

Blue Ridge APA Local Bylaws
League Operator, Vicki Catalano / League Manager, Dave Catalano
Office Hours: M-W 12:00pm – 9:30pm and Thurs & Fri 12:00pm – 5:00pm
Email: blueridge@apaLeagues.com
(828) 329-8197

We welcome your team to the American Poolplayers Association! In order for us to enhance your enjoyment and the service of the League, we must enforce local bylaws, which are designed to allow a smooth operation of the League. Read these bylaws carefully and keep them with your team manual. Breaking these rules could cost you a playoff spot and a chance to advance to the Local or National Team Championships. These bylaws have been read and approved by the American Poolplayers Association. The local bylaws are a secondary source of information created in accordance with and in addition to the Official Team Manual.

Office hours are Monday through Wednesday noon to 9:30pm and Thursday through Friday noon to 5:00pm. If I am not available, please leave your name AND phone number and a short message for me to return your call as soon as possible.

Team fees are \$35 per week per team for all scheduled matches regardless of number of games played, including forfeits and division playoffs. Please make checks payable to Blue Ridge APA *or* Vicki Catalano. There will be a \$20 charge for any returned checks, plus loss of the bonus point (see below). APA player annual membership dues of \$20 are due the first night a player plays or by the fourth week of the session, whichever occurs first. Any team that falls two weeks behind in paying their team fees or membership dues will be sent a warning notice. If the team does not become current upon receipt of the notice, then they will be dropped from the League for non-payment.

The handling of weekly score sheets, team fees, membership applications Each team captain should collect all fees/dues and membership applications in addition to filling out the fees section of his/her team's score sheet completely. The score sheets and fees/dues should be placed in the team envelope (provided by the League Office) and delivered to the designated drop location for your division immediately following the match. Designated drop locations will be made known to all teams prior to the start of each session.

Start time Play will begin at 7:00pm, unless noted otherwise, even if only one player from the team is present. Play must be continuous; otherwise forfeits will be awarded to the team with players present.

Bonus Points One bonus point (15 in 9 Ball) will be awarded each week for teams that have their envelopes with completed paperwork and all relevant dues to the drop off location by 7:00pm on the day following the completed match. If your team owes any type of fees or dues, you will not receive your bonus points. There will be no exceptions. *Be careful that you do not lose your bonus points.*

Penalty Points Blue Ridge APA rarely takes away points that are earned by teams, but has the right to do so in certain situations, which shall include, but are not limited to, a score sheet not being submitted by team or a team or a player receiving a sportsmanship violation. A \$10 late fee may also be applied with penalty points, if your score sheet is perpetually turned in late.

Forfeits If a team fails to show for a match, the opposing team (providing 5 players are present and listed on the score sheet) will receive 3 points and 1 bonus point (60 points + 15 bonus points in 9 Ball) if all paper work is completed and fees and dues are up to date. Teams that do not show up for two weeks during a session will be considered dropped from the League and a new schedule will be issued. Dropped teams or any suspended player will forfeit all benefits trophies, awards and prize money. If a team drops out before the session is over, matches played will stand and the dues for the remainder of the session will be owed. If a team forfeits one or more matches, it is still responsible for the full amount of weekly dues. Teams that forfeit 3 or more matches in the last week of play will NOT be illegible for the wild card draw.

Hardship rule If a team is unable to field at least 5 players, they may be allowed to invoke the "hardship rule." This rule allows for teams to put up a player twice in a team match. The opposing team selects which player will be put up

twice, so long as the selected player will keep the team under the 23-rule. The rule cannot be invoked when the other team is going to forfeit. Players can only be put up a second time to play against an opponent – not to gain forfeit points for your team. If both teams wish to call on hardship to complete the team match they may do so, but both team captains must agree to it.

Each team is allowed to use the hardship rule only once per night and only three nights per session. The team must declare the need for invoking the rule before the team match begins. The “hardship rule” is for regular session play only. It cannot be used during Play-Offs or any Higher-Level Tournament.

Byes are worth 3 points (60 in 9 Ball). No score sheets need to be returned and no fees are due. Byes will not be awarded during the first two weeks of any session while new teams are still being added. Make-up matches will be required for the two weeks that were missed. If a team drops out creating a bye in the division, all matches played to that point will stand and all efforts will be made to fill the bye.

Rescheduled matches must be made up within 2 weeks of the original date scheduled, unless pre-approved by the League office. If not, 0 points will be awarded to each team. Teams are prohibited from having more than one make-up match to schedule at any given time. No make-up matches are to be scheduled for the last two weeks of regular session play. The League Office must be notified of any rescheduled matches. No exceptions.

Division Playoffs and LTC Division Playoffs will consist of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place teams and a Wild Card team to be determined by draw from the remaining teams in the division. The winner of the Division Playoffs will be considered the Division Champion and will qualify for the LTC. For divisions that have fewer than 5 teams, only the 1st and 2nd place teams will play in the playoff to determine which will be Division Champion and advance to LTC.

Once a team has qualified for the LTC, it must remain active for the remainder of the League year. A team that qualifies from the summer session must continue to play during the fall and spring sessions; a team that qualifies from the fall session must continue to play during the spring session. In addition, once a team qualifies, it must remain in the top 50% of its division’s standings until the LTC event or its participation will be subject to review.

The winning teams that advance from the LTC to the Nationals will be required to play in the next League year’s summer session. They will receive Travel Assistance. If a team elects not to go, Travel Assistance will be given to the teams and players that actually attend the National event.

Trophies will be given to the individual Division Champions in addition to a plaque for the host location.

Player ID Players must be able to show a valid picture ID to the League Operator or any team member at any time. Teams that play a player under a false name will receive 0 points for the night and will be at risk of suspension from the League. Their opponents will receive all points won plus 1 point for any match involving an illegal player. Ask for ID’s prior to play. If you choose to play a player twice in one night, play a non-APA member under a member’s name, or falsify the scoresheet in any way, then your team will be subject to all penalties assigned by the League Operator.

Cell Phones, headphones, etc No player may wear any form of headset, including cell phone earpieces, iPod headphones, blue tooth devices, or make or accept phone calls or text messages while taking his/her turn at the table.

Banned players/Sportsmanship If a player on your team has been banned from a host location, then the team must play without that banned player. The APA League has no right to insist a host location admit this player. Any player or team receiving more than two sportsmanship violations will be dropped from the League. Dropped teams or any suspended player will forfeit all benefits trophies and awards.

Disputes should be resolved by the two players, and not by the coaches or captains. If a dispute cannot be settled between the two players, then contact your Division Rep, whose contact name and number is listed at the top of your score sheet. We strongly urge that the players resolve disputes among themselves in the spirit of “Good Sportsmanship.” All disputes/protests not resolved prior to the end of a team match should be submitted in writing to the League Office within 48 hours of the match.

Equipment Only table equipment provided by the host locations will be used for League play. This includes, but not limited to, cue balls, racks, and billiard balls. Personal cues for regular play are allowed – specialty cues, such as jump cues, are not allowed. Breaking down your cue prior to the end of a game does NOT constitute a forfeit of that game.

Smoking is no permitted over the pool tables in any host location. Please respect the pool tables by not smoking while leaning over the table to take a shot and not setting drinks down on the table.

Falsification of score sheets Any team caught sandbagging or sending in falsified score sheets will be subject to penalties handed down by the League Operator, which may include being dropped from the League.

Members of the APA Only APA members are allowed to play in the League. Paid applications for each new member must be sent in the first night they play. We must receive this application the same week the new player plays. Unpaid players will receive zero (0) points. The team will also lose their bonus point for incorrect dues.

Inclement weather policy (snow, sleet, etc.) If a match is to be cancelled due to weather, the League Operator or other team captains must be informed prior to the scheduled match. The League Operator will resolve any disagreements. If the League Operator cancels League play due to inclement weather, the Division Reps will be notified, who will, in turn, notify the team captains, who will be responsible for informing their players.

Miscellaneous you are encouraged to enjoy the fare available at the host location – and make sure you tip your servers well. Please do not bring any food and beverage into the host location. Also, the cost of the table will be split evenly between both players, no matter who wins or loses and regardless of their handicap.

Good Luck and Good Shooting!