



PLAYER GUIDE

2023 US PRO BILLIARD SERIES

CueSports International (CSI)

CUESPORTS INTERNATIONAL 2041 Pabco Road, Henderson, NV 89011





ABOUT

WHAT IS THE US PREDATOR PRO BILLIARD SERIES?

The US Pro Billiard Series, a subset of the World Pro Billiard Series, is a series of open/pro events held in the United States to provide more opportunity for professional and aspiring pool players to compete in high- quality events, earn more income, sharpen their skills, and earn their way into the \$150,000 added Predator World 10-Ball Championship held in Las Vegas each year as part of the CueSports International Expo.

All US Pro Billiard Series events play 10-ball, the game that best allows professional pool players to showcase their talent. The format has been devised to create drama and excitement for the fans. For more detail on the format, see the FORMAT section. NOTE: there is a change to the format for 2023 based on feedback from the players.

We believe that synergy between amateur and professional pool players is critical to the growth of the sport. Amateur pool players want to watch the best and professional pool players need a fan base. Therefore, all US Pro Billiard Series events are held alongside various amateur CSI Leagues events open to BCA Pool League and USA Pool League members.

OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT EQUIPMENT

- Predator Apex 9ft Pro Table
- Predator Aero Rack
- Predator Arcadia Reserve Cloth
- Predator Arcos II Reserve Billiard Balls
- Predator Arena Lights by Lucid Sports
- Predator Bridges
- Predator 1080 Chalk



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MAIN DETAILS

2023 US Pro Billiard Series Schedule of Events.

EVENT	DATE	NAME	LOCATION	PLAYERS	ADDED	PRIZE FUND*
1	Feb 22-26	Las Vegas Open	Las Vegas, NV	192	\$ 57,800	\$125,000
2	May 17-20	Wisconsin Open	Baraboo, WI	64	\$ 52,600	\$ 75,000
3	Sep 19-23	Michigan Open	Battle Creek, MI	128	\$ 55,200	\$100,000
4	Oct 11-14	Ohio Open	Wilmington, OH	128	\$ 55,200	\$100,000
5	Nov 14-17	Puerto Rico Open	San Juan, Puerto Rico	128	\$ 55,200	\$100,000
					\$276,000	\$500,000

Culminating with...

Feb 21-24, 2024	2024 Predator World10-Ball Championship**	Las Vegas, NV	128	\$104,000	\$250,000
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* Based on full fields

** This is a WPA-sanctioned World Championship for male players only. Players must qualify through the US Pro Billiard Series, be invited directly by the World Pool-Billiard Association (WPA) or be invited by a WPA continental federation.



START OF EVENT

There will no longer be a players' meeting in the Pro Arena for each event. Players are expected to read the Player's Guide for information on the format, rules, schedule of play, and so forth. The tournament director or manager may be at the tournament desk at 8 PM the evening prior to the start of play to answers any questions but this is not guaranteed.

Press conferences will be added to specific events and player's will be provided with advance notice of their required appearance if scheduled.

World events may have an Opening Ceremony and player's will be provided with advance notice of their required appearance if scheduled.

We encourage you to allow plenty of time before and after the event for travel. The accepted practice is to arrive at least one day prior to the start of play. Neither Predator nor CSI are responsible for airline delays, lost luggage, traffic jams or any other travel-related issue that could cause you to miss or arrive late for your first match. Matches are not delayed or accelerated to accommodate travel issues.

Therefore, you are advised to arrive no later than the day before the event begins and leave no sooner than the day after the event ends.



REGISTRATION & PAYMENT DETAILS

Players may register online at www.ProBilliardSeries.com or www.USProBilliardSeries.com. Each player must sign into the online registration system (or create an account if they don't have one), register themselves and accept the Player Agreement. Third parties may not register another player. No call-in registrations accepted.

VERIFY YOUR REGISTRATION

The complete list of players can be found near the bottom of each event webpage. If you have already registered for the event, verify that your name appears in the Player List. Technical glitches can happen and it's your responsibility to confirm your registration.

PAYMENT

Registrations are first-come, first-serve. Players must register and pay the entry fee to reserve a spot (no exceptions).

Entry Fee (per event): \$350 + \$20 admin fee. Any entry received within four weeks of the event start date will require an additional \$20 admin fee.

REFUNDS

When you register for a CSI event, you are making a commitment to the event, the event organizers, the fans, event sponsors, your sponsors and yourself. Refunds requested prior to the refund request deadline must be emailed to entry@playcsipool.com and will be processed after the conclusion of the event.

No refunds will be granted after the refund request deadline. Registration for one event is not transferrable to another event.

Refund requests must be received in writing by email two weeks prior to the event at the latest and will be processed after the conclusion of the event. Admin fees are non-refundable and an additional \$20 processing fee applies to each entry refunded.

PAYOUTS

Payouts may be made at specific scheduled times each day so please do not expect your payout immediately after you win or are eliminated. Payouts will be made by check in U.S. currency. To receive a payout, you must first present Government-issued photo ID and legibly complete the applicable tax form(s) provided by CueSports International. Checks are valid for 90 days from the date of issue.

DO NOT LOSE YOUR CHECK.

Lost checks and checks not cashed within the 90-day period will not be reissued.



RULES & REGULATIONS

FORMAT

STAGE 1

- The top ranked players based on the 2022 PBS rankings, managed by FargoRate will be seeded in stage 1. Random draw for the remaining players:
 - 16 players will be seeded in a 64-player schedule.
 - 32 players will be seeded in a 128-player schedule.
 - 64 players will be seeded in a 192-player schedule.
- Double elimination will be played during stage one until:
 - 16 players remain (8 on winners' side & 8 on the one-loss side) in a 64-player schedule.
 - 32 players remain (16 on winners' side & 16 on the one-loss side) in a 128-player schedule.
 - 64 players remain (32 on winners' side & 32 on the one-loss side) in a 192-player schedule.
- Two sets, best of seven (7) games. If the set score is tied at 1-1 after two sets, a shootout will determine the winner.

STAGE 2

- A new draw will determine the bracket placement (undefeated player vs one-loss side player). The position of the one-loss players will be random.
- Single elimination.
- Three sets, best of seven (7) games. If the set score is tied at 1-1 and the third set is tied at 3-3, a shootout will determine the winner.

BREAKING

- Winner breaks. Lag for the opening break of the first set and third set. The loser of the lag breaks first in the second set.
- Referee racks on all tables – opponents may not approach or inspect the rack.

SCHEDULE

- If a player is not present at the posted match time, the player should notify the Tournament Director.
 - The Tournament Director will penalize the player one game and place the player “on the clock.”
 - The Tournament Director will subsequently penalize the player one game for every 5 minutes, until he is present.
 - If the player is not present after 15 minutes of being placed “on the clock,” it is a forfeit.

PRACTICE

- No open practice is allowed at all on the feature table. The two players scheduled on the feature table may shoot one rack each prior to the match.
- Between matches, players may practice with alternate racks until match time.
- If a table does not become available until match time or later, players may shoot one rack each prior to beginning the match.

SUPPLEMENTAL

The standard WPA Rules & Regulations will be in use with the following exceptions and additions:

ADDITIONAL RULES

- The 10-ball does not have to be the last ball pocketed. If the 10-ball is pocketed early as part of a legal and called shot, it is a game win.
- The 10-ball pocketed on the break, is not a win and the 10-Ball is spotted. The 10-Ball on the break is considered a made ball and the breaker continues at the table as long as no foul occurred on the break.
- If a player pockets the 10-Ball, and it is the last remaining ball in play, and the player commits a foul in the process, it is loss of game.
- If an illegal break occurs, the incoming player has the option to:
 - Re-rack and break, or
 - Require the other player to re-rack and break

ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

- Players may not use their cell phones during a match.
- Other electronic devices used for communication are not allowed during the match.
- They must be put away, out of sight and on silent mode during the match.

SHOTCLOCK

- There is a 30-second shot clock on the feature table only. For the other tables, the referee(s) will monitor and enforce the WPA slow play rule if necessary.
 - Extended 60-second shot clock after the break
 - 60-second shot clock on incoming player after a push out.
 - One (1) 30-second extension per game
 - The shot clock begins when all balls have come to rest, and the opposing player sits in his or her chair.

SHOOTOUT

A shootout will determine the winner when:

- During Stage 1, the score in sets is tied 1-1
- During stage 2, the score in sets is tied 1-1 and the score in the third set is tied at 3-3

The goal is to pocket the object ball in its designated pocket. To determine a winner the following system will be used:

- The winner of the lag at the start of the match decides the starting player of the shootout, alternating turns thereafter. One turn by each player is an inning.
- The starting player determines the starting side from which the shootout will begin. Sides will alternate thereafter for each inning.
- Players will shoot four (4) innings in alternating turns. Both players get an equal number of turns.
- The player with the most points (i.e. balls pocketed) after four innings wins.
- If both players are tied after four innings, the order of play will remain until a player reaches a score that cannot be tied by his opponent in the same inning. This is called "Sudden Death."
 - In Sudden Death, the cue ball must be moved one diamond behind the head string.
- Shot clock extensions may not be used during a shootout.

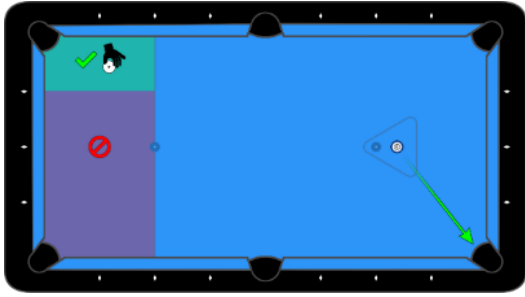
For a shot to be considered legal, the following rules in terms of position and placement must be executed:

- The 10-Ball will be used as the object ball during the entire shootout. The position of the object ball corresponds to its original position in a standard 10-Ball rack.

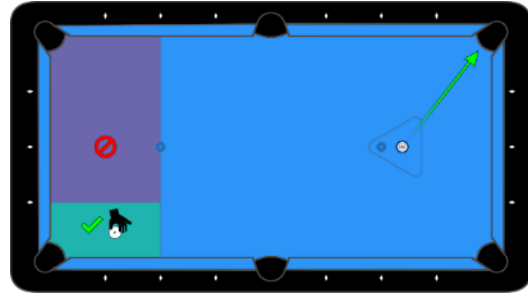


- Referee places the 10-ball. Players may not approach or inspect the object ball or ask for a re-spot.
- There are two zones designated for the shootout, the left and right side, shown below. The player must place the cue ball within the designated zone and pocket the 10-ball in the opposite corner pocket as shown below.
- Players must alternate the zone after each inning.
- The zones can be recognized according to the following parameters:
 - The left side is on the left side of the table while facing the object ball.
 - The right side is on the right side of the table while facing the object ball.
 - In Sudden Death, the cue ball must be moved back one diamond behind the head string.

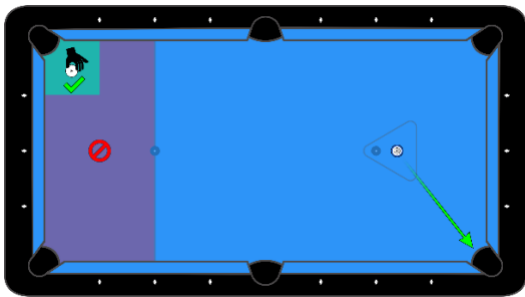
Regulation Shootout (Left Side)



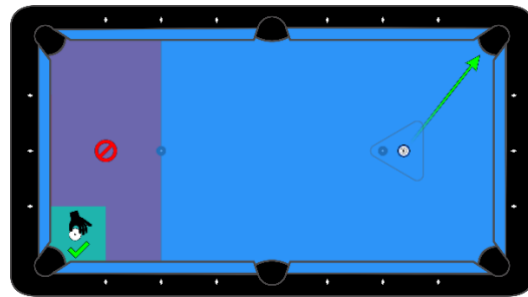
Regulation Shootout (Right Side)



Sudden Death Shootout (Left Side)



Sudden Death Shootout (Right Side)



In addition to the standard WPA rules and regulations, additional rules that are in place that determine whether an inning is considered legal are as following:

- The execution of the shot must be done within the timeframe that has been determined. This can be based on a shot clock ruling or the decision of the acting referee.
- The object ball must be pocketed in its designated pocket. If the object ball is pocketed in any other pocket, it will be considered as a miss.
- A shot that includes the rails, being or resembling a bank or a kick, will be considered a miss.
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RANKING SYSTEM

- The US Pro Billiard Series will utilize the WPA ranking system.
- The winner of each event receives a guaranteed spot in the 2024 Predator World 10-Ball Championship in Las Vegas.
- In addition, the players in the WPA rankings who are not otherwise invited by the WPA, a WPA continental federation or a promotor wild card, will be eligible for a spot in the 2024 Predator World 10-Ball Championship, based on their position.



APPROVED CLOTHING

This tournament will enforce the dress code described in the WPA regulations: [Click Here](#)

Athletes need to be dressed professional during the entire event, not just during their match. This includes practice, meetings, and the public areas of the venue.

PROHIBITED CLOTHING

Under no circumstances will the organization accept any of these clothing:

- Athletic wear of any kind, including but not limited to sweats, swimwear, jogging suits, uniforms, jerseys, or any type of pants with contrasting stripes not associated with formal wear.
- Shorts of any kind, regardless of apparent length. Pants must be normal in respect to the appropriate rise in relation to the length of garment and may not be excessively baggy or loose fitting.
- Overalls, coveralls, jeans, hats, headphones, or earpieces (unless medical need, proof required)

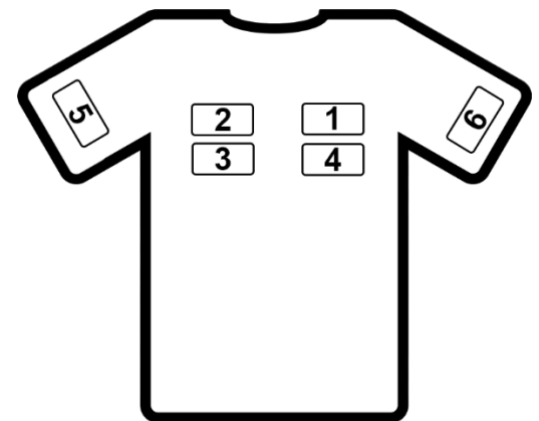
LOGOS & PATCHES

Athletes may wear a maximum of four (4) of their own logos on playing apparel (“Athlete’s logos”). All logos, including apparel brand logos and federation logos, are included in this maximum of four (4) restriction. Athletes may display a fifth logo if this logo is an official partner of the event. These logos should be placed in positions 2-6 on the diagram. Text on jerseys will be treated as a sponsor logo, unless it is the athlete’s name, nickname, or country they represent.

In addition, the Pro Billiard Series may provide athletes with one additional patch for the event. This should be displayed as shown in position (1) on the below image.

Logos may not exceed sixty-five (65) square centimeters. The athlete must submit to the organization, before his or her first match, samples of all sponsor logos for approval. Logos should only be worn in the positions shown in the image to the right.

The organization reserves the authority to disallow any sponsor logos for any reason, including but not limited to not submitting logo for approval or conflicting with any other event or broadcast sponsor.





BROADCAST INFORMATION

This event will be broadcast live on the following platforms:



Beside internet websites publishing news, results or selling billiards equipment, Kozoom has built its reputation producing high quality streaming of many major Carom and Pool events worldwide. Kozoom developed a unique skill in billiards production with hundred hours of Live programs delivered to Eurosport and other major networks since 2005.

[Click here to open Website](#)



Billiard TV is the first and only 24/7 free television channel dedicated solely to billiards. It will feature full-length matches, trick shots, instruction, commentary, news and more. Billiard TV is currently available in 12 countries and to 30 million viewers.

[Click here to open Website](#)



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[Click here to open Website](#)



World Billiard TV, formerly known as the YouTube channel CueSportsInternational, hosts the largest collection of feature-length Cuesports matches on YouTube, with over 1,000 videos uploaded since 2014!

[Click here to open Website](#)

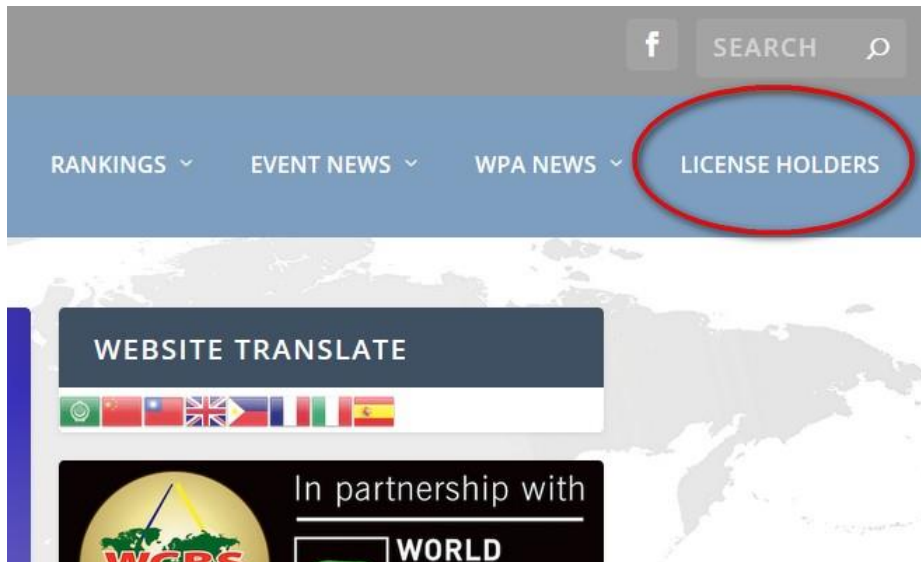
PLAYER LICENSE REGISTRATION

For more information or assistance, please email info@wpapool.com

An annual WPA Player license is \$20. Follow the steps below to register or renew your license.

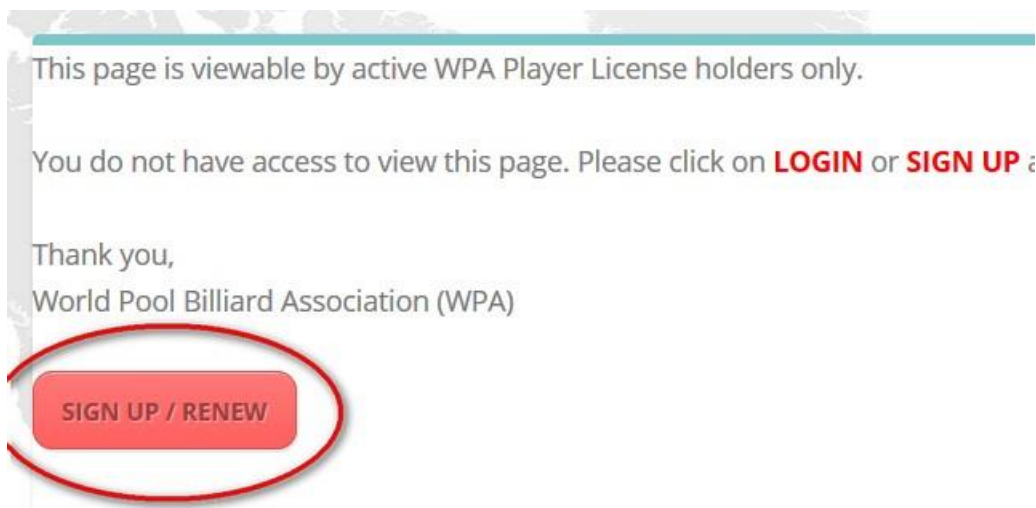
STEP 1:

From the home page of www.wpapool.com, click on the tab “License Holders”



STEP 2:

Click on the Sign Up / Renew button



STEP 3:

1. Complete the registration form
2. Read and accept the terms of signing up as a WPA License holder and click on the check box to accept the terms
3. Click on Sign Up

Payment with Debit Card, Credit Card or Paypal Account

 I have read and agree to the terms of the WPA player license agreement***SIGN UP****STEP 4:**

You can process your payment by logging in to your PayPal account or if you do not have a PayPal account, click on Pay with Debit or with Credit-card.

Log In

Having trouble logging in?

OR

Pay with Debit or Credit Card**STEP 5:**

Complete your payment information and click on “Pay Now”. Once your payment is successfully processed you will be redirected back to www.wpapool.com

Your subscription will be valid until 31 December each year and is renewable between 01 – 30 January.



PLAYER AGREEMENT

These terms set forth the legally binding rules for participation in the event. By registering, players agree to be bound by all terms and conditions set forth by CueSports International (CSI), Predator and other event partners. If you are under the age of 18, you agree to obtain the consent of your legal guardian to participate under these terms.

You acknowledge that you have read and completely understand the latest edition of the Player Guide, Tournament Regulations and/or all rules and regulations and you will check for the latest edition of all documents prior to the event start. You agree to abide by all rules & regulations implemented by CueSports International (CSI), Predator and other event partners. CSI, Predator and other event partners reserve the following rights and responsibilities: determine a player's eligibility, refuse entry to anyone for any reason, change field sizes, adjust ratings, display names and ratings online, change schedules & payouts based on, but not limited to, field sizes, inclement weather, acts of God, war, or terrorism.

You understand that there is an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 and other illnesses when you participate in any event where people are gathered. Although it is impossible to predict exactly what COVID-19 restrictions may be in place at the time of the event, you agree to adhere to all safety rules & regulations put into place by CueSports International, Predator, the host venue, state government or local ordinances.

Face coverings, social distancing and temperature checks are just a few examples of possible safety precautions that could be in effect. You accept this when you register and refusal to follow safety rules and regulations is not justification for a refund.

You understand that your participation in this event is completely voluntary. CSI and all representatives, agents, sponsors and affiliates are released and to be held harmless of and from any injury, illness, losses, damages, liability or expenses of any kind incurred by me, my heirs or personal representatives either caused or alleged to be caused during or surrounding this event. Maximum liability to CSI, Predator and all event partners, if any, shall be limited to reimbursement of the entry fee paid.

Disqualification from any CSI event, for any reason, shall result in forfeiture of any prize money won by that player or team, and possible suspension from future CSI-produced events.

CSI, Predator and other event partners may use your photograph, image, likeness or name for information, reporting or promotional purposes via print, video and other media without limitation or compensation of any kind. By participating, you further release all media and appearance rights to CSI, Predator and other event partners for the production of televised matches, recorded or broadcast at the event and for all photographic images taken at the event. By registering, you agree that CSI, Predator and other event partners may also add your email address to its email list and send you periodic emails at its sole discretion.