



**usa pool league**

## South Alabama USA Pool League

2024-2025 League Year Bylaws

Covering Baldwin and Mobile Counties

Arthur Yoas. League Manager

251-752-9959

League #2003

Email: [southalabamapl@gmail.com](mailto:southalabamapl@gmail.com)

Web site: [www.southalabamapl.com](http://www.southalabamapl.com)

### **First thing first!**

Don't limit yourself by playing in just one league.

Every League has something good to offer so play them all and increase your overall chances of winning!

### **All teams and players are eligible for Vegas!**

Even if your team doesn't win the Vegas trip, you may still compete in the national championship in either team or singles events!

Minimum play requirement. See Page 14 of the player handbook.

That's correct, all teams and individual players can play at nationals after playing 8 matches in a single session.

## The USA Pool League is not a cash league

The USA Pool league is a destination league. 1 out of every 8 teams can win an expense paid (Lodging and Airfare) trip to the National Event held each year in Las Vegas starting at the end of February each year. We utilize a minimum of 40 weeks out of the calendar year to build the prize fund. These funds are held in escrow by the national home office and distributed back to the league for Trophies and Prize Funds for the yearly Nationals Event. Lodging may be scheduled by League manager. Air fares are scheduled by individuals. A copy of your paid itinerary will be required for disbursement of funds.

## Team Sizes & Fees

The USAPL offers 3 and 5 player teams. Most of our divisions are 5-person teams. Max on a roster is 8. The Ladies division is a 3-person team; max on a roster is 5. We also offer Double Play which give the opportunity to play 8 & 9 ball or 8 & 10 ball on the same night! This would be two separate divisions played on the same night.

Team Fees: \$10 per player/match played for each division played.

- \$50 total team for 5-person team.
- \$30 for 3-person team. Ladies only!

1. All team fees are due the night of play regardless of matches played. Single match makeups are to be scheduled and prepaid the night of play. **Possible Loss of 25 points if full team fees are not paid by 5pm the next day.**
2. **Cash App** is the preferred and suggested method. Cash payments must be placed in a sealed envelope and handed the league manager or rep. Write team name, date of play and total cash \$ on the envelope along with a signature. South Alabama Pool League is a paperless league and may not have envelopes available.
3. When using Cash App, **enter the team's name and date of play only.** It is the captain's responsibility to take up and remit league fees. Hand cash or send funds to your captain or designated co-captain. Only put Team Name & Night of play in comments when submitting fees electronically.
4. A Division rep should always be available to accept Cash fees for those who prefer the cash method. It is the team capitaines responsibility to place cash in an envelope and seal it with signature and total written on the envelope.

## Division Representatives

A division rep will be needed for each division. The division rep is a league player that agrees to be available on the assigned division night and will be awarded free play for that division/night of play. The division rep should be knowledgeable of league rules and set the example for sportsmanship. The division rep also agrees to accept and hold all cash fees from teams when needed. The League Manager will collect cash fees from the division rep on a weekly basis. A League shirt and necessary tools will be provided.

## Division Playoffs & Vegas Trip Finals

The league year operates from January 1st to December 31<sup>st</sup>. Qualifying sessions start in August and end in July the following year. Division Vegas Finals will be held October/November of each year.

The goal is to send one (1) team from each division to Vegas in February for the USA Pool League National Championships with at least \$5000 team travel assistance. Divisions must maintain at least 6, 5 person teams for a minimum of 40 play weeks in the calendar year. Divisions with 8 plus teams could receive \$6000 or more in travel assistance! The **South Alabama USA Pool league** will always cover the team entry fees for the National Vegas Event!

There may be a second chance league wide Team Vegas Tournament scheduled December/January. This would be for all remaining teams that did not win division finals. Prize Fund for this tournament would be determined by participation and available prize fund. The winning team may be responsible for covering the team entry fees. This will depend on participation and available league funds.

Divisions must have 8 or more teams for a playoff round each session

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place team Qualifies for Vegas Finals each session.
- Wild card is drawn from remaining division teams.
- Qualifying teams from each session will play for the Vegas trip in December

Divisions with 7 or less teams will not have a playoff round each session.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place team qualifies for Vegas Finals each session.
- Qualifying team from each session and 1 wild card will play for the Vegas trip in December.
- A wild card will be drawn from the remaining teams to have a minimum of 4 teams playing for the Vegas trip held in December.

## Make Ups

To avoid forfeits in emergency situations, one team member may play twice(two sets) in a team match. See page 30 of the player handbook for details.

There are various reasons for teams to re-schedule a match. Full matches or individual sets may be rescheduled. Rescheduling is the responsibility of the two team captains involved.

No make-up matches or sets are allowed less than seven days before the last scheduled date of regular session play. Teams are required to give at least five days' notice to the League Manager before playing a make-up match or set.

Full team reschedules have two weeks to make up the scheduled match. Single match make ups should be played by the following week of scheduled play.

## Forfeits

Forfeits should always be avoided as they only create a potential unfair advantage for some teams and keeps players from getting their needed 8 matches. All forfeits must be acknowledged and cleared by the LEAGUE MANAGER. Any forfeit entered without contacting the League Manager may result in a loss of 25 team points.

## Adding Players

Roster changes can be made up to the 4<sup>th</sup> week of play; after that you need to get permission from your league manager. We will need the name, address, phone number and email for all new players. The personal information needs to match the individual's state driver's license or state / military ID. Plus a picture of their current league rating if any.

New players that do not have a Fargo must first be reviewed by the League Manager before being added to a team. It is important that all new members are properly assessed.

## Player Ratings

Ratings are assigned to individuals that do not have a Fargo Rate. An established player is a player that has 200 or more robustness (games played). Players may also have a prior preliminary rating from events that report to Fargo. Known players with or without Fargo ratings may start at a higher level, this is solely the discretion of the league manager. If a player has no information available and has never played league before they may be evaluated by the league manager or division rep to be given a starter rating. New players with no league experience will start at a 400 Fargo Rate.

All members playing at the National level will be evaluated prior to Nationals. Please do not get discouraged if some players are too high or too low. It will adjust as racks are played. The more data we have the better the accuracy of the rating. All scores are updated every day on the National level. For more information regarding Fargo Rate and how it works please go to [Fargorate.com](http://Fargorate.com)

**The purpose of this chart is to suggest a starting point when assessing player rating and may vary by a small degree.**

### Skill Level conversion chart for FrogRate Start Rating

| Ladies        | Men           |
|---------------|---------------|
| SL 1-2 (250)  | SL 1-2 (275)  |
| SL 3 (300)    | SL 3 (350)    |
| SL 4 (350)    | SL 4 (400)    |
| SL 5 (400)    | SL 5 (450)    |
| SL 6 (450)    | SL 6 (500)    |
| SL 7-9 (550+) | SL 7-9 (550+) |

## **Sportsmanship**

Having fun is the main objective of the USA Pool League. Poor sportsmanship can quickly ruin the fun and excitement for others. Winning with class, losing with grace, shaking your opponent's hand, and congratulating the winning team, are examples of good sportsmanship. Unsportsmanlike conduct can take various forms and it is covered thoroughly in The Official Rules of Cue Sports International.

It is extremely important that your team and current player remain quiet and respectful when the opposing player is at the table. Multiple teams are playing at the same time on other tables and should be extended the same level of respect.

## **THE TEAM CAPTAIN**

The Team Captain is the leader of the team and is responsible for many important tasks. He or she distributes information to the team, ensures the team arrives on time, keeps score correctly, follows all rules of sportsmanship, collects league fees, submits fees and paperwork to the league manager on time.

**League Bylaws may be updated at any point in the league year. All players will be notified of any changes in league bylaws.**