

Eight Ball

Tournament:

Eight ball is a one-day, single-elimination tournament. Each match is a best two of three games. The first player to win two games wins the match. Players can enter the tournament until registration is over, usually 30 min. after the scheduled event.

Beginning a Match:

A lag is used to determine starting player of the game. Each player shoots a ball from behind the head string to the foot cushion, attempting to return the ball as closely as possible to the head cushion. After the initial break players alternate breaks.

The Rack:

The balls are racked in a triangle at the foot of the table with the 8-ball in the center of the triangle. The first ball of the rack is on the foot spot (the 1-ball), and a stripe ball should be in one corner with a solid ball in the other corner.

Opening Break:

To make the opening shot legal players must pocket a ball or drive at least **four balls** to the rails. If the breaker fails to make a legal break the other player has the choice of taking the table, re-racking the balls and breaking his/her self or re-racking and letting the other player shoot again.

Other Important Rules:

- *Balls pocketed on a scratch stay pocketed.* The other player receives ball-in-hand behind the head string.
- If on the break any object balls jump off the table it is pocketed and the other player has option to accept where the cue ball is or take ball-in-hand behind the head string.
- Cue ball fouls only. This means only fouls involving the cue ball are penalized.

Examples: Scratch, touching a ball other than the object ball, failure to contact a ball, contacting the eight ball illegally.

Violations without penalty: Moving a ball other than the cue ball with the cue stick, moving an object ball with a part of the body. (These balls are to be re-spotted before the player shoots).

Tournaments are governed under the World Standardized Rules:

- Groups are not determined until the shot after the break this is called an open table.
- You say use the "Safety" shot but it must be legal.
- When doing a combination shot you must hit your ball first (eight ball is not yours until no group balls are left.)
- Balls that are pocketed stay pocketed.
- A scratch or foul is not a loss of game just ball in hand to other player.

A player does lose the game if he:

Pockets the 8-ball while committing a foul

Pockets the 8 ball on the same shot he scored his last group ball

Jumps the 8-ball off of the table

Pockets the 8-ball in any pocket other than the called one

Pockets the 8-ball when not a legal shot

All other World Standardized Rules not on this page also apply.