



Ohio Coin Machine Association

3757 Indianola Ave, Columbus, Ohio 43214

Phone: 614/784-9772

Fax: 614/784-9771

Email: ocma@the-ocma.org

OCMA/VALLEY POOL LEAGUE TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS*

ELIGIBILITY

Charterholder: Only operators who qualify under the definition of amusement machine operators adopted by the Code of Regulations and By Laws of the Ohio Coin Machine Association may apply to participate in the OCMA/Valley Pool League Tournament. They must hold a valid charter issued by the VNEA, be an operator member of OCMA **and** hold a valid charter issued by the OCMA/Valley Pool League Tournament.

Player: Only players composed of 8-Ball pool leagues participating in OCMA operator-formed leagues, competing on equipment owned and operated by member operators will be eligible to compete in the state tournament. All players must be sanctioned by the VNEA and comply with all OCMA/VNEA eligibility requirements.

LEAGUE FORMAT/ORGANIZATION

Organization will be 8-Ball Leagues. The game may be played in the following types of leagues:

Open League (A & AA Divisions) - may consist of men and/or women players (5-person teams). A league must consist of a minimum of four teams.

Women's League (A & AA Divisions) – may consist of women only (no men are allowed on a women's roster if they plan on competing in the women's division at the State Tournament); and (4-person teams). (A women's team that competes in an open league MAY compete in EITHER the Open or Women's Division at the State Tournament. A women's team that competes in a women's league MAY compete in EITHER the Open or Women's Divisions at the State Tournament.) A league must consist of a minimum of four teams.

The format of the games will be league play. Each member operator will be responsible for organizing a league or leagues of players and conducting an agreed upon league schedule for a minimum of 12 weeks.

A league must be organized on tables owned and operated by that Charterholder and must have a separate schedule from any other league system. A Charterholder may organize a league and schedule matches on another operator's/charterholder's equipment, if both charterholders agree. Shared leagues are permitted. All games on a charterholder's schedule must be played on tables owned and operated by an OCMA charterholder – not on any “location owned” tables or tables “leased” exclusively during league play.

Each league shall operate and compete under the Rules and By-laws and Constitution of the Valley National 8-Ball League Association and the OCMA/Valley Pool League Tournament.

Each Charterholder league shall operate within the framework of the Organization and as an independent unit and MAY use the following as guidelines:

- a) Elect their own officers (president, vice president, secretary-treasurer)
- b) Establish prize fund amounts and distribution method.
- c) Establish length of schedule (minimum 12 weeks).
- d) Establish special rules confined to their own participation.
- e) Establish holiday layoffs if desired.
- f) Determine the number of teams and restrictions based on the nature of players.
- g) Settle or arbitrate any protests arising from National or Local Rule infractions during a regularly scheduled league match.
- h) Establish all league award categories and recognitions.
- i) Administer the collection, safe-guarding and distribution of all their league funds.

The charterholder shall be responsible for maintaining its own records and standings throughout the competitive schedule.

FEES

The OCMA/Valley Pool League Tournament Charter fee is \$150 annually. Each charterholder shall also pay a \$15.00 franchise-team fee per team, per session, to the OCMA/Valley Pool League Tournament.

STATE TOURNAMENT

General Rules/Eligibility Requirements - All players must be at least 21 years of age and have played a minimum of seven (7) nights in one session with the same team, or ten (10) nights in two sessions (must be the same exact team roster for both sessions) to be eligible to play/compete as a team at the state tournament. (One "night" is defined as a majority of games played in a match). All players must be sanctioned by the VNEA. No sleeveless shirts, halter-tops, swim suits, frayed/worn out jeans/pants, no mini-skirts/dresses shorter than three inches above the knee may be worn. Also proper footwear is required (eg. closed toe shoes - no "flip-flops", sandals, etc.). All shorts must be clean, neat, presentable, hemmed and of proper length to be allowed. Rugged cut-offs will not be allowed. No vulgar language on shirts or spoken. No gambling of any kind is permitted. All players, upon request, must be able to show positive I.D. (i.e., an up-to-date sanction card and picture I.D.). All players are subject to random I.D. checks. A player can only play on one (1) team at the State Tournament (e.g., a woman player may not be on the roster of an open team and a women's team) and they can not play under another charterholder for the tournament.

Substitution Policy - A team may use substitutes prior to the tournament, under the following guidelines **ONLY**: One sub per team may be chosen within the league system **ONLY** under extenuating circumstances (medical emergency, death in the family, etc). A sub must play a minimum of seven (7) nights in one session or ten (10) nights in two sessions. No sub may be added at the state tournament. The Charterholder must include sub paperwork with the tournament entry form paperwork. The sub must be of an equal or less caliber player and must be pre-approved by the OCMA office prior to the state tournament.

Entries - State tournament entries will be allocated by the OCMA Office after all charterholders have completed the Annual Pool Tournament Survey and after assessing the needs of each charterholder based on the number of total teams in leagues throughout the state and the number of tournament spots available.

Team Eligibility - The competition is open to teams from OCMA & Valley Charterholders. The teams must be sanctioned and players verified by a standing sheet and sanction cards. (These eligibility requirements are different from the International Tournament. Please refer to the VNEA Rule Book for International Eligibility Requirements.)

Standing Sheets/Schedules/Rosters - All Schedules and Rosters **must** be sent to the OCMA office pursuant to the Annual Calendar. Standing Sheets **must** be submitted for each session. Team standing and roster sheets **must** be physically attached to each tournament entry form. Failure to do so will result in those teams NOT being entered in the State Tournament

Registration Fees – Open A Division is \$125 per team. Women's A Division is \$100 per team. Open AA Division is \$300 per team. Women's AA Division is \$250. These entry fees are subject to change.

Returned Registration Fees Policy – Charterholders will be responsible for any unused tournament entry forms using the following formula: Returned within 8-14 days of the state tournament, 50% of entry fee due; returned within 7 days of the state tournament, 75% of entry fee due. If charterholders return entry forms earlier than 14 days before the start of the state tournament, there will be no charge.

Tournament Tables - Tournament table prices will be set prior to the tournament, including setting green fee rates.

Division Rules/Regulations:

Open A Division - Any team competing in an Open Division during league play may compete in the Open A Division at the State Tournament. A team must be composed of at least three (3) original players from their league team and add a fourth and fifth player from within their same league. An undetermined number of teams from the Open A Division will be placed on the Open AA Players List for future years. No Professional, Master, Intermediate or AA players are eligible to compete on an Open A team. Teams/players must meet previously disclosed eligibility requirements.

Women's A Division - Any team competing in the Women's Division during league play may compete in the Women's A Division or Open A Division at the State Tournament. A team must be composed of at least two (2) original players from their league team and add a third and fourth player from within their same league. A women's team that competes in an Open Division at the local level MAY compete in either the Open or Women's Divisions at the State Tournament. A man is allowed on a women's roster at the local level; however, the man **must** be taken off the state tournament roster. An undetermined number of teams from the Women's A Division will be placed on the Women's AA Players List for future years. No Professional, Master, Intermediate or AA players are eligible to compete on a Women's A team. Teams/players must meet previously disclosed eligibility requirements.

Open AA Division - AA Teams may be composed of any five (5) players from within their Charterholder's League System as long as they meet previously adopted eligibility requirements. All-star teams may be created consisting of any players within the charterholder's entire league system (players must meet previously adopted eligibility requirements). No AA players are eligible to compete on an A Team. An unlimited number of AA and VNEA Intermediate players can compete on a AA Team. **Players/teams maintain AA status perpetually UNTIL each player petition's the OCMA, in writing, by June 30th requesting to be removed from the list. After consultation with the player's charterholder coordinator, OCMA tournament director and OCMA office, the player will be notified of the final decision. There will be NO automatic removal from the "Open AA" Player list.**

Women's AA Division - A Women's AA Team may be composed of any four (4) players from within their Charterholder's League System (all-star teams) as long as they meet previously disclosed eligibility requirements. **Players/teams maintain AA status perpetually UNTIL each player petition's the OCMA, in writing, by August 31st requesting to be removed from the list. After consultation with the player's charterholder coordinator, OCMA tournament director and OCMA office, the player will be notified of the final decision. There will be NO automatic removal from the "Women's AA" Player list.**

Master Player Rule – Only three (3) OCMA or VNEA designated Master players are allowed on an Open AA or Women's AA Team. No Master or intermediate players are eligible to compete on an A Team. **Master Players maintain Master Player status perpetually UNTIL each player petition's the OCMA, in writing, by June 30th requesting to be removed from the list. After consultation with the player's charterholder coordinator, OCMA tournament director and OCMA office, the player will be notified of the final decision. There will be NO automatic removal from the "Masters" Player lists.**

Master and AA Player Lists – OCMA will release a Master & AA Player List each year.

Professional Player Rule – Any player listed in any of the following criteria is NOT eligible to play in any OCMA A Division or State Singles Pool competition. Furthermore, any player so deemed to be a professional by the VNEA may compete in the AA State Team event only, provided that player is the only professional on that team. (Criteria: Top 128 men players of the World Pool Billiard Association (WPA); Top 32 women players of the World Pool Billiard Association (WPA) or Women's Professional Billiard Association (WPBA) or any player classified as a "Touring Pro" or an "Active Pro" by the WPBA; or Top 64 players of the www.AZBilliardss.com pro rankings).

Communication – OCMA shall communicate ONLY to charterholders. OCMA shall not contact players directly and shall direct player phone calls to their respective charterholder.