

## A Beginners Guide To

# Ball Pool



8

**Object of the game:** American 8 ball is played with 15 object balls, numbered one through fifteen and a cue ball. Each player is required to legally pot the 8 ball after all their nominated balls (either spots or stripes) have been potted.

**Racking the balls:** The object balls are racked in a triangle shape, with the eight ball in the centre of the third row and the other balls in random order, ensuring the two balls in the bottom corners are different (one is a spot and one a stripe). The front ball is positioned on the spot. The game begins with cue ball in hand behind the head string/spot.

**Legal break shot:** The rules governing the break shot are the same as for other shots except: a) the breaker must pocket a ball or drive at least four object balls to a rail, b) If the cue ball is pocketed or the requirements of the opening break are not met, it is a foul, and the incoming player has cue ball in hand. After the break, the table remains open regardless of balls potted.

**In hand:** When the cue ball is in hand, the player may place the cue ball anywhere on the bed of the table, except in contact with an object ball. He may continue to adjust the position of the cue ball until he takes a shot.

**Fouls:**

- No object ball is potted or contacts a rail.
- An object ball comes to rest other than on the bed of the table.
- Cue ball strikes an opponent's ball first
- Cue ball is potted

When a player commits a foul, their turn is over and the incoming player is awarded ball in hand; prior to their first shot.

The game is forfeit after three consecutive fouls.

**End of game:** The game is immediately lost if the 8 ball is potted before all other of the players balls, in the wrong pocket or leaves and comes to rest off the table. The winner is the player legally pocketing the 8 ball.

