



RULES FOR DOUBLES MATCHES

A doubles match is played in conjunction with 'OLD EPA Rules' as any other game that is played in the 'League' other than;

1. Coaching is unacceptable **(See Rule 8)**

2. On the first visit to table the first player of the doubles partnership will play the first visit, and then the other doubles partner/player will then play the next visit. Play then alternates between the players on subsequent visits to the table.

3 After a foul the non-offending team will be given two visits, the player whose visit it is will play both visits.

3a. Note: 2 visits to the table consists of a legal shot and then if potted, continue with 2 visits until a missed pot or a foul is committed or is the game is won.

3b. If a player fails to make a pot on the second visit the table is classed as 'open' . **(See Rule 9i)**

4. As soon as either member of the doubles team approaching the table touches the table they are deemed to be in control of the table **(See Rule 6)** and there must be no more conferring/talking with their doubles partner or anyone else except the referee.

4a. If the player is still conferring/talking after this point the referee will issue a first and final warning / foul **(See Rule 7)** and if the rule is broken again the referee will call a foul and will award the non-offending team with two visits.

5. If any player asks the referee to 'pick up the white ball' after a foul the player of who's turn it is, will have deemed to be in control of the table and must stop all communication with their doubles partner or anyone else except the referee. If not the referee will issue a foul **(See Rule 7)**

5a. The referee can take the white ball out of the white ball return compartment without braking **Rule 5** as the white ball has left the surface of the table.

6. Touching / In control of the table

A player is said to be in "control" of the table from the time their body, cue, chalk or clothing touches the table prior to their shot, throughout the visit, and up until the opponent does likewise prior to their visit, Including any ball(s) which fall into pockets during this period, (including the 8 ball (black)).

7. Foul

- A. In off (cue ball pocketed).
- B. Hitting an opponents ball(s) with the cue ball on first impact of the cue ball, except with the first shot following any foul.
- C. Failing to hit any ball with the cue ball, except where rule 8(C) in Old EPA Rules) applies.
- D. Jump shot - defined as when the cue ball jumps over any part of any ball before making contact with any ball.
- E. Hitting the 8 ball (black) with the cue ball on first impact of the cue ball before all their own group are pocketed, except with the first shot following any foul.
- F. Potting any opponent's ball, except with the first shot following any foul.
- G. Ball off the table.
 - 1. Any object ball or the 8 ball (black), shall be returned to the 8 ball spot (see [rule 4\(A\)](#) in Old EPA Rules)), or as near as possible to that spot without touching any other ball, in direct line between that spot and the centre of the string line.
 - 2. If the cue ball, then the cue ball played from in hand (see [rule 8\(B\)](#) in Old EPA Rules) general).

A ball shall be deemed "off the table" if it comes to rest anywhere other than on the bed of the table.

- H. If a player's body or clothing should touch any ball. Except the cue ball after the referee calls a "foul", when the player is entitled to the cue ball in hand (see [rule 6\(B\)](#)) in Old EPA Rules).
- I. Player not having at least part of one foot on the floor.
- J. Playing or touching with the cue any ball other than the cue ball.
- K. Striking the cue ball with any part of the cue other than the tip.
- L. Playing out of turn.
- M. Playing before all balls have come to rest.
- N. Playing before any ball(s) require re-spotting.
- O. Striking the cue ball with the cue more than once.
- P. Push shot - defined as where the cue tip remains in contact with the cue ball for more than the momentary time commensurate with a normal stroked shot, or the cue tip remains in contact with the cue ball once it has commenced it's forward motion.
- Q. Failing to nominate when balls of both groups are pocketed with the first legal pot.
- R. Foul break, failing to pot an object ball or drive at least two object balls to hit any cushions

The referee's decision is final.

8. Coaching

During a frame, a player is required to play without receiving any external advice from other persons relating to the playing of the frame. Should a team member or bone-fide supporter of a player offer advice, the referee will issue a "foul" (**See Rule 7**) to that person. It may not always be possible for the referee to hear if a statement made to a player is advice, the referee will call a Foul on the grounds that any statement made to a player, other than general barracking, is deemed to be coaching. In a tournament setting.

9. Definitions

- a) Shot: A "Shot" begins when all balls stop moving from the previous Shot. A player "Plays a Shot" by striking the Cue Ball with the tip of the cue. A "Shot" ends when all balls stop moving from the current Shot.
- b) Play: To "Play" an Object Ball is to play a shot that results in the Cue Ball's first contact with another ball to be with that Object Ball. To "Play" the Cue Ball is to strike it with the tip of the cue.
- c) Pot: A ball is "Potted" when it leaves the bed of the table, enters a pocket and remains in that pocket.
- d) Visit: A "Visit" comprises one shot or a series of shots. Each visit lasts until the player fails to pot a ball "On". (Or until a foul is committed or the frame ends)
- e) Turn: A players "Turn" at the table comprises one visit or, after most fouls committed by the opponent, two visits.
- f) Frame: A Frame is one game of Eight-Ball Pool between two players or two pairs of players. A Frame is played from the opening break and usually through until the Eight-Ball is potted. (Note: there are other ways that a frame may end - see "Loss of Frame" in 'OLD EPA Rules')
- g) A player may concede a frame at any time.
- h) Match: A Match is a predetermined number of frames of Eight-Ball Pool between two players, two pairs of players or two teams of players.
- i) When colours have not been decided the table is deemed to be "Open". When the table is open a player may play either group of Colours (Not the back(8 Ball) unless a foul has been committed and it the first visit of two or you are on the back (8 Ball)).