

# BYLAWS

OF THE SAN DIEGO  
AMERICAN POOLPLAYERS ASSOCIATION



## San Diego

MAY 2018

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## PAGE 1

ARTICLE 1 – NAME  
ARTICLE 2 – PURPOSE  
ARTICLE 3 – MEMBERSHIP  
ARTICLE 4 – BOARD OF GOVERNORS

## PAGE 2

ARTICLE 5 – HANDICAP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HAC)  
ARTICLE 6 – CONTACT INFORMATION  
ARTICLE 7– TEAM CAPTAIN'S RESPONSIBILITIES

## PAGE 3

ARTICLE 7– TEAM CAPTAIN'S RESPONSIBILITIES (cont.)

## PAGE 4

ARTICLE 7– TEAM CAPTAIN'S RESPONSIBILITIES (cont.)

## PAGE 5

ARTICLE 7– TEAM CAPTAIN'S RESPONSIBILITIES (cont.)  
ARTICLE 8 – GENERAL  
AGE REQUIREMENTS  
FEES  
RETURNED CHECK POLICY

## PAGE 6

ARTICLE 8 – GENERAL (cont.)  
OFFICIAL START TIME  
23-RULE  
MATCH TIME GUIDELINES  
PLAYER MATCHUP  
ADDING PLAYERS

## PAGE 7

ARTICLE 8 – GENERAL (cont.)  
ADDING PLAYERS (cont.)  
MALE 1's AND 2's  
STARTING A NEW FORMAT  
MAKE-UP MATCHES  
BONUS POINTS  
BYES  
FORFEITS

## PAGE 8

ARTICLE 8 – GENERAL (cont.)  
FORFEITS (cont.)  
HOST LOCATION  
EXTRA LEAGUE MATERIALS  
SCORESHEETS  
TABLE SIZE  
CUE BALL  
CUE STICKS  
TABLE TIME  
TEAM DRINKS

## PAGE 9

ARTICLE 8 – GENERAL (cont.)  
TIME-OUTS  
COACH MARKS THE POCKET  
POCKET MARKERS  
JUMP SHOTS  
MASSE SHOTS  
ADDING INNINGS  
DISTURBING THE TABLE LAYOUT  
POCKETED BALLS  
CONCESSION OF THE GAME

## PAGE 10

ARTICLE 8 – GENERAL (cont.)  
PATCHES  
TROPHIES AND OTHER AWARDS  
DETERMINING MVP'S

## PAGE 11

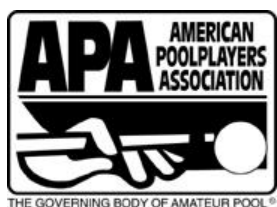
ARTICLE 8 – GENERAL (cont.)  
DETERMINING A PERFECT SESSION  
SESSION-ENDING PLAYOFFS  
TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES

## PAGE 12

ARTICLE 9 – QUALIFYING: WORLD POOL CHAMPIONSHIPS (WPC)  
THE BLAST  
CITY CHAMPIONSHIP

## PAGE 13

ARTICLE 10 – ETIQUETTE  
ARTICLE 11 – AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS



## **ARTICLE 1 – NAME**

The name of this organization will be the San Diego American Poolplayers Association, heretofore referred to as SDAPA.

## **ARTICLE 2 – PURPOSE**

The purpose of these Bylaws is to augment and clarify the rules in the Official Team Manual, not to contradict them. These Bylaws are in effect during sanctioned play in San Diego County. Bylaws vary in different regions of the country and it is the player's responsibility to know when these Bylaws are in effect and when they are not applicable.

## **ARTICLE 3 – MEMBERSHIP**

A Member shall be anyone with current APA membership, who is in good standing and resides and/or plays on a team in San Diego County. Good Standing is defined as a player whose fees and membership dues are current and who has no disciplinary limitations on his or her membership. All members are governed by the Rules and Regulations of the APA, the Official Team Manual and these Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE 4 – BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

The purpose of the Board of Governors is to help maintain the league, interpret and clarify the rules, settle disputes or protests, assist in sportsmanship rulings, and help promote the overall betterment of the League.

The Board of Governors (BOG) shall consist of player representatives and the League Operators. Any member of the SDAPA may nominate a member to serve as a BOG representative. A Nominee may only become an actual representative of the BOG if the League Operators approve the nomination and the existing BOG representatives vote the nominee in by majority. Preference will be given to nominees who are active members with a minimum of one-year membership. All Board members, whether currently serving or newly nominated, must be SDAPA members in good standing with the League. Every effort will be made to ensure that the Board consists of representatives from all geographical areas participating in the SDAPA. BOG members may represent more than one division.

The BOG will elect a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary to serve one-year terms. In the event that any of these elected officials cannot finish his or her term, an election will be conducted to appoint another BOG member to finish the term. There is no limit to the number of terms an official may serve.

The Board of Governors will handle the regular business of the organization as comes before it. Board meetings will be held on a quarterly basis. The Board may reschedule the regular Board meeting as conflicts occur due to event scheduling or other calendar considerations. All official decisions will be made by a vote of the quorum. A quorum is defined as the League Operator, Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson plus two additional voting members of the Board. If no quorum is present, matters that arise at a Board meeting and require immediate action will be handled by "Executive Privilege." Executive Privilege will consist of consenting votes of the League Operator and either the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson.

Participation is essential for the Board of Governors to be effective. Board members who cannot attend a scheduled Board meeting are required to contact the Chairperson. A less than 66% attendance record shall be grounds for consideration for dismissal from the Board. The Board shall handle dismissals.

## **ARTICLE 5 – HANDICAP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HAC)**

A Handicap Advisory Committee has been formed to ensure a player's assigned skill level is an accurate reflection of his/her ability. A Team Captain may submit the name of any player recommended for handicap review in writing to the HAC. Referrals may be made in the message center section of the scoresheet.

## **ARTICLE 6 – CONTACT INFORMATION**

League Office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. every day. The SDAPA League phone number is (619) 303-0183. Calls will be accepted outside of regular office hours for emergencies only. Emergencies might include physical or verbal altercations, protests, rulings or disputes during session ending playoffs, etc. Use your best judgment when deciding whether to call. Most questions can be answered by looking in the Official Team Manual, these Bylaws, the APA website at [www.poolplayers.com](http://www.poolplayers.com), the San Diego APA website at [sandiego.apaleagues.com](http://sandiego.apaleagues.com) and/or the Team Captain's Logs posted to the local website. In the event that answers cannot be found via these methods or when players or Host Location management have general questions about the League, a Representative of the BOG should be contacted, if possible, before contacting the League Office. To assist members with contacting their Representatives, e-mail addresses, as well as a list of divisions in which each Representative plays, plus a link to their division schedules can be found on the *Board of Governors* page of the SDAPA website at [sandiego.apaleagues.com](http://sandiego.apaleagues.com).

Make sure the League Office has your current address and telephone number. Players are kept up-to-date on all League information through the local League website at [sandiego.apaleagues.com](http://sandiego.apaleagues.com), the Team Captain's Log, which is distributed in the team envelopes, and by postings on the San Diego APA Facebook page. However, it is often necessary to contact players by phone or mail to distribute pertinent information. If the League Office cannot contact you, it is not responsible for any information you may have missed. To update personal information, members may make a note on the scoresheet, call or e-mail the League Office, or select *My Profile and Information* from the left menu of the local website at [sandiego.apaleagues.com](http://sandiego.apaleagues.com).

## **ARTICLE 7– TEAM CAPTAIN'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

Know the rules in the APA Official Team Manual and the SDAPA local Bylaws. Be responsible for the conduct of the team members and associates during League play.

Attend all Team Captains' meetings, or assign a player from the team to cover if the Captain is unable to attend.

Read all League information and materials (Team Captain's Log, tournament announcements, etc.) and keep all team members informed. Post information in the team's Host Location. Make sure all team members are aware of any schedule changes.

Record a list of phone numbers of all teammates. In the case of a schedule change, the League Operators will only notify the Team Captain. Make sure the L.O.'s have current information on all players on the roster.

Make sure the team members are present and ready to play at the appointed time, and that they know ahead of time where they will play next.

Make sure the scoresheet is complete, accurate and legible and that both teams have signed the scoresheet.

## PROCEDURE FOR PRINTING AND SUBMITTING SCORESHEETS:

Each team is asked to print its own score sheet each week by having a team member log in to his or her Online Member Services account at [members.poolplayers.com](https://members.poolplayers.com) and selecting "Scoresheets" from the top menu. [Visit the league website at [sandiego.apaleagues.com](https://sandiego.apaleagues.com) for instructions on claiming your online account.]

Once a team match is completed, each team is asked to email the completed score sheet (when submitting 9-Ball sheets, please submit BOTH sides) to [sdapa\\_office@cox.net](mailto:sdapa_office@cox.net) no later than the due date listed below. This can be accomplished either by taking a photo of the score sheet with your phone, by using a document scanning app on your phone or by using a scanning machine. Please make sure we can easily read your submitted score sheet or you may be asked to resubmit it or you may lose bonus points. We recommend using a phone scanning app or a home/office scanning machine and submitting your scoresheets in PDF format in order to ensure an acceptable quality image.

Recommended free scanning apps: Evernote Scannable (iPhone) CamScanner (Android)

If your team does not have any members that can print and/or email your score-sheets back to the League Office, please contact the League Office as soon as possible so that we can work with you on a solution.

## PAYMENT AND SCORE SHEET DUE DATES:

In order to ensure that league stats are updated in a timely fashion and in order for a team to earn its bonus points each week, it is necessary that teams submit their fees and neat, accurate score-sheets no later than 10:00am on the due date:

Sunday and Monday teams: due by 10:00 am the following Thursday

Tuesday teams: due by 10:00 am the following Friday

Wednesday and Thursday teams: due by 10:00 am the following Monday

Friday and Saturday teams: due by 10:00 am the following Wednesday

Collect weekly dues from team members and record such payments in the fees section of the scoresheet. See the section titled *BYES* under *ARTICLE 8 - GENERAL* for information about how to handle the paperwork when your team is scheduled for a bye.

## PAYMENT OPTIONS:

### 1. Online Payment Portal at [www.mysdapa.com](https://www.mysdapa.com)

Our Online Payment Portal provides a secure, quick and convenient way to pay weekly fees using your credit or debit card. Simply select an item to add to the shopping cart and check out using your Master Card, Visa or debit card.

You may pay for one or more teams at a time, and you may pay for one or more weeks at a time as well. Just be sure to include the appropriate team number(s) when filling out the order form and be sure your payment is made by the due date. Pre-paid weeks will show as a credit on your scoresheet.

[Please note that online payments of annual MEMBERSHIP dues can ONLY be made individually by signing in to the APA Online Member Services at <https://members.poolplayers.com>.

NEW MEMBERS that have already been added to a roster but have not yet paid a membership fee, have been assigned a membership number that they must use when paying their membership fees on the

APA Online Member Services website and should select "Returning Member - Join Again" NOT "New Member - Join Now." New members may call the League Office to verify this information before attempting to pay their membership fees online.

Additionally, credit/debit card payments will not be accepted for tournament entry fees.]

## 2. Money Transfer through your bank

Many banks offer free money transfer service. All you need in order to send a payment is an email address for the recipient. Check with your bank to find out if they offer this service.

If you choose to use this method, send payments to [sdapa\\_office@cox.net](mailto:sdapa_office@cox.net) and include your team name and team number.

## 3. Online Bill Pay through your bank

Most banks also offer free online bill pay services to their account holders, which allows the account holder to set up one-time and/or recurring bill payments. You simply set up San Diego APA as a Payee, decide whether to make a one-time payment or set up recurring payments, fill in the dollar amount, select which of your accounts to withdraw the payment(s) from and then select the date(s) you'd like to send the payment(s) out. If you do not bank with Union Bank of California, your bank will mail a check to our P.O. Box (you provide the address when you set up San Diego APA as a Payee). This may take as many as 5 business days, so you will need to schedule your payments accordingly so that they arrive by the due date. But, once you set up dates for recurring payments, you won't have to worry about dues being paid on time. You might occasionally have to make adjustments if the schedule changes and a bye is added, removed or is now on a different week.

If you choose this payment method, please use your team number if you are asked to provide an APA account # and please use the notes or memo option if available to provide your team name and to clarify what you are paying for just as you would use the message section of your score sheet.

If you are a Union Bank of California account holder, the process is the same, but the payment will be made electronically from your account to ours and will only take a day or two to process. There should be no fees associated with this payment method if you pay with a checking or savings account.

## 4. Free or low-cost payment app

There are several free or low-cost payment apps available that make it easy to make payments from your phone, tablet or desktop computer. Some examples include: Google Wallet, Pop Money, Venmo, PayPal (please send via Friends and Family) and Square Cash. Once you sign up for one, you simply send payments to our payment email address at [sdapa\\_office@cox.net](mailto:sdapa_office@cox.net) (If using Venmo, please send payments to Brian-Frankland). Please also note that tournament fees may not be paid using this method.

If you choose this method of payment, please include your team name and team number with your payment. Also, please check with the League Office first to make sure it is a form of payment that we accept.

**ONLY COMPLETE WEEKLY TEAM FEES MAY BE SUBMITTED USING METHODS 1 THRU 4. WE WILL NOT ACCEPT PARTIAL PAYMENTS FROM DIFFERENT MEMBERS OF THE TEAM. IN OTHER WORDS: ONE PERSON ON THE TEAM MUST MAKE THE FULL WEEKLY PAYMENT.**

## 5. Payment through the U.S. Postal System

Mail to: San Diego APA

P.O. Box 19848  
San Diego, CA 92159

Each team will be responsible for making sure payment is received in the League Office by the due date. Because the mail system often takes more time than is allotted to you for on-time submission of scoresheets and fees, it is highly recommended that the team carries a minimum one-week credit to ensure that the team receives its bonus points and does not become past due as a result of slow delivery by the Post Office.

If you choose this payment method, please use the message section of your score sheet to record what you are paying for and please include your 5-digit team number in the return address section on your return envelope.

Some in-house divisions will have their team packets delivered to the Host Location and the teams in those divisions will not be required to follow the above-outlined procedures for returning scoresheets and fees to the League Office. Instead, when the evening's match is complete, the Team Captains of these teams will place their scoresheets and fees in the team envelope provided and place the team envelope in the Host Location envelope. At no time should the Host Location envelope leave the premises of the Host Location without League Operator approval. Make sure the Host Location packet is secured for pick-up when the matches are complete. If you are unsure whether your in-house division falls into this category, please contact the League Office before your first night of play for the session.

## **ARTICLE 8 – GENERAL**

**AGE REQUIREMENTS.** Members must be at least 21 years of age in order to participate. Exception: Junior Leagues, when available, have no minimum age restriction except where local ordinances apply.

**FEES.** The current yearly membership fee is \$25.00. See the Official Team Manual for more information on membership fees. The weekly team fee will be \$50.00 per team, except during session-ending playoffs when the fee will be \$40.00 per team. The team is responsible for the total fee no matter how many team members play on a given night. There is no fee for a bye week. Coins will not be accepted as any part of a fee payment. The League Office is not responsible for cash lost in the mail, therefore it is recommended that payments sent in the mail be made by check or money order.

**RETURNED CHECK POLICY.** The first time a check is returned for insufficient funds, the League Office will assess the team a \$15.00 fee and the team's bonus point(s) will be revoked for the week the check was written and all subsequent weeks until the check and all resulting fees have been made good. The League Office will attempt to send the check through a second time. If a check is returned after the second attempt to collect, the team will be assessed an additional \$15.00 fee and will continue to be ineligible to receive bonus points until the check and all resulting fees have been made good. The League Office will not attempt to send any returned check through a third time. After a check has been returned twice, the check will be stapled to the team's scoresheet and the team will be required to make up the past due amount with cash, a money order or a check from another member with sufficient funds to cover it. If the team chooses the latter method and that check is returned, the team will be assessed an additional \$15.00 fee and will not be eligible to receive bonus points until the check and all resulting fees have been made good. The League Office will not accept personal checks from members who have had their checks returned for insufficient funds more than two times. Teams may not recover any bonus points lost due to returned checks.

**OFFICIAL START TIME.** The Official Start Time for the Monday-Friday leagues is 7 p.m. The Official Start Time for Saturday and Sunday Leagues is 5 p.m. The start time and the 15-minute rule should be adhered to and can only be changed if the opposing Team Captain has agreed. It is expected that a team will not call a forfeit until the opposing team is 15 minutes late and has not called. A team

consistently late is subject to sportsmanship penalties.

**23-RULE.** The skill level limit that your team can field in one night is 23, so your team cannot play 5 highly skilled players in one evening. If your team plays over the skill level limit, you will forfeit the entire team match regardless of whether scoresheets are signed. The L.O.'s will make no exceptions to this rule.

**MATCH TIME GUIDELINES.** In order to prevent matches from progressing beyond a reasonable amount of time, League Management has established the following match time guidelines. These guidelines will be strictly enforced at all Higher Level Tournaments and every effort must be made to adhere to these guidelines during regular weekly League play. Teams and/or members that continually ignore these guidelines are subject to sportsmanship penalties.

Time Guidelines for Individual Matches (8-Ball)		
Total Games Must Win	Match Time	Average Game
4-6	45 minutes	10 minutes
7-10	60 minutes	8 minutes

Example: If a player with a Games Must Win of 5 is matched up with a player with a Games Must Win of 3, the total of their handicaps is 8, and their match should not last any longer than 60 minutes.

Time Guidelines for Individual Matches (9-Ball)	
Each Individual Match	40-60 minutes
Additional Time Guidelines	
Each 8-Ball Team Match	4 hours
Each 9-Ball Team Match	3 hours
Each New Player Selection	2 minute limit
Each Coaching	1 minute limit
Average Shot	20 seconds
Special Shooting Situation	45 seconds (maximum)

**PLAYER MATCHUP.** The team selecting a player first cannot change the designated player after the opposing team has chosen its player. The ONLY exception is if the 23-Rule is going to be broken. The team selecting a player second may change the designated player until the lag occurs.

**ADDING PLAYERS.** Teams may add or drop players from the roster at any time during the session except when there is less than 4 weeks of League play left in the session (bye weeks do not count because players must be able to play at least 4 matches with the team). On rare occasions, the League Operators may grant a team permission to add a player to its roster with less than 4 weeks of play left in the session. Once a player is dropped from a roster, that player may not be added back to the same team's roster within the same session without League Operator approval. Teams that are eligible to participate in the City Championship World Qualifiers may not make any changes to their Spring session roster after the 4<sup>th</sup> week of the Spring session. After the 4<sup>th</sup> week of any session, an added player must pay the annual membership dues in order to be added to the roster. The team must include the payment with **that night's** fees. Membership fees may also be paid online at [members.poolplayers.com](http://members.poolplayers.com). If choosing to pay a membership online, it must be done before week 4. If joining after week 4, online membership fees must be paid **before** the player plays. Teams that play an unpaid player after the 4<sup>th</sup> week of the session **for that division** will become \$25.00 past due to cover that player's membership fees and will not be eligible to receive bonus points until the past



due is made up. Teams are responsible for making sure that any players added to the team are added at a skill level that reflects their true ability. Teams that add players at a significantly lower skill level than reflects the player's true ability may face penalties and/or disciplinary action including, but not limited to forfeiture of points, awards and tournament eligibility.

**MALE 1's AND 2's.** A new male player will not be allowed to drop to a skill level 2 in 8-Ball or a 1 in 9-Ball until he has played enough matches at the local level in that format to demonstrate that he should be a 2 in 8-Ball or a 1 in 9-Ball. The League Operator will make the determination. Once the player has established a record, the Team Captain may request a handicap review. If the request is approved, males will still NOT be allowed to participate as a skill level 2 in 8-Ball or a skill level 1 in 9-Ball in the City Championship World Qualifiers or APA World Pool Championships.

**STARTING A NEW FORMAT.** Skill levels of players with less than 10 matches played in one format (8-Ball or 9-Ball) are not transferred to another format. These players will be considered new when beginning a new format. If a player has 10 or more matches in one format, that player will begin a new format with the current skill level that they have established in the other format.

**MAKE-UP MATCHES.** 24-HOUR ADVANCE NOTICE TO THE LEAGUE OPERATORS IS REQUIRED ANY TIME A TEAM'S ROSTER IS NOT AVAILABLE TO PLAY. A make-up match may be scheduled if the opposing team agrees. All make-up matches must be completed within three weeks of the originally scheduled match date, and prior to the last two weeks of the session. In the event that a make-up match is scheduled, the Team Captain must notify the L.O.'s of the time and location at which the match is to take place. Only current rosters with current skill levels may be used in a make-up match. Fees must be paid regardless of whether the match is made up or not. The League Operators have sole authority to make exceptions in rare cases.

**BONUS POINTS.** Two bonus points for 8-Ball and 10 bonus points for 9-Ball will be awarded to each team that does its paperwork completely, neatly and accurately, and is not past due on any fees. In-house divisions that have their scoresheets delivered to the Host Location must make sure the team envelope and fees are placed in the Host Location envelope after each scheduled match and before the League Office picks up the Host Location envelope.

**BYES.** In the event that a bye is scheduled, follow the same procedure for printing the scoresheet and e-mailing it to the League Office. This helps us with our record keeping. Team Captains of in-house teams that have their scoresheets delivered to their Host Location will find their bye scoresheets in the Host Location envelope the week of the scheduled bye and are required to place the signed bye scoresheet in the team envelope and place it back in the Host Location envelope before League Management picks it up that week. The Team Captain (or designee) must properly distribute all information and materials provided with the scoresheet to all members of the team. Byes are worth 8 points for 8-Ball and 60 points for 9-Ball. Failure to complete the paperwork in the manner described above will result in the loss of the bonus point(s). There are no fees for a bye.

**FORFEITS.** In 8-Ball, each individual match forfeited is worth 2 points. In 9-Ball, each individual match forfeited is worth 15 points and should be scored 15-0. During playoffs and higher level tournaments, 8-Ball forfeits are worth 3 points and 9-Ball forfeits are worth 20 points for each individual match forfeited and should be scored 20-0. Full fees are due from each team regardless of how many matches are played on a given night. If a team forfeits all 5 matches at any time during the session, the entire roster will be considered disbanded beginning with the day of the forfeit, unless the League Operators conclude that there was a legitimate and compelling reason as to why the team failed to show up without advance notice. If a bye does not already exist in the division schedule, the opposing team will receive bye points and will not be responsible for paying weekly fees. If a bye already exists in the division schedule, a new schedule will be issued and make-up matches may be required. The forfeiting team will be suspended from play for the remainder of the session and the session following. This bylaw does not apply to a 5-match forfeit due to a 23-Rule violation.

**HOST LOCATION.** In the event a Host Location is closed or otherwise made unavailable, the home

team will choose the location where the match will take place. The home team must obtain the permission of that location's management and must notify the L.O.'s as soon as possible of the change in location. In the event the home team cannot decide where a match will be played, the L.O.'s will choose the location.

**EXTRA LEAGUE MATERIALS.** Extra League materials such as The APA Official Team Manual, these Bylaws, the 8-Ball/9-Ball rules booklet, scoresheets, membership applications and other League related materials may be downloaded from the Internet. To access these materials, select *Rules/Bylaws* from the top menu of the web site at [sandiego.apaleagues.com](http://sandiego.apaleagues.com).

**SCORESHEETS.** In situations where the innings do not accurately reflect the outcome of the game, scoresheets need to be marked in greater detail. For example, if the opponent takes his/her shot at the beginning of the game and accidentally kicks in the 8-Ball, your player's game will show a zero-inning win. When the match is scored, if there are no markings or notations it will be assumed that your player had a table run.

Use the following abbreviations for clarification:

Refer to matches as M1, M2, M3, M4, etc Refer to

games as G1, G2, etc

8-Ball on the break as 8B 8-

Ball out of turn as 8E

8-Ball and scratch as 8S

8-Ball in the wrong pocket as 8S Break and  
run as BR

So, for example in 8-Ball, your opponent makes an 8-Ball break in the first game of the night, in addition to marking the appropriate box on the scoresheet, a note would be made in the message center on the scoresheet: M1, G1, 8B. Using these abbreviations will save you a lot of time.

**TABLE SIZE.** Play will take place on the smallest of the tables designated by the Host Location management for League play, unless both Team Captains agree to play on a larger available table.

**CUE BALL.** Play will take place using the cue ball that accompanies the table designated by the Host Location management for League play, unless both Team Captains agree to use a different cue ball.

**CUE STICKS.** A player cannot play a match with anything other than the tipped end of a cue stick. The butt end of the cue, broomsticks, mops, etc., will not be allowed. However, in the event an unmovable obstacle prevents a player from being able to make a shot, the player will be allowed to use a shorter cue stick for that shot only. The player may break down his/her regular playing cue stick or use a shorter cue to shoot the obstructed shot using a normal (level) stroke. The player may not use the broken down stick for a jump shot.

**TABLE TIME.** If required to pay for table time, the two teams will split the cost of the tables evenly. Please respect the locations' equipment and house rules.

**TEAM DRINKS.** The APA does not require or encourage team drinks. If your location gives out team drinks, do not expect anyone else to do the same.

**TIME-OUTS.** Any form of asking for a time-out is considered a time-out. Examples of questions include, but are not limited to, "Do you have a question," "Do you need help," "Do you want to talk about it" or "Do you want a time-out." Time-outs are not over until the ball is shot. Coaching periods should not exceed one minute. During a time-out, the player and the coach may approach the table with the intent of looking at the shot and determining the best course of action. The coach may discuss

the shot with another player on the team at the sidelines, but only the coach and the player may approach the table. If, during a player's turn at the table, a coach or teammate walks or circles the table to get a better look at a shot, it will be considered a time-out if they stop at any pocket or use any other form of signaling to the shooter. Taking a time-out when one is not available is considered a sportsmanship violation and repeated attempts to do so should be reported to the League Office. Repeated failure to comply with any part of this Bylaw will result in sportsmanship penalties assessed by the League Operators and/or the BOG.

**COACH MARKS THE POCKET.** The player or the coach may mark the pocket for the 8-ball, however, if a coach marks the pocket, it will be considered a time-out.

**POCKET MARKERS.** To properly mark a pocket, a coaster or some other reasonable marker must be placed next to the pocket the 8-ball is intended to enter. Chalk, weapons and legal tender are not allowed. Legal tender is any paper or coin currency in circulation at the present time. Personal chalk holders may be used.

**JUMP SHOTS.** The APA rules allow jump shots if performed properly, but they must be performed with the cue used for the majority of shots in the game. To properly perform a jump shot, you must strike the top half of the cue ball with the butt of the cue elevated. Any jump shot attempted by hitting the bottom half of the cue ball, or by "scooping," the cue ball will be considered a ball-in-hand foul. Please check house rules before attempting jump shots as some host locations prohibit them

**MASSE SHOTS.** The APA rules allow masse shots. Please check house rules before attempting masse shots as some host locations prohibit them.

**ADDING INNINGS.** Any team found to be adding innings to its scoresheet, urging a player to lose a match, or padding safeties will have its entire roster moved up 1 skill level in addition to receiving sportsmanship violation penalties assessed by the Board of Governors. While comparing scores during or at the completion of a match, if it appears that the opposing team has consistently added innings, make a note on the scoresheet citing specific instances and provide details of any overheard statements related to the incident.

**DISTURBING THE TABLE LAYOUT.** If a player intentionally disturbs the natural layout of the game, it will be considered a sportsmanship violation leading to penalties at the LO's discretion which may include loss of game. Loss of game in 9-Ball means that the winning player is awarded all of the points left on the table.

**POCKETED BALLS.** The use of pocketed balls or any other object for the purpose of measuring, demonstrating or practicing shots is not allowed. A violation of this bylaw may result in sportsmanship penalties.

**CONCESSION OF THE GAME.** If a player is shooting, and his/her opponent breaks down his/her cue stick or makes any other show of concession of the game, this action may be considered a concession by the opponent. If the shooter continues shooting, then he/she has forgiven the opponent, and the game continues. The intent of this rule is to prevent a non-shooter from attempting to intimidate or distract the shooting player (sharking). Concession of the game includes, but is not limited to, breaking down the cue stick, approaching the table in preparation for the next game, and/or picking up the rack in preparation for the next game. Teams attempting to enforce this rule for any reason other than its intended purpose stated above will be subject to sportsmanship penalties.

**PATCHES.** Patches are awarded for 8-on-the-Breaks, 9-on-the-Breaks, 8-Ball and 9-Ball Break-and-Runs, MVP, skill level 7 (8-Ball) (once per year) and skill level 9 (9-Ball) (once per year). Grand Slam patches will be awarded to players, who in one session accomplish an 8-on-the-Break, 8-Ball Break-and-Run, 9-on-the-Break and 9-Ball Break-and-Run. Patches may be collected at the session's BLAST Tournament. Players may designate someone to pick up their patches for them if they are unable to do so themselves. At the end of each APA year, sportsmanship patches may be awarded to teams

that have earned recognition from their peers for displaying outstanding sportsmanship. To recognize a team, please use the Good Sportsmanship Nomination form found under the Contact and Feedback menu item on the sandiego.apaleagues.com website.

**TROPHIES AND OTHER AWARDS.** Trophies are awarded to MVP winners, division winners, first place finishers in the City Championship World Qualifiers, those who accomplish a perfect session and those who play their 500<sup>th</sup> and/or 1,000<sup>th</sup> match with the SDAPA. Plaques are awarded to session-ending Playoff winners. Division winners may also request a plaque for their Host Locations. Division winning teams and session-ending Playoff winning teams will receive a cash award to be determined based on available funds. First place finishing teams in the City Championship World Qualifiers are awarded entry into the APA World Pool Championships, lodging (double occupancy) for the team during the event and \$200.00 per qualified player for travel expenses. Teams with an odd number of members may be matched up with another San Diego team with an odd number of members to accommodate the double occupancy policy. Second place finishing teams in the City Championship World Qualifiers are awarded \$800. Third place finishing teams in the City Championship World Qualifiers are awarded \$400. In addition to a trophy and patch, MVP winners will also receive \$30 in APA Poolplayer Local Qualifier Tournament vouchers. In addition to a trophy, players who play their 500<sup>th</sup> match with the SDAPA will receive a certificate of achievement. In addition to a trophy, players who play their 1000<sup>th</sup> match with the SDAPA will receive a certificate, a "Property of the APA" t-shirt and a gift bag of pool related items. Members who are past due for any fees will have their past due amounts subtracted from any prize money won.

**DETERMINING MVP'S.** To be eligible for the MVP, a player must play in a minimum of 51% of a team's matches (bye weeks don't count) for the regular session. Players that go up more than 1 skill level within that session and win at the highest level will be ineligible to win the MVP. In each division, there will be an MVP for 3 different skill level tiers (2-3, 4-5 and 6-7 in 8-Ball and 1-3, 4-5 and 6-9 in 9-Ball). A player's skill level after the last regular session match they played has been processed will determine in which MVP tier the player is eligible. MVP's will be determined by the using the following equation to calculate a player's percentage of Points Available (PA):  $\text{Number of points earned} / \text{number of points available}$

Example 8-Ball: In every 8-Ball match, a player has 3 points available to win. If a player played 10 matches, they had 30 points available to win. If they won a total of 13 points in those 10 matches then the calculation is:  $13/30 = 0.43$  or 43% meaning that player won 43% of the points available (PA) to them during the session.

Example 9-Ball: In every 9-Ball match, a player has 20 points available to win. If a player played 10 matches, they had 200 points available to win. If they won a total of 162 points in those 10 matches then the calculation is:  $162/200 = 0.81$  or 81% meaning that player won 81% of the points available (PA) to them during the session.

The player with the highest percentage of PA in each tier in each division will earn the MVP award. Ties will be broken by total number of matches played with that team, session win % with that team, performance points with that team and lifetime win % in that order.

**DETERMINING A PERFECT SESSION.** In order to be eligible to receive a perfect session award for any division, a player must have played in at least 66% of the division's matches that session, must have played in one of the last two matches of the session in that division and must have no losses during that session in that division.

**SESSION-ENDING PLAYOFFS.** The session-ending playoffs will begin the week following the last week of regular session play. The total number of teams in the division **at the end** of the session determines whether there will be a division winner (division winners are exempt from participating in the session-ending playoffs) and in what finishing position teams will play in the session ending Playoffs. Refer to the following table for eligibility in your division:

# Teams in Division	Division Winner?	Teams In Session Ending Playoffs
4	No	1 (receives bye the first week), 2, & Wild Card
5	No	1, 2, 3 & Wild Card
6 – 11	Yes	2, 3, 4 & Wild Card
12 or More	Yes	Playoff #1: 2, 4, 6 & Wild Card Playoff #2: 3, 5, 7 & Wild Card

The League operators will conduct the seeding/Wild Card draw in the presence of at least one member of the BOG. Once the draw has been completed, the Playoff schedule will be posted on the SDAPA web site at [sandiego.apaleagues.com](http://sandiego.apaleagues.com). Those who do not have Internet access may call the League Office after the draw has been conducted to find out their team's playoff status. In the event that more playoff matches are scheduled at a Host Location than the location can accommodate, the home team(s) with the lowest number of points in the standings will be required to select a different Host Location for their Playoff match or play it at a different time. If played at a different time, the match must be completed within 2 days of the originally scheduled match.

**TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES.** In the event that teams are tied in standing at the end of a session, the tie-breaking procedures outlined in the Official Team Manual will be used to determine team standings for Playoffs. If more than two teams are tied, the tie-breaking procedures outlined in the Official Team Manual will be used to determine the top seed. Once the top seed is determined, the same procedure will be used to determine the standings of the remaining tied teams until all ties are broken. In the event that teams that tied did not meet during the session, each team's record will be compared against the highest finishing team that both teams faced during the session. The team that shows a better record will win the tiebreaker. In the event the teams are still tied, each team's record will be compared against the next highest finishing team that both teams faced during the session until one team shows a better record and thus wins the tiebreaker.

## **ARTICLE 9 – QUALIFYING FOR THE APA WORLD POOL CHAMPIONSHIPS (WPC)**

**THE BLAST (TRI-ANNUAL TOURNAMENTS).** The BLAST tournaments (also known as Tri-Annuals) are held at the end of each session and are considered the preliminary rounds of the City Championship World Qualifiers. Each session's BLAST tournament qualifies teams to participate in the final rounds of the City Championship World Qualifiers (see the section below titled City Championship World Qualifiers for information regarding this tournament). The Summer and Fall session 8-Ball and 9-Ball BLAST tournaments will qualify up to 21 teams each and the Spring session 8-Ball and 9-Ball

BLAST tournaments will qualify up to 22 teams each to participate in the City Championship World Qualifiers. In order to participate in a session-ending BLAST tournament, a team must win the division standings, win the session-ending Playoffs or be the highest finishing team in the division's entire session-ending Playoffs that is not already qualified for the City Championship World Qualifiers. If a team wins the division standings or Playoffs after already qualifying for the City Championship World Qualifiers, the team will be exempt from participating in the BLAST tournament at the end of that session. Members must have a minimum of 4 matches with the team during the session and must have been on the roster at the end of the session in order to be eligible to play in that session's BLAST tournament. In addition, by the end of the session, participants must have a minimum of 6 matches played in the appropriate format since joining the APA. The BLAST is a single elimination event. The League Operators will conduct a blind draw in the presence of at least one member of the BOG to determine match-ups. Except where noted in these Bylaws, the rules for the BLAST tournaments will be the same as all Higher Level Tournament rules as described in the Official Team Manual.

**CITY CHAMPIONSHIP WORLD QUALIFIERS.** The City Championship World Qualifiers take place once a year after the Spring Session is complete and are considered the final rounds of the World Qualifier tournaments. The winners of the 9-Ball BLAST tournaments, the winners of the 8-Ball BLAST tournaments and the Ladies Leagues' Division and Playoff winners from the appropriate League year will be entered into the City Championship World Qualifiers provided they retain their eligible status as defined in the Official Team Manual. The City Championship World Qualifiers qualify teams to participate in the APA World Pool Championship (see the Official Team Manual for more information regarding the APA World Pool Championship). The League area is granted a certain number of entries for the APA World Pool Championship based on the number of teams the League area has participating in each format. One tournament board per World Pool Championship entry will be run at the City Championship World Qualifiers. The League Operators will conduct a blind draw in the presence of at least two members of the BOG to determine board placements and match-ups. A player may participate with any team with which he/she is eligible (see the Official Team Manual for eligibility requirements). If a player is eligible on two teams that meet during the tournament, the player may elect not to play for either team during that match and advance with the team that wins, or he/she may choose to play with one of the two teams, but if that team loses, the player will not be allowed to advance with the team that wins that match. If a team that qualifies for the World Pool Championship cannot attend the World Pool Championship, then the team that finishes directly behind it in the City Championship World Qualifiers will be invited to participate in its place.

## **ARTICLE 10 – ETIQUETTE**

### **Refusal to Do Business**

At any time, at the sole discretion of the League Operator, San Diego 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.

Any member not representing the best interest of the SDAPA will be notified and may be disciplined if deemed necessary by the Board. This is a fun league and a few members will not be allowed to spoil League play for everyone else.

Please do not drink at the pool table. Please respect each location's equipment so management can maintain their tables at an acceptable level. Be friendly towards curious onlookers and explain to them how the League works. These people may want to join a team or put their own team together in the future. Help new teams get off to a good start by helping them learn to keep score, rotate players in and out, understand safeties, good hits, bad hits, fouls, etc.

Please refrain from trying to disrupt the player at the table. *Shooting Team* players should go to the table immediately when it is their turn, otherwise, the opponent may think the shooter is being coached. SITTING TEAM PLAYERS SHOULD BE AT LEAST 6 FEET AWAY FROM THE TABLE (SPACE PERMITTING) DURING THE OPPONENT'S TURN. Disrupting your opponent includes, but is not limited to standing in the player's view during a shot, walking up to the table while your opponent is shooting to pick up the chalk or remove your pocket marker, or any other behavior that could distract your opponent or be considered "sharking." Everyone deserves the same respect.

**READ THE APA OFFICIAL TEAM MANUAL AND KNOW WHAT THE RULES MEAN. IF YOU ARE UNCLEAR, ASK FOR AN EXPLANATION. DO NOT TELL SOMEONE ELSE THEY ARE WRONG IF YOU ARE NOT 100% SURE YOURSELF. TAKE YOUR OFFICIAL TEAM MANUAL AND THESE BYLAWS WITH YOU TO MATCHES SO YOU CAN REFER TO THEM IF NECESSARY. BOARD MEMBERS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE DURING WEEKLY LEAGUE PLAY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS. SEE ARTICLE 6 CONTACT INFORMATION IN THESE BYLAWS FOR INFORMATION ON CONTACTING BOARD MEMBERS.**

## **ARTICLE 11 – AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS**

Bylaws can be changed or amended by quorum vote.