



PLAYER GUIDE

2022 Season

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CueSports International (CSI)

CUESPORTS INTERNATIONAL 2041 Pabco Road, Henderson, NV 89011





ABOUT

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 premier 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. The series also has its own points and ranking system managed by FargoRate. For more detail on the points and ranking system, see the RANKING SYSTEM section.

The synergy between league and professional pool players is critical to the growth of the sport. League players want to watch the best and professional players need a fan base. Therefore, CSI and Predator have come together to conduct all US Pro Billiard Series events alongside various CSI Leagues events with hundreds, sometimes thousands, of BCA Pool League and USA Pool League members in attendance.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2022 season **US Pro Billiard Series** Schedule of Events. All events play 10-ball.

EVENT	DATE	NAME	LOCATION	PLAYERS	ADDED	PRIZE FUND*
1	Jan 12-15	Arcadia Arizona Open	Tucson, Arizona	64	\$52,600	\$75,000
2	Feb 9-12	Apex Wisconsin Open	Baraboo, Wisconsin	64	\$52,600	\$75,000
3	Mar 23-26	Alfa Las Vegas Open	Las Vegas, Nevada	128	\$55,200	\$100,000
4	Sep 21-24	Michigan Open	Battle Creek, Michigan	128	\$55,200	\$100,000
5	Oct 19-22	Ohio Open	Wilmington, Ohio	64	\$52,600	\$75,000
6	TBA	Puerto Rico Open	San Juan, Puerto Rico	128	\$55,200	\$100,000
					\$323,400	\$525,000
Culminating with...						
	Feb 27-Mar 3, 2023	2023 Predator World 10-Ball Championship **	Las Vegas, Nevada	128	\$154,000	\$250,000
					\$477,400	\$775,000

* Based on full fields

** This is a WPA-sanctioned World Championship. 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.



HOW TO REGISTER

Players must register online at 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.



EQUIPMENT

Predator Apex Tables (9-ft)
 Predator Arcadia Reserve Cloth
 Predator Arena Lights
 Predator Arcos II Balls
 Predator Triangle Racks
 Predator Bridges
 Predator 1080 Pure Chalk



FORMAT

Stage 1

- The top players, based on the 2022 US Pro Billiard Series rankings, will be seeded in Stage 1. For a 64-player event, the top 16 players will be seeded. For a 128-player event, the top 32 players will be seeded. A random draw will be conducted for the remaining players. Seeding for the first event of the 2022 season will be based on the 2021 US Pro Billiard Series rankings.
- For 64-player events, double elimination to the final 16 players (8 on winners' side & 8 on the one-loss side). For 128-player events, double elimination to the final 32 players (16 on winners' side & 16 on the one-loss side).
- Two sets, race to 4. If the set score is tied at 1-1 after two sets, a shootout will determine the winner.

Stage 2

- For 64-player events, final 16 players from Stage 1. For 128-player events, final 32 players from Stage 1. A new draw will determine the bracket placement (undefeated player vs one-loss side player). The order of the undefeated and one-loss players will be random.
- Single elimination
- Two sets, race to 4. If the set score is tied at 1-1 after two sets, a spot shot shootout will determine the winner (details below).

Breaking

- Winner breaks format. Lag for the opening break of the first 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

Shootout

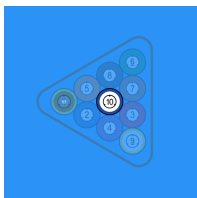
If a set score is tied at 1-1 after two sets, a shootout will determine the winner. The goal is to pocket the object ball in its designated pocket. To determine a winner the following system will be used:

- 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.

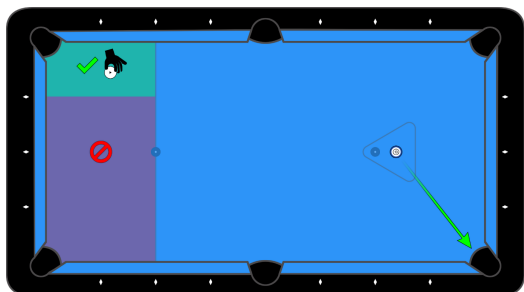
For a shot to be considered legal, the following rules in terms of position and placement must be executed:

- 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 as shown below.

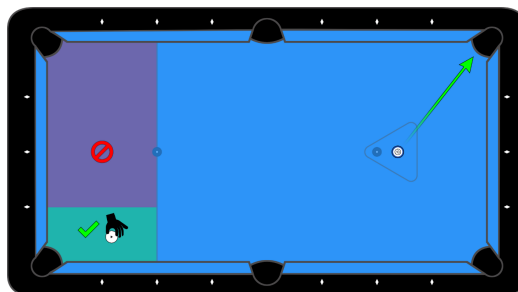


- Referee spots the 10-ball. Opponents may not approach or inspect the ball.
- There are two zones designated for the shootout, the left and right side, shown below. The player must place the cue ball within the designated zone and pocket the 10-ball in the opposite corner pocket as shown below.
- Players 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.

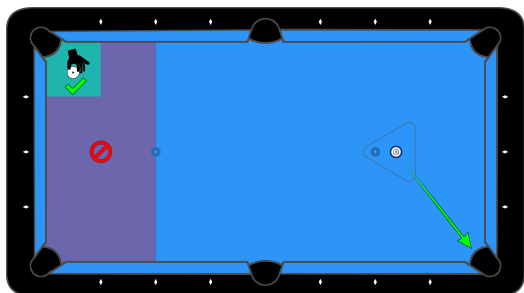
Regulation Shootout (Left Side)



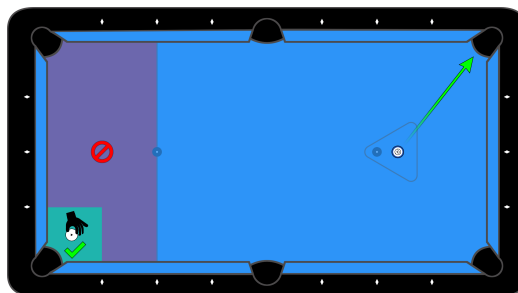
Regulation Shootout (Right Side)



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 a shot is considered legal are as follows:

- 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.

General

- 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
 - 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
- 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.
- The other tables will be open for practice whenever they are not in play. The tables will close for practice at midnight.
- 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.



RANKING SYSTEM

The US Pro Billiard Series features its own ranking system, managed by FargoRate, based on points earned at each event. The winner of each event receives a guaranteed spot in the 2023 Predator World 10-Ball Championship in Las Vegas. In addition, the top six (6) players in the US Pro Billiard Series rankings who are not otherwise invited by the WPA, a WPA continental federation or a promotor wild card, will also earn a spot in the 2023 Predator World 10-Ball Championship.

Players earn two types of points:

1. Tournament points – points awarded based upon where a player finishes in an event
2. FargoRate points – points awarded based upon a player's Fargo rating

Tournament Points

Players earn Tournament points based upon where they finish in an event.

<u>64-Player Events</u>		<u>128-Player Events</u>	
1 st	100	1 st	110
2 nd	80	2 nd	90
3 rd -4 th	70	3 rd -4 th	80
5 th -8 th	60	5 th -8 th	70
9 th -16 th	50	9 th -16 th	60
17 th -24 th	40	17 th -32 nd	50
25 th -32 nd	30	33 rd -48 th	40
33 rd -48 th	20	49 th -64 th	30
49 th -64 th	10	65 th -96 th	20
Total	2,000	97 th -128 th	10
		Total	4,000

FargoRate Points

Players earn FargoRate points based on their Fargo ratings. Players must compete in an event to earn FargoRate points. Players must also have an established Fargo rating (based on 200 games or more) to receive FargoRate points. The total number and distribution of FargoRate points will match the total number and distribution of Tournament points as shown in the following tables based on their Fargo ratings. For example, the player with the highest Fargo rating in a 64-player event will receive 82 FargoRate points; the player with the second-highest Fargo rating will receive 78 FargoRate points and so forth.

FargoRate points distribution for a 64-player event (2,000 total points distributed)

Rank	Pts	Rank	Pts	Rank	Pts	Rank	Pts
1	82	17	42	33	22	49	12
2	78	18	41	34	21	50	11
3	75	19	39	35	20	51	11
4	72	20	38	36	20	52	10
5	69	21	36	37	19	53	10
6	67	22	35	38	18	54	9
7	64	23	33	39	17	55	9
8	61	24	32	40	17	56	9
9	59	25	31	41	16	57	8
10	56	26	29	42	15	58	8
11	54	27	28	43	15	59	8
12	52	28	27	44	14	60	7
13	50	29	26	45	14	61	7
14	48	30	25	46	13	62	7
15	46	31	24	47	12	63	7
16	44	32	23	48	12	64	6

FargoRate points distribution for a 128-player event (4,000 total points distributed)

Rank	Pts	Rank	Pts	Rank	Pts	Rank	Pts	Rank	Pts	Rank	Pts	Rank	Pts	Rank	Pts
1	82	17	59	33	42	49	31	65	22	81	16	97	12	113	8
2	80	18	58	34	42	50	30	66	22	82	16	98	11	114	8
3	78	19	56	35	41	51	29	67	21	83	15	99	11	115	8
4	77	20	55	36	40	52	29	68	21	84	15	100	11	116	8
5	75	21	54	37	39	53	28	69	20	85	15	101	11	117	8
6	74	22	53	38	38	54	28	70	20	86	14	102	10	118	8
7	72	23	52	39	38	55	27	71	20	87	14	103	10	119	7
8	71	24	51	40	37	56	27	72	19	88	14	104	10	120	7
9	69	25	50	41	36	57	26	73	19	89	14	105	10	121	7
10	68	26	49	42	35	58	26	74	18	90	13	106	10	122	7
11	67	27	48	43	35	59	25	75	18	91	13	107	9	123	7
12	65	28	47	44	34	60	24	76	18	92	13	108	9	124	7
13	64	29	46	45	33	61	24	77	17	93	12	109	9	125	7
14	63	30	45	46	33	62	24	78	17	94	12	110	9	126	6
15	61	31	44	47	32	63	23	79	17	95	12	111	9	127	6
16	60	32	43	48	31	64	23	80	16	96	12	112	8	128	6

Why this approach?

A balanced blending of Tournament points and FargoRate points allows for the emergence of rising talent while reducing the chance that top players are knocked out of contention by misfortune or a single poor performance.



RULES

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

- 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, without being called and in any pocket, is a game win.
- 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
- Players may not use their cell phones during a match. They must be put away, out of sight and on silent mode during the match.
- If your opponent is not present at the posted match time, you should notify the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director will penalize your opponent one game and place him or her "on the clock." If he or she is not present within 15 minutes of being placed "on the clock," it is a forfeit.

COVID-19

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 CueSports International, 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. Players accept this when they register and refusal to follow safety rules and regulations is not sufficient justification for a refund.

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.



DRESS CODE

The following dress code will be strictly enforced. CSI has sole and final authority on the dress code.

Approved Clothing

- Dress pants or casual slacks.
- Polo or button-down style shirt with sleeves, fold over or vertical collar. Button-down shirts may be worn unbuttoned if they are worn with a neat and tasteful undergarment. Button-down shirts worn without an undergarment may only be unbuttoned one button below the neck button or as deemed appropriate by the Tournament Director. Shirts should not be excessively loose or revealing.
- All footwear must be dark color, closed toe and normal in style and wear. Shoes with laces must have the laces properly tied. Dark color tennis or walking shoes are acceptable but must be clean and neat.

Prohibited 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 ear pieces (unless medical need proof required)

Sponsor Logos and Patches

Players may wear up to three logos on playing apparel ("player's logos") including any apparel manufacturer logos that may be present on the apparel. However, a logo may not exceed 10 square inches. The player must submit to CueSports International (CSI) at john.leyman@playcsipool.com, before his or her first match, samples of all sponsor logos for approval. CSI reserves the authority to disallow any logo for any reason, including but not limited to not submitting logo for approval. Additionally, CSI reserves the right to require any player to display the event logo on the player's apparel.



ENTRY FEE & PAYOUTS (USD)

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 US Pro Billiard Series event, you are making a commitment to the event, the event organizers, the fans, event sponsors, your sponsors and yourself. **The refund request deadline for each event**

is two weeks prior to the event start date. Admin fees are non-refundable. Refunds are also subject to an additional \$20 processing fee. 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. No exceptions.**

EVENT	DATE	NAME	EARLY ENTRY DEADLINE	REFUND DEADLINE
1	Jan 12	Arcadia Arizona Open	Dec 15, 2021	Dec 29, 2021
3	Feb 9	Apex Wisconsin Open	Jan 12, 2022	Jan 26, 2022
3	Mar 23	Alfa Las Vegas Open	Feb 23, 2022	Mar 9, 2022
4	Sep 21	Michigan Open	Aug 24, 2022	Sept 7, 2022
5	Oct 19	Ohio Open	Sept 21, 2022	Oct 5, 2022
6	TBA	Puerto Rico Open	TBA	TBA



PLAYERS' MEETINGS

There will be a mandatory players' meeting in the Pro Arena for each event @ 8pm on the evening prior to the event start date. The meeting will be conducted by Tournament Director. Any player not present may be replaced by a player on the waiting list at CSI's sole discretion without refund.

Plan Your Travel Carefully

We encourage you to allow plenty of time before and after the event for travel. CSI is not responsible for airline delays, lost luggage, traffic jams or any other travel-related issue that could cause you to miss the Players' Meeting and lose your spot. 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.



BROADCAST INFO

Each event will be broadcast live by CSI Media on Billiard TV and the World Billiard TV YouTube channel.



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.



The World Billiard TV YouTube channel is one of the largest and most watched billiard channels on YouTube. Featuring more than 1,000 full-length matches, the channel currently averages about 14.8 million impressions each month.