

# City Pool League – Monday Night 8 Ball Pool Rules

1. THE GAME  
The game shall be known as 8 Ball Pool and referred to in these rules as "the game". It is intended that players and teams should play 8 Ball Pool IN THE TRUE SPIRIT OF THE GAME AND IN A SPORTSMAN-LIKE MANNER, It should be clearly understood that the referee is the SOLE JUDGE of what is fair or unfair play. The referee will take whatever action is necessary to ensure that these rules are observed. In all and any dispute, THE REFEREE'S DECISION IS FINAL.
2. OBJECT OF THE GAME  
The player or team to pot their group of object balls first in any order and then legally pot the 8 ball (black) wins the game.
3. START (OR RE-START) OF THE GAME
  - (a) The balls are racked with the 8 ball on the 8 ball spot, which shall be in a direct line from the centre pockets to the corner pockets.
  - (b) The opening player plays at the triangle of object balls by striking the cue ball from any position on or within the 'D'. The player must pot a ball or cause at least two object balls to hit any cushion. Failure to do so is a foul break and will result in the balls being re-racked. The opposing player re-starts the game with two visits.
  - (c) Any object balls potted on the break will be ignored (except where Rule 3(j) applies), and the table will still be open.
  - (d) If an object ball or balls are potted on a legal break, the opening player continues with their visit, without nomination, until such time as they fail to pot a ball, or they commit a foul.
  - (e) If the cue ball is potted from a legal break, the turn will pass to the opposing player, who will have one visit only.
  - (f) If no ball is potted from a legal break then the opposing player addresses the open table, and play alternates thereafter.
  - (g) Groups are not decided, and the table remains open, until such time as a player legally pots a ball or balls of a single colour (including following a foul) when that ball denotes their group.
  - (h) If on an open table, a ball or balls of each group are potted in the same shot, these are ignored and the table remains open.
  - (i) If a foul is committed on the break (as against a foul break), the oncoming player will be awarded two visits, (except where Rule 3(e) applies) and may play any ball without nomination, but the first ball potted will denote their group.
  - (j) If the player pots the 8 ball from the break the balls shall be re-racked and the same player re-starts without any penalty. This still applies if any other balls are potted, or leave the table.
  - (k) Combination shots are allowed provided the player hits one of their own group first.
4. FOULS
  - (a) In off (cue ball potted)
  - (b) Hitting opponent's ball before their own (except when Rule 5(b) applies).
  - (c) Failing to hit any ball with the cue ball
  - (d) Jump shot – when the cue ball jumps over any part of any ball before making contact.
  - (e) Playing the cue ball onto the 8 ball before all the balls in their group have been potted (except when Rule 5(b) applies).
  - (f) Potting opponent's ball (except when Rule 5(b) applies).
  - (g) Object ball leaves the table. Such a ball will be replaced on the black spot or as near to, in a direct line from black spot to the centre of the 'D'.
  - (h) Cue ball leaves the table. The Cue ball may be played from anywhere within the 'D'.
  - (i) If a player's body or clothing should touch any ball
  - (j) Player must have at least one foot on the floor.
  - (k) Playing or touching with the cue any ball other than the cue ball.
  - (l) Playing out of turn.
  - (m) Playing before all balls have come to rest.
  - (n) Playing before a ball has been re-spotted.
  - (o) Striking the cue ball with any part of the cue other than the tip.
  - (p) Striking the cue ball more than once.
  - (q) Foul break – see Rule 3(b).
  - (r) Touching the cue ball with the tip of the cue at any time, at the start or during play, except when the cue ball is touching a ball of your own group.
  - (s) Touching any ball on the table, including the cue ball after a foul. Unless it is in the bucket, or off the table, the referee is the ONLY person who can move the cue ball following a foul.
5. PENALTY FOLLOWING ANY FOUL
  - (a) Following any foul the offending player loses their next visit to the table, and their opponent is awarded two visits. (except when Rule 3(e) applies).
  - (b) On their FIRST shot only the oncoming player may without nomination play the cue ball onto any ball without penalty. The player may pot direct or by combination any ball of either group. (This includes the black, providing all their own group have been potted and they are on the black.) Failing to pot a ball on the first visit, they may continue with a second visit.
  - (c) After a foul the oncoming player may, if desired, ask the referee to lift the cue ball and place the ball in the 'D'. The oncoming player still has two visits, and they may play in any direction. See Rule 4(s).
6. LOSS OF GAME
  - (a) If a player pots the black ball before all the balls of their own group have been potted, except under Rule 3(j).
  - (b) A player going in off the black ball with the black ball also being potted.
  - (c) A player who CLEARLY FAILS TO MAKE ANY ATTEMPT TO PLAY A BALL OF THEIR OWN GROUP.
  - (d) Any other ball(s) potted at the same time as the black (except when Rule 5(b) applies, where on the first shot only, an opponent's ball(s) may be potted at the same time as the black, so long as the player has already potted all the balls of their own group).
7. GENERAL
  - (a) PUSH SHOTS ARE NOT ALLOWED and should be fouled as a double hit. If, however, the cue ball is touching a ball of your own group, touching the cue ball with the tip of the cue shall be deemed a fair shot, providing there is no movement of the object ball.
  - (b) Cue ball in hand. When a player has the cue ball in hand, they may play from any position on or in the 'D' in any direction.
  - (c) Player in control. A player is said to be in control of the table from the time that their body, cue or clothing touches the table prior to their shot, through the visit and up until their opponent does likewise prior to their visit. Any ball which falls into the pockets during this period will be deemed to have been potted. The player in control will be liable to any penalties or benefits normally awarded.
  - (d) Split ball - striking yours and your opponent's ball at the same time is not deemed a foul.
8. STALEMATE
  - (a) Should any situation arise whereby a legal shot cannot be played then the game shall be re-started.
  - (b) The referee may order the game to be re-started if in their opinion, neither player is allowing the game to progress.
9. GUIDANCE
  - (a) Coaching is deemed to be unsportsman-like behaviour (see Rule 1).
  - (b) In the event of continual coaching, the referee may, after giving a verbal warning, penalise the offending team's player by calling a foul, and issuing two visits to their opponent.
  - (c) A referee may, if requested, advise on the rules of the game.