



WORLD POOL ASSOCIATION

**GUIDELINES FOR THE WPA ARTISTIC POOL DIVISION (WPA APD),
AUTHORIZED AS A COMMITTEE ENTITY UNDER THE
WORLD POOL ASSOCIATION (WPA),
The World governing Body for Pocket Billiards**

Note: The new WPA logo (above) and its acronym meaning (World Pool Association) are included in this document. Ishaun Singh, President of the WPA sent an email notice of this update to the WPA Artistic Pool Division on 2/26/24. The original WPA logo and its former “World Pool-Billiard Association” acronym meaning are hereby removed from this document.

The **World Pool Association (WPA)** recognizes the pocket billiard discipline called “Artistic Pool”, which ultimately is governed by the *WPA*. Commissioned by the *WPA*, the WPA ARTISTIC POOL DIVISION (WPA APD) was formed on an interim basis April 15, 2002 at: 12432 State Highway 243, Cloverdale, IN 46120 – 8018 USA.

The WPA APD is governed by the *WPA Constitution (wpa-pool.com)*, and the following guidelines will furthermore define the structure, the tasks and the work of this division, whose primary task it is to promote and develop the interest for the pocket billiard discipline of “Artistic Pool” worldwide.

SPECIAL UPDATE (2/20/24): Jason Lynch, President of the WPA Artistic Pool Division established an Artistic Blackball Committee on 2/20/24 to develop, promote, and direct any and all events for the “artistic associated” cue sport discipline of Artistic Blackball under the sanctioning umbrella of the WPA and its continental federations worldwide.

The Artistic Blackball Committee will acknowledge, and operate according to the foundational guidelines of the WPA Artistic Pool Division contained in this document; thereby complying with the highest standards of “artistic” cue sport activity under the WPA. Questions on guidelines must be presented to the committee’s voting members, that are appointed by the WPA APD President and that must be board members on the WPA Artistic Pool Division. These voting members will review and majority vote on the topic at hand...with a reporting back to the WPA Artistic Pool Division for its hopeful stamp of approval.

The WPA Artistic Pool Division recognizes and approves the Artistic Blackball Committee for operational supervision of any Artistic Blackball event held, promotional efforts attached to each, and associated logistical factors. The WPA APD will oversee financial transactions that are necessary to operate efficiently and per sound stewardship principles per section 4G of this document.

The Artistic Blackball Committee will submit an annual written report to the WPA Artistic Pool Division with its progress (events, program shots/challenges being used, promotions, financial reporting etc.) This report should be sent to the WPA APD President by January 15th for the prior year.

Chapter I Name and Seat

1. **Name.** Following a decision made by the WPA Executive Committee in Cardiff, Wales in July, 2002, a division (committee) to further promote and develop “Artistic Pool” as a pocket billiard discipline worldwide shall be formed officially. The name of this division, which is governed by the WPA Constitution, shall be the WPA ARTISTIC POOL DIVISION (WPA APD)
2. **Established.** The WPA APD was formed on an interim basis in Cloverdale, IN, USA on April 15, 2002. It became operational October 25, 2002...following a final review and ratification of a multi-page guideline document presented to the WPA. NOTE: Specific points of these guidelines were modified in May of 2005 by the WPA APD, according to a decision to do so by the WPA APD in March of 2005. These modified guidelines were submitted to the WPA via John Lewis, WPA Secretary/Treasurer in late June of 2005 for review and requested approval. (Email via attachment transfer) WPA Executive Committee confirmed approval on 10/8/05. In March of 2012 the WPA APD updated these guidelines to reflect a fine-tuning of the WPA APD committee structure points and to enhance our sport movement via valued player input, new event / tour concepts, and marketing opportunities. An email statement (page 17) from Ian Anderson, WPA Board President on September 29, 2012 directed the WPA APD to operate with its “own guidelines” as a committee structure under the WPA. **Subsequent revisions of these document guidelines to reflect this WPA directive were done and ratified by the WPA APD on December 23, 2012, March 12, 2016, May 15, 2019, and March 1, 2024.**
3. **Office.** The residence of the WPA APD President shall determine the principal place of the WPA APD office. From time to time the WPA APD may choose to have other offices as so decided by the division.

Chapter II Definition, Purpose / Objectives

1. **Definition – Sport.** “Artistic Pool” is a special pocket billiard discipline with specific equipment and rules, and flexible format. Its general idea is to reveal the ultimate possibilities and the hidden beauty of pool, thus facilitating its promotion and development worldwide. The term “artistic pool” acts as an umbrella sport word for the 8 “skill categories” within its presentation domain. (See Format/Scoring)

Special Notes:

- The sport term “Artistic Pool” is often marketed using the promotional phrase “trick shots and so much more”, which confirms the multi-discipline and “aesthetically pleasing” nature of available “artistic” presentations, regardless of degree of difficulty.
- The WPA APD approved an “Artistic Pool Freestyle” guidelines document on May 31, 2015, allowing for the development of WPA World Ranked events using the unique presentations associated with this unique art form. Anyone promoting these types of events are encouraged to use the promo tagline: “freestyle trick shots and so much more”.
- **The WPA APD endorsed and recognized “Artistic Blackball” on 2/20/24, allowing WPA World Ranked events under the operational domain of its Artistic Blackball Committee. Anyone promoting these types of events are encouraged to use the promo tagline: “blackball trick shots and so much more”.**

2. **Definition – Equipment.** “Artistic Pool” is played on equipment corresponding to the parameters of Pool in accordance to WPA standards with some exceptions. NOTE: “Artistic Pool”, by nature of its art form, requires “specialty cues” and accessories for specific “artistic” skills, which are essential and exclusive to “Artistic Pool” competition. The specific needs for “Artistic Pool”, for the most part, follow the standard WPA specifications for all equipment, except that there is no limit on the number of cues that can be used. Shaft(s) can be changed at any time. Jump cues (40-inch length minimum) and masse cues are allowed. In some cases, specific “prop” or “specialty cue” dimensions may change to accommodate presentation skills, but all athletes will have equal rights to use such equipment according to agreeable access among the athletes. The WPA APD will request 9-foot tables for events in all proposals / bids with an option for 7-foot tables by approval of the WPA APD (per specific promoter / venue / sponsor requests made). **Note: Artistic Blackball uses special cues conducive to its play...with events played on its recognized table equipment.**
3. **Definition – Format/Scoring.** The athletes are competing individually, but in a “golf course” / “group play” format, performing a set amount of pre-determined “artistic” shots, and/or challenges (8 “sub-disciplines” or “skill categories”). These are the same for all athletes. The list of “sub-disciplines” or “skill categories” are as follows: 1) Trick / Fancy Shots, 2) Special Arts, 3) Draw Shots, 4) Follow Shots, 5) Bank / Kick Shots, 6) Stroke Shots, 7) Jump Shots, and 8) Masse Shots. Each of these has specific definition attachment detailing challenge limits and inclusions. Depending upon the “Degree of Difficulty” (DOD), and at which attempt (three attempts are normally allowed), an athlete will manage to perform the shot to satisfaction, he/she will be awarded points accordingly. From time to time also, individually designed or chosen “artistic” shots may be performed, as a part of the competition, in which case the degree of difficulty and number of points to be awarded, has been determined ahead of time, or with optional scoring by a panel of judges. In addition, some challenges have no DOD, and are scored by an alternate scoring, as so described in a then current “Artistic Pool Program”, which is available to all competitors. Allowance for specific private promoter formats and scoring can be accommodated, including, but not limited to, team, individual round robin, and special match play events that use single elimination, double elimination, and other / modified types of “playoff” charting.

Special Notes:

- The “Prop”, Novelty, & Special Arts discipline name was reviewed with other name options in November of 2011. The WPA APD approved the new name of “Special Arts” for the 2nd discipline on November 26, 2011.
- The format structure for “Artistic Pool Freestyle” events may include multiple disciplines or categories (combined or otherwise) and MAY USE names from the current Artistic Pool standard disciplines. NEW names may also be created for special “freestyle” presentations.

4. **Purpose.** The main purpose of the WPA APD is to further promote and develop Artistic Pool **(and Artistic Blackball)** worldwide **as official pocket billiard disciplines** recognized by the WPA. The WPA APD will, in order to fulfill the main purpose, work according to the following guidelines:
- A) All National Federations (*NF*'s) that are affiliated to the *WPA* and have a tradition of Pool shall immediately be included in the work of the WPA APD. As the governing body for pocket billiards in its country, a responsibility of such *NF* must be to seek and achieve official recognition for this new pocket billiard discipline by their respective Sports Council (*SC*) and/or National Olympic Committee (*NOC*), if such recognition is not automatic. All *NF*'s shall make good effort to develop and promote their own network of "Artistic Pool" events, along with all other official Pool disciplines, on a local, regional and national level. (NOTE: The WPA APD understands a training and education process for "artistic pool" must be made available to those *NF*s not familiar to this new discipline. Every effort will be made on the part of the WPA APD to satisfy this need, including, but not limited to, consideration of player and private promoter options for player development/incentive programs.) Such network of events, which will serve the purpose of promoting the further development of Pool nationally, must be coordinated with the WPA APD, the *WPA*, and respective Confederation Member (*CM*) in order to avoid collision of dates for major events.
 - B) All *NF*s that through their respective *CM* already are affiliated to the *WPA* must be informed about the integration of "Artistic Pool" as a Pool discipline, be updated on the further development of this Pool discipline, and receive invitations for events organized. The WPA APD will be responsible for all activities that will serve the purpose of introducing "Artistic Pool" in all countries that are represented by these *NF*'s.
 - C) The WPA APD will do its utmost in order to establish *NF*'s in all countries that are not yet part of the *WPA* and its *CM* activities.
 - D) Integrate all Rules and Sports Regulations concerning "Artistic Pool" into the *WPA* Rules and Sports Regulations. This work was concluded by the XIV *WPA* General Assembly in 2003, with future updates available for review by the *WPA*. The WPA APD is responsible for any proposals to change valid Rules and/or Regulations with regards to "Artistic Pool", which will be sent to the *WPA* General Assembly if so requested. A tuned Rules Document was reviewed and approved by the *WPA* in 2004. Note: The WPA APD approved updated rules for Artistic Pool in December of 2011 and again in April of 2015. Per an email notice in December of 2011 Ian Anderson, President of the *WPA* informed the WPA APD that it recognizes and accepts the Artistic Pool Division to effectively develop and fine tune player compliant Rules documents, as needed, without *WPA* ratification, in order to handle its professional responsibilities and duties for Artistic Pool.

SPECIAL NOTE: FUTURE UPDATES ON THE RULES FOR ARTISTIC POOL CAN BE REQUESTED FROM JASON LYNCH AND / OR A DESIGNATED BOARD MEMBER BY JASON! PLEASE EMAIL (MICHIGANKIDTRICK@GMAIL.COM) FOR ACCESS DETAILS.

- E) Develop and promote a network of international “Artistic Pool” events. Such events must be integrated into the *WPA* Calendar of Events, and all activities must be coordinated in cooperation with the *WPA* Sports Director. Information about such events, including invitations, quotas, qualification criteria and valid regulations must be distributed in due time before each such event, to the *WPA* and its *CM* (in accordance with valid *WPA* Sports Regulations). After the successful conclusion of each event, all records and statistics of importance must be distributed to the *WPA* and its *CM*. The *WPA* and/or its *CM* must sanction these events whichever according to the *WPA*. Note: The *WPA* has approved a “point of assurance”, which “ensures that all events that invite overseas players (not to include overseas citizens residing in the country of the event) in the amount of 8 or 1/8 of the field – whichever is smaller – must be sanctioned with the *WPA* and announced as such in liberal advance of each event”. *WPA* Sports Regulations will be applicable. *WPA* APD representative(s) shall supervise all international events, according to budgetary consideration allowances by event/promoter.
- F) Develop and promote an annual *WPA* World “Artistic Pool” Championship event for Men, Women and Juniors, to either be an integrated part of other *WPA* World Championships, or as its own separate event. The organizing of such event must be in accordance with *WPA* Sports Regulations, and be played according to the *WPA* APD Rules for “Artistic Pool”. Note: Preliminary focus is on events “open” to everyone, in which men, women, and juniors can all play in the same event until such a time that player interests dictate otherwise. A specific guideline and “point of assurance” by the *WPA* states that the world championship will be promoted with the correct title for the event in any and all advertising notices, releases, or material printed for the event, including, but not limited to, the official event shot/challenge program – a direct responsibility of the *WPA* Artistic Pool Division. The official title for this sanctioned, recognized, and credible world championship for the sport of “artistic pool” will be as follows:

“WPA World Artistic Pool Championship”

Special Notes:

- Any player / promoter representations using a world title other than the above worded text will not be recognized as official world championship representations. Players and / or promoters will be requested to use and update all artistic pool event titles they may include in their marketing efforts with the designated *WPA* acronym to validate its credibility when said event is sanctioned by the *WPA*; thereby validating all historical and documented connections for official world championships while preserving a key “foundation” principal.
- All official *WPA* World Artistic Pool Championships, along with other sanctioned and / or recognized / ranked Artistic Pool **(and Artistic Blackball)** events will be maintained as documented “historical / legacy” online listings for such events...to include player names, city / state / province / country data, position of finish, payouts, prizes, and associated event information for overall and discipline champions. The *WPA* APD has recognized and / or approved the preservation of all historical / legacy information to be posted in its entirety at: www.drcuepromotions.com (under the Past, Present, and Future menu tab). The present curator for this safekeeping vehicle is Tom “Dr. Cue” Rossman. For more information, please send an email to: drcue@artisticpool.org

Note: An additional legacy document posted at the aforementioned site menu tab is entitled the Official Artistic Pool “Timeline” History. This special sport recap promo tool presents a complete bullet point presentation of Artistic Pool from its earliest days. It includes foundational points of history with “trick shots and so much more” prior to 1990; junior, amateur, and semi-professional events in the 1990’s and beyond; plus, the development of professional Artistic Pool with the advent of the WPA Artistic Pool Division, and much more. The original sport foundation for a WPA “General Committee” and a non-player Artistic Pool Shot Selection Committee, working with a worldwide player shot / challenge submission process are included. The WPA Artistic Pool Division encourages continued usage and promotion of the foundational components within this document: to assure fair player competitions with unbiased shot selections, to exhibit fan-friendly presentations, and to maintain long-term stability within the overall Artistic Pool movement.

- Sanctioned, recognized, and credible “artistic pool freestyle” world championships under the WPA / WPA APD will be officially titled as follows:

“WPA World Artistic Pool Freestyle Championship”

- **Sanctioned, recognized, and credible “artistic blackball” world championships under the WPA...with WPA Artistic Pool Division oversight will be officially titled as follows:**

“WPA World Artistic Blackball Championship”

- G) For the purpose of maintaining the running activities, the WPA APD shall establish its own Treasury. The income shall mainly consist of revenues from organized events and activities, WPA funding, as well as fees to be paid by athletes and supporters included in the WPA APD activities (membership and license fees). Sanction fees that are obtained by the WPA for “Artistic Pool” events will also be forwarded to the WPA APD account. [This financial point on sanction fees is subject to WPA review after an initial 2-year period.]

The WPA has approved a “point of assurance” for sanctioning that “ensures that only events of \$25,000 USD in total prize money or more, that meet WPA sanctioning requirements (Point E above) are to pay a sanction fee equal to 5% of the added money to the prize fund”. The WPA APD Treasury shall cover all running expenses with regards to the WPA APD activities, including committee delegates to any necessary WPA meetings as allowable by WPA APD budget and as approved by the WPA APD committee board members. In case the WPA APD will be dissolved, as provisioned in the heading of this article, or if for other reason the WPA APD account will be closed, all eventual assets will be transferred to the WPA account. The WPA APD account, in case that eventual prize fund will be distributed through and from this account, will also be responsible for the correct taxation of player’s revenues, and the paying of such withheld taxes to proper tax authority. Eventual taxes on profit that may occur shall also be covered by the WPA APD account. The WPA cannot be made liable for any deficit that may occur in the WPA APD Treasury.

Note: The WPA Artistic Pool Division started as a volunteer committee structure under the WPA umbrella. All event funds administered over by the WPA APD include, but are not limited to, sponsor monies, entry fees collected, payouts with appropriate player tax forms etc, and special costs to run each event. To validate proper handling of funds by the WPA APD, a financial income / expense recap document will be created by the WPA APD and be made available to requesting parties within 2 weeks of the designated WPA sanctioned event.

This guideline pertains to the WPA World “Artistic Pool” Championship and any other major events under the direct operational and administrative control of the WPA Artistic Pool Division. Player-led organizations and/or private promoter entities may provide financial responsibilities as needed for money in and out and applicable / required tax duties in an administrative agreement between all parties.

UPDATE: On November 12, 2014 the WPA Artistic Pool Division started doing business under the umbrella of ARTISTIC POOL WORLD WIDE, LLC a legal entity with its own bank account for all monetary transactions and sponsor negotiations. **Details available by email to Jason Lynch – michigankidtrick@gmail.com**

- H) The WPA APD will exercise control of the eligibility of athletes, beyond whatever is already covered by WPA and CM Sports Regulations, to participate in WPA World “Artistic Pool” Championships as well as all other sanctioned “Artistic Pool” events on a continental or world level. Note: The WPA has approved a “point of assurance” that “there will be no charging for international memberships to any committee or organization involved with or affiliated to the WPA Artistic Pool Division.”
- I) The WPA APD will furthermore be responsible for the development of an “Artistic Pool” World Rankings based upon relevant events, as well as acknowledge and record any other statistical data of importance with regards to “Artistic Pool” competitions, athletes and their achievements.

A player committee and overall player acceptance, with subsequent review by the WPA APD and follow-up approval by the WPA, established World and Federation Rankings in 2004. The ranking process and applicable rankings were updated in late 2010 by select player committee members in conjunction with and under the ultimate authority of the WPA APD. The WPA accepted these “new” rankings in April of 2011.

Note: A subsequent update to the rankings / process was done in October of 2014 with direct linking found at: <http://www.facebook.com/wpaapd>. In addition, the current hosting location for posting and maintaining official WPA World Artistic Pool Professional Rankings, WPA World Artistic Pool Freestyle Professional Rankings **and WPA World Artistic Blackball Professional Rankings** is **www.wpa-apd.org**. Any and all other ranking lists that imply or state official “world” attachment are considered in direct conflict of the official WPA World Artistic Pool Professional Rankings, and as such, will not be accepted or promoted by the WPA. The WPA APD approved a separate “inactive player-ranking list” on March 12, 2016. This special ranking list will be maintained for anyone that has received disciplinary action by the WPA APD for specific event / player violations.

Special Notes:

- On 2/7/24 The WPA APD approved an updating of World Rankings as far as what events are included in them, plus a renewed establishment of continental / federation rankings.
- The Artistic Blackball Committee will suggest world ranking guidelines for any world ranked Artistic Blackball events that are held, plus continental / federation rankings as applicable. These guidelines will be presented to the WPA APD board for approval.

J) The WPA APD will also make sure that all relevant information with regards to all of the above will be displayed / linked via the WPA Homepage, www.wpa-pool.com with regular updates. Such information will also be directly relayed to the WPA Sports Director, print-media, Radio/TV, and Billiard magazines worldwide, either directly or through the WPA.

Chapter III Membership

1. **WPA APD Membership.** Since the WPA APD is a working division of the WPA, responsible for all activities with regards to “Artistic Pool”, the WPA APD will have no direct membership of national federations. All athletes who would like to participate in activities organized by WPA APD must also be members of their respective NF affiliated to the WPA. WPA APD furthermore may solicit general market individual and business sponsorships in order to help fund its budget. Should an athlete be representing a country in which there is no affiliation to the WPA, such athlete may eventually be granted participation. WPA should in such case be informed about the particular athlete and the country/federation he/she represents. It is also essential that all athletes, at all times, will be in good standing with their respective national/continental and world body. Note: In this regards, no “dual” memberships will exist among the athletes of “artistic pool”.

Each federation structure is responsible for its own membership attachment process to its own athletes, and respective event participation by any athlete will respect and honor the membership base of all other athletes; thereby, allowing athletes to compete internationally by paying only one applicable membership fee within their own federation and per their specific membership process. In addition, a Code of Conduct for all athletes was submitted and approved by the WPA in 2004, which will help to reinforce WPA Sports Regulations for “code of conduct” and “good standing” judgments...by emphasizing professional image and demeanor...with enforceable player sanctions for conduct violations.

Note: Updated Code of Conduct guidelines included in a new “Professional” Artistic Pool Player’s Agreement (per a specified agreement time period) that can be used by all continental federations and player entities, as well as the WPA Artistic Pool Division in administration over the WPA World Artistic Pool Championship was approved and implemented in December of 2011. This was done to assure enforceable player sanctions for conduct violations both in and out of the artistic pool arena, without fear of legal recourse by a sanctioned player toward the federation and/or player entity boards and/or individuals serving within these directing organizations. Per an email notice in December of 2011 Ian Anderson, President of the WPA informed the WPA APD that it recognizes and accepts the Artistic Pool Division to effectively develop and fine tune player compliant Code of Conduct / Pro Player Agreement documents, as needed, without WPA ratification, in order to handle its professional responsibilities and duties for Artistic Pool.

The WPA APD approved a new Player Participation Agreement on March 12, 2016 for players participating in all WPA APD recognized / WPA sanctioned events under the legal umbrella of Artistic Pool Worldwide, LLC.

SPECIAL NOTE: ALL INFORMATION ON CODE OF CONDUCT / DISCIPLINARY POINTS IN THE PLAYER AGREEMENT CAN BE REQUESTED FROM JASON LYNCH, WPA APD PRESIDENT. PLEASE EMAIL FOR DETAILS – MICHIGANKIDTRICK@GMAIL.COM

2. **WPA Membership.** All *CM* of the *WPA*, and their *NF* members are automatically to be considered as a part of any “Artistic Pool” activities.
3. **One Member per Territory.** The *WPA* recognizes only one organization in each continent as a Voting Member, and only one organization in each country (normally affiliated to the *WPA* through the *CM*). An athlete who is representing an organization other than the one recognized through the *WPA* cannot participate in WPA APD activities without special consent of the *WPA*.
4. **Recognition and Participation.** The *WPA* recognizes all *NF*’s that are members directly with the *WPA*, or indirectly through a *CM*, as the sole governing body of pocket billiards / pool in their country. Participation in international events that are not sanctioned by the *WPA* and/or its *CM* must be prohibited.
5. **Division Committee Board Members.** Based upon Chapter III, Article 1 above, the WPA APD committee board consists only of its committee board elected or chairman appointed officials with update notifications to the *WPA* General Assembly. The WPA APD committee board includes, but is not limited to, the following offices:
 - A) President / Chairman
 - B) 1st Vice President
 - C) 2nd VP / Sportive Relations / Player Liaison (Mexico, S. Am., C. Am. – CPB)
 - D) General Secretary
 - E) Treasurer
 - F) Sportive Relations / Player Liaison (North America – BCA – 2 officers)
 - G) Sportive Relations / Player Liaison (Outside BCA & CPB - 2 officers)
 - H) Special Services / Board and Sport Support (2 officers)
 - I) **WPA Representative / Director Liaison (Non-Voting)**

Positional Members – 11 Voting Members + 1 Non-Voting Liaison

- A) President / Chairman – Jason Lynch (USA – MI)
- B) 1st Vice President – Jim Sommer (Europe -- Denmark)
- C) 2nd VP / Sportive Relations / Player Liaison (CPB) – Javier Gomez (Mexico)
- D) General Secretary – One board member in agreement with APD President / Chairman
- E) **Treasurer – Brian Pauley (USA -- OH)**
- F) Sportive Relations / Player Liaison (BCA) – Two board members in agreement with APD President / Chairman
- G) Sportive Relations/Player Liaison (Outside BCA & CPB) – Two board members in agreement with APD President / Chairman
- H) Special Services / Board and Sport Support (2 officers) – Two board members in agreement with APD President / Chairman
- I) **WPA Representative / Director Liaison – (BCA President) – Non-Voting**

Special Note: Updated February 15, 2024 to allow for flexible duty assignments for members!

Note: On January 1, 2015 the number of WPA APD committee board voting members were approved at 11 total until further review and per a future ballot voting to any considered / proposed change. A 12th committee board member (WPA Representative / Director Liaison) would remain in a non-voting capacity.

SPECIAL NOTES: Selection process for committee members as follows:

- A) Upon direction of the WPA APD committee board chairman, and in accordance with the “term of office” guidelines (point 6 below), the WPA APD committee board members may be elected by the committee board itself or may be appointed by the WPA APD committee board President / Chairman, as long as it is understood that the WPA President must approve each WPA APD committee board person for the respective position needing filled on the WPA APD committee board.
- B) Only persons who are members of a WPA recognized body might be elected or appointed as officials of the WPA APD committee board per an appropriate/timely nomination process.
- C) Nominations/applications will be accepted from any and all persons desiring to run for the WPA APD committee board and in accordance to WPA APD guidelines in place for international representation on the committee. Note: On March 19, 2005 the WPA APD voted to maintain a minimum of 2 persons outside of the United States for inclusion on the WPA APD committee board, and encourages all federations to have representation on the WPA APD committee board, as the sport grows in the international arenas of interest.

Nominations for WPA APD committee board positions will be accepted within a designated time period for the positional expirations noted in the “term of office” guidelines below. All submitting persons that want to be included in the nomination process should include personal details with regards to full name, date of birth, profession, eventual status within *NF* and/or *CM*, as well as, any special and/or relevant qualifications. Admittance of nominations, which have been received late, will be voted on by the WPA APD committee board to consider acceptance of said nomination by a simple majority vote. Nominations may also be taken at a designated time as directed by the WPA President / Chairman to fill vacancies in lieu of an appointment being made.

NOTE: The WPA Artistic Pool Division board voted to increase the number of “voting” officers to a “maximum of 11 members” on 9/28/14. An official nomination process started on 10/21/14 with a follow-up voting ballot executed by seven current board members as of 12/15/14. 4 new voting members were added to the WPA APD board on 1/1/15 per the “chapter III / point #5” section updating in this document. On July 1, 2015, the APBU, OPBU, and AAPA were included with the EPBF for oversight by designated board member(s).

OFFICER TITLE UPDATES (February 15, 2024): Javier Gomez remains in his position as the 2nd VP with an additional designation as the Sportive Relations / Player Liaison for Mexico, Central America, and South America (CPB domain). Florian Kohler and Jamie Moody were designated as the Sportive Relations / Player Liaisons for Europe, Asia, Oceania, and Africa (EPBF / APBU / OPBU / AAPA domains). Abram Diaz and Tim Gallagher will work together as designated Sportive Relations / Player Liaisons for North America (BCA player domain). Tom Rossman and Steve Markle are designated for Special Services / Board and Sport Support.

- D) The WPA APD committee board will include a director from the WPA board to serve as a liaison between the WPA Board of Directors and the WPA Artistic Pool Division.

Note: The WPA Artistic Pool Division will report applicable sport actions and proposals to the WPA Board and / or General Assembly through the WPA “director liaison” on the WPA APD committee board. The APD may also report to the WPA directly per accepted protocol.

- E) The WPA Representative / Director Liaison to the WPA APD committee board can only be appointed by the WPA President, and will not be elected to this position, if elections are used to select WPA APD committee board members.
- F) The WPA President will approve a separate WPA APD committee board chairman if not recognized in a dual capacity position as WPA APD President / Chairman.

6. **Term of Office.** The following “term guidelines” designate the positional “term lengths” and “expiration dates” for the officials / officers of the WPA APD committee board:

President / Chairman, 2nd VP / SR – PL (CPB), and Treasurer

Plus

Sport Relations / Player Liaisons (2 Officers -- EPBF / APBU / OPBU / AAPA) as follows:

(Term from present day to June 30, 2025, and then 2 - year terms thereafter)

1st VP, Secretary, Sport Relations / Player Liaisons (2 Officers -- BCA)

Plus

Special Services / Board and Sport Support (2 Officers) as follows:

(Term from present day to June 30, 2024, and then 2 - year terms thereafter)

Special Note (Updated 2/15/24): “Expiration dates” for ALL of the above positions may be modified, as necessary, based on board member appointments and / or other factors as discovered by the APD President / Chairman and as noted in email updates to all APD board members.

WPA Representative / Director Liaison – As designated by the WPA as follows:

(Continuous terms of no specific length per WPA direction)

At the end of a term, an official may be re-elected or appointed based upon nomination from the WPA APD or his/her *CM/NF*. In case of death, resignation or removal of an official, the WPA APD committee board chairman may replace such by an eligible person, until the next “term” expiration date for the respective position. The substitute member may run for any WPA APD committee board positions in subsequent term periods via the nomination process.

7. **Authority to Sign.** The President or his/her substitute together with one other WPA APD official shall sign legally binding for the WPA APD. The Treasurer and / or the President shall sign all financial matters.

8. **Duties and Competence.** The WPA APD is directly responsible for all its activities, and will report to the WPA about such on a regular basis. The WPA APD officials are obliged to safeguard the interests of the WPA to the best of their ability, and will execute and supervise decisions taken by the annual meeting and/or the WPA General Assembly. It is within the competence of the WPA APD to order sanctions against licensed players and officials as long as the WPA Constitution does not apply this right to other authorities. Any disputes arising that cannot be resolved by the WPA APD itself will be brought to the WPA General Assembly, which will form a final decision upon the matter. A WPA APD budget for events, etc. shall be developed as needed to justify proper expenditures, etc. Individual items may be cut at the discretion of the WPA APD, and others increased, if deemed in the best interest of respective Artistic Pool events / sport promotions and / or WPA APD operational considerations.

Note: Per approval of the WPA APD committee board In December of 2011, any funding by the WPA to the WPA APD for WPA World “Artistic Pool” Championships will be assigned to the player prize fund, except for a WPA APD designated and approved allowance for reasonable costs applied to event operational / administrative purposes.

9. **WPA APD Meetings.** The WPA APD will meet whenever necessary upon instructions of the President, and invitations will generally be sent to all officials a minimum of four weeks prior to such meeting. In urgent situations this time may be reduced, and it is also permissible to conduct telephone conferences or voting based upon facsimile and email correspondence. All decisions are taken with simple majority. The President has a casting vote. Minutes will be recorded at all meetings and will be sent to all WPA APD officials. They will also be made available to the WPA directly if the WPA Representative / Director Liaison so directs.
10. **Reimbursement.** All functions are honorary and mode of allowances and reimbursements are subject to decisions made by the WPA APD, but with limitation to what is stipulated by the accepted budget.
11. **Audit.** One or two auditors, who are not WPA APD officials, will be elected by the annual meeting, unless the annual meeting instead will decide to engage an independent certified public accounting (CPA) firm to check the accounting. The audit shall include inspection of profit and loss account, balance sheet as well as WPA APD inventory, and the opinion shall be forwarded to the WPA APD within 45 days of the end of the fiscal year. Such written report shall include a motion to the annual meeting. If deemed necessary the auditor(s) is entitled to conduct an interim revision, which however must be accounted for to the annual meeting. Elected auditor(s) can only hold office for two consecutive years.

SPECIAL NOTE: Due to limited funding for budget considerations of the WPA APD committee board, and the fact that all of the monetary funding provided to the WPA APD by the WPA is used predominately for the WPA World “Artistic Pool” Championship player prize funding and administrative per point #8 above, it is not financially feasible to hire auditors for any WPA requested financial reporting. In lieu of this budget limitation, the WPA APD will provide a basic report as requested via an email document, showing yearly cash flow per agreement of the WPA APD President and Treasurer.

12. **Financial Year.** The financial year of the WPA APD will be the calendar year.
13. **Indemnity, Insurance and Liability.** WPA APD agrees to indemnify the *WPA* to hold it harmless from and against all actions, proceedings, costs, damages, claims, demands and liability whatsoever, which it may suffer or incur based upon its activities. The WPA APD is liable to the extent of its property. All personal liability of WPA APD officials is excluded, unless action by an official can be deemed illegal in the country in which the WPA APD is registered and/or has its legal seat.
14. **Sub-Committees.** The WPA APD may from time to time appoint subject-specific committees, which will fulfill their tasks according to the directives of the WPA APD, and within the limitations of a therefore foreseen budget.

Chapter IV **WPA General Assembly**

1. **Authority.** The *WPA* General Assembly is the highest institution of the *WPA*, and during the 2002 WPA Executive Committee meeting; it was decided to approve the structure and operation of the WPA APD. The *WPA* authorizes the WPA APD to work on its behalf in order to develop and promote “Artistic Pool” as a pocket billiard discipline worldwide. With exception for a certain discretion that these guidelines provide, the WPA APD is always responsible towards the *WPA* for all of its decisions and actions, and ultimately *WPA* ratification may be requested. Therefore, the *WPA* General Assembly also is the highest institution of the WPA APD.
2. **Conditions.** In order for the WPA APD to be successful in its work, the *WPA* has given the WPA APD certain rights and duties, competencies, and the right to operate with a separate treasury, as so defined and addressed in these guidelines. The WPA APD will exist as such for as long as it deems itself necessary in order to safeguard the further development of “Artistic Pool” as a pocket billiard discipline. In case that a decision to dissolve the WPA APD will be taken at a future point in time, specific authority over the discipline of “Artistic Pool” will be transferred to the *WPA*, and all eventual assets within the WPA APD Treasury will then also be transferred to a *WPA* account as approved by majority vote of the WPA APD board.

Note: This authority transfer refers to the political and WPA directive applications that the WPA APD is responsible for in its efforts to assure the WPA of guideline compliance for specific events among the players and promoters of our sport, in conjunction with the various federation entities under the WPA. Any specific private company attachments to the sport via website ownership of “artistic pool” domain names, any copyrighted and trademarked products and logos/ideas that are linked to “artistic pool” in the private sector, any private company education, entertainment, and competition applications to “artistic pool”, and any special private “artistic pool” promotions developed for either profit or non-profit purposes will continue in their own domains for the advancement of “artistic pool”, in an assumptive position of following the WPA guideline structure for this discipline in the highest professional standards possible.

3. **WPA General Assembly.** The **WPA General Assembly (AGM) is held annually, normally in conjunction with the WPA World 9-Ball Championships or via an alternate online meeting via Zoom.** Prior to the GA, and at the same location, a full WPA Board of Director's Meeting is held. The WPA APD is requested to participate in both these meetings, in order to give a full report about the general development, its decisions and activities. Such report shall also include an annual financial report, as well as the latest Auditor's Report. Eventual decisions formed by the WPA APD Annual Meeting shall also be submitted, as well as motions to be brought forward to the General Assembly for ratification if needed.

Note: Participation in the WPA General Assembly is being considered in the near future to update the WPA on the past, present, and future of our sport, from the political, player, and private promoter side. **The WPA Artistic Pool Division had 2 board member representatives present at the 2025 WPA AGM held on March 4, 2025 – These were Jason Lynch, President of the WPA APD and Tom Rossman, APD “special services / sport support” board member.**

Chapter V WPA APD Annual Meeting

1. **WPA APD Annual Meeting.** In conjunction with the organization of the annual WPA World “Artistic Pool” Championships, a WPA APD Annual Meeting will be organized. Eligible to participate and vote will be representatives of all CM/NF's, that are part of the WPA APD activities, and that have fulfilled their obligations towards the WPA. However, in order to be eligible to vote such NF must be a full member of the WPA directly or indirectly through CM. A provisional member will be entitled to participate as an observer at such meeting, but has no right to vote. NF that participates in the WPA World Artistic Pool Championships, and is eligible to vote, is obliged to also participate in the WPA APD Annual Meeting. NF that for whatever reason is not participating in the WPA World Artistic Pool Championship, but otherwise is an official representative under the provisions above, and have fulfilled its obligations towards the WPA, will be eligible to vote.

Note: At such a time that this becomes a reality, the WPA will be so notified with specific agenda and meeting details.

2. **Invitation.** All full and provisional members of the WPA, that have fulfilled their obligations towards the WPA, will be invited at least ten weeks ahead of time, to participate in both the WPA World Artistic Pool Championships and the WPA APD Annual Meeting. Such invitation shall include a proposed agenda for the meeting, with provisions for how further items and proposals may be submitted by invited parties. Nominations for elections shall also be included (see also Chapter III, Article 5). Generally, such proposals must be lodged in writing with the WPA APD General Secretary no later than four weeks prior to the meeting. Any correspondence received after the set deadline can only be included in the agenda if the Annual Meeting will so decide with a 2/3 majority. The final invitation, together with the minutes from the last WPA APD Annual Meeting and the final agenda, has to be sent out no later than

three weeks ahead of the meeting. Representatives of the *WPA* and its *CM* shall also receive invitation to participate as observers at the *WPA APD Annual Meeting*.

3. **Agenda.** The *WPA APD Annual Meeting* will discuss and decide all points of the agenda, that will include but not be limited to the following points;
 - a) Approval of the agenda.
 - b) Approval of the minutes from the previous Annual Meeting.
 - c) Review and approval of the annual reports from the President, the General Secretary, the Treasurer, the Sportive Relations Directors/Player Liaisons, and Special Services.
 - d) Discharge of the *WPA APD* and Auditor(s).
 - e) Elections of *WPA APD* officials.
 - f) Fees.
 - g) Budget.
 - h) Discussion / voting on proposals by the *WPA*, the *WPA APD*, the *CM* as well as the *NF*.
4. **Right to Vote and Eligibility.** All participating *CM/NF*'s that according to Chapter V, Article 1, are eligible to vote, will be given one vote each. The *WPA APD* committee and observers are not entitled to vote, with exception of the President who will have a casting vote in case of a second ballot. Votes and elections shall be conducted openly. However, if one or more delegates wish to conduct a secret voting upon a matter, this must be honored. All decisions with exception for such that will require *WPA* ratification and/or would constitute changes of Rules and Sports Regulations, will become effective immediately.
5. **Minutes.** All decisions, formed by the *WPA APD Annual Meeting*, are to be recorded. Should one or more delegates require it, the minutes on individual points of the agenda shall be read out. The minutes are to be submitted to the *WPA*, its *CM* and all *NF*'s that participated in the Annual Meeting and/or would have been eligible to vote, within four weeks following the meeting.
6. **Chairperson.** The *WPA APD Annual Meeting* will be presided over by the President or his/her substitute. At the discretion of the President, he/she may call for a substitute or a delegate to preside over the meeting, should the next point on the agenda be his/her re-election.
7. **Ratification.** All decisions formed by the *WPA APD Annual Meeting* that will require *WPA* ratification, must be presented to the *WPA* Board of Directors for inclusion into the agenda of the *WPA* General Assembly. In general, such ratification will be given, unless the IOC Olympic Charter and/or the *WPA* Constitution would contradict a decision formed by the *WPA APD*. Since the *WPA APD* also will work on a continental level, occasionally decisions will have to be ratified rather by the concerned *CM* instead of the *WPA*.

Chapter VI Final clauses

1. **Official Language.** English is declared to be the official language of WPA APD and is to be used in all meetings.
2. **Official Currency.** The official currency of all WPA APD transactions shall be United States Dollar (USD).
3. **Limitation of Liabilities.** With exception for what is already stated, no official, agent or employee of the WPA APD shall be made liable for failure to act on the part of any other member, official, agent or employee of the WPA APD. Nor shall any official, agent or employee of the WPA APD be liable for acts or omissions to act arising out of willful misfeasance.
4. **Matters not provided for.** All matters not provided for by these guidelines and/or the *WPA Constitution* with relation to the WPA APD, or cases of force majeure, should be settled by the *WPA General Assembly*, whose decision shall be final. Decisions on matters of legislation shall, however, not become operative until the *WPA General Assembly* has given a final approval.
5. **Coming into force.** These WPA APD guidelines shall come into force upon approval at the WPA APD Annual Meeting and / or via email per a WPA APD “majority” voting confirmation process. The WPA granted WPA APD “division” operation under its own guidelines per Ian Anderson, WPA Board President on September 29, 2012 (see below)

NOTE: Above guidelines were revised by, and in coordination with the WPA APD committee board.

WPA Board Decision Email Statement – September 29, 2012

“I spoke with our Board about the APD, and it was thought that as it is run as separate division, we should allow it to proceed under its “OWN GUIDELINES” because your division would know what suits your own particular needs better than us, provided that it is conducted in the best interest of the sport and under the spirit of fairness to all.”

Regards - Ian Anderson, WPA Board President

Note: WPA statement and revised guidelines as the result of this decision were sent to the WPA APD Board members in order for the WPA APD to operate as a “division” entity with the best interests of Artistic Pool as its central focal point.

Revised guidelines submitted to WPA APD Board on February 26, 2024 by:

Jason Lynch, President, WPA Artistic Pool Division Board

Reviewed and Ratified by WPA APD Board on March 1, 2024

Note: Approved WPA APD guidelines will be made available for market release and / or WPA APD agenda purposes!

Jorgen Update (3/10/24) -- Chapter IV WPA General Assembly (point 3) -- changed to annual!

Division Update (3/5/25) – Chapter IV (point 3) – added WPA APD board members attending 2025 WPA AGM, plus WPA APD board members updated to reflect a change -- removal of one board member (William DeYonker) & replaced by Tim Gallagher (appointed by Jason Lynch).