



BILLIARDS TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Eligible Players:
 - 1.1. Only players who are citizens of the Republic of Ireland or persons who have been resident for more than one year are eligible to play in Billiards Tournaments and must be registered members of RIBSA to compete in any Billiards Tournament.
 - 1.2. Guest Players, ie players who are not citizens of the Republic of Ireland or persons who have not been resident for more than one year may play as Guest Players. Any ranking points amassed by a Guest Player shall have no standing in the RIBSA Ranking Points system.
2. Entry fees, payable on the day at the Tournament venue will be €20 for Senior and Intermediate events; €10 for Junior events and for Juniors contesting senior and intermediate events.
3. Neat dress is essential for all matches, e.g. trousers and long sleeved one-coloured shirt, buttoned at the wrist. Jeans, tee shirts, jumpers or sneakers are not acceptable. Any player not conforming to this rule may be disqualified and will forfeit his/her entry fee. The T Director shall determine the quality of dress. Waistcoats must be worn from Last 16 onwards. International and Provincial waistcoats are permissible.
4. Competitors must identify themselves to the Tournament Director at the Control Desk prior to commencement of their match. At the match time, the names of players will be called; a table will be allocated subject to availability. Any player not at the Control Desk at the time appointed for the match will forfeit 50 points for being 15 minutes late or part thereof and 50 points every five minutes thereafter. This penalty will apply even when no table is available.
5. The Prize Fund will be dependent on number of entries:

Winner	- €8 per entry
Runner-up	- €4 per entry
Semi-finalist x 2	- €2 per entry
High Break	- €2 per entry (Maximum €50)
Trophy Fund	- €2 per entry (Maximum €50)
Junior prizes	- proportional to above
6. Ranking points will be awarded for each match played, a bye or a walkover, provided always that the player plays in subsequent rounds of the tournament. Points will be awarded as follows:

15 points for Winner	8 points for beaten quarter-finalists
12 points for Runner-up	6 points for Last 16
10 points for beaten Semi-finalists	4 points for Last 32
7. Billiards tournaments for the season will be as per RIBSA Calendar and will be played under the rules set out in the various Appendices hereto.
8. Players are expected to assist with refereeing duties. Provided that tournament progress permits, all players must be prepared to act as Referee for one match per tournament. The losing semi-finalists shall draw lots for duty as Referee for the Final.
9. All players must abide by the Constitution and Rules of the Republic of Ireland Billiards and Snooker Association. By signing the Player Registration Form, all players understand that Drug Testing can be carried out at any time and consent to this. RIBSA competitions are subject to the Irish Sports Council Anti-Doping Rules.

APPENDIX I

SENIOR BILLIARDS HANDICAP TOURNAMENT RULES

1. All Senior Billiards Handicap Tournaments will be open draw format, no seeding shall apply.
2. The Standard Schedule of Tournament play shall be as follows:
 - Entries by 10.30am on the day at the Tournament venue. Late entries will not be accepted.
 - First round 11.00am followed by 30 minute break.
 - 15 minute breaks between subsequent rounds.
3. All matches are 400 Up or 90 minutes, whichever comes first.
4. At commencement of a game, each player's handicap points will be marked up on the scoreboard and the first player to reach 400, **OR** who is leading at the expiry of the time limit, will be declared the winner. In the event of a tie, play will stop, the players shall string and play for a further 9 minutes, or until one player reaches 400, whichever comes first. There will be no automatic extension of the break period between rounds to accommodate players involved in such a tie-break.
5. The Tournament Director will apply handicaps in accordance with the following Handicap Points System.
6. Players will be divided into two groups as follows:
 - 6.1. Group 1: Players whose handicap ranges from a minimum of - 60 to a maximum of scratch.
 - 6.2. Group 2: Players whose handicap ranges from a minimum of + 1 to a maximum of + 240.
7. Handicaps will be applied, according to a player's merit, within the above ranges.
8. New players will be given a provisional handicap by a member of the handicap sub-committee before commencing play.
9. Any player's handicap (of any Group) will be subject to review by the handicap sub-Committee. Any player will have a right of appeal to the sub-Committee to have his/her own or any other player's handicap reviewed. Should the sub-Committee decide to amend a handicap, the player in question will be given notice of the amendment before commencement of the next Tournament and the amendment will take effect immediately after this next Tournament, together with any automatic adjustment resulting from this Tournament.
10. Handicaps will be amended automatically within the handicap range after each tournament as follows:

Loser in first or preliminary round	+ 12
Loser in second and subsequent rounds	+ 0
Loser in semi final	- 8
Runner up	- 12
Winner	- 20
11. Any player whose handicap, by the application of these rules, would fall outside the handicap range, will have his/her handicap amended only to the limit of the handicap range.
12. The Handicap sub-Committee will be represented at all points ranking tournaments for the purpose of:
 - 12.1. issuing handicaps for the tournament
 - 12.2. recording results for the purpose of updating handicaps
 - 12.3. receiving submissions in relation to handicaps

APPENDIX II

SENIOR BILLIARDS SCRATCH TOURNAMENT RULES

1. All Scratch Tournaments will be seeded on ranking points attained in the current season as follows:
 - 1.1. up to 8 participating players: 2 seeds identified.
 - 1.2. more than 8 participating players: 4 seeds identified.
2. Where numbers of entries dictate that byes be awarded, seeded players shall not be entitled to automatic byes.
3. The Standard Schedule of Tournament play shall be as follows:

Entries by 10.30am on the day at the Tournament venue. Late entries will not be accepted.
First round 11.00am followed by 30 minute break.
15 minute breaks between subsequent rounds.
4. All matches are 400 Up or 90 minutes, whichever comes first.
13. In the event of a tie, play will stop, the players shall string and play for a further 9 minutes, or until one player reaches 400, whichever comes first. There will be no automatic extension of the break period between rounds to accommodate players involved in such a tie-break.

APPENDIX III

SENIOR BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

1. All registered members of RIBSA are eligible to contest the Senior Billiards Championship.
2. Ranking points acquired in Billiards Championship Tournaments will count as ranking points for the Senior Scratch Billiards rankings.
3. Billiards Championship Tournament seedings will be based on the current season's Senior Scratch Billiards rankings.
4. Where numbers of entries dictate that byes be awarded, they shall be awarded to seeded players in order of rank, before commencement of Draw.
5. The Standard Schedule of Tournament play shall be as follows:

Entries by 10.30am on the day at the Tournament venue. Late entries will not be accepted.
30 minute break between rounds.
6. Matches shall be as follows:

Preliminary and pre-quarter rounds	500 Up or 2 hours, whichever comes first
Quarter finals	600 Up or 2 hours 30 minutes, whichever comes first
Semi finals	650 Up or 3 hours, whichever comes first
Final	750 Up or 3 hours 30 minutes, whichever comes first
14. In the event of a tie, play will stop, the players shall string and play for a further 15 minutes, or until one player reaches the required score, whichever comes first. There will be no automatic extension of the break period between rounds to accommodate players involved in such a tie-break.

APPENDIX IV

INTERMEDIATE BILLIARDS HANDICAP TOURNAMENT RULES

1. All registered members of RIBSA, except Group 1 players as identified in the Rules for Senior Billiards Handicap Tournaments, are eligible to contest the Intermediate Billiards Handicap Tournaments.
2. All Intermediate Billiards Handicap Tournaments will be open draw format, no seeding shall apply.
3. The Standard Schedule of Tournament play shall be as follows:
 - Entries by 10.30am on the day at the Tournament venue. Late entries will not be accepted.
 - Players shall be entitled to a 30 minute break after the first round.
 - Players shall be entitled to a 15 minute break between subsequent rounds.
4. All matches are 400 Up.
5. At commencement of a game, each player's handicap points will be marked up on the scoreboard and the first player to reach 400 will be declared the winner.
6. Handicaps will be within the range - 200 to + 250.
7. New players will be given a provisional handicap by a member of the handicap sub-committee before commencing play.
8. Any player's handicap will be subject to review by the handicap sub-Committee. Any player will have a right of appeal to the sub-Committee to have his/her own or any other player's handicap reviewed. Should the sub-Committee decide to amend a handicap, the player in question will be given notice of the amendment before commencement of the next Tournament and the amendment will take effect immediately after this next Tournament, together with any automatic adjustment resulting from this Tournament.
9. Handicaps will be amended automatically within the handicap range after each tournament as follows:

Loser in first or preliminary round	+ 15
Loser in second and subsequent rounds	+ 0
Loser in semi final	- 15
Runner up	- 30
Winner	- 50
10. Any player whose handicap, by the application of these rules, would fall outside the handicap range, will have his/her handicap amended only to the limit of the handicap range.
11. The Handicap sub-Committee will be represented at all Intermediate Billiards Handicap Tournaments for the purpose of
 - 11.1. issuing handicaps for the tournament
 - 11.2. recording results for the purpose of updating handicaps
 - 11.3. receiving submissions in relation to handicaps

APPENDIX V

INTERMEDIATE BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT RULES

1. All registered members of RIBSA, except Group 1 players as identified in the Rules for Senior Billiards Handicap Tournaments, are eligible to contest the Intermediate Billiards Championship.
2. The following seedings will apply:
 - 2.1. Four seeds shall be identified
 - Seed No 1: Reigning Champion.
 - Seed No 2: Runner-up in previous season's championships.
 - Seed No 3: Semi-finalist in previous season's championships, beaten by winner.
 - Seed No 4: Semi-finalist in previous season's championships, beaten by runner-up.
 - 2.2. Where numbers of entries dictate that byes be awarded, they shall be awarded to seeded players in order of rank, before commencement of Draw.
3. The Standard Schedule of Tournament play shall be as follows:

Entries by 10.30am on the day at the Tournament venue. Late entries will not be accepted.
Players shall be entitled to a 30 minute break after the first round.
Players shall be entitled to a 15 minute break between subsequent rounds.
4. Tournament format:

Up to Semi final stage	400 Up
Final	500 Up

APPENDIX VI

JUNIOR BILLIARDS SCRATCH TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Players must be under the age of 18 on 31st December in the relevant season.
2. All Junior Billiards Scratch Tournaments will be seeded on ranking points attained in the current season as follows:
 - 2.1. up to 8 participating players: 2 seeds identified.
 - 2.2. more than 8 participating players: 4 seeds identified.
3. Where numbers of entries dictate that byes be awarded, seeded players shall not be entitled to automatic byes.
4. The Standard Schedule of Tournament play shall be as follows:
 - Entries by 10.30am on the day at the Tournament venue. Late entries will not be accepted.
 - First round 11.00am followed by 30 minute break.
 - 15 minute breaks between subsequent rounds.
5. All matches are 1 hour duration.
15. In the event of a tie, play will stop, the players shall string and play for a further 9 minutes until the match is resolved. There will be no automatic extension of the break period between rounds to accommodate players involved in such a tie-break.

APPENDIX VII

JUNIOR BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

1. Players must be under the age of 18 on 31st December in the relevant season.
2. Ranking points acquired in Junior Billiards Championship Tournaments will count as ranking points for the Junior Scratch Billiards rankings.
3. Junior Billiards Championship Tournament seedings will be based on the current season's Junior Scratch Billiards rankings.
4. Where numbers of entries dictate that byes be awarded, they shall be awarded to seeded players in order of rank, before commencement of Draw.
5. The Standard Schedule of Tournament play shall be as follows:
 - Entries by 10.30am on the day at the Tournament venue. Late entries will not be accepted.
 - First round 11.00am followed by 30 minute break.
 - 15 minute breaks between subsequent rounds.
6. All matches are 1 hour duration.
16. In the event of a tie, play will stop, the players shall string and play for a further 9 minutes until the match is resolved. There will be no automatic extension of the break period between rounds to accommodate players involved in such a tie-break.

APPENDIX VIII

SELECTION OF PLAYERS FOR INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

1. World Championships and senior individual international events:
Places will be offered to Reigning Senior Billiards Champion plus players selected in order of ranking positions attained in the previous season's Senior Scratch Billiards rankings.
2. International team events:
Places will be offered to players selected in order of ranking positions attained in the previous season's Senior Scratch Billiards rankings.
3. Junior International team events:
Places will be offered to players selected in order of ranking positions attained in the previous season's Junior Scratch Billiards rankings.