



Press release – 20 January 2008

GB9 BALL TOUR - GREAT BRITAIN'S PROFESSIONAL 9 BALL POOL TOUR

Britain's biggest and best 9 ball tour ever!

2007 has been an incredible year for 9 Ball Pool Players in Great Britain - a year where finally an Englishman from Blackpool took his rightful place at the top of the world for the first time in history as Daryl Peach won the World Pool Championship in Manila.

A year where Mark Gray, a former snooker player from Peterborough finished at the top of the most prestigious tour in Europe - The EPBF Euro Tour, well, let's be honest, the biggest and most important 9 Ball tour in the world.

Even a year where Europe won The Mosconi Cup for only the third time in it's 15 year history for goodness sake's!!!

But guess what? 2008 is going to be even better for Great Britain's 9 Ball Pool Players, and the reason is that there's a new tour in the UK.

The GB9 Ball Tour (GB9) was oversubscribed by 25% from the moment it was announced, and the organisers had to expand the format to accommodate 128 players, rather than the originally planned 96 player field.

The prize fund at each of the six planned events tops the £11,000 mark, with three tournaments on each weekend, comprising of an elite "Professional" 32 player event, a "Challenge" event for the remaining 96 players, and the "Main" event for the full 128 player field.

Sponsored in it's inaugural year, and also hosted by Rileys Pool, Snooker and Poker Clubs, the events such as "The Midlands Classic" at the beautiful Rileys Solihull, and "The Yorkshire Cup" to be held at Rileys in Scarborough will provide the training ground and match practice needed for the UK's 9 Ball gladiators to take the British game forward for more success, more victories, and more champions in 2008.

GB9 must be the toughest national tour in Europe, playing host to almost legendary players like Mark Gray, the end-of-season European No.1, and Daryl Peach, the reigning World Pool Champion. It will also boast several former Mosconi Cup players, notably Peach, Majid, Hundal, and the often forgotten Andy "The Rocket" Richardson from Leeds, along with two absolute legends from the English 8 Ball game, namely Chris Melling and Darren Appleton, both of whom could be World Champions if they put their minds to it.

The GB9 official match cloth is sponsored by Z9Billiard Cloth by Klaus Zobrekis, a new company with a new high tech cloth, designed after three years of intensive development, and aimed at the top end of the market for professional "worsted" pool/billiard cloth for American style tables and each of the GB9 tour's events will feature a "Finals Table" covered with the sponsor's cloth.

The new tour has even attracted players from the fairer sex, as Norwegian hotshot Ine Helvic committing and commuting to the tour, all the way from Stravanger, along with fellow lady players Lynette Horsburgh, the World No.1 ranked snooker champion, and the UK's most dedicated female 9 Ball player, Caroline Walch.

The harsh discipline of technique needed to play Snooker at a high level, the tactical genius required to play English 8 Ball Pool, and the British addiction to cue sports has always predetermined that we would rule the Professional World Championship Sport - the game that is 9 Ball Pool.

Yet it is these precise rich veins of skill and knowledge from snooker and pool that has been the very source of the talent to help promote UK players to the vaunted heights of the World 9 Ball Pool scene in 2007, and the GB9 Ball Tour is the vehicle that will promote and encourage the next generation of champions in 2008 and beyond.

The GB9 Tour is pleased to announce that "The Pro Shop" - the GB9 Ball Tour's official pool supplies partner, will be offering a wide range of professional quality cues and equipment to the players and the general public, from a stand at each of the six planned annual events.

Research has shown that male pool players are, by and large, a generally charismatic bunch by nature, savvy, intelligent, heterosexual, gregarious, and predominantly prosperous too! But experience shows that they can be a sceptical bunch as well, possibly because they are extremely competitive by nature and therefore always looking for an edge.

Despite this fact GB9 has been received with a real buzz of enthusiasm and there's a genuine atmosphere of anticipation and excitement about the future of Britain's pool playing ambitions.

Tour stop dates:

Main Event	Venue	Start Date
GB9 Midlands Classic	Solihull	1 February
GB9 Southern Masters	Croydon	28 March
GB9 London Classic	Wealdstone	30 May
GB9 Yorkshire Cup	Scarborough	11 July
GB9 Northern Masters	Stretford	29 August
GB9 British Grand Prix	Mansfield	10 October

Visit www.gb9balltour.com for more details.

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GB9 Tour Player: European number one - Mark Gray



GB9 Tour Player: World Pool Champion 2007 – Daryl Peach

