

1. Purpose

- The Galveston Island BCA Pool League (GIBCAPL) exists to provide a competitive, fair, and community-driven BCAPL-sanctioned pool league in Galveston, TX.
 - Game play follows Official BCAPL Rules and Galveston Island BCAPL Bylaws.
 - The Galveston Island BCA Pool League (GIBCAPL) is a cash league funded entirely by player dues. Prize money is distributed only from collected funds and is subject to payment compliance. Failure of players or teams to pay dues may reduce or eliminate prize payouts.
 - The League Operator is not personally responsible for unpaid dues or reduced prize funds resulting from nonpayment by players or teams.
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2. League Format

- Division 1: Monday Nights, Market Station, 6:30 PM
- A 20-minute grace period is allowed.
 - After the 20-minute grace period, absent players may be subject to forfeiture of their scheduled matches.
- Game Format: Mixed Masters Singles, with separate 8-Ball and 9-Ball divisions.
 - Players compete in one 8-Ball match and one 9-Ball match against the same scheduled opponent each league night.
 - 8-Ball and 9-Ball maintain separate standings, playoffs, prize funds, and champions.
- Table Size: 8-foot Brunswick.
- Tables are assigned as scheduled opponents arrive, and both players are present and ready to play. The first available matchups receive table priority.
- The League Operator may add divisions, nights, venues, or formats as league interest grows.

2026 Calendar Sessions

- ~~Spring Session: February 2 through May 18, 2026~~
- ~~Summer Session: Flexible session; formats and scheduling may vary based on player interest and availability.~~
- Fall Session: Begins August 24, 2026.

- No Play: September 7, 2026
 - The regular-season end date will be determined by final registration and the number of players.
 - The Fall session will use a round-robin schedule in which each player plays every other player once, with scheduled bye weeks when applicable.
 - Playoffs will follow completion of the regular season.
 - Off-season: December and January
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3. Players and Schedules

- Players compete individually in separate 8-Ball and 9-Ball divisions.
- Players will normally play one 8-Ball match and one 9-Ball match against the same scheduled opponent each league night.
- The regular-season schedule will be based on final registration, with each player scheduled to compete against every other player once.
- Bye weeks may be incorporated into the schedule based on final player count.
- **Players are responsible for their own dues, league communications, understanding the rules and bylaws, and completing their scheduled matches. They are expected to check their email, text messages, and the league website for updates.**
- A 20-minute grace period applies once a player is called and a table is available. A player who is not present and ready to play within the grace period may forfeit the scheduled match.
- Missed matches may be made up by agreement between both players, subject to table availability and League Operator approval.
- All makeup matches must be completed before the end of the regular season and before playoff seeding is finalized.
- Players are responsible for notifying both their scheduled opponent and the League Operator as soon as reasonably possible if they cannot attend a scheduled league night.

Substitutions

Substitutes are not permitted in singles divisions. Scheduled matches must be completed by the registered players assigned to those matches.

4. Dues & Fees

Weekly dues = \$20 per player, divided equally between the two divisions:

- 8-Ball: \$10 per player per scheduled match
- 9-Ball: \$10 per player per scheduled match

Dues collected for 8-Ball and 9-Ball are maintained separately for each division's prize fund and league operations.

Final prize funds and payout amounts are based on the number of registered players, scheduled matches, and dues actually collected and will be published for each session.

Dues must be paid before play begins. Players with unpaid dues may forfeit their scheduled matches until their account is brought current.

Forfeited matches, for any reason, still owe the applicable dues, as unpaid dues directly affect the prize funds for the entire division.

Players are responsible for their own dues and payment compliance.

Players may pay weekly or pay their full scheduled session dues in advance.

Bye weeks do not require dues, as no match is played.

BCAPL Sanction Fee: New players who were not sanctioned during the Spring 2026 session are responsible for the **\$20 annual BCAPL sanction fee**. Because returning players' 2026 sanction fees were collected and paid during the Spring session, their corresponding **\$20 Fall allocation will instead be added to the prize fund for all new players**.

5. Scoring System

Fall Mixed Masters consists of separate 8-Ball and 9-Ball divisions, each with independent standings.

8-Ball Scoring

- Each scheduled 8-Ball match consists of three racks.
- Standard 17-point BCAPL scoring is used for each rack.
- The LMS applies the Fargo-based handicap to the match automatically.
- The player with the highest handicap-adjusted total points after all three racks wins the match.
- Players should record the actual rack scores on the scoresheet. Handicap points are applied when the scores are entered into the LMS.
- The Home player breaks first, with the break alternating thereafter.

9-Ball Scoring

- Each scheduled 9-Ball match is a Fargo-handicapped race to 5.
- The higher-rated player races to 5. The lower-rated player's required race is determined by the Fargo difference:

Fargo Difference Higher Fargo Race Lower Fargo Race

0–49	5	5
50–99	5	4
100–149	5	3
150+	5	2

Maximum spot: 3 games.

- No LMS handicap points are added to 9-Ball. The handicap is incorporated directly into the race length.
- The first player to reach their assigned race wins the match.
- Match standings:
 - Win = 1 match point
 - Loss = 0 match points
- The lower Fargo-rated player breaks first, with the break alternating thereafter.

Standings

- 8-Ball and 9-Ball standings are maintained separately.
- Regular-season standings are determined by total match points earned within each division.
- Rack and scoring totals may be maintained for statistical and tiebreaker purposes as established by the Division rules.

5A. Forfeit Clarification

Present Player Forfeit: If a player is present but forfeits a rack or match after play has begun, the match is recorded as a loss for the forfeiting player and a win for the opponent. Any completed scores or racks will be recorded as applicable.

Absent Player Forfeit: If a player fails to appear for a scheduled match and the applicable grace period has expired with no communication from the player, the match is recorded as a

loss for the absent player and a win for the opponent and all points and rounds go to the player who is present.

8-Ball Forfeits: Forfeit scores will be entered into the LMS according to the applicable BCAPL/LMS scoring requirements.

9-Ball Forfeits: A forfeited match is recorded as a completed win for the opposing player based on their assigned race.

Dues remain owed on forfeited matches, regardless of the reason for the forfeit.

Rescheduled matches are also subject to dues, but are not penalized.

6. Sportsmanship & Conduct

All players are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful, sportsmanlike manner and contribute to a competitive, welcoming, and professionally run league environment.

Unsportsmanlike conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- Verbal abuse, threats, harassment, intimidation, sharking, or disruptive behavior toward players, spectators, venue staff, or the League Operator.
- Cheating, score falsification, intentional misreporting of results, or manipulation of FargoRate or other league records for competitive advantage.
- Intentional disruption of play, excessive arguing, repeated outbursts, or behavior that interferes with another player's ability to compete.
- Refusal to pay dues or comply with league financial obligations.
- Repeated late arrivals, failure to appear for scheduled matches, or other conduct that unnecessarily disrupts league scheduling.
- Excessive intoxication that affects a player's ability to compete appropriately or contributes to disruptive conduct.
- Disrespectful treatment of the venue, tables, equipment, league members, spectators, or venue staff.

Penalties may include a warning, loss of points, forfeiture of a rack or match, suspension, or removal from the league at the League Operator's discretion. The appropriate penalty will be determined based on the nature, severity, and frequency of the conduct.

Players are responsible for their own conduct regardless of whether a specific behavior is expressly listed in these bylaws.

7. Disputes & Rulings

Rule disputes occurring during a match must be raised immediately and before the next shot is taken. Once play continues, the players are deemed to have accepted the ruling or outcome of the previous situation, and the issue is considered closed for purposes of that match.

The League Operator retains authority over all rulings during league play. If the League Operator is not present, authority may be delegated to the designated Division Representative.

A ruling made during play is final for purposes of continuing the match. Players must accept the ruling and resume play.

Complaints, disputes, or requests for review involving a League Operator ruling must be submitted in writing through the official league dispute process.

Continued verbal argument, confrontation, harassment, or refusal to continue play after a ruling is made is not considered a formal dispute and may result in forfeiture, suspension, or other disciplinary action.

The League Operator may review a disputed ruling after play for clarification, future application, recordkeeping, or corrective action when appropriate. Such review does not automatically alter a completed match result.

The League Operator reserves the right to make rulings in circumstances not specifically addressed by BCAPL rules, Division rules, or these bylaws when necessary to preserve fair play, safety, scheduling, or league integrity.

Player Responsibility: Each player is responsible for knowing and following the rules, reading the current Division Handbook and League Bylaws, and regularly checking official league communications sent by text, email, or published on the league website.

Vegas Qualification

Players who complete the required number of weeks (8) during the Mixed Masters Singles session may satisfy the BCAPL league-play requirement for eligibility to compete in qualifying **Singles and Scotch Doubles events at the BCA Pool League World Championships in Las Vegas**, subject to all current CSI/BCAPL eligibility and entry requirements.

- The Mixed Masters Singles Division **does not provide a Road to Vegas travel award or automatically send an individual player to Las Vegas.**
- Players are responsible for their own tournament entry fees, travel, lodging, and other expenses associated with attending the World Championships.
- Division winners and other eligible players are strongly encouraged to attend and may choose to use their **season prize winnings** toward tournament entry fees, travel, lodging, or other Vegas expenses.

- Participation in the full session is intended to provide players with the league-play history necessary to pursue eligible Singles and Scotch Doubles competition, subject to current BCAPL requirements.

Team Qualifications were determined during the Spring 2026 Session. Singles players are not qualified to play on teams unless they met the required 8 weeks during the Spring Session.

Future Vegas Support

Galveston Island BCAPL is a growing league. As membership, divisions, venues, and league participation expand, the league's goal is to develop additional funding opportunities that may help offset **Vegas registration fees, travel, lodging, or other player expenses** in future seasons. Any such assistance will be subject to league growth, available funds, and the rules established for that season and is not guaranteed.

Help Us Grow

GIBCAPL is a **players' league, built by the players and for the players**. Players are encouraged to help grow the league by inviting friends, recruiting new players, and introducing GIBCAPL to other bars and venues interested in hosting BCAPL competition.

The more the league grows, the more opportunities we can create for local players, including larger prize funds, additional divisions, and future support for players competing in Las Vegas.

8. BCA Official Rules

For full rules of play, refer to the official BCA Pool League rules:

👉 [BCA Official Rules](#)

9A. Modifications to Official Rules

The Galveston Island BCA Pool League (GIBCAPL) follows Official BCAPL/CSI Rules unless otherwise noted below. The following modifications are adopted to promote competitive balance and fairness across varying Fargo skill levels.

Break Scratch Rule Modification

In GIBCAPL play, a scratch on the break does not result in the cue ball in hand anywhere on the table. Instead, the incoming player will have cue ball in hand behind the headstring.

This modification is intended to reduce immediate run-out advantages and promote more balanced play across all skill levels.

8-Ball Break Clarification - Pocketing the 8-Ball with a Scratch

If a player pockets the 8-ball on the break and also commits a foul (including a scratch), the game is not won. The incoming player has the option to:

- a. have the 8-ball spotted and take cue ball in hand behind the headstring, or
- b. require a re-rack and take the break.

This modification replaces the standard “ball in hand anywhere” rule and is intended to maintain consistency with GIBCAPL break foul rules and competitive balance.

These bylaws are subject to revision, modification, or clarification by the League Operator and will be updated if necessary.

All League Operator rulings will be made in good faith and in the best interest of fair competition and league integrity.