

BALKAN BILLIARD ASSOCIATION

REGULATIONS

FOR HOLDING BBA CALENDAR TOURNAMENTS

Chapter One

GENERAL

Art. 1. These Regulations lay down the rules for the conduct of all tournaments organised by the Balkan Billiard Association (BBA).

Chapter Two

OFFICIALS AND COMPETITORS

Section I

Tournament Director

Art. 2. (1) For each tournament, the BBA Board shall appoint a Tournament Director.

(2) The Tournament Director (TD) shall be appointed by resolution of the BBA Board of Directors (BOD).

Art. 3. Responsibilities of the TD:

1. The TD shall compile the tournament schedule.
2. The TD oversees that the tournament rules are followed.
3. The TD shall ensure compliance with the rules of the game and shall participate in the resolution of any disputes arising under the rules.
4. The TD shall collect the entry fees for each tournament.
5. The TD shall ensure that individual matches involving the same competitor are played with minimum breaks of no less than 5 minutes.
6. The TD shall be responsible for the organisation and smooth running of the tournament, ensuring appropriate play conditions, order and discipline in the arena among competitors, public and other persons present.
7. After the completion of the tournament, the TD shall hand over the tournament documentation to a representative of the BBA Board.

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Art. 4. Rights of the TD:

1. The TD shall have the right to terminate, cancel or postpone matches.
2. The TD has the right to postpone a meeting in the event of a delay of a competitor at his discretion and in the presence of objective reasons, provided that he is notified in advance of the delay.
3. The TD has the right to disqualify athletes for non-conforming attire or to allow deviations from it.
4. TD has the right to disqualify competitors for failure to comply with the Disciplinary Code.

Art. 5. (1) An appeal against the actions of the TD may be made in writing to the BBA Board by any competitor - participant in a particular tournament or sports club.

(2) The decision of the Board shall be final.

Section II

Referees

Art. 6. (1) The BBA Board shall appoint a Chief Referee for each tournament.

(2) The chief referee and the TD may be the same person.

(3) There shall be a minimum of two referees per tournament along with the TD.

Art. 7. (1) If necessary, an additional number of referees may be appointed for a specific tournament.

(2) If the requisite number of referees is not provided, the BBA Board shall nominate independent referees to be approved by the TD. The decisions of the nominated referees are final and official for the competitors.

Art. 8 Referees need to be in attendance with the TD half an hour before the start of the first match of the day.

Art. 9 (1) A complaint against a referee in a particular match may be made in writing to the TD by a representative of the BBA member whose competitor is concerned. In the event that the TD and the Chief Referee are the same person, the complaint shall be made to the BBA Board.

(2) Persons who are not members of sports clubs may lodge a complaint in person.

(3) The decision of the TD or the BBA Board shall be final.

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Section III

Competitors

Art. 10. (1) Competitors shall be registered only through BBA members.

(1) A registered competitor is any competitor who is on the list of a BBA member and has paid a one-off annual registration fee to the BBA in the amount of €50 set by the BBA Board.

(2) A competitor who does not appear on the BBA lists but appears on the list of a BBA member and is registered there but not with the BBA shall pay an entry fee for the tournament of €120, not participate in the BBA ranking and shall earn 80% of the prize money and shall not benefit from additional agreements and prizes provided by the BBA.

(3) A competitor who is not registered neither with a member of the BBA nor with the BBA itself, may enter the tournaments with an entry fee of €200 and will not participate in the BBA ranking, shall receive 50% of the prize money and shall not benefit from additional agreements and prizes provided by the BBA.

(4) Fees shall be paid by a date determined by the BBA Board. The date for this year is 22.02.2025. After this date, payment is impossible.

(5) Payment for the registration of a player of €50 The registration fee is to be paid before the start of the first tournament of the year.

(6) Each competitor must send a scanned passport photo by 31.01.2025 to info@bankalba.com

Art. 11. (1) The compulsory attire for all competitors is the following:

- collared T-shirt, regardless of sleeve length and colour. The use of a short-sleeved T-shirt is permitted, with another long-sleeved one underneath. T-shirts without a collar are not allowed, nor is playing with sweatshirts, sweaters, etc.
- dark formal trousers - participation in cargo shorts, jeans, cut-offs, etc. is not permitted. Trousers must not have eyelets, chains etc. Women are allowed to play in a dark formal skirt that covers the knees.
- belts are mandatory for men and juniors.
- formal or sports shoes made of leather or leather-like material - no bright or patterned trainers or flip-flops allowed. Sports shoes are only allowed when they are all black with absolutely no other colours on them.

(2) Listed competitors must play wearing a club t-shirt. The collared t-shirt must be that of the club that the player is listed with. The shirt cannot be a plain collared shirt without the logo of the club being represented. An exception may be made for the first tournament of the year only.

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(3) The use of headphones or earplugs during a match is strictly prohibited.

(4) The use of electronic cigarettes during a match is strictly prohibited.

(5) The use of mobile devices during a match is strictly prohibited.

Art. 12. (1) In case a competitor has not taken their place around the table at the announced starting time of the match, the TD or the referee shall award a game to the opponent.

(2) For every 5 (five) minutes of absence, one game shall be awarded in favour of the opponent.

(3) In the event of a no-show 15 minutes after the starting time of the match, the TD or referee shall award a forfeit.

(4) If both competitors fail to appear within 15 minutes after the start time of the match, they shall be disqualified by the TD and shall not receive any tournament points.

Art. 13. Each competitor must be prepared to provide identification and proof of age if requested by the TD or referee.

Chapter Three

ORGANISING AND CONDUCTING TOURNAMENTS

Section I

Tournament Regulations

Art. 14. Tournament dates and host clubs shall be determined by the BBA Board prior to the start of each season.

Art. 15. (1) All sports clubs - members of the association, which provide facilities of at least 8 (eight) tables, shall be eligible to hold ranking tournaments from the BBA calendar. Exceptions are made by decision of the Board.

(2) A club shall be allowed to host a tournament in up to two halls located in the same city if the condition in paragraph (1) is met.

(3) Each tournament shall be conducted on standard tables, with standard balls according to the rules adopted by the European Pocket Billiard Federation.

Art. 16. Host Club Requirements.

(1) The host club must have replaced the cloth on the tables at least 2 months prior to the tournament.

(2) The host club is required to have at least 2 billiard tables broadcasting the tournament LIVE.

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- (3) The host club must provide scoreboards at all tables.
- (4) The host club must provide a place for the TD and referees with visibility to the whole hall, a power strip and at least three sockets.
- (5) The host club must provide a microphone for the TD.
- (6) While the tournament is in progress, the TD shall determine the volume of the music in the club.
- (7) Failure of the host club to comply with the requirements may result in a fine upon written complaint by the TD to the BBA Board.

Art. 17. The tournament shall be supervised by the TD.

Section II

Entry and draw

Art. 18. (1) Entries are accepted only by e-mail to info@balkanba.com

(2) All registrations for tournaments on the BBA calendar shall be made by members of the Association. Entries will be accepted up until Wednesday, 8.00 pm the week of the tournament.

(3) Members shall send a list of player names, ages and telephone numbers.

(4) Entries will not be considered after the specified day and time.

(5) A registration card is required at the time of registration and payment of the entry fee. A competitor who fails to present their registration card, shall pay the fee of a non-listed competitor.

Art. 19. (1) The tournaments of the BBA calendar shall be held according to a combined scheme consisting of double elimination to the main circuit and single elimination to the main circuit.

(2) Sixteen (16) competitors shall be accepted for the main circuit of the tournament.

(3) Seeded competitors are the top eight of the current rankings participating in the tournament.

(4) The draw for each tournament shall be made on the Thursday prior to the tournament.

Section III

Tournament format, ranking points and fees

Art. 20. The right to ranking points in a tournament is granted to all competitors registered in the BBA who have paid the entry fee and have a registration card for a specific tournament.

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Art. 21. The tournament format is different for each type of game and is determined before its beginning.

Art. 22. Ranking tournament points are allocated as follows:

- 1st place 550 pts.
- 2nd place 480 pts.
- 3-4 place 420 pts.
- 5-8 place 370 pts.
- 9-16 place 330 pts.
- 17-24 place 300 pts.
- 25-32 place 275 pts.
- 33-48 place 250 pts.
- 49-64 place 225 pts.
- 65-80 place 200 pts.
- 81-96 place 180 pts.
- 97-128 place 160 pts.

Art. 23. Completion of the ranking list for the season is carried out by the Board of the BBA after receipt of all tournament documents.

Art. 23.a. The weakest of the six tournaments will be eliminated from the final ranking.

Art. 24. The entry fee for each tournament shall be determined by the BBA Board before the start of the season.

24.a Price of registration card for a competitor valid for 1 year - €50

24.b the entry fees for registered players are as follows:

- Men member - €50
- Juniors under 19 years - €30
- juniors under 12 yrs. – Free
- women - €30,
- wheelchair - €30,
- Partner Members - €100
- Non Members - €150

24.c Annual fee for member clubs €200.

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Art. 25. A competitor who has registered for a tournament but has not paid the tournament fee by the end of it shall not receive any points. The competitor shall not be eligible to participate in subsequent tournaments until the amount due has been paid.

Section IV

Breaks during a match

Art. 26. (1) During a match each competitor is entitled to one break (timeout).

(2) The break shall last five minutes, unless otherwise decided at a particular tournament.

(3) In the disciplines of 8-ball, 9-ball and 10-ball, the break may only be requested between games.

(4) In 14.1, the break begins between games, but the competitor currently playing may continue to play without his opponent present. If the player who is not on the move decides to take a break, they must ensure that there is a referee at the table monitoring the game. Otherwise, no claims may be made against the player on the move.

(5) When a player wishes to exercise their right to a break, they must personally notify their opponent and one of the referees and ensure that the referee has recorded the table and their name.

(6) The end of the break and the competitor's return to the table shall also be reported in person by the competitor to one of the referees.

(7) Failure to report the use of or return from a break is punishable by an "official warning"

Art.27. (1) When one competitor exercises their right to a break, their opponent must remain seated as if they were a player not currently on the move.

(2) The opponent of the competitor taking a break (timeout) may also decide to use their break by observing the provisions of Article 26.

Art.28. During the break (timeout) the competitor may receive advice from their coach.

Section V

Time limit

Art.29. (1) In order to control the timely progress of the tournament, it is possible for the referees to set a time limit (shotclock) for each shot.

(2) A time limit is placed if a match is causing a delay, at the discretion of the TD.

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Art. 30. (1) After the initial shot, a player is allowed sixty (60) seconds for a shot, with no right to an extension.

(2) The time for each shot is thirty-five (35) seconds.

(3) The extension time is twenty-five (25) seconds.

Art. 31. (1) The timer is started after all balls have stopped their movement and the white ball is available for play.

(2) The timer stops after the cue tip hits the cue ball or the allotted shot time has elapsed.

(3) If a player fails to make a shot within the allotted time in Article 31, a foul is awarded, and the opponent has the ball in hand.

(4) For each game of the match, each player is entitled to one time extension

(5) If a player wishes to use a time extension, they shall notify the referee before the time for the shot expires.

Section VI

Use of "Magic Ball Rack"

Art.32. (1) The use of a "Magic Ball Rack" is allowed only in 8-ball, 9-ball and 10-ball games. It may not be used in 14.1.

(2) For proper placement, the table must be marked with a vertical line long enough to reach from the top to the bottom opening of the "Magic Ball Rack"

(3) After the rack has been broken, the referee or the competitors (when there is no referee at the table the players agree who should remove the fixture) must remove the "Magic Ball Rack" as soon as possible without it touching the balls.

(4) With or without a referee, the "Magic Ball Rack" may only be removed if no more than two balls are on it. An exception to this rule is made in cases where there are one or more touching balls (frozen balls). In this situation, the template is removed when there are no more touching balls in the way.

(5) Once removed from its original location, the "Magic Ball Rack" must be placed outside the playing area, including the table edges.

(6) If a "Magic Ball Rack" is placed anywhere on the playing surface of the table and is touched by a ball in play, the shot is considered a foul.

Section VII

Three Point Break in 9-Ball Game

Art.33. (1) For a break to be legal a player must drive 3 object balls past the head string or pocket them.

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(2) For the head string to be considered touched, it is sufficient that only part of the ball has crossed.

(3) Any combination in paragraph (1) is allowed for a break to be considered satisfactory (one ball is pocketed and two touch the head string or two are pocketed and one touches the head string, etc.)

Art.34. If the conditions of Article 33 are not met but the break is legal, it is not considered satisfactory, and the following rules apply:

- if ball #9 is scored, it must be retrieved and returned to the point before play can continue;
- the opponent has the right to either accept the table and play or return it to the player who broke;
- if the opponent accepts the table, they are not allowed to play a push out;
- if the table is returned to the player who broke, they are allowed to play a push out. If a push out is played, the opponent is entitled to accept the table and play or return it to the player who broke.

Section VIII

Penalties

Art.35. (1) In case of a serious violation of the rules, the competitor shall suffer a penalty. Depending on the offence, the penalty is at the discretion of the referee.

(2) In the case of a first offence, the penalty shall be an "official warning"

(3) A second offence is punishable by forfeiture of one game.

(4) A third violation shall result in the forfeiture of a match.

Art. 36. Depending on the severity of the violation and at the discretion of the referee, a player may be disqualified from the tournament.

Section IX

Prize Fund

Art. 37. (1) The prize fund shall be generated from the entry fees of the competitors and from sponsorship, if any. If there is no sponsor, the Prize Fund shall be distributed as follows:

(2) Tournament fees shall be distributed as follows:

- 70% for the competitors' prize fund
- 30% for BBA expenses (cups, medals, judges)
- 70% for the competitors shall be distributed as follows:

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- 34% for 1st place
- 22% for 2nd place
- 12 % for 3rd place
- 5% for 5th place

(3) The prize fund will be paid via bank transfer no later than 3 days after the finish of the tournament. 10% of the prize fund will be withheld for state taxes.

Art. 38. The finalists of each BBA tournament receive the following prizes:

- (1) 1st, 2nd and 3rd place medals
- (2) Special trophy for 1st place
- (3) **Finalists receive a WILD CARD for participation in the Euro Tour provided by BBA's partner EPBF, which covers the next Euro Tour free of charge.**
- (4) **Finalists also receive a 3-night Hotel accommodation provided by BBA. They will only need to cover their transport costs.**
- (5) **If the finalists of the tournament have not paid 50 euros per year and are not registered, the two places for the Euro Tour are determined by the BBA board.**

Art. 39. The last tournament of each calendar year will be held together with the annual Official Awards Ceremony. The events shall be held at the same venue. The celebration will be coupon-based, and the cost will be announced one month before the tournament. Food and drinks will be provided with the coupon. There will be a formal programme with presenters and music and the following prizes will be awarded:

- (1) Top 8 competitors selected by ranking.
- (2) Best Junior of the year
- (3) Best Veteran of the year
- (4) Best Team of the year
- (5) Special awards for sponsors and partners
- (6) Many more:

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For the official awarding for the end of the year, 3,000 euros are provided, which will be distributed among the first 8 in the final ranking of the ranking list.

Chapter Four

RULES OF CONDUCT

Art.40. During a tournament the following rules shall be observed:

- (1) Smoking in the hall during a tournament is prohibited.
- (2) The use of alcohol, drugs or doping by players, referees and officials during a tournament is prohibited.
- (3) It is mandatory to switch off mobile phones during a match.
- (4) The use of camera flashes is prohibited.
- (5) Each player is expected to be focused on their own game and respect their opponent, the referee and the audience. This means not to distract the opponent during a move, not to move in their visual field and not to make noise when it is the opponent's turn.
- (6) Contact with the table when it isn't a competitor's turn is prohibited.
- (7) The competitor must be composed and not express negative emotions towards the audience, referee, opponent, table or any equipment, items or people in the hall.
- (8) Loud talking is prohibited around tables where tournament matches are being played.
- (9) It is preferable that movement around the tables at which the tournament is being played be done during breaks so as not to interfere with the concentration of the competitors.

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ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS

Art.41. For the purposes of these Regulations:

1. A "junior" participant is a person who reaches the age of 18 in the year of the tournament.

These Regulations were approved by the BBA Board on 06.01.2025. All competitors agree to these provisions at the time of payment of the membership fee for the 2025 season.

All changes and amendments to these or other regulations adopted by the BBA Board, as well as additional decisions of the BBA Board, shall come into force on the date of their publication on the official website of the Association www.balkanba.com.

The BBA reserves the right to change the content of this document.

For all cases not covered herein, the European and World Billiards Federations' rules will apply, which are available on their websites (Pool Billiards - The Rules of Play):

http://europeanpocketbilliardfederation.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/WPA_New_Rules_01MAR2016-fixed-spelling.pdf

President:

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Name

Signature

Board Member:

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Name

Signature

Board Member:

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TD:

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