

THE POOL PAPERS

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What **Heyball** and **WPA** don't want **you** to know!

What Heyball and WPA don't want you to know!

Heyball uses basically the structure our original Pool (with Snooker and Carom) built up in decades and likes to participate from our culture grown up in centuries! Not to become a member of our family, but to REPLACE us. Everywhere!

As proudly announced at the "JoyWorldHeyballTour" Instagram page, Heyball is now part of the Pan American Games 2027 in Peru and part of the SEA Games 2027 in Malaysia!

Yes, most of you want me to be happy about it!! Super great news for the Billiard World! Heyball unites the World!! And so on and so on.... NOOOOOOOO!!!!!! Who made Heyball to become an Option? Do we need to rename the WPA into WHA (World Heyball Association)?

Sometimes I think original real Pool-Billiard deserves to get washed away, as no one seems to care about what's going on. But on the other side it's not the player's fault!

They aren't responsible for standing up for original Pool-Billiard (est. 1857 by Michael Phelan, NYC) when it faces the Heyball (designed 1998 by the CEO Qiao Yuanxu) movement by Joy Ltd. The WPA was

supposed to stand up! But they don't! Because they are heavily "sponsored" by Joy Ltd. and defined Heyball as "Pool", but it's not!



I.: Patent 1857 by Michael Phelan, NYC

They act against their own roots! Against their and our own original Pool (Details >POOL PAPERS)!

YES, Heyball and original Pool can coexist. YES, they are both nice games. BUT what would you think, when Heyball wants to REPLACE traditional original Pool-Billiard in the World Games? In the Olympics? WHAT would you think, if THEIR first-choice scenario would be to REPLACE even Snooker and Carom Billiards as well?

That's what their slogan is all about "Heyball unites the World"! After the contracts are signed (and some are already signed), then

it's too late! Then the process to wash away our original Pool will just slowly begin. Consequences for the average player might be visible in 20-50 years only. But for your federation it will have impact right away! In the World Games European or American players won't see a Medal again in 50 or more years, if ever! This means government support will go towards zero! That means less money for training, for championships, for youth support, squads and so much more! Instead, the fundings can be transferred towards China... Then it's over!

Just today, I must recognize another post of the WPA (WHA) with 120+ pictures of participants in the Champions of Champions Heyball event in Malaysia. Champions from 120+ countries! That's huge and that's what they want, what everybody wants for their sport, right? But is Heyball really that big in those countries? Or is it just part of the 6-million-dollar deal – excuse me – sponsoring from Joy Ltd. to the WPA? To implement (force?) Heyball championships in each WPA continental member Federation? And to tell them (force them?) to have also national championships in each of their national members? No matter how many participants or such, just to have them, hang some medal around the neck of each eventual winner and send them to the champions of champions event in Malaysia? For the one

and only reason, that the WPA (or better the new WHA?) can pretend to the IOC and the World Games “Look we got players in each of those nations! It’s played everywhere!”.

Just to fulfill another mandatory thing to become Olympic. And then vote for Heyball replacing our original Pool and eventually also Carom and Snooker in the World Games and eventually becoming the one and only Olympic discipline? That’s the strategy! In some of the countries you even have a hard time finding a single Heyball table! Some of the players are in fact also a pool champion or a Snooker champion or a Blackball champion in their country. It’s in most countries by far not the most popular billiard discipline! They just made sure to have those championships and send the players in. From the players’ point of view, it’s always interesting to try a new game! No matter if they are original pool player, a Snooker player, a carom player or a Blackball player. You can take something out of any discipline to learn more. And when they even try to play a championship in that new game, which is held in their country and they must face their opponents, that’s certainly as thrilling as in their original discipline. Then the eventual winner earns his spot and can be

proud about his achievement and is certainly looking forward to exploring Malaysia and foreign players in this new game. Therefore, some players can be proud to be there, and some players aren’t even aware that they might be used. For every player the WHA politicians take away from another discipline they hang imaginably a medal around their own neck. Love the game, love the



competition, but make sure you don’t get used to betraying your own original discipline.

And if it’s about our (and my) original Pool, I got the right to be convinced that original Pool is much better! Way better developed! More complex! With much more culture! And technically one more dimension to master! I explained that already in detail in

the first Pool Papers. Don’t believe them when they say their pockets are smaller and demand more accuracy. That is not the full story!! They must deal with one dimension only and one-dimensional thinking people believe them! BUT our game has a good reason to have better accessible (New developed Pockets patented by Michael Phelan 1857!) pockets!! And this is the reason why it is the most dominant game throughout the world! Beginners have success earlier and players with more finesse will discover the second dimension in original pool! The so called “cheating the pocket”! Some one-dimensional thinking people really laugh about you, when you miss a ball in our original pockets, right? But they have no clue!!! We miss, because we try – with or without caution – to cheat the pocket to its far left or right part to achieve a better position. If we would just somehow – like them – need to

pocket, we could do so very good. Sounds obvious but makes our original pool so much more complex!! I received confirmation about this fact (!!), even from professional Snooker players and don’t forget, I was able to run centuries also in Snooker!!! I know what I’m talking about, but the officials of the World

Association DO NOT KNOW and don't want to hear that! They want to tell you the story that Heyball is the perfect development to combine all billiard disciplines! Sorry, but that's smokescreen! They want you to see how successful Heyball is all over the world! That's NOT the full story! They want you to tell this story, because they are heavily "sponsored" by Joy Ltd. (Heyball)!

HEY!! I wouldn't mind their sponsoring! I don't mind that Mr. Qiao Yuanxu sponsors his events!! He is doing good! He is working very smart and effectively! I respect that!

Don't forget that my mentor was Chinese as well. My book "The Final Freedom" is all about his philosophies.

But why is "OUR" World Association not defending OUR original Pool in the terms to keep OUR Pool in the World Games? And from there eventually into the Olympics?



Why have they pushed Heyball even to become an option to replace OUR Pool?

Because they are sponsored! That's why they call Heyball also Pool (it's not! → Pool Papers). That's why they arranged every resistance to get silenced! Examples? The former founding member of the WPA and official representative federation for Asia was the APBU led by Mr. Tu from Taiwan. In 2022 the WPA voted to replace the APBU with the ACBS to be the official representative for Asia. Most likely reason: Because the APBU wanted to force the WPA to act in accordance with their preamble!! To act with governance; transparency; accountability; ethical conduct!!!

Furthermore, it might be obvious that the big and highly effectively organized European Federation (EPBF), was voting a lot of times together with the APBU! Very powerful duo and many times joined by the American representative the BCA!

So, Years ago, the APBU disappeared as the recognized Asian continental body.

Whether one agreed with the APBU or not is almost beside the point. It certainly wasn't beyond criticism. But looking back today, one fundamental question remains unanswered: **Where is the transparent and well-documented public record explaining exactly how and why this structural change took place?**

Today, a remarkably similar discussion surrounds the BCA. Once again, a long-established continental structure appears to be losing its position. Once again, questions arise about governance, representation and transparency.

Now it's the former South American Federation in charge and suddenly is not Billiard but Heyball in the Pan American Games. Is it still nice?

If major governance reforms repeatedly leave behind uncertainty instead of clarity, contradictory narratives instead of documented procedures, then the discussion is no longer about the organizations being replaced. Then it is about the governance of the world association itself.

Governance is not only about how votes are conducted. It is also about who is entitled to participate in those votes. Replacing or restructuring continental bodies can fundamentally change the composition of the electorate itself. That raises an obvious question: Are governance reforms merely changing decisions, or are they changing who gets to make those decisions? Governance is not demonstrated by replacing one imperfect organization with another. Governance is demonstrated by transparent procedures that are understandable, documented and open to scrutiny. Otherwise, one commercial influence risks simply being

replaced by another. What if the replacement of the EPBF comes up next? Be aware...



2: Photo Credit: Matthias Arnold

The real reason why Heyball expands? Financially by Joy Ltd. and politically by the WPA! NOT because it's more spread out in the world than other billiards! It's NOT!

NOT because it's a better game! It's NOT. The next step they like to take is to replace original pool on the World Games 2029 in Germany. But that race is still open...

Hopefully. But who is going to vote for 10-ball? Who is going to vote for Heyball? Why is there a voting anyway? What's the reason that Heyball became an option? It is NOT an option! Joy Ltd. MADE it an option through the WPA!

BCA, APBU and EPBF were certain 10-Ball voters. But now there is EPBF only left over! Africa, Oceania, (new) American Federation and (new) Asian Federation are more favor to vote for Heyball due to this generous "Sponsoring"! The hosting country and the World Games head office have also a vote, but the race is close. And I'm not even an official and can't be sure about the voting procedure anyway. Thanks to the transparency you can find everywhere, can you?

If Heyball replaces original Pool at the SEA Games in Malaysia or just joins in, I couldn't find out yet. Transparency is not given! Maybe only inside the WPA board towards their continental members. But they have also a code of conduct. Do they inform the players? No! Their transparency goes to their members (perhaps) and they are National Federations rather than any player! But the national federations also have a code of

conduct and promise transparency. Did you ever get information's on that matter from your federation? Where is the problem? Maybe it's not the fault of the federations. It's harder or at least different than in the past to carry out your information. Most players get their information's through social Media, but the federations started to use those tools pretty late unfortunately. Now some players have a better reach of audience than federations. Exceptions are the promoters. That's part of their job. But which Promoter is on the side of OUR original Pool? Matchroom? Predator? Interesting, but to outsiders they usually don't share their company strategy. They don't have to, but Federations are supposed to do so, due to their transparency and governance policy.



Finally, I must come to an end. I still wonder if the WCBS is aware of all this or if they are

also already sponsored? Hopefully the IOC or World Games Office is aware of this. Maybe the POOL PAPERS will land on their office desk one day. Hopefully! The WPA supposed – in my opinion – to defend the interests of our original pool! But they don't do so. Why do I have to come up and bring some light in the dark? Why do I have to provide transparency of my little knowledge in that matter? Why aren't they providing transparency as they always promise? When nobody can stop this, we might need to found a new World Federation. Maybe with the support of the EPBF? Or the BCA? Or the remaining splitters of the APBU?

But act! Because the WPA seems to be a WHA (World Heyball Association)!

Hey! If, someone thinks I don't like Heyball, he just didn't get the message...;)

Best regards,
Ralph Eckert, Berlin