



Greater Scranton APA

Governing APA League Play in Lackawanna,
Susquehanna, and Wyoming Counties
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Coaching Policy and Procedure Change

As of April 29th 2018, the **Coaching Policy and Procedure** for both 8-Ball and 9-Ball within the Greater Scranton APA will change in accordance with the conversation brought forth at the End of Session Team Captain's Meeting. These time-out and coaching changes are being made to accomplish 4 goals:

1. Standardize the amount of time that players are spending on time-outs at the pool table.
2. Increase the amount of pool-playing knowledge passed on to players being coached.
3. Alleviate time consuming and overtime League nights.
4. Increase the amount of team comradery and fun on an APA League night.

The changes to our current coaching policies and procedures being made are as follows:

1. Both players playing the match are allowed to be coached during a time-out. *(Sports Time-out)*

Once a time-out is called, the player who is currently at the table (the player/team that requested the time-out) is the ONLY player allowed to be at the table with their coach. The opposing player (the player/team that has not requested the time-out) is not allowed to be at the pool table with their coach.

Although there is a difference as to which coach is currently "in play" at the pool table, both players in the match are ALLOWED to be coached during the time-out. The player being coached at the table is the only player to receive the ACTUAL time-out on the scoresheet.

This change allows our lower ranked players to receive additional advice.

2. Coaching time-outs are now allocated for 1-minute time-frames across all rankings.

Whether you are a Skill Level 2 or a Skill Level 7 player, all time-outs are now allocated for 1 minute.

3. Once the coach arrives at the pool table for the time-out, the clock starts.

Once the coach that is currently "in play" arrives at the pool table, BOTH Team Captains are allowed to and encouraged to time/measure the time-out session. 1-Minute timers will be issued to all Team Captains to accurately measure the allotted time for the time-out session.

By measuring the time-out session, both team's players (active and inactive) will appreciate the swift and progressive movement of play. Our mission is to take steps toward getting your players home at an appropriate time.

4. Coaches may vary from time-out to time-out.

In an effort to alleviate the waiting period for a potential coach to arrive at the pool table (i.e. the coach is in dispose, outside, or not near the pool table during the playing event), your selected coach may vary from time-out to time-out, *but not to be changed during the middle of the time-out that was taken.*

Coaches may seek council from their team during the 1-minute time-out session.

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5. **The coaching period/time-out comes to an end if one of these two circumstances come to fruition:**

- a. The 1-minute timer expires (1-minute has passed during a time-out)
- b. The player who is currently “at the table” receiving the time-out takes their shot.

The Greater Scranton APA understands that this is a MAJOR CHANGE for our players and will take some time to get used to. It is in our best interest to get our players to abide and follow the Official Team Manual’s “General Rules” as it pertains to coaching and time-outs. For more information about coaching and time-outs, you may read the Official Team Manual’s “General Rules” → “Coaching”.

A message from the League Office to all Team Captains:

The Greater Scranton APA will in no WAY, SHAPE, OR FORM “enforce” or “police” the usage of timers for time-outs. Simply put, the timers should be used for your team’s benefit and the opposing team’s benefit to achieve a standardized amount of time allotted for each time-out. Leniency, as it pertains to additional discretionary time taken per time-out, is SOLELY on both team’s cooperation and willingness to allow such occurrences.

Captains who decide to use timers **SHALL NOT** and **WILL NOT** be scrutinized by any other Team Captains, coaches, and/or playing members⁷ of the Greater Scranton APA. Instances of scrutiny will be dealt with harshly and with penalty. In addition, players as well as coaches who consistently exceed the 1-minute coaching time-frame allocation should be reported to the League Office.

In ALL instances, whether it be leniencies or discrepancies, please let Good Sportsmanship prevail.