



# USBA

July 2006

The United States Billiard Association

# Newsletter

The New 3-Cushion Billiard Enterprise

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# UNITED STATES BILLIARD ASSOCIATION

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[www.usbilliardassn.org](http://www.usbilliardassn.org)

MEMBER OF THE UMB (UNION MONDIALE DE BILLARD)

## >From the President

### UMB Congress

The UMB (Union Mondial de Billard, or World Billiard Union) is the world governing body for carom games. The USBA is a member of the UMB, and the UMB is in turn a member of the WCBS. That's the World Confederation of Billiard Sports, which includes carom, pool and snooker divisions. It is recognized by the International Olympic Committee as the world body for all cue sports.

Each year the UMB holds a Congress to present the budget and planned programs to representatives from the member federations. This year the Congress was held in April in Leuven, Belgium where half of the department I work in happens to be located, so I managed to combine work with billiards on the trip.

For the most part, questions were pretty well decided before the meeting, so my votes were not crucial to the outcome, but it was interesting to meet billiard friends from previous world tournaments.

Most of the speakers used English, and for the others who spoke in German, Spanish or French, I could listen to a simultaneous translation to English.

One of the decisions of the Congress was a reorganization in the way votes are taken, and it seems that the USBA will lose its direct membership in the UMB and will instead be a member of the Pan American Billiard Confederation. This lines up with the system in Europe in which each country belongs to the European Billiard Confederation (CEB) which then belongs to the UMB.

A major project is the revamping of the UMB web site. You can reach it from a link on the USBA web site, and it has the international calendar, rules and related information.



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## ### US Nationals Site

The 2007 Nationals will be held in the "Southwest" region, as the tournament rotates among all the regions. This includes California, Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, and Hawaii. We are presently seeking bids for the tournament. The main requirement is that the host room must have at least four tables. If you know of any room that we may have overlooked, please speak up.

If you are not in those states, but do have a candidate room in mind, let's start grooming them as a possible future site. Ideally, we will be able to announce the site for 2008 at the 2007 Nationals, which will be in late January or early February. According to the normal rotation, 2008 should be in the "Mid-America" Region.

For more details on the requirements and how to submit a bid, please contact someone on the Site Committee, which is George Aronek, Bruce Warner and me.

## ### WorldCup Tournament in Portugal

After my business trip in April, I took a detour to attend a WorldCup tournament in Porto, Portugal. That's where port wine originates. The host hotel, a Sheraton, was the nicest I've ever stayed in, with champagne and caviar on the breakfast buffet each morning along with literally 100 other choices. The tournament ended on Easter, and every guest got a surprise chocolate Easter egg the size of a football. Fortunately, it was hollow, so I could get through most of it. The rooms were amazing and only \$125 per night including breakfast.

The tournament was on five tables with a referee, a scorekeeper and a timekeeper on each one. The players were limited to 50 seconds per shot with one extension per set of 15 points. There were many great shots and exciting matches, including two runs of 15-and-out. In the end, Daniel Sanchez who is the current World Champion, took the prize.



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Prior to the tournament, Semih Sayginer gave an exhibition before thousands of fans in Porto's soccer stadium.

If you have travel to Europe planned for next spring, you should seriously consider a visit to Portugal. The 2007 edition is scheduled for April 2-8, but check the UMB web site for updates. I'm told that there's lots to see in Portugal besides billiards.

Bob Jewett

## **Please Help #1**

The USBA maintains a list of all rooms in the US known to have carom tables. Someone has to help maintain that list. That someone is you.

Please visit the USBA web site and check to see that all the rooms you know about are listed properly. Please forward to Brian Morgan any corrections, additions or deletions that you discover. One use for this list is to help us contact new players and possible tournament sites.

We would like to know the number and brand of table, whether they are heated, who is a good contact in the room, telephone number, address, whether they have regular tournaments, and whatever else makes the room different. The rooms are not charged for the listing.

Also, if you have a private table and would like to play fellow USBA members, we can add your contact information.

If you cannot visit the USBA web site, please contact me directly and I will print and send you a copy of the room list.

Thanks,

Bob Jewett



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**A Carom Puzzle**

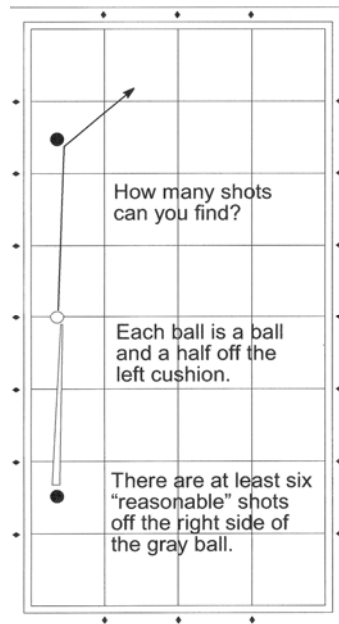
by Bob Jewett

At the beautiful Pendennis Club in Louisville there is an ardent band of carom players including USBA member Thom Zimmerman who hosted me on a visit two years ago. An idea used there is to try to see at least four possible shots before settling on the one you like. This is a good challenge on those shots where you have a hard time coming up with just one makeable shot.

In the diagram is a position that should give you no trouble finding possibilities. As noted, there are at least six shots off the right side of the upper ball. For each such shot, you could also play the same shot off the lower object ball. Let's agree that a rail just before the second object ball doesn't make the shot different unless it is needed as the third rail.

When I asked the readers of Billiards Digest to look for shots, they came up with over 160 if you count both "upper" and "lower" shots. I found that I could make or come close to 88 of those.

How many can you find? For a shot to count, you have to come close in five tries. Let us know how you do





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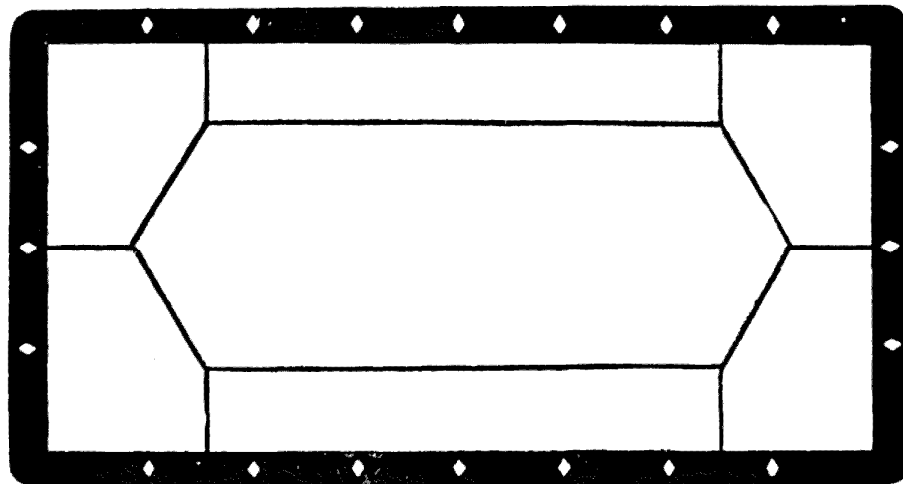
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## The Space Game

Do you know the game of balkline? It is simple ball-to-ball billiards with rectangles marked off on the surface of the table and only one or two points allowed with the balls in one region before a ball must be driven out of the region. Well, the diagram is from a variation called "The Space Game." Here is how it was described in the 1914 rule book from the Brunswick-Balke-Collender Company:

This game was introduced through a tournament played in Hartford, Conn., Jan. 29 to Feb. 15, 1884. The special feature of this game consists in the introduction of right parallel, and oblique lines, forming spaces upon the table bed, which moderates rail nursing, destroys the nursing of balls in the corners and at one end of the table, and calls for series of strokes that display all the great beauty of the game of billiards, and which bring the game fairly between the cushioncaroms and unlimited nurse play





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## **Ball Cleaners, Anyone?**

We have received a request for information on mechanical ball cleaners for carom balls. Pool ball cleaners are fairly easy to find, but some of them don't take carom balls or really want to be run with a full set of 16.

Does anyone know of a source of carom ball cleaning machines?

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## **Pocket Blocks?**

While we're looking for carom equipment... It might not be the perfect answer, but some pool tables have pocket inserts that can turn them into carom tables. There seems to be no ready source for these now, although antique ones are on eBay from time to time. Does anyone know of a source for these?

## **From the Secretary's Desk**

The response for renewals has gone well. We still need everyone to renew or extend their membership as soon as possible. Tournaments are coming and it's important to be a current member. If you are not a 2006 or beyond member, this is the last newsletter you will receive. We still have a few patches if you renew for at least 2007. 2006 pro-rated dues and 2007 dues is \$54,

Please, before you plan to hold a USBA sanctioned tournament, contact me to be sure you know the rules as stated in our constitution. There are membership and residency/citizenship requirements that may be different than the way you used to do things. All players must be members in good standing before the tournament starts. There is a per-person sanction fee also. I can help you if you give me the list of player names and I will check it against the membership database. Please save yourself a lot of headaches by contacting me.

--Brian Morgan



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When you pay your dues for an additional year, you'll receive this wonderful premium quality embroidered USBA patch as a thank-you. It measures 3"X3". Border is black and yellow, background behind USBA is blue, red and white stripes with yellow cues and a red with two white balls. Example: If you owe for 2006, simply renew now for 2006 and 2007. If your dues are current for 2006, or any year, simply renew for an additional year and get the patch free. If you're a life member and want the patch, send in a donation of \$36. Quantities are limited. Renew/extend your USBA membership today. 2006 pro-rated dues and 2007 dues is \$54. Dues for additional years is \$36 per year.



### 2006 SANG LEE INTERNATIONAL OPEN – SUMMARY

(A USBA Sanctioned Tournament)

DOWNLOAD COMPLETE BROCHURE AT [www.usbilliardassn.org](http://www.usbilliardassn.org)

**Tournament Dates:** August 13-20, 2006 – players' meeting August 12, 2006

**Tournament Venue:** Carom Café Billiards – Flushing, NY (718) 358-8585

**Prize Fund:** \$100,000\* with the top 20 finishers receiving prizes:

1 \$15,000	6 \$6,000	11 \$3,500	16 \$1,950
2 12,000	7 5,500	12 3,000	17 1,800
3 10,000	8 5,000	13 2,600	18 1,700
4 8,000	9 4,500	14 2,250	19 1,600
5 7,000	10 4,000	15 2,100	20 1,500

High run \$500

Best game \$500

**Entry Fee:** \$450

**Size of Field:** Five Seeds plus 96 in the Qualifications

*\* \$100,000 prize fund is based on a full field of 96 Players in the qualifications. However, if there is not a full field we will guarantee a total prize fund of \$80,000 (all individual prizes listed will be 20% less).*

*This Tournament is "first-come first-served." – meaning that the first 96 players who pay their entry fee in full will be guaranteed a spot in the Qualifications. Additional players will be wait-listed. Detailed information on how to submit your entry fee and regarding our cancellation and wait-list policies may be found on pages 2-4.*



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### Format:

- Qualifications: 96 players – 12 Groups of 8 players with the 2 top finishers from each Group plus the 6 best 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishers advancing
- Semifinals: 40 players in the Semifinals include 30 advancing from the Qualifications plus 5 Seeds, 3 auction winners and 2 lotto winners  
5 Groups of 8 players with 4 from each Semifinal Group advance to Finals
- Finals: Top 10 Semifinalists advance to the "A" final; the next 10 to the "B" final

All Groups play round-robin. Match length is 25 points in the Qualifications, 35 points in the Semifinals and "B" Finals and 40 points in the "A" Finals. More information is provided on pages 7-8.

### Additional Information Provided Below:

- Tax reporting and withholding: pages 9-10
- Hotels: pages 5-6
- Dress code: formal (more on page 7)
- Spectator admission: Daily \$10-80; Weekend \$70-\$130; Entire Tournament \$120-\$180 (see p. 4)

### We Appreciate Your Support:

The Sang Lee International Open has been made possible by the generosity of Carom Café, our sponsors and a number of private donors. Our ability to stage this Tournament every year will improve if many people can pitch in and help. Any of the payment methods mentioned below in the section on Entry Fees can be used to make a donation. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

### Dates and Location

The Tournament begins Sunday, August 13, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. and ends Sunday, August 20, 2006 at about 6:00 p.m. The Players' Meeting will occur Saturday, August 12, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. The venue is:

Carom Café Billiards  
34-02 Linden Place  
Flushing, NY 11354  
Tel: (718) 358-8585  
Fax: (718) 358-5467

Contacts: Charles Brown, Michael Kang, Min Jae Pak

### Entry Fee – \$450

Participation in the Tournament is open to all players on a "first-come, first-served" basis. U.S. players must be members of the United States Billiard Association (USBA); non-U.S. players must be members of a recognized National billiard federation.

To reserve a place in the Tournament, participants must submit an entry fee of \$450 – other currencies are not accepted. Payment may be made by:

- Cash
- Check
- Money Order
- Wire Transfer
- PayPal

To pay by check or money order (payable to "Carom Café Billiards"), please mail it to:

Charles Brown  
101 West 80th Street  
# 10A  
New York, NY 10024



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**If you are paying by Wire Transfer or PayPal it is important that you inform Charles Brown before you do so.** (His telephone and e-mail may be seen at the top of every page.) The reason for doing this is that both you and Carom Café will generally have to pay fees on those sorts of transactions and we do not wish anyone to make this payment when there are no openings left in the Qualifications. If a check or money order is received after all 96 places in the qualifications have been filled, we will simply return it to you without cashing it.

To make payment via wire transfer, (after informing Charles Brown) instruct your bank to transfer \$450 to:

NARA Bank, N.A.   **ABA # 122041727 or Swift Code: NARAUS6L010**  
138-02 Northern Blvd.  
Flushing, NY 11354  
For further credit to the Account of Carom Café Billiards, Inc.  
34-02 Linden Place  
Flushing, NY 11354  
**Account #:** 0861079701

To make a payment via PayPal (which accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express) you must visit the PayPal website ([www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com)) to open an account. After establishing an account, follow these instructions:

Click on "Send Money" and fill in the following information:

Recipient's Email: [tournament@sangleeinternational.com](mailto:tournament@sangleeinternational.com)  
Amount: 450.00  
Currency: U.S. Dollars  
Type: Quasi-cash  
Subject: 2006 Sang Lee Open

After hitting "continue," PayPal will repeat your order. When this happens, look to the "Shipping Information" section and click on "no shipping address required."

### **Cancellation Policy**

As long as space is available, players who submit their \$450 entry fee in full will gain entry to the Tournament. They are also guaranteed a full (100%) refund (minus transaction fees), *provided* the request is submitted to Charles Brown no later than July 7, 2006. (Refunds to U.S. residents will be paid by check. For foreign residents we will work out a mutually convenient way to refund the money.) *After July 7, 2006, however, refunds will be paid only if substitute players can be recruited to enter the tournament.*

The organizers believe that the 96 places available in the Qualification round will be filled and that a Waiting List for entering the Tournament will probably develop. Such a list would provide substitutes for those wishing to cancel after July 7, 2006. However, the organizers cannot guarantee that this will actually occur.

### **Waiting List**

Once the 96 places available in the Qualifications are fully subscribed, we will continue to accept names for a Waiting List on a first-come, first-served basis. No deposit will be required to have one's name placed on the Waiting List and no name will be placed on the Waiting List until all 96 places in the Qualifications have been filled.

Upon learning of a cancellation, the organizers will contact the first name on the Waiting List. That person will then have seven days to submit his/her entry fee. If he/she fails to do so, his/her name will be dropped to the bottom of the Waiting List. Immediate payment will be required for any substitute entries after July 21, 2006.



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**Regional Directors Reports**

None this month

**USBA Membership** \_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_ Renewal

- Prorated – June – December 2006 \$18
- Dues 2007 \$36 (Total \$54 if 2006 is owed)
- Dues 2008 and beyond @ \$36 per year – each additional year gets a patch
- I wish to donate to the USBA \_\_\_\_\_ (Travel or General Fund)

**PRINT PLEASE**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Room Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Room Address: \_\_\_\_\_

May we release personal data to other members? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Send completed form and a check to:

Brian Morgan, USBA Secretary



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## United States Billiard Association

801 Diane Court

Springfield, Illinois 62702-3503 USA

<p><b>President:</b>  <b>Bob Jewett</b>  1000 Kiely Blvd Apt 86,  Santa Clara, CA 95051  408-615-7479  president@usbilliardassn.org</p>		<p><b>Secretary/Treasurer:</b>  <b>Brian Morgan</b>  801 Diane Court  Springfield, IL 62702-3503  1.877.CAROM22 (227.6622)  webmaster@usbilliardassn.org</p>
<p><b>Eastern Region Directors:</b>  <b>Mazin Shooni – 2006 USA Champion</b>  135 Broad Street Unit # 3A5,  Hudson, MA, 01749  978-562-8595  cell phone: 248-910-4466  work phone: 978-535-7000  mazinshooni@yahoo.com</p> <p><b>John Zymeck</b>  6520 North Ocean Blvd. #31  Ocean Ridge, FL 33435  561-670-0240  jzymeck@bellsouth.net</p> <p><b>Charles Brown</b>  cbrown54@speakeasy.net</p>	<p><b>Central Region Directors:</b></p> <p><b>George Theobald</b>  1N260 Prince Crossing Rd.  West Chicago, Illinois 60185-2417  (630) 231-9444  gtheobald4@comcast.net</p> <p><b>Bill Johnson</b>  734-368-3315  williamharryjohnson@gmail.com</p> <p><b>George Ashby – Former USA Champion</b>  217-440-0069</p>	<p><b>Western Region Directors:</b></p> <p><b>George Aronek</b>  19120 Nordhoff St.  Northridge, California 91324-3654  AGQcase@aol.com</p> <p><b>Ken Higgins</b>  19342 47TH Ave NE.  Seattle, Washington 98155-2954  (425) 709-8718  ken.higgins@sun.com</p> <p><b>Bruce Warner</b>  (310)738-5429  bw-@ix.netcom.com</p>