

# LOCAL BYLAWS

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## **Introduction**

We would like to welcome you and your team to the American Poolplayers Association!

This document explains the structure of the League at a Local Level and should be used in conjunction with the Official Team Manual on the APA Member Services App and poolplayers.com. These Local Bylaws have been created for the smooth and efficient operation of the League. After all, the APA's motto is: **Have Fun. Meet People. Play Pool.**®

Please read these Local Bylaws carefully and keep them with the APA Official Team Manual for your reference. All Local Bylaws with dates prior to the revision date of this document are null and void.

## **Section 1: Local League Information**

### **Age Requirements**

You must be 21 years of age or older to compete in the Rochester APA.

### **Office Hours/ Contact**

Official League Office hours are Monday through Thursday, 4:30 - 9:30 PM and Sunday 12-6 PM. If no one is available to take your call please leave a voice or text message, including your phone number, and it will be returned as soon as possible during office hours.

General questions and concerns on league nights should be directed first to your Division Representative. You can find their contact information in the heading of your scoresheet.

You may also email [aparochester@gmail.com](mailto:aparochester@gmail.com) at any time.

### **Website**

Our local website address is APAROCHESTER.COM

This website allows you to:

- A) Get the latest news and information on playoffs, tournaments or any other APA Rochester events
- B) Submit scoresheets, register for tournaments, request patches and pay past dues,
- C) Set up or access your Member Services Account to
  - Pay weekly dues
  - Sign up or renew your yearly APA Membership
  - View schedules, team rosters, standings and individual records for your division; and
  - View your lifetime APA statistics, including win percentage, tournament history, On the Breaks, Break and Runs, etc.

In addition, we also have a Facebook and Instagram @APARochester where you can view and share pictures of tournaments, get updates about the League and chat with fellow APA members.

If you have not already done so, please join our online community by signing up for a Member Services Account and following us on Facebook and Instagram today. All announcements are made first online through member services and then to our captains through text. Being a part of our member community ensures you do not miss any pertinent news.

### **Team Fees**

Team Fees are \$50 dollars per week regardless of the number of matches played. Full Team Fees must be paid for Playoff matches and forfeits. All dues must be paid on-line in full through any team members APA Online Member Services (OMS) account, unless pre-arranged with your

League Operator under special circumstances. Weekly points will be held until dues are paid. IF you will be late with your dues, please contact us to avoid losing bonus points.

### **Scoresheets**

Each week the Home Team Captain (or any player designated by your team) is responsible for logging onto their APA Online Member Services account and printing both team's scoresheets. Scoresheets must be brought to the team match on League night.

At the end of each league match, Team Captains (or any player designated by your captain) are responsible for the full completion of the scoresheet. Sheets must be signed by each Team Captain and uploaded through the SUBMIT SCORESHEETS link found at APAROCHESTER.COM by 8pm the following day. Every team is responsible for submitting their own scoresheet. If any problems arise you may also email the scoresheet image to [APAROCHESTER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:APAROCHESTER@GMAIL.COM) by 8PM the following day. Team captains MUST keep a hard copy of their scoresheets until the weeks matches are scored in case problems arise or the sheet needs to be resubmitted for any reason.

*If cannot be submitted digitally-* Please contact your division rep or league operator as soon as possible to figure out different arrangements. Technical difficulties will not be honored as a reasonable excuse if no effort is made to inform the League Operator or your Division Rep by the scoresheet deadline.

### **Bonus Points**

Your team can *earn* 2 weekly bonus points if **ALL** the following occur:

- Innings are filled and totaled for every game/ match
- All players FIRST and LAST name or initial are filled in
- All member numbers are filled in
- The winner and loser of every game is marked with the number of racks won
- Final match score is filled in
- Scoresheet is signed by both teams
- All fees are up to date
- No abusive comments are written

The bonus points awarded will be as follows:

- **8-Ball: 2 Possible Bonus Points**
  - 1 point will be awarded for the entire weekly fee being submitted through the APA Pool League app or Member Services dashboard by 8pm the day following the match. 1 point will be awarded for ACCURATE and FULLY COMPLETED scoresheets delivered ON-TIME.
- **9-Ball: 16 Possible Bonus Points**
  - 8 points will be awarded for the entire weekly fee being submitted through the APA Pool League app or Member Services dashboard by 8pm the following day. 8 points will be awarded for ACCURATE and FULLY COMPLETED scoresheets delivered ON-TIME.

\*Remember these are *bonus* points that are awarded at the sole discretion of the Local League Office. These are incentive points to be *earned*, much like you earn match points, by assisting the League Operator in keeping accurate and complete records of matches and updating league stats in a timely manner.

### **Bonus Points for Bye Weeks**

Whenever a division has an odd number of teams one team each week will not have a match. In this instance, the team with the bye shall be given the following points for the week (including the bonus points a team would have received if all the paperwork was correct):

- 8-Ball: 8 Bye Points + 2 Bonus Points
- 9-Ball: 60 Bye Points + 16 Bonus Points

**Note:** Teams do not need to submit paperwork or fees for bye weeks.

***It is possible for a team to have multiple bye weeks for the session and all teams are not necessarily guaranteed an equal amount of bye weeks. Bye weeks are scheduled at random, and points awarded are calculated to make the event of an uneven amount of bye weeks as fair as possible.***

### **Past Due Procedures**

Team will receive **ZERO** points for the match until dues are paid through the PAST DUES link at APAROCHESTER.COM. In the event dues or scoresheets are not received, teams will have a one-week grace period, or until the day of their next match, to re-earn bonus points by submitting the missing dues and/or scoresheets. After this period all bonus points will be officially forfeit and cannot be re-earned. If a team stays past due for two consecutive weeks with no payment arrangement made with the league office, the roster will be marked ineligible, and no further play will be allowed until owed dues are paid in full.

Keeping current with your weekly fees is very important. If you fall behind in payments, you may risk more than your bonus points. You may lose your place in the Playoffs and/or the opportunity to compete in tournaments. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you are having trouble paying dues, we are happy to work with you and your situation so your team can remain active.

### **Patches**

Patches are available for the following accomplishments:

- 8-on-the-Break: You make the 8-ball on the break.
- 8-Break-and-Run: You make at least one ball on the break and then run the rack.
- 9-on-the-Snap: You make the 9-ball on the break.
- 9-Break-and-Run: You make at least one ball on the break and then run the rack for ten points.
- Clean Sweep Patch: For both 8-Ball and 9-Ball matches, if a team wins all 5 matches in one night (forfeited matches do not count), each person who played that night will receive a Sweep Patch.

- Skunked: You win 20-0 in 9-Ball.
- Mini Slam: 8-on-the-Break and 8-Break-and-Run **or** 9-on-the-Snap and 9-Break-and-Run on the same League night. Not available during tournament play.
- Grand Slam: *Earning an 8-Ball Mini Slam and a 9-Ball Mini Slam within the same session.*
- Sportsmanship: You may nominate a player for a good sportsmanship patch. Write the nomination on your scoresheet and the Local League Office will determine if the patch will be awarded.
- I beat a 6, 7, 8, 9: Beating a skill level that is at least 2 skill levels above you
- I Won My First Match: Winning your first ever APA match played in either format.

There are no limits on the number of patches you can earn in a session. If you wish to receive a patch for an accomplishment, make sure it is marked in the appropriate section on your scoresheet and fill out the Patch Request form at APAROCHESTER.COM. Patches will be awarded asap after the patch is earned AND requested.

## **Section 2: Local League Play**

### **Rescheduling Matches**

On occasion, a match may need to be rescheduled due to inclement weather, conflicts or other unavoidable circumstances. Rescheduling matches interferes with weekly scores and standings and is an added onus to your opponent. Rescheduled matches due to personal reasons are allowed **ONLY** at the sole discretion and approval of your opponent otherwise the match is forfeit. If you plan to reschedule a match, for whatever reason, **you must notify the Local League Office.**

Please use the following procedure:

1. Contact the Team Captain of the team you are scheduled to play in the match and notify them of your intent to reschedule. This must be done before 3pm that day of match.
2. Work with your opponent's Team Captain to select a date and time to play the rescheduled match. Rescheduled matches **must be played within two weeks of the original scheduled match** date. No make-up matches will be allowed in the last two weeks of the session, unless the Local League Office grants an exception, which will occur only as a result of special circumstances.
3. Teams must pay for the rescheduled match by the original scheduled match date or the non-paying team will not be awarded bonus points.
4. After the match has been completed, please upload your scoresheet as usual and let the league office know it has been submitted.

### **Inclement Weather**

The Local League Office will use school closings and state warnings to determine whether matches will be cancelled and rescheduled due to inclement weather. The local league office will notify Team Captains by 4pm of match day if matches are cancelled. If you feel that weather conditions may result in League play being cancelled or postponed, please check APAROCHESTER.COM or Member Services for the most up-to-date information. Contact the Local League Office if you

have additional questions or concerns, but only after you have checked the website. Most important, ***please be safe*** and do not risk injury if you feel the travel conditions are unsafe.

### **Holidays**

All matches scheduled on holidays can be rescheduled and played prior to the original match date or up to two weeks after the original match date. Pre-playing the match is recommended. PLEASE NOTIFY THE LEAGUE OFFICE IF YOU ARE RESCHEDULING YOUR MATCH or to release early scoresheets if necessary.

### **Late Add Teams**

New teams may be added late at the discretion of the league operator. They begin with the equivalent of last place points.

### **Teams in Default**

Any team that does not show up for its match for two consecutive weeks will be deemed to be in default and will be dropped from the division.

Additionally, any team that has not paid their League fees for two consecutive weeks can be dropped from the Division. Teams who have failed to pay their League fees for two consecutive weeks will be notified of the past due status. If their account is not made current in a timely manner, the team will be deemed in default and may be dropped from the division.

**Teams that are in default are still responsible for paying their team fees for the remainder of the session.** Each member of the defaulting team will be responsible for paying their share of the team fees owed. The defaulting team's players will be suspended from the League until their portion of the fees is paid. The Local League Office has the right to assign different portions of the outstanding fees to individual players as it deems appropriate. If your team has a player that is past due on your roster, you will receive no points for that person's match (even if they win) and no bonus points for any week they play while their fees are past due.

## **Section 3: Sportsmanship and Conduct**

Sportsmanship is integral to the spirit of APA Rochester. All players are encouraged to review the Sportsmanship sections in the APA Official Team Manual. Any intimidating, demeaning or offensive behavior- including verbal abuse, taunting, name calling, excessive anger, unwanted sexual advances, touching, language and/or banter & "sharking" - that undermines the fun and fair atmosphere of the league *will* be addressed. If the behavior continues sportsmanship penalties leading to suspension *will* apply. The League office reserves the right to determine if a team's or an individual's actions constitute a sportsmanship violation. Any players and/or teams that have been suspended for sportsmanship violations will lose their eligibility to participate in any higher level or APA sponsored tournaments.

Because sportsmanship is so important to APA Rochester, we award any player who shows excellent sportsmanship with a special patch. Please see the patch program section for more information.

### **Comments on Scoresheets**

All concerns should be written on the scoresheet in a courteous and professional manner. This will guarantee that your concern is considered, documented and addressed. Abusive language directed at the League or the League Operator will not be tolerated on the scoresheets. Abusive comments or complaints are considered unsportsmanlike and will be treated appropriately.

### **Complaints**

Sportsmanship complaints, handicap complaints, and official protests must be submitted **in writing** on the night of play or within twenty-four (24) hours of play. Complaints should be submitted by e-mail to the League Office at [alula@poolplayers.com](mailto:alula@poolplayers.com). Every effort will be made to carefully review, investigate, and follow up on complaints or protests.

### **Banned Players**

If a Host Location has banned a player from entering their establishment, the team must play without them when playing at that location. The League does not have the right to require a Host Location to permit access to a banned person for any league match including playoffs, finals, All-City Championships and other high-level tournaments. It is the sole responsibility of the player to take the steps necessary to mend the relationship between themselves and the establishment if they wish to return.

### **Suspended Players**

APA Rochester will honor any suspensions from all APA areas. Any player found undermining the fairness and spirit of the APA risks suspension and/or ban from playing in the Rochester APA.

## Section 4: Local League Playoffs and Tournaments

### 8-Ball & 9-Ball DIVISION PLAYOFFS

Playoff Structure is as follows:

Playoff Option 2 – Point Leaders as Division Champions

Number of Teams in Division (at Week 6)	WQ Qualification Playoff Structure	Session Award Structure
<u>4</u> One team qualifies for World Qualifier	1st Place vs. Wild Card  Winner advances to World Qualifier  In a 4-team division, eligibility will not be passed to teams finishing directly behind an already qualified team in the standings.	<b>Awards:</b>  1st Place team in points gets the 1 <sup>st</sup> PLACE SESSION trophies
<u>5-12</u> Two teams qualify for World Qualifier	Division Point Leader advances directly to the World Qualifier  2 <sup>nd</sup> Place vs. Wild Card 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place vs. 4 <sup>th</sup> Place  Winner of each round 1 match will play in the Playoff Finals to determine who advances to World Qualifier	<b>Awards:</b>  1st Place team in points gets the 1 <sup>st</sup> PLACE SESSION trophies
<u>13-16</u> Three teams qualify for World Qualifier	Division Point Leader & Point Runner-up (2 <sup>nd</sup> place in points) advance directly to the World Qualifier  3 <sup>rd</sup> Place vs. Wild Card 4 <sup>th</sup> Place vs. 5 <sup>th</sup> Place  Winner of each round 1 match will play in the Playoff Finals to determine who advances to World Qualifier	<b>Awards:</b>  1st Place team in points gets the 1 <sup>st</sup> PLACE SESSION trophies

In a 4-team division, eligibility will not be passed to teams finishing directly behind an already qualified team in the Playoffs.

### **NUMBER OF MATCHES NEEDED FOR PLAYOFFS AND OTHER QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS**

In order for a player to participate in the session playoffs or qualifying tournaments such as the Border Battle or Northeast Challenge, they must have played at least four (4) matches with the team during the session, prior to the playoffs or tournament starting. In order for a player to be eligible to participate in the World Qualifier (WQ) tournament in June, a player must have a skill level based on at least 10 actual League scores in the format in which they are advancing. The 10 scores must be attained by the end of the Spring Session in the League year corresponding to the World Pool Championship event.

During the last two weeks of a session's regular weekly play, a team cannot forfeit more than three individual matches. Teams who do not adhere to this rule will forfeit their eligibility in the Playoffs.

**During each session, the Playoff schedule and location will be announced and noted on the session schedule at least (5) weeks before the event so teams can plan accordingly.**



### **8-BALL PLAYOFFS**

During each the Summer and Fall sessions, the 1<sup>st</sup> and Final round of Playoffs will be scheduled for the Saturday immediately following the last week of play.

The next session will begin after an off week following the Saturday playoffs.

During the Spring session, 1<sup>st</sup> round of Playoffs will be scheduled on the same day of the week as your regular weekly League play. The Final round of Playoffs will be scheduled the following week on the same day of the week as your regular weekly play.

Next session will begin the week following the final round of Playoffs.

### **9-BALL PLAYOFFS**

During each session the 1<sup>st</sup> round of Playoffs will be scheduled on the same day of the week as your regular weekly League play.

The Final round of Playoffs will be scheduled the following week on the same day of the week as your regular weekly play.

Next session will begin the week following the final round of Playoffs.

### **Wild Card**

When drawing for the wild card to participate in playoffs, the drawing will be weighed according to the final standings of the teams that did not earn an automatic bid into the playoffs. The number of entries into the wild card draw will be dependent on the number of teams in the division as well as final standings in the division. The last place team will receive 1 entry into the wild card, the 2<sup>nd</sup> to last place team will receive 2 entries into the wild card, the 3<sup>rd</sup> to last place team will receive 3 entries into the wild card draw and so on.

When a team earns a spot to the session playoffs they are required to participate in the playoffs. If the team chooses to not participate, the team is still responsible for paying the applicable team fees for session playoffs. The only situation in which a team may forfeit their playoff spot is in the event that the session playoffs for the division can be filled. (Another team willing and eligible to participate.)

The eligibility of a team to participate in the wild card will be determined before the drawing. The teams will be ineligible to participate if any of the following apply:

1. League fees or membership dues are outstanding
2. Team has forfeited more than 5 individual matches during the session.
3. Team has been late with paperwork or dues more than (4) or more times during the session.

### **Double Jeopardy Playoff Location**

Due to the nature of our Double Jeopardy Divisions, it is not always possible to schedule Playoff matches at the home location of the highest seeded team. These matches will be scheduled at the discretion of the local league management.

### **Extra Summer Bids**

Keeping our summer team count and divisions healthy is crucial to the yearly schedule that the APA runs on. If it weren't for our summer teams, no one would go to Vegas in the Spring. As an incentive to play through the summer- we qualify one EXTRA team PER DIVISION to the All-City Champions Vegas World Qualifier. The season is shorter and the chances are higher to get a bid.

### **Trophies**

End of session awards will be given in a timely manner; each member of the first-place team will receive an award. In addition, each team will also receive a team trophy or plaque that can be put on display at their Host Location to show off their accomplishment! Additional trophies may be purchased through the local league office.

### **All-City Championship Vegas World Qualifier**

The All- City Championship Vegas World Qualifier is an annual tournament that takes place at the end of the League year after the Spring Session. To earn qualification to this tournament, your team must win either Division First Place in points OR Division Playoffs at any point during the League Year (Summer, Fall, Spring) The winner of the World Qualifier receives travel assistance to Las Vegas and the opportunity to represent APA Rochester in the APA World Pool Championships. All teams that qualify each session must remain active until the World Pool Championship to maintain their qualification.

### **Travel Assistance for the World Pool Championships**

The Travel Assistance Fund will be used to pay travel expenses actually incurred by the members of those teams advancing to the APA World Pool Championships. If a team chooses not to go to this event, the slot and the Travel Assistance will be given to the last team eliminated by the non-attending team on their World Qualifier board.