## International

Eightball
Rules are endorsed by

© Lee Kendall
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## 1 SPIRIT OF THE GAME

## 2 EQUPMENT \& TABLE LAYOUT

All equipment that is
However, using any equipm played on a six-pocket rectangular table with six cushion

## quipment permitted:

## (a) Apotted white called a cue ball

(b) Two groups of object balls consisting of seven reds and seven yellow
(c) A striped eight-ball
(c) Astriped eight-bc
(d) )
(e) Priderscribest, goose
(ues

The playing surface is the flat part of the table bordered by the cushions. The surface must be marked with an eight-ball spot at the
intersection of two
The playing surface is the flat part of the table bordered by the custions.
intersection of two imaginary diagonal lines joining the centre and corner pockets.
The surface must be marked with a rack line'. The rack line must be a 280 mm vertical line going down through the eight-ball spot
towards the top cushion (see Rule 5 for an iliustration of the rack line). On the rack line must be two marker points, one for the head toll and the other for the black ball.
The cloth is marked with a break line parallel to the bottom cushion $1 / 5$ th of the length of the table away from the baulk cushion.

## $\frac{3 \text { THE OBJECT OF THE GAME }}{\text { International eight-ball poo }}$

ball. One player must pocket all balls of one group, while the other player must packet the alternate cololoured balls. The player whe

## 4 THE BREAK

$4 a-\mathrm{A}$ "Lag for Break" shall determine who breaks first with an alternating break format taking place thereafter. The winner of the lag

4 b - Lagging Procedure: : guidance, what should happen)
(1) Balls shall be of equal size and weight
(2) To start the lag the referee wili count the players in by counting back from 3 to 1 (If a referee is present)
(3) The players

4c - It is an automatic loss of lag if a ball:
(1) Crosses into the opponent's half of
(2) Fails to contact the top
(3) Drops into a pocket OR
(4) Hits a side cushion OR
(5) Jumps off the table OR
(6) Comes to rest on the playing surface
(7) Player commits any standard foul OR

4d - Players will lag again it
(1) Both players foul OR
(2) The referee is unable to decide on which ball is closest to the bottom cushion o
(3) One player's ball strikes the top cushion before the other player's ball is hit
pay's by, the players shall simutaneously strike the balls towards the top custion but fi they dont site simutaneousy and one
player's ball strikes the top cushion before the other player's ball is hit will result in both players lagging again.
4 e - To commence a frame, the player who is breaking, st
ball over the break line by more than $50 \%$ of its diameter.
$4 f$ - The Break will be deemed a 'legal Break' if the player breaking, obtains a minimum of three cumulative points 1 point for each object ball potted (eight-ball included, so thus does count).
1 point for each object ball that has passed an imaginary line between the two centre pockets, that is not potted. A ball is deemed as having 'passed' the centre line if the whole ball is over the imaginary line.

## 4 g - Failure to perform a leg. back to the original breaker.

4h - Groups are not decided on the break. The table remains ope
a legal pot, the table is still deemed open for the incoming playe
4i- If the eight-ball is potted off the break, it is always re-spotted after ail bat ball, the centre point of the eight-ball is placed on the eight-bail spot or if this is not available as near as possible to the spot in a direct line between the spot and the centre of the top cushion
It there is no space available on this line, place the eight-ball

## bottom cushion.

If the eight-ball is the 'only ball polted on a legal break' then control of the table goes to the incoming player. If it's potted with other
4j- If the cue ball on a legal break:
4) (1) Goes "in-off", a loss of turn occurs and the incoming player is awarded one visit with cue ball in hand, to be played from
baulk, in any direction.
(2) Leaves the playing surface, a standard foul will be called against the breaker, with the incoming player receiving one visit
played from anywhere on the playing surface. (see Rule $61(1)$ )

## 5 the rack

Arrange as shown with the eight-ball on the eight-ball spot. Top apex ball on the head marker of the rack
line. (see the diagram to the right for an illustration of where the balls are racked in relation to the rack line)

## 6 INPLAY



## 6a Deciding groups (1) Groups are de

(2) The table is considered an "open" table when the choice of groups (red or yellow) has not yet been determined. The table is always open immediately after the break shot. Balls potted from the break are disregarded. The player's designated group (red or yellow) will not be determined until a player legally pockets an object ball. Once groups are determined, object balls from a
(3) Failure to make a legal pot results in the table remaining open
(4) If one of each group is potted in one shot, the
occurred, in which case the table remains open.
(5) Where the choice of group is not obvious. (e.g. player cues up to a group of object balls $O$ R object balls of both groups sitting (a) The player MUST indicate too the referee and/or the opponent the intended group.
(b) Failure to call a group, after potting a ball, whist the table is open, is loss of turn (see Rule 6d), the table remains open. (a) faile to cal a group, aterpo (c) Failure to strike called group is loss of turn (See Rule 6d), the table remains open
(d) Striking a called group but potting the other group is loss of turn (see
(d) Striking a called group but poting the other group is loss of turn (see Rule 60 a
(e) Potting a called group is a legal pot and the group is assigned to the striker
(e) Potting a called group is a legal pot and the group is assigned to the striker,
(f) The onus is on the player in contro of the table, to make a call for the groups
(6) Groups are not decided on a foul shot

## 6 b continuing a frame

In the course of play, if $a$ legal shot is played and the balls(s) from the player's own group are potted, play continues and the player
is entitled to an additional shot. The player will lose their turn and return control of the table to the opponent if they:
(a) Fail to pot one or more of their own group AND / OR

## 6c Combination shots

Object balls from both groups can be potted without penalty in a single 'combination' shot. Combination shots do not have to be
called. The potted balls may drop into the pockets in any order but 'on' ball must be struck legally first. Attempting to complete a combination shot that results in only potting ball not 'on' is LOSS OF TURN.

## 6d Loss of turn

As long as the player strikes an 'on' ball first, should an opponent's ball be potted without
turn. Control of the table returns to the opponent; the cue ball is played from where it ies.
turn. Control of the table returns to the opponent; the cue ball is played from where it ies. The only exce
(1) Potting an opponent's ball accidentally
(2) Failing to complete a legal combination shot.
(3) A tactical shol e.g. playing a designated droup legally to pot an opponent's ball.
(4) Failure to call a group after potting a ball, whilst the tob

## 6e Standard fouls

Shall be called as soon as they occur, the fouling player is in control until all balls from that shot have come to rest. The incoming player is awarded one visit and a cue ball in hand which can be:
(a) Played from its current position, or
(a) Played from its current position, or
(b) Placed anywhere on the playing surface.

The only exception (a) ist
come to rest and is touching an object ball and therefore must be repositioned.
(1) Potting the cue ball - "In Off" (Except off the break - See rule 4j)
(2) Playing from outside baulk when obliged to play from Baulk. The break line is considered to be part of the baulk. (See rule 4 e )
(3) A player who plays a shot immediately after playing a foul or immediately after the referee has called a foul on that player
has played out of turn. This also covers breaking out of turn.
(4) Accidentally striking the cue ball with any part of the
cue is allowed as ong as the tip of the cue is not used.
(5) Accidentally striking any ball other than the cue ball with any part of the cue or cue tip.
(6) Playing a shot before all balls have come to rest from the previous shot.
(7) Playing a shot before any balls that require re-spotting or replacing, have been re-spotted or replaced. (see Rule 6 m )

## e Standard fouls (Continued)

(8) Coaching: During a frame, a player is required to play without receiving any advice from other persons relating to the playing
of the frame. If a team member or bona fice supporter of a player offers advice, the eferee will issue "Fivst and final warnin" of the frame. If a team member or bona fide supporter of a player offers advice, the referee will issue a"First and final warning" to
that person that a repeetition will result in the player being penalised via a standard Foul. Because it may not always be possible tor the Referee to hear if a statement made to a player is advice, the referee may issue the first and final warning because any statement made to a player, other than general barracking, is deemed to be cocaching. In a tournament setting, a first and final warning may be given once only, before the commencement of the day's play as a block warning to all players and spectators.
(9) Leaving the playing area without $p$
must first be granted by the referee.
timeout may be called for:
(a) When a player reque
(a) When a player requests a rest or bridge OR
(b) Something or someone is obstructing the
(c) The referee has to make a decision OR
(c) The referee has to make a decision OR
(d) The referee has to replace or re-spot a ball.

## (10) Playing a "Push forward motion).

(11) Double-hitting the cue ball.
(12) Failing to perform a "legal shot:
(13) Playing a shot while not having at least one foot touching the floor
(14) Failing to "Play Away" from a touching ball(s).
(15) A ball that remains off the playing surface.
(16) A player's body, clothing, jewellery or accessory, or part of a cue (except for the tip in a legal shot), comes into contact with any ball. A tip falling off a cue or chalk dropped is the player's responsibility. Should any of these contact a ball on the playing surface, it is deemed a foul. A player is responsibe for their 'own equipment brought to the table but not hat which is 'supplied' this is deemed not a foul.
(17) Jump shot: If the cue ball leaves the bed of the playing surface and does not strike an object ball that it would have struck had the cue ball not left the playing surface on an otherise

## ball.

## (19) Time foul.

## ff Loss of frame fouls

## (2) Unsporting behaviour / bringing the game into disrepute.

(a) A second offence for foul language (A verbal warning is
(b) Throwing a cue around /hserewing as it to concede
(c) Continually arguing with the referee or opponent $O R$
(d) Interfering when the opponent is on the shot either ve
(4) Potting the eight-ball when a ball or balls of the player's own group are still on the table. (Except on the Break) Including
pootting the last group ball and eight-ball in the same shot.
(6) Potting the
(7) Deliberately striking the cue ball with any part of the cue other than the tip in general play. Positioning the cue ball with the cue as long as the tip of the cue is not used.
(8) Deliberately striking any ball other than the cue ball with any part of the cue or cue tip.

## Gg stalemate situation

If any situation arises whereby a 'legal shot' (see Rule $6 e(12)$ ) cannot be played, It is a player's responsibility to ask for a stalemate. In



## Sh Frozen balls

(i) An object ball is deemed froz
(a) A ball being potted
(c) The frozen ball contacting a cushonion attached to a different rail OR
(d) Any other object ball contacting a cushion

## 6ioutside interference

there is no penalty if balls are moved in these circumstances:
(a) By persons other than players taking part in the frame $O$ :
(a) By persons other than players taking part
(b) As a result of players being bumped OR
(c) Events deemed not within a player's
(2) The referee will return the balls as close as possible to
in extreme circumstances. The efefere's decision is final.

## 6j Shot clock

445 seconds for each shot The tip of the con must have mate cont with the cue ball within this time or a standara foul shall be granted to the opponent. The 45 -second shot clock will commence once all balls come to rest. The timekeepe One extension

## 6k Balls falling into a pocket...

shot is 'complete' ' 'hene all.. balls have come to rest.
(1) After a shot is 'complete', any ball $(s)$ that drop
shot is 'in progress' when the cue ball has been struck and all the balls have not come to a rest
(2) During a shot in progress', any ball(s) that drops into a pocket, without being struck and a shot, shall be replaced to their original positions after all balls have come to rest.
(3) During a shot 'in progress', any ball(s) that drops into a pocket, without being struck and would have been played as part of a
$\qquad$
(a) A foul had been committed or
(b) The original player failed to pot

## 6l Balls off the playing surface

It is $a$ 'standard foul' if a ball leaves the playing surface at
(1) If it is the cue ball, then it is ball in hand, to be p
(2) Object balls are re-spotted (see Rule 6 m ).

## om Returning object balls which leave the playing surface a

## spot and the centre point of the top cushion.

ject balls are r
(a) Eight-ball
(b) Red
(b) Red
(c) Yellow

In Player responsibility
It it the responsibility of each player to be aware of all rules. However, a referee on request may advise on the rules of the game but
must not provide any subjective opinion that would affect the result of the frame. Tournament officials will make every reasonable er monsibility rests with mace every rivividual playe effort to make the information reacily avaliable to all players. However, the uttim
There is no recourse if a player dooss not ototio correct or complete information.
Players may always call for rule(s) (clarification during play However this is not

60 Touching balls
解' touching balls at an angle perpendicular ( 90 degrees) or greater than and fulfil the requirements of a 'legal shot'. A player shall not be penalised If playing away from touching ball( $s$ s causes any touching ball
rock or move slightly beccuse it was resting' on the cue ball.
(2) If the table is 'open' and touching ball( $s$ s) have been confirmed, the player must, in the following order:
(a) Nominate a group. (This is for clarity of the shat
on deciding groups.
(b) Perform all the requirements of a 'legal shot.
(3) If the groups have been decided and touching ball( $s$ s ) has been confirmed, the player must perform all the requirements of a
legal shot'.
(4) If the cue ball is touching an 'on' ball, the player is deemed to have made 'initial contact in order to fuffil the requirements of $a$

## Eplegal shot

DEFFintion - To play a 'legal shot the player must cause the cue ball's initiol contact to be with a ball 'on' and THEN must eith
(a) Pot any ball or balls (except the eightball if not ball 'on') OR
(b) Cause the cue ball or any object ball to contact a cushion.

The 'cushion' is defined as the six rails and the six pockets of a pool table.
$\frac{69 \text { Simultaneous contact }}{\text { Simultaneous contact of of }}$
7COMPLETION OF A FRAME

