



# Boomer's Page



## Illegal Coaching Is A Ball-In-Hand Foul

We are getting numerous complaints about illegal coaching. Let me remind you that illegal coaching is a ball-in-hand foul. A player's turn at the table begins the moment the balls stop rolling on the table. At this point, the player is to approach the table and all coaching must stop, unless a time out has been called.

### What may be considered illegal coaching:

Telling the player what ball to shoot either verbally, with hand signals or body language. **Exception: If the player is aiming at the wrong category of ball (stripes or solid) in 8 ball or not aiming at the lowest number ball on the table in 9 ball, anyone may tell the player that they are stripes or solids in 8 ball or need to aim at the lowest numbered ball in 9 ball.**

Anyone approaching the table without the benefit of a timeout. This means that coaches cannot jump up or approach the table to see if a timeout needs to be called. You have already alerted the player either voluntarily or involuntarily that something isn't right. Position yourself so that you have a clear view of the table. Common sense needs to be used here. For example, if the player needs a bridge or a piece of chalk, someone may hand them one as long as no coaching is involved.

Receiving advice or assistance from someone who is not on the team. **Exception, you may ask another captain or a division rep about a rule clarification. Guests need to keep their thoughts as to who to throw or how a player should shoot a shot to themselves. They cannot get involved in the match whatsoever.**

**Asking a player, who is currently shooting, if they want a timeout may be considered illegal coaching if all timeouts have been used. If timeouts have not been used, then a timeout will be charged, whether a timeout is given.**

Continuing to talk to a player when it is their turn to shoot. Even though the conversation may not be pool related in the least, if the opponent cannot hear what is being said, it may be considered illegal coaching.

Coaches, giving a timeout, must leave the playing area before the player takes the shot or it may be considered illegal coaching. Give your player the advice they need, line them up, if necessary, and leave the playing area immediately before the player takes the shot.

### What is not illegal coaching:

Getting a rule clarification.

Saying things like "Nice Shot", "Nice Defense", "Nice Leave" and general terms of encouragement are not considered illegal coaching.

As with all sections of the rule book, common sense needs to prevail. Stop talking to your player as soon as it is their turn at the table. Do not approach the table, unless a timeout has been called and keep your comments generic and loud enough for all players to hear.

## **ATTENTION: QUALIFIED TEAMS**

The roster you have right now will be the one that you will take to regionals with you in June. You may make no changes to your roster for the remainder of the session. This is a national rule, not ours. Please read the Higher Level Tournament section of your official team manual starting with page 81. It is imperative that all of the requirements be met in order to participate at the regional and national level. Failure to meet these requirements may put your team at a disadvantage going into the regional tournament and may disqualify your team members from the national tournament. If you have any questions, let's get them cleared up now. 9-Ball regionals will be held June 6-8. 8-Ball regionals will be held June 13-15. Dates for Nationals: 9-Ball Team-August 14-18 and 8-Ball Team-August 17-23. Schedule your vacation time now. We will need to know all of the players that will be attending the national tournament immediately upon qualifying.

There has been talk that some of the teams or individuals that are qualified for regionals are laying down and sandbagging to try to keep their skill levels down. Let me caution you, that any team found to be trying to manipulate skill levels will be disqualified from advancing to regionals and nationals. If anyone on your team is considering this, there are a few things you need to know. First of all, a player will advance to regionals at their tri-cup ending skill level or the highest skill level since qualifying even if they go down during regular league play. **Second, any qualified team that finishes in the lower half of the standings this session will be under extra scrutiny when it comes time to set up the regional tournament. Third, any team that is not marking defensive shots, qualified or not, will have players arbitrarily raised in skill level.** We, as league operators, have the authority to raise the skill level of any player we feel is under rated. We also have the obligation to the league as a whole to make sure that the teams advancing to regionals and nationals are properly rated. Don't take the chance. Play honestly, keep score properly. The integrity of the league and the scoring system are things we take very seriously.

## **NON-RATED PLAYERS MUST PLAY**

All non-rated players, those without a skill level, must play at least once by week 7 or they will be removed from your roster, even if you have a "bye" that week. Double jeopardy teams, the non-rated players must play at least one 8-ball match and one 9-ball match if they are on both rosters. Players that are playing their first session ever must have a skill level based on at least 10 scores this session in order to advance to the regional and/or national level. The only scores that count are Spring session play, Spring session playoffs and Spring session tri-cups. Summer session scores will not count towards the 10. Every year, we have members going into tri-cups needing 5 or 6 scores. This drastically hinders strategy and if your team does well chances are your player will not get the required number of scores in. Don't dilly dally, get the 10 scores in during regular league play. We purposely make the Spring session the longest session to allow you to get your new players qualified.

## **Matches you will need to pre-play**

If you will not be able to field a team on **Easter, April 20** or the week of **Chinook Winds, April 10-13**, you need to make arrangements **now** with your opponent to pre-play your match. You will not be allowed to make it up after the fact. You may also need to reschedule your match for the week of **March 9-16** if you **have players participating in the BCA Chinook Winds tournament.** Talk with your team, contact the opposing team, set a date, then notify the league office 503-243-6725 so we can get the score sheets to you. If you are having trouble agreeing on a date or are having trouble reaching the other team, contact us asap and we will help you out. Failure to complete a match could result in your team having to pay both teams fees and getting knocked out of a chance for playoffs or tri-cups.

# Singles Qualifiers

With our hectic Spring Schedule, This will probably be your only opportunity to get qualified for the 2014 Fall Regionals

## ONE ENTRY FEE—PLAY TIL YOU WIN!

In order to participate must be on an active 8-ball team and have an 8-ball skill level based on a minimum of 10 scores. The 10 scores must have been earned in the last 2 years.

Playing in a Masters division only does not make you eligible, you must also be playing on a regular 8 ball team.

Once qualified for regionals, you must remain on an active 8-Ball team.

Saturday, March 22 starting at 10 am

All skill levels

8-Ball Only (boards will be grouped by skill levels whenever possible)

All Skill levels-Last boards will be drawn approximately 6 pm

KC's Midway, 1003 7th St, Oregon City Entry fee \$40, plus \$3 greens fee

In order to participate, you must be on an active 9-ball team and have a 9-ball skill level based on a minimum of 10 scores. The 10 scores must have been earned within the last 2 years.

Playing in a Masters only division does not make you eligible, you must also be playing on a regular 9 ball team.

Once qualified for regionals, you must remain on an active 9-Ball team.

Saturday, March 29 starting at 10 am

All skill levels

9-Ball Only (boards will be grouped by skill levels whenever possible)

All Skill levels-Last boards will be drawn approximately 6 pm

Rodder's, 19195 S Molalla, Oregon City Entry Fee \$40, plus \$3 greens fee

For more information on the Singles Program, please refer to the following page

## Stay all day or arrive when you can!

Please pre-register with the league office by the Friday before the qualifier you want to participate in 503-243-6725 or email [apaboomer@aol.com](mailto:apaboomer@aol.com)

## Singles Qualifiers

**8-Ball**-In order to participate, you must be an active APA member, on an active 8-ball team, with an 8-ball skill level based on at least 10 league scores. The 10 qualifying scores must have been earned in the last 2 years. *Playing Masters only does not make you eligible for Singles.*

**9-Ball**-In order to participate, you must be an active APA member, on an active 9-ball team, with a 9-ball skill level based on at least 10 league scores. The 10 qualifying scores must have been earned in the last 2 years. *Playing Masters only does not make you eligible for Singles.*

**Local level**-In order to qualify for the national tournament, you must first qualify by entering into a qualifier board. There are several formats that we use, and depending on your budget and how good you want the odds, will determine which format that you want to participate in. There is no cash payout at this level.

**Regional Level**-Once you have qualified at the local level, you are now eligible to compete at the regional level. Both 8-Ball and 9-Ball have two regional tournaments, one in the Spring and one in the Fall. In order to participate in the Fall regional, you must win a qualifier board between December 1 and June 15. In order to participate in the Spring regional, you must win a qualifier board between June 16 and November 30. As long as you are on both an 8-ball and 9-ball team, you may qualify and play in both 8-ball and 9-ball formats. Once qualified you must remain active in the format that you qualified in. The Fall regionals are slated for October 4-5 in Salem.

At the regional and national level you will only play against players of similar skill levels. 8-ball is broken into 5 tiers: Skill level 7, Skill level 6, Skill level 5, Skill level 4 and Skill levels 2-3. In 9-ball there are 3 tiers: Skill levels 6-9, Skill levels 4-5 and Skill levels 1-3. At least one player from each tier will advance to the national tournament.

The regional winners receive a trophy/plaque and a trip to Las Vegas to compete in the national tournament around the end of April-First of May 2015. Runners-up in each tier receive a plaque.

**National level**-Players advancing to the national level receive a travel allowance for airfare, a room at the tournament location, a commemorative jacket and a minimum of \$100 cash upon registration in Las Vegas. 8-ball and 9-ball tournaments are broken into the same skill level brackets as regionals, with a national winner in each tier. 8-ball tier winners receive \$15,000 in cash and prizes with at least half being paid in cash. 9-ball tier winners receive \$10,000 in cash and prizes with at least half being paid in cash. If you are eligible to qualify in both 8 & 9-ball you may compete in both events at the national level. Think you are not good enough to compete? Think again

**DON'T MISS OUT ON YOUR CHANCE TO BE THE NEXT NATIONAL CHAMPION!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE LEAGUE OFFICE AT (503) 243-6725.**

## 23 RULE

Breaking the 23 rule is absolutely forbidden. The skill levels of the players that play must add up to 23 or less. The 23 rule must be met even if all 5 races are not played. You cannot play 4 races to 23 and forfeit the 5th race. You must be able to prove had all 5 races been played, that you could have stayed at 23 or less with the line up that you play. For the Super divisions the cap is 26. Masters divisions do not have a skill level cap. Breaking the 23 (26 rule for Super divisions) may result in your team losing all points won for the match.

# Have a Great Week!