

# SUMMARY OF WPA RULE CHANGES

2025-06-27

## USE OF EQUIPMENT (sections affected: 1.3, 6.12)

- It is no longer a foul to take your hands off the cue when it is on the table.
- A player is allowed to use their cue and any part of their body to aim and plan shots.
- When using a bridge, the cue must be supported by the head of the bridge.

## FOUL UNCERTAINTY (sections affected: 6.2, 6.3, Reg. 27)

- If the cue ball strikes a legal object ball and a non-legal object ball at approximately the same instant, and it cannot be determined which ball was hit first, it will be assumed that the legal object ball was struck first.
- If the cue ball strikes a legal object ball and a cushion at approximately the same instant, and it cannot be determined which was hit first, it will be assumed that the legal object ball was struck first.
- In general, if it cannot determine whether a player fouled, the shot will be considered legal.

## WHEELCHAIR COMPETITION (sections affected: 7)

- The Rules and Regulations for wheelchair competition have been expanded.

## SCOOP SHOT CLARIFICATION (sections affected: 8.18)

- If an unintentional miscue causes the cue ball to leave the playing surface, including partially or fully jumping over a ball, it is treated like a normal miscue and jump shot.

## ALL BALL FOULS (sections affected: Reg 21)

- “Cue Ball Fouls Only” is no longer allowed as an alternative to “All Ball Fouls.”

## NINE BALL (sections affected: 2.2, Reg 18)

- Racking with the 9 on the spot is now the default, but tournament officials may elect instead traditional “1 on the spot” racking.
- When a 3-ball rule is in effect to prevent soft breaks, balls must cross the head string instead of just touch it. In other words, the center (or resting point) of the ball must go beyond the head string.

## TEN BALL IMPROVEMENTS (sections affected: 9-9.9)

- Many things were clarified, especially dealing with called shots and safeties. There is no “safety” call in 10-ball.

## NEW RULES FOR ONE POCKET (sections affected: new 10)

- There are now official WPA rules for the game of one pocket.

## NEW RULES FOR BANK POOL (sections affected: new 11)

- There are now official WPA rules for the game of bank pool.

## NEW GUIDELINES FOR DOUBLES PLAY (sections affected: new Reg 29)

- There are now official guidelines for how doubles events are run.

## PLAYERS ASSUMING THE ROLES OF REFEREES: (sections affected: new Regs 30 and 31)

- There are now official guidelines for how racking and foul disputes should be handled when no referee is present.

## SMALL CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS (sections affected: all)

- Minor corrections, clarifications, and improvements have been made throughout the Rules and Regulations.