

BIRMINGHAM APA's
SUMMER SESSION MEETING AGENDA

1. **Welcome** - Welcome and thank you all for attending our **Summer Session Meeting!** To move this along as quickly as possible, I would REALLY appreciate you all giving me your full attention. During this meeting, please show respect to us and to your fellow players by keeping the chit chat down to a minimum. Please remember you are here representing certain teams and it is your responsibility to listen and relay any important info and changes to your team members. Also, if you haven't ever gotten a Captain or Co-Captain Patch, then see Joyce afterwards to get yours.
2. **Meeting & Tournament Location Info** - Most of you have been here before but, for those of you who do not know, this is a non-smoking facility so please wait until the meeting is over to go outside and light up. Bumper's staff are here to make sure that you have a fun and enjoyable experience today so please don't forget to pay your tab and take care of them before you leave today.
3. **Captain/Co-Captain DJ Challenge** - As always, Joyce and I appreciate everyone who plays in our Birmingham APA League, especially our Captains and Co-Captains. As a past Captain for many years, I personally know from experience, how much work goes into running a team. **Please give it up for all our Team Captains and Co-Captains!** Following this meeting, we will have FREE tournament that we hold every Summer Session in appreciation for our Captains and Co-Captains. If there are no other current Captains and Co-Captains who want to enter, we may also have some slots available in this tourney. There is **NO** entry fee for any Captains & Co-Captains but anyone else wanting to play will pay only a \$10 entry fee. Depending on how many are signed up in a bracket, we add up to **\$1,200.00** cash which will be split between the SL brackets. This is in addition to the prizes that we give away. There is also a Bonus Cash Pot that you can enter for \$10.00 which is where you can really win some cash. A copy of the tourney rules was available when you signed in. If you want to play, see **Michael Glass** immediately following this meeting to see if there are any spots left in your SL bracket.
4. **Prize Drawing (2 Winners) - (TWO \$25 Bar Tabs)**
5. **Important Spring Meeting Highlights**
 - **APA Membership Cards** - Starting in January, APA Corporate will be going to all digital APA Membership Cards. Players will no longer have to worry about losing their cards or not receiving their cards in the mail due to bad addresses or the mailing services. All players will be able to view, print, or display their Membership Card directly from their personal profile in their online Member Services account. For those of you who didn't realize, your Membership Cards are already currently accessible from your account. If you are using the

BIRMINGHAM APA's
SUMMER SESSION MEETING AGENDA

old Member Services Site, go to your profile to access your Membership Card. If you are using the new APA Member Services site with our app, just click on the circle with your initials in the top right corner of your screen to access your Membership Card.

- **Award & Event Changes** - Starting this pool year, we have had some changes to some of our events and end-of session awards. Our session ending *Pack Leader Awards* will now be called our **MVP Awards**. Players can earn a special patch by finishing the session with the best PA% (Points Available) in their skill level tier in their division. We have some new patches that are being designed for our MVP program but we will still be rewarding our custom Pack Leader patches until we run out of them. We will still be rewarding our *Big Dog Awards* to players who finish the session with the best PA% in their entire division but, as we discussed in our Spring Session Meeting, we have discontinued League-wide awards until APA Corporate develops a better and fairer way to distinguish winners for this type of award.

Our *Top Gun Tournaments* are now called our **Top Shot Tournaments**. These tournaments are held each session and they give our players the opportunity to win cash and slots into our *APA Fall and Spring Singles Regionals*. Our *Local Team Championships (LTCs)*, aka *City Championships*, are now going to be called our **APA World Qualifiers (WQs)** to better recognize our Vegas events which now have teams competing from all over the world. We have also decided to start running our 8-Ball format BEFORE our 9-Ball format for our *Top Shot Tourneys* and *APA World Qualifiers*. This means that, starting in 2018, our *APA 8-Ball WQ* will be held the FIRST weekend in June BEFORE our *APA 9-Ball WQ* which will now be held the second weekend in June. Another exciting change to our *APA WQs* is that, starting in 2018, we are projected to have enough teams in our *Birmingham APA League* to earn one more Vegas slot in both 8-Ball and 9-Ball. This means that our *APA WQs* are going to be larger than ever before and we plan on sending a total of FIVE TEAMS, instead of four, in each format to compete and represent *Birmingham APA* in the *2018 APA World Pool Championships* in Las Vegas. I can't tell you how excited Joyce and I are for now being able to send more of our players to experience such an amazing event.

- **APA Singles Regionals** - We have even more exciting news for those of you who haven't heard yet. Starting this October, Birmingham APA will now start hosting our APA Singles Regionals right here in Birmingham. No more having to travel and compete in smoke filled pool halls. It will alternate between here, at *Bumpers Billiards*, and *Poppa G's Billiards*. Our Fall 8-Ball Regionals will be held at Poppa G's on the first Saturday in October and 9-Ball will

BIRMINGHAM APA's
SUMMER SESSION MEETING AGENDA

be at Bumpers on the second Saturday in October. How many of you are excited to have the Regionals right here in our League area? Even though we know it's going to mean more work for us, we feel that this will work out great for all of you who like to compete in our Singles programs as well as our teams.

- **New APA Member Service Site** - Hopefully, most of you have downloaded the new app that our APA Corporate has developed for both droid and iPhones. If you haven't, you may want to do so and become used to it. Just go to the *Google Play Store*, or *Itunes*, and search "Pool Leagues". You will see the app for download. They are still adding components and working out the bugs but the overall response from the players who are currently using it is extremely positive. How many of you use it now to check your stats? In the near future, the old Member Services Site will go away and the new site will be what is used throughout all our APA League areas.

6. **Birmingham APA Staff** - Some of you may know that this past May, we won League Operator Of The Year. A lot of this was due to how smoothly our League runs and our continued growth which is greatly attributed to our amazing support from all of you, our *Birmingham APA Family*. Joyce and I really appreciate you all. To keep up with this growth, we have made some changes in our office. **Erica Gurley** has started working with us to help Joyce with the processing all the scoresheets and inputting your scores. I know what some of you are thinking but NO, she can NOT be bribed to help lower your skill level. She is still working out her 90-day evaluation period with us but she is learning quick and we have high hopes that she will become a permanent part of our team in the future. Please give her a warm welcome!

Most of you know that **Michael Glass** also works for us. It's been almost 4 years, right Michael? He picks up and delivers packets, helps us run events and tourneys, and really does most anything we ask of him. He has been very helpful, reliable, and is a highly valued employee. What you may not know is that he has NOTHING to do with your skill level movement or the creation or the implementation of any of our League rules. His lack of involvement in these crucial areas of our *Birmingham APA League* is the reason he is allowed to continue playing in our League and plays as much as he does. I ask that everyone please remember this during League night and don't call him or interrupt him in the middle of his own League matches to answer your questions. If you can't find the answer to your question in your copy of your team manual or our local Bylaws, which are provided in each team packet, then call **ME**. That is what I am here for, **NOT** Michael Glass. If you have any problems, come to me and I will try to resolve it to the best of my ability. If you don't like my answers, then you are welcome to call our APA Corporate office any time that

BIRMINGHAM APA's
SUMMER SESSION MEETING AGENDA

you feel the need. I will be more than happy to give you the number. However, please understand that our APA Corporate supports all their League Operators. They will always contact us to get our input on any situation from our area that is brought to their attention. Michael's long-term goal is to purchase this *Birmingham APA League* from us when we get ready to retire in the future. That is our goal as well but that is years off. Until then, we consider Michael a close friend and an important part of our team but he is NOT authorized to answer all questions and solve League issues. As everyone does, he needs time away from his work so I would really appreciate if everyone would please respect that. With that said, if you are one of those constant bitchers and crybabies, please feel free to CALL HIM and not me.) 😊

7. **Prize Drawing (2 Winners) - (TWO APA Pitcher Of Goodies)**
8. **Papa John's APA Discount** - We have recently started working with **Papa John's Pizza** to give our *Birmingham APA* players a nice discount when you order online from them. Players who order online and use the code, **APA352**, will receive **30% OFF on their entire order**. Please remember to use this code to support our relationship with them. We are also planning a membership drive using box toppers to attract new players into our *Birmingham APA Family*. When you're craving pizza, please remember *Papa John's* and this awesome discount that you can use.
9. **Tipping Joyce** - I've been asked to bring up an issue that is causing the head of the office major headaches EVERY WEEK. These headaches are caused by the improper submission of your team fees. The correct amount of team fees for each of our Open 8-Ball and 9-Ball formats is \$40.00 per format. This means that, for Double Jeopardy teams, the correct amount to submit is \$80.00 per League match. Yes, I know that Host Locations pay part of your team fees but those fees come to us is a totally different issue which is going to be addressed very soon.

We work hard to keep your stats inputted as quickly as possible. However, the more teams we have in our League means the more processing that needs to be done. When teams don't submit the correct amount of team fees, we have to stop and make notes in your team's section of our APA database. This causes a big delay in completing the input. This has become such a big issue that APA Corporate is even working on an electronic payment option that large APA Leagues, such as ours, can implement to help solve this problem. It has gotten so out of hand that Joyce has put her foot down on this. If this continues, either we are going to have to count any credits as a loss of Bonus Points or Joyce is going to keep all extra monies submitted as tips. She said she will be happy to use her additional tip money to get her hair or nails done. If you think she's playing around, please feel free to come up and ask her. I double dog dare you. She's here all day.

BIRMINGHAM APA's
SUMMER SESSION MEETING AGENDA

10. Session Required Matches - We have been in discussion with several other APA League areas regarding how many matches players should play in each session to be eligible for their Division Playoffs. We all know that some NEW players' skill levels just aren't stabilized by the time they compete in their Division Playoffs and Tri-Cups. Some APA League areas have put into place rules that all players must have at least 10 or even 20 matches before they are eligible for Playoffs or any High Level Tourneys. Although we feel that the 10 or 20 match requirement is a little excessive, we understand the need for fairness in competition. We have tried to address this issue in our area with our past rule which states that players with under 20 life-time matches MUST play at least 6 times during the session to be eligible for Playoffs. The problem we keep having with this rule every session is that Team Captains don't always know how many life-time matches a player may have. Every session, I get multiple questions regarding how many matches a player needs to be eligible. We have determined that this rule is just too confusing.

Another issue that we, and other areas, have experienced are teams who play only a certain line up each time to earn their points. This has caused many complaints from players who don't feel that they are getting to play enough to get their money's worth for being an APA member. After discussing these issues in some length with other League Operators and APA Corporate, we have decided on a rule change that should help simplify and address this issue. This has been approved by our APA Corporate and will go into effect in your Fall Session. You will find this in your new set of local Bylaws that will be in your Fall Session team packets. Regarding match requirements, for a player to be eligible for your Playoffs:

- ALL PLAYERS must have played at least 6 MATCHES on their team during that session before Playoffs. If a division schedule has LESS THAN 13 WEEKS in it, players need only have played at least 4 MATCHES on their team during that session. All required matches played MUST always be in the same format, 8-Ball and/or 9-Ball, of the Playoffs in which their team gets qualified to compete in.
- ALL BRAND-NEW APA PLAYERS must have played at least 6 MATCHES on their team during that session before Playoffs. It does NOT matter if a division schedule has less than 13 weeks. All BRAND-NEW APA players must have played at least 6 matches in that format to be eligible for their Division Playoffs.

Since it is easy to see how many weeks are in your session, this will make it much easier for Team Captains to make sure each player gets their required matches. This will also allow each player on your roster to participate more and feel more a part of your team. We have done the math and this will help solve these issues. Has anyone have any questions regarding this?

BIRMINGHAM APA's
SUMMER SESSION MEETING AGENDA

- 11. Birmingham APA Family Memorial** - The older we all get, the more family and friends we lose to time, accidents, and illness. Since our *Birmingham APA League* is one big family, dysfunctional or not, we would like to create a special place to remember all our past APA members who have left us. We have been considering creating a special APA Memorial Group, page, or just a dedicated photo album where we can post pictures of *Birmingham APA* members who have passed on to a better place. Would you please raise your hand if you feel that this would be a good idea? Players can then either upload photos or either send them to us to upload to that dedicated spot. We would probably note their birthdate to when they pass as well as how long they were a *Birmingham APA* member. If anyone has any ideas on the best way to do this or would like to help us with this, we would appreciate your input and assistance. If you are interested in helping with this, please give your name and contact info to Joyce and I will contact you when we return from Vegas and our Fall Session has started. We would like to get this up and start obtaining photos before the end of the year.
- 12. Q & A** - Anyone have any questions?
- 13. Meeting Ends** - We are about to get things ready for our crazy fun **Double Jeopardy Challenge**. Thank you all for coming today and for being part of our **Birmingham APA League!**
- 14. Prize Drawing (2 Winners) - (TWO \$50.00 Bills)**