

East Carolina University
Intramural Sports
Billiards Tournament Rules

I. **General 8-ball Rules**

- A. The tournament will be conducted according to 8 Ball play.
- B. Players will lag to see who has the first break. *Lag* means to hit the cue ball off the far rail and see who can draw the cue ball back to the rail you break from without touching. The winner of the previous game will break for the second and third games. If the lagged balls make contact during the lag, lag again.
- C. A foul on the break will result in *ball-in-hand* behind the head string and the incoming player has an open table. *Ball-in-hand* means you get to put the cue ball on the table ANYWHERE he/she desires.

II. **Ball-in-hand fouls are as follows**

- A. Anytime the cue ball goes in a pocket
- B. Failure to hit a correct ball first (A player who is shooting stripes must hit a striped ball first)
- C. It is illegal and, therefore, a foul to jump a cue ball over another ball by miscuing it up in the air on purpose.
- D. Anytime the cue ball goes on the floor or otherwise ends up off the playing surface.

III. **Ways to lose**

- A. You pocket the 8-ball out of turn or knock it on the floor.
- B. When playing the 8-ball, you pocket the 8-ball in the wrong pocket or fail to properly mark the pocket where the 8-ball went in.
- C. You foul the cue ball and then pocket the 8-ball.
- D. When playing the 8-ball, you scratch the cue ball.

NOTE: If you are shooting at the 8-ball and miss it altogether, you have fouled and your opponent has ball-in-hand, but you don't lose because of this foul.

- 1. At least one foot must remain on the floor at all times.
- 2. Obvious balls and pockets do not have to be indicated. It is the opponent's right to ask which ball and pocket if he/she is unsure of the shot.
- 3. All rules will be from the American Pool Association.