



# NORTHEAST MASS APA POOL LEAGUE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SPRING SESSION 2014 | WEEK 11 | MARCH 23, 2014



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**9-Ball Best of Best**  
Mar 29  
Pleasant Cafe  
Maynard, MA

**8-Ball Best of Best**  
Mar 30  
Tewksbury VFW

**Singles Qualifier Boards**  
Saturday, April 4  
and  
Saturday, April 19  
Pleasant Cafe  
Maynard, MA

**Spring Session AMI**  
May 31 - June 1

**Spring Division Finals**  
June 7 -8

**Spring Tri-Cups**  
June 21 -22

**Local Team  
Championship for Vegas**  
June 28 - 29

## THE BEST OF THE BEST TOURNAMENT IS BACK

The Best of the Best tournament has always been a prestigious event. I would like to maintain this going forward. Those who have earned the right to be invited, should be proud of their achievement. In order to qualify for the event you need to be among the best in your division.

The criteria used to select the players for this weekends event is as follows:

- 1) Must have played at least 8 matches
- 2) Must have had at least a 50% win Record
- 3) Must be in the top 25% of the field for 8-Ball and 40% for 9-Ball

INVITATIONAL ONLY

NO ENTRY FEE

\$300 IN CASH PRIZES

TROPIES FOR 1st, 2nd and TOP GAL

Invitations have been sent out with this weeks paperwork. We have also published a complete list of invites on website under the "Best of the Best" Menu Tab



## **9-Ball Best of the Best**

Saturday, 3/29/14, Doors open at 10am, Play Starts at 11am

Location: Pleasant Cafe, 36 main St, Maynard, MA



## **8-Ball Best of the Best**

Sunday, 3/30/14, Doors open at 10am, Play Starts at 11am

Location: Tewksbury VFW, 87 Vernon St, Tewksbury, MA, 01876

# DEFENSIVE SHOTS IN 8-BALL

Over the years, there have been many questions and misinterpretations concerning the Defensive Shots block on the Scoresheet. **Marking Defensive Shots both consistently and correctly ensures the effectiveness of The Equalizer® scoring and handicap system, so it's very important!** The failure to correctly mark Defensive Shots when scoring matches is an irregularity. Penalties may be imposed by Local Management, Handicap Advisory Committees, and/or the American Poolplayers Association (APA), on teams or players who are not conscientious of this issue.

Some players do not have a clear understanding of what constitutes a Defensive Shot. **A Defensive Shot (also called a Safety) is a shot where there is no INTENT to pocket a ball.** INTENT is the key word and certainly leaves room for judgment. This is why both teams have a scoresheet. It isn't necessary for both scoresheets to agree on the number of Defensive Shots. If your player did not intend to pocket a ball, mark a Defensive Shot. Note: Innings are marked for every turn, even if it's a Defensive Shot.

Here are some typical situations that are considered Defensive Shots:

- “ A player does not have what he feels is a makeable shot and decides to leave his opponent in a difficult situation rather than attempt a bad shot.
- “ A player shoots one of his object balls softly up near a corner to block his opponent, therefore not intending to make the ball.
- “ A player is well ahead in a game or match and decides to purposely miss a few shots. This is unethical and is a form of cheating, called sandbagging, which could disqualify a player or team. The way to prevent sandbagging is to mark these Defensive Shots. If every member did so, no one would bother to sandbag. It would be pointless.

Here are some examples that are NOT Defensive Shots:

- “ A beginner/weak player misses shots while trying to make them.
- “ A player is left with a virtually impossible shot but does the best he can to try to make it anyway.
- “ A player is left “hooked” (or “snookered”), hidden in such a manner that he is unable to shoot directly at one of his object balls. He “kicks” as best he can, but doesn't make contact with one of his balls. The scorekeeper must then decide the player's INTENT. Did he shoot hard enough to make the ball if he had made contact, (which could NOT be considered a Defensive Shot) or did he shoot just hard enough to get the ball to go to a rail to avoid giving up ball-in-hand (which IS a Defensive Shot)? This is a judgment call.

Whether or not the object ball goes in the pocket should not be the deciding factor. Whether or not the player INTENDED to pass his turn to the other player on purpose is the deciding factor. Missing on purpose can be ethical or unethical, but that is not the issue. **IF, IN THE SCOREKEEPER'S OPINION, A PLAYER DID NOT INTEND TO POCKET A BALL, MARK IT AS A DEFENSIVE SHOT.**



## CONTACT INFO:

**Office Phone - (978)710-6403**

Our official office hours are 1pm - 8pm but feel free to call anytime!

**PO BOX 271, Jewett City, CT 06351**

**Fax: 978-710-6502 | E-mail: [northeastmass@apaleagues.com](mailto:northeastmass@apaleagues.com)**

**Facebook: [facebook.com/northeastmassapa](https://www.facebook.com/northeastmassapa)**

**Web: [northeastmass.apaleagues.com](http://northeastmass.apaleagues.com)**