



The USBA Newsletter
3-Cushion Billiard News

www.USBA.net

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 Jim Shovak/USBA President
 58 Hawthorne Ave.
 East Islip, NY 11730

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 East Islip, NY
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Mazin Shooni
 Nashua, NH
 248-910-4466

James Watson
 Bronx, NY
 347 255-4330

Dick Jaspers shows His Joy after Winning Verhoeven Open

The man at the top of his game, 50-year old Dick Jaspers, has marked the milestone in his life by one of the greatest victories in his career. The Dutch world class player, triple world champion, won the Verhoeven Open tournament at Carom Café in New York, where almost all the star players battled for the trophy and the \$8,000 dollar main prize. Dick Jaspers defeated in the final Tayfun Tasdemir 40-33 in 13 innings. In the run-up to the final, the Dutchman had showed his superior form against Alexander Salazar (40-24 in 22), Marco Zanetti (40-26 in 16) and Frédéric Caudron (40-21 in 15). Tayfun Tasdemir reached the final by wins over Lars Dunch (40-35 in 36), Murat Naci Coklu (40-28 in 18) and Torbjörn Blomdahl (40-32 in 14).



The Verhoeven Open brought sixteen finalists in the spotlights at the end of the tournament and looked back to a very high quality event.

Dick Jaspers won the tournament in New York never before. The only time he was successful in the Big Apple was in an invitational tournament in 1995. The Flying Dutchman demonstrated in New York again to be back on top of the world after two victories in the World Cup in Porto in 2014 and Luxor this year.

The average of the winner in the final rounds was a convincing proof: 2.424.

USBA Members enjoy low discount pricing



Tiger Cue Sticks - Tiger Cue Tips
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Accessories - Amazin Billiards Gloves



Mazin Shooni Phone:
(248) 910-4466
mazinshooni@yahoo.com



Final Ranking

FINAL RANK	NAME	TOTAL POINTS	TOTAL INNINGS	GRAND AVERAGE	HIGH RUN	BEST GAME
1	Dick Jaspers	472	225	2.098	15	3.500
2	Tayfun Tasdemir	452	260	1.738	15	3.889
3	Frederic Caudron	421	218	1.931	17	2.692
4	Torbjorn Blomdahl	444	214	2.075	12	3.182
5	Marco Zanetti	420	205	2.049	17	3.889
6	Huberney Catano	415	287	1.446	9	2.188
7	Sameh Sidhom	443	311	1.424	10	2.059
8	Murat Naci Coklu	413	255	1.620	16	2.333
9	Pedro Piedrabuena	402	249	1.614	11	2.188
10	Semih Sayginer	452	240	1.883	16	3.077
11	Andres Lizarazo	383	306	1.252	12	1.944
12	Jose Juan Garcia	409	300	1.363	12	2.500
13	Roland Forthomme	461	280	1.646	15	3.889
14	Eddy Merckx	391	231	1.693	19	3.500
15	Alexander Salazar	395	310	1.274	15	1.522
16	Lars Dunch	400	318	1.258	11	1.842

Verhoven Open Results



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C H O I C E H O T E L S I N T E R N A T I O N A L

President's Desk:

The USBA is presently trying to decide the venue for the 2016 Nationals. This will depend on whether or not we have a table sponsor for 2016. The Nationals Committee is in discussion now with various table manufacturers.



It is with deep regret that I inform everybody of the passing of Sid Banner who passed away recently at the age of 89. Sid was involved for many years with the USBA as a Director on the Board. He was also the author of a book on billiards and systems called "3 Cushion Billiard Systems: Billiard Secrets from a Professional Amateur". Known as "System Sid" to many billiard players, Sid was always a threat on the billiard table. I

know, for he beat me many times in tournaments.

In 1988 Sid opened up a twenty-one table room with four 3-Cushion tables in Boca Raton, Florida. Many major national and international 3-Cushion tournaments took place at Boca Billiards. Many top players from all over the world competed every year until Boca Billiards was sold in 1996.



Tacoma Elks Lodge 174

by Ed Brasfield, Billiards Chairman

Tacoma Elks on August 14 & 15 held their annual USBA MIKE FAHEY tournament. We held a handicap tournament based on USBA established levels of play along with according handicaps.

Based on those figures we had 1 B+ player, 5 B players, 5C+ players and 2 C players. Our tournament chairman, Tim Poole, tried out a different format from our past shoots. With everything based on established handicaps, we took 60% of each person's handicap, and that was their target score to shoot. As an example, with me being a low C player with an average of 18 my target score was 11 points per game. So if I played Tim Poole who is a B player with an average of 36, his target score was 22.



I-r, 3rd Dave Ehlers, 2nd John Fleming, 1st Ed Brasfield, 4th Jesus Quinonez

This season we have been trying different formats of play with the thought behind it of getting more lower scoring players a chance of winning some games against the top players. The top players cannot come into a game and just

take for granted it's a race to 30 and I'll beat this guy. It's a challenge for them with all skill levels.

Fahey 2015 Finals	Quinonez (30)	Brasfield (11)	Flemming (19)	Ehlers (15)	WIN/LOSS	TOTAL POINTS	TOTAL INNINGS	GRAND AVERAGE	HIGH RUN	BEST GAME	FINAL RANKING
Jesus Quinonez (30)	27	54	50	0	3	65	131	0.496	8	0.000	4
Ed Brasfield (11)	11* 0.407	44	34	3	0	33	105	0.314	3	0.407	1
John Flemming (19)	19* 0.351	11	27	2	1	49	125	0.392	5	0.704	2
Dave Ehlers (15)	15* 0.300	7	8	1	2	30	111	0.270	4	0.300	3
(Handicapped)*						TOURNAMENT AVERAGE:					0.375

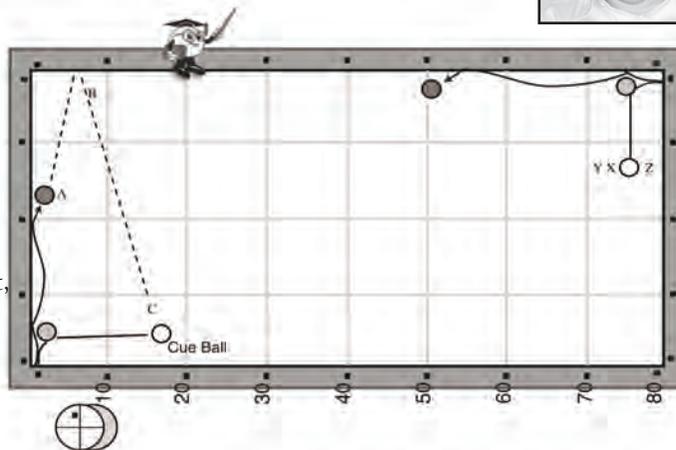
Shot Selection to Score

By Phil Panzera
Contributing Writer



Back-to-the-Rail Variations Here is a shot that every room player should know, but doesn't, thinking either it's too hard or too fancy. Not true at all, as with just a little bit of practice you can add this easy (yes!) shot to your arsenal. The shot at the left has at least 3 other options, but all are harder. The keys to this shot are generating the right angle into the first rail, and having the right amount of high to slightly bend the ball back to the short rail. Hit the first ball with a fairly full hit, with medium speed. Either too slow or too hard and the ball will not bend back to the rail correctly. I prefer using slight outside English, which stiffens the ball and keeps it flatter to the short rail, although Blomdahl once said that he prefers no English (which then requires a slightly thinner hit). Both work; it's personal preference. Technically, outside English is better if the second object ball is close to the rail, and no English is better if the target ball is further off the rail (at A), as high alone will bend the ball a bit sharper. After you're consistent with the shot, note the extension possibilities, as the shot generally drifts toward the 2d diamond on the long rail, so target balls at B or C may be the best shot if everything else is tough (many extensions are possible with different English and speed). This shot is especially useful when you're 10 feet away, and the around the table hit requires eyesight from decades ago.

Look for this shot on the long rail also (at right). The shot is best when you're almost straight on to the first ball, and is still OK if slightly to the left (X), but too much to the left (Y) and even a little to the right (Z) the shot is not on. Note that you can play the shot with the first ball even a half diamond from



the corner, or closer than a ball's width. Give it 10 minutes; you'll like it, and it may be the easiest finger snap you ever get!

Upcoming USBA Tournaments

October 16-18th

The Professor-Q-Ball 3-Cushion Tournament
Rushville, IL – The Fall 2015 Event
Entry fee \$145
Contact: Gary Eake – (920) 420-1304

November 13-15th

Hood River Elks Lodge 1507
2nd Annual Russ Guppy Memorial
Fall 3-Cushion Billiards Tournament
Entry fee \$85 -Limit to the first 21 paid entrants.
For comments or questions contact
Phone at (541) 354-1161 or Cell (541) 490-1192

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Amazin Billiards

The scheduled USBA 3 cushion handicap event was held at Amazin Billiards in Malden, Massachusetts on Saturday, September 26th despite many last minute no-shows. A seven man round robin was in order and the tournament ran for 10 hours with no break in the action.

Three players gave the ultimate Champion all he could handle. Manny Cuhna lost in the 1 hole while John Johnson and Kevin Perry scored 27 and 26 points respectively in losses to the victor Mazin Shooni.

Joe DeAmato was 5 & 0 when he faced Mazin who stood at 4 & 0 and the game meant everything. Mazin emerged victorious 30 to 24. At 26-24, Mazin ran a slick 4 and out.

The very last match to be played was between Richard and Mazin and all 4 top spots hung in the balance. Mazin seemed to kick in, played a strong game and won decisively 30 to 18.

Manny, who fought hard the entire way finished 3rd and Richard took down the final spot.

Despite the disappointing small turnout, the day was filled with good, hard fought play and having the top 4 spots being determined in the final game made for drama that might not have been anticipated.

Congratulations to Mazin Shooni on his win. Being the top dog is never easy as everyone seems to be gunning for you.

Congrats to runner-up Joe D, to Manny C and Richard F for finishing in the money.



Left to Right, Joe DeAmato, Manny Cuhna, Mazin Shooni, Rich Falanga, Kevin Perry

A sincere thanks to Amazin Billiards, owner Mazin Shooni and his staff who so attentively saw to it that the balls and tables were cleaned after every game.

What's better than 10 hours of 3 cushion billiards amongst passionate players???

- 1st \$425 Mazin
- 2nd \$275 Joe
- 3rd \$150 Manny
- 4th \$100 Richard



	John Johnson	Bob Ferrara	Joe DeAmato	Rich Falanga	Mazin Shooni	Kevin Perry	Manny Cuhna	WIN/LOSS	TOTAL POINTS	FINAL RANKING
John Johnson		27	19	19	27	25	30	1/5	147	6
Bob Ferrara	30		17	25	16	0	15	1/5	103	7
Joe DeAmato	30	30		30	24	30	30	5/1	174	2
Rich Falanga	30	30	19		18	30	27	5/1	154	4
Mazin Shooni	30	30	30	30		30	30	6/0	180	1
Kevin Perry	30	30	17	26	26		27	2/4	156	5
Manny Cuhna	18	30	27	30	29	30		3/3	164	3

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APRIL 14-17, 2016



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