



WPA **MEN'S** 8-BALL WORLD **CHAMPIONSHIP**

EVENT GUIDE

2026 YALIN WPA MEN'S 8-BALL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
APRIL 2ND - APRIL 8TH 2026

Hyatt Regency St. Louis at The Arch
315 Chestnut Street, St. Louis, MO 63102,
United States of America





MAIN DETAILS

Location: Hyatt Regency St. Louis at The Arch, 315 Chestnut Street St. Louis, MO 63102, United States of America

[Find it on Google Maps™](#)

Nearest Airport: St Louis Lambert International Airport [STL] – 15 MILES (21 MINS) FROM VENUE – RIDESHARE (UBER/LYFT) AVAILABLE

Opening Ceremony: April 1st 2026 – 7:30PM Reception, 8PM Ceremony
Gateway Terrace room, followed by players meeting - Attendance is mandatory.

Start Date: April 2nd 2026

Finals & Closing: April 8th 2026

Event Entry Fees: \$500 USD paid to the WPA

Organized By: PREDATOR PRO BILLIARD SERIES (PBS)

Director of Predator Events: VINCENT ROCHEFORT

PBS Coordinators: DAVE WARINTON, JENNIFER QIU

Sanctioned By: WORLD POOL-BILLIARD ASSOCIATION (WPA)

Presented By: YALIN

Sponsored By: YALIN, PREDATOR, POISON, SEYBERTS, LITTLE MONSTER, KAMUI, BOX BILLIARDS, SIMONIS, ARAMITH, VENBILLIARDS, PRO BILLIARD TV

Tournament Director: VINCENT ROCHEFORT

Head Referee: ANGELA WILLIAMS

TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION

Participating Athletes are required to stay at the Venue Hotel – Hyatt Regency Hotel at The Arch
Booking Link here: <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/STLRS/G-PRDT>

🕒 **Players Practice is available from 3PM, Tuesday 31st March 2026**

All Athletes participating in the World Championship will need to have a valid WPA Athlete's License, must have carried out the ADEL International -Level Athletes Education Program (<https://adel.wada-ama.org/learn>), and must send a copy of the ADEL certificate to anti.doping@wpa.sport.

Athletes not complying with the above will have their payouts withheld until their license is activated. For more information or assistance please visit <https://wpapool.com/license/> or email events@wpapool.com.



TOURNAMENT DETAILS

Discipline: 8-Ball

Total Athletes: 96

Entry Fee: \$500 USD paid to the WPA.

Athletes will receive WPA World Ranking Points.

\$300,000 USD Prize Fund

See breakdown on <https://probilliardseries.com/>

<https://probilliardseries.com/event/2026-saint-louis/8-ball-world-championship/>

Prize Money Information:

- All prize money will be paid out by the WPA / Contact : events@wpapool.com
- All prize money shall be paid by bank transfer (overseas remittance) to the bank accounts of athletes within a reasonable time upon the end of the tournament. (Usually within 30 days).
- Any bank charge and/or foreign exchange conversion losses will be borne by the prize winner.
- All prize winners shall be responsible for the declaration and payment of applicable taxes.

OTHER TOURNAMENTS

- 2026 POISON ST LOUIS MIXED DOUBLES OPEN: April 3rd – April 7th [\[LINK\]](#)
- 2026 SEYBERTS ST LOUIS WOMEN'S OPEN: APRIL 3rd – APRIL 8th [\[LINK\]](#)
- 2026 BANK POOL MASTER SHOWDOWN: APRIL 1st – APRIL 2nd [\[LINK\]](#)

OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT EQUIPMENT

- Predator Apex 9ft Pro Tables
- Predator Aero Rack
- Predator Arcos II Reserve Balls
- Predator Bridges
- Predator Arcadia X Simonis Cloth

RULES AND REGULATIONS

For matters related to sport, including rules, regulations, referees, match control and results, penalties, and any inquiries and protests associated with the above, the final authority is the Head Referee of the Event. For matters related to the event, the final authority is the Tournament Director / Director of Predator Sports Vincent Rochefort, or in his absence, the lead PBS Coordinator on-site.

Except where indicated otherwise, Rules of Play and Regulations apply. In the case of discrepancy between Rules of Play, Regulations and this document, provisions of this document will apply. Where it is not possible to resolve the discrepancies, the final decision will be made by the sports administration of the event.

Links to the rules and relevant documents:

1. WPA Rules of Play, revision 2025: <https://wpapool.com/rules/>
2. WPA Regulations, revision 2025: <https://wpapool.com/rules/>
3. Shootout protocol: <https://probilliardseries.com/rules-shootout/>

Event Format, Seeding and Races:

96 players, 32 seeded, double elimination to last 32, then single elimination. Reigning world champion is seeded #1 in double elimination regardless of their current WPA ranking.

Single elimination: Winners side will retain their existing bracket positions. A random draw will be conducted for the Losers' Side.

Races: Double elimination: 1 set, race to 8. Single elimination: 1 set, race to 10.

Breaking: Winner's Break

For seeding, WPA rankings as of January 1st 2026, will be used as referenced.

BRACKETS & LIVE SCORING:

Cuescore via www.probilliardseries.com

REFEREEING

Area Referees in Rotation

TV Arena Tables: 1 Dedicated Referee & 1 Dedicated Scorekeeper at each table.

Other livestream tables: 1 Dedicated Referee

LAG

In the matches where the table referee is present, the referee will place the balls for the lag, and the athletes must lag from that position. Failure to follow this rule will result in the loss of lag.

RACKING

All racks will be racked by referees using triangles.

Athletes are not allowed to inspect or touch the rack. Inspection is defined as approaching the rack to evaluate it.

SCHEDULE

The athlete must be present in the venue 30 minutes before their match is scheduled. The match may be announced up to 30 minutes earlier than the scheduled start time and must start within 15 minutes after the announcement or at the scheduled time, whichever is later.

Practice on the match table can only take place after the match is announced and before the scheduled or latest permitted start time. Practice time must be shared fairly, the recommended approach is 1 rack per athlete.

If the athlete is more than 15 minutes late for the match (defined as 15 minutes after the scheduled time, or 15 minutes after the announcement, whichever is later), they will forfeit the match.

DOPING CONTROL

At any WPA sanctioned events, WADA authorities may conduct doping control without prior notice to athletes. Athletes must comply with chaperone requirements.

TIMEOUT

The duration of a timeout is 7 minutes. In matches with multiple sets, there is an automatic timeout after every set unless both players choose to continue play. In matches with only one set, each player can take one timeout at any point of time in the match between racks. No other timeouts are allowed.

For the purposes of this paragraph, shootout is a part of the deciding set. If an athlete has a medical condition that requires a longer or more frequent timeouts, they need to present a signed recent letter from their treating doctor to the Head Referee prior to the start of the tournament, and Head Referee will decide on granting an exception.

Whenever an exception is granted to one athlete, it is also granted to all their opponents in all respective matches.

GENERAL RULES

No smoking is permitted in the tournament venue except in designated smoking areas. Athletes must be at their best behaviour whilst in the tournament venue and must not say or do anything that may discredit the organizers, the sponsors, and/or bring disrepute to the sport.



DRESS CODE

The following dress code will apply. Tournament Management will make final calls on all interpretations and may require the athlete to adjust or change their outfit, including during a match, to bring it in compliance.

Pants

Full length dress pants. Women may wear skirt or dress which needs to cover the knees. Colors: neutral, solid colors – beige, brown, dark blue, dark green, gray. and black. Denim material is not allowed.

Shoes

Clean black closed toe shoes, including black sole. No contrasting manufacturer or other logos allowed. Sandals, flip-flops, crocks or similar are not allowed.

Shirt

Clean collared sleeve (long or short) dress or polo shirt of any color. The shirt must be tucked in. Women may wear an elegant top, a blouse or a dress which needs to cover the shoulders. A full zipped jacket is allowed if it does not have a hood. T-shirts are not allowed. Same logo rules apply to shirt, polo and jackets.

Men: Dress pants must reach socks, if worn, or footwear.

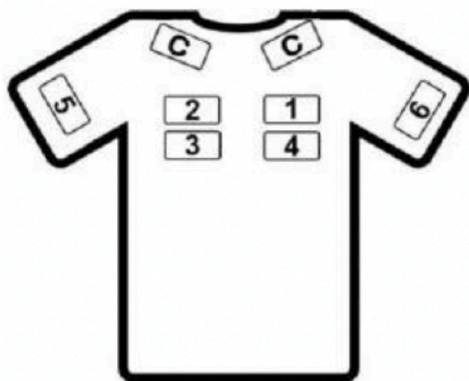
Women: if dress pants, skirt or dress do not reach socks, if worn, or footwear, it is recommended that base layer, such as nylons or leggings, be worn so that no body skin is visible. If this recommendation is not followed, Tournament Management may require adjustments so that no body skin is visible between the pants, dress or skirt and the footwear.

Prohibited Clothing

Under no circumstances will any of these clothing be accepted:

- Athletic wear of any kind, including but not limited to sweats, swimwear, jogging suits, uniforms, jerseys, or any type of pants with contrasting stripes not associated with formal wear.
- Shorts of any kind, regardless of apparent length. Pants must be normal in respect to the appropriate rise in relation to the length of garment and may not be excessively baggy or loose fitting.
- Overalls, coveralls, jeans, hats, headphones, or earpieces (unless medical need, proof required)

Logos & Patches



- Up to 6 commercial sponsors spots 6 sq/inch or 38.4 sq/cm
 - Up to 3 apparel manufacturer logo 3 sq/inch or 19.2 sq/cm
 - If a manufacturer logo is bigger than 3 sq/inch or 20 sq/cm, it will account for a commercial logo.
 - These logos should be placed in positions 1-6 and/or 'C' on the diagram.
 - Text on jerseys will be treated as a sponsor logo, unless it is the athlete's name, nickname, or country they represent.
- No Full back logos. Back can be - 1 in the top of the back and ONLY for apparel manufacturer logo player's name, country's name or flag.
 - In addition, the Pro Billiard Series may provide athletes with one additional patch for the event. This should be displayed as shown in position (1) on the image.
 - Logos may not exceed sixty-five (65) square centimeters. Logos should only be worn in the positions shown in the image above.
 - The organization reserves the authority to disallow any sponsor logos for any reason.

National Emblem

For World Championships, Continental Championships, and other events where athletes represent their nations, the nation that the athlete is representing must be indicated on the playing shirt.

Acceptable indications are as follows:

Country flag, three-letter IOC country code, full name of country in English, or full name of country in the official language of the Country.

If required, tournament administration will produce a compliant nation indication, which the athlete will be required to wear. No athlete will be permitted to compete without nation indication.

For Individual Neutral Athletes, the IOC country code is AIN (for Athlètes Individuel Neutres), and the flag is the AIN emblem assigned by IOC, as shown and are available at the following link:

https://probilliardseries.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/AIN_FLAG_2025.svg





HOTEL INFORMATION

Participants are required to stay at the venue hotel.

Required Hotel: **Hyatt Regency St. Louis at The Arch**
315 Chestnut street St. Louis,
MO 63102, United States of America

Discounted Booking link:

<https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/STLRS/G-PRDT>

*** All participants are required to stay at the Hyatt Regency Hotel**

*Attendees must reserve their rooms by the cut-off date of MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026 at 11:59 PM CST to ensure availability, with the group room rate of \$189.00 nightly.

Contact info: +1 314 655 1234

Website: <https://www.hyatt.com/hyatt-regency/en-US/stlrs-hyatt-regency-st-louis-at-the-arch>





BROADCAST INFORMATION

The events will be broadcast live on the following platforms:



'Pro Billiard TV', the official YouTube channel of the Pro Billiard Series. It features live matches, highlights, exclusive interviews, and extensive coverage of some of the biggest tournaments. We provide new content for free every week.

[Click here to open Website](#)



Billiard TV is the first and only 24/7 free television channel dedicated solely to billiards. It will feature full-length matches, trick shots, instruction, commentary, news and more. Billiard TV is currently available in 12 countries and to 30 million viewers.

[Click here to open Website](#)



[Click here to open Website](#)



Players participating in Pro Billiard Series Events can stream their own matches.



No streaming allowed for spectators

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The Organizer reserves the full right to reject, cancel and refund any applications. Any remittance charges required for the payment and refund of entry fees and prize monies will be borne completely by the applicant.

Prize winners are responsible for any tax declaration/payments and withholding taxes if applicable. Participants of the tournament understand and agreed that the final decision in the acceptance of entry to the tournament lies solely with the Tournament Authority, and will not hold Tournament Authority (including its directors, members, servants or agents) liable for any loss, damage, and/or other expenses incurred as a result of any rejections and cancellations of applications; changes, delays and/or postponement/cancellation of the tournament. In the event of cancellation of the tournament, all entry fees paid will be refunded without interest, less any bank/remittance charges.

Participants accept and confirm that they will comply and abide by the 2025 World Anti-Doping Code as may be revised from time to time by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).

The Athlete acknowledges and agrees that **Predator Group, Predator Pro Billiard Series, the WPA**, and their partners/sponsors may, at any time in the future, use images and video footage of them taken during any Predator Pro Billiard Series event for marketing and publicity purposes. Furthermore, the Athlete agrees and understands that **Predator Group is the sole owner of the video content captured on the TV table during the event**. Predator Group reserves the right to allow its partners and sponsors to use **clips or selected portions of this footage** for promotional and publicity purposes. This usage does **not** extend to full match or full match highlights distributions unless otherwise approved by Predator Group.