

PLAYER GUIDE



OHIO

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Oct 13-17, 2021



CSI OHIO STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

ROBERTS CENTRE - WILMINGTON, OH

CSI GROUP PLAY

...powered by FargoRate

Teams play up to 4-5 matches minimum!

OCT 13 - 17

2021

- 8-Ball Singles
- 8-Ball Teams
- Mini-Tournaments

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NEW FOR THIS YEAR

Teams are now CSI Group Play format – TEAMS PLAY UP TO 4-5 MATCHES MINIMUM!

The team divisions will now use a group round robin tournament format. The goal is to randomly place teams in groups of 5 or 6. Teams in a group of six (6) will play at least five (5) matches. Teams in a group of five (5) will play at least four (4) matches. Each match in the group stage (Stage 1) consists of 15 games (5-player teams) or 9 games (3-player teams) and will be handicapped using FargoRate.

The top two (2) teams from each group will advance to a single elimination final bracket (Stage 2). Additional wild card teams may be selected from the group stage to fill the final bracket. All matches in the final stage will be handicapped using FargoRate.

Free Vegas Entries

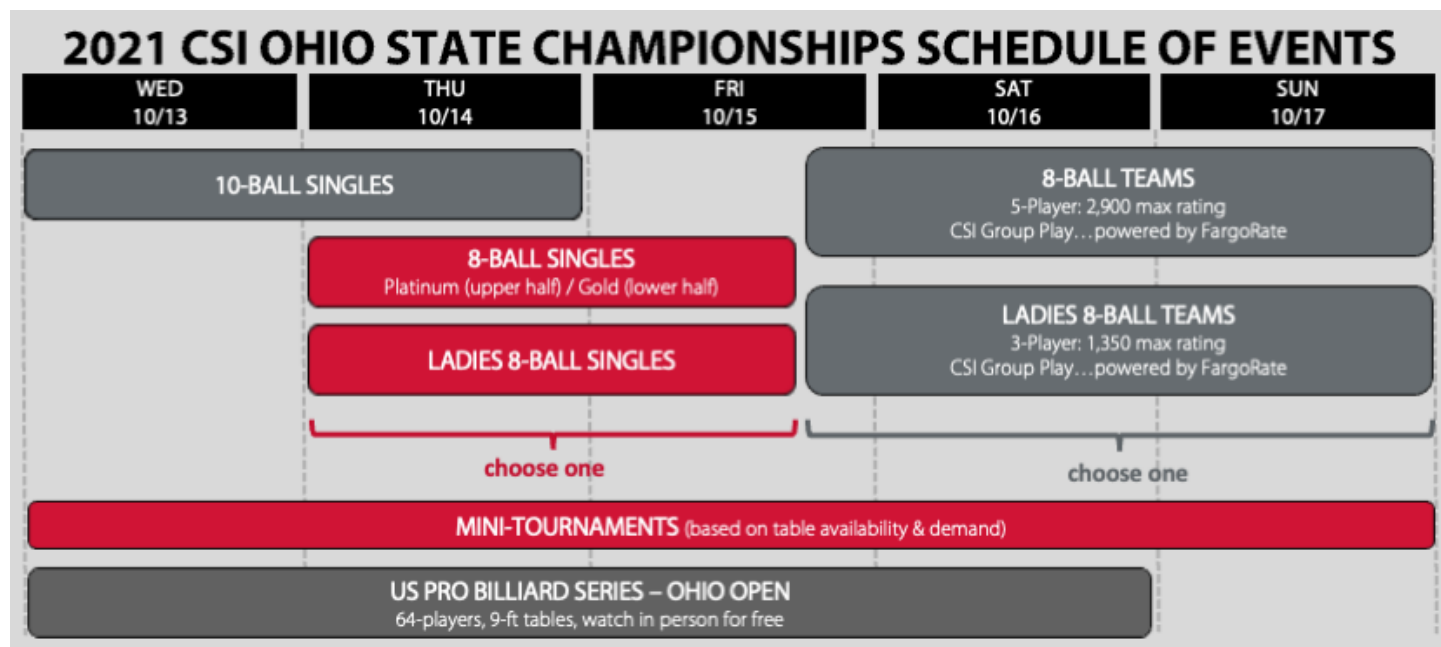
The winning team of each team division with eight (8) or more teams will receive free entry into the 2022 BCA Pool League World Championships or 2022 USA Pool League National Championships (whichever is appropriate for the winning team). Here are a few conditions:

- The division won must have at least eight (8) teams competing.
- Free entries must be used for the 2022 BCA Pool League World Championships or 2022 USA Pool League National Championships (March 2022) and may not be deferred to a future event.
- Only one (1) player from the winning team may be replaced in Las Vegas. For example, if a 5-player team wins an applicable state or regional event, at least four of those players must compete in Las Vegas.
- The winning team must compete in whatever Las Vegas division is appropriate given their total combined Fargo rating.
- Free entries are not transferrable to any other team.
- Free entries are not redeemable for cash or any other consideration.

Pro event added

To add even more excitement, we will be showcasing a US Pro Billiard Series event featuring many of the best players in the world. The event will be 10-ball and played on 9-foot tables. Anyone can watch in person for free in the CSI Pro Arena.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



GENERAL INFO

The purpose of this document is to provide the necessary information about the event and its divisions. This document is not intended to convey the procedures that must be followed at the event.

Questions?

This is a CSI Affiliate event owned and operated by Shaffer Entertainment. All event questions and concerns should be directed to Chris Williams, Shaffer Entertainment Event Manager, at cwilliams@shafferentertainment.com.

Important Dates

Sept 22: Last day for hotel discount
Sept 4: Last day for refund & change requests
Oct 6: Last day to register online
Oct 13: Event begins @ 9am

Refunds & Changes

Refund requests must be received in writing by email or postal mail by Oct 4, 2021 and will be processed after Oct 25, 2021. Admin fees are non-refundable and an additional \$20 processing fee applies to each entry refunded. Change requests must also be received by Oct 4, 2021 and a \$20/player processing fee applies to each change.

COVID-19 Safety Rules

Although it is impossible to predict exactly what COVID-19 restrictions may be in place at the time of the event, players should be prepared to adhere to all safety rules & regulations put into place by Shaffer Entertainment, CueSports International, Roberts Centre, Ohio 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. Players accept this when they register and refusal to follow safety rules and regulations is not sufficient justification for a refund.

On-Site Registrations

On-site registrations are NOT ACCEPTED for this event.

Event Fees

Admin fees help cover the cost of processing registrations, verifying eligibility, verifying ratings, etc. Late registrations create a backlog, require extra personnel and cause increased labor cost. On-site registrations require extra event staff and even more labor costs. Because admin fees are consumed during the registration process, they are non-refundable. Admin fees are included in the entry fees and are as follows:

DIVISION TYPE	ENTRY (by Oct 6)	LATE ENTRY (Sept 7-Oct 6)	ON-SITE ENTRY
SINGLES	\$20	additional \$20	N/A
TEAMS	\$10/core player	additional \$10/core player	N/A

Green fees help cover the cost of the venue, equipment, staff, set-up, tear-down, etc. Green fees are refundable if a written refund request is submitted prior to the refund request deadline of Oct 4, 2021. Green fees are included in the entry fees and are as follows:

DIVISION TYPE	ENTRY (by Oct 6)	LATE ENTRY (Sept 7-Oct 6)	ON-SITE ENTRY
SINGLES	\$20	\$20	N/A
TEAMS	\$20/core player	\$20/core player	N/A

Change fees help cover the cost of processing changes such as removing players from teams, adding players to teams, verifying the eligibility of new players, verifying the ratings of new players, etc. The change fee is \$20/change. We encourage you to be confident about your registration before submitting it to avoid change fees.

Digital Membership Card & Valid Photo ID Required

All participants must have their digital membership card and valid Government-issued photo ID and present it to all opposing players, teams or staff upon request. Your digital membership card can be found in your personal profile on the [FargoRate mobile app](#) which can be downloaded free for Android and Apple devices. Physical cards are no longer produced so please download the FargoRate app and have your digital membership card ready to show upon request. Failure to show your digital membership card and valid Government-issued photo ID can result in automatic disqualification and forfeiture of entry fees and prize money.

Dress Code

All events will follow Dress Code C unless otherwise specified.

Hotel Discount

Roberts Centre Holiday Inn

123 Gano Road, Wilmington, Ohio 45177

- **Book by Sept 22, 2021** to receive the special group rate of \$124/night. **HURRY...** there is a limited number of rooms available.
- **Online:** [Click here](#)
- **Phone:** 877-666-3243 and mention Group Code: **SEE**

FargoRate

FargoRate has replaced the outdated systems of subjectively classifying players as Open-Advanced-Master, A-B-C, 3-4-5, etc. Players with at least 200 games of data in the FargoRate system have an established rating. Those with fewer than 200 games have a preliminary rating based on any data in the FargoRate system and a starter rating assigned by CueSports International (CSI).

Example: John has a Fargo Rating of 593 based on just 50 games. He was assigned a starter rating of 560 by CSI. John's preliminary rating would be calculated by a proportional combination of the two numbers $(593 \times 25\%) + (560 \times 75\%)$. Therefore, John's preliminary rating would be 568. Starter ratings may be adjusted by CSI at any time.

Rating Reviews

We carefully review the ratings of all players who register. This process takes time and **we reserve the right to adjust starter ratings and correct errors at any time.** To avoid late rating issues, we encourage you to register early and make sure your rating and your teammate's ratings reflect actual skill level. **Any type of rating correction is not grounds for a refund.**

REGISTER EARLY: You may register at any time. There is no need to wait until you actually have an active membership or reach the minimum weeks of play requirement (discussed later) to register. Players who are not current members but intend to play in a BCA Pool League or USA Pool League later in the year may register now by submitting a paper or PDF entry form which can be downloaded from the official webpage. These registrations will be processed and reviewed at a later date to verify membership status and weeks played.

Rating Penalties

Each division has a team and/or individual rating cushion to allow for natural rating increases after registration. If a rating naturally increases beyond the cushion, game penalties may be applied. If a player or team has incurred a game penalty, the opponent will race to one game less. If both teams in a match have been penalized, the penalty in that match will be the difference between the two penalties. For example, if Team A has a one-game penalty and Team B has a two-game penalty, Team B will incur a one-game penalty in that match. If both teams have a one-game penalty, there will be no penalty. **Please Note:** The rating cushion applies only to ratings that have naturally increased as a result of additional FargoRate data. A change or correction of a starter rating is not a natural increase.

Don't Get Disqualified

We take player ratings very seriously. A player who intentionally enters an event with a rating that is too low for his or her ability, is cheating. Be aware that we have tools in place to monitor players who are consistently and significantly performing above their rating during the event. We reserve the right to disqualify any player without refund. Don't get disqualified. If you believe you are underrated, contact Shaffer Entertainment prior to the registration deadline.

Ladies Events

While ladies' divisions are offered, FargoRate provides the opportunity for ladies to compete on a level playing field against men. A lady rated 450 plays at the same level as a man rated 450. Therefore, ladies are welcomed and encouraged to participate in all divisions.

Start Times & Format

Divisions may begin as early as the times listed in the sections below. However, various factors could delay start times and a delayed start is not grounds for a refund. Always check the tournament brackets at www.ctsondemand.com for the exact start time of your match or ask the Tournament Director. Singles & doubles divisions are true double elimination format unless otherwise noted.

Plan Your Travel Carefully

We encourage you to allow plenty of time before and after the event for travel. Neither Shaffer Entertainment nor CSI is not responsible for travel delays, traffic jams or any other travel-related issue that could cause you to miss your match and be forfeited. Matches are not delayed or accelerated to accommodate travel issues. Therefore, you are encouraged to arrive no later than the day before your division(s) begin and leave no sooner than the day after the event ends.

How to Avoid Forfeits

Each year, people forfeit matches because they do not follow the correct procedures. **Matches are not announced at the event** and there may be occasions when your table is not available at the scheduled time because earlier matches are running late. You are responsible to be at your assigned table when it becomes available. Please review Appendix A – Using CTS (CueSports Tournament System) and the Tournament Regulations. These documents detail the process of avoiding forfeits. If you still need help, please ask the Tournament Director. Being forfeited as a result of not following the correct procedures (see the Golden Rule below) is not grounds for a refund or a credit.

Golden Rule: If you are at your assigned table at the scheduled match time and do not leave, you cannot be forfeited.

Match Conflicts

You may want to play in as many divisions as possible to get the most out of the experience. Therefore, participants are free to register for divisions that overlap. However, Shaffer Entertainment is only able to schedule around some of the overlapping divisions as noted in the table below. If match conflicts occur that are not specified in the second column below, the player or team must forfeit one of the conflicting matches without refund.

If you're in...	We WILL schedule around...	We WILL NOT schedule around...
10-Ball Singles	8-Ball Singles, Ladies 8-Ball Singles	Mini-Tournaments, US Pro Billiard Series
8-Ball Singles	10-Ball Singles	Ladies 8-Ball Singles, Mini-Tournaments, US Pro Billiard Series
Ladies 8-Ball Singles	10-Ball Singles	8-Ball Singles, Mini-Tournaments, US Pro Billiard Series
8-Ball Teams	---	Ladies 8-Ball Teams, Mini-Tournaments, US Pro Billiard Series
Ladies 8-Ball Teams	---	8-Ball Teams, Mini-Tournaments, US Pro Billiard Series
US Pro Billiard Series	---	10-Ball Singles, 8-Ball Singles, Ladies 8-Ball Singles, 8-Ball Teams, Ladies 8-Ball Teams, Mini-Tournaments

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 Shaffer Entertainment and CueSports International (CSI). 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, Entry Form, Tournament Regulations and/or all rules and regulations and you will check for the latest edition of all documents just prior to the event start date. You agree to abide by all rules & regulations implemented by Shaffer Entertainment and CSI. Shaffer Entertainment and CSI reserves 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 Shaffer Entertainment, CueSports International, Roberts Centre, Ohio 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. Shaffer Entertainment, 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 Shaffer Entertainment or CSI, if any, shall be limited to reimbursement of the entry fee paid.

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

Shaffer Entertainment and CSI may also 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 Shaffer Entertainment and CSI 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 Shaffer Entertainment and CSI may also add your email address to its email list and send you periodic emails at its sole discretion.

SINGLES

Check-in for singles divisions is not required. However, it is your responsibility to know when and where you play.

Eligibility

- All players must have a 2021 BCA Pool League or USA Pool League membership and play at least six (6) weeks in a single division session between Jan 1, 2021 and the registration deadline.
 - Your BCA Pool League membership status can be checked at www.playcsipool.com/bcapl-membership-lookup
 - Your USA Pool League membership status can be checked at www.playcsipool.com/usapl-membership-lookup
- Ladies' divisions are open to ladies only. All other divisions are open to male and female players.
- For Ladies divisions, no lady may be rated higher than 660 at the time of registration. For all other divisions, no person may be rated higher than 720 at the time of registration.

Individual Rating Increases

There is a 10-point individual rating cushion. If a person is rated 720 (660 for Ladies Singles) or lower at the time of registration, but his or her rating naturally increases above 730 (670 for Ladies Singles), he or she has the following options:

- Option 1: Move to another division (if possible) and pay any difference in entry fees
 Option 2: Play and accept a one-game penalty in each match for every 25 points over 730 (or 670)

Example: A player has a rating of 717 at the time of registration but it naturally increases to 735 (5 pts. over the cushion), he or she will incur a one-game penalty in each match. If his or her rating naturally increases to 758 (28 pts. over the cushion), he or she will incur a two-game penalty in each match.

Divisions

DIVISIONS	START ¹	SPLIT ² (approx)	RACE	ENTRY ³ (by Oct 6)	LATE-ENTRY ³ (Sept 7-Oct 6)	ON-SITE ^{3,4} ENTRY
10-Ball Singles ⁶	10/13 (Wed) 9am	All	R5 Hot	\$80	\$100	N/A
8-Ball Singles						
Platinum Division ⁶	10/14 (Thu) 9am	Upper half	R5 Hot	\$80	\$100	N/A
Gold Division ⁶	10/14 (Thu) 9am	Lower half	R5 Hot	\$80	\$100	N/A
Ladies 8-Ball Singles ^{5,6}	10/14 (Thu) 9am	All	R4 Hot	\$80	\$100	N/A

- Start times shown are the earliest possible start times. Actual start times may be later. Check the brackets or ask the Tournament Director for actual times.
- After registration ends, the field will be split into multiple divisions based on players' Fargo ratings, approximate percentages shown and the bracket sizes. The percentages shown are approximations and are subject to change based on the skill levels of the participants and bracket sizes.
- Each entry includes admin & green fees. See the General Info section for a breakdown of those fees.
- On-site entries must be received by 6pm the day prior to the start date listed for each division.
- Open to ladies only. All ladies must be rated 660 or lower at the time of registration.

TEAMS (CSI Group Play...powered by FargoRate)

Team Check-In & Rosters

Team check-in is required and begins at noon on Friday, Oct 15, 2021. The Team Captain or League Operator must check in at the Tournament Desk prior to the start of the division and get an official team roster. The official roster and valid Government-issued photo ID of all players must be presented to all opposing teams and event staff upon request.

Team Shirts

Please note the following team shirt requirements from Dress Code C.

- Team shirts are encouraged but not required during team competition.

Eligibility

- All players must have a 2021 BCA Pool League or USA Pool League membership and play at least six (6) weeks in a single division session between Jan 1, 2021 and the registration deadline.
 - Your BCA Pool League membership status can be checked at www.playcsipool.com/bcapl-membership-lookup
 - Your USA Pool League membership status can be checked at www.playcsipool.com/usapl-membership-lookup

- For Ladies Teams, no lady may be rated higher than 660 at the time of registration. For all other divisions, no person (male or female) may be rated higher than 720 at the time of registration.
- Players may not be on more than one team roster.

Core Roster & Substitutions

The "core" roster is used to determine the total team rating. Players designated as substitutes may not replace a lower-rated core player during competition.

Team Rating Increases

There is a 10-point per core player team rating cushion. If a team is eligible for a division at the time of registration but one or more members' ratings naturally increase to push them over the limit plus the cushion, it has the following options:

- Option 1: Move up into the next division (if possible) and pay any difference in entry fees
- Option 2: Replace one or more players to get back within the division limit (must still meet other eligibility requirements)
- Option 3: Play and accept a one-game penalty in each match for every 50 points over the cushion

Example: A 5-player team is below the 2,900 limit at the time of registration but their team rating naturally increases to 2,993 (43 pts. over the cushion). They will incur a one-game penalty in each match. If their rating naturally increases to 3,027 (77 pts. over the cushion), they will incur a two-game penalty in each match.

Individual Rating Increases

There is a 10-point individual rating cushion. If a person (male or female) is rated 720 or lower, or a female is rated 660 or lower in Ladies Teams, at the time of registration, but his or her rating naturally increases above 730 (Teams) or 670 (Ladies Teams), the team has the following options:

- Option 1: Replace the player (must still meet other eligibility requirements)
- Option 2: Play and accept a one-game penalty in each match for every 25 points over the cushion (730 or 670)

Example: A male has a rating of 716 at the time of registration but it naturally increases to 735 (5 pts. over the cushion), the team will incur a one-game penalty in each match. If the same person's rating increases to 758 (28 pts. over the cushion), the team will incur a two-game penalty in each match.

Format (CSI Group Play...powered by FargoRate)

The team divisions are a group round robin tournament format consisting of a **Stage 1 – Group Stage** and a **Stage 2 – Single Elimination Final Bracket**. See below for the specific details of each stage.

Stage 1 – Group Stage	Stage 2 – Single Elimination Final Bracket
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teams are placed in groups of 5 or 6 (if practical) • Teams in groups of 6 play 5 matches • Teams in groups of 5 play 4 matches <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 15 games per match for 8-Ball Teams 2. 9 games per match for Ladies 8-Ball Teams • Handicapped by the FargoRate League Calculator ¹ • Top 2 teams from each group advance to Stage 2 • Wild card teams will be selected to fill the Stage 2 bracket if necessary • Team ranking criteria within a single group: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wins / Loss Record ² 2. Head-to-Head ³ 3. Performance Margin ⁴ 4. Spot Shot Shootout ⁵ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top 2 teams from each group of Stage 1 advance to Stage 2 (if practical) • 8-team, 16-team or 32-team single elimination bracket (depending on the number of teams in Stage 1) • Wild cards will be selected to fill the bracket if necessary. Wild cards, if used, will be selected by the following criteria: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Avg Performance Margin ⁴ (performance margin / matches played) 2. Spot Shot Shootout ⁵ • Matches handicapped by FargoRate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 8-Ball Teams: R11 Hot race chart ○ Ladies 8-Ball Teams: R7 Hot race chart

1. The FargoRate League Calculator can be found at <http://leaguecalc.fargorate.com>. Enter the Fargo ratings of each player on both teams, click the blue button until "1 POINTS" is displayed, enter "3" into the field for "Number of games a player plays per round (or per match if handicapping matches)," and click the "CALCULATE" button. The result will be the handicap per match.
2. Each match is handicapped by FargoRate. If a match ends in a tie score, each team receives 0.5 win & 0.5 loss points.
3. If two or more teams have the same win/loss record, the team that won the match between those two teams has the head-to-head advantage.
4. The Performance Margin is a comparison of what a team is expected to score vs what it actually scores in each match. The expected score chart is as follows:

8-BALL TEAMS (15 games)		
Hdcp	Higher Team	Lower Team
0	7.5	7.5
1	8	7
2	8.5	6.5
3	9	6
4	9.5	5.5
5	10	5
6	10.5	4.5
7	11	4
8	11.5	3.5
9	12	3
↓	↓	↓

LADIES 8-BALL TEAMS (9 games)		
Hdcp	Higher Team	Lower Team
0	4.5	4.5
1	5	4
2	5.5	3.5
3	6	3
4	6.5	2.5
5	7	2
6	7.5	1.5
7	8	1
8	8.5	0.5
9	9	0

If the handicap between two teams playing 15 total games is 2, mathematically, the higher rated team is expected to score 8.5 points on average and the lower rated team is expected to earn 6.5 points on average. If the actual score of the match is 9-6 in favor of the higher rated team, the higher rated team will earn +0.5 performance margin points (because it scored 0.5 more points than mathematically expected) and the lower rated team will earn -0.5 performance margin points. Performance margin points will be accumulated by all teams.

- Cue ball is placed behind the head string and one player for each team, chosen by the Team Captains, shoots alternating spot shots. One shot per player is an inning. A team wins when its player successfully pockets the object ball while the opposing player misses the shot in the same inning.

8-Ball Teams Divisions

DIVISIONS	START ¹	SPLIT	STAGE 1 LENGTH ³	STAGE 2 RACE ⁴	ENTRY ⁵ (by Oct 6)	LATE ENTRY ⁵ (Sept 7-Oct 6)	ON-SITE ENTRY
8-Ball Teams ⁶ (5-player teams ² / 2,900 max team rating)							
Platinum Division	10/15 (Fri) 6pm	Upper 50%	15 games	R11 Hot	\$300	\$350	N/A
Gold Division	10/15 (Fri) 6pm	Lower 50%	15 games	R11 Hot	\$300	\$350	N/A
Ladies 8-Ball Teams ⁷ (3-player teams ² / 1,350 max team rating)							
Ladies Division	10/15 (Fri) 6pm	All	9 games	R7 Hot	\$180	\$210	N/A

- Start times shown are the earliest possible start times. Actual start times may be later. Check the brackets or ask the Tournament Director for actual times.
- The is the number of players on the core roster. 8-Ball Teams may have up to two substitutes and Ladies 8-Ball Teams may have up to one substitute.
- Stage 1 is the group format. The goal is to randomly place teams in groups of 5 or 6 (based on field sizes). If possible, all teams will play five (5) or four (4) matches, each consisting of 15 games (5-player teams) or 9 games (3-player teams). All matches are handicapped using FargoRate.
- The top two (2) teams from each group will advance to a final single elimination bracket. All matches in the final stage will be handicapped by the FargoRate R11 Hot race chart (5-player teams) or FargoRate R9 Hot race chart (3-player teams).
- Each entry includes admin & green fees. See the General Info section for a breakdown of these fees.
- \$1,000 added.
- \$500 added.

MINI-TOURNAMENTS

Mini-tournaments will be conducted beginning on the first day of the event and will conduct as many as demand dictates. Many different formats may be offered such as handicapped, non-handicapped, 8-ball, 9-ball, 10-ball, etc. Those wishing to participate should visit the Tournament Desk.

Eligibility

- All players must meet at least one of the following eligibility criteria:
 - Have a 2021 BCA Pool League or USA Pool League membership and play at least six (6) weeks in a single division session between Jan 1, 2021 and the registration deadline.
 - Your BCA Pool League membership status can be checked at www.playcsipool.com/bcapl-membership-lookup
 - Your USA Pool League membership status can be checked at www.playcsipool.com/usapl-membership-lookup
 - or...
 - Have a 2021 CSI Membership (\$40/year)

NOTE: Some mini-tournaments may have specific rating, gender, league, and misc. requirements.