

Schaefer Wins Hoppe's Last Billiard Title

New York, April 3.—(AP)—Willie Hoppe, billiard champion for almost two decades, relinquished the last of his titles tonight to Jake Schaefer of Chicago by losing the final block of a 3,600 point match for the world's 18.1 balk line crown, 300 to 230. The final score read: Schaefer, 3,600; Hoppe, 2,926.

Hoppe entered the twelfth and final block facing an almost insurmountable handicap of 604 points. He made a gallant stand in the seventh inning, running 144, but Schaefer closed with a spectacular spurt, clicking off 74, 102, and 21 to win the championship. Schaefer's final margin was 674 points.

Schaefer Regains Form.

The victory marked a brilliant comeback for Schaefer, who only recently lost to Eric Hagenlacher of Germany the 18.2 balk line title he had wrested from Hoppe a year ago. Score by innings of tonight's block:

Hoppe—1. 5. 0. 35. 1. 12. 144. 32—230—2,696—2,926.

Schaefer—3. 24. 26. 50. 0. 0. 74. 102. 21—300—3,300—2,600.

The match between Schaefer and Hoppe was one of the most sensational in the history of balk line billiards. Records fell by the wayside from the opening block, with Hoppe as well as Schaefer sharing in the honors.

Both Shatter Records.

It was the first 18.1 match in twelve years. Hoppe, who won the title from Maurice Vignaux in Paris in 1906, won it back from Ora Morningstar after having lost it in Madison Square Garden in 1912. On the first afternoon Hoppe smashed Frank Ives' twenty-nine year old high run mark of 140 with a run of 148. Following this he broke the record twice in one block, running 149 and 200. On top of this Schaefer boosted the record to 241 by a run that was spread over two blocks—219 points in one and 22 in another.

The high average mark broken by Schaefer was also broken by Hoppe. The latter's average was 2842-103. Both marks surpassed that of Frank Ives, which was 24 plus, and that of Hoppe, of 22, made in a 1,000 point match against Slosson.