



## WORLD POOL ASSOCIATION WOMEN'S 9 BALL CHAMPIONSHIPS TAIPEI, TAIWAN

The U.S. competitors from the Women's Professional Billiard Association sponsored by the Billiard Congress of America have been matching up against the world's best in Taipei, Taiwan in the 2008 Amway WPA Women's 9 Ball Championships.

Our representatives, Jeanette Lee, Belinda Calhoun, Kim White, Anna Kostanian and Liz Ford began playing the round robin format tournament on April 1<sup>st</sup>, featuring races to 7. The final 24 players left in the field will then move into head-to-head action. The Semifinals will feature a race to 9 and the Finals a race 11 for the Championships of the World.

Last year's top U.S. Finisher, Kim White, drew into a grouping that included top WPBA Pro Sarah Ellerby and Norway's Line Kjorsvik. Belinda Calhoun played versus top players such as Taipei's Shin-Mei Liu and the Philippines' Mary Ann Basas, while Liz Ford matched up against the #1 ranked WPBA Pro, Allison Fisher, and Japan's Yukiko Hamanishi & Miyuki Sakai. All three would eventually finish outside the top 3 in their respective round robin groups and failed to move on in the tournament.

Meanwhile, the youngest of our U.S. competitors, Anna Kostanian age 20, has moved on into the top 24 with wins over Singapore's Shu Wah Hoe and Denise Wilkinson of New Zealand. She faced off against the WPBA's #2 ranked player, Ga Young Kim. Ga Young proved to be too much of a force and Anna finished tied for 17<sup>th</sup>.

Jeanette Lee has played strong enough to place 2<sup>nd</sup> in her round robin grouping and has moved on to the top 24. Jeanette won 4 of 5 matches, losing only to Taiwan's Pei-Shen Tsai. Jeanette defeated Line Kjorsvik in a great hill-hill match and easily took care of Akimi Kajatani 7-3, before meeting Taipei's Yuan-Chun Lin in the Quarterfinals. Ms. Lin & Jeanette had played before in the 2005 World Championships, with Jeanette coming out on top. This time though, Ms. Lin had the upper hand, and defeated Jeanette 7-5. Jeanette finished 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> and we at the WPBA are very proud of her and all our U.S. competitors!

Other notable WPBA Pro's to continue into the top 24 include #1 ranked Allison Fisher, Kelly Fisher, Gerda Hofstatter and Jasmin Ouschan. In total, there were 7 WPBA top pro's who made it to the top 24, 4 of those who moved onto the Quarterfinal's and 3 into the Semi's!

The Semi's featured Ms. Lin vs. Allison Fisher and Jasmin Ouschan vs. Ga Young Kim. Semifinal's #1 saw Allison win the first game, but Ms. Lin took the next four in a row. Allison fought back, winning the next three to tie the match up 5-5 in the race to 9. The score changed hands several times and the match peaked at hill-hill. Ms. Lin held tough and won the last game to move on into the finals.

Semifinals #2 found Jasmin Ouschan up 5-1 very quickly and it looked as though she'd take the match easily. Unbelievably, with Jasmin up 6-3, Ga Young came storming back and won

the next 6 games to defeated Jasmin 9-6. (Cont'd on next page)





2008 Amway WPA Women's 9 Ball Championships – continued

Ga Young faced Ms. Lin in the race to 11 final Championship Match. Ms. Lin jumped out to an early 6-1 lead. Down 4-8, Ga Young fought back to within one game, 7-8, before Ms. Lin took control back and took the title 11-7. Congratulations to Ms. Lin and all the competitors from around the world on a great Championship.

The WPBA would once again like to acknowledge and show appreciation for the Billiard Congress of America for its continued support of Billiards in North America.

For tournament bracket snapshots, click [here](#)

