

World Rules vs International Rules

Rule	World Rules	International Rules
Legal Break	4 object balls hit a cushion	3-point rule, points earned by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potting a ball (1 pt. per ball, inc. 8-ball) • An unpotted ball fully crossing the half-way point of the table
Penalty for Illegal Break	Rerack. Opposing player has 2 visits (and must break)	Rerack. Opposing player has choice of breaker.
Deciding colour sets	Nominate if potting on break, else first legal ball potted.	First legal ball potted. Can only pot the colour you strike (cannot play one colour onto another). Must nominate if choice of colour not obvious or touching ball in open table
Shot clock	60 seconds, with a 30-second warning	45 seconds, with a 5-second countdown. One 15-second extension per player, per frame
Penalty for standard foul	Loss of turn and 2 visits to the incoming player	Loss of turn, and 1 visit to the incoming player. Cue ball in hand ANYWHERE on the table
Potting opponents ball	Standard foul (2 visits)	Loss of turn, no penalty (if otherwise a legal shot) ELSE Loss of frame (i.e. if playing deliberately into opponent's ball)
Total Snooker	No requirement to strike cushion after contact when in a "Total Snooker" (i.e. no straight-line shot to hit ball on)	Doesn't exist! Player must always pot a ball or strike a cushion after contact, else shot is a foul
Skill shots (potting opponent's ball when potting your own ball)	Standard foul (2 visits)	Legal, no penalty, continue visit
Rerack	Only when both players fail to contact any ball for 3 consecutive shots each	If no legal shot is possible (i.e. no cue-ball size gap available to hit a ball on)