



# THE OPAL 'GEM' EXPRESS



**NLSP 2013-07**

February 25, 2013

Original Pool Amateur League  
(OPAL:) "A Real 'GEM'  
In YOUR Community!"



**HIDDEN** (*Except when in parenthesis*) somewhere in this Newsletter are "5" APA Membership numbers just waiting to be discovered. From the Feb 18 newsletter, **Niki Phillipi** (97201910) who plays for Ringo's "Chicken Curses" in the Horizon Super DJ division and **Jack Spring** (97208803), (yes, Pete this is Jack) who plays for Hart Rd Pizza's "Demi Gods of the Felt in the Skyline DJ Division both called in to claim their prize. There are still 3 numbers from that newsletter waiting to be discovered, plus the 5 new numbers for this week.

Meanwhile, from the Feb 11th Newsletter no one else called in to claim their shirt, so that gives us a party of 4 in the Loser's Corner this week. For Shame! For Shame! Grab your magnifying glasses and get hunting or you'll be seen on the back of the very next newsletter like those silly loser's you can see this week.

**REMEMBER**, You have only until the writing of the 2nd Newsletter following the one your number is in to call the league office with the magic words "Gimme My Shirt"

**Be An OPAL Winner Instead... Read The Newsletter**

## 2013 Spring Singles Regionals

**F**ebuary 23-24 **Rodder's** in Oregon City hosted the Spring Singles Regionals. Format was Modified-Single Elimination. Saturday was for 8 Ball. There were 62 eligible participants all hoping to be one of the lucky 5 to progress to the National Singles Championships in Las Vegas. Brackets were broken down by skill level with one board for the 3 and below, one board for skill level 4, two boards for the skill level 5's and one board for the skill levels 6 & 7. Each bracket was seeded by each participant's player record, so they played players of their like ability until reaching the finals. In the Blue Tier (SL 2-3), Kevin Thompson made it to the point undefeated by winning his matches against Kailee Deel (2-1), Gil Razo (2-0) and Ron Webb (2-2). Gil, won his first match against Kathi Burge (2-1) only to get sidelined by Kevin in his second match. With one loss, Gil rallied back by winning his match against Julie Klinger (2-1) to get back to the winner's side. His next match against Alex Zhang, Gil won with a shutout, only to meet up again with Kevin for the finals. Kevin



**Gil Razo Kevin Thompson**

won the first game, Gil won

the 2nd game, then Kevin sealed the deal with a win in the hill-hill match.

In the Yellow Tier (SL 4) Michael Dowell lost his first match to David Boone (3-1), got past the "bye", and steamrolled Maxine Buhler (4-0) and then went on to win his match against Steve Heavyside (4-2) to get back to the winner's side of the bracket. He then won against Jennifer Windell (4-2) to get to the finals. Julie Duvall took a more straight forward approach to the finals, with wins against Kris Knutson (3-2), Sandi Jacobson (3-0) and Don Weston (3-0). In the finals, won the first 3 games to get on the hill first,

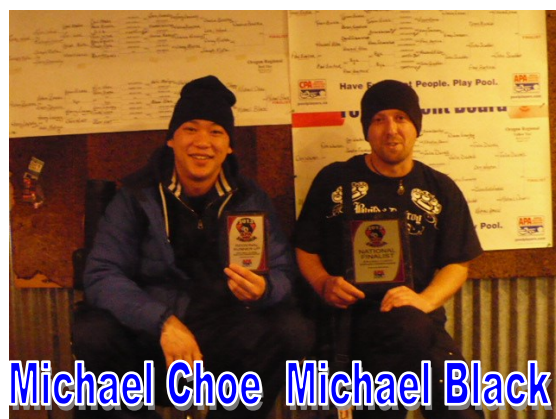


**Julie Duvall Michael Dowell**

# 2013 Spring Singles Regionals Continued

which included an ill fated 5-8 in the 2nd game. Julie came back and won the 4th game, but Michael would not be denied, he took the 4th game to secure a National Finalist spot.

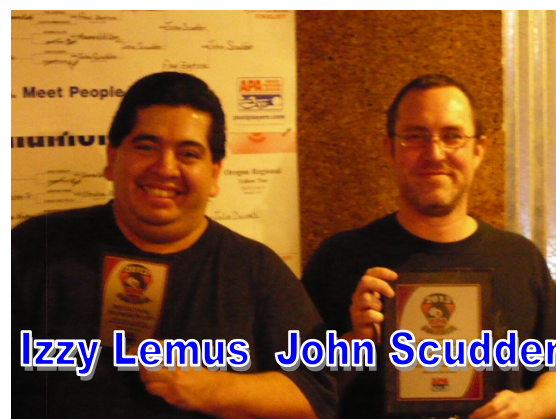
In the first Red Tier (SL 5) Danny Miotke, of Salem, zipped through the winner's side of the board by winning his matches against "bye", Mark Binkley (4-0), Josh Gilchrist (4-0) and Joe Mutz (4-1). Josh Boelter took a similar route to the finals, winning his matches against "no show", Joe Mutz (4-0), Larry Donnelly in a thrilling hill-hill match and Lori Wood (4-1). In the finals, Josh came out with



guns blazing winning

the first 3 games to get on the hill first. Danny meticulously worked through each rack to take the next 3 games. Hill-Hill, Danny breaks and makes the 8 to secure the match and a seat to Nationals.

In the second Red Tier (SL 5), both Michael's went through the board undefeated. Choe with wins against "bye", James Wurm (4-2), Miguel Madrigal (4-1) and Adam Brooks (4-1). Black with wins against Henry Lowery



(4-2), "no show", Jason Johnson (4-2) and Henry Lowery again in the semi-finals (4-2). In the finals, Michael Choe won the first game. Then Michael Black says "no way" and proceeded to take the next 4 games straight, including an 8 on the break in the 3rd game.

In the Purple Tier (SL 6-7), Izzy Lemus and John Scudder went through the board undefeated to get to the finals. Izzy with wins against Eddy Bickle (5-1), Chris Nicol (5-0) Tim Higginson (5-1) and then Eddy Bickle again in the semis (5-2). John must have scared his first a opponent, they did not show up, then he went on win his matches against Howard Allen (5-2), Gary Jackson (5-3) and Paul Bartnik (5-1). In the finals, both players were playing great. John took the first game, Izzy the second. Then in the 3rd game, Izzy made one wrong move and knocked the 8 in early. In control, John took the next 3 games in a row. In a total of 5 innings for the match, John secured the last 8 ball spot for the day.



On Sunday, the 24th, 45 hopeful 9 ball participants converged on Rodder's to vie for one of the three national spots available. Again, the brackets were seeded and broken into 3 skill level groups. In the Green Tier (SL 1-3) both players in the finals took the long way around. Brandon McIntyre won his first match against John Register (25-14), only to get knocked into the one loss side by Gil Razo (25-19). He won his match against Shannon Jenkins (25-15)



# 2013 Spring Singles Regionals Continued

to get back to the winner's side only to find he had moved up to a skill level 4. Brandon took the challenge and won his match against Tanya Knutson (31-12) to meet Daniel weeks in the finals. Daniel won his first two matches against Anna Mixon (19-22) and Shannon Jenkins (19-17) only to get sidelined by Tanya Knutson (19-7). Daniel went on to win his match against Helen Hahn (19-13) to meet up with Gil Razo in the semis. Daniel won that match (19-24) to make it to the finals. In the finals, it was neck and neck through the first 3 games. Then Brandon got hot taking the majority of the next 3 racks to win the match 31-15).



Larry Draper Tyrell Pinder

In the White Tier (SL 4-5), Larry Draper worked his way through the winner's side undefeated with wins against Lori Wood (38-12), Tyson Croonquist (38-26), Steve Heavyside (46-16) and Maria Argueta (46-24). During this series, Larry progressed to a skill level 6. Tyrell Pinder won his first match against Joni Remster (31-23) and crushed his next opponent "bye" only to get sent on a sightseeing tour by Andrew Sullivan (38-18). Tyrell won his next match against Tina Peralta (31-20) to get back to the winner's side. He

then won his next two matches against Brandon Deel (31-20) and Lisa McClellan (31-25) to get to the finals match. In the beginning, it looked like it might be a runaway victory for Larry. He took the first game 9-1, but Tyrell would have none of it. Tyrell just kept chipping away at Larry's lead and eventually took the match 31-27.

In the Black Tier (SL 6-9), Tim Higginson and Paul Marquez both made it through the winner's side undefeated. Tim started off with a win against Kim Norn (46-16), then a close match against Martin Fogarty (46-42) then on through Larry Gee (46-31) and then Martin again (46-28). Paul received a "bye" for the first round, then sliced and diced his way through John Scudder (75-40), Eddy Bickle (75-23) and Phil Bremer (75-40). Paul started off strong in the finals taking the first rack 9-1, score after game 2, 12-1, game 3 20-3, game 4 29-4. Tim rallied back taking the majority on the next two racks, but it was not quite enough to stop Paul. Paul ended up winning the match 75-30.



Tim Higginson Paul Marquez

These National Finalists will join the National Finalists 2012 Fall Singles Regionals Jonathan Hahn (8 ball and 9 ball), Nick Skellenger (8 ball) and Jeff Hiatt (9 ball) to compete in the National Singles Championships in Las Vegas, April 25-27, 2013. Each finalist received a plaque and will receive \$200 in travel assistance, a room that they will share with another contestant, a commemorative jacket and a minimum of \$100. Depending on how well they do in the National tournament, 8 Ball contestants can earn up to \$25,000 in cash and prizes and 9 Ball contestants can earn up to \$15,000 in cash and prizes. There will be a National Champion in each skill level group.

Would you like to have the opportunity to play singles in Las Vegas for the National Singles Championships? Look in this week's Boomer's pages for the upcoming qualifiers for the 2013 Fall regionals.

A man was driving when he saw the flash of a traffic camera. He figured that his picture had been taken for exceeding the speed limit, even though he knew that he was not speeding. Just to be sure, he went around the block and passed the same spot, driving even more slowly, but again the camera flashed. Now he began to think that this was quite funny, so he drove even slower as he passed the area again, but the traffic camera again flashed. He tried a fourth time with the same result. He did this a fifth time and now laughing when the camera flashed as he rolled past, this time at a snail's pace. Two weeks later, he got five tickets in the mail for driving without a seat belt!



Here they are!



The 4 people listed below are "Losers" from the Feb 11 Newsletter. If you happen to see these individuals, give 'em your best razzing. And don't forget to give 'em the old "L" sign,—while thanking 'em for leaving a shirt in the box—possibly just for you!

1—CONNIE BISHOP (97201219) who plays for Scotty's "**Silver Bullets**" in the **Southwest** Division.

2—TJ WIEDMAIER (97206839) who plays for Rodder's "**Off Our Meds**" in the **Wagon Wheel DJ Div.**

3—NATHAN MACLIESCH (97218615) who plays for Timeout's "**High Noon Shooters**" in the **Midnight** Division.

4—THOMAS ROEBUCK (97219499) who plays for Fortune Star's "**Cross Cues**" in the **Farside** Division.

. If you don't want to be caught here for everyone to see, then look to see if your number isn't hidden somewhere.

**REMEMBER**, it is possible for your number to come up at anytime. Therefore, pay attention to detail, **READ THE NEWSLETTER..!**

