## PLAYER GUIDE <br> 



FORD WYOMING CENTER| 1 EVENTS DRIVE - CASPER, WY

## BCA Pool League

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## HIGHLIGHTS

CSI Group Play format... All teams guaranteed at least 5 matches!*
With the CSI Group Play format, every team is guaranteed to play more. It is a two-stage tournament. Stage 1 is a group stage and stage 2 is a double elimination finals bracket. The AMOW and the BCA Pool League are dedicated to providing the best event experience, and we are confident that this new format will help accomplish that goal. Learn more about the CSI Group Play format at www.playcsipool.com\csinews\}

## Predator Apex Premier League Edition Tables

The league divisions will be played on the all new 7-foot Predator Apex Premier League Edition tables.

## Free Vegas Entries

The winning team of each division with eight (8) or more teams will receive free entry into the 2025 BCA Pool League World Championships. Visit www.playcsipool.com/free-entry for the details and conditions. AMOW recommends building teams with five team members, as at least four winning team players must compete in Las Vegas.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



## GENERAL INFO

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

## Important Dates

Feb 12: Last day for early entry discount
Feb 19: Last day for hotel discount
Feb 28: Last day for mailed entries \& personal checks

Mar 6: $\quad$ Last day for refund \& change requests
Mar 6: $\quad$ Last day to register online
Mar 20: Event begins

## Refunds \& Changes

Refund requests must be received in writing by email or postal mail by March 6, 2024 and will be processed after April 10, 2024. Admin fees are non-refundable and an additional $\$ 20$ processing fee applies to each entry refunded. Change requests must also be received by March 6, 2024 and a \$20/player processing fee applies to each change.

## Safety Rules \& Regulations

Although it is impossible to predict 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 AMOW, CueSports International, Ford Wyoming Center, Wyoming 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 Feb 12) | LATE ENTRY (Feb 13 - Mar 6) | ON-SITE ENTRY |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| SINGLES | $\$ 20$ | additional $\$ 20$ | N/A |
| TEAMS | $\$ 15 /$ 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 Feb 12) | LATE ENTRY (Feb 13 - Mar 6) | ON-SITE ENTRY |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| SINGLES | $\$ 20$ | $\$ 20$ | N/A |
| TEAMS | $\$ 15 /$ core player | $\$ 15 /$ 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 a new player, verifying the ratings of new players, etc. The change fee is $\$ 20 / c h a n g e$. 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 Accommodations

Best Western Downtown Casper Hotel (\$95 plus tax)

123 West E St., Casper, WY 82601
$\square$ Book by February 19, 2024 to receive the special group rate
$\square \quad$ Phone: 307-439-2074 and mention group code: Wyoming State 8-Ball
$\square$ Tables for Mini-Tournaments Available
La Quinta by Wyndham Casper Event Center Area (\$105 plus tax)
400 West F St., Casper, WY 82601
$\square$ Book by March 15, 2024 to receive the special group rate
$\square \quad$ Phone: 307-265-1200 and mention group code: Wyoming State Pool

## FargoRate

FargoRate has replaced the outdated system of subjectively classifying players as Open-Advanced-Masters, 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 the AMOW.

Example: John has a Fargo Rating of 593 based on just 50 games. He was assigned a starter rating of 560 by AMOW. 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 the 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 required (discussed later) to register. Players who are not current members but intend to play in a BCA 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.

Stage 1: Penalty points are deducted from violating teams' scores.
Stage 2: 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.

The rating cushion applies only to ratings that have naturally increased because 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, at the sole judgement of the AMOW or CSI, 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 or prize money. Don't get disqualified. If you believe you are underrated, contact AMOW 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.

## Verifying Your Registration

You have the responsibility of verifying your registration. The complete list 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). At least three (3) weeks prior to the event. If you are not on the participant list, and you fail to nifty us at least three (3) weeks 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 screen shot and keep it with you as backup as 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. All 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. AMOW and 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... |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Elite 8-Ball Singles | --- | 8-Ball Singles, Ladies 8-Ball Singles, Mini-Tournaments |
| 8-Ball Singles | --- | Elite 8-Ball Singles, Ladies 8-Ball Singles, Mini-Tournaments |
| Ladies 8-Ball Singles | --- | Elite 8-Ball Singles, 8-Ball Singles, Mini-Tournaments |
| Elite 8-Ball Teams | --- | 8-Ball Teams, Ladies 8-Ball Teams, Mini-Tournaments |
| 8-Ball Teams | --- | Elite 8-Ball Teams, Ladies 8-Ball Teams, Mini-Tournaments |
| Ladies 8-Ball Teams | --- | Elite 8-Ball Teams, 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 US currency. To receive a payout, you must first present government issued photo ID and legibly complete the applicable tax form(s) provided by AMOW. Checks are valid for ninety days from the date of issue. DO NOT LOSE YOUR CHECK. Lost checks and checks not cashed within the ninety-day period will not be reissued.

## Team Payouts

Team Payouts will be made by check in US currency. One check will be written to one person for the entire team payout. The person receiving the check must complete the applicable tax form(s) provided by AMOW. 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 AMOW and CueSports International (CSI). If you are under the age of 18 , you agree to obtain the consent of your legal guardian to participate under these terms.

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

You understand that your participation in this event is completely voluntary. CSI, AMOW 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 AMOW or 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 or AMOW 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 or AMOW 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.

## SINGLES

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

## Eligibility

$\square$ All players must have a 2024 BCA Pool League membership and have played at least eight (8) weeks between Sept 1, 2023 and the registration deadline in an AMOW BCA Pool League. The eight (8) weeks must be played with at least seven (7) calendar days between match dates. Any non-Wyoming resident may qualify only if they do so in an AMOW member's Wyoming league and do not play in any other pool leagues outside of Wyoming.
$\square$ Your BCA Pool League membership status can be checked at www.playcsipool.com/bcapl-membership-lookup
$\square$ Ladies divisions are open to female players only, as determined by current government issued photo ID.

## Individual Rating Increases

If a person entered in 8 -Ball Singles (not Elite) is rated 574 or lower at the time of registration, but his or her rating naturally increases above 574 , he or she must move to the Elite $575+$ Division and pay the difference in entry fee.

## Divisions

$\left.\begin{array}{lcccccc}\hline \text { DIVISIONS } & \text { START }{ }^{1,2} & \begin{array}{c}\text { SPLIT }^{3} \\ (\text { approx })\end{array} & \text { RACE } & \begin{array}{c}\text { EARLY ENTRY }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { (by Feb 12) }\end{array} \begin{array}{c}\text { LATE ENTRY }{ }^{4} \\ \text { (Feb 13-Mar 6) }\end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c}\text { ON-SITE } \\ \text { ENTRY }\end{array}\right]$

|  |  |  |  |  |  | Page | 7 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pewter Division ${ }^{6}$ | 3/20 (Wed) 8am | Lower 20\% | R3 Med | \$80 | \$100 | N/A |  |
| Ladies 8-Ball Singles ${ }^{5}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Diamond Division 2,6 | 3/20 (Wed) 12 pm | Upper 30\% | R5 Med | \$80 | \$100 | N/A |  |
| Sapphire Division ${ }^{6}$ | 3/20 (Wed) 8am | Middle 40\% | R4 Med | \$80 | \$100 | N/A |  |
| Ruby Division ${ }^{6}$ | 3/20 (Wed) 8am | Lower 30\% | R3 Med | \$80 | \$100 | 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. Elite Platinum Division and Ladies Diamond Division will each hold a full field calcutta prior to play. Estimated calcutta time for both divisions is noon on $3 / 20$. All other singles divisions will calcutta the finalists prior to stage two, times TBA.
3. Players register without knowing exactly which subdivision they will compete in (i.e. Gold, Silver, etc). 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.
4. Each entry includes admin \& green fees. See the General Info section for a breakdown of those fees.
5. Open to ladies only.
6. Money added per division based on field size: $\$ 400$ based on 32 players; $\$ 700$ added based on 64 players; $\$ 1,200$ based on 128 players.
7. Any player entering Elite Platinum Division that is rated lower than 575 will play as a 575 for handicapping.

## TEAMS

## 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 obtain an official team roster and Stage 1 schedule. Roster change requests must be made by noon on the day prior to the division start date and final league standings and/or other documents are required. Roster changes are limited to adding substitutes and may not result in the team moving into another division. 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 captains are responsible for team rosters and there is a $\$ 10$ charge for reprinting them.

## Team Shirts

Please note that team shirts are encouraged but not required.

## Eligibility

$\square$ All players must have a 2024 BCA Pool League membership and have played at least eight (8) weeks between September 1, 2023 and the registration deadline in an AMOW BCA Pool League. The eight (8) weeks must be played with at least seven (7) calendar days between match dates. All team players must qualify and play for the same AMOW member. Any non-Wyoming resident may qualify only if they do so in an AMOW member's Wyoming league and do not play in any other pool leagues outside of Wyoming.
$\square$ Your BCA Pool League membership status can be checked at www.playcsipool.com/bcapl-membership-lookup
$\square \quad$ Players may not be on more than one team roster.

## Core Roster \& Substitutions

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

## Team Rating Increases

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

Option 1: Move up into the next division (if possible) and pay any difference in entry fees
Option 2: Replace one or more players to get back within the division limit (must still meet other eligibility requirements)
Option 3: Play and accept a one-game penalty in each match for every 50 points over the cushion
Example: A 4-player team is below the 2,080 limit at the time of registration but their team rating naturally increases to 2,123 (43 pts. over the cushion). They will incur a one-game penalty in each match. If their rating naturally increases to 2,157 ( 77 pts . over the cushion), they will incur a two-game penalty in each match.

## Format - CSI Group Play... All teams guaranteed at least 5 matches*

The team divisions use the CSI Group Play format consisting of Stage 1 - Group Stage and Stage 2 - Double Elimination Final Bracket. See below for the specific details of each stage.

Stage 1 - Group Stage
$\square \quad$ 5-Player Teams (Elite 8-Ball) / 4-Player Teams (8-Ball and Ladies 8-Ball)
$\square$ Each team plays 5 matches ${ }^{1}$

1. 25 racks per match for Elite 8 -Ball Teams
2. 16 games per match for 8 -Ball Teams and Ladies 8-Ball Teams
$\square$ Handicapped by FargoRate
$\square$ Top 30-40\% teams advance to Stage 2
$\square$ Team ranking criteria:
3. Match Win Percent ${ }^{2}$
4. Performance Margin ${ }^{3}$
5. Strength of Schedule (average rating of opposing teams' core roster) ${ }^{4}$
6. Shootout ${ }^{5}$

## Stage 2 - Double Elimination Final Bracket

$\square$ Teams in the top $30-40 \%$ will advance to the Stage 2 double elimination bracket
$\square \quad$ Stage 2 teams are seeded by the Stage 1 criteria
$\square$ Races

- Elite 8-Ball Teams: FargoRate R13 Medium
- 8-Ball Teams: FargoRate R9 Medium
- Ladies 8-Ball Teams: FargoRate R9 Medium
. Excluding factors beyond the control of the AMOW such as forfeits, dropout teams, no-shows, byes, etc.

2. The number of matches won divided by the number of matches played.
3. The Performance Margin is a comparison of what a team is expected to score versus what it actually scores in each match.
4. The average Fargo rating of the opposing teams' core roster. For example, if two teams have the same match win percent and the same performance margin, the team that played stronger teams, on average, will be ranked higher.
5. The 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 players have taken a shot, wins the shootout. If tied after all players have taken one shot, it is sudden death.
*Excluding factors beyond the control of AMOW such as forfeits, dropout teams, no-shows, byes, etc.

## Divisions

| DIVISIONS | START ${ }^{1}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { SPLIT }^{2} \\ \text { (approx) } \end{gathered}$ | PLAYERS (core/sub) | STAGE 1 LENGTH | STAGE 2 RACE ${ }^{4}$ $\qquad$ | EARLY ENTRY ${ }^{5}$ <br> (by Feb 12) | LATE ENTRY ${ }^{5}$ <br> (Feb 13-Mar6) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ON-SITE } \\ & \text { ENTTRY } \end{aligned}$ ENTRY |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 8-Ball Elite Teams (5-player) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Platinum Division 6,9 | 3/22 (Fri) 8am | All | 5/3 | 25 racks | R13 Med | \$500 | \$550 | N/A |
| 8-Ball Teams (4-player / 2,080 max team rating) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gold Division ${ }^{2,7}$ | 3/22 (Fri) 8am | Upper 15\% | 4/2 | 16 racks | R9 Med | \$320 | \$360 | N/A |
| Silver Division ${ }^{2,8}$ | 3/22 (Fri) 8am | Mid-Upper 35\% | 4/2 | 16 racks | R9 Med | \$320 | \$360 | N/A |
| Bronze Division ${ }^{2,8}$ | 3/22 (Fri) 8 am | Mid-Lower 35\% | 4/2 | 16 racks | R9 Med | \$320 | \$360 | N/A |
| Pewter Division ${ }^{2,7}$ | 3/22 (Fri) 8am | Lower 15\% | 4/2 | 16 racks | R9 Med | \$320 | \$360 | N/A |
| Ladies 8-Ball Teams (4-player) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ladies Division 2,7 | 3/22 (Fri) 8am | All | 4/2 | 16 racks | R9 Med | \$320 | \$360 | N/A |

[^0]There will be a 2nd chance tournaments offered for various singles and team divisions. Those wishing to participate in 2nd chance events should check with the Tournament Desk for exact times and entry details. On-site 2 nd chance entries must be cash only (U.S. currency) at the Tournament Desk. $2^{\text {nd }}$ chance team tournament entries must be comprised of the members of your original team roster only.

## MIN-TOURNAMENTS

Mini-tournaments may 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
a. All players must have a 2024 AMOW BCA Pool League membership and must pay a $\$ 20$ admin/green fee if not registered in any other events.
b. Your BCA Pool League membership status can be checked at www.playcsipool.com/bcapl-membership- lookup.

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

## JUNIORS TOURNAMENT

The junior singles divisions will be held on Sunday March 24. Play will begin at 9 a.m. Juniors must register on-site at the Tournament Desk no later than 3 p.m. on Saturday March 23. All participants must sign the player agreement. If you are under the age of 18 , you must obtain the written consent of your legal guardian to participate. Legal guardians need not be present. However, all participants under 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult. There are three divisions by age: 13 and under; 14-17 years old, and 18-20 years old.


[^0]:    1. Start times shown are the earliest possible start times. Teams must check-in at the Tournament Desk prior to the start of their division to receive Stage 1 paperwork.
    2. If the total number of 8 -Ball Teams does not reach 60 teams, all teams may compete in one division. If the total number of Ladies 8 -Ball Teams does not reach 12 teams, all Ladies 8-Ball Teams will be placed in 8-Ball Teams.
    3. The first number is the number of players on the core roster. The second number is the maximum number of substitutes on the roster.
    4. Stage 2 is a double elimination bracket. All matches in the final stage will be handicapped by FargoRate.
    5. Each entry includes admin \& green fees. See the General Info section for a breakdown of these fees.
    6. $\$ 1,250$ added based on 32 teams.
    7. $\$ 750$ added based on 32 teams.
    8. $\$ 1,250$ added based on 64 teams.
    9. Any team entering Elite Platinum Division whose team rating is lower than 2,600 will play as a 2,600 for handicapping.
