



TIPS FOR TEAM CAPTAINS



Why do people shy away from being a Team Captain? We've heard several reasons and would like to share some tips to minimize the "pains" associated with captainship. Keep in mind that being a Team Captain, YOU can CHOOSE to delegate some of the captain duties and make captainship painless!

FEES

While it is true that the Team Captain is responsible for collecting and turning in all fees, this should not cause you angst. Simple routines will make the process of collecting from your teammates painless.

- Collect an extra \$5 from each of your teammates on your first night of league play. Turn fees in and carry the amount collected as a team credit. Use the credit to pay for any forfeits throughout the session, taking the burden of paying for any/all forfeits yourself, off your shoulders. Use the remaining credit at the end of the session to pay the team's last week's fees, playoff fees, or carry the credit to the next session.
- No money = no play. Collect player's fees BEFORE they play their match. If they do not have their fee that night, sit them out and play someone else who does (nothing more irritating than a player who tells you they don't have their \$10, but then go to the bar and buy a pitcher!).
- Consider taking advantage of pre-paying your team's fees. Weekly league fee x number of weeks divided in equal shares.
- Host Location Fees – Most of our Host Locations/Bars have a minimal charge in exchange for "open tables". Collect the HL fee and turn it in to the bar. It is recommended that you do so at the beginning of the night, avoiding issues that arise from "forgetting" to take care of your table fees.
- Collect membership fee (\$25) and completed membership application for new APA members the first time they play a match, or direct them to become members online (Poolplayers.com) and pay their membership ahead of time, taking the collection of membership application and fees off your plate on league night.

WHY CAPTAIN? You Get To Choose!!

- *Your Teammates*
- *Your Host Location*
- *Your Night of Play*
- *Your Format*
- *Your Strategy*

PAPERWORK

Check with your teammates and see who has a member services account and access to a printer. Ask them if they would be willing to download and print scoresheets (and attachments, if applicable) every week, understanding that on those rare occasions when they cannot, they will give you advance notice so you can make alternate arrangements. If they have a smartphone, they can also be responsible for submitting weekly team dues and scoresheets to the League Office upon completion of your league match. Consider making that player your Co-Captain, as they are obviously willing to shoulder some of the responsibility.

SCOREKEEPING

Make a point to teach all your teammates to keep score properly. A phrase that works well is “you play a match, you score a match”.

- This allows for all members of the team to have some of the responsibility and become invested in your team.
- Assures not one person will be “stuck” keeping score all night and miss out on their opportunity to socialize and have fun.
- If one of your teammates is unwilling to learn how to score and do their part, consider playing them last or not at all, until said player chooses to become a “team” player.

TEAM STRATEGY – MATCH UPS

There is nothing in the rules that states “the Team Captain must designate who plays when”, so if strategy is not your cup-of-tea, let someone else on the team take that on.

BE A TEAM CAPTAIN – NOT A BABYSITTER

Treat your teammates like the adults they are. Let them know they can find the schedule online at SouthCoastAPA.com, thus eliminating the need for you to call or text each one of them letting them know where your team is schedule to play every week. You may also want to assist them in claiming their member services account (if they don’t already have one) or down loading the APP, where they can view stats, standings, schedules, edit their address and phone number, among other things.

KEEP INFORMED

The Team Captain assumes the responsibility of keeping informed on league happenings and events and sharing that information with all members of the team. This is easily done if you do a few simple things.

- Be sure to read the “message center” printed on your weekly scoresheet.
- Read and become familiar with your Local Bylaws.
- Make sure to print, read and share the information on flyers distributed by the League Office through scoresheet attachments.
- Check the local league website on a regular basis (once a week).
- Like us on Facebook – lots of information is available through both the national page (American PoolPlayers Association) and our local Facebook page (Heart Of The Bay APA).
- Persuade your teammates to claim their member services account and be able to keep “in the know” themselves.

