



THE UNIVERSITY of TEXAS  
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON

**Fall 2009 - UTHSC Men's & Women's**  
**Nine-ball Tournament Rules & Regulations**

**1. Players and Tournament Size:**

- A. Players will be placed in a 16 player single elimination bracket or a double elimination bracket depending upon the player participation.
- B. All players must be 18 years of age.
- C. Participants must complete a waiver agreement in order to participate.
- D. Registration is final on the deadline date, No one will be allowed to play if his or her name is not listed on the registration form and has not paid there entry fee before game day. Players may not make a payment on game day to play in the tournament.
- E. Each participant must come to play with proper picture ID. (Student, DL, etc)

**2. Playing Area and Conditions**

- A. All games will be played at the UT-Houston Recreation Center.
- B. Player's can park in the overflow parking area across from the recreation center.
- C. Cancellations can be made 30 minutes prior to the start of the first round, no refunds will be given.

**3. Equipment and Uniform**

- A. Cue sticks, chalk, and billiards pool balls will be provided.
- B. Players may bring there own cue sticks however the recreation center will not be responsible for lost or broken player equipment.

**4. Safety and Prevention**

- A. A player who is not playing may watch opponents at a reasonable distance to not interfere with game play.

**5. Participant Conduct and Fair Play**

- A. All players will be held to a reasonable standard of conduct and fair play. Violators of this standard will be subject to sport-specific penalties, and/or possible removal from the facility and future Recreational Sports events.
- B. Gentlemen's rules apply; all disputes must be settled by players. In the event a solution cannot be reached, both teams will forfeit, and removed from the tournament.

## **6. Time Regulations and Length of Game**

- A. All matches will be on a timed 25 minute clock.
- B. All players are guaranteed one or two games depending on the number of entries.
- C. The nine-ball tournament will be played until the nine ball is shot in or which player has the most matches won by then end of 25 minutes(2 out of 3, 3 out of 5, etc.)
- D. In the event of a tie during tournament play, the game shall end by the player who makes his/her next shot. A shot must be made within 5 minutes.

## **7. Forfeits and Starting Games**

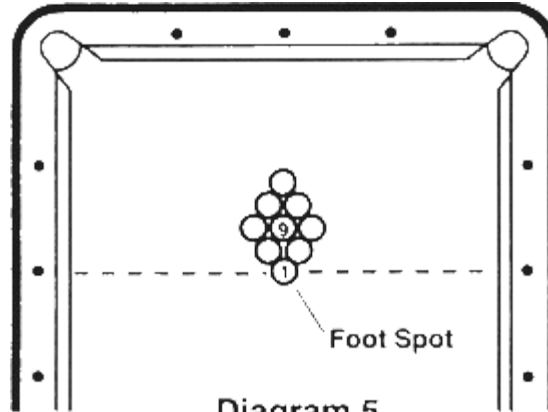
- A. Game time is forfeit time.
- B. Players are expected to come 30 prior to their tournament time in case of a previous forfeit or a quickly completed game.
- C. To decide who shoots first players will shoot a lag shot. With the balls in hand behind the head string, one player to the left and one to the right of the head spot, the balls are shot simultaneously to the foot cushion and back to the head end of the table. The player whose ball is the closest to the innermost edge of the head cushion wins the lag. The lagged ball must contact the foot cushion at least once. The player winning the lag or lot has the choice of performing the opening break shot or assigning it to the opponent.

## **8. Object of the game**

- A. To pocket the nine ball in a legal manner.
- B. On all shots including the break shot, a player must cause the cue ball to contact the lowest numerical ball on the table first before the cue ball strikes any other ball.
- C. Object balls do not have to be pocketed in order; any ball may be pocketed at any time during the game, so long as the lowest numerical ball is contacted first. Because nine-ball is not a [call shot](#) game, the 9 ball itself can also be pocketed in this manner for a win at any time in the game, including when it is pocketed on the break shot.
- D. If a player continues to make legal shots, they stay on the table until they miss, commit a foul or pocket the nine ball.
- E. After a miss, the incoming player must shoot from the position left by the previous player, but after a foul, the player may start with the cue ball anywhere on the table.

## **9. Racking the balls**

- A. The balls are racked in a diamond shape with the one ball positioned at the front and the nine ball placed in the center and all others are randomly placed tightly.



### **Diamond Shaped Rack**

- 1-Ball must be on the foot spot.
- 9-Ball must be in the center of the rack.

#### **10. Scratch on a legal break**

- A. If a player scratches on a legal break shot,
  1. All balls pocketed remain pocketed (exception, the 9-ball),
  2. It is a foul
  3. The table is open.

#### **11. Object balls jumped off the table on the break**

- A. If a player jumps an object ball off the table on the break shot, it is a foul and the incoming player has the option of
  1. Accepting the table in position and shooting
  2. Taking cue ball in hand behind the head string and shooting.

#### **12. Foul Penalty**

Opposing player gets cue ball in hand. This means that the player can place the cue ball anywhere on the table (does not have to be behind the head string except on opening break). This rule prevents a player from making intentional fouls which would put an opponent at a disadvantage. With "cue ball in hand," the player may use a hand or any part of a cue (including the tip) to position the cue ball. When placing the cue ball in position, any forward stroke motion contacting the cue ball will be a foul, if not a legal shot.

### **13. Object balls jumped off the table**

If any object ball is jumped off the table, it is a foul and loss of turn, unless it is the 9-ball, which is a loss of game. Any jumped object balls are not re-spotted.

### **14. Loss of Game**

A player loses the game by committing any of the following infractions:

1. Fouls when pocketing the 9-ball
2. Jumps the 9-ball off the table at any time.
3. Pockets the 9-ball when it is not the legal object ball.

Note: All infractions must be called before another shot is taken, or else it will be deemed that no infraction occurred.

### **15. Official and Supervisors Duties**

- A. The supervisor will be on-site for event management and general questions.

### **16. Miscellaneous**

- A. Participation in the Recreational Sports program is voluntary. UT-Houston is not responsible for injuries incurred while participating in Recreational Sports. Each participant is advised to carry personal health and accident insurance.
- B. Awards will be given to the winning team in each division of play (M, W). Awards must be picked up at the office within 30 days of the championships.



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## Billiards

### Individual Sports Activities Waiver Fall 2009

The University urges all participants in athletic and instructional activities to act in such a manner as to protect their own safety and the safety of others. The University further requires that all persons who participate sign the following agreement prior to taking part in the activity.

I fully understand that my participation in any of the UTHSC-H Recreation Center program activities is purely voluntary. I desire to participate and agree to act in a reasonable and prudent manner under the circumstances further understand that any University staff in attendance will be acting in an individual capacity only and will not be present as a University official or to ensure the safety of participants.

As a condition to my participation in the activity, I waive and release the State of Texas, The University of Texas System, The University of Texas Health Science Center - Houston and their Regents, officers, employees and agents from any claim that I may have for any damage to property or injury to my person that may result in whole or in part from my participation in the activity.

I understand that the University does not either expressly or impliedly require my participation in this activity. If I am a University employee, I do not consider the activity within the scope and course of my employment with the University of Texas Health Science Center - Houston.

Return this form by or before first game, to the league coordinator in person or mail to REC 182.

***I certify that I am affiliated with and meet eligibility requirements for participation in the Rec Sports program.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature