



**Newsletter**  
**May 2007**  
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# Newsletter

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**In Memoriam:USBA Billiard Player Marvin Waldman passes away**

It is with great sadness that I write to inform you that Marvin Waldman passed away on Wednesday morning, April 19, 2007. Marvin was born May 13, 1933 in The Bronx, New York where he resided his entire life. He was an enthusiastic billiard player and won numerous three-cushion tournaments in the New York tri-state area including winning the local Regional Championship title. Marvin had been playing three-cushion for over fifty years. He is survived by his wife and children.

**USBA NEWS:**

**New USBA Website Address**

The USBA has changed its website address to [www.USBA.net](http://www.USBA.net)

The old address will still work and is being re-directed to the new site.

The next time someone asks you what the website address is for the USBA, you can now easily remember it: **USBA.net**

**To see all upcoming tournaments, tournament results with charts of all games, list of all billiard rooms in the country and many more things, go to [USBA.net](http://www.USBA.net)**

**2007 Nationals Membership Meeting Recap:**  
**(Held at Ramada Inn lobby in Maywood, CA 2/9/07)**

Present at meeting: Bob Jewett (President), Jim Shovak (Secretary), George Aronek (Director), Bruce Warner (Director), George Ashby (Director), George Theobald (Director), Paul Frankel (Member), Tom Rossman (Member), Pete Folsom (Member), Gary Cohen (Member), Antonio Rivera (Member), Alfredo Reyes (Member), John Jacobson (Member), Gary Elias (Member), Young Gull Lee (Member), Sonny Cho (Member) (If I left someone out, I apologize)

Jim Shovak: USBA Profit & Loss Statement since December 1, 2006. Brought in over \$ 35,000.00 from Nationals entries, dues and donations. Paid out over \$ 20,000.00 for the Nationals. Paid members at around 275 right now. Goal for this year is 500.

George Theobald's membership packages used 2 years ago: approximate cost per is @ \$ 6.00 each. Can we put things in the package that are not so costly? Anything printed in color is expensive. Can we come up with more goodies? Bruce Warner would like George to send him around 30 of them.

Gary Cohen would like the USBA to have a Billiard Stadium Sports Center which would hold major tournaments and could also be rented out for other events.

Bob Jewett would like Jim Shovak to remind him about the Las Vegas Sports Center.

Pete Folsom likes the idea of "A" and "B" players.

Gary Cohen recommends that a reporter write a story or cover an event to be placed in major Newspaper such as LA Times.

Bob Jewett recommends a press release ahead of time for next year's Nationals.



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Next year's Nationals: Louisville, KY or Chris's Billiards. During the Derby City Classic is ideal. See what Central Region Directors think. Can we get Gabriels to donate 6-10 tables? If in Louisville, since there is no "room", where do we get added money from?

Nationals: possibly have "A" and "B" Tournaments with "A" & "B" Champions?  
Qualifiers would only be for "B" players.

Instructional Clinics from Top players need to be set up around the country. Who pays them?

Need an updated list of rooms with 3 cushion tables.

Paul Frankel: "Shot Contest" to bring pool players over to the 3 cushion table. Eight common 3 cushion shots and how to make them will be displayed at pool halls. Players have a month to practice them. During the contest, each player gets 3 attempts at each shot and scores 1 point for each time it scores for a maximum possible of 24 points. Low entry fees, added money and needs to be duplicated throughout the country. Give each player a ticket for a large raffle to be held at the end of the year each time they enter the shot contest. Give incentives to room owners (simonis, etc.),

Tom Rossman: Need to focus on the "Entertainment" aspect in order to increase public interest; artistic billiards, etc.,

Emphasize: Juniors and kids

Jim Shovak: duplication of tournament materials and instructions for running tournaments, nurturing and follow-up materials for new players. Working on a Billiard Tournament Program for computer use to run tournaments

Jim Shovak: Hire a firm (advertising, promotion, etc.,) to find corporate sponsors for our tournaments. They keep half the money as payment. With more money we can give players higher prize funds, pay travel expenses, pay tournament directors, make sure room owners make a profit, more money to the USBA, more money to get Billiards on TV, etc.,

Bruce Warner, Gary Cohen, Tom Rossman: Donate tables to Girl's & Boy's Clubs, Colleges, etc., + Instruction (requires follow-up)

Overcome the negative aura of pool

Need more info on the website: all tournaments, all results, more instruction, member database with pictures, stats and contact info, player rankings, interactive features, etc.,

Bob Jewett: USBA should promote Virtual pool/billiards

Antonio Rivera wants the USBA to be more involved in running tournaments, using the "A", "B" and even "C" formats, and making the members feel more "in the loop"

Jim Shovak wants to call Antonio Rivera because Antonio is running a lot of local tournaments successfully at Edgie's

Tom Rossman: Billiard Buddies Tournament: bring a non-member billiard buddy with you to a tournament, maybe even a team tournament where it's you and your buddy against other members and their buddies

AE Schmidt & Co: (Rail Inserts): @ \$ 800.00 per table???



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Regional Directors need to be more involved in organizing and helping to duplicate the tournament process

End of meeting (Over 1 ½ hours)

**2008 Nationals**

The Derby City, Louisville, KY, is strongly being considered as the host of the 2008 USBA National Championship Tournament. Six Gabriels tables will be available. If anyone has a better venue in mind or a proposal to make to the USBA to be the host, now is the time to say something. Please email or call one of the USBA officers/directors listed at the back.

**USBA Financial Report as of April 30, 2007**

From December 1, 2006

Champions Travel Fund	2,561.66
Dues 2007	8,816.69
Dues 2008	216.00
Dues 2009	36.00
Dues 2010	36.00
Dues 2006	1,008.00
Junior/Ladies Billiards Fund	4,216.64
Main Fund	5,915.25
Miscellaneous	0.27
Nationals 2007	-1,788.75
sanction fees	323.00
Total Income	21,340.76
Total Expense	2,198.00
Net Income	19,142.76

As of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007, we have 350 paid members and 7 honorary or complimentary members for a grand total of 357 and growing.

From time to time, we may print up these “supplemental” Newsletters so as to make sure we get as much information as possible to the members. Mailing them is very expensive. Emailing these Newsletters cost us nothing and we can then use the money we get for even more important things such as PROMOTING THE GAME AND GETTING MORE PLAYERS! If you don’t have an email address, please get one. You can get one for free nowadays, just ask anyone you know who has one and they can help you get one.

The USBA wishes to thank the following for their very generous donations:

**Champions Travel Fund:**

David Levine: \$ 5,000.00  
Robert H. Keller: \$ 100.00  
John Bowers: \$ 25.00

**Nationals 2007 Prize Fund:**

Bob Jewett: \$ 2,000.00  
Robert H. Keller: \$ 100.00



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Junior/Ladies 3C Fund:

Mike Shamos: \$ 2,000.00  
Bob Byrne: \$ 500.00  
Jim Shovak: \$ 500.00  
Robert H. Keller: \$ 100.00  
Darrel Stutesman: \$ 100.00  
David Stearns: \$ 64.00  
George Hebert: \$ 25.00  
John Bowers: \$ 25.00  
Paul Stutzman: \$ 25.00  
Edward M. Kelley: \$ 14.00  
Dan Silver: \$ 14.00

Main Fund:

Bob Jewett: \$ 1,300.00  
Robert H. Keller: \$ 100.00  
Chris Crisman: \$ 100.00  
Allen C. Meier: \$ 64.00  
Arnold O'Donnell: \$ 50.00  
Gregory Collins: \$ 50.00  
John Bowers: \$ 50.00  
Wesley Profit: \$ 50.00  
Richard Monroe: \$ 50.00  
Tim Chamberlain: \$ 20.00  
James Bacile: \$ 15.00  
Robert Guinane: \$ 14.00  
John E. Shepherd: \$ 10.00  
Milton Highlands: \$ 10.00  
Pat Young: \$ 10.00  
Russell Rosenberger: \$ 6.00  
Gordon MacKinnon: \$ 4.00  
Peter Burrows: \$ 4.00

**Congratulations:**

Congratulations to George Ashby for running a 15 off the break, his personal high-run from the break. Not bad, George. Congratulations also to Fred Lamers from Minnesota for running a 15, his personal best. Keep it up Fast Freddy!

**3-CUSHION PREMIERES ON ESPN!**

*Kew Gardens, NY (April 24, 2007)* – **HighRock** Productions, in association with **Dragon Promotions**, is proud to officially announce the ESPN debut of 3-cushion billiards this summer - starring none other than the internationally acclaimed World Champion, **Semih Sayginer**, also known as “The Turkish Prince” – in this special presentation titled **“3-Cushion Grandmaster”**.

Those who have been lucky enough to catch Semih Sayginer at a trade show or on YouTube sneak previews rave of his uncanny brilliance and charismatic presence at the billiard table. American fans will have the opportunity to witness the event in person during the taping at 1:00 PM on May 16, 2007 at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas.



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"3-Cushion Billiards being brought to the masses through a major broadcaster is a milestone in carom history. This has been a dream of mine and my late mentor, Sang Lee – the twelve-time United States 3-cushion champion. With his induction into the BCA Hall of Fame, and this high-profile exposure to a national audience, I am confident that we will see a resurgence of 3-cushion. I urge all billiard players across America to petition their local clubs to install a 3-cushion table so that everyone will have easy access to this fascinating game." -Ira Lee, Director of HighRock Productions.

An entertaining, action-packed, judged format will present Mr. Sayginer competing against two favorite American trick-shot champions, attempting the most difficult shots in 3-cushion billiards. Two thirty minute shows will display Mr. Sayginer's skills against the legendary, celebrated BCA Hall of Famer, **Mike "Tennessee Tarzan" Massey**, widely known for his numerous wins in ESPN's "Trick Shot Magic"; and against the up and coming young gun, 2006 WPA Masse World Champion, **Eric Yow**. In this entertaining format, the players will be required to make their ball zig-zag, jump, curve and swerve across the table tracing impossible-looking patterns. They must demonstrate their imagination, power, technique and style while trying to impress a celebrity panel of judges including Jeanette Lee ("The Black Widow"), Ivan Lee, President of Simonis, and Bob Jewett, President of the United States Billiard Association.

"We are very excited about bringing 3-Cushion Billiards to ESPN. The players we have in the event are simply amazing and the best in the business. We're happy to help the growth of carom worldwide." - Cindy Lee, President of Dragon Promotions.

ESPN is the recognized worldwide leader in sports programming. ESPN billiards programming yields hundreds of hours of broadcast time and is aired in USA, Asia, Australia, and Latin American countries. This event will be no exception.

"We were impressed by some past performances of Mr.Sayginer, and we thought audiences worldwide would be very entertained by his magical array of shots. ESPN is pleased to air this historic event." - Doug White, Director of Programming for ESPN.

This event will provide millions of television viewers the opportunity to witness *3-cushion* for the first time. *3-Cushion* is an action packed form of billiards that emphasizes cue ball mastery; the extreme spins and multicushion bank shots are sure to keep fans watching in amazement. Each player's cue ball must strike three cushions at the minimum as a rule, but players will commonly shoot five, eight and even ten cushion shots to score under extreme competitive pressure. The dynamic motions of every shot taken are impressive and captivating.

This ESPN event is sponsored by Iwan Simonis Cloth, The Adam Cue Co., Schuler Cues, Gabriels, Diamond Billiards, Aramith, CFR Productions, 3CushionCues.com, HeatUpBilliards.com, Carom Café and CueTable.com.

*Dragon Promotions is one of the leading producers of billiard programming in the world today. Dragon produces over 40 events a year airing on networks in USA and Korea including The World 14.1 Championship, King of Carom, and Korea vs USA. Dragon also manages some of the world's best players including Thorsten Hohmann, Mika Immonen, Yu Ram Cha and many more. HighRock Productions produces entertaining television shows that highlight the exciting action and international drama of championship level 3-cushion billiards – a very unique, difficult, and visual cue sport. HighRock produces the prestigious Sang Lee International Open, a professional 3-cushion event held annually in NYC. For details on this production including how to purchase tickets please contact Ira Lee at (917) 579-2974 or e-mail at [info@highrockproductions.com](mailto:info@highrockproductions.com)*



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**Tournament Results:**

**Miguel Torres and Jim Shovak are Champions at the First Stop of the USBA Tour**

The first stop of the 2007 USBA 3-Cushion Billiard Tour was held in Little Ferry, New Jersey at Royal Billiards, owned by Mr. Su Yee Kim.

A "split" format was used. Players who averaged over .800 were considered "A" players and anyone below .800 was considered a "B" player. In essence, there were 2 different tournaments going on simultaneously. The "A" tournament consisted of 10 players:

8 "A" players and 2 "B" players who opted to play along with the "A" players. The "B" tournament had 14 players. Six European tables with brand new Simonis cloth were used, along with brand new Aramith Pro-Cup balls which were generously donated by Aramith for the Tour. Two beautiful Schuler Cues valued at approximately \$ 500.00 each were also generously donated by Schuler Cues for the raffle in order to generate money to support the Tour. The "A" players paid a \$ 305.00 entry fee and the "B" players paid a \$ 155.00 entry fee. In addition, \$ 2,500.00 was added to the "A" Group and \$ 500.00 was added to the "B" Group by Royal Billiards' owner Su Yee Kim and the USBA Tour Directors: Jim Shovak, Paul Frankel (Professor Q Ball), Mazin Shooni and Pedro Piedrabuena. Scorekeepers kept innings and points for every match in the tournament.

Needless to say, the experimental format proved to be a big success and all the players seemed to be very happy about it. Future split tournament formats are already in motion for the rest of the year.

The "A" Group featured such top players as: Mazin Shooni the 2006 US Champion, Sonny Cho the 2005 US Champion, Hugo Patino the 2003 US Champion, Miguel Torres the 2003 Runner-Up, Francisco Parra from Master Billiards, Young Gull Lee the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> place finisher in the last two US Championships and Su Yee Kim: the owner of Royal Billiards and financial contributor to the tournament. Local players Yong Park, Soong Hyun Lee and Won Sik Kang also participated and played valiantly.

Early on, Miguel Torres hurt his chances of winning the tournament by losing to Young Gull Lee. For the first half of the tournament, it was Sonny Cho and Hugo Patino fighting for first place with no losses and Mazin Shooni and Miguel Torres behind with one loss each. At the end of 7 rounds with 2 rounds left to play, it was still anyone's tournament.

Mazin Shooni and Sonny Cho each lost 2 games and by the time the last round came, it was between 2 players: Hugo Patino and Miguel Torres, both originally from Columbia, with 1 loss each.

In the last match, Miguel Torres rose to the occasion by averaging over 1.300 and won handily, 30-19. Miguel finished 8-1 with a grand average of 1.035, a best game of 2.000, and a high run of 10. Hugo finished 2<sup>nd</sup>, with a 7-2 record, the high tournament average of 1.260 and a high run of 10. Congratulations to Miguel Torres, winning \$ 1,800.00 in prize money! Miguel also performed his famous, magical, trick-shot exhibition after the tournament was over and wowed the local crowd.

The "B" Tournament consisted of 14 players who were split up into 2 flights of 7 players each. The flights were designated "B" and "C", not because of the players' ability, but because there were 2 flights that both needed to have a name. The "B" flight had 7 players, so everyone played 6 games each. The "C" flight originally had 7 players, but one local player had to leave on business, so each player only played 5 games each.

Among the favorites to win the entire "B" tournament were Jose Costa and Felipe Razon, who finished 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> respectively in the 2007 National Championship. The luck of the draw put both of these players in the "B" flight. The 2 top finishers in both the "B" flight and the "C" flight would advance to a 4-man final round.



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Felipe Razon finished first in the “B” flight with a record of 5 and 1. However, the surprise of the flight was newcomer Edward Gomez who also finished 5-1 and advanced to the finals over Jose Costa.

Jim Shovak went undefeated, 5-0 in the “C” flight and Charles Brown played extremely well going 4-1, the only loss being to Shovak.

The 4 finalists now had to play each other to determine the Champion. Each player would play 3 games and if there was a tie, there would be a 10-point playoff game. In the very first round, there were two upsets: Charles Brown averaged .658 to defeat Felipe Razon 25-22 and Edward Gomez averaged .694 to hand Jim Shovak his first loss of the tournament, 25-20. If Razon or Shovak lost another game, they would not be able to win the tournament.

In the second round, Felipe Razon fought back with a vengeance and averaged .694 to win handily against Gomez, 25-9. In the other match, Charles Brown was ahead mostly all of the game as Shovak could not seem to find a way to score. Finally, towards the end of the game, Shovak found his stroke and edged by Brown, 25-20, keeping his hopes alive.

Before the start of the third and final round, there was a very interesting scenario. All four players were 1-1, meaning that whichever 2 players won their matches would be tied for 1<sup>st</sup> place and would have to play a 10-point playoff to determine the Champion.

Charles Brown and Edward Gomez went head-to-head, playing a very tense match. Both players were tied at 20 points apiece. The loser would end up in 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> place. Charles Brown broke through, scoring 5 unanswered points to win the match, 25-20.

Jim Shovak had to face his toughest opponent of the tournament: the dangerous Felipe Razon who had the best game of the “B” tournament with an .893 average and the best grand average of .716. But Shovak chose to play his best match of the tournament at the perfect time, averaging .694 and winning comfortably, 25-17, knocking Razon from contention.

That left a 10-point playoff between Brown and Shovak to determine the winner. With the “A” Tournament already finished, the entire room watched the playoff match, anxiously anticipating the outcome (as well as the outcome of the raffle). Shovak took the lead 8-3 and Brown closed the gap to 8-7 before Shovak finally went out, winning the “B” Tournament Championship, 10-7. First prize was \$ 1,000.00 and 2<sup>nd</sup> place was \$ 750.00. Both players agreed to split the prize money and play for the title.

Afterwards, the awards were given out to the top 5 “A” players and the top 4 “B” players as follows:

Miguel Torres	\$ 1,800.00
Hugo Patino	\$ 1,400.00
Sonny Cho	\$ 1,000.00
Mazin Shooni	\$ 800.00
Francisco Parra	\$ 500.00
Jim Shovak	\$ 1,000.00
Charles Brown	\$ 750.00
Felipe Razon	\$ 500.00
Edward Gomez	\$ 250.00

Two Schuler cues were raffled off and one went to a local player from the room and another went to Yong Park. Miguel Torres finished off the tournament with a brilliant and dazzling display of trick shots that only a handful of players in the world might be able to pull off. In all, it was a fantastic start to the 2007 USBA Tour. Congratulations to all that were involved.



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**Mazin Shooni and Laureano Gomez win the Master Billiards USBA Tour 2<sup>nd</sup> Stop**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> stop of the 2007 USBA 3-Cushion Billiards Tour was held at Master Billiards in Sunnyside, New York, April 20-22, 2007. Master Billiards owner, Mr. Min, generously added \$ 1,500.00 to the prize fund and another \$ 1,800.00 was added by the USBA.

The “split” tournament format consisted of 16 “B” players and 8 “A” players. The “A” group, which had many top USA players, consisted of Mazin Shooni, Sonny Cho, Miguel Torres, Francisco Parra, Sang Ho Kim, Young Gull Lee, Su Yee Kim and Jim Shovak.

The “B” group had some familiar faces from the First Stop of the USBA Tour at Royal Billiards, including Andrew Janquitto and Eric Hughes from the Maryland/DC area, Charles Brown and Nguyen Ducmanh. The fresh local faces included Jose Restrepo, Dan Klein, Armando Rodriguez, Dan Silver, Laureano Gomez, Vass Tsonev, Lew Hutter and Fikret Gezmez. Even some players from out-of-town decided to participate: Joe DeAmato and Bob Page from the Boston area, George Theobald from Chicago, and Jake Zymeck from Florida.

The “B” Group was divided into two flights of 8 players each (flights B and C) with the top 3 players from each flight advancing to a 6-man round robin Finals. The preliminaries were played to 20 points with all averages kept. The finals were played to 25 points. The “A” group (Flight A) was an 8-man round robin played to 35 points with all averages kept.

Flight B was won by Fikret Gezmez (6-1) with Vass Tsonev (also 6-1) in a very close 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Third place was won by Laureano Gomez (5-2).

Flight C was dominated by Jose Restrepo and Joe DeAmato, both with 6-1 records and both losing their only matches in the one-hole. Jose Restrepo won the flight because his opponents scored fewer points against him. Armando Rodriguez (4-3) edged 3<sup>rd</sup> place over Bob Page (also 4-3) by a mere 4 total points.

In the “B” Finals, it came down to Laureano Gomez and Joe DeAmato. Joe had a 3-1 record and Laureano was 4-0. If Joe could win the game, he would force a playoff game for the Championship. However, Laureano came through in the clutch and defeated Joe by a score of 25-22, becoming the Master Billiards USBA Tour “B” Champion.

In the “A” Group, it was a classic battle between Mazin Shooni, Miguel Torres, Sonny Cho and Francisco Parra. Su Yee Kim (Royal Billiards owner) upset Francisco Parra in a crucial match which Francisco needed if he wanted to win the tournament. This brought it down to two players: Miguel Torres (winner of the Royal Billiards First Tour Stop) and Mazin Shooni (2006 National Champion), both with 5-1 records.

With the score tied at 29 each in a race to 35, the crowd watched in anticipation as the two players carefully made calculated shots, being careful not to “sell-out” if they missed. In the end, Mazin Shooni ran out and won the game 35-30, claiming the title of Champion of the Tournament and a \$ 1,700.00 first prize.

At the awards ceremony, Tournament Director Jim Shovak handed out Plaques to the top 3 finishers in each group as well as prize money to the top 4 “A” finishers and the top 6 “B” finishers. The prize money was as follows:

**A Group:**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place: Mazin Shooni	\$ 1,700.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place: Miguel Torres	\$ 1,300.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place: Francisco Parra	\$ 1,000.00
4 <sup>th</sup> Place: Sonny Cho	\$ 750.00



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**B Group:**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place: Laureano Gomez	\$ 1,000.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place: Joe DeAmato	\$ 800.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place: Jose Restrapo	\$ 600.00
4 <sup>th</sup> Place: Vass Tsonev	\$ 400.00
5 <sup>th</sup> Place: Armando Rodriguez	\$ 250.00
6 <sup>th</sup> Place: Fikret Gezmez	\$ 150.00

After the awards ceremony, a \$ 500.00 Schuler cue, generously donated by Schuler Cues, was raffled off. It was won by 2005 National Champion, Sonny Cho.

To conclude the festivities, the crowd was again treated to a trick-shot exhibition by Columbian Trick-Shot Champion, Miguel Torres.

The next stop of the USBA Tour will be held May 25-27 at New Wave Billiards in Miami, Florida. Reserve your spot as soon as possible by calling Jim Shovak at 516-238-6193 or email him at [JimShovak@aol.com](mailto:JimShovak@aol.com).

Special thanks to Charles Brown, who once again was there to save the day, organizing the schedule of games, entering the results in his computer, and was always available to keep score of a game if needed. Without Charles, it would have been a nightmare. Thanks again to all of the players who participated and for keeping score of all the games.

Good work everybody!

**Carom Café Winter Warmup (January 27-28, 2007)**

Nine of the best players in the game converged on Carom Café in Flushing, NY to have it's annual "Winter Warmup" for the 2007 National Championships to be held in Maywood, CA.

This year it was Miguel Torres who dominated the field with a perfect 8-0 record, a grand average of 1.371, the best game of 2.727 and a tie for the high-run of 8.

Mazin Shooni came in a strong 2<sup>nd</sup> place with a 7-1 record, a grand average of 1.199, a best game of 2.000 and a high-run of 7.

Sonny Cho was 3<sup>rd</sup> with a 5-3 record and a grand average of 1.005. Hugo Patino (4<sup>th</sup>, 1.186) Michael Kang (5<sup>th</sup>, .945) and Young Gull Lee (6<sup>th</sup>, .847) all had 4-4 records.

Trailing the field of superstars ahead of them were Jun Ho Lee ( .756), Jose Costa ( .651) and Jim Shovak ( .643).

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mike Kelley Memorial Results**

April 27-29, 2007: Jilly's in Marshalltown, Iowa

The 2nd Annual Mike Kelley Memorial started on time, just after the players drew their card to decide which flight they were in. The Clubs flight consisted of Tim Gardner, Jose(Joel) Jimenez, Armondo Garcia, Dave Johnson, Bob Byrne and Joe VanVooren. The Diamonds flight consisted of Fred Lamers, Mike Leimer, Lou Bean, Bob Jacobson (alternate for the ailing Rich Kuchma), Rod Corey and John Jacobson. If you haven't heard Rich had a heart attack a few days before the tournament. Please keep him in your prayers.



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Fred Lamers went undefeated in the Diamonds flight with John Jacobson posting a 4-1 record. In the Clubs flight, Bob Byrne was shooting very well, with a 5-0 record and holding his opponents to a combined score of just 32 points. Bob also accomplished something that has never happened at Jilly's. A shut-out!! Meanwhile, though, on the next table, at the same exact time, John Jacobson handed his opponent a shut-out also. Very strange. Jose Jimenez rounded out the clubs flight with a 4-1 record.

The Finals started out with Fred Lamers over Jose Jimenez 25-16 in 29 innings on one table and John Jacobsen over Bob Byrne 25-7 in 23 innings on the other. Second round: John Jacobsen over Jose Jimenez 25-21 in 46 innings and Fred Lamers over Bob Byrne 25-7 in just 17 innings!

In the last round, Bob Byrne defeated Jose Jimenez 25-12 in 46 innings and John Jacobsen defeated Fred Lamers 25-15 in just 19 innings! John Jacobsen wins the Tournament with a 3-0 record in the finals.

Fred Lamers had best game with a 1.470 and his finals average was 1.016!!! I believe that his finals average is the best at Jilly's to date. High run out of the money prize was split between Rod Corey and Tim Gardner.

### **Another great tournament at Jilly's!!!**

#### **Upcoming Tournaments:**

#### **3rd stop of the USBA Tour 2007 will be held at George's Billiards**

140 North Congress Ave-Boynton Beach, FL-561-735-7802  
15 minutes from West Palm Beach Airport-30 minutes from Ft.Lauderdale Airport

**This is a "B" Player ONLY Tournament**  
**First Place is \$ 1,500.00 (based on 14 players)**

**May 26-27, 2007, Saturday and Sunday**  
**Players meeting Friday night at 7:00pm**

Results will count towards all players Official Rankings

Matches will start by 10:00 am Saturday morning

If you wish to participate, please call Jake Zymeck at: 561-670-0240

Only 14 players will be allowed to participate. Only a few spots left.

- 1) Only players considered to be below an .800 average can play
- 2) Entry fee is \$ 150.00
- 3) If you do not know what your average is, then you are most probably a "B" player.
- 4) Format may be modified based on number of entrants
- 5) Tournament attire please. Most of us will be wearing ties and vests.

Prize Fund: (Based on 14 players) \$ 3,650.00 (\$ 1,620.00 added by the USBA)

2 Flights of 7 players- Top 2 from each flight advance to finals  
Finals: 4 players - Round Robin



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**Prizes awarded: (Based on 14 players)**

- 1- \$ 1,500.00 + Trophy or Plaque and picture in Professor-Q-Ball magazine
- 2- \$ 1,000.00 + Trophy or Plaque and picture in Professor-Q-Ball magazine
- 3- \$ 750.00 + Trophy or Plaque and picture in Professor-Q-Ball magazine
- 4- \$ 400.00

**Available Hotels:**

These prices were shown if booked through Orbitz.com. Go to: [www.Orbitz.com](http://www.Orbitz.com), go to Hotels, enter Boynton Beach, FL area and the dates you will check in and check out. These hotels and more will be available for online booking, or you call the numbers given and book directly with the hotel. See if the prices are different. Make sure you review their cancellation policy. If you decide to early, you may still have to pay for the night anyway. That happened to me once.

Hampton Inn: 1475 Gateway Blvd, Boynton Beach, FL 33426  
561-369-0018: ask for Melanie and mention George's Billiards  
\$ 119.00/night for 2 people includes breakfast bar  
5 minutes from George's Billiards

Comfort Inn-From \$ 87/night  
1221 Hypoluxo Road, Lantana, FL  
4.6 miles from George's billiards  
561-582-7878

Holiday Inn-From \$ 95/night  
1601 N. CONGRESS AVE, Boynton Beach, FL  
**1.2 Miles from George's billiards**  
561-737-4600

Hummingbird Hotel-From \$ 47/night  
631 Lucerne Avenue, Lake Worth, FL  
**8.3 miles from george's billiards**  
561-582-3224

Homestead Studio Suites-From \$ 69/night  
501 NW 77th Street, Boca Raton, FL  
**9.5 miles from george's billiards**  
561-994-2599

New Sun Gate Motel-From \$ 60/night  
901 S. Federal Highway, Lake Worth, FL  
**8 miles from George's billiards**  
561-588-8110



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2007 USBA TOUR EVENT- 4<sup>th</sup> Stop

June 15-17, 2007 at Southgate Billiards in Southgate, CA

10511 Atlantic Ave., South Gate, CA 90280-7023, (213) 563-3392

Players meeting on Friday morning at 10:00 am. Matches start at 11:00 am Friday and 10:00 am Saturday and Sunday. Entry Fees: "A" Players: \$ 205.00 and "B" Players: \$ 105.00. Prize Fund: \$ 9,000.00 (added: \$ 1500 by room owner & \$ 1500 by the USBA)

"B" players will have less than a .750 average. The "B" Tournament will be played even-up, no handicaps. 20 point games in the preliminaries and 25 points in the finals.

**The A Tournament will be a HANDICAP event based on level. 30 point games.**

"A" player has between .750 and .899 average. A player goes to 26 points.

"A+" player has between .900 and 1.199 average. A+ player goes to 28 points.

"International Master" has 1.200 average or better and goes to 30 points.

Averages to be determined by the Tour Directors.

**"A" Tournament:** 16 players maximum-2 Flights of 8 players

Top 3 from each flight advance to finals. Finals: 6 players - Round Robin

**"A" Prizes awarded: (Based on 16 players)**

1- \$ 1,500.00 + Trophy or Plaque and picture in Professor-Q-Ball magazine

2- \$ 1,100.00 + Trophy or Plaque and picture in Professor-Q-Ball magazine

3- \$ 800.00 + Trophy or Plaque and picture in Professor-Q-Ball magazine

4<sup>th</sup>= \$ 600.00 5<sup>th</sup> place=\$ 400.00 6<sup>th</sup> place=\$ 300.00

**"B" Tournament:** 28 players maximum-4 Flights of 7 players

Top 2 from each flight advance to finals. Finals: 8 players - Round Robin

**"B" Prizes awarded: (Based on 28 players)**

1- \$ 1,000.00 + Trophy or Plaque and picture in Professor-Q-Ball magazine

2- \$ 800.00 + Trophy or Plaque and picture in Professor-Q-Ball magazine

3- \$ 650.00 + Trophy or Plaque and picture in Professor-Q-Ball magazine

4<sup>th</sup>= \$ 550.00 5<sup>th</sup>=\$ 450.00 6<sup>th</sup>=\$ 350.00 7<sup>th</sup>=\$ 300.00 8<sup>th</sup>=\$ 200.00

To reserve a spot, please contact Pedro Piedrabuena at 213-458-3950 or

[PedroPiedrabuena@hotmail.com](mailto:PedroPiedrabuena@hotmail.com) or Jim Shovak at 516-238-6193 or [JimShovak@aol.com](mailto:JimShovak@aol.com).

Hotel: Ramada-City of Commerce-7272 East Gage Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90040  
562-806-4777-Ask for Toti- \$ 69/night-Southgate Billiards Tournament Rate



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**2007 Sang Lee International Open**

Dates: August 13 to 19, 2007

Just a quick note to inform you that Carom Café Billiards will host the 2007 Sang Lee International Open three-cushion billiards tournament on August 13 to 19. The tournament is sanctioned by the UMB and the USBA and will once again feature top players from around the world.

Special Note: Sang Lee has been elected to the Billiard Congress of America Hall of Fame and will be inducted during a special ceremony on May 15 in Las Vegas.

**Attention Players: If you would like to reserve a spot to play in the tournament you may do so at this time by contacting Charles Brown.**

After you receive the complete tournament information then we can make arrangements for inscription fee and other details.

Save the date and I hope to see you in August.

Charles Brown/Tournament Director/[cbrown54@speakeasy.net](mailto:cbrown54@speakeasy.net)

**Carom Café Billiards**  
**34-02 Linden Place**  
**Flushing, NY 11354**  
718-358-8585

Future Tournaments:

September: New Wave Billiards in Miami, FL expects to have an Int'l Open

September: Minneapolis Billiard Club in Minneapolis, MN

September: Medford, OR Elks

October 26-28: USBA Tour: Split Format: A and B Players. Eight Ball Billiards in Maywood, CA  
Over \$ 10,000.00 prize money expected. Call or email Jim Shovak to reserve a spot

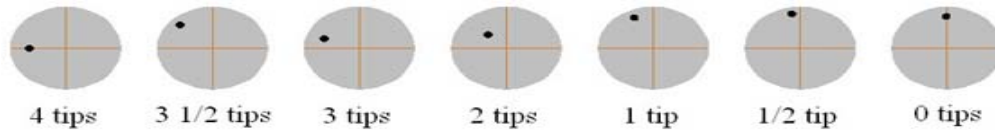


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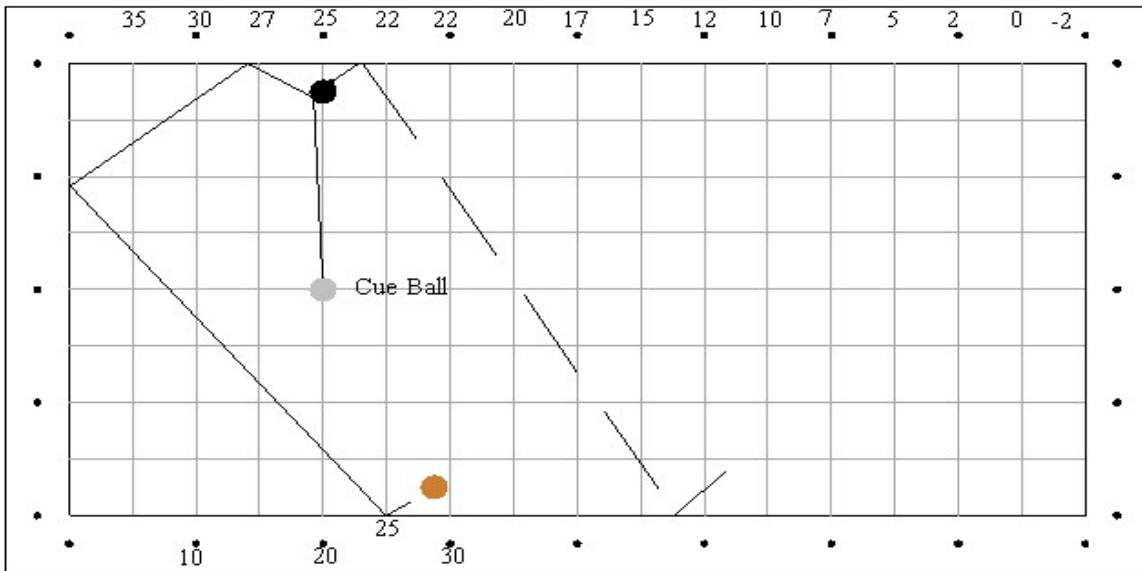
**Simple Short Angle System II**

by Jim Shovak

A more in-depth look at my last article and more. First, let's examine the Englishes. There are many different variations of these englishes, but these are the basic ones I use. You may have different names for these englishes, but this is how I name them.



Now let's look at the shot we looked at previously, only with a lot more detail.



First, let's straighten some things out before you get scared. If your cue ball and the first object ball are lined up directly with the 2<sup>nd</sup> diamond on the long (top) rail, then the foundation shot is this: 4 tips of English, 1/2 ball hit, soft follow-through stroke. Your cue ball will hit 25 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> (bottom) rail. This is only true if your cue ball and the first object ball are separated by a distance of around 2 diamonds or more. When the balls are closer, it changes. That's another lesson.

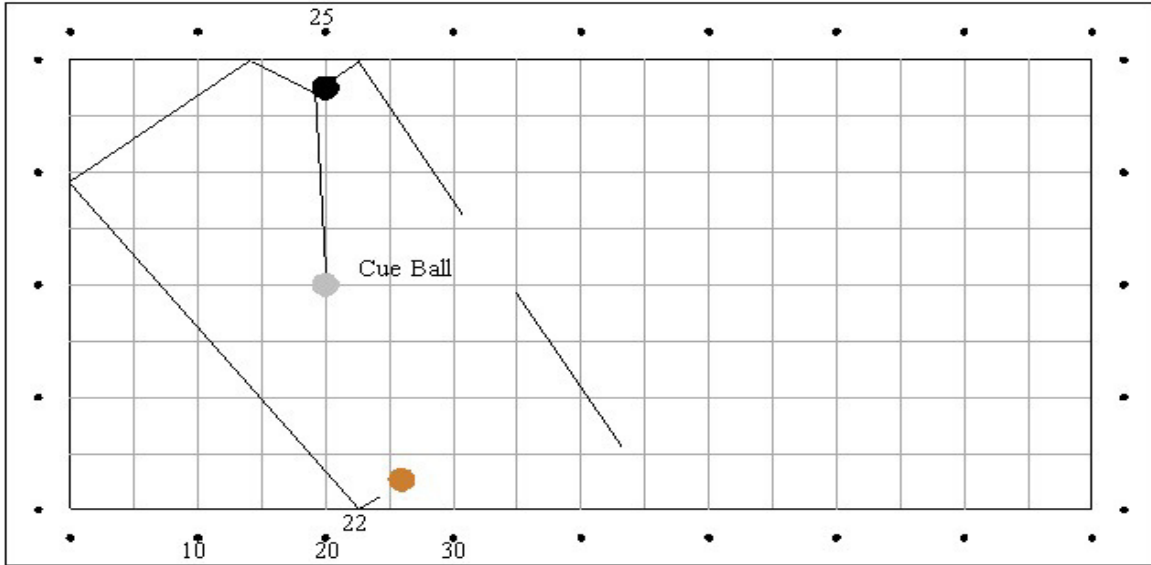
By looking at the numbers listed on the top long rail, you will see that this is the map whereby you will know where your cue ball wants to hit the 3<sup>rd</sup> (bottom) rail if the first 2 balls (your cue ball and the first object ball) are lined up directly with those numbers. For example, if the first 2 balls are lined up directly with the middle diamond on the top long rail, then your cue ball will hit 17 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> rail (bottom) if you use 4 tips of English, a 1/2 ball hit and a soft follow-through stroke. I prefer to use the numbers 7 and 2 all the time instead of 7 1/2 and 2 1/2 and 17 1/2 and 22 1/2. To keep it simple, I call it 22, 17, 32, 37, etc.,

This "map" comes in handy especially if the first 2 balls are lined up with the number 2 and you have a "difficult" shot where you need to go directly into the corner. The number 2 equals the corner. This

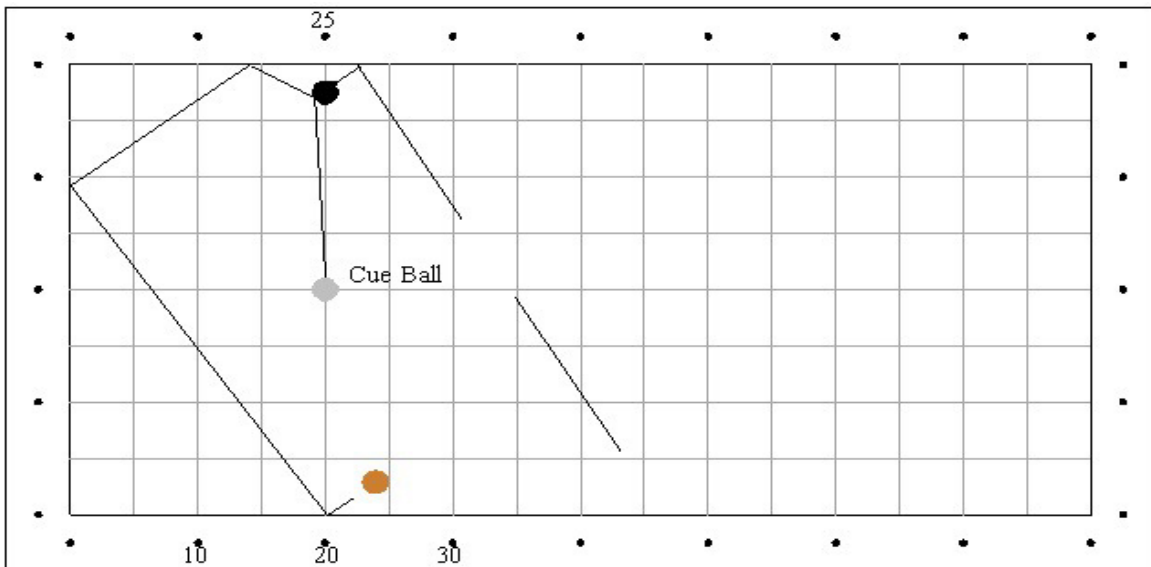


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“difficult” shot is now a “hanger”. Just remember to execute properly and the shot is made. The number 0 equals just shy of the corner. This comes in handy if you want to play a drop-in shot just missing the corner. It now becomes a much easier shot. The number -2 misses the corner even more and is ideal for many “difficult” drop-in shots in the corner area.



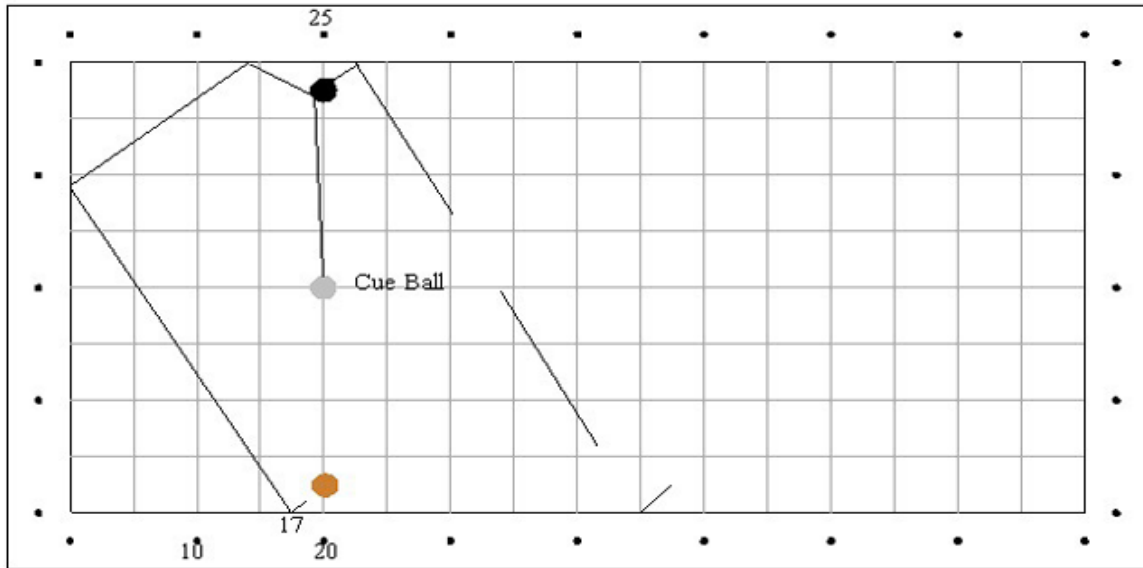
To make the shot above, use the next lower English which is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  tips (high maximum). I call this English “minus 2 english” because it takes you  $\frac{1}{4}$  diamond shorter. Notice that with this hit on the first object ball, you should get a nice position with several shot options.



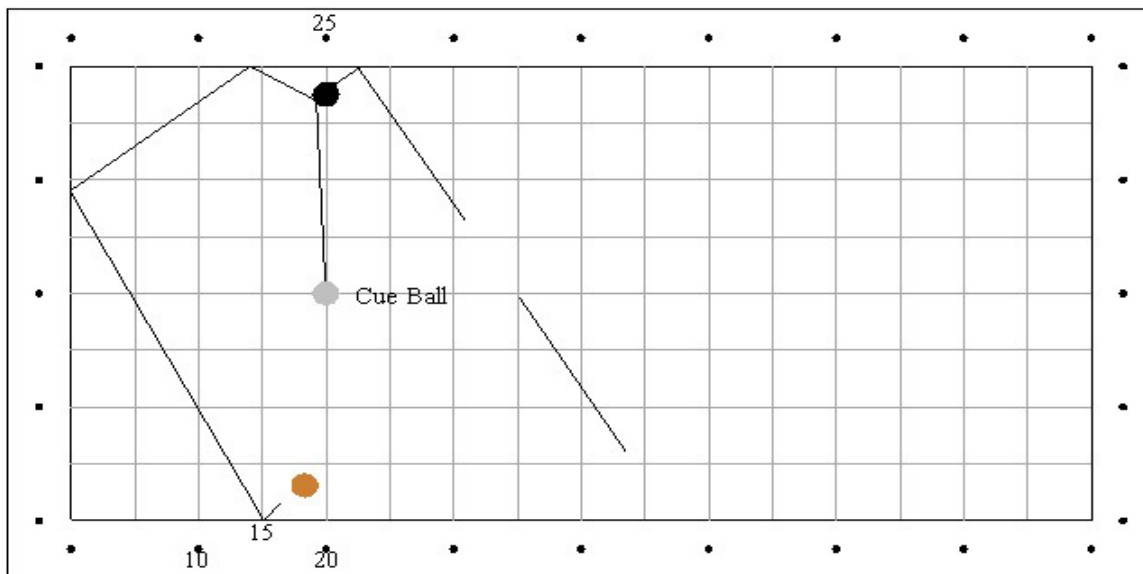
For this shot, use 3 tips of English. I call this “minus 5 english”: 3 tips and a  $\frac{1}{2}$  ball hit = minus 5



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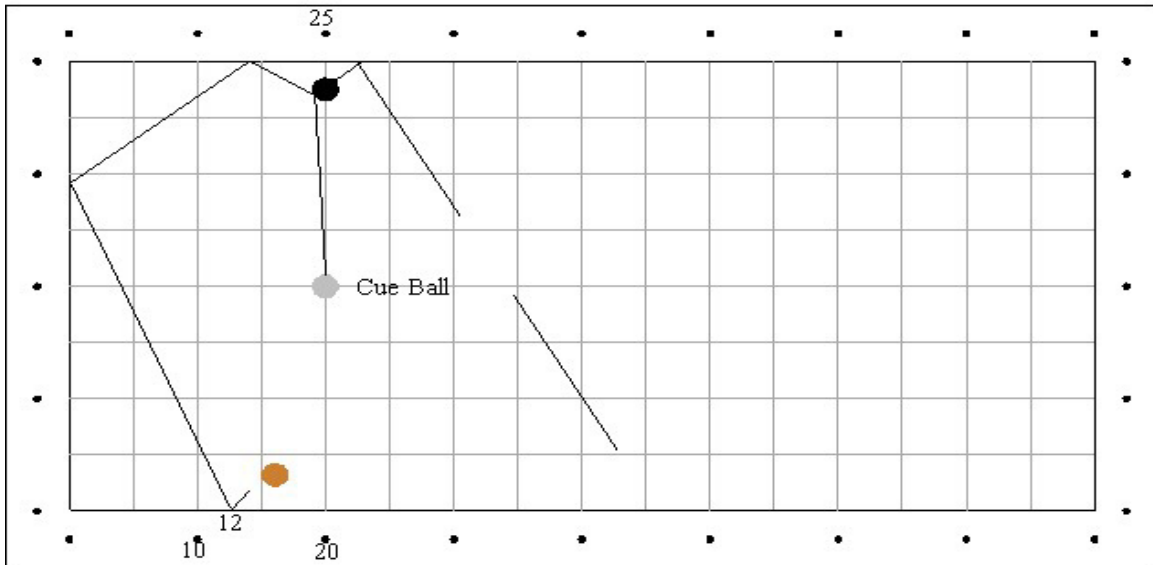
Above, you want to go “minus 7” (25 is the foundation and you want to go to 17), use 2 tips, ½ ball hit.



To get to 15, use “minus 10” English. One tip and ½ ball hit.



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Finally, to get to 12, use “minus 12” English. Zero tips high ball and  $\frac{1}{2}$  ball hit. If you wish your cue ball to hit 10, 7, 5, 2, 0 (missing the corner), then you can no longer hit the first object ball  $\frac{1}{2}$  full, at least not comfortably. You would then have to use “Alternate Englishes”.

Alternate englishes may also need to be used if the last ball (3<sup>rd</sup> ball) is in the path of the first object ball shown throughout the diagrams. We don’t want a kiss, so an alternate English and hit would be needed to avoid that.

Firstly, to get your cue ball to hit 10, use “minus 15” English, which is  $\frac{1}{2}$  tip English and a  $\frac{1}{4}$  ball hit. To get to 7, use “minus 17” English, which is center ball on the cue ball and a  $\frac{1}{8}$  object ball hit. To get to 5, use “minus 20” English, which is a Zero English high ball and  $\frac{1}{8}$  object ball hit. To get to 2, use “minus 22” English, which is a zero English high ball and a  $\frac{1}{16}$  object ball hit. To miss the corner, use “minus 25” English, which is slight high reverse and a  $\frac{1}{8}$  ball hit.

For the diagrammed shots that may have a kiss, here are other alternate englishes and hits:

- Cue ball to 25: Same “foundation” result: One tip English,  $\frac{3}{4}$  ball hit, slightly harder.
- Cue ball to 25: Same “foundation” result: 4 tips English,  $\frac{1}{4}$  ball hit, with speed.
- Cue ball to 22: “Minus 2” English:  $\frac{1}{2}$  tip English,  $\frac{3}{4}$  ball, slightly harder
- Cue ball to 22: “Minus 2” English: 4 tips English,  $\frac{1}{4}$  ball, medium speed
- Cue ball to 20: “Minus 5” English: 0 tips high,  $\frac{3}{4}$  ball, slightly harder
- Cue ball to 20: “Minus 5” English: 4 tips English,  $\frac{1}{4}$  ball, soft
- Cue ball to 17: “Minus 7” English: 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  tips English,  $\frac{1}{4}$  ball, soft
- Cue ball to 15: “Minus 10” English: 2 tips English,  $\frac{1}{4}$  ball, soft
- Cue ball to 12: “Minus 12” English: 1 tip English,  $\frac{1}{4}$  ball, soft

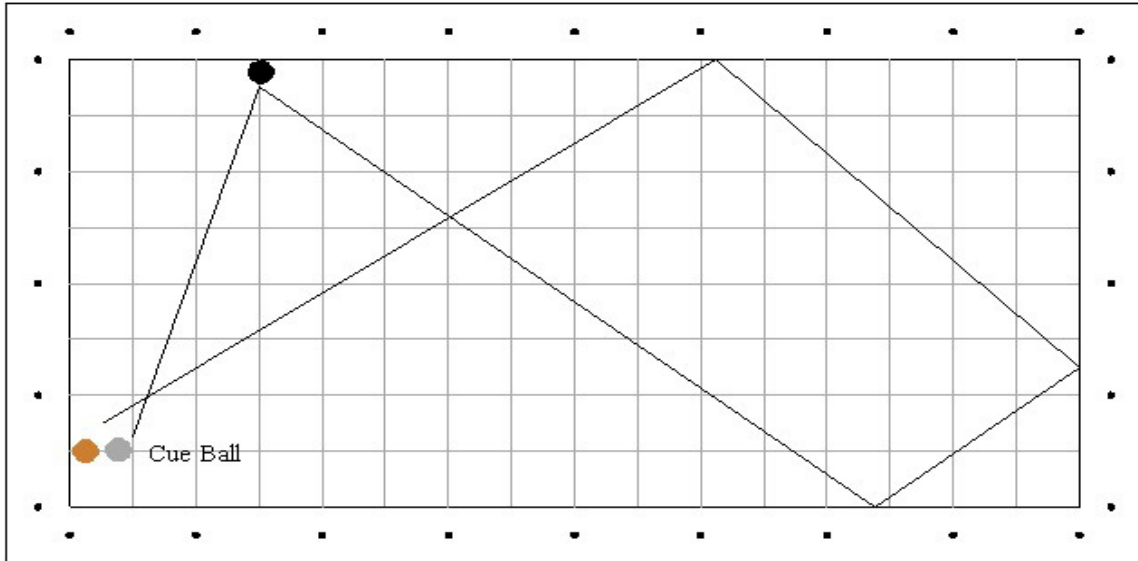
I know this is a lot to digest. Practice it and you’ll see. Most of the englishes work throughout the entire table (foundation, minus 2, minus 5 and minus 7 englishes). Others change depending on how far you get from the corner, the lower numbers on the “map”. Practice and you’ll see what I mean. Hope this helps you to never miss this type of short angle again. However, make sure you miss it when you play me.



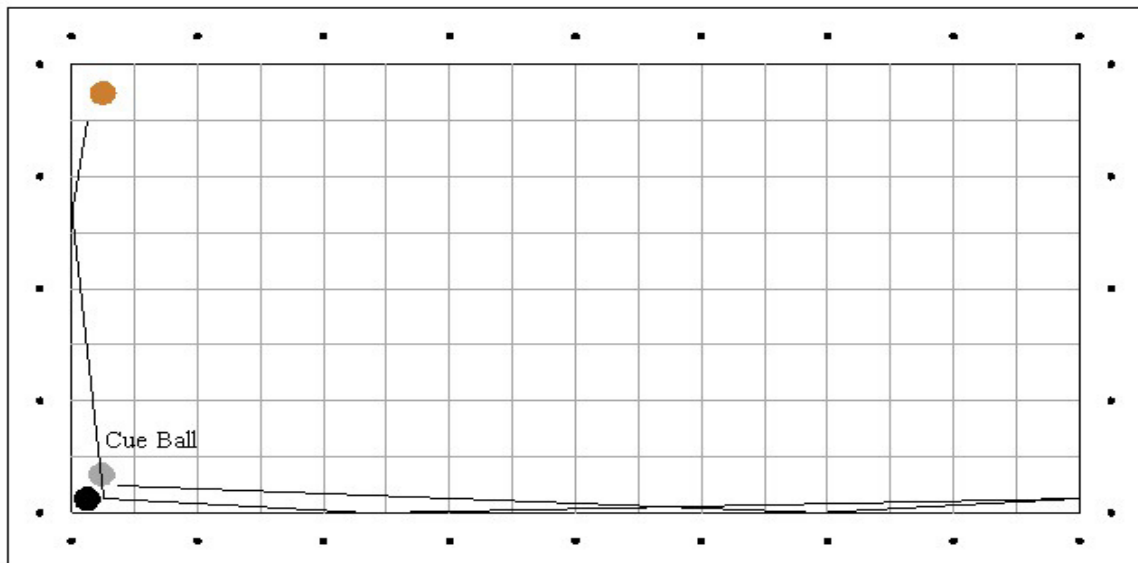
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**Two Very Nice Solutions**

by Fred (Fast Freddy) Lamers



Take a look at the shot above. Both object balls are frozen. Cue ball is only 1/8" away from yellow ball. I played this shot in the Derby City Qualifier. Shoot to the red ball, maximum reverse spin, medium speed, hit the red slightly to the right of full.



Red ball is frozen in corner. No shot off the right side of red. Cue ball is 1/16" away from red. Shoot very soft towards bottom right corner, double-the-rail, Aim for 1<sup>st</sup> diamond from the corner, using about 1 tip of reverse English. Cue ball will kiss-back off the red into a very big target in the top left corner unless it is a very full or very thin hit off red.



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**Caudron DVD Review by Bob Roach, Omaha, NE**

This article is submitted in follow up to Bob Jewett's excellent presentation and review on the Frederic Caudron DVD in our August 2006 Newsletter. Since I'm an unknown quantity to virtually all of you please take my observations as just that and any errors are mine alone. I do admit to playing most all of the small games demonstrated.

Mr. Jewett's review covered the interview of Caudron, his competitive record which is substantial, and the 47.2 (18.2 in the US). First, a couple of observations might be useful. This DVD is formatted for the European region which means that it won't play in your standard American player, unless it has a universal feature. Not to despair, you can play it on your computer. Secondly, check out the billiard sites Bob noted as the shipping prices can vary.

Finally, please note that throughout the DVD that Caudron uses the same table, a Breton, and I think he is using fast cloth – probably Simonis 300 – which makes the control on the small games all that more remarkable, especially if you ever tried to play straight rail on that type of cloth. Caudron's imagination on the small games to use the fast cloth to his advantage to not only score the point, but more importantly to take a favorable position on a particular ball in anticipation of the next shot, is truly remarkable.

This is further verified by none other than Mr.100, Raymond Ceulemans, who says in the interview section that the master in the world of the small games "... is Caudron".

It is also quite interesting to watch Caudron in the straight rail game generally hitting the close shots with an elevated cue and even using rail first pique shots to guarantee taking a favorable ball position. This elevation deadens the contact between the cue ball and 2<sup>nd</sup> ball, thus increasing overall control.

I shall attempt to give an overview of what Bob did not cover, mainly 72.2 (the long balkline dividing the table in half), one cushion and three cushion. There is a section on 42.1 which is quite good. It shows the increase in difficulty over its cousin, 42.2, which is readily apparent since the former requires that a ball be driven from the box (assuming that balls 2 and 3 are in the same box) on every shot. As in 47.2 driving in the short end is most preferable to a long drive. For a more complete discussion of position play from an American perspective please see Daly's Billiard Book, which can still be found in print through the Dover Press. This book still has much to teach even though the equipment has drastically changed. The main difference between the two games is the area of the short rail to obtain the most manageable position for follow up shots. In the ".2" version the better positions are at the short rail end at the location of the two table length balklines and up to the first short balkline at the same end. Keep in mind that the distance between these two lines is 18 inches. For the ".1" game the best position is between the two table length balklines at the short end. See Daly's at pp. 258, 9 plates 225, 6. Caudron's play demonstrates Daly's principles nicely, with the addition of the fast cloth the short drives sometimes are two cushions long. This again shows how the carom games have been changed by heated, fast cloth.

A very interesting version of balkline is the 72.2 game. As Caudron states: "The area of the boxes is much larger..." than either of the 47 centimeter (18 inch) games. Thus it is much harder to keep and maintain position for initial and follow up shots. In the balkline games anchor blocks attend the end of each balkline. And for those of you that may have played some of these small games if you have ever encountered a player who knows how to play the anchor shot well, and there are no anchor blocks in place as you might find in straight rail, you might as well take the cue apart and surrender, or bring a book such as *Moby Dick*, *War and Peace*, *Crime and Punishment* to help you pass the time. While Caudron does not demonstrate the anchor shot per se, the principles are evident in the straight rail and balkline games, namely close manipulation of ball two (the one closest to the rail) by the application of minor amounts of right and left English on ball one to position ball two either to the right or left for the follow up shot. In most of Caudron's shots if the second ball is to be moved to the right slightly then a slight amount of left is applied,



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and vice versa. In the balkline games Caudron attempts to position each of the balls in a different box and then tries to keep them there with the “balkline nurse.” It is interesting to see how this is done. Sometimes the position is such that a little right or left, as the case may be, is applied to drive the second ball to spot where on its return, after the first (cue) ball has ever so slightly contacted the third ball, it ever so slightly contacts the first ball. Hopefully this maintains all three balls in their original boxes. Caudron demonstrates this type of nurse ably and when the balls get “balky” as they are wont to do he demonstrates a series of two, three, four, or more shots to regain a favorable position. And that is the secret to all of these short games. Namely the ability to keep the balls close when they are starting to lose favored status. Then taking the right action(s) to regain a favorable position and continue the run.

In these close manipulations you will never see Caudron with a table length first ball, or even one half table length, shot. His skill is such that the balls simply never get away from him. And this leads me to quote that astute billiard writer, Robert Byrne, who said that Mr. Ceulemans once told him that Americans will never rise to heights of three cushion play unless they devote themselves in some way to the short games. With few exceptions, Blomdahl coming to mind, Jaspers, Caudron, the Ceulemans family, DeBacker, Sanchez, et al and ad nauseam, all have been strongly schooled in these small games. I think that we all ought to at least give it a try. It could not hurt.

Well enough of a retired lawyer’s proselytizing! Now we will talk about the little known game of one cushion, which Caudron describes as his favorite of all the games he plays and competes in.

The game as its name indicates is one where the first ball (the cue ball) must contact a cushion by the time it hits the third ball. The break is the same as in the other short games discussed above and is identical to a standard three cushion break, except that it is a much softer hit. The idea being that all three balls are close together at the end of the break shot. Unlike the balkline games, in one cushion Caudron states that the ideal position is in a corner of the short cushion, or at a minimum at least along the short cushion. Caudron goes on to describe that there are lots of draw shots, including table length where the first object ball hit (that is ball 2) is directed to return near the corner and ball three, after ball 1 has touched a cushion, moves a few inches away from ball two’s corner thereby leaving a follow up shot. The critical thing to notice is how Caudron hits most of these shots. They are far and away dead ball draws or stops, and that is amazing to see since his cue ball must also contact at least one cushion. The difficulty with this game is controlling ball 2 according to Caudron. Since many of the second balls are driven (and always with the idea of its return to the corner) there are not nearly so many small points played. And the manner of the play can be unusual. There is an example early on where the red is closest to the short cushion with cue ball a few inches forward and the yellow (in this case ball 2) likewise forward of the white. All balls are roughly located in a line opposite of first short rail diamond on the left hand side of the table. To me you would simply dead draw of the yellow at a slight angle to insure the cue ball’s requisite rail contact before touching the red. But the master has a very interesting take on that shot. He draws off the yellow but then goes left to the near long cushion and comes back to the red bumping it to the right and allowing the yellow to get to the corner leaving an easy follow up.

What’s so interesting is this cue ball is hit quite controlled and from a position that were most of us playing a three cushion shot would feel most uncomfortable cueing over the red. Not so with Caudron. He goes on to say that since the balls many times get out of position that playing a one or even two rail bank is many times the preferable option. And with him it’s done with control and a confident short stroke to precisely land on the third ball in such a way as to provide more shots. As you might have guessed the whole point of the small games is to keep your opponent chair bound. Caudron does this beautifully. And if you think that all he really excels at are these small games the next section on 3CB ought to open your eyes, if I do it justice, and you should probably take a look and the UMB rankings.



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In this two DVD set there is a section on Caudron's Junior and Senior titles in Belgium. As a junior he had a total of 14 Belgian titles two of which are three cushions. In his Senior Belgian title history he has 57, four of which were three cushions and one pentathlon, which usually includes a three cushion portion.

The thing that most struck me on Caudron's three cushions section was the absolute total control of his stroke. It made no difference to him if a shot was to be hit thick or precisely thin, draw or follow. He even stretched out his stroke on some shots he refers to as "fantasy" but what we would call artistic.

To begin he runs fifteen off the break with the 16<sup>th</sup> missing by less than a quarter ball. It appeared that the shots were run as they laid, and not set up as might be seen in a demo teaching video. Then came the fun. He hit draw shots with both object balls near the short rail in the standard manner by going to the short rail, but also by not hitting the short rail, in what the Europeans would call an accordion shot. These shots were almost of the artistic variety, but ones he says few people think of. It's quite amazing to see the cue ball draw off the first object ball then go to the long rail side, about a diamond away from the short rail and accordion across three or four long rails to hit the third ball. I am not saying the guy's a threat to Semih Sayginer, but he can let it out when he has to and he makes it look easy.

He also spent some time showing rail first solutions. Some of the ones that caught my eye were done at table length using draw to get the correct angle. Caudron also demonstrated complete control and confidence with what he called the "Schafer" shots, ones which I assumed were named for the great American players of the same name. These are shots not unlike the corner spin outs done rail first in the manner of our late champion Sang Lee. Caudron adds his own twist with practical applications at table length and what amount to rail first bank shots off the second ball then going back the length of the table to score in the corner. In the opening sequence he emphasizes that, where possible, going easy off the second ball and landing close to the third are the best options. He says that this results in the second often going near the middle of the table leaving options for follow up points.

His stroke as I mentioned above, is something to watch. This is not only in the 3CB section but in all sections. He can be ever so precise on the simple straight rail shot, and in that section as Bob Jewett so ably reported he ran about 250 points, all in about 10 minutes or so. There's a lot we as three cushion players can take away from this DVD. At a simple level we can marvel at the shot making to control all the balls in various games. But there is more. We can improve our own games by spending a little time playing some of these games, and believe me straight rail on a fast three cushion table is an exercise in control of your control. Trying balkline on the same table could encourage the curse of strong drink, something I used to know about as a trial lawyer. The point is that these small games all have value. To me they teach not only fine cue control, but where to anticipate the path of all of the balls. They are no threat to the nine and 7 ballers of the world, but I've bet a couple of friends who were good road players that they could not run 7 straight points from the ideal straight rail position (essentially a triangle of balls with the closest being about 1/2" from the rail and the others slightly angling away from it) and low and behold that was the easiest ten dollars I've ever made. For all of us 3CB fans there is a whole new world of games which are a delight to try and which actually aid your three cushion game.

I hope you will get this DVD because it has a lot of "lost" knowledge in it. Many times I think we forget that it was those early US pioneers in billiards, Cochran, the Schafers, Hoppe, et al, who began and refined these games. I've read that in the 1880's a good run by Schafer at straight rail was five. Now who do you think began to come up with the various nurses and then the incredible runs into the hundreds of points? Later tournaments and even one-on-one matches were played into the thousands of points. In Bob Jewett's article he referred in the straight rail section to the "Serie Americaine." There must be a reason why the Belgian and other Europeans reference the American technique and shots of an otherwise forgotten time. Though you could not get any one to attend a world championship in straight rail today I was looking at a copy of my local newspaper that my grandparents kept on the day of my father's birth in 1917. Right there on the front page of the Sports section was an article about Willie Hoppe in a straight rail and balkline



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tournament. The USA dominated these small games until about the late 1930's. The fact that Hoppe shared front page space with boxers and race horses amazes me to this day.

I suspect I might have bored some of you to tears about the virtues of this DVD and these short games. If you take anything away from this article I hope it is the fact that Caudron did not become the player he is without the solid foundation he has in these small games. And who knows, you might find after watching this dvd you can make that short angle on 3 rails and not two.

Thanks for reading my diatribe and good luck to all. -Bob Roach

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