



The USBA Newsletter
3-Cushion Billiard News

www.USBA.net

Would you like to write an article or submit a shot?
 email articles to:
 jimshovak@usba.net or
 you can mail to
 Jim Shovak/USBA President
 58 Hawthorne Ave.
 East Islip, NY 11730

USBA Officers

President

Jim Shovak
 East Islip, NY
 516-238-6193

Secretary

Tom Paley
 Fenton, MO
 636-861-3437

Treasurer

Merrill Hughes
 Huntington Station, NY
 631-338-9698

Ricardo Carranco
 Los Angeles, CA
 323-490-8075

Victor Cuzzi
 Miami, FL
 786-366-7293

Pedro Piedrabuena
 San Diego, CA
 213-458-3950

Mazin Shooni
 Nashua, NH
 248-910-4466

James Watson
 Bronx, NY
 347 255-4330



L to R, Miguel Torres , Fred Lamers, Mickey Campbell, Lupe Cruz, Nam Cho, Brian Haff, George Theobald, George Ashby

On May 29th Twenty-five 3-Cushion Billiard Players from seven states converged on Rushville, Illinois to do battle in host George Ashby's 3-day event. Players came from the following states: New York (1), Iowa (2), Illinois (11), Minnesota (4), Washington State (1) Wisconsin (5) Florida (1) Rushville is typically a sleepy little town in west central Illinois but is fast becoming a hotbed for Three Cushion Billiards in the Midwest.

The 25 players were divided into one nine-man and two eight-man round-robin flights by a raffle-style draw. The top two finishers from each Flight plus the top two 3rd place contestants advance to the eight-man round-robin finals.

Flight A

Miquel Torres (NY), Nam Cho (WI) & George Theobald (IL) played well to the finals.

Flight B

Undefeated Host George Ashby (IL), Lupe Cruz (IA) and Mickey Campbell (MN) also worked their way into the finals. Fourth Place finisher Ellis Lawrence (FL) missed the finals by 4 points but for his 6-point run Ellis did collect \$275.00 for High-Run Out of the Money.

Flight C

Rising star and future superstar Brian Haff (IL) went undefeated and Fred Lamers (MN), who suffered his only loss to Haff, placed 2nd in the Flight to round out the Finals flight.

A total prize fund of \$5,825.00 was generated via entry fees and cash and merchandise donations.

May 2015 Prize Breakdown

1st:	\$1,200.00	Miquel Torres
2nd:	\$1,000.00	Lupe Cruz
3rd:	\$ 900.00	Brian Haff
4th:	\$ 725.00	Fred Lamers
5th:	\$ 580.00	Nam Cho
6th:	\$ 435.00	George Ashby
7th:	\$ 290.00	George Theobald
8th:	\$ 145.00	Mickey Campbell
High Run - Preliminaries	\$ 275.00	Ellis Lawrence - 6
High Run - Finals	\$ 275.00	George Ashby - 11
	\$5,825.00	

Rushville Illinois
Spring 2015 Event

FINALS	TORRES	ASHBY	HAFF	CHO	CRUZ	LAMERS	THEOBALD	CAMPBELL	WIN/LOSS	TOTAL POINTS	TOTAL INNINGS	GRAND AVERAGE	HIGH RUN	BEST GAME	FINAL RANKING
MIGUEL TORRES	15	25	25	27	25	25	25	25	7	175	171	1.023	10	1.667	1
GEORGE ASHBY	12	25	24	4	22	25	25	25	3	137	192	0.714	11	1.100	6
BRIAN HAFF	24	22	25	17	25	25	25	25	4	163	170	0.959	7	1.316	3
NAM CHO	16	25	7	25	17	25	25	25	3	139	237	0.586	8	0.833	5
LUPE CRUZ	13	25	25	17	25	25	25	25	2	155	154	1.006	9	1.563	2
FRED LAMERS	16	25	17	25	15	25	25	25	4	148	188	0.787	8	1.250	4
GEORGE THEOBALD	15	17	11	25	8	14	23	23	6	113	253	0.447	5	0.517	7
MICKY CAMPBELL	5	22	6	9	7	16	25	25	1	90	236	0.381	4	0.440	8
Points Against	101	161	116	150	101	144	174	173	TOURNAMENT AVERAGE:			0.700			

President's Desk:

The Board has been trying to get some important items accomplished. First, we are trying to set up some formulas for rooms to have incentive to hold more USBA Tournaments. Second, we are trying to set up some Championship Tournaments at the end of the year for "C" and "B" players. In the near future, we plan to hold ones for Beginners, C+, B+ and A players (.850-.999 average). We also may hold a Handicap Championship as well as start a USBA League.



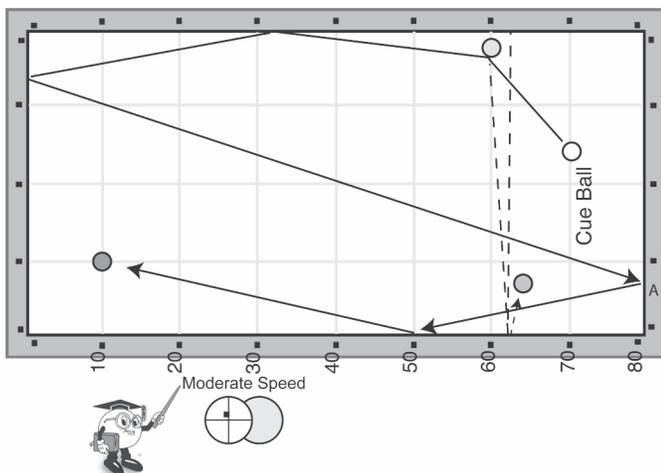
Third, we are creating a completely new website from scratch. Fourth, our intention is to integrate a custom program into the website allowing tournament directors to use the program for running tournaments. The tournament director will tell the program the amount of players, the amount of available time for the tournament, the format and the number of available tables and the program will automatically create a schedule of matches and the round robin spreadsheets (results tables). The tournament results will be entered into the spreadsheets as the tournament is in process and all that information will be automatically uploaded into the website database. The monthly rankings will be calculated automatically every month and on time. Also, a Player Rating System will be set up in the program (different from Rankings). This type of program will not be cheap, but it is a necessity if we are to keep track of players' performances, ratings and averages properly and avail ourselves the opportunity to run fair and accurate Championship Tournaments. Boy, there's so much to do if we want to grow!

Shot Selection to Score

By Phil Panzera
Contributing Writer

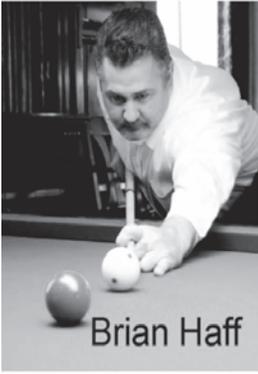


Many players would shoot this as a twice-around without a second thought, but there is a better choice to score. I have seen both Sang Lee and Blomdahl select the option shown several times. Key to selecting this shot is the location of the target ball. If it is deeper in the corner, or is very big, then the twice-around is generally better. However, if the target ball is about a diamond above the short rail, the up-and-down is frequently the better choice.



Note that with the target ball as shown, if you miss the twice-around long the ball is gone, and if you're too close to the corner you'll miss short as well. The up-and-down provides a much bigger ball, and four different ways to score. It is best to play this as a 4-rail shot, and then if you are short or long you make it with 3 or 5 cushions. I like to carefully pick the third rail point (A), which will usually be .6-.8 diamonds from the corner.

Use no more speed than necessary, with a slightly high rolling ball hit. Depending on the angle to the first ball (plus kiss and position considerations), either hit it with center ball or favor left. The center ball hit may seem more natural, but favor left (just a tiny bit!) gives you a nicer angle into the fourth rail. This shot will normally have less kiss potential than a twice-around, and if you select the right amount of hit on the first ball, that ball should cross several times and leave you a nice position. It's easy to miss this possibility, so practice it, and look for it!



Dubuque Open three-cushion tournament

	Rosenberger	Keller	Rossman	Byrne	Wedge	Eake	Richards	Haff	WIN/LOSS	TOTAL POINTS	TOTAL INNINGS	GRAND AVERAGE	HIGH RUN	BEST GAME	FINAL RANKING
Russ Rosenberger		24	15	11	9	11	18	17	0/7	105		3			8
Bob Keller	25		21	20	19	17	25	8	2/5	135		7			7
Tom Rossman	25	25		20	25	25	23	16	4/3	159		5			3
Bob Byrne	25	25	25		20	24	8	24	5/3	151		5			5
Ed Wedge	25	25	14	25		25	16	13	5/4	143		5			4
Gary Eake	25	25	15	25	16		16	12	4/3	134		5			6
James Richards	25	24	25	25	25	25		10	5/2	159		5			2
Brian Haff	25	25	25	25	25	25	25		7/0	175		6			1
Points Against	175	173	140	151	139	152	131	100	TOURNAMENT AVERAGE:						

Brian Haff Sweeps Dubuque Field

Eight players from four states met at the Masonic Temple in Dubuque, Iowa, to determine who would win the sixth Dubuque Open three-cushion tournament. The annual event took place on June 12 and 13 and was played on Simonis cloth and three reconditioned 1930s Brunswick tables. A full round robin was played and the last few games were completed on Saturday afternoon. With a larger field, games would have been necessary on Sunday.

Strong regulars like Fred Lamers, George Ashby, and John Jacobson didn't participate this year for a variety of reasons, leaving the field wide open for such hopefuls as host Robert Byrne, Chicago's fast-rising Brian Haff, former world pool trick-shot champion Tom Rossman, and Milwaukee's James Richards.

Haff, who has had several good tournament showings in the last couple of years, ended up sweeping the field, starting out with a squeaker over Byrne, 25-24, that was his only close call, as he handily defeated everybody else. Rosenberger went

down 25-17 and Rossman 25-16. His other wins were even more one-sided. In the championship game against James Richards of Wisconsin, Haff won 25-10. Richards' only other loss was to veteran Bob Keller of Madison 25-24. Keller won only one more game: against Russ Rosenberger 25-24. Richards took second with a record of 5-2.

Rossman lost only to Byrne, 25-20, Richards 25-23, and Haff, finishing in 3rd place. Taking 4th was local player Ed Wedge with a record of 4-3. His win over Byrne 25-20 dropped the author to 5th place with a record of 3-4. Byrne suffered two 1-point losses, to Gary Eake and Haff.

Bob Keller, who finished 7th, took the \$50 high run prize with a 7, scored in his upset win over Richards. The prize was donated by Rossman.

The order of finish: 1st Brian Haff; 2nd James Richards; 3rd Tom Rossman; 4th Ed Wedge; 5th Bob Byrne; 6th Gary Eake; 7th Bob Keller, and 8th Russ Rosenberger.

USBA International Open

Million Dollar Billiards – North Hollywood, CA



There were 42 players of 6 flights of 8

SINGLE ELIMINATION FINALS

QUARTERFINALS

34 PEDRO PIEDRABUENA VS RAYMUNDO

MUÑOZ 40 (23 INN)

37 LUIS AVILA VS GUILLERMO SOSA 40 (31 INN)

40 JAVIER TERAN VS FRANCISCO PALAFOX 30

(31 INN)

40 TORBJÖRN BLOMDAHL VS BILAL KHALIFA 10

(17 INN)

SEMIFINALS

25 RAYMUNDO MUÑOZ VS GUILLERMO SOSA 40

(22 INN)

23 JAVIER TERAN VS TORBJÖRN BLOMDAHL 40

(23 INN)

FINAL

40 TORBJÖRN BLOMDAHL VS GUILLERMO SOSA

13 (23 INN)

PRIZE FUND

1st. Torbjörn Blomdahl \$4000

2nd. Guillermo Sosa \$3000

3rd. Raymundo Muñoz/Javier Teran \$2000/each

5th. Piedrabuena/Avila/Palafox/Khalifa \$1175/each

9th. Salinas/Pineda/Ceulemans/Cataño \$375/each

HIGH RUN IN SEMIFINALS OR FINALS - \$100 Francisco Palafox (12)

BEST GAME IN SEMIFINALS OR FINALS.- \$150

Pedro Piedrabuena (30 in 8)

BEST GENERAL AVG. IN SEMIFINALS AND FINALS.-



Left- Ricky Carranco (Tournament Dir.) - Daniel Busch (pov pool Live Streaming) An amazing event it was, great team work guys.

\$250 Torbjörn Blomdahl (1.846)

Special thanks to Ricky Carranco, Hector Ocampo, Gilbert Najm and Carlos Elias for their tireless efforts to make these historical events possible on our beautiful west coast of the United States.

Also a special thanks to POV Pool's sponsors, Tiger Products, Kamui Tips and Kamui Brand for supporting our efforts to provide coverage – let us also not forget the Simonis Cloth, Verhoeven Billiard Tables, United States Billiards Association, UMCB (Union Mexicana Campeones de Billar) and also Paul Frankel and Professor-Q-Ball's National Pool and 3 Cushion News.



Ricky Carranco , Javier Teran Guillermo Sosa, Torbjörn Blomdahl, Raymundo Muñoz, Raymond Ceulemans, Hector Ocampo (Owner)

Therese Completes Trilogy in New York

by Frits Bakker

The trophy and the main prize (2,500 dollars) were handed over to Therese Klompenhouwer again: the Dutch billiards star showed herself the best on the final day and won despite two mistakes in the preliminary rounds. The current world champion triumphed in the **Jennifer Shim Tournament** in New York by a victory in the final over Sruong Pheavy from Cambodia: 30-12 in sixteen innings.



Jennifer Shim

It was Therese's third victory in a row in New York: she defeated Orië Hida, who crossed her path now in the semi-finals, two times. Sruong Pheavy (25) was the revelation: she defeated Klompenhouwer in the preliminaries, came up to the final, but found her master in the world's best women's three-cushion player. The 32-year-old Dutch put her opponent in the final under pressure with small runs (9-5 and 13-7) and after 16-11 (12 innings), Pheavy only scored once in the last part of the match. That resulted in a comfortable win for Klompenhouwer.

Orië Hida grabbed third place by a big victory over Colombian Mercedes Gonzalez and Dutch Karina Jetten was fifth. Therese Klompenhouwer received the main prize for the winner: 2,500 US dollars. I peaked at the right time and my two losses on Sunday came right on time", Therese looked back to the final days. , On the final day the feeling was very strong again. I was a bit uncertain in the first match against Karina, but finally I was super focused."

The Jennifer Open, with a total of eighteen players at the start, did not reach the level that was expected. The only players with high averages were Therese Klompenhouwer, the current world champion and Orië Hida, the former triple world champion. The Japanese seemed a serious threat to her Dutch competitor, who she defeated on one carom in the preliminaries.



The top three in the Jennifer Shim Open: left to right Orië Hida, Therese Klompenhouwer and Sruong Pheavy

Playoff Matches

5th thru 8th Place

MATCH	NAME	PTS	INN	AVG	HR	W/L
#17	Kazumi Hida	21	43	0.488	3	L
	Karina Jetten	30	44	0.682	5	W

MATCH	NAME	PTS	INN	AVG	HR	W/L
#18	Ester Park	30	44	0.682	5	W
	Namiko Hayashi	24	44	0.545	5	L

7th & 8th Place

MATCH	NAME	PTS	INN	AVG	HR	W/L
#19	Kazumi Hida	22	50	0.440	3	L
	Namiko Hayashi	30	50	0.600	5	W

5th & 6th Place

MATCH	NAME	PTS	INN	AVG	HR	W/L
#20	Karina Jetten	30	46	0.652	4	W
	Ester Park	21	45	0.467	4	L

Semifinals

MATCH	NAME	PTS	INN	AVG	HR	W/L
#13	Orië Hida	11	24	0.458	3	L
	Therese Klompenhouwer	30	24	1.250	5	W

MATCH	NAME	PTS	INN	AVG	HR	W/L
#14	Sruong Pheavy	30	45	0.667	5	W
	Mercedes Gonzalez	18	44	0.409	3	L

3rd & 4th Place

MATCH	NAME	PTS	INN	AVG	HR	W/L
#15	Orië Hida	30	38	0.789	3	W
	Mercedes Gonzalez	9	37	0.243	2	L

Final

MATCH	NAME	PTS	INN	AVG	HR	W/L
#16	Therese Klompenhouwer	30	17	1.765	5	W
	Sruong Pheavy	12	16	0.750	4	L

Tables are now on sale and offered to first come buyers at a discounted price.



**Emperor-V 284 in Ebony
Now In Stock**

Exclusive U.S. Distributor

Call now for more information
Paul Frankel "Professor-Q-Ball" (901)
756-2594 Or Cell (901) 210-7251
www.professorqball.com



Gabriels tables are the most renowned tables in the billiard industry. The craftsmanship and superior technique exceeds the demands of billiard players all over the world.



Own A Masterpiece
Exclusively At Mueller's

Add an exquisitely hand-crafted cue to your collection
(modern art at an affordable price)

Call us at **1.800.627.8888** or visit us online at www.muellers.com
ask for our free 228 page wholesale catalog

