

## Table of Contents

---

<b>Chapter 1- General Principles .....</b>	<b>2</b>
1. The Rules of Competition .....	2
2. Players' Clothing Requirements.....	2
3. Referee regulations.....	2
4. Racking or tapping of balls.....	3
6. To Prevent outside Interference.....	3
9. Default equipment.....	3
10. The using of players' own equipment.....	3
11. Not being on time for games .....	4
12. The order of breaking .....	4
13. For the player who is not hitting.....	4
14. Shooting in Limited Time .....	4
15. Time out.....	4
16. Inappropriate Behaviors .....	5
17. Punishments of violating the sport spirits .....	5
18. Rules of Appeal .....	5
<b>Chapter 2- Rules of Chinese Eight Ball .....</b>	<b>5</b>
1. Players Obligation .....	5
2. Method of play .....	5
3. Equipment .....	5
4. Placing the balls .....	6
5. Compete for the order of breaking.....	6
6. Breaking .....	6
7. Reset Ball .....	7
8. Backline Ball in Hand.....	7
9. Ball-in-Hand. ....	7
10. Opening situation .....	7
11. Designate the pockets .....	8
12. Hitting .....	8
13. Hitting Two or More Balls Simultaneously.....	8
14. Balls automatically move .....	8
15. Oppressed Ball .....	9
16. Jump Ball.....	9
17. Fouls.....	9
18. Intentional fouls.....	9
19. Ball group confused .....	9
20. Lost .....	9
21. Deadlock .....	10
22. Safely shooting.....	10
23. Outside interference.....	10
24. Abstention .....	10
25. Against the spirit of sports.....	10

These general principles list the items that are not included in the rules of the game, but need to be arranged in the physical truth, including the requirement of dressing, the course of appeal and the schedule of competitions. The content of general principles such as the quantity of game in a round, the order of breaking is different from the former one in every competition. The committee has the right of defining and carrying out these principles according to the general principles before the games. Relatively, the rules of competition need to be carried out strictly in the process of the competition.

### 1. The Rules of Competition

Special case of competition rules is not allowed to be free to change, unless the Chinese eight-ball Tournament Organizing Committee of the international master licensed, a written explanation of the temporary change in the rules should be published before the players' meeting.

### 2. Players' Clothing Requirements

The clothing of each player must meet the competition requirements and should be neat and clean. If the players are not sure if their clothing is in accordance with the requirements, they can ask the tournament director for confirmation before the game. Final decision rests with the tournament director on the clothing requirements. If there are any special circumstances, Tournament Director may allow the unsatisfactory players participating in the competition, such as flight baggage loss, the players' special physical condition and so on. Players may be disqualified because of the undesirable dressing. If there is no clothing requirements being announced before the game, all players (both males and females) should use the following clothing requirements by default.

Tops: plain color shirt with the lower hem bundled in trousers, must wear solid color waistcoat outside the shirt.

Trousers: solid color suit trousers .Players must not wear jean.

Shoes: solid color leather shoes

### 3. Referee regulations.

#### 3.1 Referee's responsibility:

- (a) The sole judge of the game, to make judgments on anything happened in the game;
- (b) Responsible for enforcing the rules of the game and maintain the competition smoothly;
- (c) The referee shall answer player's questions about the objective facts and the rules of the game;
- (d) While contrary to the principles of fair play happens, the referee has the right to postpone the game, this power also applies to the case of disputes;
- (e) If the rules do not cover the special circumstances during the race, the referee can make judgments under the principles of fair play;
- (f) If required, the referee can tell hitting player whether the round is closed or not.
- (g) Clean any balls on the table in reasonable request; for game has time limitation for shooting, the cleaning ball time will be counted into the player's shooting time.
- (h) To assist the players to take, or put back the rest and other auxiliary equipment.

#### 3.2 Referee cannot:

- (a) Answer any questions unrelated to any rules;
- (b) Prompt the hitting player potential fouls;
- (c) Provide suggests and opinions that may affect the game;

3.3 If the referee did not notice a dispute, he can refer to the presence of scorers and another event

Staff or the audience in the best position to make a ruling.

#### 4. Racking or tapping of balls

In the Chinese eight-ball game, a triangle or a template is used to rack the balls. At the beginning of a round, all balls are placed in the triangle or placed in the holes in the template and then set at the balls area. The advantages of using a triangle or template is to save time and make sure the balls clinging closely. The equipment to rack the ball is determined by the tournament organizers. Racking balls is the responsibility of the referee, players can not rack the balls on their own, unless the tournament organizers have explicitly requested.

#### 5. The declaration of oppressed the cushion and oppressed balls.

The referee should observe carefully and then announce if the object ball is oppressed to the cushion or if the cue ball oppressed to the object ball. The players could remind referee for a declaration of such cases. Players must give the referee enough time to make a ruling. In the time-limited game, the declaration time will not be counted into the hitting player's time.

#### 6. To Prevent outside Interference

The referee should avoid competition interference, such as interference from nearby table players or spectators. If necessary, the game could be suspended or postponed. Interference can be from physical or language. If the player's foul is caused by outside interference, the opponent player has no responsibility for this.

#### 7. Factors which cannot be avoided.

Something not listed in the rules may occur in the game and may be unexpected. When this occurs, the referee will make a judgment under the principle of fair competition, if necessary, a game may be moved to other tables with the position of the balls remaining original. If not, the referee could announce the round as an impasse.

#### 8. The Coach

It's not allowed for players to seek for guidance from the coach during the game. But the player can ask asuspend to seek for guidance from his or her coach without the coach appearing close to the game table. If the coach is judged by the referee interfering the game, he should keep away from the table.

#### 9. Default equipment.

After the start of the game, the player has no right to doubt the quality of the designated default equipment provided by organizers. Any related protests must be put forward before the match.

#### 10. The using of players' own equipment.

The equipment must follow the rules of the international association of Chinese eight-ball. Generally, the players cannot use other new styles of equipment. The one mentioned as follows is legal. If a player has any questions about a special equipment, he should ask the tournament organizing committee to get a definite reply before the game.

(a) Cues: Players are allowed to change their cues during the game, such as the breaking cue, jump cue and ordinary cue (Changing the cue is prohibited during one match). Players can use the built-in or external cues to extend the length.

(b) Chalks: Players can use chalks to prevent the tip from sliding, and can bring their own chalks, but the color should match to the cloth.

(c) Rest: players can use more than two kinds of rest at the same time to support the cue. Players can use their own rest, but this must comply with the regulations or accepted by the referee.

(d) Gloves: Players can use gloves to help hold the cue or hand rest.

(e) The talcum powder: Reasonable dosage talcum powder is allowed to use if the referee accept.

#### 11. Not being on time for games.

Players must be punctual and get ready before each game. If a player does not appear before the specified time, he should be punished by the conventional items. If two players are both late, the organizing committee will punish them according their condition separately. For the player who is often late, more strict punishment will be given.

#### 12. The order of breaking

The organizing committee has the right to decide the order of breaking. Such as the victor breaks or break by turns.

#### 13. For the player who is not hitting.

When one player is playing, the other should stay at the designated sitting areas. When players in play (including intervals between rounds) need to leave the area, he should get the permission from the referee. If the player leave without permission, then this will be regarded as against the spirit of sports.

#### 14. Shooting in Limited Time

Chinese eight-ball often uses the time-limited method. The organizing committee defines time for each game or each shot, for each rack or each game, the extension period and extension time will be stated clearly. Usually the time is 45 seconds for a shot or will be decided by organizing committee (30 seconds for fast mode). There will be a staff (the referee or another staff) or special timing devices for timing and referee will give a notice when 10 seconds and 5 seconds left, Timing starts when all balls stop, and end up with the tip hitting the cue ball. Each player can call extension once each rack, the extension period is usually for 30 seconds (20 seconds for fast mode). If the player didn't hit in stipulated time, he will make a foul.

#### 15. Time out

In addition to the provisions of the organizing committee, in a more than 13 rounds game, players can ask for a 5-minute-pause. Players should tell referee the purpose of the pause, and confirm that the referee has realized the fact, and then record and take notes on the record form.

(This provision could be arranged by the organizing committee before the game) If the player has any inappropriate behavior during the pause, his right of pausing will be deprived. If the circumstances is serious, he will be punished as against the spirit of sports. Players could ask for pause between rounds, except for special circumstances. If a player feels bad because of drug or other special circumstances, the director can adjust the time and number of pause. When something that influenced the fair and continuity appears, the referee should take measures at once to stop the game, until the situation disappears. If this happens in the process of a round, the referee must ensure all the balls in the original position. When the pause is over, the game continues. If the objective cause's balls cannot be kept originally, the referee or tournament organizing committee reserves the right to inform the players round being cancelled, and re-start the game when feasible. Players are not allowed to call time out personally, and the time out is only set by organizing committee according to the game situation.

## 16. Inappropriate Behaviors

Refusing a round, or the referee thought the player has intentionally or continued improper behavior, including continuously wasting time or impolite behavior, the referee should warn him. If the player doesn't stop, then he will be judged lost.

## 17. Punishments of violating the sport spirits

For the Behaviors of violating the sport spirits, the game rules and general principles give enough and flexible space to the referee and event officials. The punishment is based on the following aspects: the player's Behaviors before, the warning in advance, the seriousness of the behavior, and if the behavior was mentioned in the player's meeting etc, In addition, the level of the game can also act as a consideration, because a good athlete should have both excellent skills and appropriate behavior.

## 18. Rules of Appeal

If a player has the matters of ruling, he should firstly communicate with the referee, and the referee will make the most appropriate judgment. If the player has an objection to verdict, he could appeal to the chief judge or the game director. In normal competition, the game director has the right to make final judgments. Every time before the appeal, players need to pay, if the appeal fails, appeal fee will not be returned, the detail amount of appeal fee should be confirmed in the Game Program or on the players' meeting. Each player has only one chance to appeal in the same problem, and if he appeals the second time with the same problem, his action will be regarded as against the spirit of sports and punished.

## Chapter 2- Rules of Chinese Eight Ball

---

### 1. Players Obligation

It's player's obligation to get familiar with all the rules and regulations of the game. Organizing Committee should deliver the latest messages timely even though, it's also main responsibility of players.

### 2. Method of play

Chinese Eight Ball game uses cue ball and object balls from No.1 to No.15. If one player chooses No.1 to No.7 (solid balls) so the other player must choose No.9 to No.15 (stripe balls) .Players should firstly pot all their chosen balls into the pockets, then pot the No.8 to the packet. Player who first pot No.8 will win.

### 3. Equipment

(a) Table: internal edge size is 2540 x 1270mm (+/-9mm) height from the ground to the cushion on top is 800mm-850mm.

(b) Cue: no less than 101.6cm. And the material and shape must be up to the standard of Intentional Federation of Chinese Eight Ball.

(c) Balls: diameter 57.15mm (+/-0.05mm), weight 156g-170g.

(d) Ball spot: 635 mm from the top cushion on longitudinal centre line.

(e) Breaking line: 450mm from the bottom cushion and parallel to the bottom cushion.

(f) Breaking area: between the top cushion and the breaking lin

#### 4. Placing the balls.

Object balls should be placed as a triangle, the ball in the top corner is on the ball spot, No.8 should be placed at the centre of the triangle, a solid ball and a stripe balls should be placed at the two corners of the lower side of the triangle. Other solid and strip object balls should be separated as far as possible, but being oppressed closely. Players can check if the balls are placed right, and both can ask for amendment. (This could be reappointed by the organizing committee before the game)

#### 5. Compete for the order of breaking.

This is to determine the order of breaking. The winner has the right of breaking. The referee will place two balls backline, two players in about the same time hit and contact the balls to the cushion (the short cushion close to the balls place) and return, the winner is whose ball stops closer to the cushion (the cushion near the line).

An illegal competing or can't be judged win means:

- (a) Across the longitudinal axis into the opponent area;
- (b) Not touch the cushion;
- (c) Touch the cushion more than once (the short cushion close to the balls place).
- (d) The ball goes out of the table or fell into the pocket.
- (e) Touch the side cushion or stay at the pocket and has crossed the cushion line.

If the following circumstances appear, restart this process again:

- (a) A player obvious later than opponent hitting the ball.
- (b) The referee can't judge which ball is closer to the bottom cushion.
- (c) Both sides appear illegal.

#### 6. Breaking

##### 6.1 Legal Breaking.

When breaking, the male player should be in accordance with the rule of "breaking line is crossed 4 times"(including No.8 but not including cue ball) "Breaking line is crossed 4 times" means: the breaking line is crossed (more than half or half of a ball) 4 times by numbered ball or balls(the cue ball is not included);or one ball is potted and the breaking line is crossed three times; or two balls are potted and the breaking line is crossed twice; or three balls are potted and the breaking line is crossed once; or four or more object balls are potted, the balls crossed the breaking line and potted regards as crossed the breaking line twice. Female player and the players who is under 14-year-old should be in accordance with the rule of "breaking line is crossed 3 times".

If the breaking fails to meet the five conditions, then it will be regarded as a loss of chance.

If the shot results in a loss of chance, the incoming player has the option of:

- (a). accepting such position and making shot by himself/herself or by the breaking player;
- (b). re-racking and allowing the breaker breaking again or breaking by himself or herself.

Stipulation: (a).Every three times of loss of chance will be considered as losing the rack. The sixth loss of chance will

be judged as losing a rack one more time.

(c). Breaking softly ,and less than four object balls touch the cushion , that would be considered intentional foul, and lose the frame.

## 6.2 Illegal breaking

If there are any fouls during breaking, then the breaking will be judged as illegal breaking. The other player can choose from ball-in-hand behind breaking line of re-rack and break by himself/herself, or break by the other player.

## 6.3 The No.8 pot while breaking

(a) If there's no other fouls, the breaker should place the No.8 onto the ball spot and go on hitting; or he can make the opponent player break.

(b) If fouls occur, the No.8 should be put back onto the ball spot, then opponent should get back-line ball-in-hand or re-start the round by breaking or break by the other player. (This could be reappointed by the committee before the game)

## 7. Reset Ball

When it is necessary to reset the balls to the table , The referee should put the ball back to where it was ,if there are obstacles balls that can't put back, the reset ball should be put on the longitudinal axis between the ball point and the top cushion without touching other balls, and close by the ball point. Players must accept where referee put the ball.

## 8. Backline Ball in Hand

When the breaker fouls, the opponents get backline ball in hand, then he can only put the ball behind the line, and can't hit the balls behind the line directly, but can bounce off the cushion to touch the balls behind the line.

If all the legal object ball are behind the line, the player can require the referee reset the nearest ball to the ball point, if two or more legal object balls keep the same distance from the line, then player can appoint which to reset. Player can hit the ball which is just on the line.

## 9. Ball-in-Hand.

When player fouls(except fouls in breaking), the opponent can put the cue ball anywhere on the table, and can move the cue ball before finally hit it, player can use anywhere of the cue to move the cue ball including the top, but any hitting action is not allowed.

## 10. Opening situation

The opening situation means the ownership of the solid balls and strip balls were not decided.

10.1 The table become open after breaking, while opening, all of the object balls are legal, players can hit any balls except No.8. If the No.8 was first touched, that will be a foul.

After breaking, if all the solid balls (or strip balls) potted, it is regarded as opening situation ; two players only can choose to hit the left balls, until confirm the ownership of the balls, the situation is closed.

10.2 All the illegal pot balls needn't to be put back (except No.8) while the table was opening.

10.3 The ownership of each kind of balls were not determined by breaking, no matter potted or not, the table were still open after breaking, the ownership of the balls was determined by after breaking the players legal shot one ball of a group of balls, then the table close.

## 11. Designate the pockets

No balls need to be designated before hitting, which includes No. 8 ball and penalty.

## 12. Hitting

### 12.1 The right of choosing the color of balls

When the table is open, the first hit ball or the balls which have the same color of the first hit ball is potted, the designated of balls is finished, this kind of balls will be the legal object balls of this player, the table closed.

Players hit after the table closed, the correct kind of balls (solid or stripe) must be firstly touched, if all balls are in the pocket, the No.8 should be firstly touched.

12.2 If no ball will be potted, one ball at least should touch the cushion AFTER hit. (Including the cue ball)

12.3 After potting, balls not potted must be on the table. Any object balls (except No.8) left the table would be reasonable disappear, and won't appear on the table any more.

12.4 In the process of hitting, only the cue top is allowed to touch the ball. Others such as clothes, hair, rest, chalk and equipment cannot touch the balls on the table.

12.5 In one hitting, the cue tip can couch the cue ball only once.

Any of those above infringement happens, the opponent will get a ball-in-hand. All the foul behaviors should be judged before the next hitting, or will be treated no foul happens.

### 12.6 Double hit:

If the cue touches the cue ball more than once, it is a foul.

If the cue ball is quite close to the object ball, the tip touches the cue ball, the cue ball hits the object ball, and at this time the tip does not leave the cue ball, this hitting is regarded as a foul.

If the cue ball is quite close to the object ball, the cue ball only touches the edge of the ball slightly, this hitting is not supposed as a foul mentioned above, in theory, if the cue ball touches the object ball, the tip may stay at the cue ball.

### 12.7 Push shot :

In one hitting, one should not extend the hitting by inheritance and make a obvious push out, otherwise it is a foul. In other words, the hitting action between the tip and cue ball should be a momentary hit, not a push.

## 13. Hitting Two or More Balls Simultaneously

If the cue ball cause both the legal and illegal balls moving almost at the same time, and the referee can not judge which ball was first touched, that will be considered the legal ball being touched first.

## 14. Balls automatically move.

A ball may automatically move after it seems stopped, this may be because the ball or the table have tiny defects, players won't get any punishment. This is regarded as normal in the game, Unless it lead to any ball pot, if this



happen, the automatically moved ball should be put back .If any ball pot automatically during the process of player's hitting , and it influenced the result of this hitting, the referee should reset the situation and let player shot again.

## 15. Oppressed Ball

15.1 When the cue ball and the object ball are oppressed, the hitting should make the object ball move. If the hitting doesn't make any direct movement of the object ball, then this is regarded as no movement of the object ball. There is no limit to the direction of the hitting, but the hitting action must be clear.

15.2 When the object ball and the cushion are oppressed, before the object ball is hit, if the ball does not touch the cushion legally, after the cue ball hit the object ball, the object ball should touch the cushion again, or other balls (including the cue ball) touch the cushion, or pot any other ball. The punishment of violating rules above is that the opponent get a ball-in-hand.

## 16. Jump Ball

16.1 Players can hit the cue ball to make it bounce over the illegal object balls and hit the legal balls.

16.2 While bouncing, players can only hit area covers more than 1/2 spherical surface. The punishment of violating rules above: the opponent get a ball-in-hand.

## 17. Fouls

If one player has a foul, the opponent get a ball-in-hand.

Here are the general fouls:

- (a). The cue ball is potted or leaves the table.
- (b). The cue ball touches the illegal balls first.
- (c). Hitting while balls were not fully stopped.
- (d). Both feet leave the ground while hitting
- (e). The object ball stopped outside the table.
- (f). Touch the balls illegally.
- (g). Double hitting.
- (h). Push the cue ball after hitting..
- (i). Illegal hitting behind back-line.

## 18. Intentional fouls

Intentional fouls would be regarded as a violation of the spirit of sports.

In a game, a player's first intentional foul will be judged as losing a rack, if there is a second time, he will lose the game.

## 19. Ball group confused.

After the table closed, if a player wrongly hits the other group balls, the foul must be pronounced before his next hitting. When any player or a referee realizes of the ball group changed, the round should be stop at once, and restart.

## 20. Lost.

If players violate each of the following rules, lose the round.

- (a) Fouls occurs while potting the No.8
- (b) Pot the No.8 while potting the last object ball.
- (c) Hit the No.8 and make it away from the table.

- (d) The No.8 potted in unspecified pocket.
- (e) Pot the No.8 before finish potting all the object balls of his group.
- (f) As long as the 8 ball stays on the table, there can be nothing but fouls. However if the 8 ball goes away from the table, there will be nothing but lose.

#### 21. Deadlock

If the referee judged deadlock happens or will happen, he should suggest restart the round, if the player refuses, the referee will allow the game continue, generally the referee will do final judge after three hitting of each player. If the deadlock continues the referee will announce the round deadlock, and restart the round and at the same time:

- (a) The original player breaks again
- (b) The original shot order does not change.

#### 22. Safely shooting.

The safely shooting is canceled

#### 23. Outside interference

If outside interference should influence the result of hitting, the referee should put all the balls back, and the player should shot again. If the interference should not influence the result, the referee only need to put the interference ball back, and game goes on. If the ball couldn't be put back, the round is sentenced deadlock.

#### 24. Abstention

Players can make voluntary abstention only in his turn. Abstention could be designed to a round or the game.

#### 25. Against the spirit of sports

Usually the punishment of the behavior against the spirit of sport could be adjust through the degree of the fouls. The punishment could be a warning, a standard foul punishment, judging his losing the round or the game, disqualification, or cancelling the ranking, medal, bonus, ranking points etc. In short, for the behavior that against the spirit of sports, the referee shall make a decision according to the spirit of competition. Against the spirit of sports means any deliberate defiance of the spirit of sports, damaging or changing the principle of fair competition, including:

- (a) disturbing opponent,
- (b) casually moving the ball without hitting;
- (c) intentionally sliding;
- (d) continue shooting after the referee announcing foul or game delay;
- (e) Practicing during the game;
- (f) marking on the table;
- (g) internationally delay of the game;
- (h) using the equipment inappropriately.

(i) the player admits defeat when his opponent is going to pot the No.8

(j) shoot with only one hand (except the disable player)

The Organizing Committee owns the right of final interpretation of this rule.

This version of the rule reference to the WPA American eight ball, nine ball, ten ball and the draft rules of CBSA, seek the opinions from some professional player, semi-professional players, some representatives of pool room, referee and fans. The purpose is to improve the Chinese 8 ball more appreciation、 fluency、 fairness、 competition, and making this sport go to the world faster. We will continue perfect the rules with the development of this sport. We are hoping to get everyone's suggestions understanding and support.

*March 2017*

---