any suspensions from a neighboring APA area.

Section 4: League Playoffs and League Tournament of Champions (World Qualifier)

Big Dog Award:

The team with the highest points from each night of play (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) will earn automatic eligibility for World Qualifier s. A total of 4 teams will earn this qualification.

Session Playoffs:

At the end of the regular session, the teams with the most points and a Wild Card team compete in playoffs. The winner of the playoffs will advance to the World Qualifier. A total of 4 teams will earn this qualification.

The Wild Card is a team drawn at random from all teams in the division. At the time of the Wild Card draw only teams with a representative at drawing will be eligible.

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

Playoffs will be scheduled on corresponding League nights. The next session will usually begin the following week.

Number of Teams in Division (at Week 6)	Playoff Structure
12 and above (5 teams qualify for WQ Tournament)	1st Place gets a direct entry into the World Qualifier Tournament Playoffs: 2nd Place vs Wild Card 3rd Place vs 4th Place 5 th Place vs 6 th Place 7 th Place vs 8 th Place

Number of Teams in Division (at Week 6)	Playoff Structure
6-11 (3 teams qualify for WQ Tournament)	1st Place gets a direct entry into EOS Tournament Playoffs: 2nd Place vs Wild Card 3rd Place vs 4th Place

Number of Teams in Division (at Week 6)	Playoff Structure
4-5 (1 team will qualify for WQ Tournament)	Playoffs: 1st Place vs Wild Card Winner goes to WQ

Session Playoff Exception:

Divisions with less than 6 teams will NOT receive automatic entry of the 1st place team into the End of Session Tournament (EOS).

Tri-Cup Tournament:

Play offs will take the place of Tri-Cup Tournaments.

World Qualifier (Formally LTC):

The World Qualifier is an annual tournament that takes place at the end of the League year in which the winning teams win travel assistance to Las Vegas and the opportunity to represent Logan County APA in the World Pool Championships.

If a team qualifies for the World Qualifier, they must meet the following criteria to maintain their eligibility:

- Teams must maintain World Qualifier eligibility in accordance with the Official Team Manual.
- Teams that qualify in the Summer Session must remain active and play in the Fall and Spring Sessions.
- Fall qualifying teams must remain active in the Spring and Summer Session.
- Spring qualifying teams must remain active in the Summer Session.
- Teams must be up to date with all League fees and memberships.

MVP Trophies:

One winner from each night and each skill level will receive a MVP T-shirt and entry to the end of the year MVP Tournament to be hosted before the World Qualifier. You will play at your current skill level or the level you qualified at the higher of the two.

Trophies will be awarded after the end of each session to all teams that qualify for the World Qualifier. Each member of the team will receive a trophy. Each team will also receive a team trophy that can be put on display at their Host Location to show off their accomplishments!

Feedback:

We welcome feedback on these bylaws, so please submit your feedback to **doug.gellner@apaleagues.com** and we may incorporate them into the next revision.

Good Luck and Happy Shooting!