

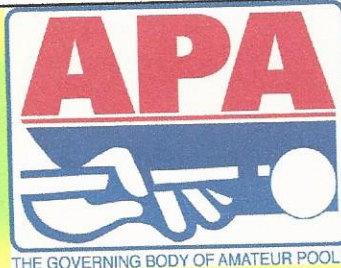


Original Pool Amateur League....  
OPAL: "A Real 'GEM' in YOUR Community!"

# THE OPAL 'GEM' EXPRESS

May 29, 2017

NLSU2017-02



## Triple Play Masters & Ladies Team Regional

On May 13th at Rodder's in Oregon City Merle along with referee **Jeff Hiatt** oversaw the OPAL-APA Ladies Team Regional 8-Ball competition of the division champions from the past 2016-2017 League Year who were playing alongside the 3 person team of the Triple Play Master's. The women, had accumulated a purse of **\$4,980.** and had two slots guaranteed into the APA Ladies Nationals at the Westgate Resort in Las Vegas up for grabs plus maybe a third slot, but we wouldn't know about the 3rd slot until the end of June. If we were lucky enough to be granted a 3rd slot then each slot would receive **\$1,660** to assist in travel and lodging for the Las Vegas ladies competition.

If however, we are not able to secure a third slot then each of the two guaranteed slot winners will receive **\$1,800** each, and the remaining **\$1,380.** will be allocated to the playing field retroactively with 3 / 4th place receiving **\$340** each, 5 / 6th place receiving **\$240** each, and 7 / 8th place receiving **\$110** each.

It was a Modified Single Elimination format for the ladies 8-Ball team competition in which they have a Skill Level cap of 13, and play just three match-races. However, we'll get back to the men later on,

In round 1 action in the back room of Rodders, all eight ladies teams battled it out. **"Boozie Floozie's"** who played out of the River Road House and **"Monk U Up"** from the Silver Star Saloon went after each other. **"Monk U Up"** squeaked by the double hill win 5/4 sending the **"Boozie's"** off to drink in the back side.

**"Wild Flowers"** and **"Hot Pockets"** who both play out of the River Road House had to play each other in the first round. The **"Hot Pockets"** flung the **"Wild Flowers"** wildly into the backside 5-Zip.

**"Booby Trap"** playing out of the Fortune Star ended up getting scraped into the backside by Mousetrap's **"Scrappers"** when by a score of 4-2 plus a win in the third race it became mathematically impossible for the **"Boobies"** to win. And in the final 1st round match up was between River Road House's **"Just Having Fun"** and **"PMS -Perpetual Motion Squad"** who play out of the Fortune Star. Well their names spoke for themselves and the **"PMS's"** found their way into the backside when **"Mean" Cindy Medina** found that her opponent was already up on the hill of their already double Hill third race thriller. **Cindy** didn't give up. She focused and played smart to win 3 straight games and take the match race for her team.

In Round 2 of the winner's side it was the **"Hot Pockets"** OK Corraling it up against **"Monk U Up"**, and **"Just Having Fun"** dancing with the **"Scrappers."** **"Monk U Up"** surprisingly uprooted the now **"Cold Pockets"** to send them to the back side 5-3, and the **"Scrappers"** "Table Scrapped" **"Just Having Fun,"** to have fun in the back side — 4-2 !

In Round 2 of the back side **"PMS"** got **"booby trapped"** by **"Booby Trap"** and were shown the door to home in two races—4-1. Meanwhile **"Wild Flowers"** flourished and poured **"Boozie Floozies"** out the door and down the road to home 5-3.

Both Round 3 of the Back Side, and Round 3 of the winner's side were being played simultaneously...In Round 3 of the back side **"Just Having Fun,"** flew straight into the backside thinking they were going to have some fun at the expense of the **"Wild Flowers."** Didn't happen. **"Wild Flowers"** took the fun out of the equation and out the door 5-3. Meanwhile after seeing what went down in the previous round **"Hot Pockets"** was determined not to fall for any sort of **"Booby Traps"** traps. Therefore, **"Hot Pockets"** turned on the heat and melted the **"Booby's"** right (Continued on Page 4)

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HIDDEN (Except when  
in parenthesis)

somewhere in  
this Newsletter  
are "5" fresh  
APA membership  
numbers just  
waiting to be  
discovered. No



one has yet to call in from the May 22ND-Newsletter and avoid the Loser's Corner. You only got one more week to find out if one of those numbers are not yours and get to win a free shirt. Get to looking folks.

You have until the writing of the 2nd Newsletter following the newsletter that your number is in to call the league office with the magic words **"Gimme My Shirt"** This week will illuminate those who snoozed and lost out from way back in April, but there will again be five (5) more new numbers hidden for you to find, or you too will be going off to the Loser's Corner where everyone can see you — and laugh, giggle, snort, and snicker because they know there's going to be a shirt waiting for them seeing how the possibility existed that you must not have wanted yours—

**DON'T LET THAT HAPPEN TO YOU - BE AN OPAL WINNER**

**"Scrappers"** "Table Scrapped" **"Just Having Fun,"** to



## 9 Spring 9-Ball Tri-Cup Results

May 19-21, Midway and Wichita Town Pub graciously co-hosted our OPAL-APA Spring Session 9-Ball Tri-Cup. Wichita hosted the Sunday finals.

The Hosts and crews of both places did a great job making sure their provided service was both quick and excellent, and the food and drink was both plentiful and refreshing.

There were 46 division 9-Ball finalists teams competing in the Modified Single elimination format, — which is double elimination through the first 2 rounds transcending into single elimination beginning the third round. It was a weekend of close competition with many of the team matches going right down to the last rack to decide a winner. However, if a team reached 50 points with three match wins, or 51 points then the match was over at that point.

We had a total payout fund of \$16,744 which was dispersed throughout the entire field. Over 60% of the total matches came down to double hill and almost 68% of those came down to the last rack. We ran one round on Friday night, three rounds on Saturday, and concluded on Sunday with four rounds finishing up at 7:00 PM. An amazing statistic was that 50% of the teams that lost on Friday won their next match and 50% of the teams that won on Friday lost their next two matches in a row and out of the tournament. Don't know exactly what it all means but those were the statistics. Anytime the tournament results are as follows:

**FINISHING 33-46th & winning \$150 were:** 505 Tavern's "Bud 30," Dbl Aught's "Chalking Dead," Sundowner's "Nine Hangin," Dbl Aught's "2 Knuckles Deep," Dugout's "Right On Cue," Andrew's Waterhole's "Just Us," 2nd St Bar's "Drunken Wanderers," Sellwood Inn's "Milwaukee's Best," Back Alley's "Pool Sharks," River Road House's "Chosen Ones," Slingshot's "All The Almonds," Sam's "Kamakazies," 3 Monkey's "Right On Cue," and Back Alley's "Wait For It."

**FINISHING 25-32nd and winning \$200 was** Scotty's "Chalk And Awe," Back Alley's "Roll 'Em In," Calamity Jae's "Poke & Hope," Silver Star Saloon's "Poke 'N' Hope," Underground's "No Slop 4 The Wicked," Billy Blue's "Balance Point," McNulty & Barry's "Whatever's Cleever" and Fortune Star's "Fugetaboutit!!"

**FINISHING 17-24 and winning \$300 was:** Ickabod's "Rack 'Em Amadeus," Mousetrap's "Huh? Who?," Midway's "Sotally Tober," Fortune Star's "Devil's Rejects," N. Port's-9 "Sweet Home," 4th Plain's "The Miss Cues," Jo Saloon's "Jo's The Best or Nothing," and Underground's "Slop Counts."

**FINISHING 9-16 and winning \$450 was:** 2nd St. Bar's "2 Drink Minimum," Pub 181's "No Shot Sherlock," Sam's "Justice League," Hobo's "Rack Attack," McNulty & Barry's "Sunday Funday," Bull Mountain's "Sofa Kings R Awesome," McNulty & Barry's "Profanity," and Pub 181's "Secret Society Pub 181."

**Special Note:** Though McNulty & Barry's "Profanity" missed out on winning a medallion, they still earned a spot in Regionals by right of succession. The team that beat them in the Sunday morning medal round- "Micro 691" was an already regionally qualified from a previous Tri-Cup. Therefore, by the right of succession, (since a team cannot win two regional  
(Continued on Pg.3.)



**SUCCESSION: PROFANITY**



**BRONZE -- The NOBODYs**



**BRONZE -- MICRO 691**



**BRONZE -- SWINGIN' STICKS**



**BRONZE -- UNDERGROUND ASSASSAINS**



# TRI-CUP

(Continued from Pg.1) Spots and deprive another team from going an competing in regional play)

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**McAnulty & Barry's** "Profanity" from the Mt. Hood D.J. division with Team Captain: **Barbara Duval**, and teammates--**Brent Sanchez, Julie Blake, Kathy Boone, Adam Putman, J.D. Cantu, and James Briscoe** will get to continue on to regionals and compete for one of the coveted **\$4,500** slots to Las Vegas Nationals at the Westgate Resort next August.

**FINISHING 5—8th** and winning "Bronze Medallions" while taking home **\$600** were: **Andy Inn's** "The Nobody's" from the Moonlight D.J. division with Team Captain: **Ted Clemens**, and teammates--**Kirk Clemens, Jia Li, John Hornby, Chris & Liezel Nicol, Mia Anderson, and Robert Randall**; **Golden Horse's** "Micro 691" from the Far East D.J. division— with Team Captain: **Robert Bellarmine**, and teammates--**Arson Ludwig, David Kool, Jake Narruhn, Takahiro Samuel, John Manuel, Mihoster Erwin, and Lopez Uehara**; **Mousetrap's** "Swingin' Sticks" from the Northern D.J. division with Team Captain: **Robert Sims Sr.**, and teammates--**Chris & Liezel Nicol, Victor Purpuree, Chris & Cherri Smith, Robert Montgomery, and James Rhoden**; and last was **Underground's** "Assassains" from the NW D.J. division with Team Captain: **Andrew Amador**, and teammates—**Jason Coates, Jimmy Truong, Jacobie Coates, Deana Copeland, Kyle Mohr, Joy Sears, and Dylan Helpingstine**.

**FINISHING 3-4** winning Silver Medallions and **\$900** was: **Sellwood Inn's** "Here To Have Fun" from the Mid-Valley D.J. division with Team Captain: **Sunshine Hornyhch**, and teammates--**Anjeles Johnston, James Shelton, Cecil Frickey, Jason Grijalva, Dana Fry, MacKenzie Hornyhch and Hannah Gelok**; AND **Sellwood Inn's** "Money In The Bank" from the Willamette DJ division— with Team Captain: **Robert Ryder**, and teammates--**Steve Tune, Jerry Harris, William & Ashley La Crosse Marilyn Polk and Nyla Sims**.

**FINISHING 2ND** and winning Gold Medallions and **\$1,220** from the Mid-West D.J. division was **Mandarin Palace's** "Delinquent Tendencies" with Team Captain: **Crystal Funderburk**, and teammates: **Don Shilliam, Chuck McGill, Chris Byers, Ettione Dixon, Patricia Hornback, Irina Chmil, and Renea Funderburk**.

**FINISHING 1ST** and winning the bragging rights—the coveted Platinum Star Medallions— and the top money prize of **\$1,624** was Sam's Billiards "The Hit Squad" who play in the Sunrise D.J. division with Team Captain: **Andrew Rolfe**, and teammates--**Steve Herring, Heather Miller, Mark Earles, James Luton, Byrd McDonald, Michael Christenson, and Charles Creighton..**

"The Squad" went undefeated through the finals, but it wasn't an easy journey. They started out Friday night at the Midway in Slot #41 by showing the "Choesen Ones" that "The Squad" had chosen for them to divert into the dark side. At 9: AM Saturday "The Squad" allowed "Secret Society" to follow in after them. In the 5 PM round "The Squad" were pitted against "Jo Saloon's-the Best or Nothing." It was a *no brainer*— they left them with nothing and gained a Sunday Morning berth against sister team Sam's "Justice League" who they justly defeated to guarantee themselves both a Medallion, and a spot in the 2017 June Regionals. In the 1 PM round "The Squad" left Mousetrap's "Swingin' Sticks" swinging with the Bronze and continued on with their quest. In the 3 PM round "The Squad" froze the assets of "Money In the Bank" and left them behind holding the Silver while "The Squad" marched themselves on into the final's where they would battle against the Mandarin Palace's "Delinquent Tendencies."

The "Delinquent's" journey to the finals was almost identical to that of "The Hit Squad." The "Delinquent's" began Friday night at the Wichita in Slot 25 against "No Shot Sherlock," The "Delinquent's" shot the "Sherlock's" straight away into the backside. In the (Continued Pg. 4.)



**SILVER -- HERE TO HAVE FUN**



**SILVER -- MONEY IN THE BANK**



**GOLD -- DELINQUENT TENDENCIES**



**PLATINUM -- The HIT SQUAD**



# TRI-CUP

(Continued from Pg. 3) Saturday 9 Am round the "Delinquents" applied their own justice and sent the "Justice League" into the One Loss side. The "Delinquents" came back for the 5 PM round where they rejected the Fortune Star's "Devil's Rejects" out the door to home to claim their berth into the Sunday 9 AM bridesmaid / medal round.

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In the Sunday 9am round the "Delinquents" out maneuvered the "Secret Society" and ushered them out the door with just a \$450 check. Owing now, a guaranteed spot in regionals, and at least a Bronze Medallion it was on to the 1 PM round against "Micro 691" who they graciously held the door to home open while they left with the Bronze. In the 3 PM round the crafty "Delinquents" had a lot of fun pummeling Sellwood Inn's "Here to have Fun," and jovially held the door for them as they walked out of the building holding onto the Silver. The undefeated "Delinquents" were excited as they raced off to the finals to face off against the also undefeated "Hit Squad" for the title of 2017 Spring Session 9-Ball Tri-Cup Champion, and the Platinum Star Medallions.

The finals were played on 5 tables simultaneously with a simultaneous "Color of Money" break, and the final results between Sunrise D.J. Division-Sam's Billiard's "The Hit Squad" and Mid-West D.J. 's Mandarin Palace's "Delinquent Tendencies" would unfold as follows:

On Table 5: Squad's SL-4 Michael Christenson upended (D.T.'s) SL-4 Irina Chmil 31-23 for a 14-6 adjusted score.

On Table 6: Squad's SL-3 Heather Miller was stomped by (D.T.'s) Captain SL-4 Crystal Funderburk 31-8 for an 18-2 adjusted scale score bringing the two table total to 16-24 in favor of the (D.T.'s)

On Table 7: Squad's SL-5 Mark Earles clobbered (D.T.'s) SL-5 Chuck McGill 38-13 for a sliding scale score of 18-2 bringing the overall match now to 34 to 26 now in favor of the Hit Squad.

On Table 8: Squad's SL-3 Charles Creighton got swatted by (D.T.'s) SL-4 Ettione Dixon 31-15 for a sliding scale score of 15-5, now bringing the comeback match score total to 39-41 slightly in favor of the (D.T.'s)

Last, On table 10: to decide the match—Squad's Captain SL-3 Andrew Rolfe took on (D.T.'s) SL-5 Donald Shilliam and defeated him 25-27 for a 14-6 sliding scale score which brought the total match score to 53-47 in favor the Hit Squad who were all absolutely delighted to find out that they were able to claim the victory, along with the coveted Platinum Star Medallions, a \$1,624 check, and all the bragging rights to being crowned the 2017 APA Spring Session 9-Ball Team Tri-Cup champions.

The next step will be at the Wichita Town Pub on June 9-11th 2017 for the 9-Ball World Qualifier Regional where all of the pictured winners will compete along with the other finalists from both the Summer and Fall 9-Ball Tri-Cups to compete for one of 6 possible team slots that we will be allocated to use in the APA World Pool Championships at the Westgate Resort in Las Vegas next August 10-14, 2017.

## Triple Play Masters & Ladies Team Regional

(Continued from

Page 1.) on out the door and down the road to home. Next, the journey for both "Hot Pockets" and "Wild Flowers" continued on with an express ride back across the bracket to the finals.

Meanwhile, while Round 3 of the losers side was being played perched on the two Winner's side points waiting with interest to see who would be emerging back out of the dark side at them was the "Scrappers." who were on the top bracket point, and "Monk U Up" who were on the bottom bracket point... In the upper bracket final it would be the "Scrappers." vs the "Hot Pockets." and in the lower part of the bracket it was "Monk U Up" vs the "Wild Flowers."

The two winner's would be guaranteed a slot to the Nationals in Las Vegas, and the two loser's would have to play each other to see who would win the "Maybe Baby" third slot—should that happen.

In the upper tier finals the undefeated "Scrappers." team from the Mousetrap in the Ladies North division got zapped 5-2 by the River Road House "Hot Pockets" who play out of the "League of our Own" division with Team Captain: Diane Breazeale, and Teammates—Laura Lucero, Claire Lewis, Sandra Pacheco, and Doreen Clark who claimed the bragging rights to the first Las Vegas National slot, and

In the lower tier finals the undefeated "Monk U Up." team from the Silver Star Saloon in the Ladies North division with Team Captain: "Mad" Maxine Buhler, and Teammates—Pauline Fox, Samantha McCabe, Bobbi Wilson, and Suzanne Becker uprooted the Twilight Room's "Wild Flowers" — who also play out of the "Ladie's North" division — 5-Zip. "Monk U Up." therefore claimed the bragging rights to the guaranteed second of two Las Vegas National slots. (Continued on Page 5)



VEGAS -- HOT POCKETS



VEGAS -- MONK U UP