

Captain's Log, January 2nd, 2017

Happy New Year everyone! Welcome to the Spring Session and the last session to try to qualify for the 2017 APA World Pool Championships in Las Vegas. There is lots of important stuff to know, so make sure you read everything here. First of all, we will begin the electronic payment program in the 5th week of the Spring Session. The main reason is because we are already busier than normal with processing membership renewals and we don't want to confuse people with thinking they can pay memberships through our program instead of Online Member Services with APA. With the start of this program in week 5, we will dedicate an entire newsletter for electronic payments and score sheet submission, explaining how it works and answering what we assume will be the most common frequently asked questions.

It is membership renewal time for everyone. Many people have already paid their membership through APA's Online Member Services. If you have paid with a credit card this week, but it shows that you owe, it's possible that we mailed out the score sheets before you submitted payment. We did mail out early this week because of the postal holidays and the concerns about timely postal delivery. Some league members will have a prorated membership fee of \$15.00 if they joined the league after August 15th of the previous year. Anyone that has not paid up their membership after week 4 will be dropped from their teams. Qualified teams will want to make sure that everyone on their team is paid up by week 4 or risk losing that player from their City Championship roster.

ATTENTION QUALIFIED TEAMS: (This will also include teams that are participating in the upcoming Blast tournament and win and become qualified for City Championships)- NO players can be added to a qualified team after the 4th week of the Spring Session if you wish to maintain your City Championship eligibility. Adding a player after the 4th week automatically removes your eligibility for City Championships. Your Spring roster is your City Championship roster, so whoever is listed on your team at the end of week 4 is the list of players who can compete in our Las Vegas qualifier, provided they meet all of the other eligibility requirements, which are 4 matches with the team in the Spring Session and a minimum of 10 lifetime matches by the end of the Spring Session in the format the team is competing in.

We are currently scheduled to play the Blast on the weekend of January 28-29. The only thing we cannot confirm in this newsletter is the location. The date could still change depending on securing a location, but any change in date will be after February 5th. We hope to have announcements on the location in next week's newsletter.

The 2017 APA 8 Ball Southwest Challenge is scheduled for March 23-26 at Westgate Resort in Las Vegas. We will be doing the 3 person 8 Ball team event along with a 9 Ball Scotch Doubles team event just like last year. We will have flyers with package prices and eligibility requirements next week. We are taking signups now. The 8 Ball event was full last year, so sign up your team sooner rather than later.

We have provided applications for new players to the APA. These can also be filled out by anyone that has moved to a new residence. It is important that we have everyone's accurate information on file so that they can receive all of the benefits of being a league member. APA regularly mails out membership packets and their American Poolplayer magazine to all paid league members. Even if you have no changes to your roster and no one has moved, keep these applications with your other league related items for future use. Players that added by paying membership with a credit card through Online Member Services don't need to fill out applications.

IMPORTANT: When you add a NEW player to your roster, the league office will assign them a membership number. Once we have done this, they are now considered "existing" members even if they haven't played APA in their entire life. This is important, because if they wish to pay their membership online, they will need to do so as an "EXISTING" member, rather than "NEW". In order for them to pay as an existing member, we need more than just their name. We need date of birth and an email address as well. If they submitted an application to the office and we have processed it, and they know their number, they should be able to complete the process as an existing member. If they did not fill out an application and/or they don't know their membership number, they should contact the office so that we can help them with the process of paying online. If they sign up as new instead of existing, a duplicate record ends up being created where one membership is on a team with scores and a handicap (if they played), but isn't paid in membership fees, and the other one is paid up in membership fees, but isn't on a team and doesn't have scores and a handicap. These then have to be combined and it might be league night before this is noticed by anyone. Not a huge deal, really. But it does create confusion for the new member.

Schedules do change a lot in the first few weeks of a new session, so make sure you double check the schedule from the previous week! Again, welcome back and good luck to everyone!

Shoot Pool Good! Brian, Jill and Lindsay 619-303-0183 sandiego.apaleagues.com
Office Hours 9am-7:30pm Daily sandiegoapa@cox.net sdapajill@cox.net sdapalindsay@cox.net
Find us on Facebook at San Diego APA