

# PLAYER GUIDE



## MICHIGAN STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

SEP 19-24 2023

- 8-BALL SCOTCH DOUBLES  
(No male/female requirement)
- 8-BALL & 10-BALL SINGLES
- LADIES 8-BALL SINGLES
- 8-BALL & LADIES 8-BALL  
TEAMS
- MINI-TOURNAMENTS

### CSI GROUP PLAY

...powered by FargoRate  
Teams play up to 4-5  
matches minimum!

- US PRO BILLIARD SERIES -  
MICHIGAN OPEN  
& WOMEN'S MICHIGAN  
OPEN  
FREE TO WATCH!



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KELLOGG ARENA - BATTLE CREEK, MI



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## HIGHLIGHTS

### CSI Group Play format – TEAMS PLAY UP TO 4-5 MATCHES MINIMUM!

The team divisions will once again 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 (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.

### Predator Apex Premier League Edition Tables

The event will be played on the all new 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.playcsipool.com/2022-news](http://www.playcsipool.com/2022-news) to learn more about the tables.


### Free Vegas Entries

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

### US Pro Billiard Series: Michigan Open & Michigan Women's Open



The US Pro Billiard Series - Michigan Open, featuring 128 of the best players on earth, returns to Michigan. If that wasn't great enough, the Michigan Women's Open, featuring 64 of the best female players in the world, also returning to Kellogg Arena. Both events will be 10-ball, played on Predator Apex 9-foot tables and anyone can watch in person for free in the all-new LED Pro Arena.




## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



# 2023 CSI LEAGUES MICHIGAN STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

TUE 9/19	WED 9/20	THU 9/21	FRI 9/22	SAT 9/23	SUN 9/24
<b>8-BALL SCOTCH DOUBLES</b>		<b>8-BALL SINGLES</b> <small>Platinum (upper half) / Gold (lower half)</small>		<b>8-BALL TEAMS</b> <small>5-Player: 2,750 max rating CSI Group Play...powered by FargoRate</small>	
<b>10-BALL SINGLES</b>		<b>LADIES 8-BALL SINGLES</b>		<b>LADIES 8-BALL TEAMS</b> <small>3-Player: 1,350 max rating CSI Group Play...powered by FargoRate</small>	
CHOOSE ONE		CHOOSE ONE		CHOOSE ONE	
<b>MINI-TOURNAMENTS</b> <small>(based on table availability &amp; demand)</small>					
		 <b>US PRO BILLIARD SERIES</b> <b>MICHIGAN OPEN</b> (128-players, 9-ft tables) Free to watch!			
		 <b>US PRO BILLIARD SERIES</b> <b>WOMEN'S MICHIGAN OPEN</b> (64-players, 9-ft tables) Free to watch!			
<b>2ND CHANCE 10-BALL SINGLES</b>		<b>2ND CHANCE 8-BALL SINGLES</b>		<b>2ND CHANCE 8-BALL TEAMS</b>	
<b>2ND CHANCE DOUBLES</b>					

## 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

<b>Aug 14:</b> Last day for early entry discount	<b>Sept 11:</b> Last day for refund & change requests
<b>Aug 17:</b> Last day for hotel discount	<b>Sept 11:</b> Last day to register online
<b>Aug 21:</b> Last day for mailed entries & personal checks	<b>Sept 19:</b> Event begins

### Refunds & Changes

Refund requests must be received in writing by email, fax or postal mail by Sept 11, 2023 and will be processed after Sept 28, 2023. Admin fees are non-refundable and an additional \$20 processing fee applies to each entry refunded. Change requests must also be received by Sept 11, 2023 and a \$20/player processing fee applies to each change.

### Safety Rules

Although it is impossible to predict exactly what safety 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, Kellogg Arena, Michigan 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 Aug 14)	LATE ENTRY (Aug 15-Sept 11)	ON-SITE ENTRY
SINGLES	\$20	additional \$20	additional \$20
SCOTCH DOUBLES	\$10/player	additional \$10/player	additional \$10/player
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 Aug 14)	LATE ENTRY (Aug 15-Sept 11)	ON-SITE ENTRY
SINGLES	\$20	\$20	\$20
SCOTCH DOUBLES	\$10/player	\$10/player	\$10/player
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.

## Hotel Discounts – Two Great Options

### Fairfield Inn Battle Creek (\$129)

4665 Beckley Road, Battle Creek, Michigan 49015

- **Book by Aug 17, 2023** to receive the special group rate
- **Online:** [www.playcsipool.com/2023-michigan-state-championships](http://www.playcsipool.com/2023-michigan-state-championships)
- **Phone:** 269-979-8000 and mention group code: **CSI**

### Baymont by Wyndham Battle Creek (\$89 / \$109)

182 W Van Buren St, Battle Creek, MI 49017

- **Book by Aug 19, 2023** to receive the special group rate
- **Online:** [www.playcsipool.com/2023-michigan-state-championships](http://www.playcsipool.com/2023-michigan-state-championships)
- **Phone:** 269-565-0500 and mention group code: **CUESPORTS**

## 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.

## 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](http://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. 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	---	10-Ball Singles, Mini-Tournaments, US Pro Billiard Series
10-Ball Singles	---	8-Ball Scotch Doubles, Mini-Tournaments, US Pro Billiard Series
8-Ball Singles	---	Ladies 8-Ball Singles, Mini-Tournaments, US Pro Billiard Series
Ladies 8-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	---	8-Ball Scotch Doubles, 10-Ball Singles, 8-Ball Singles, Ladies 8-Ball Singles, 8-Ball Teams, Ladies 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 tax purposes.

## 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). 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 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, Kellogg Arena, Michigan 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 by that player or team, 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

- There is no male/female requirement. Teams may consist of male/female, male/male or female/female.
- Both teammates must have a 2023 BCA Pool League or USA Pool League membership and play at least four (4) weeks in a single division session between Jan 1, 2023 and the registration deadline.
  - a. Your BCA Pool League membership status can be checked at [www.playcsipool.com/bcapl-membership-lookup](http://www.playcsipool.com/bcapl-membership-lookup)
  - b. Your USA Pool League membership status can be checked at [www.playcsipool.com/usapl-membership-lookup](http://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 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** (teams may be male/male, male/female, female/female)

DIVISIONS	START <sup>1</sup>	TEAM MAX <sup>2</sup> RATING	RACE <sup>3</sup>	EARLY ENTRY <sup>4</sup> (by Aug 14)	LATE ENTRY <sup>4</sup> (Aug 15-Sept-11)	ON-SITE <sup>4,5</sup> ENTRY
8-Ball Scotch Doubles <sup>6,7</sup>	9/19 (Tue) 3pm	1,100	R4 Hot	\$120	\$140	\$160
2 <sup>nd</sup> Chance Doubles <sup>7</sup>	9/20 (Wed) TBA	1,100	TBD	N/A	N/A	\$60

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. Teammates do not need to be from the same league.
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. On-site entries must be received by 11am on Tuesday, Sept 19, 2023.
6. \$750 added based on 64 teams.
7. Teams that have been eliminated may register for 2nd Chance Scotch Doubles at the Tournament Desk. The format will be single elimination and handicapped by FargoRate. Entry includes a \$15 admin fee. The number of divisions, races, and start times will be based on the number of teams and will be announced at the event.

## 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 2023 BCA Pool League or USA Pool League membership and play at least four (4) weeks in a single division session between Jan 1, 2023 and the registration deadline.
  - a. Your BCA Pool League membership status can be checked at [www.playcsipool.com/bcapl-membership-lookup](http://www.playcsipool.com/bcapl-membership-lookup)
  - b. Your USA Pool League membership status can be checked at [www.playcsipool.com/usapl-membership-lookup](http://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 <sup>1</sup>	SPLIT <sup>2</sup> (approx)	RACE	EARLY ENTRY <sup>3</sup> (by Aug 14)	LATE ENTRY <sup>3</sup> (Aug 15-Sept 11)	ON-SITE <sup>3,4</sup> ENTRY
<b>10-Ball Singles</b> <sup>6,7</sup>	9/19 (Tue) 3pm	All	R5 Hot	\$100	\$120	\$140
<b>8-Ball Singles</b>						
Platinum Division <sup>6,7</sup>	9/21 (Thu) 9am	Upper half	R5 Hot	\$100	\$120	\$140
Gold Division <sup>6</sup>	9/21 (Thu) 9am	Lower half	R5 Hot	\$100	\$120	\$140
<b>Ladies 8-Ball Singles</b> <sup>5,6,7</sup>	9/21 (Thu) 9am	All	R4 Hot	\$100	\$120	\$140
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Chance 10-Ball Singles</b> <sup>7</sup>	9/20 (Thu) TBA	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A	\$40
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Chance 8-Ball Singles</b> <sup>7</sup>	9/22 (Fri) TBA	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A	\$40

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. Each entry includes admin & green fees. See the General Info section for a breakdown of those fees.
4. On-site entries must be received by 6pm the day prior to the start date listed for each division.
5. Open to ladies only. All ladies must be rated 660 or lower at the time of registration.
6. \$750 added based on 64 players.
7. Players that have been eliminated may register for 2nd Chance 10-Ball & 8-Ball Singles at the Tournament Desk. The format will be single elimination and handicapped by FargoRate. Entry includes a \$15 admin fee. The number of divisions, races, and start times will be based on the number of teams and will be announced at the event.



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

### Team Check-In & Rosters

**Team check-in is required.** 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 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.

### Team Shirts

Please note that team shirts are encouraged but not required.

### Eligibility

- All players must have a 2023 BCA Pool League or USA Pool League membership and play at least four (4) weeks in a single division session between Jan 1, 2023 and the registration deadline.
  - Your BCA Pool League membership status can be checked at [www.playcsipool.com/bcapl-membership-lookup](http://www.playcsipool.com/bcapl-membership-lookup)
  - Your USA Pool League membership status can be checked at [www.playcsipool.com/usapl-membership-lookup](http://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. **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.**

### 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 2,750 limit at the time of registration but their team rating naturally increases to 2,843 (43 pts. over the cushion). They will incur a one-game penalty in each match. If their rating naturally increases to 2,877 (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 details of each stage.

Stage 1 – Group Stage	Stage 2 – Single Elimination Final Bracket
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teams are placed in groups of 5 or 6 (if practical)</li> <li>Teams in groups of 6 play 5 matches</li> <li>Teams in groups of 5 play 4 matches               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15 games per match for 8-Ball Teams</li> <li>9 games per match for Ladies 8-Ball Teams</li> </ol> </li> <li>Handicapped by the <a href="#">FargoRate League Calculator</a> <sup>1</sup></li> <li>Top 2 teams from each group advance to Stage 2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top 2 teams from each group of Stage 1 advance to Stage 2 (if practical)</li> <li>8-team, 16-team or 32-team single elimination bracket (depending on the number of teams in Stage 1)</li> <li>Wild cards will be selected to fill the bracket if necessary. Wild cards, if used, will be selected by the following criteria:</li> </ul>

- Wild card teams may be selected to fill the Stage 2 bracket if necessary
- Team ranking criteria within a single group:
  1. Wins / Loss Record <sup>2</sup>
  2. Head-to-Head <sup>3</sup>
  3. Performance Margin <sup>4</sup>
  4. Shootout <sup>5</sup>
- 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.

5. Cue ball is placed behind the head string and each core player, or eligible sub, for each team shoots alternating spot shots. The team with the most shots legally pocketed after all core players have taken a shot, wins the shootout. If tied after all core players have taken one shot, it is sudden death.

## IMPORTANT

There will not be an online schedule for Stage 1 (Group Play). Upon check-in, teams will be given an official team roster and a Stage 1 schedule showing the times, table assignments and handicaps of all matches in Stage 1. **Do not lose this handout.**

**Tournament officials will not post the results of Stage 1 Group Play while it is underway.** This is intentional. If results are posted along the way, some teams may assume that they have no chance of advancing and not play hard in their remaining Stage 1 matches. To prevent that, results are not posted during Stage 1. Because wild card teams may be selected, all teams have a chance of advancing until the very end of Stage 1. Therefore, all teams should play hard and not be concerned about how other teams are performing. Full group results will be made available after Stage 1 concludes.

Once all play has concluded for Stage 1, tournament staff will calculate the standings for each group and any 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.

## Divisions

DIVISIONS	START <sup>1</sup>	SPLIT <sup>2</sup> (approx)	STAGE 1 LENGTH <sup>3</sup>	STAGE 2 RACE <sup>4</sup>	EARLY ENTRY <sup>5</sup> (by Aug 14)	LATE ENTRY <sup>5</sup> (Aug 15-Sept 11)	ON-SITE ENTRY
<b>8-Ball Teams</b> (5-player / 2,750 max team rating)							
Platinum Division <sup>2,6,8</sup>	9/22 (Fri) 6pm	Upper half	15 games	R11 Hot	\$400	\$450	N/A
Gold Division <sup>2,6,8</sup>	9/22 (Fri) 6pm	Lower half	15 games	R11 Hot	\$400	\$450	N/A

**Ladies 8-Ball Teams** (3-player / 1,350 max team rating)

Ladies Division <sup>7,8</sup>	9/22 (Fri) 6pm	All	9 games	R7 Hot	\$240	\$270	N/A
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Teams</b> <sup>8</sup>	9/24 (Sun) TBA	TBD	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$160

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. If the total number of 8-Ball Teams does not reach 60 teams, all teams may compete in one division.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. Each entry includes admin & green fees. See the General Info section for a breakdown of these fees.
6. \$1,000 added based on 32 teams.
7. \$750 added based on 32 teams.
8. Teams that have been eliminated may register for 2nd Chance 8-ball Teams at the Tournament Desk. The format will be single elimination and handicapped by FargoRate. Entry includes a \$15 admin fee. The number of divisions, races, and start times will be based on the number of teams and will be announced at the event.

## 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 2023 BCA Pool League or USA Pool League membership and play at least four (4) weeks in a single division session between Jan 1, 2023 and the registration deadline.
    - a. Your BCA Pool League membership status can be checked at [www.playcsipool.com/bcapl-membership-lookup](http://www.playcsipool.com/bcapl-membership-lookup)
    - b. Your USA Pool League membership status can be checked at [www.playcsipool.com/usapl-membership-lookup](http://www.playcsipool.com/usapl-membership-lookup)
  - or...
  - Have a 2023 CSI Membership (\$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.