



BUCS-UPC NINE-BALL POOL CHAMPIONSHIPS REGULATIONS 2019-20



Article 8 Competitions organised by the Universities Pool Council (UPC)

8.1 Eligibility to compete

8.1.1 Eligibility of players

To be eligible to compete in any competitions organised by the UPC players must fulfil the eligibility criteria of British Universities College Sports (BUCS) and/or Student Sport Ireland (SSI).

8.1.2 Proof of Eligibility

Proof of student status will be required at the registration for a competition. This will normally require a student card issued by the authorities of that institution bearing the name, student number and photograph of the student. The card must also have a date of validity or expiry date. Undergraduate students who are not full-time should also provide a letter from their head of department or the university registrar detailing the number of credits they are undertaking in the current academic year. Postgraduate students require a similar letter stating that they are undertaking a programme of study no less than fifty percent of the full-time student programme in accordance with 8.1.1 above. Should the card not bear a photograph of the student, photographic proof of identity shall be required. Examples of proof include legal documents such as a passport or photographic driving licence. Should the card not be valid or have an expiry date a letter will be required from the university registrar confirming that the person is a current internally registered student.

The burden of proof shall fall on the individual to prove their eligibility to compete. Any queries on eligibility must be made to the UPC in advance. The decisions of the UPC in this case are final.

Players who have been registered at an event are normally deemed to have had their eligibility confirmed by that fact. However, the UPC reserves the right to investigate any eligibility queries that are lodged after the fact and, if proof be strong, the Tournament Director shall be able to impose an interim suspension on any player whose eligibility is called into question during an event.

8.1.3 Eligibility of institutions

Eligible institutions are those in membership of the BUCS and SSI as detailed in the relevant competition regulations.

8.2 Entry into tournaments

For competitions where entry and fee payment is direct to the UPC, entries will only be accepted if they are officially received before the relevant closing date. Once an entry is accepted the institution is liable for payment of all entry fees in full and entry fees will not be refunded unless a team is excluded due to a decision by the UPC.

For competitions where entry and fee payment are managed by a third-party (or a third-party online entry system), entries will only be accepted if they are made via the designated entry system and received before the relevant closing date. Entry via this third-party system will be contractually governed by its specific terms and conditions and act as a commitment under these terms for the payment of competition fees within the timeframes outlined. Once paid, entry fees will not be refunded unless a team is excluded due to a decision by the UPC.

8.3 Tournament organisation

Tournaments will be run by an organising committee composed of the Tournament Director and Assistant Tournament Directors.

8.4 Perpetual trophies

Perpetual trophies may be given into the custody of the winners of the various competitions but remain at all times the property of the UPC. Once in custody of the winners they shall be responsible for the safety of the trophy.

SCHEDULE 3 REGULATIONS FOR ORGANISATION OF COMPETITIONS

A. General

1. The UPC will undertake to run five competitions as follows:

- (i) Men's Eight-ball Pool Competition;
- (ii) Women's Eight-ball Pool Competition;
- (iii) Irish Intervarsity Pool Competition;
- (iv) Student Eight-ball Home Internationals;
- (v) Nine-ball Pool Competition;
- (vi) Snooker Competition.

2. Control of all competitions is vested in the organising committee. In all matters, the decisions of the Tournament Director during an event are final. This includes any matters that may arise from time to time that are not included within these rules. No one other than the tournament directing staff may mark the official results sheets or make any official announcements.

3. Entry: General

Entry criteria are only deemed complete when the necessary conditions of the Tournament Director have been met.

4. Entry: Team Competitions

(a) Eligibility of Players

Only players listed on the official entry form will be eligible to play in the tournament.

(b) Entry of multiple teams by an institution

An institution wanting to field more than one team must list teams in order of strength with the first team being the strongest and so on. There is no limit on the number of teams an institution can enter.

Teams may not be guaranteed entry dependent on the numbers entering a competition. Should there be a limit to the number of teams and the number of entrants is in excess of this number then some teams will be placed on a reserve list with the teams participating selected by the ranking list, and then by ballot if rankings are equal. Priority will first be given to institution first teams, followed by teams that are playing at Championship/Trophy level if one exists for that competition. Following these teams, priority will be given to second teams, then third teams, and so forth. The UPC will inform the appropriate teams if they are likely to be placed on a reserve list.

(c) Addition of names to the entry form

Teams wishing to add names to those on the official entry form after the entry deadline may only do so via the authorised signatory on the official entry form. Names cannot be directly added to teams but must be added to the list of reserves. The promotion of reserves into a team then must be done in accordance with (d) below and can only be added to the bottom ranked team from that institution.

(d) Withdrawal of players

In the event of a player withdrawal from a team a player may be promoted from the team ranked directly below, or from the reserve list if the withdrawal is from the lowest ranked team from that institution, so that the team contains the minimum number of players to form a team.

The player promoted from the team ranked directly below *must* be selected according to the rankings of players in that team as given on the entry form. All reserves are ranked equally but below any players in a team on the initial entry form.

If players in a team withdraw and the accommodation is subsidised by the UPC, then the amount of subsidy will be charged to the institution for each player not attending.

(e) Promotion of reserves

For events in the United Kingdom changes made after the entry deadline but before the publication of the draw will be subject to a surcharge of £10.00 per player. Any changes made after the publication of the draw will be subject to a surcharge of £20.00 per player. For events in the Republic of Ireland the relevant charges are €10.00 and €20.00 respectively.

(f) Demotion of players

In the event of an institution attending with less than the minimum number of players to form a team and no players can be promoted from the team ranked directly below or from the reserve list, then it may be possible, at the sole discretion of the Tournament Director, to move players from a higher ranked team to a lower ranked team if that would result in the institution being able to field a team that would otherwise have to be withdrawn. In such a case it will be possible to demote the lowest player from the higher ranked team to the team that is ranked directly below, provided the higher ranked team retains the minimum number of players required to form a team.

(g) Withdrawal of teams

A withdrawal of teams from an institution will forfeit all entry fees and accommodation fees if applicable.

Institutions who withdraw a team after the publication of the draw will be required to lodge a bond of £50.00, or €50.00 for institutions based in the Republic of Ireland, for the next UPC event they enter, with the bond forfeited should they again withdraw before the completion of fixtures at the event. This requirement will expire if that institution does not enter a team within three seasons. If an institution withdraws a team for a second time within three seasons, they will also be referred to the Compliance Procedures.

(h) Outstanding fines and bonds

Entry into the tournament is subject to the payment of outstanding fines and bonds before the tournament begins. Any fines which are not paid within a season of being imposed will increase by 10% each season.

5. Entry: Individual Competitions

(a) Entry limits

The total number of entrants to each individual competition may be limited. Only players who are also playing the in relevant team competition may enter the individual competition except those falling under regulation (d) below.

(b) Entry quotas

Each institution will be required to rank their entrants. Each institution sending a team will be given an equal quota of places in the relevant individual competition up to the maximum number of players in each team. Players will be selected according to their ranking on the entry form. Seeded players are guaranteed entry and will not form part of their institution's quota unless they are from an institution unable to field a team. All entrants must be named on their institutions' team entry form and play for their team in the associated team competition, failure to do so will disqualify the team from taking part in the event.

(c) Withdrawal of institution teams

Should a team withdraw from the event that institution will forfeit the equivalent number of places in the individual championship. Should a withdrawal leave an institution with no teams in the relevant team competition, that institution will then be treated as falling under(d) below.

(d) Entry of players from institutions without a team

An institution unable to field a team shall be entitled to enter a maximum of two players to compete in the Men's Eight-ball Individual Championship and the Irish Intervarsity Individual Championship, and these players must also be ranked. Entry into the Nine-ball Pool Championships and Women's Eight-ball Individual Championships is restricted to one player per institution without a team.

If players from institutions without a team withdraw and the accommodation is subsidised by the UPC, then the amount of subsidy will be charged to that institution for each player not attending.

(e) Replacement of withdrawals in advance of the draw

Should an institution wish to replace a withdrawn player they may do so by notifying the Tournament Director. Such players are treated in the same way as an addition to a team. Once the draw has been conducted, seeded players will not be replaced and a bye will be entered into the draw.

6. Registration

(a) General

Teams and individuals must register before taking part in any tournament. At registration the eligibility of players will be ascertained in accordance with the relevant eligibility regulations.

(b) Burden of proof

It is the responsibility of each player to ensure in advance that they have the required documents to prove their eligibility. Without the correct documentation players will not be permitted to compete. No exceptions will be made. National Union of Students (NUS) cards are not an acceptable proof of eligibility. Any queries should be addressed to the UPC in advance of the competition.

(c) Changes after registration

After registration, no changes may be made to the personnel of any team.

(d) Late registration: Teams

If all players in a team are not registered before the time announced for the start of the team event they will be scratched from the competition. Should only part of a team have registered before the announced start time they will be allowed to play their match as long as they have the minimum number of players required by the regulations of the competition. Should they have fewer than this number they will default that match and all other matches until the required number have registered.

(e) Late registration: Individuals

Players who are not registered before the announced closing time for registrations shall be scratched from the event.

7. Captains' meeting

Before a tournament commences all captains, and individual players from institutions not sending a team, must attend the Captains' meeting where details of the organisation of the competition will be given. Captains are then obliged to communicate the details to their teams' players. Failure to attend this meeting will incur a fine of £10.00, or €10.00 for events in the Republic of Ireland, which must be paid before any representative of that institution will be allowed to play in the tournament.

8. Practice

No practice will be allowed on any table once play in the competition is in progress.

9. Player behaviour

(a) General

Players are expected to behave in a disciplined and sporting manner and abide by the rules and constitution of the UPC. Players must not behave in a way that is negative towards other players, the UPC, tournament directing staff, the venue in which the Tournament is taking place or members of its staff, or the official Tournament accommodation, if one be designated, or members of its staff.

(b) Quietness

Players should maintain a decent level of quietness at all times when matches are in progress.

(c) Supporters

Institutions are held responsible for the good behaviour of their supporters attending an event.

(d) Concession

If a player unscrews her/his jointed playing cue when the opponent is at the table it will be considered a concession and the match be awarded accordingly. This does not apply if the player is unscrewing a piece of equipment which is not normally part of the playing cue, for example, an extension. Players should refrain from doing this when the opponent is taking a shot.

10. Reasonable Adjustment

The UPC values players from all backgrounds and aims to create and maintain an inclusive playing environment where everyone is encouraged to reach his or her full potential. The UPC commits to the concept of reasonable adjustments. Where any player with a pre-existing condition feels that this may apply to them at a forthcoming UPC event, the UPC should be notified at the earliest opportunity before the event begins and if applicable appropriate medical evidence supplied in order for any adjustment to be made. Any situation arising during a UPC event should be brought to the attention of the Tournament Director immediately, again with any available medical evidence if applicable. Players are wholly responsible for informing the UPC where a reasonable adjustment is required. Adjustments cannot be made in retrospect and the UPC cannot be expected to make an adjustment of which it has not been informed. Adjustments will be made until the end of the current playing season unless the player informs the UPC otherwise. A new application for reasonable adjustment must be made separately for each subsequent season and will be considered on its merits. The UPC will handle each case in the strictest confidence.

11. Slow play

The Tournament Director may place a limit on the time a player has to take a shot according to the rules of the game at their discretion. These limits are given in Rule I of the World Eight-ball Pool Federation (WEPF) rules for Eight-Ball events, and in the World Pool-Billiard Association (WPA) regulations for Nine-Ball events.

12. Dress code

Unless specified otherwise, players must be dressed according to the following specification:

Male: formal collared shirts or polo shirts; waistcoats are permitted if worn over a formal collared shirt; black tailored trousers and black shoes.

Female: formal collared shirts/blouse or polo shirts; waistcoats are permitted if worn over a formal collared shirt/blouse; black tailored trousers or knee length skirt and black shoes.

Strictly not permitted: any hooded top, any form of hat or cap.

Definitions

Shirts: formal collared shirts or polo shirts which must be plain. The shirts may not bear any writing or insignia on their fronts or sleeves other than the institutional crest and/or name. A sponsor's logo and/or name are also permitted. On the reverse the players name and number may be written, the name may take nickname form provided that it is not deemed to be offensive. A sponsor's logo and/or name are also permitted. Only waistcoats can be worn over the shirt. No T-shirts or sports jerseys. No shirts with grandfather collars.

Trousers: black tailored trousers must be worn. No studs; no combat styles; no jeans; no tracksuit or jogging bottoms. No trousers which contain pinstripes.

Shoes: black; no trainers; no smart-casuals

The dress code applies to both players involved in any frame. Players failing to comply with the dress code will forfeit their current frame and one successive frame for each five minutes that they do not conform to the dress code. Should both players in an individual match fail to conform to the dress code two frames will be removed from the match distance for every five minutes both players fail to conform to the dress code. Should there be only one possible frame remaining so that the match is tied in the final frame, then it will be played but the winning player's opponent in the next match will start one frame to the good. If two players fail to conform to the dress code in a team match then that frame will be declared void and removed from the matchsheet. In the Nine-ball Team Competition, matches will be treated as individual matches under this regulation.

The dress code also applies to any players collecting mementoes at the presentation ceremony. Players not conforming to the dress code will not be allowed to take part in the presentation ceremony and will not be entitled therefore to collect any mementoes or prize money. Should part of a team be missing from a presentation ceremony any team prize fund will be reduced pro rata for each player not present up to the minimum number of players that can form a team.

If any individual or team captain is in doubt as to the interpretation of any of these stipulations, they are advised to contact the Tournament Director prior to the event or at the earliest opportunity. The decision of the Tournament Director shall be final as regards to whether a player conforms to the dress code.

13. Playing area restrictions

Should a playing area be defined then only players involved in a frame may enter the area, and they must conform to the dress code.

14. Team competitions: general regulations

(a) Match card

One captain shall complete their part of the match card and then supervise their opposite number doing the same.

(b) Team order

The team order may change from match to match however no changes are permitted once the match card is completed.

(c) Reporting of results

The captain of the winning team, or the captain of the first team listed on the match card if the result is a draw, must return the match card to the competition desk immediately after the conclusion of the match.

(d) Prize Money

A prize fund may be available for team competitions. Where it is available prize monies will only be paid out when the tournament has concluded in accordance with the Constitution and relevant Schedules.

The prize fund will be determined by multiplying the number of teams entered by the minimum number of players that can form a team. The resulting figure is multiplied by four and then rounded down to the nearest £50. This number will form the winner's prize for the team championship. Prizes for subsequent placings will equal half of the prize money paid out to the level immediately above rounded up to the nearest five. The prize money will cease to be paid when the final total payable is less than £20 per the minimum number of players that can form a team. The prize fund for a winner will be capped at £200 per the minimum number of players that can form a team and the other prizes awarded according to the formula. The winning prize for trophy and shield tiers will be equal to the figure given to the losing semi-finalists in the championship tier, and the other prizes awarded according to the formula. For the Irish Intervarsities event, these amounts shall be in Euros rather than pounds sterling.

15. Individual competitions: general regulations

(a) Individual Championship and Trophy

For all events apart from the Student Eight-ball Home Internationals there will be an 'Individual Championship' (higher tier) and an 'Individual Trophy' (lower tier). This is subject to the field of the Individual Trophy being at least a fifth of the total number of individual entrants with a minimum number of 16 entrants in the Individual Trophy; if these criteria are not met there will be no Individual Trophy for that event and all entrants will play in the Individual Championship.

(b) Selection of tier

All players in institution first teams, as well as unattached individuals, will play in the Individual Championship. All non-first team players will play in the Individual Trophy level unless their institution instructs the UPC to put them in the Individual Championship; This instruction is to be sent to the Tournament Director by e-mail from institution main contact's email address with the deadline being the same as the entry deadline. Any previous winner of the Individual Trophy cannot play in that event again in subsequent seasons.

(c) Format of Individual Championship

The Individual Championship will follow a single elimination format. Based on rankings, a number of players will be seeded through to the first round proper. This number will be equal to one eighth of the total number of players in the first round proper. A number of qualifying rounds will be held to reduce the remaining unseeded players down to the correct number of qualifiers to join the seeded players in the first round proper. The number of qualifying rounds will be kept to a minimum subject to there being at least one full round of qualifying round matches immediately before the first round proper so that no unseeded player will receive a 'bye' through to the first round proper. This regulation does not apply to the Student International Masters where there are no seeded players.

(d) Order of seedings

The holder will automatically be allocated the first seed and remaining seeds taken in order from the ranking list. If individuals have a tied ranking, then the most recent results will be used to break the tie. If this does not break the tie, lots will be drawn to decide seedings. If there are fewer entrants with ranking points than seeds required, then the number of seeds will be reduced to the number of players with ranking points. Seedings will only apply to the Individual Championship.

(e) Format of Individual Trophy

The Individual Trophy will follow a similar format to the Individual Championship with reduced match race lengths, apart from the Snooker Individual Trophy which will follow a double elimination single frame format. There are no seeded players in the Individual Trophy and no ranking points will be given to results in the Individual Trophy.

(f) Reporting of results

The winner must report the result of the match and bring the cue ball to the competition desk immediately after the conclusion of the match.

(g) Prize Money

A prize fund may be available for the Individual Championship. Where it is available prize monies will only be paid out when the tournament has concluded in accordance with the Constitution and relevant Schedules. The Individual Trophy will have no prize fund as well as no BUCS ranking points attributed to it.

The prize fund will be determined by doubling and rounding down the number of individual competition entrants to the nearest £50. This number will form the winner's prize. Prizes for subsequent placings will equal half of the prize money paid out to the level immediately above rounded up to the nearest five. The prize money will cease to be paid when the final total payable is less than twenty-five pounds sterling before any rounding up, or at the Last 32 stage of the Eight-ball Individual Championship; Last 16 of the Nine-ball Individual Championship; and Quarter-finals of the Women's Individual Championship. The prize fund for a winner will be capped at £500 and the other prizes awarded according to the formula. The minimum prize fund will be £100 to the winner and the other prizes awarded according to the formula. For the Irish Intervarsities event, these amounts shall be in Euros rather than pounds sterling.

16. Early departure

Players or teams who have to leave a tournament, for whatever reason, while still involved should inform the Tournament Director that they are scratching from the tournament. Teams failing to fulfil their fixtures in a group will have their records expunged. Such scratches will be referred to the Compliance Procedures.

17. Presentation Ceremonies

All medal and trophy winners are expected to attend the appropriate presentation ceremony. Failure to attend will result in their memento and any prize monies being withheld as detailed in regulation 12 above. The presentation ceremony includes the official photographs. If, in the opinion of the Tournament Director, the presentation ceremony will be substantially later than scheduled this regulation may be relaxed and mementoes be awarded for events that have concluded in advance of the conclusion of the whole tournament.

18. Safekeeping and return of perpetual trophies

(a) Guarantee of safekeeping and return

The winning team awarded a perpetual trophy must provide assurances to the UPC to guarantee its safekeeping and return. The winning team shall, on being presented with the trophy, read and sign the following: 'we [winning team] having been declared to have won the [perpetual trophy name] for the current year, and having the same delivered to us by or on behalf of the UPC, do hereby, collectively and individually, engage to return the said trophy to the UPC on or before the opening day of the competition for the said trophy in the following year, or after a calendar year if no competition is organised, in good order and condition, and in accordance to the rules of the UPC to which also we have subscribed our respective names.'

(b) Safekeeping

The location in which the trophy will be kept must be sent in writing to the relevant Tournament Director. Teams must either provide a copy of the insurance policy covering the trophy against any damage or theft whilst it is kept at that location or pay a bond which will be refunded on the safe return of the trophy. If the trophy is being kept by an institutional third party, such as at an Athletic Union, then an official letter from them stating that the trophy is covered against damage or theft will be accepted in lieu of the insurance policy. Failure to supply the required documents within one month of receiving the trophy will be penalised by a fine of £20.00, or €20.00 for institutions in the Republic of Ireland. This will increase at the rate of £10.00 or €10.00 respectively per week until the required documents are supplied or the total accumulated fine reaches £100.00, or €100.00 for institutions in the Republic of Ireland, at which point the trophy must be returned immediately or legal action will be taken to recover the trophy.

(c) Return

The trophy shall be returned at the start of the following sporting year's competition for the same trophy. It shall be returned polished and in good condition with the winning team and year engraved in the correct place in the following format: "year" "team name" "team letter or ordinal number" (e.g. 2004-2005 University of "A" or "1st"). If in the opinion of the Tournament Director the trophy is not returned in good condition and correctly engraved, then a fine of £50 will be levied. For institutions in the Republic of Ireland this sum will be €50.00. Should the trophy be lost or damaged whilst in the custody of the winning team they shall refund the cost of the trophy or the cost of thoroughgoing repair in addition to any other penalty which the UPC may impose.

Exception: Student Eight-ball Home Internationals Trophies

If the Trophy has been won by Ireland Students or Northern Ireland Students then it must be returned at the Irish Intervarsity Championships. If it has been won by England Students, Scotland Students or Wales Students then it must be returned at the Eight-ball Championships. Engraving will be undertaken by the UPC.

F. Nine-ball Pool Competition

1. Competitions

Will be composed of 4 competitions:

- (i) 'Team Championship', the senior title for institution first teams only.
- (ii) 'Team Trophy', open to all teams unless they have qualified for the Team Championship.
- (iii) 'Individual Championship', the senior individual title for players in institution first teams, unattached individuals without a team, and players who elect to play at that level as by regulation A15(b).
- (iv) 'Individual Trophy', open to all non-first team players who do not elect to play at Individual Championship level.

2. Playing rules

The competition shall be played according to the rules of the World Pool-Billiard Association (WPA).

3. Entry fees

The entry fee for each player is £33.75. There will be no accommodation included for the 2019-20 event and entrants must source accommodation themselves if required.

4. Races

Races in the team competitions will be first to five racks for all sets played in the match. Races for all Individual Championship matches will be first to five racks, and races for all Individual Trophy matches will be first to four racks.

In all matches each player will lag for break where the winner shall determine who breaks in the first rack. In each subsequent rack, the winner of the previous rack will break.

5. Timeouts

Each player will be allowed one timeout per match and shall be for a maximum of five minutes. A timeout may only be taken in between racks. A player may not call a timeout before the first rack has begun. Once a match is called, play must begin. Should any player fail to report within five minutes of the announcement of their match will forfeit the first rack as detailed in (c) above, they will also forfeit their timeout. Should a player leave whilst a rack is in progress, the player shall forfeit that rack and each succeeding rack for each five minute period the player is absent from the table, and the player shall also forfeit their timeout. Should a player take longer than the five minutes allowed the player shall forfeit the next rack and each succeeding rack for each further five minutes absent from the table. In matches without a referee the player must report the taking of a timeout to one of the Tournament Directing staff who will time the timeout. During the timeout it is forbidden to have a conversation with anybody. Other unsporting conduct is not allowed during a timeout on penalty of defaulting the match. The player who has not called a timeout must be seated in the immediate vicinity of the table on which the match is being played during the timeout. Should that player leave they will be deemed to have used a timeout. Should any provisions of this rule be violated twice during a match the player will forfeit the match.

6. Team Competitions

(a) Teams are composed of four players, any three of which will play in a given match. The minimum number of players a team may enter shall be three. Teams will not be allowed to commence a match with less than three players.

(b) The competition shall be conducted over two phases. In the first phase teams will be placed in groups where play will follow a double elimination format. The second phase shall be single elimination until a winner is determined.

(c) Match format: A match shall be composed of three sets. Each set involves a player from the first named team playing against an opponent from the second named team as determined by the match card. All three sets will be played simultaneously. Once a team wins two sets that team shall be declared the winner. Should a third set still be in progress it shall stop immediately and a 2-0 result will be recorded. The completed match card must give the scores of all three sets.

(d) Lateness: a team failing to report within five minutes of the announcement of their match will forfeit a rack in each set. They will forfeit further racks in the same manner for each further five minutes. A team defaulting twice will be disqualified and their record expunged. Players are responsible for knowing the time of their match and to listen to announcements made regarding the commencement of their match. A team will not be permitted to start a match with less than three players present in accordance with (a) above. Should two teams involved in the winners bracket be deemed to have defaulted the match, they shall both be disqualified from the event as two teams cannot take up the one place available in the one loss bracket.

(e) For the first phase teams will be divided into groups each containing a maximum of eight teams. Should there be less than eight teams in a group byes will be allocated as per the tournament format.

(f) Teams will be divided into tranches based on the ranking list as determined by the Tournament Director. The first tranche will contain the seeded first teams, where the holder will automatically be seeded first. The remainder of the first teams will be allocated to the tranches as per the ranking list. Once all first teams have been allocated, second teams will be then allocated to the tranches as per the ranking list. This is then followed by the allocation of third teams and so on.

(g) The draw will be made in such a way that teams from the same institution will not be drawn together in the same group as far as is practicable. No more than one team from each tranche shall be drawn out to each group. The draw shall be done in ascending order of tranches. The group containing the first seed will be denoted Group A, the group containing the second seed will be denoted Group B, and so on.

(h) Following the allocation of teams to their respective groups, the teams shall be placed on the tournament format in position according to their seeding which will determine the first round of fixtures in each group.

(i) Should teams withdraw after the draw has been made and before the Tournament has begun teams may be reallocated to different groups to equalise the number of teams in each group as far as possible.

(j) Teams will be ranked in the groups as detailed in the tournament format. If two teams obtain a tied ranking with both teams having won a match in the group, and the ranking has a bearing on qualification for the Championship playoffs, those two teams will be asked to play an additional match to determine the higher ranked team. The match will be played as detailed in regulation (c) above but each set will be first to a single rack.

(k) Second phase

On conclusion of the first phase teams will qualify for the playoffs as follows:

The two highest placed first teams in a group will qualify for the Championship playoffs. Should a first team not win a match in the group stage but still be one of the two highest placed first teams, they will not be entitled to take their place in the playoffs and a bye will be given to their would be opponents. For teams who receive a bye during the group stage, this will not count as winning a match. The draw for the second phase will be determined by the finishing positions in the groups and will be detailed in the tournament format.

The two highest placed teams in each group that have not qualified for the Championship playoffs will qualify for the Trophy playoffs. The draw for the second phase will be determined by the finishing positions in the groups and will be detailed in the tournament format.

7. Individual Competitions

(a) Draw: The draw for the qualifying rounds and first round proper shall be done so that players from the same institution do not meet in these rounds as far as is practicable.

(b) Byes: Any byes will be allocated to players in order of their ranking on their institution's entry form. Should remaining byes be less than the number of equally ranked players from each institution then the remaining byes will be drawn at random. The presence of seeded players on an entry form is disregarded and all other players are moved up accordingly.

(c) Seeds: Seeded players will enter the Individual Championship at the first proper round and cannot meet in that round nor the subsequent two rounds provided they remain in the competition.

(d) Lateness: players failing to report within five minutes of the announcement of their match will forfeit the first rack and shall forfeit the next rack and each succeeding rack for each further five minutes. Players are responsible for knowing the time of their match and to listen to announcements made regarding the commencement of their match.

8. Mementoes

Will be awarded to the following depending on the funds of the UPC:

- (i) Plaques to the winning teams in the Championship and Trophy;
- (ii) Medals to the members of the winning teams in the Championship and Trophy;
- (iii) Medals to the members of the runner-up teams in the Championship and Trophy;
- (iv) Medals to the members of the semi-finalist teams in the Championship and Trophy;
- (v) Mementoes to the winner of the Individual Championship and Trophy;
- (vi) Mementoes to the runner-up of the Individual Championship and Trophy;
- (vii) Mementoes to both semi-finalists of the Individual Championship and the bronze medal match winner in the Individual Trophy.