



The USBA Newsletter 3-Cushion Billiard News

www.USBA.net

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Tacoma Elks #174

Submitted by Ed Brasfield, Billiards Chairman

Results of USBA DICK TAKANO/NATIONAL QUALIFIER 17 shooters we're trying to win one of Four spots heading into the USBA National tournament in California in a few months. With one flight of 8 and one of 9, we placed the top 4 into the finals.

Tarhan finished with a 6/1 - 25 pt loss to Spicknall, So he sat and watched the last match between Olson and Spicknall. It was totally In Spicknall court going in undefeated to reach the magic number of 26 even if he lost because of tie breaker rules, he would still capture first.

Our tournament chairman, Mr Tim Poole, did a great job in lining the whole shoot up and running it. Doc Miller and Tom DuCharme

Kept the players at the tables as needed and Mac MacInroy kept the tables and balls cleaned.

Remaining players, not in order of finish, Mark Sullivan, Tommy Thomsen, Tim Poole, Larry Hundley, Salvy Hernandez, Harvey Wixman, Ron Hopkins, Ralph Weiss, Ramses Verlinden, John Fleming, Bernie Pettipiece, Rodrick Vandervaart, Dave Law.



I-r, Ed Brasfield
Billiard Chairman,
4th Neal Olson,
3rd Jesus
Quinonez,
2nd Ertan Tarhan,
1st Rob Spicknall,
and Tim Poole
Tournament
Chairman.

Finals	Tarhan	Verlinden	Olson	Sullivan	Spicknall	Quinonez	Hundley	Thomsen	WNL OSS	TOTAL POINTS	TOTAL INNINGS	GRAND AVERAGE	HIGH RUN	BEST GAME	FINAL RANKING
Ertan Tarhan	40	33	30	20	36	21	43	6	1	205	221	0.928	10	1.500	2
Ramses Verlinden	14	40	30	30	14	23	20	3	4	161	316	0.509	6	0.625	6
Neal Olson	24	24	40	30	24	20	30	3	4	182	261	0.697	8	1.071	4
Mark Sullivan	25	23	11	40	20	30	30	3	4	169	355	0.476	4	0.682	5
Rob Spicknall	30	30	30	30	40	30	30	7	0	210	309	0.680	6	1.071	1
Jesus Quinonez	11	30	30	29	17	30	30	4	3	177	264	0.670	5	0.909	3
Larry Hundley	9	21	10	15	22	18	30	1	6	125	352	0.355	4	0.390	8
Tommy Thomsen	18	30	15	18	21	19	23	1	6	144	326	0.442	5	0.667	7
TOURNAMENT AVERAGE:														0.571	

Amazin Billiards

Amazin Billiards hosted a National Qualifying Tournament on Sunday, January 10th and 10 players made their way from numerous states to compete.

Here's a list of players and their home state.

Flight A:

Manny Cunha	Massachusetts
Scott Hewitt	New Hampshire
Kevin Perry	Connecticut
Christian Greely	Connecticut
Eric Spencer	Rhode Island

Flight B:

Bob Page	Massachusetts
Bob Johnson	Michigan
Joe DeAmato	Massachusetts
Dave Egdahl	Massachusetts
Glen Powle	Connecticut

Flight A: winner at 3 & 1 was Eric Spencer. Second place in the flight went to Scott Hewitt. Eric and Scott advanced to a 4 man round robin that would yield 3 players a qualifying spot in the National Tournament in March.

The Flight B: winner was Joe DeAmato who went undefeated. The 2nd place finisher was Bob Page at 3 & 1 and Bob and Joe both advanced to the final round of 4.

The final round had Joe DeAmato, Eric Spencer, Bob Page and Scott Hewitt in a 4 man round robin.

So congratulations go out to Joe DeAmato, Bob Page and Eric Spencer for their qualifying ticket to the Nationals and to Scott Hewitt for making the finals and grabbing \$100 for his 4th place finish.

Many thanks go out from the players to room owner

President's Desk

Happy New Year to everyone. This is my first report as the President of the USBA, and there is much to report. The USBA's calendar is being quickly filled with events.

The 2016 USBA National 3-Cushion Billiard Tournament is about two months away. It is scheduled for March 16 to 20th at Million Dollar Billiards in North Hollywood, California.

This year's Nationals is open for resident and non resident with stipulations required.

The tournament will be held on 8 Verhoeven tables, we are happy to have Verhoeven as the official sponsor. Verhoeven has been making billiard tables for over 40 years.

As in previous years, we thank Simonis and Aramith for providing the cloth and balls for the event. The Nationals will



L-R Scott Hewitt, Joseph Deamato, Bobby Page, and Eric Spencer.

and National Champion Mazin Shooni for making this tournament a reality and beyond that for his hard work throughout the tournament keeping it running smooth with over the top hospitality. We'd be remiss if we didn't also congratulate our new President of our USBA Mazin Shooni and take this time to wish him well in this new and exciting endeavor.

Finals	Joe D.	Eric S.	Bob P.	Scott H.	KNIFLOSS	TOTAL PONTS	TOTAL INNINGS	GRAND AVERAGE	HIGH RUK	BEST GAME	FINAL RANKING
Joe D.		25	25	25	3	75					1
Eric S.	20		21	25	1	66					3
Bob P.	23	25		25	2	73					2
Scott H.	13	16	22		0	51					4
TOURNAMENT AVERAGE:											

be played on Verhoeven tables with Simonis cloth and Aramith balls!

The National Tournament means that the qualifying tournaments are happening. Qualifiers have been held in Boston, Miami and New York, and others are scheduled in Burbank, Milpitas and Chicago. Go to www.USBA.com for more information on the qualifiers.

The field for the National Tournament is filling up. Some of the names of those who have qualified are easily recognized. Pedro Piedrabuena returns to defend his title. He will be challenged by a very talented group of players.

I hope to see you there. If you can't make it, we will be live-streaming the event by povpool.com



Mazin Shooni

Professor-Q-Ball Promotions

Presents at the
Super Billiards Expo
Greater Philadelphia Expo Center
April 14-17 2016



**A Special 3-Cushion Clinic for
Youths 18 & Under**

With National Champions
Mazin Shooni & Hugo Patino



Professor-Q-Ball Presents



**3-Cushion Tournament
with Champions**

For more information on how to enter all events.
Contact: Paul Frankel (901) 210-7251

All Players Are Welcome

Evening Events

IBS

3 Separate Tournaments - April 14-16th

Starts on Thursday at 7:pm, Friday-7:pm, Saturday-7:pm

3-Cushion Open Tournament

Race to 5, Single Elim - Entry Only \$20!!

1st \$500 - 2nd \$250 - 3rd \$100 Based on 32 players
Payout each night

Sponsored by YURA (Nothing But Billiards)



Swan Simonis
SIMONIS CLOTH

aramith.

THE BELGIAN BILLIARD BALLS

The Rushville Billiard Club – A Labor of Love

by Bruce Venzke

In a couple of ways, the Rushville Billiard Club and the competition taking place there these days reminds us veteran pool players of a long-ago past in another small, sleepy southern Illinois town: the famed jamboree at George and Paulie Jansco's Johnston City Show Bar in the '60s and '70s. The action there was unarguably top-notch, exciting, and nonstop; everyone who was "into" the sport seemed to be there (or wished that they were). But beyond that, most similarities between the two competitive venues come to a screeching halt.

The self-proclaimed hustlers' convention at the Show Bar drew nearly every sharper, conman, gambler, and proposition specialist in pool. All the action was not always exactly what it seemed, if you follow me. A love of money was often the driving force; pool was merely a means to an end in far too many cases. (Not all... but in very many.)

But in Rushville, a slightly smaller Illinois town (population 3162) located about 180 miles northwest of Johnston City, the situation could hardly be more different today. In January, 2013, the Rushville Billiard Club (RBC), a private facility owned by local businessman Steve Jones, was the site of an inaugural 10-player three-cushion billiard tournament. That event was selflessly promoted by eight-time U.S. three-cushion champion George Ashby. Strong player interest – and Ashby's determination -- led to a follow-up event in January, 2014, with the field expanded to 18 players. It may not have been glaringly obvious to everyone at the time... but the ball was rolling in Rushville, to coin a phrase.

Inspired by the events' success, an informal but dedicated group of three-cushion players, supporters, and fans slowly but surely joined with Ashby to assist in continuing the promotion of first-class competition in the sport that is famously known for honesty, gentlemanly behavior, and good sportsmanship. And that truly describes the action taking place at the RBC these days. It's a class act.

The continuing effort led to an expanded schedule of three tournaments in 2015, starting with another 18-player test in January, and followed in May and October with 25- and 30-player events, respec-

tively. The unofficial coalition of fan/player support continued to grow during the year, nurturing and improving upon the superb standards previously established by tournament director and host Ashby. Throughout 2015, additional assistance was received from a variety of sources, such as Dale Saunders (computerized tournament software), Gary Eake (marketing

and promotion), cash from Los Charros Restaurant and Green Gables Motel, plus additional donations from players and fans too numerous to list individually. Industry figures Schuler Cues by Noel Mendoza (two donated raffle cues), and Paul Frankel's Professor Q-Ball Publications (naming sponsor) also joined the growing roster of supporters during 2015.

But the gold standard in fan support and enthusiasm – and one certainly worthy of individual mention – is that exemplified by Rushville's own Mayor Carson Klitz. This three-cushion billiard lover personally donated \$1000 cash to each of the three 2015 events at the Rushville Billiard Club. The former judge, who served on the bench for nearly two decades before retiring, and then won the mayoral race by a better than 3-to-1 vote margin, has been enjoying three-cushion billiards as a player and fan since Mr. Jones and Mr. Ashby joined forces to help the RBC become a reality. Did the mayor play billiards prior to that, I asked? "No," he quickly replied, "we had no place to play. But now one of my goals is to make Rushville the "Midwest's 3-Cushion Billiard Capital."

You're not the only one, Mr. Mayor! And with the continued support of volunteers, players, and fans like yourself, the "Rushville team" may very well reach that goal. The effort definitely deserves success.

The Rushville Billiard Club 3-C Tournament Results

submitted by
Mayor Carson Klitz

(winner / runner-up)

January 18-20, 2013: 10 players.

George Ashby / Lupe Cruz.

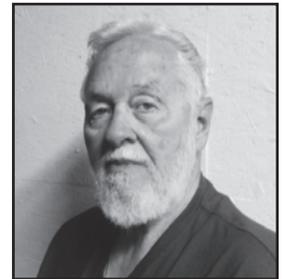
January 10-12, 2014: 18 players.

Lupe Cruz / Fred Lamers.

January 23-25, 2015: 18 players. Adrian Viguera / Fred Lamers.

May 29-31, 2015: 25 players. Miguel Torres / Lupe Cruz.

October 16-18, 2015: 30 players. Hugo Patino / Mazin Shooni.



The Shot You Never Think of...

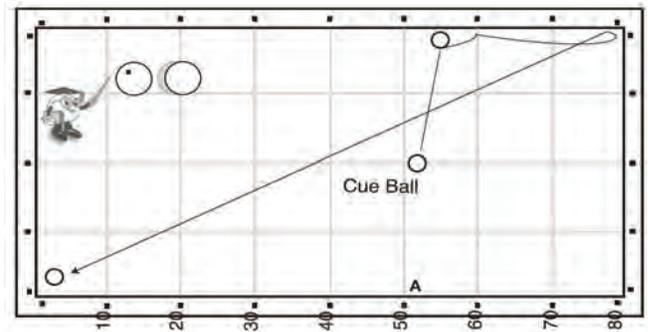
by Phil Panzera
Contributing Writer



Here are the two things to know about this gorgeous shot: (1) it's not as hard as it looks; and (2) you probably already know the shot, but don't know that you do. Why do I say that? Just flip the shot over to the short rail, and you'll see a basic double-the-rail shot that many players already know. As we're playing the diagrammed shot the long way, that 4-diamond spread off the long rail would correspond to a 2-diamond spread off the short rail, which is quite doable. What makes this selection work is that the red is almost the size of a soccer ball. Note that there aren't many other viable choices. The cross table is difficult, and the flat long angle is hard to control and approaches the red with only two cushions.

The follow action is what makes the shot (creating the bend), but you also need a lot of left to snap out of the corner. So use a 10:30 hit, as far from the center of the cue ball as you're comfortable. The shot must be hit with a fast fluid stroke and a longer follow through. If it's in your bag of tricks, a loose wrist helps also. Do NOT over-power the shot; medium speed is all you need. The key is getting the correct bend, which re-

quires a balance of speed and the amount of the object ball you hit. You want to hit the object ball quite full, just missing the kiss, sending the object ball to about A on the opposite rail. If you're not getting the cue ball back to the long rail you're hitting the object ball too thin, or too hard. If you're getting the kiss or doubling the long rail before the corner, then you're hitting the ball too full. As long as you know this shot already on the short rail, try it on the table and you'll see it's quite makeable, so look for it! When you make it, you'll feel good for the rest of the day!



Carom Cafe Qualifier Event

Despite the blizzard conditions and travel warnings, six brave souls with a love for the game competed in the USBA Qualifier event held at Carom Cafe Billiards on Saturday January 23.

The weather outside may have been cold, but the play was hot as Eric Kwon went undefeated to take first place and win a trip to the USBA 3-Cushion National Championship to be held March 16-20.



	Lee	Kang	Kwon	Brown	Carpenter	John	WINS/LOSS	TOTAL POINTS	TOTAL INNINGS	GRAND AVERAGE	HIGH RUN	BEST GAME	FINAL RANKING
Ter Wyn	24	22	22	4	20	20	1	102	108	0.944	4	1,250	5
Lee	14	24	15	25	24	4	4	124	114	1.088	7	1,667	2
Memo	25	24	25	25	25	1	1	125	141	0.887	7	1,136	1
Kang	25	25	25	25	25	5	0	89	134	0.664	5	1,136	4
Eric	25	25	25	25	25	6	3	37	134	0.276	3	0,000	6
Diates	25	10	21	25	25	11	2	114	112	1.018	8	1,471	3
Brown	25	10	21	25	25	11	2						
Clis	25	2	11	11	11	6	5						
Carpenter	25	19	20	25	25	17	2						
John	25	19	20	25	25	17	2						
TOURNAMENT AVERAGE:													0.795

"USBA Membership"

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USBA Membership • Dues \$50

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Send completed form and check or money order payable to USBA to
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16 Peartree Lane • Huntington Station, NY 11746



USBA Qualifier at Doral Billiards Sends Three to Nationals

Ten players met at Doral Billiards in Miami Florida to compete in a qualifier tournament for the USBA National 3-Cushion Championship. Three earned their entry into the event. (Pictured above US Women's Champion Mercedes Gonzalez)

Ten players met at Doral Billiards in Miami Florida to compete in a qualifier tournament for the USBA National 3-Cushion Championship. Three earned their entry into the event.

Starting in two flights of five the players were:

Flight A

Jairo Lenin
 Jim Bishop
 Mercedes Gonzalez
 Alfonso Torres
 Camilo Medina

Flight B

Victor Cuzzi
 Carlos Ramos
 Ellis Lawrence
 Andres Fernandez
 Nelson Gonzalez

After the initial round robin play Jairo Lenin and Mercedes Gonzalez from Flight A and Victor Cuzzi and Ellis Lawrence from Flight B advanced. The final group of four played round robin for the three coveted spots. In the end Ellis Lawrence came out on top. Here are the final standings:

1st place	Ellis Lawrence (top)
2nd place	Mercedez Gonzalez (bottom left)
3th place	Victor Cuzzi (bottom right)
4th place	Jairo Lenin

The top three places receive a paid entry for the USBA Na-

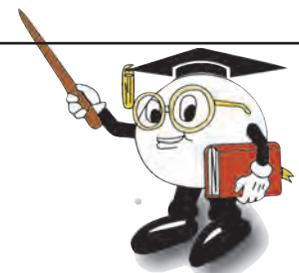


tional 3-Cushion Championship to be held March 16-20, 2016.

Jairo Lenin who finished 4th received \$100.

ANNOUNCING!

A new website dedicated entirely to 3-Cushion Billiards. www.3cushionbilliards.com
 News - Events - Where to Play - Instruction - Videos, International - National - and Local
 Everything for lovers of 3-Cushion Billiards worldwide!
 Visit www.3cushionbilliards.com



Upcoming USBA Tournaments

February 5 -7

USBA TOUR EVENT

Doral Billiards- Doral, FL

Contact: Victor Cuzzi -786-366-9273

Estimated prize fund = \$15,200.00

Feb 12-14

USBA National Qualifier

Chris's Billiards-Chicago, Illinois

Entry Fee \$135.00

(773) 286-4714 Room

(708) 878-4197 Cell

February 26-28th

USBA 2016 Nationals Qualifier

Burbank Elks Lodge 2232

North Hollywood Way

Burbank, California

Gilbert Najim 818-726-8107

March 4-5th

USBA National Qualifier

Rushville Spring 2016

Professor-Q-Ball 3 Cushion Tournament

Entry Fee: \$145.00

Gary Eake (920) 420-1304

March 4-6th

Ken Higgins

Memorial USBA Handicap Tournament

Tacoma Elks Lodge No. 174

Tacoma, Washington

Contact: Ed Brasfield (253) 272-1117

March 16-20th

2016 National Three-Cushion Championship

Million Dollar Billiards - 818 763-9491

12135 Victory Blvd

North Hollywood, California

Contact: Mazin Shooni (248) 910-4466

March 25-27

Hood River Spring USBA Tournament

Hood River Elks Lodge No. 1507

Hood River, Oregon

Contact: Harvey Wixman (541) 386-1507

April 29, May 1

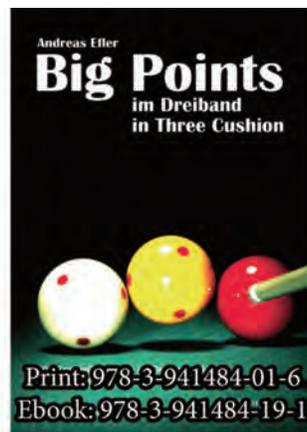
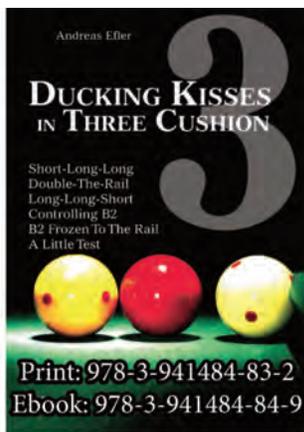
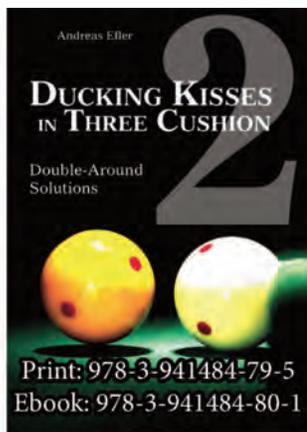
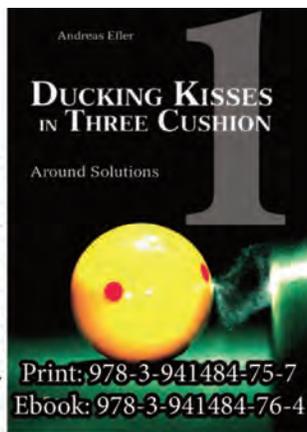
Parker Hess Memorial

USBA Player Level Tournament

Ashland Elks Lodge -Ashland, Oregon

Contact: Mark Williams-mark.b.williams@charter.net

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