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TAVERN PLAYERS[®]

MAGAZINE



VALLENHOPKINS PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

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SUPER BILLIARDS EXPO

GREATER PHILADELPHIA
EXPO CENTER
APRIL 9-12, 2026

FLOORPLANS
& EXHIBITOR LISTINGS
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pg. 10
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What's
INSIDE
Foosball, Darts,
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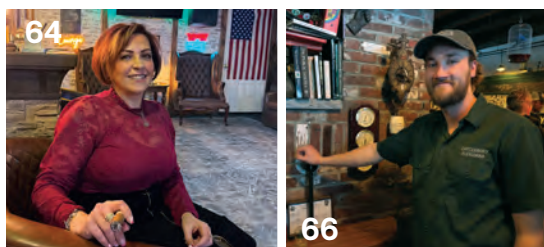
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TAVERN PLAYERS MAGAZINE

SPRING 2026

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Knowing All the Tools in the Shed

A note from the editor about doing what you love, asking for help

The other day I was talking to a friend, and he said he was out at a pub one night and he saw several people looking at one of the Tavern Players Magazines. He knew them and ended up having a conversation with them. They asked him, looking at my picture on the editorial page, "This really isn't the guy who does this whole magazine, is it?" My friend stuck up for me and said, "Yeah, he's the owner, publisher, editor, what have ya."

That brings me to another incident. A couple of years back I had posted the front cover of one of the magazines on Facebook. I got a message about a word inside the magazine that I spelled wrong or may have used in the wrong interpretation. I could tell she was trying to be demeaning towards me. I pleasantly thanked her and said, "Thank you for reading the magazine." Well, I definitely got my answer when she replied, "I wasn't reading your magazine." I had to chuckle. OK, I just left it at that.

Someone asked me the other day what I thought about taking a class for real estate. They said they were worried about taking the class and failing. I told them, "So you take the test a couple of times." The guy was a really nice guy, knew a lot of people and

had a good disposition. I said to him, "Something I learned a long time ago. It just took me some time to apply it. You don't have to be the **sharpest tool in the shed**; just make sure you know all the tools in the shed."

My point is that you can be 7 or 70. If you have a dream or a passion for something, don't be afraid to start it. Then, as you work your way through it, find the sharp tools in the shed that can help you reach your goals. Together, you can achieve what you love to do. I am so fortunate to have great writers, great graphic designers, a great distribution team, a great assistant editor, great advertisers and a great printing company; they are the "sharp tools in the shed."

Before ending this editorial, many of you know I am a hockey family guy. I just want to say, "Big shout out to the USA Paralympic Sled Hockey Team, USA Women's Hockey Team and USA Men's Hockey Team. I am so proud to have these young athletes representing us all. Thank you!"

God Bless our troops for making it all possible!
Be American, buy American!

Alright, I'm done. I'm going to have a beer!



Cheers,
Ron Boucher



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On The Cover

We are honored to have once again been selected by the "Super Billiards Expo" as the Official Magazine. As you can see from our lead graphic Designer Erica, she knows how to add some color and life to a cover. For those of you that will be there, we are looking forward to seeing you and if you are one of our GREAT advertisers, we are excited to promote and highlight you. We are also excited to see all of the players coming for the "TAP's Rally in the Valley". So please come by our Booth and say hello and maybe even get an Official Magazine T-Shirt while you're there.

Although not mentioned on the cover, inside you'll find engaging commentaries such as "What Makes Pro Billiard Champion", featuring insights from Manager Steve Rau and WPBA Pros Kelly



Fischer and Wei Tzu Chien. Also we have two of the best writers in the country for their sports, Tom Robinson's **Kick off Foosball Tour** from Maryland and Gregg Tong's "The Four Noble Truths of Darts" guaranteed to give you the best scenario of why the TKO was such a great turnout under the circumstances and the Truth about how you will get addicted to Darts. Ladies, we have a Special Guest writer for you, Dina Park-Matsas bringing you **A Women's Cigar Experience** with new adventures with women in the cigar industry.

And finally, not a by-line, but a picture of a **Teremana Tequila** bottle and why it stands out from many of the others along with some of the truths about tequila, written by a young and handsome man who loves bartending, by taking a deep dive into its origins.



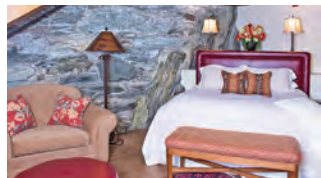
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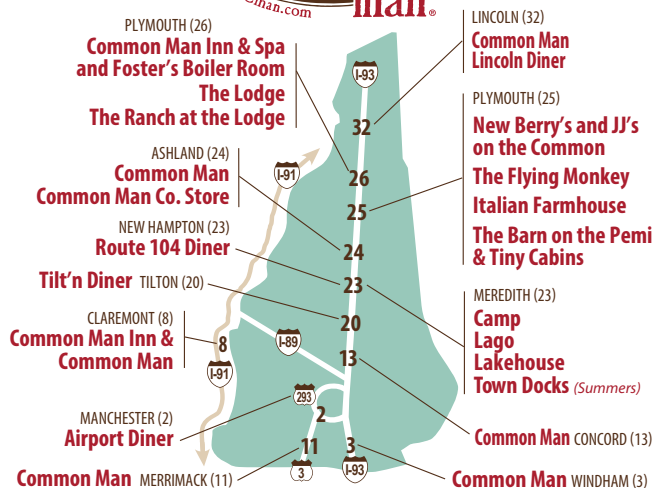


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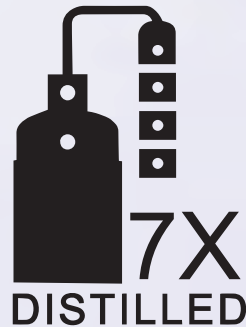
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TPMSP26

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Spirits Tell Many Stories

Noah Dickey

PHOTO: ADOBESTOCK BY NORADDA

With every sip, we enjoy a record of place, process, patience, and passion. In the soils of Jalisco a small Mexican town where tequila starts its journey from ground to glass. In 1974, tequila was officially granted its Denomination of Origin, protecting both its name and the regions in which it can be produced. More than that, the Denomination of Origin reinforced tequila's identity as a product of place, rather than a category.

There are over 200 types of agave; tequila can only be made with 1, the blue weber. The agave is harvested for its piña, or heart, which is slow roasted to turn the carbohydrates into fermentable sugars. The distillation process then begins and creates the spirit of tequila.

The process of making tequila takes time, but the process of aging it takes even longer. Tequila may be bottled immediately or aged in oak, a choice that defines its main styles. Blanco is the most pure version of tequila, being bottled

after distillation. Blanco also can be rested in oak barrels for less than 2 months before being bottled. Once the tequila surpasses 2 months in oak, it is labeled as a reposado tequila. Once the tequila surpasses 12 months in oak, it is labeled as an añejo tequila. These styles are defined by their age, or lack thereof.

Contrary to popular belief, tequila isn't some magic healthy elixir. However, comparatively to other spirits, tequila does offer the lowest carbohydrate experience. Unlike most spirits, tequila contains natural plant sugars called agavins, which are not broken down by the body and do not spike blood sugar levels. One hundred percent agave tequila is free from additives and added sugars, which can lead to a lower risk of severe hangovers. Within the rules set by the Tequila Regulatory Council (CRT), 100% blue agave tequila is allowed to include additives as long as it does not surpass 1%.

Just because it is allowed, doesn't mean that it is required.

Teremana tequila is an additive-free brand. Teremana contains no added sugars, caramel color, glycerin, or flavoring agents. Its blanco, reposado, and añejo products are cited for their pure expression of agave.

Teremana tequila is a small batch crafted in a small Mexican town using the traditional brick ovens to cook the agave piñas. Teremana roasts the agave for 3 days before extracting the juices for fermentation. The tequila is then crafted in copper pot stills, because it produces a cleaner, and smoother tequila. That is the story of tequila, Teremana, and the spirit of tradition. **TP**

We are pleased to have Noah enlightening us on the world of Tequila, especially Teremana, as it is a brand we proudly support at Tavern Players Magazine. In addition to being a great bartender, Noah possesses extensive knowledge of spirits. He and his colleague, Nate, will be featured in our summer issue with a complete story about the unique bar where they work. *If you enjoyed this article, we look forward to sharing what we have in store for this summer.* — Ron Boucher, Tavern Players Magazine





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By Ron Boucher



King of Pubs 2025 FALL FINALS

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MORE WAYS TO GIVE?



SCAN

From Vermont upsets to New Hampshire dominance, this season's King of Pubs finale proved once again that local competition and charity can rack up big wins together.

THE “King of Pubs” Pool Series is a good choice for players who do not want to commit to a team or league. They want to be able to go play in a series of events when and where it works for them. With KOP you do not have to show up every Tuesday, Wednesday, or any set league night. You have choices in Vermont, New Hampshire, and sometimes Maine, and it is a chance to meet and play with new people.

We have had both men and women tell us that the King of Pubs Pool Series has helped them develop their game better than any other league they have played in. Many players do both, and those same players tell us KOP helps keep them sharp in their regular pool leagues.

If you are looking to bring the “King of Pubs” Pool Series to your local pub or bar, here are a few things you should know.

The “KOP” is a series of different pool tournaments throughout New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont. It is also a Charity Event for **Children's Hospital at Dartmouth through David's House**. David's House is a home away from home for families who are dealing with sick children. They can stay there at no charge.

The King of Pubs Pool Series plays in different pubs and taverns, as well as private clubs throughout the tri state area. Each pub, tavern, club, or restaurant pays a fee of \$350 dollars for each session, fall and winter/spring. You may ask why you should pay that fee when you can get leagues



Hey Jeff and Kennedy, those are some good-looking sleeves!



Winners of the KOP Draw Your Partner, L to R: Adam Tatem, Seth Garczynski, Herb Carlson, Eric Walsh, Frank McCarthy and Cindy Booth. See results for placements.

playing there for free. That is a fair question, and we do not want to take anything away from leagues. That is a different animal. With KOP, you are helping David's House by being a location sponsor.

Two hundred dollars of that fee goes into an escrow account for the players. So if we have ten locations, we have \$2,000 dollars already set aside for the players fund. The other \$150 dollars goes toward keeping track of player shows, points, and places they have played, along with materials for each location's tournament director to keep track of play each night. Part of that money also goes to David's House and to the banquet that is held at the end of 14 or 15 weeks.

Each week players are charged \$13 dollars. Ten dollars is paid back to the

players that day or night. The other three dollars goes into the players fund that is held by the tournament director at each location or by the owners.

If you are one of the people who does not like the fee, we get it. Some places like the idea that we are helping families by having pool players in their place while supporting an organization like David's House. If you hire a musician to play for one night, that will easily cost you \$250 to \$350 dollars for that night. We play for 14 to 15 weeks for \$350 dollars. We cannot promise how many players you will get each week, but if you just get four or five, and two of them buy a sandwich or a drink at \$20 dollars per person, that is \$40 dollars times 14 weeks. That is \$560 dollars. People attract

Thank You!

To everyone who makes it happen, our sponsors, tournament directors, hosts, and players

Hosts

- Beanies Bar Loudon, NH
- Border Pub Derby, VT
- Deer Head Sportsman Club South Hooksett, NH
- Grotto Plymouth, NH
- Gusto's Bar Barre, VT
- JJ Goodwin's Barnstead, NH
- Kettlehead Brewing Meredith, NH
- Lafayette Club Nashua, NH
- Mo's Happy Place . North Conway, NH
- Moose Lodge Madison/Albany, NH
- Summer Street Tavern Barre, VT
- Suncook American Legion Pembroke, NH
- Whiskey Tavern Laconia, NH
- Winni Bar & Billiards Gilford, NH

Sponsors



RESULTS

Friday

SCOTCH DOUBLES

1st	Rod Eastman	NH	\$220.00
	Wayne Reynolds	NH	
2nd	Vinny Corneau	NH	\$150.00
	Jimmy O'Neil	NH	
3rd	Jeff Dunn	VT	\$100.00
	Kennedy Dunn	VT	
4th	Garrett Simmons	NH	\$80.00
	Justin Meaney	NH	



Winner of the Qualifying Singles with his Bobble Head friend Dave Portnoy and Chad Booth.



Ron Boucher and Eric Walsh holding the KOP check for the David's House donation.

Saturday

QUALIFYING SINGLES

1st	Chad Booth	NH	\$650.00
2nd	Ricky LePage	VT	\$450.00
3rd	Wayne Reynolds	NH	\$350.00
4th	Michael Brooks	VT	\$275.00
5th	Justin Meaney	NH	\$150.00
5th	Rod Eastman	NH	\$150.00
7th	Alby Frank	VT	\$100.00
7th	Al Jaynes	NH	\$100.00
9th	Vinny Corneau	NH	\$70.00
9th	Dean Rodgers	NH	\$70.00
9th	Jimmy O'Neil	NH	\$70.00
9th	Mike Mudget	NH	\$70.00
13th	Joe Raucci	NH	\$40.00
13th	Ian Voyer	VT	\$40.00
13th	Garrett Simmons	NH	\$40.00
13th	John Regan	NH	\$40.00

SECOND CHANCE SINGLES

1st	Kennedy Dunn	VT	\$150.00
2nd	Jeff Dunn	VT	\$100.00
3rd	Seth Garczynski	NH	\$80.00
4th	Deb Cunningham	NH	\$40.00

King of Pubs Pool Series has raised more than 50,000 dollars for David's House over the years, its not just about who wins. It is about the families we are able to help.



Your first and second place winner from the 2nd Chance Event. What is Jeff Dunn doing in 2nd Chance?

people to a bar as well. Since we have been doing this pool series we have raised over \$50,000 dollars for David's House.

A large banquet is held at the end of the 14 or 15 weeks of play. We have several events that players can qualify to play in. To play in the main event, the Finals **Qualifying Singles** held on Saturday, you need to be in the top 64 in points. We have only had more than that in points two times in 15 years. You also need three different shows from different

locations and a total of 14 shows in all.

We also have a **Second Chance** event on Saturday. This event is for any player who did not come in the money in the Qualifying Singles event. You can also play in our Friday night Scotch Doubles event, which requires at least five shows in any one location. There is an entry fee of \$10 dollars. One hundred percent of that, along with an added \$250 to \$350 dollars, is paid out to the players.

Continued on page 16

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Sunday

DRAW YOUR PARTNER

1st	Seth Garczynski Adam Tatem	NH NH	\$200.00
2nd	Eric Walsh Herb Carlson	NH NH	\$150.00
3rd	Frank McCarthy Cindy Booth	NH NH	\$100.00
4th	Kennedy Dunn Ron Boucher	VT NH	\$80.00

On Sunday we have a **Draw Your Partner** event, which again has a 10 dollar entry fee that is paid back in full, along with another \$250 to \$350 dollars added.

During the banquet we give out awards to some of the players, as you can see in the results. We also give away two Viking pool sticks in a random draw to players who are in the top 12 in shows, and we give away one more pool stick to a random player in the top 10 in points. On Saturday at 2:00 in the afternoon we have a free buffet for all qualifying players.

As the last balls dropped and the cues went back in their cases, the feeling in the room was the same as always. People came to play pool, see friends, and help a good cause. With more than \$50,000 dollars raised for David's House over the years, the King of Pubs Pool Series is not just about who wins. It is about the people, the pubs, and the families we are able to help.

Anyone
CAN PLAY
Anytime

SCHEDULE ON PAGE 18

If you are interested in having the “King of Pubs” Pool Series at your location, or you are a player, just reach out to us at tavernplayers@gmail.com or give us a call at 603 393 8113.

If you are a player, you can start playing at anywhere, any time. See the current schedule **on page 18.** 

AWARDS

Top Points: Jim O'Neil, 199.5

Top Shows: Cherri DiSilva, 49

Most Improved: Jeff Dunn and Seth Garczynski

Sportsmanship: Deb Cunningham, Cherri DiSilva,
Alby Frank, Chad Booth, and Joe Raucchi

Honorary Player Award: Al Jaynes



L to R: Adam Tatem and Seth Garczynski winners of the Dunkin Draw Your Partner.



Wayne Reynolds shooting, as Diane Casey (Tournament Director at Lafayette Club in Hooksett) playing in Scotch Doubles with Deb Cunningham (recipient of one of the KOP Sportsmanship Awards) look on.

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King of Pubs POOL SERIES

SPRING 2026

15 WEEKS OF PLAY
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14 SHOWS AND 3 VENUES TO QUALIFY FOR FINALS

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facebook.com/winnibb24
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7:00 pm

7:00pm

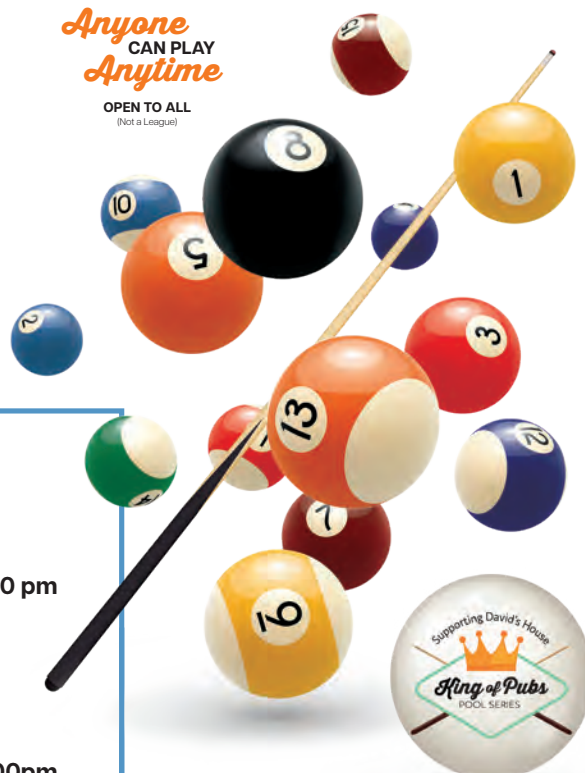
7:00 pm

1:00 pm

1:00 pm

6:00 pm

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TOP 64 PLAYERS QUALIFY FOR FINALS

FINALS MAY 15TH-17TH, 2026
(location TBD)

YOU MUST HAVE

14 shows and 1 show from
3 different locations to qualify

Earned Points = 2 points for show
+ 1st Place 4pts, 2nd Place 3pts,
3rd Place 2pts, 4th Place 1pt,
5th & 6th Place 1/2 pt.

The entry fee at each
location is \$13.00 with \$10
going back to winners that night.

Paying out over \$15,000
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LAGER

By Ron Boucher

New Hampshire and Vermont players kept the brackets tight at Winni Bar & Billiards and now have their sights set on the next event this April



Having a good weekend and placing in several events, Chad Booth from Loudon, NH.



Winners of Scotch Doubles & Staff, from L to R: Eric Walsh Manager/Owner, Tenzin Tsphel & DJ Hopkins 1st, Chad Booth & Rod Eastman 2nd, sitting our wonderful Bartender Katie Dibona Winni Bar & Billiards.

Once again, the White Mountain Open brought a wide variety of players from all over New England. It is a tournament that has made a name for itself since 2008. Originally started at the Cannon Mountain View in Franconia, NH, eighteen years ago, it is known for the different events it runs over a four-day weekend filled with good pool matches, sponsor prize giveaways, and the tradition of players winning jackets and sweatshirts for their first place wins.

This past fall's event, held at Winni Bar & Billiards in Gilford, NH, from October 23rd to 26th, was no exception to the fun and excitement that this tournament brings with it. The event started off with the usual "King of Pubs" Pool Series on Thursday night. It is not really part of the White Mountain Open, but because it is scheduled on Thursday nights at Winni Bar & Billiards, it is a good way to start off the weekend, and many of the players who come also play in the KOP Pool Series.

THURSDAY, KOP \$50.00 ADDED

1ST	Mike Mudget	NH	\$120.00
2ND	Jeff Dunn	VT	\$80.00
3RD	Jack Spooner	NH	\$60.00
4TH	Al Jaynes	NH	\$40.00
5TH	Phil Merrill	NH	\$30.00
5TH	Buddy Oldham	NH	\$30.00



GILFORD, NH



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FRIDAY, AMATEUR SINGLES - 8-BALL

1ST	Michael Neuenfelt	NH	\$100.00 + Sweatshirt
2ND	Eric Milliken	NH	\$60.00
3RD	Phil Merrill	NH	\$50.00
4TH	Jeff Dunn	VT	\$40.00
5TH	Don LeBlanc	NH	\$30.00
5TH	Ray Alger	NH	\$30.00

FRIDAY, WOMENS SINGLES - 8-BALL

1ST	Nicole Spooner	NH	\$100.00 + Sweatshirt
2ND	Aizyln Alfonzo	NH	\$70.00
3RD	Cyndy Gilbert	NH	\$40.00
4TH	Samantha Kemp	NH	\$30.00
5TH	Tara Bazydlo	NH	\$25.00
5TH	Tracey Merrill	NH	\$25.00



Our Maine connection,
Mason Merchant and
Amy Casey who just recently
got Married on March 21st.
Congrats to our Friends!

SATURDAY, SCOTCH DOUBLES

1ST	DJ Hopkins Tsephel Tenzin	NH NH	\$450.00 + Sweatshirts
2ND	Rod Eastman Chad Booth	NH NH	\$320.00
3RD	Zach Courey Erica Testa	NH NH	\$180.00
4TH	Craig Koscielski Jon Scheiner	VT NH	\$160.00
5TH	Jeff Luckenbill Shaun Sarracco	VT VT	\$130.00
5TH	Bob Barton Samantha Kemp	NH NH	\$130.00
7TH	Jeff Dunn Eric Smith	VT NH	Prizes
7TH	Mike Neuenfelt Scott Drew	NH NH	Prizes



Tracy & Phil Merrill
Seabrook, NH.

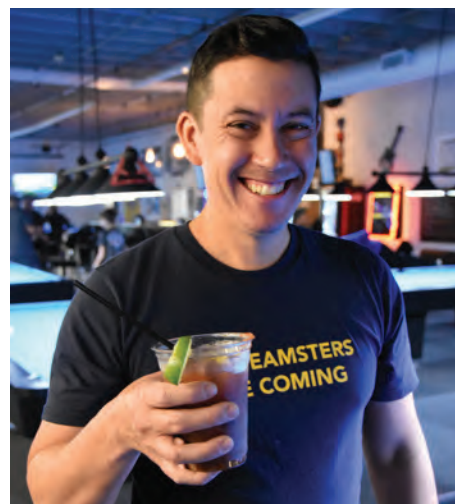


Also eyeing up her next shot, Tara Bazydlo who
is instrumental in taking care of the Stats for the
"King of Pubs" Pool Series.

Continued on Page 22

SATURDAY, OPEN SINGLES – 8-BALL

1ST	Shaun Sarracco	VT	250.00 + Sweatshirt
2ND	Jeff Dunn	VT	\$150.00
3RD	Jeff Letourneau	VT	\$100.00
4TH	Michael Neuenfelt	NH	\$80.00
5TH	Garrette Simmons	NH	\$60.00
5TH	Eric Milliken	NH	\$60.00
7TH	Samantha Kemp	NH	\$50.00
7TH	Limiere Viens	VT	\$50.00



Hailing from St. Johnsbury, Vermont Lumiere Viens with a Sunday Morning recovery Bloody Mary!

SATURDAY, DRAW YOUR PARTNER

1ST	Jeff Dunn Pat "PK" Krohn	VT VT	\$150.00
2ND	Michael Chandronnait Dakota Letourneau	NH VT	\$100.00
3RD	Ron Boucher Mason Merchant	NH ME	\$80.00
4TH	Michael Brooks Jeff Letourneau	VT VT	\$50.00
5TH	Ricky LePage Cherri Disilva	VT NH	\$40.00
5TH	Lumiere Viens Samantha Kemp	VT NH	\$40.00
7TH	Dillon Nobaris Phil Merrill	VT NH	\$35.00
7TH	Chad Booth Carter Letourneau	NH VT	\$35.00



I don't know what these two were up to, but definitely something.

SUNDAY, NINE BALL

1ST	Jeff Dunn	VT	\$150.00 + Sweatshirt
2ND	Chad Booth	NH	\$100.00
3RD	Jeff Letourneau	VT	\$80.00
4TH	Eric Smith	NH	\$60.00
5TH	Dallas Trombly	VT	\$40.00
5TH	Bradley Carpentier	NH	\$40.00
7TH	Nicholas Lake	NH	Prizes
7TH	Ricky LePage	NH	Prizes

Thursday night KOP drew 27 players and set the tone early. Local regular Mike Mudgett of New Hampshire took first place, with Jeff Dunn from Vermont finishing second. New Hampshire's Jack Spooner rounded out the top three.

In Amateur Singles, New Hampshire stayed strong. Michael Neuenfelt came out on top, with fellow New Hampshire player Eric Milliken taking second.

The Women's Singles title went to New Hampshire's Nicole Spooner, who also picked up a sweatshirt with her first place finish. Aizyln Alfonzo claimed second, and Cyndy Gilbert took third.

Scotch Doubles brought some of the biggest payouts of the weekend and drew a deep field. New Hampshire team DJ Hopkins and Tsephel Tenzin came through the pack to win first place and sweatshirts. Second went to the New Hampshire duo of



Winners of Open Singles L to R: Jeff Letourneau 3rd, Jeff Dunn 2nd, and Shaun Sarracco 1st.



A couple of good Ole Vermont Boy's Jeff from Newport and PK from Stowe.

**A FULL WEEKEND OF
STEADY ACTION ON EVERY
TABLE. FROM THURSDAY
NIGHT KOP RIGHT THROUGH
WMO LAST RACKS**



Winner of the raffled off pool stick, Kristy Jones from Laconia, NH. Thank you to Dakota Letourneau for helping with the drawing and presenting the stick.



I don't know if they were trying to play pool or trying to win prizes, but they sure did have enough tickets for prizes, and they sure were having fun! Jack Spooner & Mae Paonessa.



Nice to see this kind of thing going on from time to time, farther and son playing in Scotch Doubles together. John Sr & John O'Hara Jr. from Merrimack, NH.



Tracey Merrill eyeing up her next shot. Tracey also placed in the Womens Open Doubles.



Stepping up her game in the last year, Aizyln Alfonso from Concord, NH had a great showing in Womens Open.

Rod Eastman and Chad Booth. Third place went to Zach Courey and Erica Testa, both from New Hampshire, while Craig Koscielski of Vermont and Jon Scheiner of New Hampshire claimed fourth. Fifth place was split between two teams: Jeff Luckenbill and Shaun Sarracco from Vermont, and Bob Barton and Samantha Kemp from New Hampshire. Jeff Dunn and Eric Smith, and Mike Neuenfelt and Scott Drew, also finished with prizes.

In Open Singles 8 Ball, Vermont's Shaun Sarracco took first place and a sweatshirt, with Jeff Dunn, also from Vermont, finishing second.

Draw Your Partner saw Jeff Dunn and Pat "PK" Krohn make it an all-Vermont team at the top, taking first place. Second went to the team of Michael Chandronnait from New Hampshire and Dakota Letourneau from Vermont.

Nine Ball closed out the weekend with Jeff Dunn of Vermont grabbing another first place finish and a sweatshirt. New Hampshire's Chad Booth finished second, with Vermont's Jeff Letourneau in third.

The White Mountain Open once again showed why it has become a staple on the New England pool calendar, with strong play with both New Hampshire and Vermont players. A full weekend of steady action on every table. From Thursday night KOP right through the last Nine Ball racks, players stepped up, and kept the room buzzing.

Looking ahead, plans are already in motion for the next White Mountain Open, and we expect another solid turnout and plenty of familiar faces. Players and fans should mark their calendars now and save the date: the next White Mountain Open is scheduled for April 16 through April 19, at Winni Bar & Billiards, Gilford, NH. **TP**

See WMO April 2026 Tournament page 24



APRIL 16 -19, 2026

\$5.00 table fee per event, per person or \$20 for the weekend.

THURSDAY - 16th

KING OF PUBS \$100 ADDED
STARTS AT 7PM | \$13 ENTRY FEE

FRIDAY - 17th

AMATEUR SINGLES - 8 BALL \$310
STARTS AT 4PM | \$12 ENTRY FEE | RACE TO 2
1st place - \$100 + Jacket / Sweatshirt
2nd place - \$60
3rd place - \$50
4th place - \$40
5th + 6th - \$30
7th + 8th - Prizes

599 FARGO RATING OR LOWER ONLY

WOMEN'S SINGLES - 8 BALL \$290
STARTS AT 6PM | \$12 ENTRY FEE | RACE TO 3
1st place - \$100 + Jacket / Sweatshirt
2nd place - \$70
3rd place - \$40
4th place - \$30
5th + 6th - \$25

SATURDAY - 18th

SCOTCH OPEN DOUBLES \$1,400
ENTRIES AT 9:30AM | STARTS AT 10AM
ENTRY FEE \$25pp | ALTERNATING SHOT | RACE TO 3
1st place - \$460 + Jacket / Sweatshirt
2nd place - \$320
3rd place - \$180
4th place - \$160
5th + 6th - \$130
7th + 8th - Prizes

1100 FARGO COMBINED RATING

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Margate Resort and
Best Western & Fireside Inn
Gilford NH

SATURDAY (continued)

OPEN SINGLES - 8 BALL \$800
STARTS AT 2:30PM | \$20 ENTRY FEE | RACE TO 3
1st place - \$250 + Jacket / Sweatshirt
2nd place - \$150
3rd place - \$100
4th place - \$80
5th + 6th - \$60
7th + 8th - \$50
9th -12th - Prizes

DRAW YOUR PARTNER \$530
STARTS AT 6:00PM | \$15.00 ENTRY FEE
RACE TO 2 (ALTERNATING SHOTS)
1st place - \$150
2nd place - \$100
3rd place - \$80
4th place - \$60
5th + 6th - \$50

SUNDAY - 19th

NINE BALL \$470
STARTS AT 12PM | \$20 ENTRY FEE | RACE TO 3
1st place - \$150 + Jacket / Sweatshirt
2nd place - \$100
3rd place - \$80
4th place - \$60
5th + 6th - \$40
7th + 8th - Prizes

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GO ALL OUT FOR FLAVOR

PINEAPPLE • 6 CANS



By Jen Fritz

What started with a quiet night at the Trum Tavern has turned into a map full of pins, road trips, this couple is chasing their goal of playing pool in all 50 states.

"The pool tables are open at the Trum." A simple invitation from my best friend, Jolyn, to play pool at a local bar, the **Trum Tavern in Trumbauersville, Pennsylvania**. During the covid shut down there weren't many places open to go shoot a game of pool. We decided to venture there and while playing, I got a little coaching on a difficult shot from another shooter. Little did I know that this would become the first of many pool tables my boyfriend and I would play on together.

Five years have now passed since that first table. It didn't start out as a mission for myself, Jen Fritz, or my boyfriend, Travis Yannarella. We just enjoyed playing wherever we went and joining league introduced us to different places. We took a trip to Florida not too long after we met and of course, we ended up playing a few places while we were there. A short while after, we decided that we should keep track.

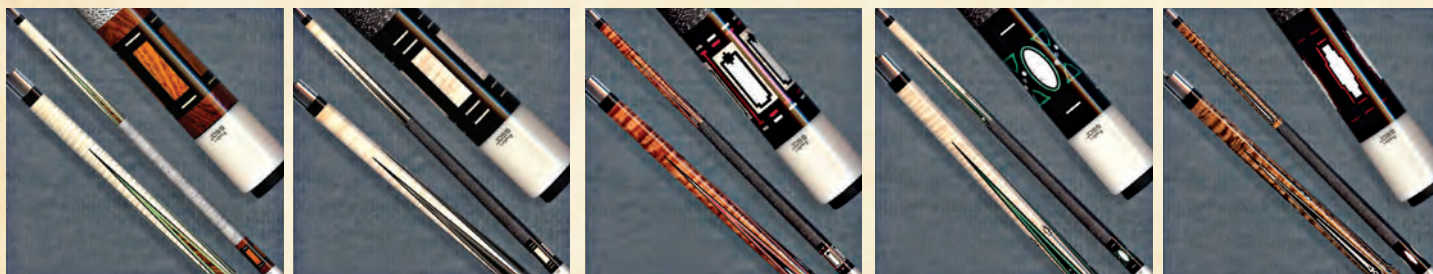
Across America, One Pool Table at a Time



We were able to look back in our texts and figure out where we had visited, and when. From that point on we kept records of our visits and made it our goal to play pool in all 50 states and as many places as possible. We keep both a United States and a Pennsylvania map with all of our locations pinned. We also take a picture of every table and a picture of us at every 50th location. In September of 2023, we embarked on a trip to Maine and played in seven states during an extended weekend.

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Dan Janes

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- 2013 International Cue Makers Association Hall of Fame
- 2022 ACA Lifetime Achievement Award

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Steven Janes

Having worked alongside his father for more than four decades, Steven remains committed to the same principles of quality, craftsmanship, and personal attention that have defined Joss Cues for generations.

"We're not a huge corporation; we're a small, family-owned and operated business, and we're proud to say that every cue is still handcrafted right in Towson, Maryland, USA!"
— Steven

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LTD.

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Visit us at the Super Billiards Expo booth #521





While on our drive, we created a Facebook page and gave ourselves the name **United States of Pool**. We enjoy being able to share our adventures with our followers. Just recently my father helped us create our very own logo, making sure to even include the details of our cues.

As of now we are at 185 locations in 22 states. We visit Florida and Maine yearly and make stops along our way. We also go on a yearly trip with our **APA pool team**. We enjoy taking friends on our adventures and sometimes we even get to bring my boyfriend's son, Noah, and daughter, Ava, along with us. Noah really looks forward to our trips and his "Elf on the Shelf" even left some suggestions for destinations to visit. We have covered a lot of ground, but have a lot more exploring to do. As of now, our farthest North location is **Katahdin Inn and Suites in Millinocket, Maine**. This was a hotel with four pool tables that we stayed at while we visited Moosehead Lake with our friend who lives in Maine.

Some of the places we've been...

In Alpha Order

Auburn Billiards Sports Bar

3051 Frederick Rd, Opelika, AL 36801
Phone: (334) 363-2608
Facebook: www.facebook.com/AuburnBilliards/

Borderline Billiards

616 State St, Bristol, TN 37620
Phone: (423) 989-7665
Website: www.borderlinebilliards.com

Brewlands Bar and Billiards

4802 Gunn Highway Suite 108,
Tampa, FL, 33624
Phone: (813) 405-4851
Website: brewlandsbilliards.com

Caboose Saloon

719 Pennlyn Ave,
Cumberland Gap, TN 37724
Phone: (423) 441-5050
Instagram: www.instagram.com/caboosesaloon.tn

Downtown Billiards

8S Magnolia, Ocala, Florida 34471
Phone: (352) 690-7665
Website: downtownbilliards.com

Game On! Arcade and Sports Bar

5483 Lake Rd E, Geneva, OH 44041
Phone: (440) 466-8650
Website: www.gameongotl.com

Katahdin Inn and Suites

177 Central Street
Millinocket, ME 04462
Phone: 207-723-4555
Website: katahdininnandsuites.com

North Bar Grill and Billiards

2149 Medway Road
Medway, ME 04460
Phone: (207) 746-6062
Website: 83northbarandgrill.com

The Sandbar

63 Main St, Vinalhaven, ME 04863
Phone: (207) 863-4500
Website: www.facebook.com/sandbarvh

Q-masters in Virginia Beach.

5612 Princess Anne Rd,
Virginia Beach, VA 23462
Phone: (757) 499-8900
Website: www.q-masters.com

Stix Billiards

38529 US Hwy 19 N,
Palm Harbor, FL 34684
Phone: (727) 937-9225
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stix.palmharbor/

Stone Mountain Inn

1995 Keene Summit Rd, Wysox, PA 18854
Phone: (570) 485-9654
Website: www.thestonemountaininn.com

Trum Tavern

1 E Broad St., Trumbauersville, PA 18970
Phone: (215) 538 2445
Website: www.trumtavern.com

US-1 Billiards

1167 Boston Post Rd,
West Haven, CT 06516
Phone: (203) 848-1212
Website: us1billiardsct.com

V8 Billiards in Green Lane

120 Gravel Pike,
Green Lane, PA, 18054
Phone: 484-619-1680
Facebook: www.facebook.com/p/V8-Billiards-61585705324442/

Our 200th
location will be
our own pool hall
V8 Billiards
in Green Lane,
Pennsylvania.

Our farthest East stop is 83 **North Bar Grill and Billiards in Medway, Maine**. This was an awesome bar with three Diamond tables. Our farthest South is **Stix Billiards in Palm Harbor, Florida**. This was a great pool hall to visit with lots of tables. Our farthest West place is **Auburn Billiards Sports Bar in Opelika, Alabama**. We drove over an hour out of our way just to cross the border to add this state. It was well worth the detour to stop by this cool pool hall. We have yet to make it very far west, as I am not a fan of planes. However, I have decided that if we get 49 states and I have to get on a plane to get to Hawaii, I will have to get over it. Although, a cruise ship with a pool table on board is my preferred method of travel! As of now we don't have any pins in the ocean on our map, but it would be fun to change that!

We have experienced some truly incredible places. One that was memorable included **The Sandbar on Vinalhaven Island in Maine**. We took an hour and a quarter ferry ride so that we could say that we played on an island. We also made sure to make a stop at the largest

pool hall in the country, **Q-masters in Virginia Beach**. It truly was amazing to be surrounded by over seventy pool tables! One of the most pristine pool rooms we have ever played in was **US-1 Billiards in West Haven, Connecticut**. We also recently stayed at a beautiful bed and breakfast, called the **Stone Mountain Inn, in Wysox, Pennsylvania**, that had a pool table in the basement. Another memorable moment was finishing up a game at **Game On! Arcade and Sports Bar, in Geneva-On-The-Lake, Ohio**, just in time to go out and watch the total solar eclipse of 2024. During one trip we drove up a mountain, then hiked to Pinnacle Overlook where we enjoyed a scenic view of **Cumberland Gap, Tennessee**. We were able to get an unplanned perspective of the **Caboose Saloon**, where we were headed to play shortly after. We visited **Borderline Billiards**, an immaculate poolroom in **Bristol**, where the street is half in **Virginia** and half in **Tennessee**. We also make a yearly stop to shoot in a tournament with our friends at **Downtown Billiards in Ocala, Florida**.

We are in the process of opening our

own pool hall, **V8 Billiards in Green Lane, Pennsylvania**. We are aiming to make this our 200th location. We plan to have eight seven foot Diamond Tables and two nine footers. Our venue will be car themed, and we hope to host car shows, bike nights, and other events, along with tournaments and league. We are extremely excited to start this new chapter. If you check out our ad on back cover, you can see more of my Dad's awesome work.

Our next upcoming trip is a family trip to Tampa, where we hope to visit **Brewlands Bar and Billiards**. We have a few other fun goals to accomplish, including playing at the farthest south pool tables in Key West, going as far north as we can in Maine, getting to the northern most point in Minnesota, and the highest elevation in Colorado. We also would like to play in Canada.

Please visit our Facebook page, United States of Pool for updates! We would love to get suggestions for places we should visit in the future! We look forward to our upcoming adventures and sharing them with all of you! **TP**

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By Steve Rau of Steve Rau Pro Billiards, Manager for Pro Billiard Champions, Kelly Fisher and Wei Tzu Chien.

WHAT MAKES A PRO BILLIARD CHAMPION?



The Mindset Behind Kelly “KwikFire” Fisher & Wei Wei “The Wave”

When fans watch elite players like Kelly Fisher and Wei Tzu Chien, they often focus on the incredible shot-making. Pro billiard champions will tell you that great billiards is about much more than talent. Behind every championship run are habits, discipline, and mental toughness developed over years of competition. Here are a few qualities that separate the very best players from the rest of the field.

Focus Under Pressure

In tournament play, pressure is constant. Champions learn to slow the moment down and remain calm even when the stakes are high. Great players don’t rush decisions. They trust their preparation and stay locked in on the shot in front of them.

Precision Through Repetition

Professional players spend thousands of hours practicing fundamentals. Stroke mechanics, cue ball control, and pattern recognition are refined through repetition until they become second nature. This level of discipline is what allows champions to perform consistently when the lights are brightest.

Strategic Thinking

Championship-level billiards is often described as “chess on cloth.” Players like Fisher and Wei are constantly analyzing patterns, planning multiple shots ahead, and deciding when offense or defense gives them the best chance to win.

Respect for the Game

Many of the sport's greatest champions share a deep respect for billiards itself. They recognize that every match is an opportunity to learn and improve. This mindset keeps them sharp and continually evolving their game.

A Passion to Inspire Others

Perhaps one of the most powerful traits shared by champions is the desire to give back to the sport that shaped them. Through coaching academies, exhibitions, and challenge matches, players like Fisher and Wei help the next generation experience what professional-level billiards looks like, and what it takes to reach it.

There are a couple of great events coming up in Sioux City, IA and Las Vegas, NV that will feature Kelly Fisher and Wei Tzu Chien. Two Champions Headline the 60th Anniversary Midwest 8-Ball Championships Kelly "KwikFire" Fisher and Wei Wei "The Wave" Bring World-Class Billiards to Sioux City, IA

The Midwest 8 Ball Championships will celebrate a historic milestone in 2026, marking its 60th anniversary with one of the most exciting guest appearances the tournament has hosted in years.

Professional billiards champions Kelly Fisher and Wei Tzu Chien will appear live during championship weekend, bringing their elite skills, coaching expertise, and competitive spirit to players and fans attending the event.

The special appearances will take place April 24–26, 2026 at the Seaboard Triumph Expo Center, where thousands of amateur players and billiards enthusiasts will gather for one of the Midwest's most respected pool tournaments.

Champions Who Defined Their Era Few players in modern billiards have achieved the sustained success of Kelly "KwikFire" Fisher. Known for her incredible precision and fast-paced playing style, Fisher built her reputation first as a dominant world snooker champion before transitioning into professional pool, where she has captured numerous world titles and international victories.

Her nickname, "KwikFire," reflects the lightning-fast rhythm she brings to the table—a style that has made her both a feared competitor and a fan favorite across the sport.

She has built a legendary career defined by precision, speed, and relentless competitive focus. She successfully transitioned to professional pool and has become one of the most dominant figures in the women's game. Her resume includes multiple world titles and decades of elite level performance.

Standing alongside Fisher is Wei Wei "The Wave," whose calm confidence and smooth cue action have made her one of the most exciting players on the international circuit today.

Representing Taiwan's strong billiards tradition, Wei has developed a reputation for remarkable shot-making and com-

While their styles are different, both players share something that resonates deeply with fans: a commitment to excellence and a willingness to invest in the next generation of players.

VNEA PRESENTS
PRO BILLIARD CHAMPIONS

KWIKFIRE **THE WAVE**

WESTGATE LAS VEGAS
2026 VNEA WORLD POOL CHAMPIONSHIPS

KELLY FISHER & WEI WEI

**APPEARING LIVE IN LAS VEGAS AT THE
2026 VNEA WORLD POOL CHAMPIONSHIPS
MAY 27TH-MAY 29TH**

COACHING ACADEMY
MAY 28TH AND MAY 29TH
THURSDAY & FRIDAY

CHALLENGE MATCHES
MAY 27TH AND MAY 28TH
WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

SCAN TO SIGN UP

posure under pressure. Known for her smooth stroke, calm demeanor, and powerful shot-making ability, Wei has developed a global following as she continues to compete on the sport's biggest stages. Her nickname reflects the rhythm and flow she brings to the table, controlled, confident, and relentless.

While their styles are different, both players share something that resonates deeply with fans: a commitment to excellence and a willingness to invest in the next generation of players.

Together, the two players represent both the legacy and future of professional billiards.

Two Champions. One Stage.

Kelly "KwikFire" Fisher and Wei Wei "The Wave" Headline Special Events at the 2026 VNEA World Pool Championships in Las Vegas. The world of professional billiards will once again converge in Las Vegas this spring, and fans attending the VNEA World Pool Championships will have the rare opportunity to see two of the sport's most respected champions up close.

International billiards icons Kelly Fisher, known worldwide as "KwikFire," and Wei Tzu Chien, affectionately called "The Wave," will headline a series of exclusive appearances, challenge matches, and coaching academies at the 2026 event.

Taking place May 27–29, 2026 at the Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino, these special sessions will offer players and fans an unforgettable opportunity to learn from and compete against two of the most decorated players in the game.

Rare Access for Fans & Players

During the championship week, Fisher and Wei will host a series of Challenge Matches on May 27–28. These sessions allow fans to step into the arena and test their skills against two of the sport's best in a friendly yet competitive format.

For players looking to elevate their game, the duo will also lead a two-day Coaching Academy on May 28–29, offering:

- Advanced cue ball control
- Strategic pattern play
- Professional pre-shot routines
- Mental focus and tournament prep.
- Real-time feedback champions

These small-group coaching sessions are designed to give players insights normally reserved for the professional circuit.

Growing the Game

Behind the scenes, these appearances are part of a broader effort by Steve Rau Pro Billiards to promote and create fan experiences with with amateur and semi-pro players across the country.

“Opportunities like this are about more than exhibition matches,” said Steve Rau, who manages both players. “They’re about growing the game, sharing knowledge, and allowing fans to experience what world-class billiards looks like up close.” With thousands of players attending the VNEA championships and the Midwest championships each year, the event provides the perfect stage for that mission.

An Experience Not to Miss For billiards fans traveling to Sioux City or Las Vegas this May, the chance to meet Kelly “KwikFire” Fisher and Wei Wei is likely to be one of the highlights of the entire championship weeks.

Whether you're stepping up to the table for a challenge match or sitting in on the coaching academy, one thing is certain: watching two champions operate at the highest level is an experience that inspires players at every stage of the game.

KwikFire Pro Table Makes U.S. Debut

The brand-new KwikFire 9' Pro Pool Table has officially made its debut in the United States, and players now have the opportunity to experience it firsthand. The table is currently available for play at the Rockford Billiard Cafe, where billiards enthusiasts can test the performance and professional design of the new table.

Fans can also see the KwikFire table on display during the Super Billiards Expo, taking place April 9–12 at the Greater PA Expo Center in Booths 811–812.

World champion Kelly Fisher is especially excited to introduce her signature table to American players. Designed with professionals in mind, the KwikFire 9' Pro Pool Table delivers the

precision and playability serious players demand—while remaining accessible at a price point that allows more pool rooms and players to experience true professional-level equipment.

For Fisher, the goal is simple: bring a high-quality, tournament-caliber table to more players while keeping it affordable enough to help grow the game. **TP**




**SEE US AT THE
SUPER BILLIARDS EXPO
BOOTHS 811-812**



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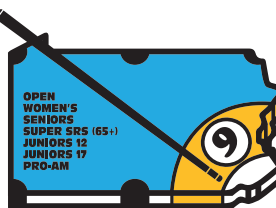




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2026
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Championship



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Becue SRL.....	403-406	Cohen.....	536
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Diveney	564, (561)
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By Tom Robinson



YOU CAN'T KEEP A GOOD FOOSER DOWN



Billy Pappas and Kevin Romero contemplating their next move.

Foosball players are so dedicated to the sport; they should be borrowing the motto from the United States Postal Service: “Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.”

With just some slight editing foosball players could use “Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of the pool hall stays these foosers from swift arrival to the World Foosball Tour 2026 Tour Kick Off.”

Washington, D.C. was recovering from a significant winter event—including snow, ice and deep cold all while the 2026 World Foosball Tour \$45k Tour Kick Off (TKO) commenced on January 29, 2026.

Portions of the South were paralyzed without power, significant snowfall and weather extremes up to and including frozen iguanas falling from the trees! Yet, more than 360 foosball players packed into the Sheraton Hotel Pentagon City for four days of top-notch foosball competition.

Despite the odds being stacked against the 2026 TKOs success, the WFT team and players alike pushed forward to see it through.

This year marked the first time in recent memory that the Tour Kick Off was held in an East Coast city. Naturally, this made for players’ easier access from states like Virginia, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, New

Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Vermont. (Many states were represented, but there were more than 40 hotel room reservations cancelled due to the weather.) Add to this there was a healthy showing of players from other parts of the world like Canada, Mexico, Costa Rica and Europe.

Arriving from upstate New York, my impression of Washington was that it looked just like home—just one big block of snow and ice, except for the national monuments visible from my room at the Sheraton Hotel Pentagon City. How fortunate that we players were toasty warm in the World Foosball Tour TKO arena.

While I set up the Foosball Radio booth in the tournament hall, I noticed my next-





door neighbor was Michael Stahl and his booth for Foosball Clubs USA (FBCUSA). Any day I can watch Michael work his magic with the next generation of foosball players is a good day! Learn more about the great work of the FBCUSA organization by visiting FoosballClubsUSA.com.

Each day brought steady competition to 360 players on 57 tables. Beginners, Rookies, Amateurs, Experts, Pros and Masters fought their way to the top. Names like Spredeman, Pappas, Gummeson, Munoz, Rue, Mares, Smith, Robertson, Gabriel, Ariganello, Romero, Balcos, Bufkin, Brubaker, Bambenek, DiJohn, Byre and Walker rounded out the list of masters in attendance. (Dave Gummeson teamed

up with 518's Kevin Walker for the Open and went deep into the brackets.)

The name Rue appeared in the finals of both Women's Doubles and Open Doubles-Sullivan Rue took the Women's Doubles title with Hannah Bufkin. They played the finals against familiar opponents Keisha Rue and Isabelle Stelly. Meanwhile, **Terry Rue (TR)** joined Jacob Balcos in the winner circle after defeating Billy Pappas and Kevin Romero in the Open Doubles finals. The Rue family equals foosball royalty!

Tenacious foosball players can pivot mid-play and triumph. This could also be applied to Ryan Moore and company. Despite moments of doubt or unforeseen events, they are full steam ahead with the Tour.

THE CHANGES

Surely, the first year of the World Foosball Tour was amazing! Yet, like any new venture, there are setbacks and adjustments to be made.

Several things have changed from this past year in the way the World Foosball Tour is evolving. First, the Flight Format has been adopted for much of the tour, including TKO. Players are given the opportunity to sign up for Flight A and play till they lose. If they win three consecutive matches, they are entered into the final round. Lose once and the player (team) is out. However, for an additional fee, they can opt to play Flight B. Once again, they can play till they lose one match. If they succeed in winning three



WFT 2026 TKO Pit Arena

matches, they are entered into the final round of elimination.

The next change includes the play-by-play coverage, which is now provided in-house. Ryan Moore has stepped up the game and purchased all the gear to fully cover and stream the pit tables and finals

matches in each category. **Chase Pennell (CP)** has stepped up to man the mic with Callum Oakes.

Ryan Moore (RM) sat down with Chase Pennell and me for a conversation on FoosTalk Live to give an assessment of how this works.

seeing feeds of professionals and what they do for every production. They have the \$1,000 headsets and that's what we're getting next because I cannot be holding a walkie-talkie. We're going to have a full-on intercom system so I can be live to these guys 100% of the time."

Consider the fact that coverage of any top sporting event takes incredible investment in gear, but also the skill to operate in a seamless fashion. What a spectator views during the stream of a match is directly dependent on the coordination of the production.

World Foosball Tour coverage is always free when viewed live on their YouTube channel. Once the individual matches are uploaded, they sit behind a pay wall. (Visit the World Foosball Tour YouTube page to sign up.)

Another change featured new graphical banners that list all the 2026 tournaments, including the state tour stops and the rest of the major tournaments. These banners surrounded the pit arena. Ryan mentioned his meeting with promoters from around the country. They gathered during the TKO weekend to discuss ideas and innovations to benefit everyone.



Jacob Balcos

CP: "Ryan is doing the production. He's the one making everything look so darn good back there. He's got a walkie-talkie in one hand and all the monitors in front of him. Making the camera switches, making everything look so good [on the stream]. It's going to be me and Callum [Oakes] commenting on the finals. Which I absolutely love!"

Ryan went on to explain why he has taken on the responsibility for streaming coverage in-house.

RM: "I had this vision when I first started the World Foosball Tour: How do we make it look like those other guys? I already knew that means everyone (the production crew) has to be communicating with each other. Over the last couple of months, when we took on media, I started researching teleprompts where I started



TKO Hannah Bufkin and Sullivan Rue Women's Doubles winners



Chase Pennell

“We are going to see an uptick this year in most tournaments, because it’s an off year for the World Cup. We’re growing the player base organically.”

– Ryan Moore



WFT 2026 TKO Foosball Royalty Maryam Ali, Callum Oakes, Dave Gummesson, Hannah Bufkin, Bracklin Bufkin, Terry Rue, and Keisha Rue.

RM: “It’s not just about the WFT majors and that’s what I wanted to hit home on this tournament was exposure [for the sport]. It’s all of us that make this thing happen. We had a state promoters meeting. We went out and had dinner together. It went great! We all got to share what every single person [promoter] went through. I was able to start by giving recommendations on how we can start making their tournaments look like this too—without spending a ton of money. We have a good strategy on how we can work together, [including] spacing tournaments out properly, or the best we can. Ultimately, we have a ‘now,’ a three-year and a five-year plan. We are going to see an uptick this year in most tournaments, because it’s an off year for the World Cup. We’re growing the player base organically.”



L to R: Ryan Moore the face of WFT and promoter, Chase Pennell play by play Foosball Radio and Tom Robinson TPM Foosball Correspondent and the Face of Foosball Radio.

WFT SPONSORED PLAYERS

Making a real fuss over the players, especially for those at the top of their ranks brings an extra added incentive. The WFT recently announced a complete list of sponsored players. Each player selected gets a custom team jersey, in addition to other perks. Sponsors can bid on their logos to place on the players' jerseys. Here's the list of all the WFT Sponsored Players as of the "Tavern Players" publication date March 18, 2026.

- Mario Ariganello
- Jacob Balcos
- Traci Brubaker
- Hannah Bufkin
- Stayce Fowler
- Kane Gabriel
- Cindy Head
- Liz Hill-Moore
- Linda Ly
- Brandon Mooreland
- Brandon Munoz
- Trevor Park
- Keisha Rue
- Sullivan Rue
- Terry Rue
- Jessica Sanftleben
- Paul Smith
- Tony Spredeman
- Isabelle Stelly
- Tommy Yore
- Brady Weyrowske

Other players who received the status of WFT Sponsored Players include:

- **Vincent Cattoir, Washington State**
– *Rookie Singles at TKO*
- **Khang Nguyen, California**
– *Amateur Singles at TKO*
- **Alejandro Salinas, Mexico**
– *Beginner Singles at TKO*
- **Jerry Schroepel, Ohio**
– *Expert Singles at TKO*
- **Leonardo Stamerra, Luxembourg**
– *Pro Singles at TKO*

Each of these sponsored players has shown the skills and sheer determination to pull through to the top.

Even in the frigid cold of an East Coast major tournament, the World Foosball Tour team, the players and families made this Tour Kick Off one for the record books. The USPS would be proud.

Ryan went on to discuss the refinement of the tournament schedules. Then, he slipped in a mention of the WFT working with a European date.

RM: "We are doing a tournament in Vienna this year—Vienna, Austria. It's going to be a 75,000 Euro tournament. I'm pretty sure that's the biggest payout in the history of foosball in Europe."

TR: "Do you realize the potential for the number of players that could show up for a tournament like that?"

RM: "We actually have it labeled as the European Championships, but we and Philoro the sponsor have decided to join with the Austrian federation to make it the International Championships—a bigger name, draw in more people. It's the second biggest payout of our tour, even bigger than the Hall of Fame in Vegas. Yeah, we have the first, second and third biggest payouts in the entire world of foosball!"

Aside from the organization of the tournaments, Moore has also focused on the players' experience.

It's worth noting that **Mathieu Bigz (MB)** or "Biggie" from Canada has been utilized as the ring announcer for all the top events. Biggie's booming voice announces each of the teams as they arrive on the field of battle. Add to this exciting music beds and lighting effects and you have a dramatic entry for the players. Whether you're sitting ring side or at home on your phone or computer, the effect is certainly dramatic.

I chatted with Mathieu "Biggie" Bigz about his role in this foosball production during Foosball Radio's On the Road series.

TR: "What landed you in this coveted position as the ring announcer?"

MB: "Ryan reached out with, 'Anyone want to see if they could hype the finals area?' I approached him and said I might be your guy. One day he called me up and said, 'I want you at this tournament. Let's try it out.' And that's how it happened."

TR: "What are your secrets, what do you do?"

MB: "It's all about the energy. Bring it out there and give the people the goosebumps. I used to play a lot of sports when I was younger. You could feel the vibration of the event. In every sport, especially entertainment, boxing or maybe UFC, they hype the crowd; it's exciting! It's all about momentum. That's part of what was missing on (the foosball) tour—building that momentum for the players. Just the energy you get back from the crowd; that makes it all worth it."

MORE GROWING PAINS

Moore and his team have been developing a brand-new software platform, meant to make the player experience simple and clear. Registering for tournament events, checking table status, entering results, seeing the brackets and a host of other features all in one great-looking app. Earlier in the year, "Play" was tested to mixed results. During the WFT TKO, issues were preventing the complete rollout of the software. However, the developers (Reid Rector and Kenny Dale) are making the necessary adjustments to overcome the obstacles. **TP**



BOB TAYLOR'S TRAILERS

By Jim MacMillan

Some of you know that I work at a local Lowe's Home Improvement here in New Hampshire. It just so happens that one of my work buddies is a designer in the kitchen design department. His name is Bob Taylor. He's quite creative and does well at designing kitchens for Lowe's customers. He comes from a business background, and that also serves him well in understanding what the public might want or need.

But what makes Bob Taylor different is that he has also designed, patented, and is about to produce the world's first retractable trailer. It can be towed behind or retracted onto most any vehicle other than a pickup truck, securing to a flat back, just not a truck bed.

THE INVENTION

Here's a little background into Bob's revelation and his invention.

Growing up in the 1960s, the family Ford LTD station wagon with wood side panels and reverse third seat in the back was the carrier of the family road trip supplies and luggage. Put a StarCraft foldable camper behind it, and you were ready for takeoff. "Hey kids, this year we're going to go on a good old family road trip!"

Fast forward: when COVID hit, families immediately started to reassess what their next family trip destination would be. Airlines were canceling flights, hotel

reservations were subject to quarantine, and parents were constantly worried about their family's health. The Bahamas, Aruba, and other sunshine destinations just didn't have the appeal they once had.

That led to new SUVs and RVs being bought, with the expectation that the family could pack anything they wanted. The "dream makers" (as Bob puts it) included requests for skateboards, boogie boards, fishing poles, bikes, beach chairs with umbrellas, and even adding two more kids to the two they already had. That planning, and the lack of storage in these RVs, made folks realize some shortfalls.

"With \$50,000 SUVs and \$200,000 RVs, it soon became apparent that large dream maker items were put back in the garage or strapped onto the exterior with images of the Beverly Hillbillies. And even after all those items missed the cut, that still left your young passengers staring through backpacks and a lot of elbows being thrown. So much for what I remembered," Bob recounts.

Then the idea of a retractable trailer was born. "Kids, bring anything you want and just put it by the trailer." And dad was able to slip in a couple of sets of golf clubs too. And guess what? Everything was tucked away in their retractable trailer, and the kids could see their feet. Same results with RVs.

If you ponder just what uses such a device might offer, you'd be able to think of dozens

of applications. You have the need to haul furniture across the state or country to your child's apartment or dorm. You need to bring a four-wheeler to the shop to get worked on and you don't own a pickup. Or you own an RV and totally know all about the issues of storage (or lack thereof) with most any of these types of vehicles. Bob knows that there are over 3,000 RV dealerships around this country, and all of them know about the storage issue. You need to haul something somewhere, use it or drop it off. Now you have an empty trailer to tow behind your vehicle, or especially an RV. Backing up with a trailer behind an RV would be a nightmare. Not so with a retractable trailer!

And if you're going to the Weirs or Sturgis motorcycle events and are not going to ride your bike to the event, then you will most likely need to trailer it. Then you'll need a place to stash your trailer for the week. With Bob's trailer, the problem is solved.

Bob told me recently he is currently in discussions with several manufacturers to produce the volume that he is forecasting. He is also having conversations with a "big box store" at their corporate headquarters to suggest that they add his retractable trailer to their current trailer offerings. These conversations are proving to be positive for Bob.

The trailer is all aluminum diamond-plated, so rust won't be a problem, and it is lightweight to tow. It weighs only 380 lbs but has a 2,000-lb capacity. It folds up or down in minutes with the use of a simple DeWalt 18V or other brand power drill and socket. The trailer measures 4 x 8 feet. The side panels come off in sections and are easily stored. The patented trailer coupler fits in any standard 2" receiver, so no retrofitting is needed. And now that the well-known storage and packing issue is completely resolved, you can pull into your destination, empty your trailer, retract it onto your vehicle, and take up only one parking space.

You should check out this cool idea and see it for yourself. If you find yourself in need of a 4 x 8-foot trailer, why not consider Bob Taylor's trailer, which should hit the market this summer. **IP**

Here is a link to RV News:

www.rvnews.com/exclusive-new-rv-supplier-unveils-retractable-trailers

Here is the link to Bob Taylor's utility trailer website: www.madmaxindustries.com



By Ron Boucher



FOOSBALL FEVER

Players battled it out in Ossipee as The Hayloft's second tournament brought high energy and tight matches.



The Hayloft Pub at Hobbs Tavern & Brewery located in Ossipee, New Hampshire has proven to be a well-accepted location for Foosball Players and an even better spot for a Foosball tournament. Back in November the Hayloft ran their 2nd tournament of the year, with their first one being back in the Spring. Even though the Spring tournament had a little stronger turnout than the November tournament, it still managed to bring in some new faces that were not at the last one. If we ever bring them all together it will be a huge Foosball Day!

The tournament was on November 1st and the first, of two events was **Draw Your Partner**. As usual the competition was good, but the highlight was the Finals. On the Winners' side you had Matt Pettinato playing with Chris Hitzeman and coming from the loser's bracket we had Steve Batista and Charles Correll. What made it so exciting was that in the Finals match Steve and Charles won the first match, not only that they took it to the last game in the second, but came up just a little short and Shane and Hoof came out on top.

Driving from the New Bedford area of Massachusetts, Steve Batista was on a mission. Now paired up with Rob Marchinkowski from Manchester, NH they were hoping to get off to a good start in the Open Doubles. But that didn't happen right off, in their first match against Shane Staples and Steve (Hoof) Halsey they did not fare well and Shane and Hoof won.

Watching Finals of the DYP. All final matches were exciting to watch as Steve Batista with both partners in DYP & Doubles were going for the Double Dip!



Winners of Open Doubles L to R: Shane Staples, Steve (Hoof) Halsey, Matt Pettinato, Leila Pettinato, Rob Marchinkowski and Steve Batista. Great Job Players!



Andrew serving up our Sponsor Surfside.



Winner, Winner Surfside Chair! Steve (Hoof) Halsey.

Thank You!
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Players watching match for the winner of losers bracket. See results for winners.

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OPEN DOUBLES

1st	Shane Staples Steve "Hoof" Halsey	Manchester, NH Manchester, NH	\$160.00
2nd	Steve Batista Rob Marchinkowski	Fall River, MA Londonderry, NH	\$110.00
3rd	Matt Pettinato Leila Pettinato	Hudson, NH Hudson, NH	\$80.00
4th	Pawel Rutowski Chuck Correll	Nashua, NH Whitefield, NH	\$ 60.00

DRAW YOUR PARTNER (DYP)

1st	Matt Pettinato Chris Hitzeman	Hudson, NH Nashua, NH	\$200.00
2nd	Steve Batista Charles Correll	Fall River, MA Whitefield, NH	\$130.00
3rd	Shane Staples Bruce "Juice" Tarricone	Manchester, NH Andover, MA	\$80.00
4th	Rob Marchinkowski Isidro "Zeke" Maria	Londonderry, NH Nashua, NH	\$60.00



Steve Batista and Rob Marchinkowski – all smiles after winning the first match coming out of the losers bracket.

I think after that, it lit a fire under there you know what and began to clean house in the Loser's bracket bringing them all the way back to you know who. That's right Shane and Hoof won the Hot Seat. In the Finals Steve and Rob won the first match. Now in the second match Shane and Hoof win the first game, it's 4 to 4 in the second game, Steve get the ball on his 3 man and delivers a beautiful slice pull shot to take the second game. At this point we have a good crowd watching the game. Shane puts on his game face and delivers 2 quick goals from the front and hoof pops a beautiful bank from the back. Rob and Steve decide to change position with Rob going to front. Rob gets a quick one up front to make it 3 to 1, but Shane comes back with another of his own and it's now 4 to 1. Rob does some great defense on the five bar against Shane and manages to score his second goal, but it was just a little too late as Shane and Hoof score the next goal to take the Match. It was a great match to watch and Steve Batista played some amazing foosball that day falling one game short in two events on doing a Double, Double Dip!

The Hayloft is always a great place to play foosball at whether you are coming back from some Spring Skiing or just out with friends for a couple of their signature beers and some great pizza's. They also have a small shuffleboard table and have just added several dart boards with a benefit Dart Tournament for the Humane Society on March 14th. No matter what you might be looking for in a Pub or Tavern, Hobbs & The Hayloft have it all! 



Commanding the Day, Shane & Hoof!



All of the Hobbs employees have great disposition and work hard at our events. That's exactly what we had with L to R Zach, Bella and Andrew.



Playing in the Draw Your Partner together, up front Dana Mullarky and in Goal Eric Blake.



SUMMER 2025

My daughter Chelsea and grandson Oliver came by again – starting him young and making memories.

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AT HOBBS TAVERN

BEER - DARTS - SHUFFLEBOARD
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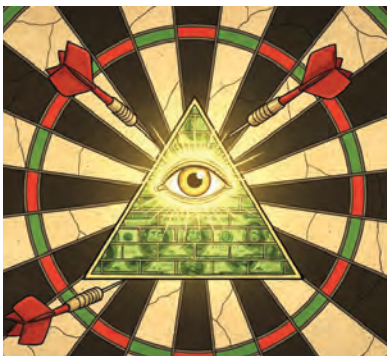
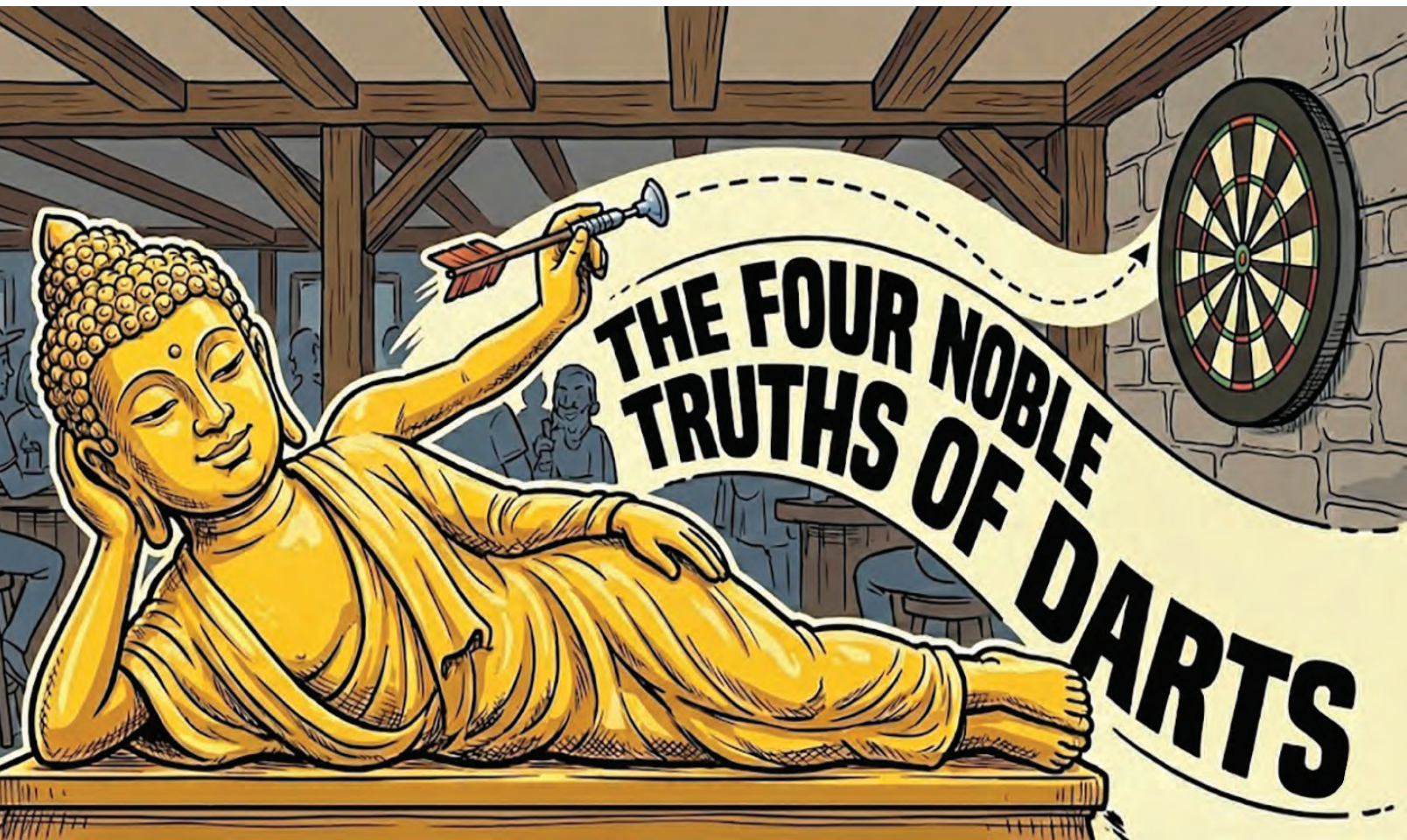


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HOBBS BREWING CO.
FOOD TRUCKS - THURSDAY CORNHOLE - 16 BEERS ON TAP
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By Gregg Tong, Tavern Players Darts Correspondent



Let's be honest Darts is an addiction. Once the game scratches that competitive itch, it can hijack your willpower and turn a casual lark into a fun obsession that dominates your thoughts. The moment you develop a modicum of skill and notch some wins on your belt, you'll be chasing the rush of a game winning double every time you step to the oche.

While it's certainly healthier than most vices, chasing the "perfect leg" should ideally add more to your life than it takes away. When approached with a healthy mindset, darts bolsters your social life, keeps you physically active, and even sharpens your cognitive faculties. But a word of caution: if you don't handle frustration well, perhaps look for a less competitive sport that doesn't involve sharp projectiles.

Finding balance among passion is like trying to hold onto water.

THE SEARCH FOR MEANING

In every pastime, you'll find the "lifers"—the people who live and breathe the sport, wear the shirts, and talk about it incessantly. Some may try to invent existential depth where none exists. For instance, the bullseye does not represent the same "all-seeing eye" found on the dollar bill.

While obsession might look like "crazy" to an outsider, it is often the secret sauce for excellence. Most elite players didn't reach the top without an arguably unhealthy amount of practice. It's only natural that we project a higher meaning onto things that become part of our identity.

Darts has no Gods and no divine origins. Yet although it's "just a simple pub game," it serves as a remarkably honest mirror of real life. Let's take a moment to reflect on the deeper meaning of darts, and what it can teach us about what we do outside of the game.



TRUTH I. PLAYING IS SUFFERING

Think about the ratio of time spent throwing versus actual success. How many arrows land exactly where you intended? For every exhilarating "ton-eighty," there are moments of hair-pulling frustration. We've all thrown a dart that felt mechanically perfect, only to see it miss the board entirely. We've all built massive leads only to "choke" at the finish line.

Of course, you'll have plenty of winning moments too, personal triumphs and more, but unless you're one of the big fish in whatever size pond you swim, the overwhelming majority of your experiences will be failure.

Are we just gluttons for punishment? What this reveals is finding inherent value in the pursuit itself, something worthwhile and more than just our results. And that's the real reason why we play.



TRUTH II. THE ROOT OF SUFFERING IS INCONSISTENCY

It is easy to become good at darts; the Herculean task is staying good. Witnessing a professional player in decline is a sobering reminder of how far and quickly the standard can drop. Watching two respected pros struggle on Double 1 actually connects them to the audience more than a 9-darter ever could—it makes us realize they are human, just like us.

Whether it's a lack of practice or the dreaded "dartitis," every player rides waves



of excellence and mediocrity. Your arm can literally forget its mechanics mid-match. Darts is a "cruel mistress" who gives you just enough "good" throws to keep your hopes alive before a crushing loss. But we soldier on, remembering that life, like darts, isn't always fair.

For most, the pursuit of X% improvement is an endless chase.



TRUTH III. THE GOAL IS GETTING TO ZERO

Life is a countdown, and so is a standard game of 501. Darts is unique in that it subtracts points rather than adding them. Like baseball, there is no clock; the game isn't over until someone hits the double. Til death do us part.

Nobody disputes the place where you start nor the place where you end. But everything in-between is up for grabs. While there is a "right way" to set up a finish, even the "wrong way" can occasionally result in a win.

We are all playing the same game with the same goal, yet we exist on a vast spectrum of style and strategy. This is no more evident than with today's massive surge of youth participation in what is traditionally an old person's game. It's dart's circle of life, but with evolution on steroids.

TRUTH IV. THERE ARE NO SHORTCUTS

The fundamentals are easy to learn, but the strategy required to win consistently takes effort—specifically, "finishing math". To the uninitiated, dart math (the constant addition, multiplication and subtraction) looks intimidating. In reality, these are just habitual patterns that eventually become part of the game's flow.

Do you think about breathing when you're walking? You can achieve the same thing with counting and darts.

There are volumes of books that cover strategy, drills, flash cards, memorization tips and tricks for calculating your way to the double out. But there's only one tried and true method to master the math of darts: Know the remaining score after every dart thrown.

That's it. There's no other secret. Everything else you need begins with and is made easier with this skill. Exercise your brain while you play and train it to count darts. Just follow these instructions:

- Make it a habit
- Do it when you practice
- Do it when you play
- Don't throw the next dart until you know
- Do it when you watch others play
- Keep at it until it becomes natural

If you don't think you can do this, you are wrong. Eventually something will "click" and it gets easier. The only thing that will stop you is giving up.

These are the hard truths about what life is about...and darts is no different.



The Dart Geek Zone

By Darren Eldridge, The Dart Geek

SPOTLIGHT: DPNE

The Tee Up Taproom

70 James St., Worcester, MA.



ON December 13th, 2025, the D Productions of Meat & Da Geek crew jumped into the van and headed off to the lands beyond the bridge. Our destination? The Tee Up Taproom at 70 James St. in Worcester, MA. We weren't just there for the vibes; we were there to live-stream the high-stakes Grand Finals of the 2025 Dart Players New England (DPNE) Main and Ladies tours.

Joining us as a special guest commentator was the world-famous Gregg Tong—Tavern Players legend, DartConnect mastermind, and dart historian. With Gregg behind the mic, our stream was locked, loaded, and set for success.



Ladies Finalists



Mens finalists

THE ROAD TO THE FINALS

The DPNE serves as the premier feeding system for the Championship Dart Corporation (CDC) tour in New England. The season consists of eight events across the region, all culminating in the December Grand Finals. This circuit gives the area's elite players a platform to hone their skills in a long-match format, preparing them to take on the world's best.

The tour is expertly helmed by Jen Pappalardo. If you or your business want to get involved as a tour stop or a sponsor, reach out to her at dartplayersne@gmail.com or check out their Facebook page. The 2026 schedule is already live, and it's shaping up to be the biggest year yet!

THE VENUE & SUPPORT

Worcester, MA's Tee Up Taproom is arguably one of the best spots in New England to toe the line. Between the 25+ dart boards, cornhole, golf simulators, and poker, there's never a dull moment—especially with their killer food and beverage lineup. It was the perfect stage for the Grand Finals. A massive shoutout to our Main 2025 sponsors, Todd & Doreen Albert, for their incredible support of the sport!

THE MAIN TOUR: A CLASH OF TITANS

Both defending champions were back to defend their thrones. Levi Remick entered the Main Tour as the #1 seed, while Aaja Jalbert held the #3 seed for the Ladies, fresh off her historic WDF World Finals debut at the legendary Lakeside Country Club in England.

The live stream kicked off with a heavyweight quarter-final: Levi Remick vs. Jason Dagnault. Levi (who had previously dispatched "Third Call" Jimmy Tranfaglia) started like a man possessed, taking the first leg with a blistering 107+ average. Undeterred, Jason—who had beaten Ron Sargent to get here—roared back to win three straight legs, including one where Levi posted a 110 average.

The match swung back and forth until it hit a last-leg decider. With a semi-final berth and the chance to dethrone the champ on the line, Jason stepped up and clinically put the match away with his third dart. One hell of a run by Levi, but Jason proved he came to play.

THE SEMI-FINALS

The bracket narrowed down to Jason Dagnault vs. Adam Leger in one half and our streamed match, Joe Ricard vs. Tom Curtin in the other.

- Joe vs. Tom: Tom broke Joe's throw in the opening leg, but Joe responded with three straight. Eventually, Tom "Top Cat" Curtin imposed his will, taking five of the last six legs to punch his ticket to the finals.
- Jason vs. Adam: A strategic battle of "mini-runs." Adam managed to string together back-to-back legs multiple times, eventually besting Jason 3 out of the last 4 legs to secure his spot in the finale.

THE MAIN EVENT: LEGER VS. CURTIN

The final saw Adam Leger facing off against area legend Tom Curtin. These two friends know each other's game inside out. After trading legs early, Adam went on a three-leg tear. Tom responded with five straight winning legs to put the pressure on.

In leg 12, Adam stopped the bleeding, finding a double that sparked a four-leg run of his own. With the title on the line, Tom Curtin produced a spectacular 115 average to force a last-leg decider.

The tension was palpable. Tom led off with a 123; after twelve darts, he sat on 124. Adam, after twelve, was on 122. DAMN! Tom's third dart at double 16 caught a flight, giving Adam one look at the crown. Needing 84, Adam went S20 – S14 – Bullseye. BOOM! Dead center. Adam dropped to the floor in pure exhaustion—the 2025 DPNE Main Tour Champion.

THE LADIES TOUR: THE "BUZZSAW" RETURNS

The Ladies' bracket started with Robin Sheridan taking on Annette Lavcheveque. With zero fuss and a steady hand, Robin swept the match 4-0 to reach the quarters. Meanwhile, the top three seeds—#1 Bette Cunningham, #2 Nicole Daigneault, and #3 Aaja Jalbert—all enjoyed opening-round byes.

In the quarterfinals:

- Bette defeated Terry Deanna.
- Nicole bested Jessica Dreyer.
- Aaja produced a whitewash against 2023 Champ Erin Perron.
- Michelle Dewhurst ended Robin's run with a 4-1 victory.

SEMI-FINALS & FINALS

The semi-final between Bette Cunningham and Michelle Dewhurst was a nail-biter and went to a deciding leg. Bette narrowly missed her match dart, allowing Michelle to step up and bury a 50 checkout on her second dart to secure a spot in the final. On the other side of the bracket, Aaja Jalbert continued her reign of terror, sweeping her match without dropping a single leg.

The Grand Final featured Aaja Jalbert vs. Michelle Dewhurst in a race to six. Aaja was relentless, putting on a clinic with an average just shy of 60. She closed out the championship with a professional 100 checkout (S20-D20-D20).

Huge congrats to Michelle for a class-act performance all day, but she simply ran into the "buzzsaw" that is Aaja Jalbert.

FINAL THOUGHTS

You can catch all the DPNE replays on our YouTube channel @ Dproductionsdarts, along with our monthly Dart Geek Zone podcast. For more adventures and darting shenanigans, follow Meat & the Geek on Facebook at Darts Cape Cod & Beyond.

Thinking about live-streaming your next event in New England? Shoot us an email at darreneldridge100@gmail.com and see if Meat & Da Geek can bring the cameras to you!

FINAL WORD: Please do us a favor and be the reason someone smiles tomorrow. It'll make you feel good, it'll make them feel great, and for a moment, it'll make the world a better place. **TP**



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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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- **Take a photo** with the latest Tavern Players magazine.
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- **Post your pic** to Instagram or Facebook, **TAG** our official account @TavernPlayersMagazine and use the hashtag #TavernPlayersInTheWild
- **No social?** Email it to tavernplayers@gmail.com

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!

Kenneth Brawn, Laconia NH
AI Generated – Love it!

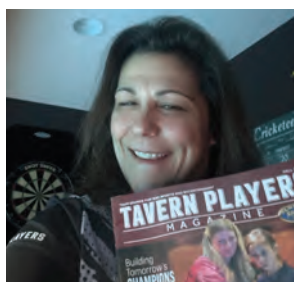
Greg – Ft. Myers, FL

Joe, Renagades Pub
East Boston, MA

Border Pub – Derby, Vermont



Paul Pechalis, Naples FL

The Lakes Region Dart League
Staff, Ossipee, NH area.

Erica Testa, Dover NH

Katie, bartender at Winni Bar &
Billiards, Gilford NHLeila Pettinato who plays foosball
with her Dad Matt, Hudson, NHWPBA Player Brittany Bryant, Ontario, Canada
and Avery Castel Brandt from East Moline, Illinois

"Hey Bryans Pub" East Moline, IL

Women's Professional Billiards
Association (WPBA) President
Dean Roesler, WisconsinL to R: Mark Drollette, Lake Placid,
NY and Tom Robinson from
Foosball Radio, Ganesvoot, NY



The Hayloft at Hobbs Tavern Dart Tournament



LAKES REGION

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SOCIETY

501 Singles

1st	Aaron Jalbert	Maine	\$500.00
2nd	Josh Tuft	New Hampshire	\$300.00

Draw Your Partner

1st	Jamie Pelosi	New Hampshire	\$600.00
	Aaron Jalbert	Maine	
2nd	Ray Creaney	New Hampshire	\$300.00
	Jen Pappalardo	New Hampshire	



Aaron Jalbert — 1st Place 501 Singles



Josh Tuft — 2nd Place 501 Singles



Jamie Pelosi and Aaron Jalbert — 1st Place Draw Partners



Jen Pappalardo and Ray Creaney — 2nd Place Draw Partners

By Ron Boucher

On March 14th Dart Players from across New England came together to support our furry friends at the “Lakes Region Humane Society” of New Hampshire.

There were two events, 501 Singles and Draw Your Partner. A total of 62 entries played in the 501 and 72 entries in the DYP with a combined payout of \$2,100. At one point in the day, they had a little over 100 players in the Hayloft. The standout player of the day was Aaron Jalbert from Gorham, Maine winning both 501 and DYP with his partner Jamie Pelosi from Madison, New Hampshire.

The event raised \$1,898.00; several different fund raisers went on throughout the day, like 50/50 raffle,



Raffle Prize Table



spinning dart board challenge and ticket auction for Surfside and other sponsored prizes. The anticipation for the number of players expected was between 25 to 30 players. Todd Jakubec, said he was pleasantly surprised with such a great turnout; it goes to show that we all Love our Furry Friends. A special shout out to the Lakes Region Darts staff, Caroyln Brown, Harry Goodwin, Todd Jakubec, Jamie Pelosi and Ann Pelosi for doing a great job and thank you for having Tavern Players Magazine play a role in helping to promote and market this event. We are looking forward to working with "Lakes Region Darts again. TP



More Raffle Prizes

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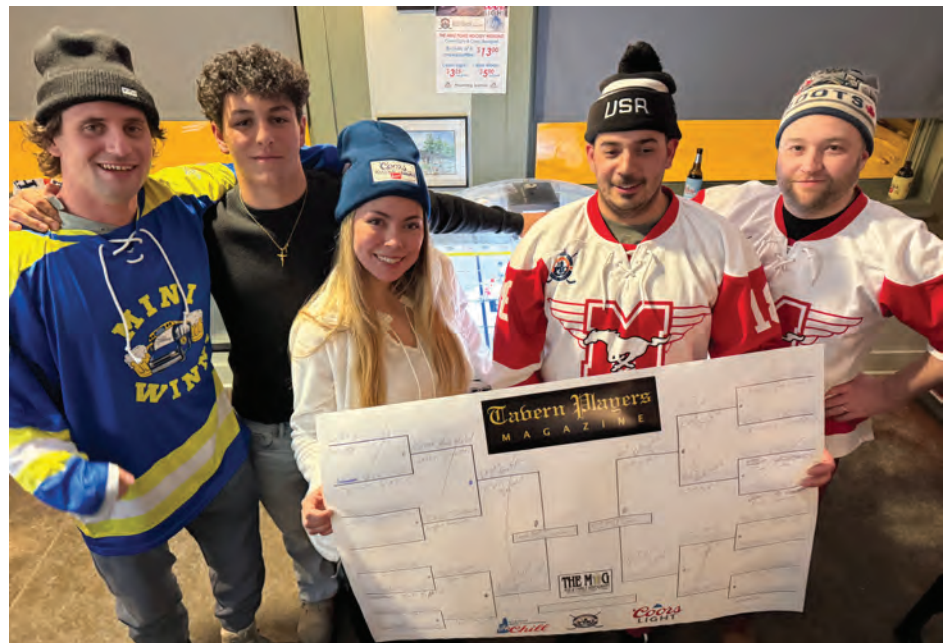
By Ron Boucher



2026 BUBBLE HOCKEY AT NEW ENGLAND POND HOCKEY



It was a GREAT NIGHT and Hockey was in the air and there was no shortage of Coors Light or Banquet!



ON January 30th, 275 hockey teams zoned in on Lake Winnepesaukee in the small town of Meredith, New Hampshire. That brings in the equivalent of around 2,000 players, not including family and friends. So needless to say, the town is overrun with hockey players and families. The event goes on for three days, with teams in different categories playing on 26 different rinks. It is quite the sight to see if you have never been, with Bob Houses scattered around the rinks, some of them vendors and players dressing on benches while the wind blows and in some cases it's about 3 or 4 degrees. It is fun to watch, but you can only last out there so long before you find that warm spot. If you

still want to stay outside and enjoy the atmosphere, you have the “**New England Pond Hockey Coors Light Chill Zone**”. Here they have warming pits and heat lamps, and of course Coors Light & Banquet! During the day you have plenty of good restaurants, pubs and taverns like **Kettlehead Brewing**, serving up some excellent craft beers”, **Frog Rock Tavern** on the Main Street, always a team favorite, new to the town this year **The Breeze** with views of the lake and the town, **Giuseppe’s Pizza** located in the Mill Plaza serving up some of the best pizza in the lakes Region, **Surfside** with outside heated igloos and of course we can’t forget our **Common Man Family**, **The Camp** a great steak house with good ole New England camp décor,

Lake House Grill at Church Landing serving up an exquisite menu for all to enjoy and of course **Lago Restaurant** the host, at the Center of it all, overlooking Meredith Bay and the hockey rinks.

Which brings me to this great little hideaway, well I call it a hideaway, if you have never been to the area or are not familiar with the area, just a couple of miles north of town at the lights is a place called **The Mug** in Center Harbor This is where the “**Bubble Hockey Championship**” is held each year during the Pond Hockey Classic. This year’s Bubble Hockey tournament had a little twist to it, there were so many players on Friday night that we ended up playing Doubles, which made



Team Mug with their Jager swag, love those hats. L to R: Taylor Tripp, Rory Norwood and Kiera (Spencie) Spencer. They kept the Coors Light and Coors Banquet moving.



Tournament Director & Editor of TPM Ron Boucher with Coors Light Reps, Sicely, Matt Strong winner of Saturday night and Courtney. The Coors Light ladies were instrumental in making both nights "FUN FILLED"!



The Dunkin' Team was keeping players warm with hot coffee and cocoa, headed up by Tim Wolak Manager, owner pictured in on left.



A Sponsor of the New England Pond Hockey, Casella Waste one of two teams. Players from L to R: Tommy (kneeling), Wheels, Pat, Chelsea, Kirmie, Chad, Rich and Nick (kneeling).



Thought that might be Jack Huges, but I couldn't see his teeth!



Coors Light Rep Sicely with Amoskeag Beverage Marketing Rep Tim Quinn as player checks out the chart standings.

it even that much more fun. It was a Draw Your Partner Event and we had 16 Teams. On Saturday night we had Singles and filled a 16 Bracket Chart. We had players from Florida, Canada, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York and all over the Tri-State area. Adding that extra fun to the evening were the Coors Banquet Girls handing out some swag to players and fans! Winners on Friday Night were Chris Bertone from Marshfield, MA and his partner Logan Frontiera, and on Saturday night for the third year in a row it was Matt Strong in Singles from Andover, Massachusetts, Runner-up on Saturday was Dave Rogers and Friday's Doubles Runner ups were Nick Rodriguez and Jim Cabrel.

The Mug has great food, with two bars, a pool table, and jukebox. It is a great spot for a party or benefit which also made Friday night a little extra special as they had a benefit going on. **TP**

Have a Great Rest of your year and we'll see you next year at "The Mug".

— Ron Boucher,
Tavern Players Magazine

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THE BOSTON BRUINS®

Banquet





By: Dina Park-Matsas,
otherwise known as in
the Cigar Community:
Ruby Cannoli

Cigar Lifestyle

The Female Perspective

Women in the cigar world are evolving quickly and it's more multilayered than the past stereotypes suggest. Women are breaking the old stigma of cigar culture being male dominated and sometimes unwelcoming. In fact, cigar interest to women is not just the latest trend or novelty, but a deliberate lifestyle choice based on rituals that we gravitate towards which includes exploring various flavors and how that balances with the social connection. Many women today are hosting tasting events, founders of cigar clubs, owning cigar lounges and brands, and building strong online communities.

Let's be honest, women love the experience of new adventures and in this case with cigars, it's the process of it all! For example, learning: selecting a cigar, how to cut and light properly, most importantly- sitting down to enjoy it. Almost as if being in a meditative state where you actually feel grounded, especially in this fast-paced world that we live in. Women often refer to cigar time as their time for mindfulness.

However, the experience must include the style and presentation of the cigar lounge in order for it to be inviting for women where intimidation is left at the door. My philosophy for female friendly is what I call "The Cigar Experience". You want the cigar lounge to be inviting to all and as I always say, "home away from home". Attention to detail is important for having the right flow and vibe, where conversation happens organically and not forced. The seating arrangement and types of seating that are

supportive but keeping that lounge vibe. Staffing with females who are knowledgeable cigar aficionados, brings the lounge to that next level, upscale atmosphere, and attention to detail that will maintain the balance among the men and women but at the same time seeing a more female presence in cigar lounge establishments.

This evolving role of women in the cigar industry continues to grow and is inspiring to many such as myself. Currently, It's the industry that I'm proud to work in being able to build my own path that began as a passionate hobby and has evolved as a rewarding career. I was given a unique opportunity from Steve Bartell, who is the owner of **Molon Labe Cigars and Ash Cigar Lounge** located in Kingston, NH. I bring a unique twist to both sides of the business by wearing multiple hats, which keeps it interesting. I'm the Tobacconist at Ash Cigar Lounge, where I provide the "Lounge Experience" and provide education about tobacco from seed to box production and host monthly **Ladies**

Ladies Night

Night, the first Tuesday from 6-8pm where the ladies learn the basics of cutting, lighting, and choosing their cigar as well as pairing it to one of our famous cocktails: The yummy Espresso Martini and Smoked Old Fashioned which can be made with the owners line of spirits and coffee! Which leads me to my next hat:

"Imperfection is beauty, madness is genius and it's better to be absolutely ridiculous than absolutely boring"

— Marilyn Monroe

Territory Sales Manager for Molon Labe Cigars, Spirits, and Coffee, where I travel mostly in the New England Area bringing "The Molon Labe Experience" to as many Cigar Lounges and Tobacco Shops as I can. In doing so, it allows me to meet a lot of people and make everlasting connections. In the midst of all that, I'm a Tasting Panel Member for Cigar Journal, where I have the opportunity to taste between 4-8 cigars, blind of course with a number only as the band, approximately every 3-4 months. Results are shared with other members from all around the world as well as subscribers of Cigar Journal.

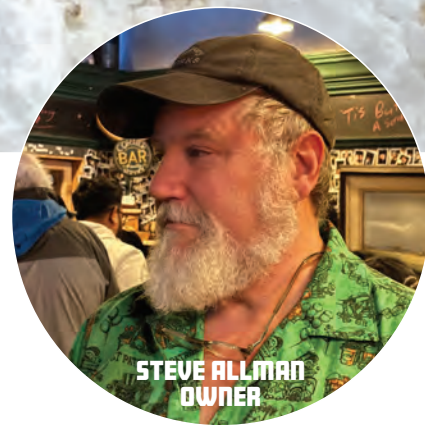
Being an actively involved female cigar enthusiast, I thought to myself, how great it would be to have my own space where I could go and enjoy my own collection of cigars. A space that I could design for everyone to enjoy but specifically geared towards women. So, I bought myself a Reed's and Ferry 12 x 16 shed with a loft and the project took one year to complete with help from my family members. I designed the entire inside based on the female atmosphere. My inspiration came from another well known public figure Lisa Vanderpump, who owns and operates many successful restaurants based on her core philosophy of the dining experience. Vanderpump consistently emphasizes the atmosphere is key to an enjoyable experience. The ambience should feel immersive, glamorous and emotionally engaging. I share Lisa Vanderpump's philosophy and applied it to the cigar world. My shed is a true example of the lounge experience that works for all but in particular the female audience. The shed atmosphere is a very sexy and oasis-like space brought to the next level including a mini bar, tv, table for 4 that converts into a working desk, ventilation accessories, and lounge seating. It's like Las Vegas meets the outdoors and of course an added feature of my custom ballet bar area to keep me looking fabulous!

To all you females out there, get all dressed up and put on your best confident façade and walk into that cigar lounge like you're a boss! Cut, Light, Smoke and Lifestyle just like Ruby Cannoli! 🍷





CANTERBURY ALEWORKS



By Jim MacMillan

The town of Canterbury, New Hampshire has lots of acreage where farms and fields were used to help raise food and livestock to help feed the masses. Today, and cleverly hidden amongst the woods of central New Hampshire is a well-known loner whose best kept secret is his amazing brewing ability, organization, and creative innovation of combining natural ingredients to make incredible beer.

Owner Steve Allman is a one-of-a-kind, part scientist, part artist and all original in the ability to keep it new and different. And by different, I mean the combination of uniquely original concepts, in part based on Old World techniques, but absolutely modern tasty treats he concocts because he knows what works.

Canterbury Aleworks can be found at 305 Baptist Hill Rd, Canterbury, NH. It might take you a few tries to locate the road going in, but once you're there, you'll realize this is special. Noticing

the real red English telephone booth next to the stairs leading downward gives you a hint you are not in Kansas anymore...

Canterbury Aleworks is one of the very few wood-fired breweries in the country. I asked Steve why wood-fired and not steam or electric controlled brewing. He simply replied, "I don't have steam or electric ample enough to do the job, but being in the forest, I do have wood."

The British-Irish pub flair is immediately discovered when you enter the tasting room. Beginning in 2012, as a micro-sized 1-barrel brewery, there is an attention to detail unlike much larger-scale breweries that keeps Steve busy; every part of the brewing process is calibrated and monitored. Here is where size matters. The 18 taps are constantly rotating freshly made beer of all styles and flavor profiles. You'll be sure to find one that calls out to you.

The last time I visited Canterbury Aleworks was at least 5



years ago. At that time there were many, many hop vines growing up along the road leading into the main brewery. They were not there when I visited this time and I asked why they were not present. Steve reported that they are in the midst of re-growing freshly cultivated hop varieties to optimize his brewing efforts. Again, quality of product is his main focus and he won't settle for lesser or cross-contaminated hop styles.

Primer... Beer is comprised of 4 elements: water, grain, hops, and yeast. The water can have a 'profile' with chemistry used to make it taste a certain way, which adds to the beer's flavor. Grain can be of many varieties (pilsner, ESB bitter, British malt, honey malt, Munich, roasted barley, and dark malt, to name a few) which help to form the taste and mouth feel of the beer when properly finished. Hops are the bittering element that not only adds taste and balance but can help to preserve beer over time. (see India Pale Ale's origin). Lastly, yeast varieties help to form the actual style of beer being made. When grains are boiled in water, they release sugars. The 'sugar water' requires hops added during the boil. When finished, the 'wort' is quickly cooled and the yeast is added in a holding container known as a fermenter. Over the course of 10-20 days, the yeast eats the sugar and releases alcohol into the liquid producing beer.

Steve takes pride in creating uniquely different beers each time he brews. It is likely that there will not be a duplicate brew; this is just his creativity coming out in his process. He has his favorites which he rebrews but it's different each time... talk about a free spirit. He states that "making beer is creative; it's where art meets science. I haven't cut my ear off yet" referring to painter Vincent Van Gogh.

We talked about how yeast is really the essence of the flavor profile of each beer. You can make two exactly the same batches of grains and hops, but use two different yeasts and you have two very different beers. Sours are popular these days and the yeast used for these styles of beer (sours and gose, etc) are distinctively

different from regular beer yeast. Sours are also an acquired taste.

When asked if he can be more consistent with his beers like the big brewers and his simple answer is "no". Each batch is better than the last and improvements happen along the way. "Why quit when you're ahead. I'm a process guy. I know what I'm trying to achieve and will get there at some point."

He's heard from other fellow brewers that taste his offerings and say 'Dude, that's the beer I sooooo wanted to make.' Satisfaction comes in many ways.

While I was chatting with him, I noticed that every patron there was interacting with each other and having meaningful conversations... no phones out browsing social media like you see almost everywhere else. That's huge! People actually talking to other people like in the days before iPhones got in the way. Steve has created a way for folks to connect with each other through the medium of beer.

Steve admits that there's a lot to know and manage; "CO2 gas pressures, plumbing, electrical, carpentry, biology, hydrodynamics while being artful. At the end of the day, if you're not having fun, then you're doing it wrong." He admits that alcohol is a social mechanism, but beer especially is a way for folks to connect.

Steve's son Eli is being groomed to take over much of the day-to-day activities and serving at the tasting room. A father-and-son combo is always a great adventure.

Stop in if you can to see Steve, say hi and enjoy fabulous beer in one of New Hampshire's well-kept secret. **TP**

CANTERBURY ALEWORKS

STEVE ALLMAN BREWER, OWNER
305 BAPTIST HILL RD CANTERBURY, NH

WWW.CANTERBURYALEWORKS.COM
FOLLOW ON SOCIAL MEDIA



By Jim MacMillan

Just Ten Minutes Apart

Wells River & Bradford Vermont

We examine today two establishments that have your back when it comes to yummy food and tasty drinks to quench your thirst. But the best part of both of them is that they are just ten minutes apart from each other. This makes it easier to visit them both on the same day and sample their fine offerings.

Sarkis and Erin Leigh Hand, co-owners of Sarky's Smokehouse and Saloon, 42 Main Street North, Wells River, VT, have been open since the spring of 2023.



Sarkis and Erin Leigh Hand





Previously, they opened Sarky's in Groton, MA, two days before the COVID shutdown in 2020. Because everyone had to stay home, Sarky's did an amazing take-out business and served the hungry public through a little window opening to the street. But when it reopened in June 2020, their 15-seat space didn't look nearly as profitable as their take-out business was prior to reopening.

That's when they realized that another location might be better and they soon found their new home in Wells River. The original bar there was known as The Happy Hour and had quite a following of surprising patrons including former President George H. W. Bush and Julia Child.

With much more space to serve folks in, it wasn't long before more taps, wine and full bar service became available along with an adjoining banquet room for weekly karaoke or private parties. A pool table also resides in that room for the occasional tournament. On the other side of the bar wall are two aisles of booth tables for more intimate gatherings.

Stop in when in the Vermont area and look over their delicious menu to get your

belly full while enjoying your favorite beer or mixed drink. Call for take-out 802-588-5044.

Leaving Wells River and heading south, it's not long (ten minutes) before you find yourself entering Bradford, Vermont, home to the Hungry Bear Pub & Grill at 776 Lower Plain Road since 1971.

I spoke with co-owner Mike and Laurie Pelletier about the past, present and future of "the Bear."

One thing that attracts new visitors is its location; the property abuts a busy gas station. Travelers fill up their tank and then want to get a bite to eat. The name Hungry Bear helps to invite them in. Once patrons discover how fun the Bear is and the tasty food served, they will be back again.

Mike explained how live music Thursday through Sunday draws their biggest crowds along with Wednesday night karaoke. He went on to state big plans for expansion. A larger bar space is planned with more space for a pool table and jukebox in the add-on room.

When Mike first took over, it was decided to make all food from scratch; "It's more authentic when it's made here and not just a microwaved appetizer." **TP**

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