

10 BALL RULES

This version of *ten ball billiard rules* is the version that is played with a regular billiard or pool table with a standard set of pool balls, 1-15, solids and stripes.

10 BALL BILLIARD RULES

Unless otherwise specified, these rules supplement the General Rules of Pocket Billiards. Unless specifically noted in these 10 ball billiard rules, each aspect of the general billiard rules shall apply.

TYPE OF GAME

10 ball billiards is played on a standard billiard table with only the ten object balls numbered one through ten, and the cue ball. 10 ball billiards is considered more difficult than other billiard games, and thus is usually the preferred game of players with higher skill levels. It is more difficult to pocket a ball off the break shot, break and run performances become progressively more difficult with each game in a set, and players can not win a game by pocketing the ten ball on a break shot or with a combination shot as they can in some other games.

This game tends to be fast-paced, and as a result, is not meant to be played as a single game. Players should decide on a set number of games for the match before play begins. Normally this number is set at either nine, five, or seven. The first player to win that number of games wins the match.

PLAYERS

Ten ball billiards is usually played by two single players. The game can also accommodate two team of two players.

RACK, RACKING

According to 10 ball billiard rules, the ten balls, 1 through 10, are racked at the head (front) of a standard triangle just as in 8 ball. The 10 ball is to be placed in the middle of the middle row in the rack.

OBJECTIVE OF THE GAME

The object of ten ball billiards is to pocket the 10 ball legally to win the game.

OPENING BREAK

In 10 ball billiards, players lag, or coin flip to determine who will take the opening break shot. In professional tournaments, players always lag for break. It may also be determined before beginning play, that the winner or loser of the previous game will always perform the next opening break shot or vice versa. The winner of the lag or coin toss has the option of taking the break shot or passing it on to the other player.

In order for a break shot to be legal, one object ball must be contacted and a ball pocketed, or four object balls must be driven to a rail. If the breaking player does not perform a legal break shot in a 10 ball billiards game, their opponent has the option of requesting a re-rack and taking the break shot, or they may elect to continue play with the table as-is, as though a regular foul had occurred. If the original breaking player pockets a ball legally and does not foul, their inning continues at the table.

GERNERAL RULES OF PLAY

According to ten ball billiard rules, the player must cause the cue ball to contact the lowest numbered object ball on the table before it strikes any other ball. If this does not occur, the shooting player is assessed a foul, and the inning comes to an end. As long as this requirement is met, a ball is pocketed legally, and no other foul is committed, the shooting player's inning continues.

FOUL PENALTY

If a player commits a foul, their inning ends, and their opponent takes the table with ball in hand. The opponent may spot the cue ball in any location on the table.

HISTORY

Ten ball has been played competitively from 2000 to 2006 as the Florida Open Ten Ball Championship. On May 23, 2007, the first World Ten Ball Championship was held in Jacksonville Florida. The game is said to have been developed out of the request of professional players for a game with more challenge than posed in a game of nine ball.

The 10 ball billiards rules are predominantly observed in North America.

The governing body for 10 ball billiards rules is the United States Professional Pool players Association.