

PLAYER GUIDE



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csi leagues OHIO STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

ROBERTS CENTRE - WILMINGTON, OH



OCT 11 - 15, 2023



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HIGHLIGHTS

CSI Group Play Format for Teams – TEAMS GUARANTEED 4-5 MATCHES!

The team divisions will use the CSI Group Play 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 1 consists of 15 games (5-player teams) or 9 games (3-player ladies' 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 also be handicapped using FargoRate.

Scotch Doubles Added

8-Ball Scotch Doubles has been added to provide even more opportunity to compete. See the Scotch Doubles section for all division info.


Free Vegas Entries

The winning team of each team division with eight (8) or more teams will receive free entry into the 2024 BCA Pool League World Championships or USA Pool League National Championships (whichever is appropriate for the winning team). Visit www.playcspool.com/free-entry for details and conditions.

Predator Apex Premier League Edition Tables



The event will be played on 7-foot Predator Apex Premier League Edition tables, which have been meticulously designed by CSI and Predator for performance, reliability, and fun. It features 4.5 inch perfectly flush pockets, ultra-black matte fingerprint resistant finish, pocket sound dampening, tracks that prevent chalk from getting stuck in the table, and a ball return system designed to be quiet and keep the balls clean. Its 25mm one-piece pure Brazilian slate, overbuilt frame, and composite legs, each capable of supporting the entire weight of the table, boasts strength and stability. Visit www.playcspool.com/2022-news to learn more about the tables.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



2023 CSI LEAGUES OHIO STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

	WED 10/11	THU 10/12	FRI 10/13	SAT 10/14	SUN 10/15
CHOOSE ONE	8-BALL SINGLES <small>720 max rating, Platinum & Gold Divisions</small>				
	LADIES 8-BALL SINGLES <small>660 max rating</small>				
	10-BALL SINGLES <small>720 max rating</small>	8-BALL TEAMS <small>5-Player: 2,850 max rating CSI Group Play...powered by FargoRate</small>			
	8-BALL SCOTCH DOUBLES <small>1,100 max rating</small>	LADIES 8-BALL TEAMS <small>3-Player: 1,350 max rating CSI Group Play...powered by FargoRate</small>			
	CHOOSE ONE		CHOOSE ONE		
	MINI-TOURNAMENTS <small>(based on table availability & demand)</small>				
	2ND CHANCE 8-BALL SINGLES			2ND CHANCE 8-BALL TEAMS	

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.

Important Dates

Sept 4: Last day for early entry discount

Sept 11: Last day for mailed entries & personal checks

Sept 17: Last day for hotel discount

Oct 2: Last day for refund & change requests

Oct 2: Last day to register

Oct 11: Tournaments begins

Refunds & Changes

Refund requests must be received in writing by email or postal mail by Oct 2, 2023 and will be processed after Oct 23, 2023. Admin fees are non-refundable and an additional \$20 processing fee applies to each entry refunded. Change requests must also be received by Oct 2, 2023 and a \$20/player processing fee applies to each change.

Safety Rules

Although it is impossible to predict exactly what 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, 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

All on-site registrations must be cash only in US currency.

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	EARLY ENTRY (by Sept 4)	LATE ENTRY (Sept 5 - Oct 2)	ON-SITE ENTRY
SINGLES	\$20	additional \$20	N/A
SCOTCH DOUBLES	\$10/player	additional \$10/player	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. Green fees are included in the entry fees and are as follows:

DIVISION TYPE	EARLY ENTRY (by Sept 4)	LATE ENTRY (Sept 5 - Oct 2)	ON-SITE ENTRY
SINGLES	\$20	\$20	N/A
SCOTCH DOUBLES	\$10/player	\$10/player	N/A
TEAMS	\$10/core player	\$10/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. Team shirts are encouraged but not required. The complete Dress Code can be found on the event webpage.

Hotel Discount – Holiday Inn Roberts Centre

123 Gano Road | Wilmington, OH 45177

Book by Sept 17, 2023 to receive the special group rate of \$131 per night.

Phone: (937) 283-3200, **Group Code:** 2023 Shaffer Entertainment Pool Tournament

OTHER HOTEL OPTIONS

Holiday Inn Express-Wilmington: 937-382-5858

Hampton Inn-Wilmington: 937-382-4400

Town Place Suites-Wilmington: 937-805-0420

Fairfield Inn-Jeffersonville: 937-948-9305

Hampton Inn-Jeffersonville: 740-948-9499

Baymont Inn-Jeffersonville: 740-948-2104

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 CSI 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.

Verify Your Registration!

The complete list of players can be found near the bottom of the official event webpage. All upcoming events can be found at www.playcsipool.com/events.

If you have already registered for the event, please verify that your name appears in the "Awesome Participants" list in every division for which you registered. Technical glitches can happen and **it's your responsibility to confirm your registration(s)** prior to the event. If you are not on the participant list and you fail to notify us at least one week prior to the event, we may not be able to accommodate you. If your name does appear on the list, it's a good idea to take a screenshot and keep it with you as back-up if needed. It is not helpful to show up at the Tournament Desk and simply say that your name was previously on the list.

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, during, and after the event for travel. 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 CSI 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, CSI 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...
8-Ball Scotch Doubles	8-Ball Singles, Ladies 8-Ball Singles, 8-Ball Teams, Ladies 8-Ball Teams	10-Ball Singles, Mini-Tournaments
10-Ball Singles	8-Ball Singles, Ladies 8-Ball Singles, 8-Ball Teams, Ladies 8-Ball Teams	8-Ball Scotch Doubles, Mini-Tournaments
8-Ball Singles	8-Ball Scotch Doubles, 10-Ball Singles, 8-Ball Teams, Ladies 8-Ball Teams	Ladies 8-Ball Singles, Mini-Tournaments
Ladies 8-Ball Singles	8-Ball Scotch Doubles, 10-Ball Singles, 8-Ball Teams, Ladies 8-Ball Teams	8-Ball Singles, Mini-Tournaments
8-Ball Teams	8-Ball Singles, Ladies 8-Ball Singles	Ladies 8-Ball Teams, Mini-Tournaments
Ladies 8-Ball Teams	8-Ball Singles, Ladies 8-Ball Singles	8-Ball Teams, Mini-Tournaments

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.

Team Payouts

Team payouts will be made by check in USD currency. One (1) check will be written to one (1) person for the entire team payout. The person receiving the check must complete the applicable tax form(s) provided by CueSports International. The person receiving the check should also document the payouts he or she distributes to other teammates for his or her own tax purposes.

Player Agreement

These terms set forth the legally binding rules for participation in the event. By registering, you agree to be bound by all terms and conditions set forth by 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 CueSports International (CSI). 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 safety 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, 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. 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, 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, and possible suspension from future CSI produced events.

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

SCOTCH DOUBLES

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

Eligibility

- Teams may consist of male/male, male/female or female/female.
- Both teammates must have been members of a BCA Pool League or USA Pool League **during the 2023 league year** (which ends Dec 31, 2023) and played a minimum of four (4) full scheduled weeks in a single division session during the 2023 calendar year.
 - 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
- No person (male or female) may be rated higher than 720 at the time of registration.

Team Rating Increases

There is a 20-point team rating cushion. If a team is eligible for a specific 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: Replace one (1) player to get back within the division limit (must still meet all other eligibility requirements)
- Option 2: Play and accept a one-game penalty in each match for every 50 points over the cushion

Example: A Scotch Doubles team is below the 1,100 limit at the time of registration but their rating naturally increases to 1,118 (18 pts. over the limit) – there is no penalty in the match because it did not exceed the 20-point team rating cushion. If their rating naturally increases to 1,152 (32 pts. over the cushion), they will incur a one-game penalty in each match.

Individual Rating Increases

There is a 10-point individual rating cushion. If a person is rated 720 or lower at the time of registration, but his or her rating naturally increases over the limit plus the cushion, the team has the following options:

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

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

Divisions (1,100 max team rating / teams may be male/male, male/female, female/female)

DIVISIONS	START ¹	SPLIT ² (approx)	RACE ³	EARLY ENTRY ⁴ (by Sept 4)	LATE ENTRY ⁴ (Sept 5-Oct 2)	ON-SITE ENTRY
Gold ^{5,6}	10/11 (Wed) 9am	All	R4 Hot	\$120	\$140	N/A

1. 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.
2. The team's combined rating may not exceed 1,100 at the time of registration.
3. Races are handicapped based on the FargoRate R4 Hot race chart.
4. Each entry includes admin & green fees. See the General Info section for a breakdown of those fees.
5. If Scotch Doubles does not conclude before the start of 8-Ball Singles, it may be necessary to delay the remaining Scotch Doubles matches as some of the remaining players may be competing in both divisions. Therefore, the conclusion of Scotch Doubles may be delayed.
6. \$750 added based on 64 teams. Teammates do not need to be from the same league.

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 been members of a BCA Pool League or USA Pool League **during the 2023 league year** (which ends Dec 31, 2023) and played a minimum of four (4) full scheduled weeks in a single division session during the 2023 calendar year.
 - Your BCA Pool League membership status can be checked at www.playcspool.com/bcapl-membership-lookup
 - Your USA Pool League membership status can be checked at www.playcspool.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 ³	EARLY ENTRY ⁴ (by Sept 4)	LATE ENTRY ⁴ (Sept 5-Oct 2)	ON-SITE ENTRY
10-Ball Singles ^{6,8}	10/11 (Wed) 9am	---	R5 Hot	\$100	\$120	N/A
8-Ball Singles ^{7,8}						
Platinum Division	10/12 (Thu) 9am	Upper 50%	R5 Hot	\$100	\$120	N/A
Gold Division	10/12 (Thu) 9am	Lower 50%	R5 Hot	\$100	\$120	N/A

Ladies 8-Ball Singles ^{5,7,8}	10/12 (Thu) 9am	---	R4 Hot	\$100	\$120	N/A
2nd Chance 8-Ball Singles ⁹	10/13 (Fri) TBA	All	TBD	N/A	N/A	TBA

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. Races are handicapped based on the FargoRate Rx Hot race chart.
4. Each entry includes admin & green fees. See the General Info section for a breakdown of those fees.
5. Open to ladies only. All ladies must be rated 660 or lower at the time of registration. Races are handicapped based on the FargoRate R4 Hot race chart.
6. If 10-Ball Singles does not conclude before the start of 8-Ball Singles, it may be necessary to delay the remaining 10-Ball Singles matches as some of the remaining players may be competing in both divisions. Therefore, the conclusion of 10-Ball Singles may be delayed.
7. If 8-Ball Singles or Ladies 8-Ball Singles does not conclude before the start of 8-Ball Teams and Ladies 8-Ball Teams, it may be necessary to delay the remaining 8-Ball Singles matches as some of the remaining players may be competing in both divisions. Therefore, the conclusion of 8-Ball Singles may be delayed.
8. \$750 added based on 64 players.
9. Players who have been eliminated from 8-Ball Singles or Ladies 8-Ball Singles may register for 2nd Chance 8-Ball Singles at the Payouts Desk by 9pm, Thursday, Oct 12. The format will be single elimination and handicapped by FargoRate. Other details will be announced at the event.

TEAMS (CSI Group Play format)

Team Check-In & Rosters

Team check-in is required and begins at noon on Friday, Oct 13. The Team Captain or League Operator must check in at the Tournament Director's Desk prior to the start of the division and get an official team roster and stage 1 schedule. The official roster and valid Government-issued photo ID of all players must be presented to all opposing teams and event staff upon request.

Upon check-in, teams will also be given a CSI Group Play handout showing the schedule, table assignments and handicaps of all matches in Stage 1 (Group Play). Do not lose this handout.

Once all play has concluded for Stage 1, tournament staff will calculate the standings for each group and the wild card selections. This process takes a little time so please be patient and don't harass the hard-working people at the Tournament Desk. They will be working as fast as possible to determine the Stage 2 teams, which will be announced approximately 60-90 minutes after Stage 1 concludes. Teams should not leave the ballroom until the Stage 2 teams are announced.

Team Shirts

Team shirts are encouraged but not required.

Eligibility

- All players must have been members of a BCA Pool League or USA Pool League **during the 2023 league year** (which ends Dec 31, 2023) and played a minimum of four (4) full scheduled weeks in a single division session during the 2023 calendar year.
 - Your BCA Pool League membership status can be checked at www.playcspool.com/bcapl-membership-lookup
 - Your USA Pool League membership status can be checked at www.playcspool.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. **Once the deadline for change requests has passed, only subs can be added to the roster. There can be no changes to the "core" roster after the change request deadline.**

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 use the CSI Group Play 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

- 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
 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 may be selected to fill the Stage 2 bracket
- Team ranking criteria within a single group:
 1. Matches Won ²
 2. Head-to-Head ³
 3. Performance Margin ⁴
 4. Shootout ⁵

Stage 2 – Single Elimination Final Bracket

- 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 may be selected to fill the bracket. Wild cards, if used, will be selected by the following criteria:
 1. Avg Performance Margin ⁴ (performance margin / matches played)
 2. Shootout ⁵
- Stage 2 teams are seeded by the following criteria:
 1. Group Winners (by performance margin)
 2. Group Runners-up (by performance margin)
 3. Wild cards (by performance margin)
- Matches handicapped by FargoRate
 - 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 each core player (or subs for core players) for each team shoots alternating spot shots. The team with the most shots legally pocketed after all players have taken a shot, wins the shootout. If tied after all core players have taken one shot, it is sudden death.

Divisions

DIVISIONS	START ¹	PLAYERS ² (core/sub)	MAX RATING	SPLIT ³ (approx)	STAGE 1 LENGTH ⁴	STAGE 2 RACE ⁵	EARLY ENTRY ⁶ (by Sept 4)	LATE ENTRY ⁶ (Sept 5-Oct 2)	ON-SITE ENTRY
Platinum ⁷	10/13 (Fri) 6pm	5/2	2,850	Upper 50%	15 games	R11 Hot	\$400	\$450	N/A
Gold ⁷	10/13 (Fri) 6pm	5/2	2,850	Lower 50%	15 games	R11 Hot	\$400	\$450	N/A
Ladies ⁸	10/13 (Fri) 6pm	3/1	1,350	---	9 games	R7 Hot	\$240	\$270	N/A
2 nd Chance ⁹	10/14 (Sun) TBA	5/2	2,850	TBD	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	TBA

- 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 first number is the number of players on the core roster. The second number is the maximum number of substitutes on the roster.
- The field of teams will be divided into two (2) divisions based on the combined Fargo ratings of the core roster and the approximate percentages shown. The Ladies division will not be split and all teams will play in the same division.
- Stage 1 is the group stage. 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 in the group stage will be 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 based on 32 teams.
- \$750 added based on 32 teams.
- Teams that do not advance to Stage 2 may register for 2nd Chance 8-ball Teams at the Payouts Desk immediately after Stage 2 teams are announced. The format will be single elimination and handicapped by FargoRate. The number of divisions, races, and entry fees will be based on the number of teams and will be announced at the event.

MINI-TOURNAMENTS

We will conduct mini-tournaments beginning on the first day of the event and will conduct as many as demand dictates. Many different formats will be offered such as handicapped, non-handicapped, 8-ball, 9-ball, 10-ball, etc. Those wishing to participate should visit the Tournament Director's desk.

Eligibility

- Member of a BCA Pool League or USA Pool League **during the 2023 league year** (which ends Dec 31, 2023) and played a minimum of four (4) full scheduled weeks in a single division session during the 2023 calendar year, **or**
- 2023 CSI Member (\$40/year) Please note that a \$20 green fee is due at the time of sign up

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