



**RULES GOVERNING COMPETITIONS
SEASON 2014/15**

SNOOKER

In the season 2014/15, the MBSA will organize the following National Snooker Competitions, subject to an adequate number of entries and other logistical reasons:

- Premier Division
- First Division
- Second Division
- Third Division
- Under 21
- Under 16
- Masters (Over 40) Championship
- Teams Championship
- A minimum of 4 Ranking Tournaments

1. Premier Division

- a. The Premier Division shall consist of 20 players divided into 4 groups of 5 players each. The Group stages will be played on a Round-Robin (Home & Away) basis.
- b. Each group shall be formed as follows:
 - One player drawn by lot from those who reached the semi-finals of the Premier Division last season.
 - The losing quarter finalists and the eight players that finished third and fourth in their respective groups in the Premier Division of last season shall be drawn by lot into the four groups.
 - One player drawn by lot from those who reached the Final of the First Division last season and the two eligible players to play in the Premier Division this season.
- c. Seeds: last season's Premier Division winner will be seeded into Group A; the runner up will be seeded in Group D and the losing semi finalists will be drawn by lot into Groups B & C.
- d. The number of players each club can register in the Premier Division cannot exceed the number of groups for the same Division except where the club can provide more than one billiards table. No two or more players from the same club may be drawn into the same group.

- e. The winner and runner-up of each group will go through to the quarter-finals stage while the last placed of each group will be relegated to the First Division for the following season.
- f. The quarter final stages will be played on a Round Robin (Home & Away) basis. The eight players qualified will be divided into two groups as follows:
 - **QF Group A:**
Winner of Group A, Winner of Group C, Runner up of Group B and Runner up of Group D.
 - **QF Group B:**
Winner of Group D, Winner of Group B, Runner up of Group C and Runner up of Group A.
- g. The winner and runner up of each QF group will qualify to the semi-finals where the competition will be played on a knock-out basis at a neutral venue.
- h. For the season 2015/16 the Premier Division will consist of 20 players as follows:
 - The 16 players who were not relegated from Premier Division Championship 2014/15.
 - The two finalists of the First Division Championship 2014/15.
 - Highest ranked player from the one year ranking list 2014/15 not already qualified.
 - One wild card may be approved by the MBSA Executive Board as per General – Rule 7. However, players who finished last in their groups in the Premier Division Championship 2014/15 cannot regain promotion through this system.
- i. Round Robin Matches will be played on a best of 7 frames basis. The Quarter-Final matches will be played over 7 frames, the Semi Finals over 9 frames and the Final over the best of 11 frames.

2. First Division

- a. The First Division shall consist of 32 players divided into 8 groups of 4 players each. The Group stages will be played on a Round-Robin (Home & Away) basis.
- b. All players will be drawn by lot into the 8 groups.
- c. The number of players each club can register in the First Division cannot exceed the number of groups for the same Division. No two or more players from the same club may be drawn into the same group.
- d. The winner and runner-up of each group will go through to the Last 16 stage, where the competition will be played on a knock-out basis at a neutral venue until the Final.
- e. The two players who reach the final will be promoted to the Premier Division for the following season, while the last placed in each group will be relegated to the Second Division for season 2015/16.
- f. For the season 2015/16 the First Division will consist of:
 - The 22 players who did not reach the Final of the 2014/15 First Division Championship.
 - The 4 players relegated from the Premier Division Championship 2014/15.
 - The 4 semi-finalists of the Second Division Championship 2014/15.
 - Highest ranked player from the one year ranking list 2014/15 not already qualified.
 - One wild card may be approved by the MBSA Executive Board as per General – Rule 7. However, players who have finished last in their groups in the First Division championship 2014/15 cannot regain promotion through this system.
- g. Round Robin Matches will be played on a best of 5 frames basis. The Last 16 matches, Quarter-Final and Semi-Final matches will be played over 7 frames and the Final over the best of 9 frames.

3. Second Division

- a. The Second Division shall consist of 32 players divided into 8 groups of 4 players each. The Group stages will be played on a Round-Robin (Home & Away) basis.
- b. All players will be drawn by lot into the 8 groups.
- c. The number of players each club can register in the Second Division cannot exceed the number of groups for the same Division. No two or more players from the same club may be drawn into the same group.
- d. The winner and runner-up of each group will go through to the Last 16 stage, where the competition will be played on a knock-out basis at a neutral venue until the Final.
- e. The four players who reach the semi-final will be promoted to the First Division for the following season, while the last placed in each group will be relegated to the Third Division for season 2015/16.
- f. For the season 2015/16 the Second Division will consist of:
 - 20 players who did not reach the Semi-Finals of the 2014/15 Second Division Championship.
 - 8 players relegated from the First Division Championship 2014/15.
 - 4 semi-finalists of the Third Division Championship 2014/15.
- g. Round Robin Matches will be played on a best of 5 frames basis. The Last 16, Quarter-Final and Semi-Final matches will be played over 5 frames and the Final over the best of 7 frames.

4. Third Division

- a. The Third division shall consist of all the other players not eligible to play in the Premier, First and Second Division Championships.
- b. If the number of entries exceeds 32 players, the Competitions Board will have the right to decide how this competition will be played; League, knock-out or others.

Subject to the number of entries, players will be drawn by lot into groups, where matches will be played on a Round-Robin (Home & Away) basis.

- c. No two or more players from the same club may be drawn into the same group, where possible.
- d. Subject to the number of entries, after the group stages, the competition will progress on a knock-out basis, at a neutral venue until the Final.
- e. The four players who reach the Semi-Finals will be promoted to the Second Division for the following season.
- f. All matches in the Round-Robin stages or until the last 32 if the competition is played on a knock-out basis will be over the best of 5 frames. The Last 16, Quarter-Final and Semi-Final matches will be played over 5 frames and the Final over the best of 7 frames.

5. Under 21

- a. The Under 21 Championship shall be open to all those players who have not yet attained the age of 21 by the 30th September 2014.
- b. Subject to the number of entries, players will be drawn into groups, where matches will be played on a Round-Robin (Home & Away) basis.
- c. Seeds: In the Under 21 Division Championship four players will be seeded based on their results in last season's Under 21 Championship and as per standard seeding practice. Should any of these players is not in the draw the 2013/14 One Year Ranking List will be used to determine seeded players.
- d. The number of players each club can register in the U21 Championship cannot exceed the number of groups for the same Championship except where the club can provide more than one billiards table. No two or more players from the same club may be drawn into the same group.
- e. Subject to the number of entries, after the group stages, the competition will progress on a knock-out system at a neutral venue until the Final.

- f. All matches in the Round-Robin stages will be over the best of 5 frames. Quarter-Final and Semi-Final matches will be played over 7 frames and the Final over the best of 9 frames.
- g. The structure of the Under 21 Championship may change, subject to the final number of entries.
- h. Under 21 players registered for this Championship may also enter in another division championships if eligible. However, only the highest number of ranking points won from any championship will be added to the final ranking lists.

6. Under 16

- a. The Under 16 Championship shall be open to all those players who have not yet attained the age of 16 by the 30th September 2014.
- b. Subject to the number of entries, players will be drawn by lot into groups, where matches will be played on a Round-Robin (Home & Away) basis.
- c. Seeds: In the Under 16 Division Championship four players will be seeded based on their results in last season's Under 16 Championship and as per standard seeding practice. Should any of these players is not in the draw the 2013/14 One Year Ranking List will be used to determine seeded players.
- d. The number of players each club can register in the U16 Championship cannot exceed the number of groups for the same Championship. No two or more players from the same club may be drawn into the same group.
- e. Subject to the number of entries, after the group stages, the competition will progress on a knock-out system at a neutral venue until the Final.
- f. All matches in the Round-Robin stages will be over the best of 3 frames. Quarter-Final and Semi-Final matches will be played over 5 frames and the Final over the best of 7 frames.
- g. The structure of the Under 16 Championship may change, subject to the final number of entries.

- h. Under 16 players registered for this Championship may also enter in another division championships if eligible. However, only the highest number of ranking points won from any championship will be added to the final ranking lists.

7. Masters Championship (Over 40)

- a. The Masters Championship shall be open to all those players who have reached the age of 40 years by the 30th September 2014.
- b. Subject that the number of entries will be of 16 players or less, players will be drawn by lot into groups, where matches will be played on a Round-Robin (Home & Away) basis. After the group stages, the competition will progress on a knock-out system at a neutral venue until the Final.
- c. If the number of entries exceeds 16 players, the Competitions Board will decide the format for this Championship.
- d. Seeds: In the Masters Championship four players will be seeded based on their results in last season's Masters Championship and as per standard seeding practice. Should any of these players is not in the draw the 2013/14 One Year Ranking List will be used to determine seeded players.
- e. The number of players each club can register in the Masters Championship cannot exceed the number of groups for the same Championship. No two or more players from the same club may be drawn into the same group.
- f. All matches in the group stages will be over the best of 5 frames. Last 16, Quarter-Final and Semi-Final matches will be over the best of 7 frames and the Final will be played over the best of 9 frames. In the event that the competition is played on a knock-out basis, the number of frames played may be changed.
- g. No ranking points will be awarded in the Masters Championship.

8. Final Stages

In a division where the groups produce four qualifiers to play on a knock-out basis, the competition will progress as follows:

Semi-Finals			
Match A	Winner Group A	vs	Runner up Group B
Match B	Winner Group B	vs	Runner up Group A

Final		
Winner Match A	vs	Winner Match B

In a division where the groups produce eight qualifiers to play on a knock-out basis, the competition will progress as follows:

Quarter-Finals			
Match 1	Winner Group A	vs	Runner-up Group D
Match 2	Winner Group B	vs	Runner-up Group C
Match 3	Winner Group C	vs	Runner-up Group B
Match 4	Winner Group D	vs	Runner-up Group A

Semi-Finals			
Match A	Winner Match 1	vs	Winner Match 2
Match B	Winner Match 3	vs	Winner Match 4

Final		
Winner Match A	vs	Winner Match B

In a division where the groups produce sixteen qualifiers to play on a knock-out basis, the competition will progress as follows:

Last 16			
Match 1	Winner Group A	vs	Runner-up Group H
Match 2	Winner Group B	vs	Runner-up Group G
Match 3	Winner Group C	vs	Runner-up Group F
Match 4	Winner Group D	vs	Runner-up Group E
Match 5	Winner Group E	vs	Runner-up Group D
Match 6	Winner Group F	vs	Runner-up Group C
Match 7	Winner Group G	vs	Runner-up Group B
Match 8	Winner Group H	vs	Runner-up Group A

Quarter-Finals			
Match A	Winner Match 1	vs	Winner Match 2
Match B	Winner Match 3	vs	Winner Match 4
Match C	Winner Match 5	vs	Winner Match 6
Match D	Winner Match 7	vs	Winner Match 8

Semi-Finals			
Match 1	Winner Match A	vs	Winner Match B
Match 2	Winner Match C	vs	Winner Match D

Final		
Winner Match 1	vs	Winner Match 2

SNOOKER TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

In the season 2014/15, the MBSA shall organize the National Snooker Teams Championship, subject to an adequate number of entries and other logistical reasons.

1. Teams

- a. The Teams Championship will be played on a knock out format.
- b. Each club may enter up to four teams in the Championship.
- c. Each team shall consist of a minimum of 3 players but not more than 4 players.
- d. Eligibility for players per team in a match is as follows, based on the One Year Ranking List of the MBSA for season 2013/14:
 - i. One Top 16 player, one player ranked between 17 & 32 and one player ranked 33 or below or unranked players OR
 - ii. Two players ranked between 17 and 32 and one player ranked 33 or below or unranked players OR
 - iii. Three players ranked 33 or below or unranked players.

2. Format

- a. Each team shall nominate its 3 players before the match, seeded 1 to 3 and based on their 2013/14 One Year Ranking as per Rule 1 (d) above.
- b. Each player will play 2 frames against each of the opposing teams' players (total 18 frames), in the following sequence
 - i. Day 1 on Team 1's home table
 1. Team 1 Seed 1 vs Team 2 Seed 3 (2 frames)
 2. Team 1 Seed 2 vs Team 2 Seed 2 (2 frames)
 3. Team 1 Seed 3 vs Team 2 Seed 1 (2 frames)
 4. Team 1 Seed 1 vs Team 2 Seed 2 (1 frame)
 5. Team 1 Seed 3 vs Team 2 Seed 3 (1 frame)
 6. Team 1 Seed 2 vs Team 2 Seed 1 (1 frame)
 - ii. Day 2 on Team 2's home table
 1. Team 1 Seed 2 vs Team 2 Seed 1 (1 frame)
 2. Team 1 Seed 3 vs Team 2 Seed 3 (1 frame)
 3. Team 1 Seed 1 vs Team 2 Seed 2 (1 frame)
 4. Team 1 Seed 3 vs Team 2 Seed 2 (2 frames)
 5. Team 1 Seed 2 vs Team 2 Seed 3 (2 frames)
 6. Team 1 Seed 1 vs Team 2 Seed 1 (2 frames)
- c. In case of a tie at the end of the 18 frames, a one-frame play-off will be played to determine the winner, and each team may nominate any of its three players for this final frame.
- d. Any player, who was registered with a club at the closing date of registrations and for any reason did not register to play in the Teams Championship, can register with a team during the season.
- e. Changes will be permitted to a nominated team during the season but only from players not already registered with another team.
- f. A player can only be replaced in the second leg of a match.

RANKING TOURNAMENTS

In the season 2014/15, the MBSA shall organize a minimum of 4 Ranking Tournaments.

1. Format

- a. All Associate Members, irrespective of their classification in the National Championships, shall be eligible to enter the MBSA Ranking Tournaments, subject to disciplinary measure taken in accordance with the Statute of the MBSA.
- b. The winner of the corresponding ranking tournament of last season shall be the Number One seed in the tournament and placed at the top of the draw into the Last 32 Round. All other seeded positions will be determined by the Provisional Ranking List as at the closing date of entries for each ranking tournament. The three highest ranked players to enter the tournament shall be seeded 2, 3 and 4, also in the Last 32 Round. The next twelve highest ranked players to enter the tournament will also be seeded into the Last 32(seeds 5 to 16) and drawn by lot to fill in the remaining 12 positions.
- c. The next 16 highest ranked players to enter the tournament shall be seeded 17-32 and drawn by lot into the last 48 Round.
- d. The next 16 highest ranked players to enter the tournament shall be seeded 33-48 and drawn by lot into the last 64 Round.
- e. If the number of entries in any ranking tournament exceeds 64 players, seeding will be done as per Rules 1c and 1d above.
- f. All other players shall be drawn into Round 1 and if applicable into the Preliminary Round of each tournament.
- g. Matches played in these ranking tournaments will be over the best of 5 frames up to and including the Last 48 Round. Last 32, Last 16, Quarter-Final and Semi-Finals will be over the best of 7 and the Final will be over the best of 9 frames.

2. Ranking Points

- a. Points will be awarded for every round reached.
- b. No points will be awarded if a player fails to turn up for his/her first match in a tournament. In cases of

sickness/mourning and on presentation of certificate the player will be awarded the entitled points without deductions.

- c. If a player plays his/her first match and fails to turn up for his/her next match in each tournament:
 - 1. If he/she informs the MBSA Secretary before 14.00hrs of match day that he/she cannot honour his/her fixture the ranking points entitled to him/her for reaching a particular stage shall be halved. In cases of sickness/mourning and on presentation of certificate the player will be awarded the entitled points without deductions for reaching that particular stage.
 - 2. If he/she informs the MBSA Secretary after 14.00hrs of match day that he/she cannot honour his/her fixture no points shall be awarded to the player and any further actions listed in these rules may be applied.
- d. Seeded players who lose their first match will only receive 50 per cent of the points which are usually won in that particular round.

3. Results

- a. The winners of every match must inform the MBSA of the result of his/her match, either by phone or by SMS, within 1 hour of the conclusion of his/her match.
- b. Failure to abide by this will render the player concerned liable to a 10 euro fine.

RANKING LISTS

- a. The Association shall have the following Ranking Lists regularly updated:
 - i. Official Ranking List – Will be issued at the end of next season and covers the ranking points won in the last two seasons.
 - ii. Provisional Ranking List – Will be issued after every Ranking Tournament and at the end of next season. This Ranking List will cover the points won last

season plus any other points won during next season. Points won last season will be dropped after the first ranking tournament of the following season.

- iii. One Year Ranking List – Will be issued at the end of next season and will cover the points won next season only.
- b. These Ranking Lists shall be used by the MBSA to establish criteria for seeding, promotion, relegation and international participation.

BILLIARDS

In the season 2014/15, the MBSA shall organize the following National Billiards competition, subject to an adequate number of entries and other logistical reasons:

Premier Division

1. Premier Division

- a. The Premier Division shall consist of a maximum of 16 players, divided into 4 groups of 4 players each, to be played on a Round Robin basis (home & away). Should the number of entrants be less than 16 the Competitions Board will modify this rule as necessary.
- b. Depending on the number of entrants the group stages will produce 8 qualifiers, who will play in the quarter finals.
- c. The Premier Division will be played with the time format system. Matches in the round robin groups will be over 90 minutes, quarter-final and semi-final matches will be over 2 hours and the Final will be over 150 minutes. Matches from the quarter-finals onwards will be played at a neutral venue.
- d. Players will be seeded into the various groups based on their past results in the National Billiards Championships.

GENERAL

The following bye-laws are applicable to all MBSA National Championships and tournaments, unless specifically provided for elsewhere in these Rules.

1. Walkovers

- a. All players who fail to honour their fixtures in the Premier, First, Second, Third, U/21, U/16 and Masters National Championships or in Ranking Tournaments without having informed the Association Secretary and his opponent before 14.00hrs of match day, shall incur the following penalties:
 - i. A fine of 50 euro – In the case where a referee is appointed, the fee of the referee is also to be paid by the player who failed to honour his/her fixture in addition to the 50 euro fine already imposed for failing to honour his/her fixture. The player will also be scratched from the respective Championship should a similar occurrence take place within the same season or the one following.
 - ii. A fine of 50 Euro – To all players who fail to honour their fixture in any ranking tournament and a deduction of 200 points from the current ranking list to be deducted with immediate effect. Furthermore the same player shall not be ranked for the first tournament he/she will take part in and the points he/she might gain from any future ranking tournaments during that season will be deducted by 50%.
 - iii. Suspension from all activities of the MBSA till the fine is paid.
- b. Should the player be prevented from informing the Association Secretary and his opponent as in Rule 1 (a) above, due to 'force majeure', he/she must inform the Association Secretary in writing at the earliest available opportunity. Should the reason/s for failing to honour the fixture be found to be valid, the Competitions Board will evaluate the circumstances and may decide on confirming or canceling any of the above penalties, without prejudice to its right to impose any sanctions it may deem fit.
- c. Should a player contact the MBSA Secretary before 14.00hrs of match day to inform him that he/she cannot not honour his/her fixture due to sickness/mourning of close family (spouse/children/parents/brothers or sisters):

- In the case of any of the national championships the particular player will be excused for that match if a medical/death certificate is presented to the MBSA within 5 working days from the day of that particular match or before his/her next fixture, whichever is the earlier. In the case of sickness the match will be awarded to the opponent as a white wash. In the case of mourning the fixture will be scheduled for another date.
 - In the case of a ranking tournament the particular player will be excused for that match if a medical/death certificate is presented until the final of that tournament is played. The match will be awarded to his/her opponent as a white wash but he/she will incur no penalties.
 - Any other reasons apart from those mentioned above for National Championships and Ranking Tournaments are to be supported by evidence. In these cases the particular player will be excused and no fines or further action will be taken by the MBSA but the match will be awarded to the opponent as a white wash.
- d. Any team (3 players) who fail to honour their fixtures in the Snooker Teams Championship without having informed the Association Secretary and their opponents before 14.00hrs of match day, shall incur a fine of 50 euro.
- e. Should the team be prevented from informing the Association Secretary and their opponents as in Rule 1 (c) above, due to 'force majeure', they must inform the Association Secretary in writing at the earliest available opportunity. Should the reason/s for failing to honour the fixture be found to be valid, the Competitions Board will evaluate the circumstances and may decide on confirming or canceling any of the above penalties, without prejudice to its right to impose any sanctions it may deem fit.
- f. Should a team representative contact the MBSA Secretary before 14.00hrs of match day to inform him that they could not honour their fixture for any reason, which needs to be supported by evidence, the match will be awarded to their opponents as a white wash without the need to play the return match. No fine or any further actions will be

taken by the MBSA unless the team fails to present the necessary evidence.

2. Withdrawals

- a. If a player participating in any of the National Championships withdraws or is scratched from the competition during the group stage before he/she has played all his/her first round matches, all matches played by that player will become null and void.
- b. If a player participating in any of the National Championships withdraws or is scratched from the competition during the group stage and he/she has played all his/her first round matches, his/her other matches in the second round will be awarded as walkovers to his/her opponents.
 - In Snooker Championships the number of frames won/lost for these walkovers will be adjusted to the walkover equivalent in that round (i.e. best of 7 frames – 4-0 etc.)
 - In the Billiards Championship/s the number of points won in a walkover will be the average of the points in favour at the end of all the group matches of the player receiving the walk over. The player giving the walk over will then lose the game by the average points of the player receiving the walk over as explained above to 0 points. (ie. If the player receiving the WO gets an average of 100 points from the points in favour at the end of all the group matches, the result for that game will be 100 – 0 in favour of the person receiving the WO).

3. Dress Code

- a. The Dress Code for players wherever it is required shall be:
 - **Men:** Long sleeved shirt (buttoned at the wrist), trousers (No jeans), waistcoat, bow tie or tie and shoes (No trainers).
 - **Ladies:** Long sleeved blouse/shirt, trousers/long skirt, waistcoat, bow tie or suitable neck wear and shoes (No trainers).

- b. Should a player fail to honour a fixture in the required Dress Code, he/she shall incur the following penalties:
 - i. On the first occasion a fine of € 20, the loss of the match and suspended from all MBSA competitions until the fine is paid.
 - ii. On the second occasion a fine of € 40, the loss of the match and suspended from all MBSA competitions until the fine is paid.
 - iii. On the third occasion the player will be scratched from the competition and where applicable relegated to a lower division for the following season.

4. Results and Result Sheets

- a. The winner/s of every match played in the MBSA National Championships must inform the MBSA of the match result by leaving a message or sending an SMS on/to the MBSA number 79999147 within 1 hour of the conclusion of the match. Failure to do so will make the player liable to a fine of 10 euro per infringement of this rule.
- b. Where applicable clubs must send in the official result sheets every week. All result sheets must be posted not later than the Saturday in any week where the club has hosted an MBSA match. Failure to send in the result sheets in this manner will make the club liable to a fine of 25 euro per infringement.

5. Times of Matches

All matches must start at 6.15pm unless otherwise indicated for specific matches. Players are advised to be present at the designated venue in good time for their match. In Snooker Championships/Tournaments should either one of the players not be present at the designated time then the offending player will forfeit one frame and lose a further frame every 5 minutes until the match is lost, without prejudice to any other penalties that the player may incur. In the Billiards Championship/s should either one of the players not be present at the designated time then the offending player will start the match with -50 points. He will lose a further 50 points every 5 minutes and will lose the match completely if he arrives 15 minutes later than the designated time, without prejudice to any other penalties that the player may incur.

6. International Participation

- a. Where possible the MBSA shall send its players to represent it at as many international competitions as possible, provided it feels that an acceptable standard has been reached.
- b. The current Malta Premier Division Champion at the closing date of entries to any international competition shall always be the No. 1 player to represent the MBSA.
- c. Where the possibility exists for more than 1 player to participate in these international competitions, the following shall apply:
 - i. In the case of the IBSF World Snooker Championships, the No. 2 player will be chosen from the Provisional Ranking List in force at the time of the closing date of entries for these championships. If any more players have the possibility to participate then these players will be chosen from the Provisional Ranking List in force at the time of the closing date of entries for these championships or as the Executive Board of the Association may deem appropriate.
 - ii. In the case of the IBSF World Billiards Championship any other players will be chosen based on their results in the last Premier Division Billiards Championship or as the Executive Board of the Association may deem appropriate.
 - iii. In the case of the EBSA European Snooker Championships, the No. 2 player will be the current Runner-up of the Premier Division. If any more players have the possibility to participate then these players will be chosen from the Provisional Ranking List in force at the time of the closing date of entries for these championships or as the Executive Board of the Association may deem appropriate.
 - iv. In the case of a European Billiards Championship any other players will be chosen based on their results in the last Premier Division Billiards Championship or as the Executive Board of the Association may deem appropriate.
 - v. In the case of the EBSA European Teams Snooker Championships the current Premier Division Champion will be the No. 1 player on the team. Other players will be chosen as required from the Provisional Ranking List in force at the time of the closing date for entries for these championships or as

the Executive Board of the Association may deem appropriate.

- vi. In the case of the IBSF World Masters Snooker Championship and the EBSA European Masters Snooker Championship the current Masters Snooker Champion will be the No.1 player to represent the MBSA. The No. 2 player will be chosen from the Provisional Ranking List in force at the time of the closing date of entries for these Championships. If any more players have the possibility to participate then these players will be chosen from the Provisional Ranking List in force at the time of the closing date of entries for these championships or as the Executive Board of the Association may deem appropriate.
- vii. In the case of the EBSA European Masters Teams Snooker Championships the current Masters Snooker Champion will be the No. 1 player on the team. Other player/s will be chosen as required from the Provisional Ranking List in force at the time of the closing date for entries for this Championship or as the Executive Board of the Association may deem appropriate.
- viii. In the case of the IBSF U/21 World Snooker Championship, the current U/21 Champion will be the No. 1 player to represent the MBSA. The No. 2 player will be chosen from the Provisional Ranking List in force at the time of the closing date of entries for this Championship. If any more players have the possibility to participate then these will be chosen from the Provisional Ranking List in force at the time of the closing date of entries for this Championship or as the Executive Board of the Association may deem appropriate.
- ix. In the case of the EBSA U/21 European Snooker Championship, the current U/21 Champion will be the No. 1 player to represent the MBSA. The No. 2 player will be the current Runner Up of the U/21 Championship. If any more players have the possibility to participate then these will be chosen from the Provisional Ranking List in force at the time of the closing date of entries for this Championship or as the Executive Board of the Association may deem appropriate.
- x. In the case of any other international competitions players will be chosen as required from the Provisional Ranking List in force at the time of the

closing date for entries to the international competition or as the Executive Board of the Association may deem appropriate.

- xi. In the case of friendly tournaments locally or abroad, the MBSA will have the option to choose from registered players as it sees fit.
- xii. When using the ranking list to determine eligible players, should there be two or more players tied on the same number of points, the following criteria will determine the higher position/s:
 - 1. Greater / greatest number of points won in the current season.
 - 2. Greater / greatest number of points won in the previous tournament of the current season. If players are still tied, then points won in the other previous tournaments of the current and previous season (one tournament at a time) will be taken into consideration.
 - 3. If players are still tied, then a play-off or play-offs will determine the eligible player.
- d. Subject to financial considerations and limitations, the No. 1 player shall have all his travel, accommodation and subsistence costs paid by the MBSA for any overseas event he/she participates in.
- e. Subject to financial considerations and limitations, the No. 2 player shall have all his travel and accommodation costs paid by the MBSA for any overseas event he/she participates in.
- f. Subject to financial considerations and limitations, in the case of a Teams international event overseas, all players will be offered the same conditions in terms of travel, accommodation and subsistence costs.
- g. At the discretion of the MBSA, the players representing the MBSA may be offered alternative conditions to participate in any international competition.
- h. Disciplinary action will be taken against those players who misbehave when representing the MBSA in tournaments both locally and abroad. In such circumstances the MBSA shall take any action it may deem fit.

7. Wild Card

A player may apply for a wild card when the Association issues a call for such applications. Players must apply in writing and should specify on what grounds they believe they should be considered for such wild card. The

Executive Board shall consider all applications received and shall decide if a wild card should be awarded. The Executive Board's decision shall be final.

8. Criteria for determining tied positions in the group stages of all MBSA snooker competitions.

The following criteria will be used to determine positions in the group stages of all MBSA snooker competitions in case one or more players finish with the same number of points:

- a. Better/best Frame Difference/Average.
- b. Greater/greatest number of Frames Won.
- c. Lesser/least number of Frames Lost.
- d. Direct Encounter Results.
- e. If players are still tied, then a play-off or play-offs will determine the positions.

9. Criteria for determining tied positions in the group stages of all MBSA Billiards competitions.

The following criteria will be used to determine positions in the group stages of all MBSA billiards competitions in case one or more players finish with the same number of points:

- a. Better/best Points Difference/Average.
- b. Greater/greatest number of Points Scored.
- c. Lesser/least number of Points Against.
- d. Direct Encounter Results.
- e. If players are still tied, then a play-off or play-offs will determine the positions.

10. Ranking Points Structure

Positions	Tournaments	Premier	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	Under 21	Under 16
1	400	1200	750	500	300	250	180
2	300	1000	650	420	260	200	150
3 & 4	250	870	570	350	220	160	120
5 - 6		800					
7 - 8		750					
9 - 12	200		500	300	180	120	100
13 - 16		600			150	100	75
17 - 20	150		430	250	150	100	75
21 - 24		450			130	80	50
25 - 32		250			100	70	30
33 - 40			330	200	130	80	
41 - 48	100				130		
49 - 64					75	50	
65 - 72			200	150	100	70	
73 - 80					75	50	
81 - 88	75				75	50	
89 - 96	50				50		
97 - 104	25				25		

11. Snooker Frames Structure

Competition stage	Tournaments	Premier	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	Under 21	Under 16	Masters
Final	9	11	9	7	7	9	7	9
Semi-Finals	7	9	7	5	5	7	5	7
Quarter-Finals	7	7	7	5	5	7	5	7
Last 16	7	-	7	5	5	5		5
Last 32	7							
Other Rounds	5	7	5	5	5	5	3	5

12. Billiards Time Structure (Minutes)

Competition stage	Premier
Final	150
Semi-Finals	120
Quarter-Finals	120
Last 16	-
Other Rounds	90