

To all Western BCA pool players

Western BCA would like to announce some major format changes to our Regional Championships starting with our Regional 8 Ball Championships on March 10-18. These changes were voted in by the membership at our regular meeting on November 19, 2017. Some of these changes are watershed moments in pool and Western BCA is proud to be a frontrunner in tournament innovation.

Players will now be able to enter using online registration provided by CSI Online Registration system. Players registering online will have to accept the tournament criteria and disclaimers and then be able to enter the events they are qualified for. Players will have to use a valid credit card to enter. We will still have other options of ways to enter the Championships including using paper entries as we have done in the past. More information will be coming regarding all the methods of entering the Championships.

The Championships will now have 3 divisions of Scotch Doubles. Each division will have a combined Fargo Rating cap. The combined Fargo cap for the top division will be 1150. The middle division will have a combined Fargo cap of 1025. The Fargo cap for the lower division will be 900. Scotch Doubles will remain a one man and one woman event. We are going to have smaller scotch tournaments for same gender scotch doubles at the Championships as a test to see if there is interest in that format. These tournaments can be entered at the time of the Championships and will not be part of the online entries.

The biggest change to the Championships will be in the singles events. Men and women will be playing together in the same singles events. There will be 7 genderless singles divisions. There will be two classes of singles tournaments, Elite and Divisional. Players may only enter one singles tournament. The Elite division will be open to all players but it will be the only singles event that the players with Fargo Ratings above a designated Fargo rate will be able to enter. The entry fee for this Elite singles event will be higher than the rest of the players will pay. All players entering the Divisional singles tournaments will pay the same entry fee. Once all the entries have been received the Divisional singles entries will be divided into 6 divisions based on Fargo Ratings. These divisions will be separated based on a sliding skill set range of approximately 60 Fargo points.

Team events will remain the same as in the past with the exception that the divisions will be separated by combined Fargo Rating caps. Men's mixed teams can still have up to 2 women per team. There will still be 3 divisions of Men's mixed teams and 2 divisions of Women's teams. The combined Fargo caps for the team divisions are as follows: Top Men's mixed division is 3000, middle Men's mixed division is 2700 and bottom Men's mixed division is 2450. For the Women's top division the Fargo cap is 1950 and the bottom Women's division Fargo cap is 1700.

The Fargo Rate that separates the Elite singles and the Divisional singles is still being determined but most likely the number will be above 620. The entry fees for the various

divisions are still being worked on at this time. We will post them as soon as possible. There will be more money added to the tournaments this time and we are developing a new payout strategy to go along with the new formats. We ask you to please be patient since we are trying to get everything figured out to serve all of the players of Western BCA best.

Western BCA would like to thank all of the players who participated in the FaceBook polls that helped us make decisions based on the wishes of the players. We hope to use future polls, both on FaceBook and on our website, to ask the players what they think about issues that affect our Championship tournaments.

See you at the beach in March.

Western BCA President and Directors