

APA "FUN FACTOR" FIVE-STAR SPORTSMANSHIP PROGRAM!

On most APA League nights things go according to plan and the teams have a great time playing APA Pool. We realize however, that occasionally there may be a player or even a team in the League that other players find difficult to be around. They may make sexist or racist remarks, bang balls around intentionally to try to skew our handicapping system, or just display an unsportsmanlike attitude in general. With this in mind we have developed our new APA FUN FACTOR FIVE STAR SPORTSMANSHIP PROGRAM! This system has been designed to accomplish two things: (1) reward teams that from week to week are a pleasure to be around and play against; and (2) identify teams that from week to week are a pain in the butt to be around, remove the players from those teams who cause problems, and reorganize those teams in question. This program is now an integral part of our computer software. Your scoresheets have been modified slightly to allow for your weekly input.

The Five Star Sportsmanship Program works as follows:

- Every week you will rate your opposing team! It's simple, you only need to write a number 1 to 5 on the scoresheet (in the section which reads: "Team #xxxxx receives a ____ rating this match")
- **This section must be filled out to receive your bonus point(s) for the week!**
- You will score the team only after all matches are over and **only after both captains have signed the scoresheets**. Don't let the opposing teams know that you are giving them a bad rating, unless you want them to get even and give you a bad rating in return. Simply smile and then write their rating in **PRIVACY**...before turning in your envelope. The rating you give each team will be 100% confidential. It's that simple.

What happens to this data?

The weekly ratings will go into a sportsmanship table and be accumulated throughout the session. We will run reports to identify those teams that are great to play against. They will be identified on our website and will be given our **new sportsmanship patches**. In addition at the end of each session, all teams that earn the highest rating throughout the session will be put into a hat and we will draw one winner. **THIS WINNING SPORTSMANSHIP TEAM WILL GET 100% FULL REFUND FOR DUES FOR THE ENTIRE SESSION** that they have just played! In other words: **IT PAYS TO PLAY IN THE APA WITH GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP!**

On the same note, we will be able to rapidly identify and eliminate the problem players. Every 5-6 weeks we will run reports identifying those teams that have been rated poorly and that nobody wants to play against. We will take the appropriate action. Team members will be sent letters and may be placed on probation. They will be given instructions on how to fix the problem. They may need only to drop a player or two, or possibly change captains. They may just need to be encouraged to change their attitude and to understand that paying in the Brooklyn-Queens APA is supposed to be **FUN FUN FUN!** Subsequent and continued poor sportsmanship scores may result in suspension from the league.

Our goal is to provide a more enjoyable experience for all players on league night!

HOW TO RATE THE OPPOSING TEAM

******* FIVE STAR RATING** - This is our "Top" rating. Team is one of the nicest in the league. Not only do they not cause any problems, but they go beyond the call of duty to show Good Sportsmanship and make your night out feel special. Your team (win or lose) had a "Super" night out. Examples would be for the opposing team to actually remind your own players to mark the 8-ball when it is your own team's turn to shoot the 8-ball. **A written note must accompany this rating on the back of the scoresheet describing why you are giving this team such an exceptional rating.** (Equivalent to "A" in academics)

****** FOUR STAR RATING** - This is our "Target" rating. Team causes absolutely no problems and is a pleasure to play. Your team (win or lose) had a "Great" night out. (Equivalent to "B" in academics)

***** THREE STAR RATING** - This is our "Average " rating. No major problems, night went well with only a few "minor" problems. Maybe some minor rule disagreements. Maybe someone's attitude got slightly out of hand, but the opposing team's captain got them in line, apologized for the infraction, and the night continued without further incident. Your team (win or lose) had a "Good" night out. (Equivalent to "C" in academics)

**** TWO STAR RATING** - This is a "Poor" rating. Opposing team members in no way threatened or intimidated your players, however they did cause multiple problems while the opposing team captain did nothing to get his/her players under control...enough so your evening wasn't fun. Maybe the opposing team captain made smart or degrading remarks to your players, or called you sandbaggers; maybe they are sore losers and make excuses when they lose; maybe they tried to manipulate our handicapping system by simply banging balls around the table; or maybe they were just rude and unfriendly. Your team (win or lose) did not have a fun night out. (Equivalent to "D" in academics) **Write-Up on the back of the scoresheet must accompany this rating!**

*** ONE STAR RATING** - This is a "Totally Unacceptable" rating. Opposing team members may have threatened or intimidated your players...or have caused multiple "major" problems. Opposing team captain did nothing to get his/her players under control. Your team (win or lose) had a "terrible" night out. (Equivalent to "F" in academics) **Write-Up on the back of the scoresheet must accompany this rating!**