

FALL SESSION MEETING NOTES

- 1. Welcome** – Welcome and thank you for attending our **Fall Session Meeting!** As usual, I would REALLY appreciate you all giving me your full attention. Please show respect during this meeting by keeping the chit chat down to a minimum. Remember that you are here representing certain teams and it is your responsibility to listen and relay any important info and changes to your team members.

We always like to start off by getting a round of applause for all our Team Captains and Co-Captains so give it up! Running a team is not always easy and our Team Leaders don't always get the credit they deserve. If any Team Captains and Co-Captains have never gotten a Captain or Co-Captain Patch, please see Joyce after this meeting to get one.

- 2. Meeting & Tournament Location Info** – 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. **Host Location 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. Prize Drawing (2 Winners) – (TWO Bar Tabs)**

- 4. Team Captain Preliminaries** – Our second ***APA Team Captain Preliminaries (TCPs)*** will be held after this meeting. These TCPs are the only way for our APA Team Captains to get eligible for our ***Team Captain Vegas Qualifier (TC-VQ)*** which will be held next May. Our Vegas Qualifier Champions will then advance to compete in our ***APA Team Captain Championships*** which will be held in Las Vegas the following August. To be eligible, for our TC-VQ in May:

- a.** You MUST have been a Team Captain in at least TWO of the sessions this pool year. The sessions which count are this last Summer Session, this current Fall Session, and our upcoming Spring Session.
- b.** Eligible Team Captains MUST compete in at least TWO of the ***Team Captain Preliminaries*** held during this pool year. If you missed the Summer Session Preliminary, you MUST compete today and in our Spring Session TCP.

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Qualifying points will be earned at each TCP for every team competing. After each of the three TCPs are completed, the top SIX point leaders will advance to our *Team Captain Vegas Qualifier*, as well as TWO Wildcard teams. More details can be found for our Preliminaries and Vegas Playoff in our Rules & Guidelines for both events. If you want to play on a Team Captain team or need to register your team to play, please see **Michael Glass** after this meeting.

5. **I Beat The League Operator Patch** – Our Session Meetings are always the best time to play for one of the favorite *I Beat The League Operator Patches*. We have a sign-up list up here for those of you who are feeling LUCKY. After this meeting, we will draw out six players from the list. Three of the six will play Joyce, who is a SL 2, in a 9-Ball APA race. The other three will play me, a SL 6, in an 8-Ball race. We also have new IBLO patches with a new design so even those who have gotten LUCKY before can have a chance to win the new patch. I guess we will have to wait and see who has brought their game today.
6. **World Games Billiards Presentation** – As most of you probably know, there will be a Billiards event at the 2022 World Games which will be held next July here in Birmingham. With us today, we have our very own **Lacy Shannon** (give everyone a wave, Shannon), who is assisting with the upcoming World Games, and her associate, **Carly Woods**. Carly is the *Bruno Event Team Volunteer Coordinator* for the World Games. She has joined us today to provide everyone with some info regarding the Billiards event and how you may be able to participate in this exciting event. Please give a warm welcome and your attention to Carly. (Give Carly the microphone.)

(After the presentation) Please show Carly and Lacy some love for coming today and sharing the exciting news about the upcoming World Games. Anyone who may be interested in being a part of this amazing event should see Carly after the meeting.
7. **Prize Drawing (2 Winners) – (World Games Prizes _____)**

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8. Important Summer Meeting Highlights

a. 2021 APA Vegas Championships – As most of you know, a few months ago, the APA hosted our largest pool tournaments they have ever held and it's doubtful that this year's record attendance will ever be broken again. Here are some of the numbers: 1,926 teams, 14,686 participants, 39 exhibitors, 48 states and 2 countries represented. It was an amazing event with two years' worth of teams and players competing in our annual *APA Poolplayers Championships* and *APA World Pool Championships*. Was an event this large perfect? Of course NOT, but who really cares? It was VEGAS BABY and all the POOL you could ask for! Of course, anyone can tell you that our APA Vegas events are always a BIG time and, once you attend it, you can't wait to get back there again.

b. Session Match Requirements – In our last meeting, we made everyone aware of the new guidelines for required matches needed in each session:

- If there are 13 weeks or LESS in your Division Schedule, only FOUR matches are required to be played in each format (8-Ball and/or 9-Ball) with your specific team.
- If there are 14 weeks or MORE in your Division Schedule, at least SIX matches are required to be played in each format (8-Ball and/or 9-Ball) with your specific team.
- If your team has a "New" player with under 20 lifetime matches in a specific format, they **MUST** play at least SIX matches in that format (8-Ball and/or 9-Ball) with your specific team, no matter how many weeks are in the Division Schedule.
- Having a BYE in your Division Schedule does NOT change any of these eligibility match requirements.

c. APA App For Division Playoffs – During the last meeting, we also discussed that we will no longer be sending emails out regarding who made your Division

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Playoffs. Making sure your APA App notifications are turned on is very important because that is how you will find out when the Division Playoff schedules are updated, if your team made it, and who you're playing. To make sure your notifications are turned on, click on the "Bell" next to your initials in the top right corner of your main screen.

9. APA Membership Dues Renewal – All APA Membership Dues are up for renewal every January. All current members have been able to renew their Membership Dues since the first of October. After Dec 5th, all brand new members will also be able to pay their dues and have it count toward the upcoming year. Please make sure all your teammates know that they should go ahead and ahead and renew their APA dues in their APA App. It's better to do so now instead of waiting until the last minute in January. You have to be a paid APA member for your scores to be inputted and count toward your team. Anyone who plays their first match in January, but who is NOT a paid APA member, will end up not only forfeiting their match but will also cause their team to not earn their Bonus Points. Why wait to renew your dues then forget to pay it and cost your team points?

10. More Birmingham APA Teams In Vegas – We have always told everyone that, once we have reached and maintained our goal of at least 500 regular open teams in two consecutive sessions, we would send one more team to our *APA Vegas Championships* in each format and one more team to our *APA Southeast Challenges* in each format. We are excited to announce that in this current Fall Session, we had a total of 505 open teams. This means that, if we have at least 500 regular open teams this coming Spring Session, we will be increasing the number of teams we send to those events from five teams in each format to SIX teams in each format. This is exciting because I remember a time when we only sent ONE team of each to Vegas. Sending six teams in each format gives everyone even better odds and more opportunity to compete in Vegas.

Of course, we still need to have 500+ teams this next session to make this happen and we always have some teams drop out from one session to the next. However,

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even though we always lose teams, in every session for the past 5 years we have still grown way more teams than we have lost. Although, if we don't have 500+ teams, it won't be the end of the world because we will still be sending five teams in each format to Vegas and our SE Challenges, but wouldn't it be great to have ONE MORE VEGAS SLOT in 8-Ball and 9-Ball? If you have been considering starting another team, NOW would be a great time to do it so we can be sure to have enough teams to maintain our 500+ team count.

11. Prize Drawing (2 Winners) – (TWO APA Fleece Blankets)

12. NO MORE Scoresheet Oopsies – Everyone should know that your teams earn Bonus Points each week for completing your scoresheets correctly and for not having any past due monies owed by your team. In the past, we have given each team an “Oopsie” (like a mulligan in golf) on their first scoresheet mistake and still awarded the team their Bonus Points. However, with the continued growth of our League, we have found that “Oopsies” are becoming more difficult to keep track of for every team. Due to this difficulty and starting this upcoming Spring Session, we will NO LONGER be giving “Oopsies”.

Instead, we will be giving each team a TWO WEEK grace period for scoresheet Bonus Points during the first two weeks of each session. This should give all teams a two week period to make sure their players know how to keep score and complete their scoresheet properly. We will still send out our usual Bonus Point Instruction email and post links to the email in our APA App, Facebook page, and Facebook groups. The Bonus Point email will provide links to sample scoresheets which will note all the critical sections that must be filled in to earn your Bonus Points. However, there will be NO grace period for unpaid team fees or unpaid Membership Dues. It's one thing to have players who may not know how to keep score correctly, however, we're all adults and everyone should be able to count money and submit it correctly.

13. Division Numbering To Change – When we took over this Birmingham APA League, we inherited various operating procedures that were set in place by the previous League Operators. Their procedures were really designed for their particular

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circumstances at that time. However, things have changed quite a bit since then. Larger APA Host Locations with more pool tables have created more convenient places for our players to compete. A lot of the old Traveling divisions transitioned into In-House divisions where players wouldn't have to drive very far from their homes. These changes caused some of the division numbering not to be very consistent nor even make much sense. We feel that it's time to restructure the numbering system of our Birmingham APA League so players can more easily recognize where a specific division is playing out, what day that division plays on, and what format the division is.

With this in mind, we are currently developing a better numbering system to label our various divisions. Our new system will be presented at our 2022 Spring Session Meeting and will be scheduled to be put in place for our 2022 Summer Session.

14. Roster Changes Deadline – In the past, we have been very lenient with teams making roster changes throughout the session. We have always wanted anyone to have the opportunity to join and experience our APA League whenever they felt the desire to. Of course, this allowance was supposed to be within reason. However, we have noticed lately that many teams have been taking advantage of our leniency and are just wanting to add players for various unnecessary reasons. This isn't fair to the other teams or the existing players who are trying to get their matches in and even may be striving for our MVP or Big Dog awards.

Because of this overuse of roster changes, we have decided to provide a better and fairer guideline for team roster changes. Starting this upcoming 2022 Spring Session, teams will NOT be able to make any roster changes after the **7th week** of the session. The exception to this guideline is when a team can no longer meet the 23 pt rule with their existing roster. This guideline will apply to ALL sessions and schedules, but Birmingham APA League Management will reserve the right to consider making an exception under extreme circumstances. Please note that this new roster guideline will NOT supersede our APA Corporate rule regarding the fact that all APA WQ qualified teams rosters are locked after the 4th week of our Spring Session.

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15. Q & A – Everything we covered today, including any attachments given out, will be available in PDF format on our *Birmingham APA* website in the left menu under “Captains Corner/Session Meetings”. Before you leave, please don't forget to pay your bar tab, and take care of Poppa's staff. Does anyone have any final questions about anything discussed today in this meeting or any other APA subject?

16. Meeting Ends – As most of you know, we always have one more drawing at the end of each meeting for two \$50.00 Bills. Afterwards, we will start getting ready for our *Team Captain Preliminary*. Please make sure that you see Michael Glass immediately after the meeting ends to get your team registered. We will also be drawing to see which 6 players will get the chance to try and win the most elusive of all patches, the *I Beat The League Operator Patch*.

Joyce and I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and that 2022 is a great year for each and every one of you. We look forward to seeing you all in our Spring Session which starts the day after New Year's day. Thank you all for coming today and for being part of our *Birmingham APA League*! Now let's see who can win some last minute CASH!

17. Prize Drawing (2 Winners) – (TWO \$50.00 Bills)