



IS PING PONG THE NEW BLACK?

*** By Adam Bobrow, fashion expert/coolness patrol**

Is it? Does everyone look slimmer wearing Ping Pong? Do you like your coffee Ping Pong? Can you be Ping Pong listed from the entertainment industry for being a communist? Is President Barack Obama the first PING PONG President??? Technically, he could be due to his reported relationship with a special brand we will call “Killerspinn” to protect its identity.

Ping Pong seems to be on the up and up. Skater kids, rappers, celebrities... everyone is coming out of the proverbial Ping Pong closet... and they are PROUD! T-shirts from Urban Outfitters, ESPN and Bud Light getting a piece... I say, chances are... if you're reading this now, you are in on the ground floor of a sport that could definitely get you some major high-five action in the VERY near future if it

hasn't happened already. You might actually get so many high-fives that are SOO hard, you might want to make sure you give and receive these high-fives with your NON-playing hand.

Whether you like it or not, you represent ping pong and like anything else in your life that you love, you should be proud of it. By having a subscription to this magazine alone, you should already be a step up on the “cool chart” ... which actually exists in a library in Miami, Florida... I saw it. All you have to do is leave a copy in a place where someone can see the magazine and the conversation will follow (depending on how awesome or not awesome the cover is):

Your Non-TT friend: Hey, Tawny. What's up with this magazine?

You (Tawny): What do you mean?

YNTTF: Do you play table tennis?

You (Tawny): If by play you mean, have represented the United States for the past 20 years, gone to the Olympics more times than I can remember, opened up the best club that SoCal has to offer, coached more people than Paris Hilton has... “befriended” ... and devoted my entire life to not losing a match ... then yes. I do play table tennis.

YNTTF: I can't believe I never knew. Tell me some good stories...

You (Tawny): Well, this one time in 1945...

... and then the stories go on and on and their fascination grows as does your friend's respect for you. I referred to “you” as “Tawny” because it's a common name that most people can identify with. I had no specific person in mind when I wrote that dialogue.

I guess the point is, whether Ping Pong is the new black or table tennis is the new sliced bread, wear your Ping Pong with pride and put it out there for the world to see. You're lucky to be part of a sport that just happens to be super cool and is only getting cooler! Represent!

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