

# BILLIARDS DIGEST

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CUE & EH?



**CHRIS STANKOVICH**

STANKOVICH IS A NATIONALLY ACCLAIMED SPORT PSYCHOLOGIST WITH AN INTEREST IN POOL. (GO TO WWW.DRSTANKOVICH.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION)

**What makes pool such a great mental exercise?**

Sports that are individual and rely more on cognitive skills (i.e. measuring, spacing and analyzing) tend to be the most "mental" sports — obviously pool falls right into this category. As pool players already know, you don't need bulging biceps or a six-pack stomach to excel in pool. Instead, you need to manage your emotions and use logical reasoning when determining the best way to run the rack.

**What's one "mental roadblock" especially prevalent in pool?**

I would have to say learning the importance of resiliency is probably the biggest challenge for players. Just ask yourself how many times you've felt the wheels coming off while watching your opponent luck in a shot or two. For many players, that's when they stop playing their game, instead reacting to the situation and allowing their emotions to begin to take over. When this occurs, muscles become tense and tight, making it nearly impossible to make tough shots.

**What is the best piece of advice for the average league player?**

Learn to love the game! The more you love something, the less it feels like work, allowing you to take the time needed to truly master the skill.

# CALENDAR

**ACS ALL-AMERICAN TOUR ACS National Championships**

June 6-12  
Riviera Casino & Hotel  
Las Vegas, Nev.  
(800) 634-3420

**APA National Team Championships**

Aug. 19-28  
Riviera Casino & Hotel  
Las Vegas, Nev.  
(800) 634-3420

**ARIZONA WOMEN'S TOUR Pockets**

July 24-25  
Tucson, Ariz.  
(520) 571-9421

**BAY AREA AMATEUR TOUR Stokers Billiards**

July 24  
Palm Harbor, Fla.  
(727) 786-6693

**DESERT CLASSIC TOUR Kolby's Corner Pocket**

June 5-6  
Tempe, Ariz.  
www.desertclassictour.com

**EUROTOUR Diamond Nine - Dynamic German Open**

June 9-13  
Brandenburg, Germany  
www.eurotouronline.eu

**FAST EDDIE'S TOUR Fast Eddie's**

July 17-18  
Austin, Texas  
(512) 248-0646

**FLAMINGO BILLIARDS Ultimate Billiards**

June 26  
Fort Pierce, Fla.  
(772) 464-7665

**INDUSTRY EVENTS BCA International Billiard & Home Recreation Expo**

July 14-16  
Las Vegas Convention Center  
Las Vegas, Nev.  
www.bcaexpo.com

**INTERNATIONAL EVENTS WPA World 9-Ball Championship**

June 28-July 5  
Doha, Qatar  
www.wpa-pool.com

**Women's World 9-Ball Championship**

Aug. 23-29  
Shenyang, China  
www.wpa-pool.com

**World Cup of Pool**

Sept. 7-12  
Manila, Philippines  
www.matchroomsport.com

**China Open**

Sept. 20-27  
Shanghai, China  
www.wpa-pool.com

**U.S. Open**

Oct. 16-23  
Chesapeake, Va.  
(757) 499-8900

**WPA Women's World 10-Ball Championship**

Oct. 24-Nov. 1  
Manila, Philippines  
www.rayasports.com

**WPA World 10-Ball Championship**

Nov. 2-7  
Manila, Philippines  
www.rayasports.com

**Mosconi Cup**

Dec. 9-12  
York Hall  
London, England  
www.matchroomsport.com

**JACOBY CAROLINA TOUR Break Time Billiards**

July 24-25  
Wilmington, N.C.  
(910) 395-6658

**JOSS NORTHEAST TOUR Snookers Billiards**

June 12-13  
Providence, R.I.  
(401) 351-7665

**JPNEWT N.Y. State 9-Ball Championships**

June 19-20  
Raxx Poolroom  
West Hempstead, N.Y.  
(516) 538-9896

**KWIKFIRE TOUR 150 N Out**

June 5-6  
Mooresville, N.C.  
(704) 660-5363

**MEZZ PRO-AM TOUR Rockaway Billiards**

June 13  
Rockaway, N.J.  
(973) 625-5777

**Drexeline Billiards**

June 27  
Drexel Hill, Pa.  
(610) 259-9144

**MIDWEST 9-BALL TOUR Side Pockets**

June 26-27  
Wichita, Kan.  
(316) 729-4000

**NEW ENGLAND 9-BALL Buster's Billiards**

June 27  
Somersworth, N.H.  
(603) 692-7926

**NWPA Malarkey's**

June 12-13  
Tacoma, Wash.  
www.nwpatour.com

**OB CUES LADIES 9-BALL Click's Billiards**

June 12-13  
Dallas, Texas  
(972) 306-3935

**PREDATOR 9-BALL Master Billiards**

June 5-6  
Sunnyside, N.Y.  
(718) 706-6789

**Raxx Pool Room**

June 26-27  
West Hempstead, N.Y.  
(516) 538-9896

**TRI-STATE TOUR Castle Billiards**

June 5  
East Rutherford, N.J.  
(201) 933-6007

**Sandcastle Billiards**

June 19  
Edison, N.J.  
(732) 632-9277

**Amsterdam Billiards**

June 26-27  
New York, N.Y.  
(212) 995-0333

**USBA**

**College Billiards**  
June 4-6  
San Diego, Calif.  
www.usba.net

**VIKING CUE TOUR Classic Billiards**

June 19-20  
Conyers, Ga.  
(770) 679-5278

**VNEA**

**Int'l Pool Championships**  
May 27-June 5  
Riviera Hotel & Casino  
Las Vegas, Nev.  
(800) 634-3420

**WPBA CLASSIC TOUR WPBA U.S. Open**

July 28-Aug. 1  
Norman, Okla.  
(405) 322-6464