

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

3-Cushion Individuals

1. Participation with 48 players:

An official notification will be sent by the UMB to all Organizers at the beginning of the calendar year, Organizers are required to sign and return their acceptance to strictly comply to published UMB Sports Rules and proceed with the events accordingly.

The nomination of the participants is determined by the following regulations:

- 1) The invitation will be published 10 weeks before the start of the World Championship; the last updated World Players Ranking at the date of the invitation will be applied for the all World Championships.
- 2) The title holder player will be invited as participant number 1. The title must be dated less than 4 years for the participation to be valid; any older title is not permitted due to the statute of limitations.
- 3) Numbers 2-17 are to be invited, these participants represent numbers 1-16 of the UMB World Ranked Players. Should the title holder be one of these 16 ranked players, number 17 of the UMB World ranking list will be invited. Compensation for travelling and accommodation costs are not paid by the organizers unless otherwise agreed.
- 4) The Title Holder and Seeded Players participation is automatically confirmed unless:
 - UMB will officially receive otherwise from the Federation of which the player is a member, within a maximum of 2 weeks from publishing the invitation.
 - The player is suspended by his federation and UMB is officially informed.
 - A registered player can be taken out of the tournament by his Federation only if he has been suspended by the Federation and the UMB is officially informed about the suspension.
- 5) Participants 18 to 46 are to be invited as follows:
 - 13 participants from the European region. The CEB is responsible for the nomination, inscription and decision.
 - 8 participants from the Pan-American region; CPB is responsible for nomination, inscription and decision.
 - 5 participants from the Asian region; ACBC is responsible for nomination, inscription and decision.
 - 3 participants from the African Middle East region; AMECC is responsible for nomination, inscription and decision.

Participation confirmation for the 29 participants must be done by the Confederations of which they are members. This confirmation must be done to the UMB Sports Director at least 35 days (5 weeks) prior to the beginning of the concerned World Championship.

It is a possibility that the nominated and appointed participants, mentioned in this point, may not figure on the world ranking list under the numbers 1 to 16 (17).

Participant numbers 47 and 48 are to be invited as “wildcard” participants of the Federation who is in charge of organizing the World Championship; the organizing Federation is completely free to make its own decision. Confirmation of the participation of these participants must be done to the UMB Sports Director at least 35 days (5 weeks) prior to the beginning of the World Championship.

6) Seeding of the participants before entering the World Championship

The title holder will be placed as number 1. The other participants will be seeded as numbers 2 to 48 in accordance with the World Players Ranking applied for the World Championship preceding the current world championship in concern. Players who do not figure on the world ranking list, will be seeded at the end of the entry list by draw.

The nationality of the participants is not taken into account under any circumstances; however, should there be two participants of the same nationality classified in the same group, these participants will compete against each other as first match of the group.

Classification of the groups:

16 groups of 3 participants; following the Z-system in accordance with the World Players Ranking.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48

2. Non-fulfilled nominations and inscriptions:

In the event that participants have not been nominated prior to the inscription cut-off date they will be replaced as follows:

- Ranked players will be replaced by other ranked participants based on the World Players Ranking applied for the World Championship. The replacement will take place in descending order and will continue automatically, if necessary, until one week before the start of the World Championship. Following this period, a decision regarding the replacement will be taken by the elected Board members.
- Players nominated by a Federation can be replaced by the corresponding Confederation up to one week before the start of the World Championship on the condition that the concerned Confederation submits the relevant documents (medical or juridical reasons) to the UMB Sports Director. Following this period a decision regarding replacement will be taken by the elected Board-members.
- In the event that the title holder is not nominated, automatically the 2nd place in the final results table of the last organized World Championship will be assigned under the same conditions as the holder of the title without any financial compensation for travel expenses.
- In the event that one or more of the nominated players is not present due to circumstances beyond his/her control, at 20.00hrs the day before the start of the World Championship, the UMB Delegate will deliberate with the organizer and decide on his/her participation in the championship.

Player replacements (in the groups) will be seeded on the entry list at the same level of the participant who is not present (regardless the date of replacement). Once seeded groups are published, no changes will be allowed, under any circumstances, in the composition of the groups themselves, only the replacements will be noted.

3. Groups:

With 48 players in total the competition will start with 16 groups of 3 participants. The playing schedule in groups of 3 participants will be:

1. 2-3
2. 1-winner 2-3
3. 1- loser 2-3

In the event of a “no-show” in one or more groups the other participants in these groups will compete with each other twice.

Groups A and B will play at the same time as well as groups C and D and so on.

4. Matches:

Video replay will not be taken into consideration for any decisions during the match.

Interrupting a match, arguing, and disturbing the sportive course of the event by a player is considered as an infringement to the rules. The referee must warn the player and continue the match. Persisting in his attitude will result to an immediate statutory penalty by the UMB Delegate or Tournament Director, which may lead to the player’s disqualification.

Within the groups all matches are to be played over 40 points with equalizing innings, in case of a tied match 1 match point for each player. The final tournament (from 1/16-finals) all matches are to be played with knock-out system, over 50 points without equalizing innings.

One break of five minutes per match is applied, after 20 points for matches with a total of 40 points, and after 25 points for matches with a total of 50 points - reached by either player. Additionally, in the event that a match will be broadcast live on television, the TV broadcasting company has the right to request 2 commercial breaks at any time during the match, each with a maximum of 90 seconds. Players must remain seated during the break. Breaks cannot be made during a player’s run.

There is no match to be played for 3rd and 4th places – both players are classified as 3rd.

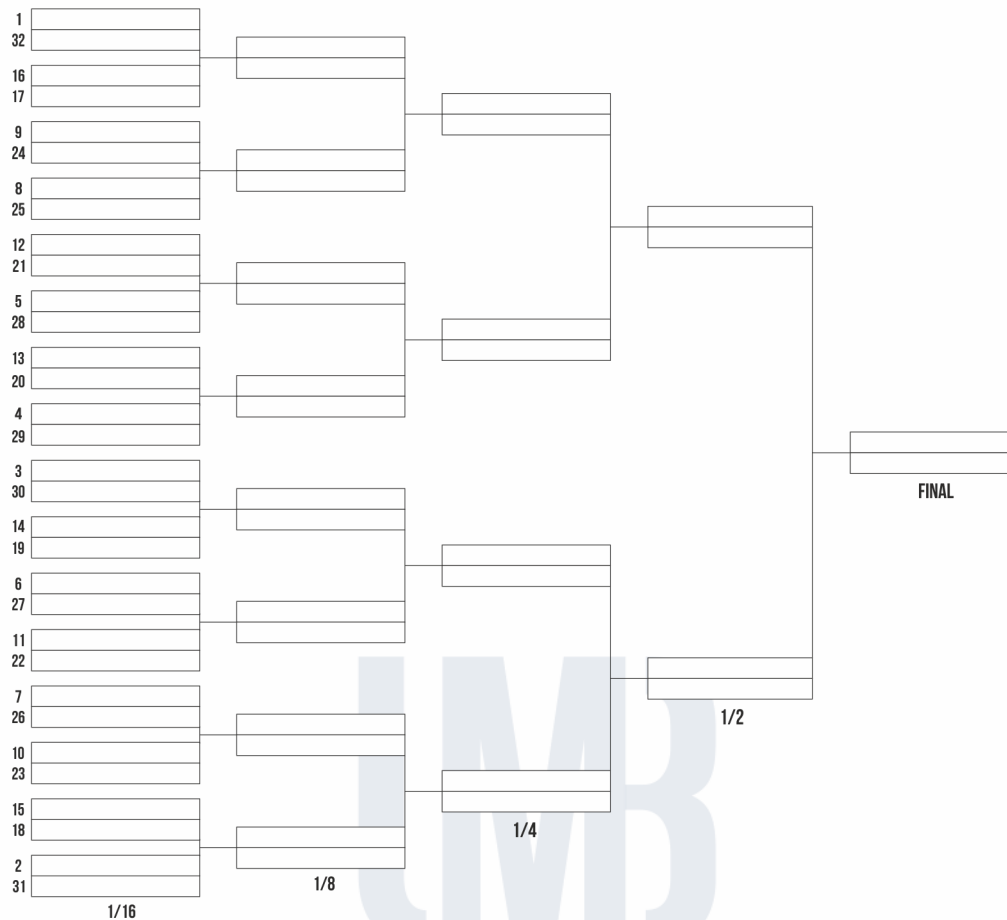
The 16 groups winners and 16 groups seconds are qualified to the Final Tournament; the 16 groups winners will be placed 1 to 16, and the 16 groups seconds 17 to 32.

The classification within the groups and final tournament will take place in accordance with:

- Match points
- General average
- Highest run (s)

5. Classification after the group matches:

In accordance with the classification list the 1/16-finals, 1/8-finals, the quarter-finals and the semi-finals will be played according to the knock-out system as follows:



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The final results table will be established as follows:

1. The place on the list according to the knock-out system
2. General average
3. Highest run(s) (penalty sessions are not taken into account)

6. **No-show:**

If a player does not show up for his/her match the opposing player will receive 2 match points.

7. **Tournament attire:**

Black shoes, black trousers, black socks, white or plain colored shirt with long sleeves buttoned down and bow tie worn over a buttoned collar. A vest is compulsory (color choice is open).

All players must wear their Federation emblem on the left side of the chest.

8. **Advertising:**

All players are permitted to wear advertisements "on person". The left side of the chest is reserved for National Federation emblems only. Advertisements can be worn on the right chest-side of the vest, on the left and right upper arm of the shirt.

Each of these advertising spots is permitted to have a maximum total size of 80 square centimeters; it is permitted to wear more than one advertisement on right side of the chest on the condition that the total of the surface does not exceed and should fit inside a rectangle 90 square centimeters.

Left upper arm of the shirt is reserved for the advertisement “on person” of the organizer; this advertisement should not display any billiard material. If the organizer is not making use of this right the player will be allowed to use this free spot. The name of the player or of his/her country/federation can be put on the back of the shirt, vest or blouse. Advertisements with political, racial, ethnic and/or religious subjects are strictly forbidden. All advertisements must be of an appropriate nature.

Local regulations regarding prohibited subjects as tobacco, alcohol and others must be respected.

Shirt collar sponsoring is not allowed. Sponsoring on gloves is allowed. The wearing of pins is forbidden.

Referees may wear appropriate advertisements of the Organizer (not exceeding 80 square cm). All referees must wear the same advertisement in the same position.

The UMB cannot be held responsible for any financial consequences due to issues between player’s sponsors and the organizer’s sponsors.

9. Dress Control:

Dress control will take place prior to the opening ceremony by the UMB Delegate and before each game by the responsible Sports Director. Inappropriate dress may result in exclusion from the tournament.

10. Opening Ceremony:

All players must be present during the opening ceremony; a player’s absence may result in exclusion from the tournament.

Players of the same nationality do not need to wear the same advertising.

11. Prize Money & UMB Support:

1 st place	€ 40.000 x 1 =	€ 40.000
2 nd place	€ 20.000 x 1 =	€ 20.000
3 rd + 3 rd	€ 12.000 x 2 =	€ 24.000
5 th – 8 th	€ 6.000 x 4 =	€ 24.000
9 th – 16 th	€ 3.000 x 8 =	€ 24.000
17 th – 32 nd	€ 2.000 x 16 =	€ 32.000
33 rd – 48 th	€ 1.500 x 16 =	€ 24.000

NET TOTAL		€ 188.000

The UMB will support the Organizer with the amount of € 153.000 prize money as follows:

- UMB will transfer to the Organizer € 69.000.
- UMB will transfer direct prize money to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd+3rd places (€ 84.000).

The UMB will support the Organizer with the amount of € 30.000 for organization.

Prize money should be paid to the players on a net basis. Additionally, taxes arising in the organizing country must be paid by the Organizer for all foreign players. Players are personally liable and responsible to pay tax on their prize money according to the taxation laws of their country. Third persons are exempt from such liability.

Prize money paid by the Organizer to the player is paid in cash, unless the fiscal laws of the organizing country restrict cash payments to a maximum amount, in this case the prize money payment should be made net by bank transfer to the player's account, all bank transfer charges are covered by the organizer. UMB assumes no liability in this matter, that is the sole responsibility of the Organizer.

The UMB and the responsible Confederation transfer the event to the National Federation after their corresponding application has been made to the Confederation.

The Organizing Federation is responsible to maintain these rules and ensure any further statutes and rules are adhered to. It is solely within the discretion of the Organizing Federation to finalize contracts with the organizers and/or sponsors for various arrangements. The liability, with respect to the players, the UMB and the Confederation, however, cannot be excluded.

The UMB and the Confederation do not take on liability of any kind unless other arrangements have been made in writing. Both act as promoters and representatives but have no influence on the economic participation and economic results.

At the request of the Organizer the prize money receipts must include the player's complete address and passport number.

The receipt should indicate that the prize money has been paid net, free of tax from the organizing country, the receipt may also indicate that the recipient is liable for taxes in the player's native country or country of residence.

Disclaimer:

The Union Mondiale de Billard reserves the right to change the financial conditions in relation with the Sponsoring and Media-rights income. Any changes will be announced prior to the inscriptions to the tournament. UMB assumes no other responsibilities on this subject.

Ranking points

1 st place	120 points
2 nd place	81
3 rd + 3 rd	57
5 th – 8 th	39
9 th – 16 th	24
17 th – 32 nd	12
32 nd – 48 th	8

12. Financial regulations:

The player participation fee is €200 (or equivalent in US\$), invoice to be sent to the relevant Confederations. Payment should be made through the Confederations unless requested otherwise.

Financial obligations of the Organizer are as follows:

- a) The organization fee to be paid to UMB is 3.200 Euro (or equivalent in US\$). This amount must be paid together with the organization fee applied by the organizing Confederation. Payment should be made through the Confederation.
- b) Travel expenses of the UMB Delegate and the UMB Sports Technical Responsible.

- c) The title holding player will receive traveling expenses, according to the following:
 - Continental players will receive €350.
 - International players will receive €850.

13. Accommodation:

The Organizer must arrange and pay costs for hotel accommodation, including breakfast for one delegate each from the UMB and the Organizing Confederation for the duration of the entire tournament, plus 2 nights.

The Organizer must arrange and pay costs for hotel accommodation, including breakfast, for the UMB Technical Delegate, for the duration of the entire tournament, plus 2 nights.

The Organizer must arrange and pay costs for four rooms for the duration of the entire tournament, plus 2 nights, on a full board basis for minimum 8 persons from the **SOOP** team, in the officially designated tournament hotel (or a hotel of similar standard in close proximity to the venue).

14. Anti-Doping controls:

The doping guidelines of the WCBS (World Confederation of Billiard Sport) and the WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency), drawn up in accordance with the given details of the IOC, must be adhered to. The financial costs of random in-competition tests will be charged to the Organizer. Doping controls do not require advanced notice. Players who refuse to participate in doping controls will not be permitted to participate in the tournament. Players accept these controls in accordance with valid guidelines upon inscription to the tournament.

15. Player's Personal Electrical Equipment:

All player's personal mobile phones, tablets, music players, etc., are forbidden in the arena throughout the match, including during the breaks.

16. Media Rights:

The Union Mondiale de Billard (UMB) is the sole recognized 'Worldwide Governing Body' for Carom Billiards and is the statutory owner of the exploitation rights of the sporting events and competitions it organizes or those that are held under its auspices.

The UMB, as per the October 31st, 2023, agreement, and until further notice, has granted **SOOP CO., LTD (SOOP)** the exclusive rights of distribution across all media platforms, without geographic limitation, including television rights across cable, satellite and terrestrial, internet, IPTV and mobile, covering events organized by - or under auspices of - the UMB, as mentioned in the agreement.

The rights include live coverage, tape-delay coverage and post-event footage use.

Except **SOOP** Cameras, no other Cameras are allowed to Live-Streaming or produce the event. In case that any organizer will request a Live-Streaming feed or own production, it should negotiate the cost in advance with **SOOP**.

The Organizer will provide the necessary conditions for the **SOOP** coverage, including transport of the **SOOP** crew and equipment between the airport and the venue.

17. Image Rights:

Within the frame of World Championship competition, the players cede the “rights of images” of their person and agree that images of their person may be used for any media-application within the limits normally accepted within the international sports world. Should these images be used for commercial advertising additional rights must be applied for and approved by the UMB.

18. Sporting Material – Material, Equipment & Tournament Direction:

Billiard tables used in tournaments must comply with the standard specifications of the UMB. All tables used for the event should be of same model and colour. Table colour along the body and the top (Cushion frame) must be in Black, White, all shades of Grey, Blue and Brown (Natural Wood colours). Tablecloth and balls should be authorized by the UMB, according to the make, quality, and type. New tablecloth and balls must be provided for all tables at the start of the tournament.

Cues are the personal sporting equipment of the players and should be within the authorized standard specifications of the UMB.

Chalk, sandpaper, etc., are the personal property of the player. The Organizer must make available a long cue and long cue support at the tournament for the players’ use.

In accordance to the contracts and agreements with the UMB the Organizer receives the tournament material (cloths and balls) from the respective manufacturers free of charge. Requests for the required material must be made in due time through the National Federation or should be directly requested by the Organizer from the responsible importer/trader in the country of the organizer. If there are no importers or traders in the country of organization the material must be requested directly from the manufacturers or through the UMB at least three months before the beginning of the tournament. The UMB Technical Delegate will monitor this subject.

The entire tournament, including the qualification-rounds, will be played with “**Simonis Table Cloth**”, and with “**Dynaspheres Balls**”. Chemical cleaning or chemical treatment of the balls is prohibited.

VECTOR cushions are manufactured by KLEMATCH in the same profile and with the same dimensions as the Kleber P37 type, and exclusively worldwide distributed by BIS company.

UMB officially appointed BIS as its exclusive cushion partner. Consequently, UMB will allow only VECTOR cushions to be used, taking the “force majeure” disclaimer clause into consideration. BIS will provide the cushions free of charge, for each table manufacturer that for the first time supplies its table for the event. BIS will contact the table manufacturer and commit itself to supply the cushions 60 days prior to the start of each event. Therefore, the shipping address must be provided by the table manufacturer at least 90 days prior to the event.

The entire tournament, including the qualification-rounds, will be played with a time regulation system:

A timeclock will be used on each table under the control of the referee and according to following rules:

- Limit of 40 seconds (by preference in a count-down order) with a visual warning system at 30 second (if not available the referee will give a warning)

- The timeclock starts after all balls stop and the table is free for playing.
- 2 Time-Outs for each player, for all match rounds; the time-out will automatically be extended with 40 seconds (the player does not need to request an extension time-out); the new total limit is then brought to 80 seconds. A time-out must be announced by the referee immediately after the point, and indicated clearly to players and spectators.
- In case both time-outs have been used, a penalization signal (by preference sonic) must be applied after the 40 second limit and consequently the balls will be put up for the opponent.
- The timeclock will not be stopped for the use of a device (cue-extension, bridge, etc...) or changing glove(s).

The timeclock must be displayed in the sports arena, clearly visible for the players and spectators.

Water must be provided on the players' table during the match.

Large indicating/score boards for each billiard table with clear visibility must be available in the arena.

The **SOOP** Live Scoring System is recognized and accepted as the official scoring system in both the arena and on the website. Should the Organizer wish to use his own scoring system the UMB must approve, and the system must be compatible with the **SOOP** Live Scoring System.

Billiard tables and indicating boards should display numbers in order for easy recognition by spectators.

The Organizer may decide to allow for some, or the entire qualification rounds to be played in different venues. The venues must be at an acceptable distance from one another, and the Organizer must provide transportation between the venues or from the official hotel to all venues. The additional venues and conditions provided to the players is the final decision of the UMB Technical Delegate. All venues must provide public and VIP areas.

Obligations regarding sponsors and flags of the UMB and Confederations are valid for all venues.

In the event that the Tournament Director is provided by the UMB the Organizer must provide all necessary equipment according to UMB requirements and in accordance with qualified tournament executives.

High speed internet access must be made available at all times for the UMB Delegate and the UMB Technical Delegate.

Background music played in the arena must be instrumental and at moderate sound level, in alignment with UMB Delegate. Under no circumstances may the music take a foreground place nor disturb the concentration of the players.

The organizer will provide the necessary conditions for web coverage including:

- A dedicated internetline for the **SOOP** team guaranteeing a minimum bandwidth of 6 Mbps per table. In case that **SOOP** streams the event live on TV Channels 2 separated Internet lines with 6 Mbps bandwidth will be dedicated for **SOOP**. Total 70 Mbps bandwidth must be provided by the organizer.
- The necessary laptops and connected monitors for each table in the competition.
- A workspace with a power outlet for the **SOOP** control center near the area of play.

The organizer will further provide a separate working room for the UMB Technical Delegate and/or the UMB delegate including:

- A permanent and separate internet line by plug connection.
- A color-printer (Up to A3 size).

19. Printed Matter, Greeting, and sponsors of the UMB and the Confederation:

The following obligations must be observed and carried out by the Organizer:
In addition to the official name of the tournament, the logo of the UMB and of the responsible Confederation must be included on all printed material.

UMB has the right for 50% of all banners in playing area and around TV Table (s) distributed evenly throughout, also 50% of floor publicity. Design and contents for the 50% of the banners and floor publicity will be provided to the organizer by UMB or **SOOP**, in accordance with the used measurements.

The same is also applicable for promotional material, printed, digital or internet based media. "Words of Greeting" in program books must be requested in due time (approximately 3 months prior to printing) from the UMB and the responsible Confederation.

Publicity on tournament tables is reserved for UMB. Stickers for **Simonis**, Dynaspheres, **SOOP** and Vector should be placed on each tournament billiard tables on the outer cushion frame for the duration of the tournament. The required quantity of stickers should be requested in advance along with cloths, etc. Advertisement on the cloth playing surface and on the upper edge of the cushion is not allowed. **Simonis** is permitted to fix an advertisement between the kick-off border cushion and the table cloth (sloped surface). The training tables, when available, are part of the tournament tables.

Logos for **Simonis**, Dynaspheres, **SOOP** and Vector must be included on all advertisements and/or posters and web/internet based presentations and media.

The Organizer is forbidden to allow any publicity or advertising from any company competing with the UMB Sponsors, **Simonis**, Dynaspheres, **SOOP** and Vector within the arena or on any World Championship related material.

20. Final Clause – Coming into Force:

The World Championship is prepared by the UMB Sports Director and remains for the duration of the competition under the control and responsibility of the UMB Delegate, assisted by the UMB Technical Delegate.

The present rules are reviewed by the UMB board and are applicable from January 1st, 2025.