



Date: June 3, 2006

Location: Golden Cue Billiards, S. El Monte, CA

Event: Local Team Championships 2007 LY

## BALLS OUT SHOWS THEIR MIGHT AT REGIONALS



All girl team Balls Out (Dawg House, Hacienda Heights) shows the league exactly what "girl power" is all about as they battled through a brutal field of tough teams all week long to ultimately take the whole tournament down. Did we mention that is is an all girl team playing in the open division Regionals.

The road to the championship was hard fought and dramatic beginning with their struggle to make playoffs in the closing weeks of the Spring Session. Trailing division leaders Lounge Lizards by 3 and in a dead tie for 3rd, Balls out brought out their best game to clinch 2nd with a 4-1 win. With a little help from the Lizards at The Lounge, the girls were now 1 win away from division finals and a Regional qualifier spot. On Tuesday, May 22nd, they laid down their road to the LTC with a 3-1 win over Plan B from the Golden Cue in the division semi-finals.

The team's blitzkrieg continued with a 3-2 win in the division finals over the 1st place lounge team

bringing this all girl crew to the opening rounds of the 2007 Local Team Championships.

After a first round bye, Balls out pulls out a hill-hill, 3-2 win over the Dragon Ballerz (The Well). The girls follow that up on Wednesday with another hill-hill, 3-2 win over Runnin' Em In (Michauds). In the semi-final match, Suzanne Isaacs gets Balls Out going with a 3-0 win over Shannon Jeffers of Wild Jokers (Clancy's). Sarah Cho extends the lead next with a 2-1 win over Victor Martinez. In the 3rd match, Sam Musa from the Jokers cuts into the lead by beating Melinda Huang 5-1. The drama continues in the 4th match as Jokers' captain Alex Posada evens up the team match at 2-2 with a 5-1 win over Brook Thomason. It was yet another nail biter. Up until this point, every LTC match Balls Out has been in has gone hill-hill and team captain Celine Barrett has gotten the cue in the fifth match every time. Success may have something to do with that decision, as Barrett takes total control of the hill match and dispatches Bash Syed 3-0. The girls are going to Vegas for the National Team Championships.

In the title match-up featuring Pin Pum Pan coming fresh off of a win against the heavily favored Air Barrels team from the Golden Cue, the girls were not to be denied. Shannon Woods gets the team going with a 3-2 win over Aik Lim. Pin Pum Pan evens the match in the 2nd as Shawn Zhen defeats Suzanne Isaacs 3-0. In the 3rd, Brook Thomason gets the girls the lead back with a 4-2 win over Raymond Zhao. With the finish line in sight, Balls Out brings in their closer Melinda Huang in the 4th to slam the door with a 5-3 win over Pin Pum Pan captain Yong Fang.

Congratulations Captain Celine Barrett, Sarah Cho, Brook Thomason, Melinda Huang, Shannon Woods, and Suzanne Isaacs. You have done something really unbelievably special here and have defied all odds to win this thing.

The girls will be representing the San Gabriel Valley APA (August 20-25, 2007) at the National Team Championships. They will be joined by runner up team Pin Pum Pan. Please give them all some props and wish them luck in August as they head to Vegas to face the best open 8 ball teams in the country.

## THE JUSTICE LEAGUE POWERS THROUGH THE 9 BALL REGIONALS

On June 7th, the crew from Spike's Justice League began their bid for the National 9 Ball Team Championships by powering through a tough Hunters team from El Fino's 44-36. After a 2 day break, they returned to face the fall division champs Different Strokes. The gang from Spikes made short work of this semi-final match with a 51-29 win moving them 1 step away from the big show in Vegas.

In the finals, Justice League seemingly hit their first road block as they struggled at the start against a hungry Cloud 9 team from Kelly's Pub. In the 1st, Michael Quizon of Cloud 9 edge's out Edward Martinez 12-8. The follow up 2 punch was supplied by Ray Reid as he pounces on Gary Hijar 16-4. Down 28-12, the spike's team creates a little breathing room compliments of Richard Sales as he pulls the Spike's team within 4 points in the 3rd with a win over Rosalie Sabino. The 4th match was a clash of the Titans as Fernando Guevara (SL6) faced off against Joseph Martinez (SL9). Needing some valuable points, Fernando lowered the boom on Cloud 9's ace to a tune of a 16-4 win. Needing only 5 team points to secure a National birth, Gabriel Hernandez closes the deal with a blistering break draining 4 balls against Vivian Schootz.

Congratulations to Paul Herrera, Gary Hijar, Fernando Guevara, Edward Martinez, Rogelio Cabral, Gabriel Hernandez, Richard Sales, and Carina Villarreal. Best of luck in Vegas Justice League!

