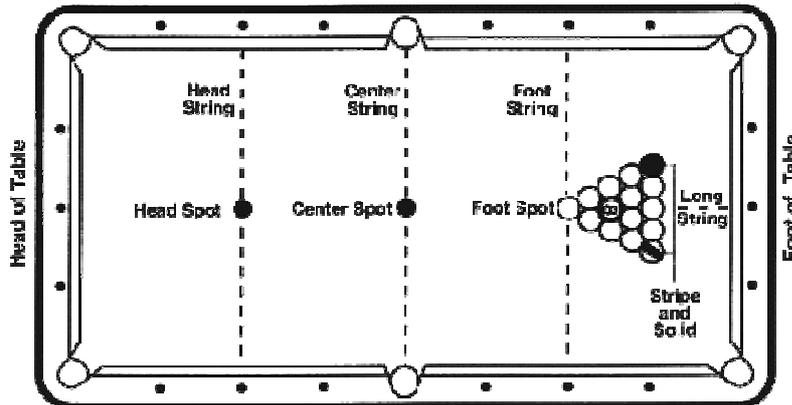


8-Ball Billiard Rules

Henry Street High School

OBJECT OF THE GAME

Eight-ball is a call shot game played with a cue ball and 15 object balls, numbered 1 through 15. One player must pocket balls of the group numbered 1 through 7 (solid colours), while the other player has 9 through 15 (stripes). The player pocketing either group first, and then legally pocketing the 8-ball wins the game.



RACKING THE BALLS

The balls are racked in a triangle at the foot of the table with the 8-ball in the centre of the triangle, the first ball of the rack on the foot spot (see diagram), a stripe ball in one corner of the rack and a solid ball in the other corner.

LEGAL BREAK SHOT

To execute a legal break shot the breaker (with the cue ball behind the head string) must either (1) pocket a ball, or (2) drive at least four numbers balls to the rail. When the breaker fails to make a legal break, it is a foul, and the incoming player has the option of (1) accepting the table in position and shooting, or (2) having the balls re-racked and having the option of shooting the opening break or allowing the offending player to re-break.

SCRATCH ON A LEGAL BREAK

If a player scratches on a legal break shot, (1) all balls pocketed remain pocketed (except the 8-ball), (2) it is a foul, (3) the table is open. Note: The incoming player now has ball in hand behind the head string and must shoot down the table not back behind the head string.

OBJECT BALLS JUMPED OFF TABLE ON THE BREAK OR DURING PLAY

If a player jumps an object ball off the table on the break shot, it is a foul and the incoming player has the option of (1) accepting the table position and shooting, or (2) taking the cue ball in hand behind the head string and shooting. Note: Any ball that jumps off the table is not re-spotted, unless it is the 8-ball which is loss of game. During play it is a foul and loss of turn.

8-BALL POCKETED ON THE BREAK

If the 8-ball is pocketed on the break, breaker may ask for a re-rack or have the 8-ball spotted and continue shooting. If the breaker scratches while pocketing the 8-ball on the break, the incoming player has the option of a re-rack or having the 8-ball spotted and begin shooting with the ball in hand behind the head string.

OPEN TABLE AND CHOICE OF GROUP

The table is 'open' when the choice of groups (stripes or solids) has not yet been determined. When the table is open, it is legal to hit a solid first to make a stripe or vice-versa. Note: The table is always open immediately after the break shot. Pocketing a ball on the break simply awards you another turn to determine solids/stripes. The pocketed ball on a break does not determine your group of balls. When the table is open, it's legal to hit any solid or stripe first in the process of pocketing. However, when the table is open and the 8-ball is the first ball contacted, it is a foul and no stripe or solid may be scored in favour of the shooter. The shooter loses their turn; the incoming player is awarded cue ball in hand; any balls pocketed remain pocketed; and the incoming player addresses the balls with the table still open. On an open table, all illegally pocketed balls remain pocketed.

SCORING

A player is entitled to continue shooting until failing to legally pocket a ball of their group. After a player has legally pocketed all of their group of balls, they shoot to pocket the 8 ball.

FOUL PENALTY

Opposing player gets CUE BALL IN HAND. This means the player can place the cue ball anywhere on the table (does not have to be behind the head string except on opening break).

COMBINATION SHOTS

Combination shots are allowed; however, the 8-ball can't be used as a first ball in the combination unless it is the shooter's only remaining legal object ball on the table. Otherwise, should such contact occur on the 8-ball, it is a foul.

PLAYING THE 8-BALL

When the 8-ball is the legal object ball, a scratch or foul is NOT a loss of game. Incoming player has cue ball in hand. Note: A combination shot can never be used to legally pocket the 8-ball, except when the 8-ball is the first ball contacted in a shot sequence.

LOSS OF GAME

Note: The loss of game occurs when the 8-ball leaves the table in some form. A player loses the game by committing any of the following infractions:

- Fouls when pocketing the 8-ball (except on break)
- Pockets the 8-ball on the same stroke as the last of his group of balls
- Jumps the 8-ball off the table at any time
- Pockets the 8-ball in a pocket other than the one designated
- Pockets the 8-ball when it is not the legal object ball