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FALL 2025

TAVERN PLAYERS[®]

MAGAZINE



Building Tomorrow's **CHAMPIONS** One Table at a Time

Avery Castel-Brandt
with Brittney Bryant



OLHAUSEN

What's **INSIDE**

Stories from Maine,
New Hampshire, Vermont
and Beyond



World Foosball Championship
New Orleans, LA



International Pool Tournament
Pg 50



World Cup of Darts
by TPM Dart Correspondent Gregg Tong



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What's INSIDE

40



20



32



TAVERNS, BARS, BREWERIES AND MORE

Follow the Laughter to Wolfe's Tavern

Where the beers are cold, the stories are bold 10

Charlie O's A Dive Bar with Grit & Good Cheer

Montpelier's legendary dive bar reopens 12

Salt Air & Suds

Raise a pint, swap lobster tales — Mosquito Harbor Brewing Co..... 14

Tripple Trouble

Lobstering the Eastern Harbor 16

Readers in the Wild

Get spotted. Get published..... 18

BILLIARDS

One Pocket One Passion

Learn from the man who wrote the book..... 20

"King of Pubs" Pool Series Schedule

Anyone can Play anytime (Open to All)..... 24

CIGARS

Hi Penny Here

The three top reasons I love the cigar industry 28

Four Seasons at Penny's

A cigar Lounge 30

Granite State Cigars

Meeting new friends, one cigar at a time 32

DARTS | FOOSBALL

Wide World of Darts Special Report

By Gregg Tong, Tavern Players Darts Correspondent 34

The Dart Geek Zone

The CAPE Report - Dart News From New England's Southeast Tip 36

The World Foosball Tour

Ready for Prime Time 40

TAVERN PLAYERS MAGAZINE

FALL 2025

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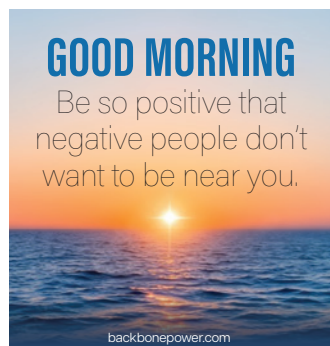
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Start Your Week on the Upside

POSITIVITY, POOL, AND BANANA BREAD



It was early on Monday morning, having my usual cup of mushroom coffee and taking in a little news while scrolling through my fb page. One of the first posts I saw was this post:



What a Great way to start off a morning,

a Monday morning at that.

Thank you,
Cheryl Lowe!

There is so much negativity in the world today that we have to look for the positives, but that positive is so close to us at times we don't even notice it. For me, it was my girlfriend of 17 years making a banana bread and surprising me with it. She was so proud of making that banana bread and I told her that I was so proud of her making it. You see, Cherri has the beginning stages of dementia, and the simplest task are no longer simple. So, we find some of life's simple pleasures, as some of the most positive, you really don't have to look that far.

That brings me to our front cover. Back at the end of April I got an email from Brian Rosselli, Vice President of Sales and Distribution for Olhausen Billiards asking if they could reserve the front cover for

the fall issue. At the time we were already working on the Summer issue together, so I let our lead designer know that the fall cover was taken. When I saw the picture, they wanted for the front cover in September, I was pleasantly elated. This initiative reinforced our commitment to collaborating with and nurturing the next generation, enabling young individuals to develop through play and mentorship from established role models. This cover photo shows the true positive of helping others. It is only fitting that their moto reads; "Building Tomorrows Champions One Table at A Time"

In Harvard, Massachusetts Roy Paster has been teaching and training the future players of pool for over 20 years. Our Fall /Winter Issue 2024 was dedicated to the to some of the top upcoming Pool, Foosball and Dart players, several of who you will continue to read about in this issue and issues to come. One of the up and coming players in Foosball and placed very high at several major tournaments, Louies Palowski who Graduated High School with Top Honors is now off to Serve his country in the Airforce. Like I said, there is a lot of Positive around and you don't have to look to far for it.

So, I say to my friends on the Left and on the Right, grab your pool stick, get out your darts, find that foosball table and bring your son or daughter out for a game or two. Forget about the crazy's, most of them have lost their way. Don't let them lead you to all that negativity. Just get out and play and grab a beer even if by yourself. Let the negative ones feaster in their own negativity. Or maybe you can Save one! Now there's a thought.

CHEERS!



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ON THE COVER

ON the Cover we have WPBA Player Brittany Bryant from Ontario, Canada and Avery Castel Brandt from East Moline, Illinois. Brittany is the #1 Ranked Canadian's Women Player and Avery (10 years old) aka "Lil Beast" Avery is the winner of several Junior Championships, Midwest Jr. 10 Ball 2024, Midwest Jr. 8 Ball 2025, VNEA Iowa State Jr. 9 Ball 2025 and Ill State Jr. 9 Ball 2025. In the picture on the cover Avery was just announced as one of the newest members of the Olhausen Sponsored Players. She is seen here playing in a youth clinic put on during the Women's World Eight Ball Championship held in Oneida, Wisconsin.

Also on the front cover we have some exciting stories and reports; Penny is Back, our cigar writer back on track in a big way after overcoming some big challenges, Tom Robinson our National Foosball writer with the "World Foosball Championships" and International Correspondent Gregg Tong with the "World Cup of Darts" coming to us from S. Korea. Along with that we have several great articles from Jim Macmillan with ventures around New England.



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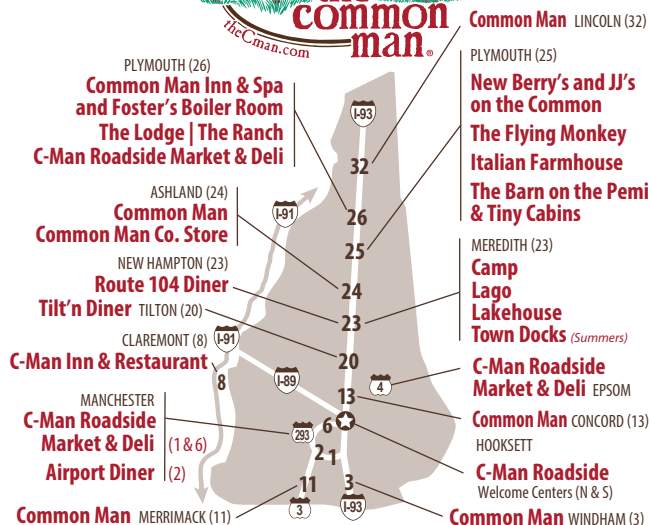


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TPMFALL25

The Toys for Tots logo, featuring the words "TOYS FOR TOTS" in a stylized, red, blocky font with white stars on the letters.

TOYS FOR TOTS

POOL TOURNAMENT

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FOLLOW THE LAUGHTER TO WOLFE'S TAVERN

By Jim MacMillan



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WWW.CARMENMACMILLANPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

WHERE THE BEERS ARE COLD,
THE STORIES ARE BOLD,
AND ONE GRIN-AWAY FROM
FEELING LIKE A REGULAR.

Nestled on the edge of Lake Winnepesaukee, Wolfeboro is a town that moves to its own leisurely rhythm—a place where handshakes turn into conversations and every new visitor is treated like an old friend. With a history stretching back to colonial days, Wolfeboro's Main Street stirs with the kind of charm that can only be built over generations.

At the heart of that lasting welcome, Wolfe's Tavern awaits inside the historic Wolfeboro Inn. The inn's original structure dates to 1812, when Nathaniel Rogers, a local farmer, built what was then a private home. Over the decades, the property changed hands and names: it was "The Copper Kettle" in the 1920s and the "Carr House" guesthouse in the 1930s. Its current legacy grew as postwar Wolfeboro's tourism blossomed. Through careful stewardship, the Wolfeboro Inn and its tavern have become a lakeside anchor, welcoming travelers, neighbors, and even the occasional presidential hopeful.

Step over the threshold into Wolfe's Tavern and you'll discover the spirit of a classic New England gastropub layered with generations of stories. Low ceilings and exposed beams hint at centuries of gatherings. Polished pewter mugs, each with a regular's name and number, hang above the bar in a whimsical tradition. The old stone hearth adds the kind of warmth that feels just right after a sunlit day by the lake or a brisk afternoon on winter trails.

Wolfe's has earned its reputation one plate at a time. The menu features regional favorites as well as a fresh take on comfort classics such as shepherd's pie, mac and cheese, or inventive burgers with local cheeses. Charcuterie boards and seafood rolls come perfectly paired with a rotating selection of New Hampshire brews and crowd-pleasing cocktails. Whether it's a family brunch or a solo supper at the bar, it's the balance of relaxed hospitality and flavorful local fare that leaves a lasting impression.

What sets Wolfe's apart is more than what's served or poured; it's the atmosphere. On weekends, the place hums with live music or friendly competition at the pool table, while holidays spark festive gatherings and town legends. Tucked-away corners offer respite for quiet conversation, and event nights turn the tavern



HOUSE MUGS HANG ON THE CEILING, EACH WITH A STORY TO TELL.

into Wolfeboro's unofficial social club. Every guest, whether visiting for the first time or the fiftieth, is quick to feel at home.

Connected to the inn, Wolfe's Tavern is truly the social heart of the property. Guests can slip downstairs for a late-night snack after a lakeside wedding or greet the day with a hearty breakfast before heading out for a cruise on the Mount Washington. The inn itself is woven tightly into Wolfeboro's history, its rooms filled with lake breezes, classic décor, and nods to a legacy of true New England hospitality.

So this season, and whenever Wolfeboro calls your name, let Wolfe's Tavern be your local outpost. Whether you're hoping to catch live tunes, raise a pewter mug, chalk your cue, or just indulge in a taste of lakeside tradition, there's a seat with your name on it. At Wolfe's, the best stories start at the bar and end with plans to come back for more.



Wolfe's Tavern at the Wolfeboro Inn

Check hours, menus, and events at: www.wolfeboroinn.com/wolfestavern. Open daily. Come curious and leave with new favorites. 

You can come here, buy me a drink and shake my hand

Warning: New York Girls & Local Talent - the Cowboys in this Establishment are lonesome

Charlie O's A Dive Bar with Grit & Good Cheer Return to Downtown Montpelier

By Jim MacMillan



Montpelier's legendary dive bar reopens with a fresh spirit, classic charm, and all the good times locals cherish.

In the midst of downtown Montpelier, Vermont, lies an iconic dive bar (self-proclaimed) known as Charlie O's, located at 70 Main Street. Established in 1976, Charlie O's quickly became a beloved staple in Montpelier's vibrant downtown scene. Its motto, "dive for nice people, cheap beers and stiff drinks," captures the spirit perfectly—a no-frills neighborhood bar where locals and visitors alike come to unwind and connect over a cold brew or a well-made cocktail.

The bar's atmosphere has always been its charm. From the dim lighting to the well-worn booths and walls lined with vintage beer signs and posters, Charlie O's offers an escape from the hustle of everyday life. The two pool tables, nestled in a corner, are more than just fixtures—they are arenas for local talent. Montpelier's pool aficionados frequent these tables to practice

PHOTOS USED FOR COLLAGE: CARMEN MACMILLAN PHOTOGRAPHY
WWW.CARMENMACMILLANPHOTOGRAPHY.COM



their shots and engage in friendly competition. Once a year, the bar comes alive during the annual pool tournaments, a much-anticipated event drawing participants from around the area and strengthening Charlie O's reputation as a hub for camaraderie and friendly rivalry.

Despite its long-standing place in the community, the past few years have proven challenging for Charlie O's. Fire and flood damage tested the resilience of the bar—and its owners—as did the unprecedented effects of the pandemic. These hurdles brought uncertainty about its future, with many local businesses in Montpelier facing similar trials. Floodwaters have swept through parts of the city multiple times, wreaking havoc on infrastructure and finances. Economic strain cast shadows over Main Street businesses, many grappling with mounting debts running into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. The capital city of Vermont, known for its picturesque charm, found itself navigating complex economic challenges that threatened to change the character of the small-town community.

Amid these adversities, Charlie O's has shown remarkable grit. The bar closed temporarily, undergoing repairs and renovations, but now proudly stands ready to welcome patrons again. There is

a palpable sense of relief and joy among locals who see Charlie O's not just as a bar, but as a symbol of Montpelier's enduring spirit and community resilience. For those who frequent the bar, Charlie O's is more than a place to drink—it is a gathering spot where stories are shared, friendships are forged, and the unique culture of Montpelier thrives.

One practical note for visitors: Charlie O's is a cash-only establishment. The old-school policy adds to its dive bar authenticity, prompting patrons to bring cash or make use of the ATM on site. This tradition also reflects the bar's commitment to simplicity and straightforward hospitality, free from the modern complexities of electronic payment systems.

Visiting Charlie O's provides a genuine glimpse into Montpelier's heart. It's the kind of place where everyone knows your name, where the regulars help keep the place lively and warm, and where the spirit of the city's past and present collide in a friendly, unpretentious atmosphere. Whether you're sharing stories over a stiff drink, enjoying the thrill of a pool game, or simply soaking in the bar's unique vibe, Charlie O's remains a beloved cornerstone of Montpelier's Main Street, ready for many more years to come. **TP**

By Doreen Harder



Our lobsterman friends toasting with my husband, Craig Harder on right, while patrons look on from the other side of the bar.

Salt Air & Suds

Raise a pint, swap lobster tales, and soak in Schoodic charm



4 Duck Pond Road,
Winter Harbor, ME 04693
(207) 963-9117



A Craft Brewery in Winter Harbor Maine. If you take a ride north to the quiet part of Acadia National Park and drive through the Schoodic Peninsula you will go right by this family-owned Brewery, which opened October 2024, located at 4 Duck Pond Road.

A local man seeing his dream come true. Not only do they have cold beer, good food and good service, you may get lucky and drum up an interesting conversation with some local lobsterman and learn a few things about lobstering. Just as we did over a few good beers. It is a way of life for them. Be sure if you are in that neck of the woods to stop by you won't be disappointed.

Before heading out, check the latest menu and hours at musquitoharborbrewingcompany.com, then follow along on Facebook and Instagram for happenings like live music, food specials, and seasonal releases—so the next round is timed just right. **TP**

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By Ron Boucher



Triple Trouble

“Lobstering the Eastern Harbor”

“I dedicate this article to the Cirone, Beals, & Merchant families and all the other families that have and continue to work their asses off over the last 100 years!”



Throwing the old bag of bait into a bucket and filling the tray with some lobsters.

If you're eating lobster at one of your favorite restaurants on the coast of Maine, or perhaps anywhere in the New England area, there's a good chance it comes from **Captain Tim Cirone**. Tim is the owner of the lobster fishing boat “**Triple Trouble**.” When he bought the boat, it was already named “Triple Trouble.” His Aunt Jenny Cirone, who grew up at the Nash Island Lighthouse, told him it was bad luck to change the name of a boat, so he kept the name. Tim is a third-generation lobsterman, part of a family deeply rooted in the lobstering business. Fishing out of Eastern Harbor in Addison, Maine, Tim is usually up early and heading out by 6:00 AM, along with his **First Mate, Ben Backman**.

Our Morning on the Water

Thanks to my good friend Ben—whom I've known for as long as I can remember, having met him through pool—and the generous hospitality of Captain Tim, we had the unique opportunity to join them on one of their early morning lobstering trips. Their warm welcome allowed us to experience firsthand what it's like to work the waters of Eastern Harbor and gain a deeper appreciation for the dedication and tradition that goes into every catch.

Here are a couple of Maine lobster measurements, the brass one has been turned into a bracelet which if you are lucky enough you might find one at a Maine Boutique Shop.

A Special thank you to Shaw's Supermarket of Gilford, NH for letting us display the proper way to use the Maine Lobstering tool. Legal limit is from eye socket to beginning of tail.



Ben measuring lobsters as they are pulled from the traps.

It was the middle of August, just a tad cool but a beautiful morning. As we headed out, Ben prepared bait for the lobster traps, ready to reload each trap once it was pulled up. We made our way into the harbor, and Captain Tim pulled up alongside one of his buoys, grabbed a gaff, pulled up the buoy, and led the rope onto a hauler. The hauler is a wheel run by a hydraulic mechanism that pulls the traps onto the boat. Let me assure you, it's rugged work, especially when there are 800 traps to pull. While they don't pull all the traps in one day, doing this repeatedly—pulling the trap to the side of the boat, sliding it down to Ben, pulling lobsters out for measurement, and putting fresh bait in the trap in under a minute—is impressive.

The measuring tool used by Maine lobstermen is unique, although there are variations in other states to determine which lobsters are keepers. Observing their sequence from buoy to buoy, from pulling the trap to dropping it back in, was fascinating. Each catch might offer something different, like nice Atlantic crabs known as Jonah Crabs or Rock Crabs. Additionally, not only must the smaller lobsters be thrown back, but if you catch a female with eggs attached, she must also be released, which only makes sense. There are many rules and regulations for these hardworking lobstermen, but up in places like Addison, Machias, and Jonesport, Maine, this tradition has lasted for well over 100 years—generation after generation.

How can I say you may have enjoyed one of Captain Tim's lobsters, given how many lobstermen work in this neck of the woods? Tim sells his lobsters right off the dock to a company called **"Looks Lobster Co."** Established in 1910, they were the first lobster company in the United States. Today, they sell lobsters, crabs, and other seafood all along the New England coast. If your restaurant is looking to buy one of Captain Tim's lobsters, call Looks Lobster Co. at (207) 497-2353—it just might be one of Captain Tim's! **TP**

Thank you also to Ben Backman, Mason Merchant and Jason Beals if it weren't for you guys attending some of the pool tournaments and driving 5 hours, I might have never had this Opportunity, Love you Guys!



First Mate Ben Backman putting fresh bait in traps while Capt. Tim pulls up 2nd trap.



Gaffing another line to pull in next set of traps.



Captain Tim attaching lobster line to the hauler.



As each trap is pulled up by the hydraulic hauler, they still need to be pulled onto the boat. (that shirt looks familiar)

Readers in the Wild

Show off where you play, read, and relax with Tavern Players!

We love seeing everyone out and about with an issue of Tavern Players — from your favorite pub stool to your backyard dartboard, or anywhere your next game night goes. Snap a photo of yourself (or your crew) reading the mag and let us know what you're playing, drinking, or why you dig the latest issue.

Your photo could land here in next month's issue — or show up on our socials for everyone to raise a glass to!

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Be part of the Tavern Players crew.

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- **Take a photo** with the latest Tavern Players magazine.
- **Add a quick comment:** where you are, what you're playing, or what you love in the mag.
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Tip: The best way to get spotted is to both tag us and use the hashtag. We can find your post, share it, and maybe even feature you in print! This also lets us interact and celebrate your crew, plus get in touch about any prizes or features.

Keep the stories coming.
We'll feature fresh reader snapshots every issue!



Brenda Gagne, Fort Pierce, FL



Jacqueline Montalvo
West Haven, CT



George, Glen Beverage Co.
Glen, NH



Ashley, The Pub
Williamstown, VT



Judy & Ella, Tamworth Distillery
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Logan, Anchor Restaurant
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Groton, VT



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Tavern - Barre, VT



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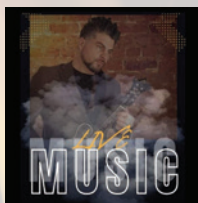
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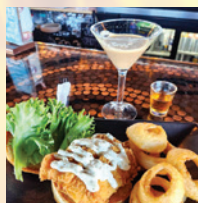
Kick back with great food, ice-cold cocktails,
and that warm, lakeside vibes.

Start your week right with Happy Hour
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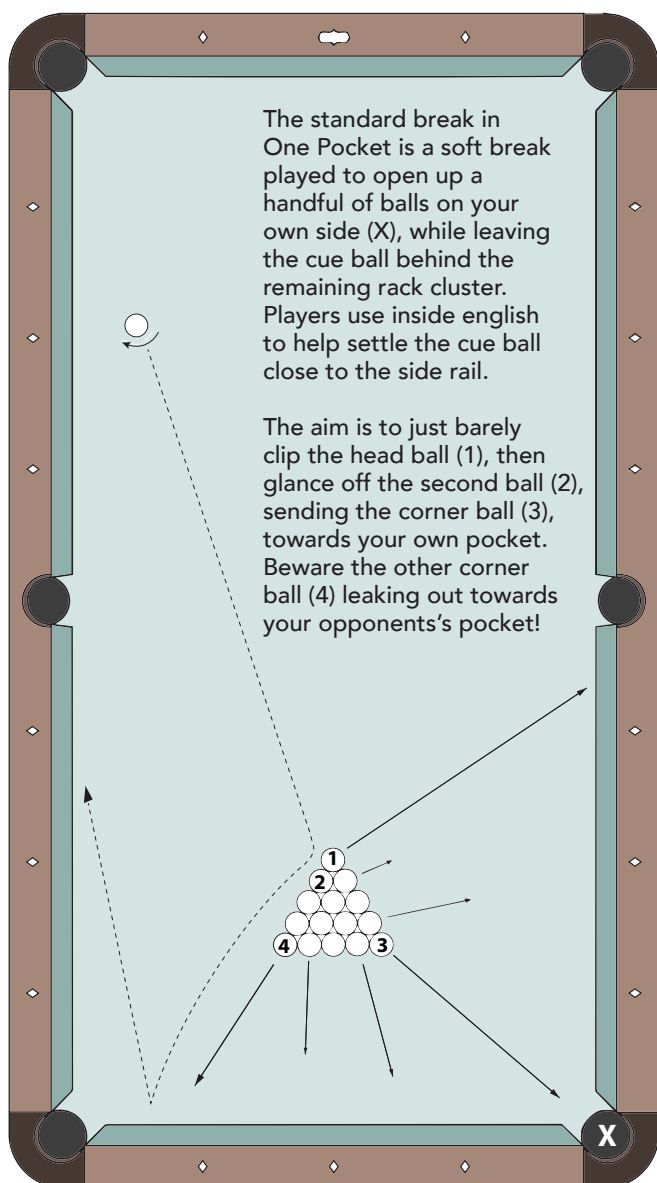
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ONE POCKET ONE PASSION

By Steve Booth



SO what is this pool game called One Pocket, we've been hearing about but maybe have not yet played? It's actually not a new game, but unless you have played a lot in bigger city poolrooms, or with players who in their time played in big city poolrooms, it's not surprising that you have not seen it much. Unlike 8-Ball, 9-Ball, 10-Ball, etc., there are no national One Pocket leagues, yet the game has in fact been around since at least the 1930's. Or perhaps you have met a convert to the game, and they keep asking you to play it, because if anything is true about One Pocket, it is that once players take a liking to the game, there is a tendency to obsess. "It's an Epidemic and there ain't no cure," was the slogan for a major One Pocket tournament back in the early 90's, and it is still true today!

It is also true that the history of One Pocket, like 9-Ball, tends to revolve around the gambling side of pool, especially in the early years when the game had not yet cracked in to the popular culture of the pool masses. But since the late 'Professor' Grady Mathews began to really focus on promoting One Pocket tournaments in about 1990, One Pocket tournaments have steadily grown and spread, from some of the largest fields in the world, to local pop ups in poolrooms all over the country. Actually not just in the USA, but also in the world, since One Pocket has been sharply growing in Europe in recent years as well, with a tournament last month in the Netherlands featuring 60 players, representing 15 different countries, so yes, it is an epidemic!

So how do you play One Pocket? The rules and object of the game are fairly basic actually, and here is a quick summary:

- The game is for two players, where each player gets one of the two corner pockets at the racking end of the table (hence "One Pocket").
- All 15 balls are randomly racked, with no order or significance to stripes, solids or different numbers, either in racking or shooting as the game progresses.
- The first player to legally score any 8 balls into their own pocket wins the game.
- Players lose a ball for every time they scratch or foul, meaning they have to spot one of their made balls on the foot spot. If they have none to spot then they "owe" one, to be later spotted later, after they score.

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- 3 Fouls in a row is loss of game.
- There is no penalty for pocketing a ball in one of the four neutral pockets; it just spots up at the end of the shooter's turn.
- There is no penalty for pocketing a ball in your opponent's pocket, except your opponent gets to keep it!

**"ONE POCKET IS A UNIQUELY CHALLENGING
GAME THAT EMBODIES THE CLASSIC
BALANCE OF OFFENSE VERSUS DEFENSE
AND RISK VERSUS REWARD."**

Of course there are more detailed rules that cover all of the contingencies that can come up in a game of One Pocket, and those can be found at www.onepocket.org/rules.

Okay, then why would you play One Pocket, when there all those other games are available? Well that is the beauty of One Pocket – it is a uniquely challenging game that embodies the classic balance of offense versus defense and risk versus reward -- exactly because the table is divided, just one scoring pocket for each player. You are going to have to up your banking game, up your safety play, up your cue ball control, and up your creativity, all in ways that positively are guaranteed to benefit every other pool game you play!

So if you are curious, and looking to get started, start asking around, because chances are there are other One Pocket players in your area, and if not already, then at least other players interested to learn, because it is hard to escape the flood of interest in the game of One Pocket these days. Also take the plunge; try a little query on YouTube, for example, and you can find yourself occupied for days on end enjoying free One Pocket matches and instructional videos. The best ones feature informative commentators, like One Pocket HOF'ers Scott Frost and Jeremy Jones, for example. Accu-Stats has been capturing One Pocket tournaments since the early 1990's and many of theirs are available on YouTube, with excellent commentary.

And when you start watching, you will quickly discover that today's stars of the game include some of the biggest names in pool, like Shane Van Boening, Fedor Gorst, Alex Pagulayan, and Joshua Filler. But there are also top One Pocket specialists, like Tony Chohan and Chip Compton, who might have a Fargo a little under the world's top players, but their extra creativity and experience with the game make them great players to watch and study. And be sure to check out onepocket.org, the website dedicated to the game of One Pocket, for a ton of resources and tips for improving your game. 

Steve Booth is the author of the book
"The Art of One Pocket", and was inducted into the
One Pocket Hall of Fame for meritorious service in 2025
Visit the website:
www.onepocket.org/news/the-art-of-one-pocket



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 12:00 noon

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 facebook.com/gustosbarre
 gustosbarvt.com
 802-476-7919
 1:00 pm

JJ Goodwin's
 Barnstead, NH
 Find Us On Facebook
 603-269-0059
 1:00 pm

MONDAYS
Grotto
 Plymouth, NH
 www.grotttoplymouth.com
 603-536-9688
 7:00 pm

Suncook
American Legion
 Pembroke, NH
 603-485-5628
 6:00 pm

WEDNESDAYS
Kettlehead Brewing
 Meredith, NH
 kettleheadbrewing.com
 603-677-7081
 7:00 pm

Summer Street Tavern
 Barre, VT
 Find Us On Facebook
 (802) 622-0055
 7:00 pm

Mo's Happy Place
 North Conway, NH
 moshappyplace.com
 (603) 307-1229
 7:00 pm

THURSDAYS

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 Gilford, NH
 facebook.com/winnibb24
 603-619-5117
 7:00 pm

FRIDAYS
Border Pub
 Derby, VT
 802-766-8000
 7:00pm

Whiskey Tavern
 Laconia, NH
 www.whiskeytaverns.com
 603-619-5081
 7:00 pm

SATURDAYS
Beanies Bar
 Loudon, NH
 Find Us On Facebook
 603-961-0372
 1:00 pm

Lafayette Club
 Nashua, NH
 603-889-9860
 lacnashua.com
 1:00 pm

Moose Lodge
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By Penny Robertson

AS I embark on a whole new way of life (widowhood) and a whole new creative outlet (Penny's Publick House, Intervale, NH), I couldn't decide how to actually restart this column. After a thousand false-starts so bad I could barely read them myself, I figured the beginning, as Maria says in the Sound of Music, "is a very good place to start."

My beloved husband of 18 months, Jay Robertson, passed away in October 2024. Many of you met Jay in our short time together. And if you met him, you loved him.

Together we planned Penny's Publick House in Intervale, NH—a living room where folks in Mount Washington Valley can get together with pals, make new friends, and hide from the world.

During our time together, Jay and his big, Texas-sized heart gave me new ways to see everything: with kindness, compassion, and understanding. That's what you'll get here, at Penny's Publick House, along with some good, old-fashioned laughter (and lots of dog-fur, because: Husky).

The three top reasons I love the cigar industry.

1. The home away from home.

When you're in a good shop, you should be welcomed upon entering and made to feel comfortable every step of the way: cigar selection, seating, drink ordering, conversation, and everything in-between.

The "vibe," as the kids are calling it these days, should make you comfortable and welcome from the first moments you enter. (Side note: My dogs are WELCOMING you, not yelling at you, when you come in!)

I met my late-husband Jay at my old shop. (Yes, the dogs always welcomed him in their special way too!) For years and years our friendship grew in small bits between cigar selections and transactions, occasionally a shared beverage with mutual friends.

Later on, when we went to different shops together around the country, the ones we spent time at were the most welcoming, the ones we felt at home in. And when he passed away, the folks we met in



Hi, Penny here.

those shops were some of the first to call, send messages, and continue to support me through the most terrible of times.

If you don't feel at ease in a cigar lounge or bar after a few minutes, maybe find a different place... Jay always said, "Life is too short to smoke lousy cigars"—and too short to smoke good cigars in lousy places.

2. The level playing field.

When you settle in at a cigar lounge, at the bar or a comfy seat, you're in a place way different from every other drinking establishment or lounge you've ever been in. There's a good chance you've just met someone who could be a long-time friend; there are no strangers here. You all have one thing in common: cigars. Rather than trying to find a subject to break the metaphorical ice, you can always rely on the standard, "What are you smoking?"

Looking around any lounge, you probably can't tell the doctor from the hourly worker, both enmeshed in a conversation together about Xena Warrior Princess. The best part? It doesn't matter. Two folks who never would have met otherwise could play cribbage weekly, a highlight of one's week.

At Jay's going-away party, I realized that every single person there, all 100+ of them, I knew in one way or another, through the cigar industry, from company reps, to folks from lounges we'd visited, to customers-turned-friends.

3. The collaborative support

Penny's Publick House is a member of the Cigar Association of New Hampshire, a collection of cigar shops and lounges working to influence legislation and improve business conditions for retail tobaccoists specializing in cigars and pipe tobacco. You know: like the 0% tax on premium, hand-rolled cigars.

To fund the legislative activities, we organize and run a golf tournament every summer, as well as sell a limited-edition cigar created for us by Dunbarton Tobacco & Trust (Fiddlehead, expected around March 2026). This coming year will include even more fun stuff, which I'll tell you about as plans are solidified.

Some of the key players include Castro's, The Diplomat, Grumpy's, The Original Cigar and Bar, Penny's Publick House (me!), Tobacco Haven, Twins, and Two Guys.

Here in northern New Hampshire, Penny's Publick House and The Original Cigar and Bar are planning a couple of events for 2026 to raise funds for local charities. We're pretty sure at least one golf tournament will be involved! More info coming soon(ish)! 

Follow PPH on social media or visit the website: pphnh.com

See the Penny's Publick House full article on page 30.

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By Jim MacMillan



FOUR SEASONS AT PENNY'S

From spring hikes to autumn leaf-peeping,
winter ski days to summer sunsets,
Penny's Public House welcomes adventurers
year-round with inventive cocktails, premium cigars,
and mountain views in every season.

PHOTOS: CARMEN MACMILLAN PHOTOGRAPHY - WWW.CARMENMACMILLANPHOTOGRAPHY.COM



If you are looking to take a fun ride this autumn to catch the vibrant fall colors, stumble upon a creative cocktail, or peruse an extravagant selection of cigar brands, Penny's Public House in Intervale, NH, is the perfect destination to add to your itinerary. Nestled just off Route 302 at 522 Rt 16A, this welcoming establishment offers an inviting retreat for anyone seeking a delightful combination of great drinks, quality cigars, and a cozy atmosphere surrounded by natural beauty.

Penny's Public House is open seven days a week, making it an accessible stop whether you're planning a weekend getaway or a weekday excursion. Upon arrival, you'll immediately notice the spacious seating area that caters both to indoor comfort and outdoor enjoyment, weather permitting. The outdoor seating, in particular, provides a serene setting where guests can savor the crisp autumn air while admiring the exquisite foliage

that the region is known for while partaking of one of their fine cigars.

One of Penny's standout features is its diverse and thoughtfully curated drink menu. Whether you prefer to indulge in a freshly tapped craft beer, a classic cocktail with a twist, or something entirely unique, you'll find plenty of options to excite your palate. Their bartenders know how to craft an exceptional drink with high-quality ingredients and eye-catching presentations, ensuring every visit offers a chance to discover a new favorite. The menu evolves seasonally, incorporating fresh flavors that reflect the changing seasons, making each visit a unique experience.

For those with a penchant for cigars, Penny's Public House elevates the experience with a well-managed, extensive humidor. The selection includes a variety of premium and rare cigar brands, catering to both seasoned aficionados



and those new to the world of cigars. The staff are knowledgeable and approachable, happy to share recommendations based on your preferences and offer guidance on pairings with your chosen drink. The combination of great cigars, exquisitely made cocktails, and a relaxed atmosphere allows guests to unwind and enjoy leisurely moments amid the beauty of the fall landscape.

The ambiance of Penny's Public House effortlessly balances rustic charm with modern comfort. The interior boasts tasteful décor that feels warm and inviting, with communal tables and cozy nooks perfect for groups or more intimate gatherings. Whether you're mingling with friends or enjoying a quiet evening to yourself, Penny's accommodates a variety of social settings with ease. It is also where you can plan an event party or reception of modest size for guests to enjoy the surroundings.

In addition to the regular menu, Penny's Public House frequently hosts special events and promotions, such as themed cocktail nights, cigar tastings, and live music performances, which add an extra layer of excitement to the experience. These events provide wonderful opportunities to engage with the local community and meet fellow enthusiasts who share your appreciation for fine drinks and cigars.

Located in the heart of the scenic Mt. Washington Valley area, Penny's Public House is ideally situated to complement a day of outdoor adventures such as hiking, leaf-peeping, or skiing in the winter months. It's a great place to relax and recharge after a day spent exploring the natural wonders of New Hampshire.

In summary, Penny's Public House in Intervale, NH, is a hidden gem that combines an exceptional drink menu, a premium cigar selection, and

a comfortable, inviting atmosphere. Whether you're a local or just passing through, this spot deserves to be part of your autumn adventures. Stop by to enjoy an innovative cocktail, sample a craft beer, or find a cigar that suits your taste—all while surrounded by the stunning backdrop of fall foliage. **TP**



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Granite State Cigars

A writer's perspective

By Ron Boucher

Meeting new friends, one cigar at a time

It was a Saturday at the beginning of September, late in the morning. I hadn't had a cigar in some time, and I felt like watching some college football. I knew there was a new cigar shop in town that I hadn't had a chance to visit, though I had really been wanting to. I let the lady of the house know I was heading out for a while, planning to have a cigar just down the street from us. I brought a little beverage with me, and I was off. No offense to my wonderful little lady, but there is just something about heading out for a cigar—whether by yourself or with a couple of buds—and just kicking back to relax.

Upon arriving, I was greeted at the door by one of the two owners, Tyler.

Tyler is the son of Fred Parks. Tyler and Fred had been looking for a few years to open a spot. After three years of intense searching throughout the Lakes Region, they finally landed a spot at 1325 Union Ave, in the Union Port Plaza.

Fred had been smoking cigars for a while, while Tyler was off to college, where he was smoking what he called 'backwoods' cigars. Once Dad found out about that, he said, "Son, it's about time you start smoking some real cigars." That was likely when the idea of opening a place began. After finding the location, they realized it would be a challenge to customize, since the previous tenant was a florist shop. But nothing deterred them—they hit the ground running.

I can tell you that once you walk in, the rest is up to the eye of the beholder. Pictures don't do justice to the true beauty of the décor, but I can say any cigar aficionado visiting Laconia, NH, would be proud to relax with a good cigar in this great establishment. They also have some tobacco pipes for sale. The lounge is strictly for cigars and tobacco pipes only—no cigarettes or vapes. If you're looking for something special, they likely have it, with about 80 boxes of cigars on hand. If they don't, just ask, as I did for that something special. I was impressed when Tyler explained that the cigar I wanted was now made by a tobacconist who had left his former company to start his own and was offering the same cigar under a different name, at a better price.

Back to my day: I got my cigar. I like the draw of a "V-Cut." I settled in on a beautiful leather couch right in front of one of the many big-screen TVs, and all



Tyler Parks



I needed next was a nice glass of bourbon on the rocks to go with it. If you bring in a bottle, they'll let you keep it in their special little cabinet. They also supply ice and some mixers if you need them. It was kick-back time—I was in heaven! After a while, a few other patrons came in, and we easily got to know each other. We talked about where we lived, people we know, and other cigar spots. It was small talk, but just what I was looking for on a relaxing afternoon. As a few more people came in, I decided to have another cigar, and again met more cigar enthusiasts.

There are no club fees or dues here, and there is talk of adding lockers for frequent flyers, along with the possibility of a full liquor license. Still, the focus remains on providing a good place for cigar enthusiasts to relax and enjoy a quality cigar. **TP**



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granitestatecigarshop.com



By Gregg Tong, Tavern Players Darts Correspondent



WIDE WORLD OF DARTS SPECIAL REPORT

WDF WORLD CUP 2025 - KOREA

Just under 25 miles from the western edge of the DMZ (the world's most heavily fortified and dangerous border), 47 peaceful nations filled the cavernous Seoul exhibition hall known as "Kintex 10", darts in hand. With the same buzz and vibe as any Olympic festival, The WDF World Cup of Darts had begun.



Kintex 10A Exhibition Hall and the Opening Ceremonies Parade of Nations

What makes it special?

Darts has been lobbying for inclusion with the world Olympic committee for decades, barely ever getting a seat at the table. Until those votes start coming in, the World Cup is more than enough to provide the unique emotional drama that can't be reproduced in any other way. The gathering of so many diverse cultures over a common game bonds each participant together as fiercely as they are attempting to defeat one another.

Above language barriers, beyond political affiliations, none of it matters at the world cup, it's just people competing against other people, the sheer enjoyment of sharpshooting darts trumping anything else that gets in the way.

2025 Team USA

Players compete throughout the year for special opportunities to represent the USA at WDF International competitions, with each year producing a similar mix of veterans and debutants.

Local Roots

New England's deep field has regularly produced national team players with this year boasting a 33% share of Team USA. Massachusetts residents Bruce Robbins and Jeremy Demers are joined by Maine's Aaja Jalbert and New Hampshire's Tim Welcome.





Men's Team

Jim Widmayer, Michael Neubert,
Robbie Phillips, Bruce Robbins

Women's Team

Paula Murphy, Aaja Jalbert,
Tracey Feiertag, Cali West

Youth Team

Girls: Alexis Achgill, Nalanie Tirrell
Boys: Tim Welcome, Jeremy Demers

Managers

Carrie Demers (Youth)
Gerad Honeyfield (Men)
Jackie Robbins (Women)



USA's Paula Murphy In The Women's Singles Finals



WDF World Cup 2025			
Point Rankings			
Open	2025	Womens	2025
Points Table	Competition	Points Table	Competition
1 Japan 80		1 Ireland 87	
2 Wales 73		2 Japan 71	
3 Australia 63		3 England 70	
4 Netherlands 62		4 Scotland 69	
5 Sweden 56		5 Philippines 67	
View All Rankings		View All Rankings	
46 Countries	11 Events	36 Countries	11 Events



Host Nation - Republic of Korea

So Who Won?

Amidst the camaraderie and brotherhood, it's easy to forget there's some serious competition going on. The WDF World Cup consists of multiple categories including a team competition, adult singles and pairs, and youth singles and pairs. Points from each are combined to give each country a chance to win the Open, Women's or Youth World Cups.

World Cup Champions

Open: Japan (First time Asian winner)
Women: Ireland (back to back champs)
Youth: Netherlands

Team USA Results

- Leading the way for Team USA was Florida's Paula Murphy, whose silver finish in the women's singles represented the country's only medal
- After four gutsy wins in a row, New England's Bruce Robbins lost a narrow Open Singles Quarterfinal match to Swedish ace Andreas Harryson
- Our friends to the north produced a Gold winner in the Open Youth Singles, with Canadian Peyton Hammond securing victory over Ireland's Aidan O'Hara



The Dart Geek Zone

The CAPE Report - Dart News From New England's Southeast Tip

By Darren Eldridge, The Dart Geek

Looooooooong past the fading shine of summertime, our New England oasis says goodbye to the sun and surf. But before we settle into the chill, let's look back at a season of "sneakin' in some daaaahs" and key moments around the cape.

GETTING TO THE "MEAT" OF THE MATTER

DGZ's mission to bring innovation and variety to the local darts scene was in full swing this past season.

DGZ Summer Series Sizzles - Players battled over 11 knuckle-breaking competitions for first and second place points adding up for a grand prize package of series sponsor gift certificates. In a season of intense competition, Mike Murphy, fresh off his CCDL AA Championship, overcame early favorites, including defending champion Dennis Cotto and Peter Field, to take the top title. Prize pack generously provided by sponsors Longfellows, Ruggies Breakfast, The Other Guys and Mack Darts.



Darren, Becky and Doyle



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Summer Series Champion Mike Murphy

Skill-Based "DCA" Event - Dipping our toes in the latest trends, DGZ is experimenting with average-based steel tip competitions using a player's DartConnect Average (DCA) to group them with similar skilled players (44.99 and under & 45+). The inaugural event drew major talent, including newcomer Bernie Lucia, veteran Mike 'Big Sexy' Maguire, 'Triple T' Tom Plante, and Jeremy 'Sex Kitten' Kirin.

Full results from any DGZ events can be found at tv.DartConnect.com.

***SPECIAL THANKS TO PETER "THE DONATOR" FIELD FOR HIS MASSIVE FUNDRAISING EFFORTS (OVER \$2000!) BENEFITING YOUTH DARTS.**

Just looking for the local shoots?

Mondays With Meat - No darter's visit to the hood is complete without dropping by Tim "Meat" Reynolds' Luck of the Draw tournament at Brewster's Pizza. Check in for the darts every Monday at 7pm.

Saturday Night Dart Challenge - DGZ's monthly event at DC Porcelli's Pizza and monthly at the Yarmouth Moose Lodge. Men's and Ladies Open 301 plus a luck of the draw. What's the twist? If a winner of the prior week's 301 gets knocked out, their vanquisher gets free entry into the draw! If they repeat as champion, they get the freebie for themselves.

Savor the Moment at Granite State Cigar Shop

Indulge in New Hampshire's unmatched premium cigar experience with a menu carefully curated for every palate, from rare double coronas to exclusive small-batch pipe tobaccos. Whether you're a longtime aficionado or just looking to relax with friends, our inviting lounge is your destination to socialize, unwind, and celebrate in style.

Now featuring humidified cigar lockers — secure, climate-controlled storage for your personal collection.

Browse iconic brands like Placencia, My Father, Foundation, Rocky Patel, Atabey, Ferio Tego, Padron, Perdomo and many more. Savor local blends, discover specialty pipe tobaccos, and step into a welcoming environment designed for good conversations and memorable gatherings.

Planning an event? Reserve our lounge for private parties, birthdays, bachelor parties, or retirement celebrations — make every moment special.

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Champs of Summer – CCDL Premier League Champs



DGZ On Da Road

The DGZ podcast travels through the summer series and spotlights the movers and shakers driving darts across the cape and beyond.

Here's the highlights of this summer's road show:

Guest #1: Our first guest was Mark Sullivan, a newly inducted CCDL board member & director of the hottest new Thursday LOD at DC Porcelli's Pizza & More. This South Yarmouth venue has five "fully kitted" boards alongside its famous cape cuisine, making it a hot spot among local shooters.

Guest #2: We welcomed Anna Morretti, the recently elected Office Manager for the ADO, the organization that provides the pathway for American players to represent our country. Anna also provided insight into the DPFL, a worldwide online darting group that recently held its fourth live event in Florida.

Guest #3: Finally, Dax Munna, aka Dr. Manhattan, returned to share his international coaching, blogging, and forthcoming book-writing experiences. Dax's current focus is the JDC (Junior Darts Corporation) and its accreditation courses, which are opening the door for dedicated



darts academies in the U.S. The Cape is actively working to join this effort, creating fun and safe spaces for youths to thrive in the sport.

For the full interviews and more, follow the Dart Geez Zone on Facebook and YouTube: @Dproductionsdarts.

Thank You
Dart Geek Out

TP



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Pabst
Blue Ribbon

By Tom Robinson



Sullivan Rue (left) Vs Hannah Bufkin with refs Randy Raposo and Maryam Ali Women's Singles Finals

THE WORLD FOOSBALL TOUR — READY FOR PRIMETIME

WE HAVE BEEN WAITING...



2025 World Championship with Saida Krueger singing the national anthem.

2025 World Championship Pit arena.

IT began in February of this year with the World Foosball Tour (WFT) 2025 Tour Kick-Off (TKO) in Kentucky.

Then came the World Foosball Tour Hall of Fame Classic in April. (Vegas was awesome!)

Even the ITSF World Cup exceeded expectations in Spain during June.

July brought with it the WFT 2025 Nationals and North American Cup in Nashville.

Each passing day in the year 2025 has moved us closer to a watershed event in the history of professional foosball.

The World Foosball Tour and the inaugural World Championship have been a central focus for the entire foosball community. Strategically located in the city of New Orleans, this event would be the culmination of dedication, sacrifice and good old-fashioned hard work.

Personally, I would not have missed this for anything. Given what Ryan and Iveta Moore achieved in less than a year, the 2025 World Championships were bound for legendary status. Advance room reservations at the Hyatt Regency were rumored to be at an all-time high.

Prior to the Labor Day weekend at the WFT World Championships, Ryan joined us on FoesTalk Live (episode 261) to bring us up to speed.

“Yeah, it’s gonna be awesome! We’re spending stupid money on branding and advertising. It’s going to be the ‘most sporty’ looking and presentable tournament in the history of foosball in America,” he said.

Moore added that the accommodations would be unprecedented. “We’re talking downtown New Orleans, at a four-star hotel (Hyatt Regency). It has six restaurants, a Starbucks, a steakhouse, and Bourbon Street one mile away; Caesar’s Palace one mile away, 30 restaurants within a three-block walking distance; a Dave & Buster’s attached to the building...it doesn’t get much better, as far as possibilities.”

Then, Ryan mentioned the potential winnings for the top players. “Then you’ve got a \$155,000 prize pool! We’re paying out to ninth through 12th in all events. We’re paying out to 24th place in Open Singles and Doubles. It hasn’t been like this in God knows how long. We’re ‘spreading the love,’ so to speak. We have \$3,000 for Pro Doubles and \$2,500 for Expert Doubles. Our Expert Doubles Champions will win the same amount of money that Open Doubles Champions won at TKO and Nationals.”

Winning Open Doubles at the World Championships meant an astounding \$20,000!

Ultimately, Ryan Moore wanted this to be the biggest, best event the sport has ever seen.

“For Worlds, we wanted to push for the biggest attendance possible. This is big for the growth of foosball, too. If we say we eventually get up to 1,000 or 1,500 player tournaments, this is really good for sponsorship and good for recognition. This is the wow factor!”

Moore added, “I want to compete. I want to compete with Leonhart over there, with the World Cup—I want our tournament to be the biggest event of the year. The question I want to ask: Where does it go from here?”

IT’S GAME TIME!

With the excitement of a Christmas morning, the tournament arrived. With my podcast gear in tow, I walked into the venue on the second day, Thursday, to a jaw-dropping scene. Entering the Hyatt was like walking into a palace. Elegant and sleek, the hotel was more like an indoor city. My room was comfortable and clean.

When I stepped into the 30,000-square-foot tournament space, I was blown away. One hundred foosball tables spread around the room, featuring a pit table area that had artificial grass turf painted to look like the surface of a foosball table. Flanked on three sides of the arena were comfortable seats for several hundred spectators.



Ryan Moore at the 2025 World Championship



Tommy Yore Vs Tony Spredeman Open Singles

Table number 100 had its own mini arena with ample seating. During the tournament, several top pros gave clinics on table 100. Notably, Tony Spredeman and Brandon Moreland dished out generous helpings of foosball lessons.

Just like Ryan Moore had mentioned, the World Foosball Tour branding was everywhere! Standing in the center of the room, no matter which direction you faced, the WFT logo was tastefully displayed. This included two giant inflatable foosball players, that flanked the broadcast area.

Modern Foos was in the house, too, with Adam Gilson and Clay Tumey manning the play-by-play duties. Every camera angle was covered as they streamed five tables in the pit area. Kudos to Modern Foos as they continue to elevate foosball media coverage.

I especially liked their cinematic-quality PA system, which covered every part of the tournament room and could be custom-tailored during the finals in the pit area. Canadian player and promoter Mathieu Bigz added his booming voice to



Tom Robinson in the Foosball Radio Booth.

the mix, hosting the open events as the ring side announcer. Excellent travail! (That's French for "great job!")

Players got to choose their own music to be played during their individual introductions. This combination provided the added drama of a major sporting event.

The WFT media crew was outfitted with gimble-style camera rigs. During the finals, several camera operators moved in and out of the table area. Images of the players in their most intense moments were sent to huge 85-inch television monitors mounted strategically for a full viewing experience.

Even the setup for our Foosball Radio booth featured a consistent style with the rest of the layout. Many thanks to Iveta Moore for her amazing design work!

During the WFT events, pro and master players were expected to adhere to the tournament dress code. Matching athletic



Ryan Moore.

jerseys was the rule, especially if you were in a pit table match being streamed. This is a necessary step to make the sport of foosball more presentable and media-friendly.

Finding food and drink was a breeze with a concession stand for players and a full bar brought in later in the evening. Ryan made sure there was a specific party space for players once the daily competition ended. Glow in the dark foosball, music and other party favors graced the room and stayed open all night long.

FoosGear sold all varieties of accessories, including wraps, balls, accessories and apparel specially branded by the WFT.

The 2025 WFT World Foosball Championship also featured the first major sponsor for the event—Philoro—an international company that buys and sells gold and precious metals. With their financial backing of foosball, who knows how big this sport can get.

WHAT DID THE PLAYERS THINK?

Throughout the tournament, I had the good fortune to chat with players about their experiences. Once such player—Rick Robichaud of New Hampshire—shared the Foosball Radio mics with me.

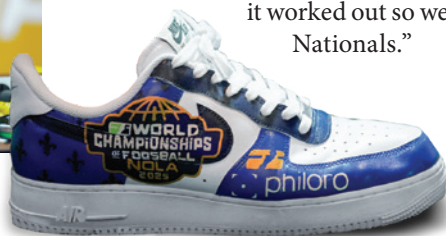
I asked Rick for his impressions of the WFT World Championship.

TR: "When was the last time you played at the World Championship?"

RR: "I've played for the last four years."

TR: "What do you think of this tournament?"

RR: "I think Ryan has been doing an unbelievable job! Everything in the setup went really good, I mean people are happy and he's got the biggest crowd ever. He's got over 700 people and things are running smoothly, a little bit delayed on the double elimination championship format. Ryan said he was probably going to go back to the flight format next year because it worked out so well at the Nationals."



TR: "Seems like this has been going in incremental steps for this year and we're seeing the next level at this tournament."

RR: "Oh yeah, it's definitely gone up, I think a couple of levels from what it used to be a couple of years ago. I worked for Mary (Moore) for three years, helping to set up. Ryan's just doing an unbelievable job. He's putting his heart and soul into it; you can tell just by how everything looks."

(My sincere thanks to Rick for sitting down to talk, but also for being my partner for several events during the World Championships. We even took 12th place in the Rookie Doubles event.)

Throughout the major events—including the open and pro competitions—championship format was used, while standard double-elimination was used for the expert, amateur, rookie, and beginner divisions.

Many would admit just being able to witness the 2025 World Championships was more than sufficient. Forever etched in the foosball lore, we will be telling the tale of how "I was there!"

But imagine being one of the top winners of the Worlds...

Here's your World Champions Like any top-notch competition, we should always include the specialty events.

 The World Champion winner for Goalie Wars was Carlos Cespedes Martinez, who defeated Cody Byre in the finals.

 Tony Spredeman dominated Forward Shootout as he walked past the competition, including Jake Barnett for the title match.

 Spredeman was back at it with Two-Ball Rollerball. He and his partner, Brandon Munoz, took aim against Brandon Moreland and Blake Robertson for the World title.

 During Handicap Doubles, 131 teams battled in this single-elimination event. Cam Burrows and Diego Zuniga landed the World title over Wesley Parrett and Lee Williams.

 The Battle of the World Champions did not disappoint. Saida Krueger defeated



**GAME ON.
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tough competitors like Sullivan Rue to make it to the finals. Krueger beat Michael Swagger for the title in the finals.

■ In Junior Boys Singles, 17 players reached for greatness. Once it was all over, Saturday Yoder stood victorious over Jayden Lueras in the finals.

■ 11 teams entered Junior Boys Doubles and Jayden Lueras did get his just desserts when he teamed with Brady Weyrowske for the win over Evan and Aaron Chavez.

■ Brady and Jayden swept in to take out 14 teams in the Junior Classic Doubles, defeating Saturday and Colston Yoder in the finals.

■ With the Junior Girls Singles event, Maya Balcos beat Saida Krueger for the World title.

■ Moving on to Junior Girls Doubles, Saida Krueger landed the title with her partner Ahna Domingue after defeating Maya Balcos and Arden Rue.

■ Junior Mixed featured 14 teams and it was a real battle. The World title was ultimately awarded to Maya Balcos and Colston Yoder as they dashed the hopes of Saida Krueger and Asa Cody in the finals.

■ Olsen Tapper was the World champ in the U13 Junior Singles and his brother, Owen, grabbed the World title in U16 Singles.

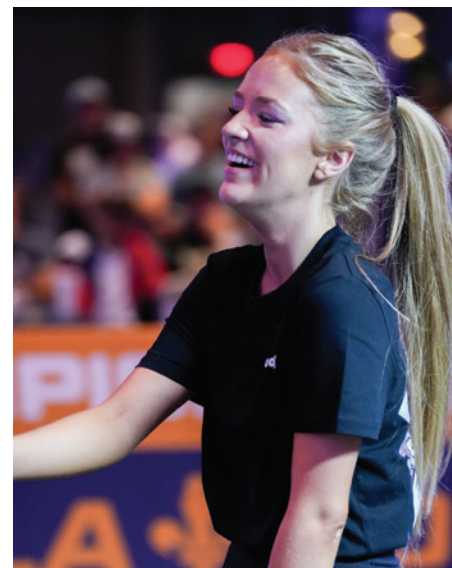
■ During the Senior 63+ Classic Doubles competition, the husband/wife team of Steve and Gena Murray were crowned the World champs after they defeated Greg Mendel and Bruce Nardoci in the finals.

■ With the Senior 63+ Singles event, Rick Dell was victorious over Greg Mendel. Meanwhile, in the Senior 63+ Doubles event, Greg Mendel and Bruce Nardoci lost in the finals again to the World champs Robert Janac and John D. Smith.

■ Todd Lofredo and his partner Tracy McMillin dominated the Senior 50+ Classic Doubles event. They landed the World title after defeating Scott Ramsey and Scott Sweeting in the finals.



Saida Krueger at World Championship in NOLA



Sullivan Rue Women's Singles World Champ



Mathieu Bigz Ring Side Announcer 2025 World Championships and Sullivan Rue

■ Tracy McMillin did it again with his partner Randy Price in the Senior 50+ Doubles, crushing the hopes of Robert Janac and John D. Smith in the finals.

■ The World title went to James "Sparky" Castillo in the Senior 50+ Singles event as he beat Carlos Cespedes Martinez.

■ The competition was intense during the Senior Mixed event. Once it was all over, Tracy McMillin won his third World title with his partner Lotus Chesbrogh. They bettered the team of Warren Vanlandingham and Stephanie Justice.

■ The Women's Senior 50+ Singles found Traci Brubaker with the World title as she defeated Rhonda Melancon.

■ With the Women's 50+ Senior Classic Doubles, Gena Murray and Stephanie Justice were a force to be reckoned with as they took the World title from Lotus Chesbrogh and Kelly Wyant.

■ Cindy Head and Amy Ross won the Women's Senior 50+ Doubles over the team of Traci Brubaker and Shelly Langley.

■ Women's Classic Doubles Champions Linda Ly and Jessica Sanftleben battled with Sullivan Rue and Hannah Smith-Bufkin to take the title.

■ 70 players lined up for the Beginner Singles event and Aaron Chavez was crowned the World Champion after winning the final match against Phillip Cammarata.

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Hannah Bufkin and Tommy Yore World Champions of Open Mixed

Beginner Doubles was a shooting gallery with 25 teams entered. Shot-for-shot, block-for-block, Jordan Ybarra and Max Goodhart took the title from Owen and Ben Tapper.

Michael Swagger was the Rookie Singles World champ as he trounced Jeff Tiglon in the finals.

Rookie Doubles featured 97 teams. It all ended with Ryan Roussel and Adarsh Konchady crowned the World champions after pushing past Sheila Sousa and Rodrigo Zamudio in the last match.

214 players populated the Amateur Singles event. Once the battle was over, Jes Herman outlasted the field, including Brady Weyrowske, to take the World title.

Lee and Ken Williams pulled out the World title in the Amateur Doubles event. This was an amazing feat considering the field of 144 teams. Danny Truong and Jimmy Nguyen came in second.

Expert Singles included 208 players and the “best of the best” Jimmy Nguyen added to his title list. He crushed the hopes of Khalid Abdelfattah in the final match.

Phillip Kucera and Rudolf Brenner sat on top of 157 Expert Doubles teams once they defeated Mike Splaine and Luis Fitch for the title.

Expert Mixed concluded with Carlos Amaya and Maya Balcos taking the title over Saida Krueger and Ak Du Lar.



Sullivan Rue and Isabelle Stelly Women's Open Doubles



Sullivan Rue and Isabelle Stelly Women's Open Doubles winners

145 hopeful competitors battled for the top Pro Singles title. Johel Munoz maintained the family reputation as he crushed Cory Taylor in the finals.

Pro Doubles commenced with 135 teams. This was a knock-down, drag-out World Championship competition. Ultimately, Jason Wicks and Thomas Rios were victorious as they put the team of Tony Gashi and Duaine Menezes in second place.

THEN THE OPEN

All eyes were on the pit table area of the WFT World Championship for the Open events.

The Women's Open Singles were charged with electricity! Sullivan Rue faced off with her longtime partner Hannah

Smith Bufkin for the finals. This is one of the tournament's most memorable moments as they battled through five games. Sullivan finally took the title with a flurry of blocks and shots. Foosball doesn't get any better than that!

That is, unless you're looking at the Women's Open Doubles final. Sullivan Rue and Isabelle Stelly stood together to face Linda Ly and Hannah Smith-Bufkin. The audience was excited, and each team brought its best game. Rue and Stelly finally took the title of the 2025 Women's Doubles champions, but only after a bruising battle.

The Open events burned into the foosball collective memory.

Open Mixed played out with 70 teams aiming for the title. The finals featured the two undefeated teams—Tommy Yore and Hannah Smith-Bufkin versus Brandon



WFT World Champions for Open Doubles Kane Gabriel and Mario Ariganello 1st Paul Smith and Terry Rue 2nd Tony Spredeman and Rudolf Brenner 3rd.



2025 World Championship photos/Tommy Yore 1st Tony Spredeman 2nd Mario Ariganello 3rd Open Singles



2025 World Championship photos/WFT World Champions for Women's Open Singles Sullivan Rue 1st Hannah Bufkin 2nd Linda Ly 3rd.

Munoz and Isabelle Stelly. Everyone in the stands or watching the stream was treated to an incredible display of strategy and speed. Only one team could take the title and that went to the unstoppable combo of Tommy and Hannah.

Next, there was a hint of déjà vu for the Open Singles matchup. Just a few years ago at the Texas State Championship, these same two players battled. Tony Spredeman was back in the finals at the World Championships with his prodigy and

nemesis Tommy Yore. Much like the Texas event, this was a hard-fought battle. Maybe it's his stamina and youth, but Yore once again defeated Spredeman. What a match!

Thinking back on the Open Doubles event, this was one of the biggest series of upsets we have ever seen. It seemed inevitable that Tommy Yore and Brandon Munoz would at least make it to the finals, not to mention Spredeman. This was not to be. Mario Ariganello and his partner, Kane Gabriel, put Yore and Munoz in the losers' bracket. Then, they marched into the finals to face Paul Smith and Terry Rue. With the Champion format, all bets are off. Nonetheless, the fans were treated to an action-packed final match. Rue and Smith were down two games to none, when they hit the gas and took the next two games. With the fifth and final game, Ariganello and Gabriel closed the gate on their opponents to earn the 2025 World Open Doubles Championship title! Here's to a well-fought match and hearty congratulations to Kane and Mario!

Inevitably, the World Foosball Tour and its first World Championship ended. When we reflect on these five days, it's true that there has not been a bigger, more extraordinary foosball event in recent memory.

When you're in New Orleans, you do need to get out of the tournament room and explore. Thanks to good friend Matt McCrorey of the 716 Foosball group, I was able to enjoy an amazing meal at NOLA. Tony Tocco, owner of the restaurant Atchafalaya, is also a foosball player. Our whole group was treated like kings and queens as we dined on top-notch New Orleans cuisine. The evening continued out on Bourbon Street, as our group (including some crazy Canadians) ventured to several venues. My personal favorite was Fritzel's, the oldest jazz club in America.

Hard work and dedication. Following through on your commitments. Experimenting. Listening to your audience. Exceeding expectations.

These standards were met and exceeded at the World Foosball Tour 2025 World Championships.

Congratulations to Ryan and Iveta Moore, the entire staff and the players. Your combined efforts made for one of foosball's pivotal moments. We can't wait to see what is next... 

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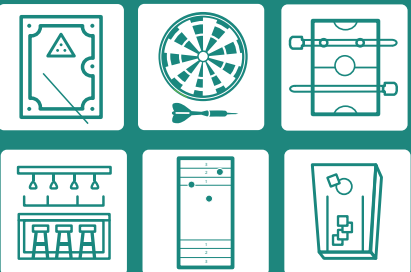
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Hobbs Brewing Co.	hobbsbeer.com	29
Hobbs Brewing Co. - Foosball	hobbsbeer.com	45
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Jump-Q	www.martycareyjumpqs.com	C2
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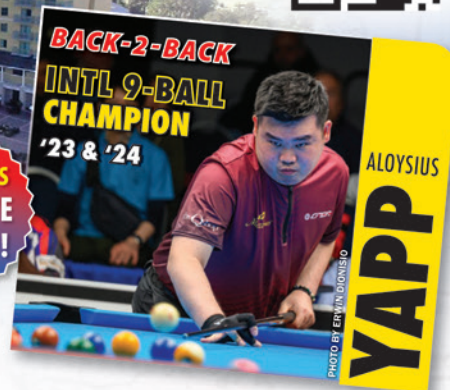
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1

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\$20,000 added

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150 PLAYERS — \$200 ENTRY FEE — SINGLE ELIMINATION — \$100 BUY-BACK — SEMIS & FINALS ON WED, 11/19 AT 12,3, & 7:30

9

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FINALS ON SATURDAY, 11/22 AT 10AM

9

INTL 9-BALL OPEN

\$75,000 added

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19 THRU SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

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JR

JUNIOR TOURNAMENT

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