



ORIGINAL POOL AMATEUR LEAGUE

OPAL: "A REAL 'GEM' IN YOUR COMMUNITY!"



February 29, 2016

NLSP 2016-08



THE OPAL 'GEM' EXPRESS

HIDDEN (*Except when in parenthesis*) somewhere in this Newsletter are "5" more APA Membership numbers just waiting to be discovered. From the February 15 newsletter no one called in to claim their So, that puts 5 shirtless losers on the back page this week. From the February 22 newsletter, no one has called in either. There are still 5 numbers from the February 22 newsletter plus the 5 new numbers this week to be discovered. Read the newsletters!

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" Otherwise, it's off you go to where everyone can see you and laugh, giggle, snort, and snicker, because they know there'll be a shirt waiting for them now since you didn't want yours!

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BE AN OPAL WINNER --- FIND YOUR NUMBER!

Spring Singles Regionals

Rodders hosted the Spring Singles Regionals this last weekend. There

were 56 8 ball players and 77 9 ball players from Oregon, Washington and Idaho competing for one of the coveted spots to Vegas to compete in the Singles Nationals April 27-May 1. The competition was very close with the majority of the coming right down to the wire. After the dust settled five 8 ball players and five 9 ball players were crowned national finalists. Each finalist received a plaque at the tournament. When they arrive in Vegas, they will each receive 3 nights at the Westgate Resort, \$275 in travel assistance, a commemorative cue case and \$100 cash before they even play their first match. As they progress through the national tournament they have the opportunity to earn more cash and prizes. There will be a national champion in each skill level group. Top prize in 8 ball is \$15,000 in cash and prizes. Top prize in 9 ball is \$10,000 in cash and prizes. The competition started

off with 8 ball on Saturday. In the green tier (skill levels 2-3), Denise Wentzel started off with a 2-0 win over Bree Drew only to be knocked into the loser's side by Margaret Goodman with a 0-2 loss. Denise fought her way back to the winner's side with a 2-0 win over Lyn Kelsey and a 2-1 win over Lacey DeBord to meet up with Dale Mick in the finals. Dale went through the bracket undefeated with a win against Miss No Show, a 2-0 win over Crysta Rankin and a 2-1 win over Margaret Goodman. In the finals, Dale squeaked out a win over Denise 2-1.



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In the Yellow tier (skill level 4) Christine Bonin got to the finals undefeated with an impressive win over Mr Bye, then a 3-2 win over Zack Wicke, a 3-2 win over Anna Mixon, then another 3-2 win over Zack Wicke to sit on the point waiting for her opponent. Rick Hall took the long way around to the finals. He also got a bye the first round, then got knocked in to the Loser's side by Mark Yamamoto with a 1-3 loss. Rick got a 2nd wind and worked his way back to the winner's side with a 3-0 victory over Noel Phoenix, then a 3-1 win over Nancy Lockwood. After a very close race against Aaron Probert, 3-2, Rick moved on to the finals against Christine. In the finals, Rick had his eye on the prize and won the coveted spot with a 3-0 victory.



In the red tier (skill level 5) Glenn Shoup of Salem made it to the finals with wins against Mr Bye, Bobby Brown 4-1, John Howard 4-2, Eugene Skinner 4-2 and a very close match against Terry Mason 4-4. Thomas Davies got detoured with a 2-4 loss against Crystal Funderburk in the first round. Got a double bye on the backside only to meet up with Crystal again. This time, it was a 4-2 win in his favor. Back on the winner's side he got by Jeremy Cook 4-1 to meet up with Glenn in the finals. And what an exciting finals it was. Both player shot very well

bringing down to hill-hill. The match could have gone either way, but in the end Glenn got the out he needed to claim the victory.

In the Orange tier (skill level 6) Jason Chun made it to the finals undefeated with a 5-4 win over James Warner, a 5-4 win over Ben Foss and a 5-4 win over Larry Gee. Then he had a really long wait while the back side of the board was playing catch up. Steve "Never Give Up" Kemp thought maybe this would be a repeat of year's past when he lost the first round to Jacob Stern 2-5. But Steve pulled full speed ahead and plowed his way through the back side with a 5-2 win over Shawn Gunderson, 5-2 win over Andy Winslow and a 5-2 win over Ben Foss only to meet up with Jacob again in the semi finals. But there was no stopping Steve, this time he got the Victory over Jacob 5-0. In the finals, Steve got behind 3-1 against Jason, but Steve regrouped and ended up taking the next 4 in row to claim the spot to Vegas.



In the Black tier (skill level 7) Scott Barnard from Newberg made it to the point undefeated with wins against Mr Bye, Binh Huynh 5-2 and Matt Grable 5-2. Phil got side tracked with a first round loss against John Scudder 5-2. Then he had a couple close wins on the back side against Binh Huynh 5-4 and payback against John Scudder 5-3. In the finals, there was no stopping Scott Barnard as he worked his way to a 5-2 victory over Phil. 97268105



Sunday was 9 ball. In the Green tier (skill levels 1-3), both players that made it to the finals took the long way around. Jamie Smothers scared her first opponent so badly, she didn't show up. Then Jamie got knocked in the loser's side by Chris Parra in a close 24-25 match. She battled her way though Jessica Wehling 25-23 then beat Deana Copeland 25-16 to get back to the winner's side where she had another close match against Cindy Soll 25-21. Bree Drew lost to Lori Warner 25-20 in the first round, then won against Clarice Burkhart 25-16 and Sheri Fletcher 25-7

to get back on the winner's side. After a 25-21 win against Crysta Rankin, she and Jamie battled out until each player only needed on ball to win. Jamie got the one ball and took the victory.

In the White tier (skill levels 4-5) the field was so large it was split so that the 4's were in one bracket and the 5's in a second bracket. In the 4 bracket, Delores Petrich got by Jordan Walden 31-9 in the first round. Her next opponent did not show, then a win against Dustin Chrisman 31-20 and a nail biter against Claudine Elzey 31-29. Robert Ryder got his first match against Christine Bonin 31-23, then lost against Jessica Towry 31-28. A win against Mike Howland 31-25, put him back on the front side of the board where he got a win against Joni Remster 31-20 and Julie Duvall 31-13. In the finals, Robert got the edge and beat out Delores 31-20 to claim a spot to Vegas. 97218694



In the skill level 5 tier, Robert Anderson skill level 4 got through the bracket undefeated with wins against Caiti Grim 31-19, Eugene Skinner 31-31, Tim Rice 31-23, Stacy Enriquez 31-15 and Mark Horning 38-25. By this time Robert had advanced to skill level 5. Shawn Gunderson took a detour with a win against Kevin Blodgett 38-24, then lost a close match against Mike Votko 36-38. On the back side he won against Phil Hupp 38-16 to get back to the winner's side to get his revenge on Mike Voytko by winning that match 38-8. The finals were really close all the way through, but Shawn prevailed with a 38-33 win.

In the Black tier (skill levels 6-9) again the board was split with most of the 6's in one board and the highest 6's and 7, 8, and 9's in another board netting two national finalists. In the 6 board, both players made it through the board undefeated and both players got byes in the first round. Robbie got through Maxine Buhler 46-36, Kevin Kyle 46-31 and Kim Norn 46-43 to make it to the finals. Larry got wins over David Knight 46-33, Ben Foss 46-30 and David Knight again 46-35. In the finals, it was toe to toe all the way through, but in the end Larry squeaked out the win 46-42 to claim the spot to Vegas.





In the upper bracket of the Black tier, Phil Bremer got to the point undefeated with wins against Matt Hiatt 75-58, Milo Thomas 75-31 and Matt Hiatt again 75-35. Austin Hale also went undefeated into the finals, with wins against Randy Ruegsegger 55-22, Jim Upshaw 55-41 and Randy Ruegsegger again 55-49. After his loss in the finals on Saturday, Phil would not be denied. Austin (skill level 7) played great but just could not stop Phil in his quest. Final score 75-38.

The winners from the Spring regionals will join the winners of the Fall regionals : Kelly Kent-Micheau, Tim Higginson, Tyler Hanson, Richard Fry, Andrew Ebalaroza and Mike Grimm in their quest to become the next National Singles Champion in their skill level bracket. You can watch their progress during the national tournament at www.poolplayers.com April 27-May 1.

It was a great weekend of super competition and great sportsmanship. Many thanks to Salem league operator Randee Lee for helping run the tournament.

Many thanks also to our referees, who devoted their weekend to help us make the event run smoothly: John Blue, Dan Fendall, Steve Schneringer, Glenn Shoup, Larry Hande and Kevin Logan. The referees listed previously also shared their knowledge and experience with some of our referees in training : Steve Marrs, Paul Soldan, Sammy McCabe, Mick Armijo and Scott Barnard.

Special thanks to the staff of Rodders for the good food and great service.

Deadlines for Chinook
Winds and the Civil War
are fast approaching.

Get your entries in
today!



The 5 people listed below are losers from the February 15 Newsletter. If you happen to see any of these people let 'em have your best blast—and then be sure to give 'em the 'ol "L" sign!

1—GARY JACKSON (97211028) who plays for McAnulty & Barry's "**No Pants No Problem**" in the **Southern DJ** division.

2—FRED MATZKE (97212770) who plays for Back Alley's "**Alley Cats**" in the **Clark Co** division.

3—SAMANTHA NOAH (97213720) who plays for Mousetrap's "**The Scrappers**" in the **Ladies-North** division

4—BOBBI WILSON (97219358) who plays for Silver Star's "**Degener9's**" in the **Mt St Helens DJ** division

5—JAN TRUAX (97221385) who plays for Touche's "**Crazy Train**" in the **Midtown** 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..!***

