

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

3 Cushion National Teams

1. Participating Countries:

The Championship is played with 16 Teams in 4 Groups of 4 Teams, according to the following team quotas:

- Title Holder (Title not older than 4 years)
- Organizing Federation
- CEB: 6
- CPB: 3
- ACBC: 3
- AMECC: 2

In case that the title holder is from ACBC, CEB quota will be 7 and ACBC 2 teams.

In the event of Non-Fulfilled nomination (s), this place (s) will be filled by the organizing Confederation.

Only one team per Nation / Federation is allowed to participate. No B-Teams are allowed.

2. World Ranking National Teams:

The World Ranking is based on the results of the last five years.

Each country receives points according to its place in each year (1st Place 80 Points – 2nd Place 54 Points – 3rd + 3rd Places 38 Points – 5th to 8th Places 26 Points – 9th to 16th Places 16 Points > 8 Points).


Countries that do not participate receive 0 point.

Should an inscribed national team not participate in the tournament, the team's country will receive -50 points.

3. General rules for the Championship:

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.

1. In case of a No-Show team at start of the Championship, the group will continue playing with 3 teams.
2. Should two or three teams out of one group not participate at the beginning of the Championship, one team from the closest previous group (s), will be respectively moved to this group, at and from the same level of the missing team (s).

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3. If a team is not present at the beginning of a match (No-Show), the opponent team will have a forfeit win of 2 match points without influencing the average, and the no-show team is allowed to play the remaining match (s).
 4. Should a team in a group withdraw or not be present at the beginning of more than one match during a Championship the results of this team matches will be removed.
 5. Each team may have one or more reserve player (s). During the Championship, a reserve team player from the published participation list can replace one the two players the team started with, only in case of medical reason(s).

The utilization of the reserve player must be brought to the attention of the Tournament Director at least 45 minutes before the start of the first match. Accordingly, 30 minutes before the start of the team matches, the Tournament Director will publicly announce the change.

6. Should a player stop the match for medical reasons, confirmed by the Tournament Doctor, the match will automatically be forfeited to the opponent, regardless of the match results.

4. General Rules for Playing System

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.

Each team consists of two players. The players play against each other according to their order of ranking, e.g. Team A: Player 1 (rank 1) against Team B: Player 1 (rank 1).

Team matches are held simultaneously on two billiard tables.

All divisions of the groups are played according to the "Z-system".

Groups are composed following the "Z-system" in the order of the applied World Ranking.

If a team withdraws after the groups have been specified and maximum one week before the start of the Championship, the replacing team from the Organizing Confederation will take the same place of this team.

All matches are played to 40 points, with equalizing innings. During group stages each team play against every other team, according to the following order:

- 1-4 and 2-3
- Winner 1-4 vs Winner 2-3 and Loser 1-4 vs Loser 2-3
- Remaining matches

Within the groups the winner team will receive 2 match points, and in case of a tied match 1 match point for each team. From the Quarter-Finals onwards, and on the condition of draw match, general average and high run(s) are not considered, a decisive set of 15 points, in Scotch Double system without equalizing innings.

Classification criteria for group matches:

- a) Team match points

- b) Team average
- c) Team highest run (s)

One break of five minutes per match is applied, after 20 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.

Scotch Double System Rules:

- a) Each team is free to choose the player who will do the lag, the starting team then chooses the player who will start the match.
- b) The starting team will begin from the starting position with the white ball.
- c) The two players in the team take turns, playing alternating shots during the inning (i.e. each team's inning consists of two players' alternating visits, each of one shot only, until that team's inning ends, and the next team begins its alternating-shot turn.)
- d) The playing team will remain at the table together and may discuss points within the time limit. The opponent team must remain seated.

5. Time Regulation System

The Championship, 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 at the 30 second limit).
- 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.
- 1 Time-Out per decisive set for each team.
- In case both time-outs, or the decisive set time-out, 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.

6. Ranking after the Qualification-Round

Classification criteria:

- a) Team match points
- b) Team average
- c) Team highest run (s)

7. Quarter-Finals

Quarterfinals are composed as follows:

Team ranked 1 st	vs.	Team ranked 8 th
Team ranked 2 nd	vs.	Team ranked 7 th
Team ranked 3 rd	vs.	Team ranked 6 th
Team ranked 4 th	vs.	Team ranked 5 th

8. Semi-Finals and Final

The winner of the Quarter-Final (1-8) plays against the winner (4-5); the winner (2-7) plays against the winner (3-6), the two winners reach the final, and the two losers take the 3rd place.

9. Tournament Attire

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

All players must wear their Federation emblem on the left side of the chest. Both players of the same team must wear the same uniform.

10. Sponsorship

All players are permitted to wear publicity. The left side of the chest is reserved for National Federation emblems only. Wearing publicity is allowed on the right chest-side of the vest and on the right upper sleeve 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.

The left upper sleeve of the shirt is reserved for the organizer's publicity; this publicity 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. Publicity with political, racial, ethnic and/or religious subjects are strictly forbidden. All publicity 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 publicity of the Organizer (not exceeding 80 square cm). All referees must wear the same publicity 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.

Both players of the same team do not need to wear the same publicity.

11. 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.

12. Opening Ceremony

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

13. Prize Money Payment:

Prize money should be paid to the relevant National Federation in cash (Euros or US Dollars) at the tournament location. US Dollar payments should be made according to the official rate of exchange on the day that the tournament begins. Prize money payments to the eliminated teams must be made by the organizer immediately after the end of each respective round. The four teams placed in the first four places should receive their prize money following the final ceremony/presentation.

On the spot the organizer is liable for the correct paying out of the prize money and with respect to the UMB the national federation, to which the organization had been transferred, is liable, unless otherwise agreed with the UMB.

14. Prize Money & UMB Support:

1 st Place	8.000 x 1 =	€ 8.000
2 nd Place	6.000 x 1 =	€ 6.000
3 rd + 3 rd Places	3.600 x 2 =	€ 7.200
5 th - 8 th Places	2.400 x 4 =	€ 9.600
9 th - 16 th Places	1.400 x 8 =	€ 11.200
Net Total		€ 42.000

The UMB will support the Organizer with the amount of € 21.000 prize money.

The UMB will support the Organizer with the amount of € 20.000 for organization.

Prize money should be paid to the relevant National Federation on a net basis. Additionally, relevant taxes in the organizing country must be paid by the organizer for all teams. National Federations are liable and responsible to pay tax on the prize money according to the taxation laws of the respective country.

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

The Organizing Federation is responsible for maintaining these rules and ensuring 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 National Federation representative's full 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 to taxation in his National Federation's country.

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.

15. Financial regulations

- a) The organization fee to be paid to UMB is €3.200 (or equivalent in US\$). This amount must be paid together with the organization fee applied by the organizing Confederation as provided by the WOR 3 months before start of the competition. Payment should be made through the Confederation.
- b) Travel expenses and hotel accommodation (Bed & Breakfast basis) of the UMB. Delegate and UMB Technical Delegate are the responsibility of the organizing federation.
- c) Accommodation for the 16 teams in double rooms on a bed & breakfast basis (16 Rooms), 5 nights for Continental teams and 6 nights for Intercontinental.
- d) 4 rooms full board, minimum 8 persons for **SOOP**.
- e) The team participation fee is €400 (or equivalent in US\$), invoice to be sent to the relevant Confederations. Payment should be made through the Confederations unless requested otherwise.

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16. 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.

17. 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.

18. 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.

In order to support the local promotion of UMB events, **SOOP** will grant national TV broadcasting rights (terrestrial, cable or satellite) to one local television station designated by the organizing committee/institution. This right will be free of charge, limited to one feed provided to one TV Channel. It will not include Internet rights.

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.

19. 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.

20. 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.

UMB has the right for 50% of all banners in playing area and around TV Table (s), 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.

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.

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.

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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 PC with a screen of at least 17 inch; minimum Pentium 4 processor and working

memory capacity of 1024 MB, USB-port and operating Windows XP or higher. Following programs have to be installed: Internet Explorer, Microsoft Office 2003 or higher and Adobe.

- A color-printer (Up to A3 size).

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

The following obligations must be observed and carried out by the Organizer:

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.

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.

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

Stickers for **Simonis**, Dynaspheres, **SOOP** and Vector should be placed on each table of the 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. Advertisements 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).

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.

22. 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.