

Universities Pool Council

Guidance notes for entries

UPC Irish Intervarsities Pool Championships: Antrim Sports Club, Antrim, NI

14-15 February 2025

Individual Championship and Trophy

14-16 February 2025

Team Championship and Trophy

Teams are made up five or six players, five of which play in a match

Entry fee for institutions in the Republic of Ireland: €40.00 per person

Entry fee for institutions in Northern Ireland: £35.00 per person

This fee includes entry into the individual competition, and the team competition if entering as part of a team

Players are required to source their own accommodation and travel to the venue

Closing date for a Sports Office or equivalent official to send their team entry forms to the Tournament Director (declan.connelly@upc-pool.org.uk): Friday 31st January 2025 @ 11:59pm

UPC are delighted to be partnered with [Ultimate Pool](#). and their affiliate businesses!

ULTIMATE POOL

[Ultimate Pool](#) is the World Leading 8 Ball Promotion – We are committed to growing grass roots pool at all levels and by sponsoring events, we hope to continue to introduce Ultimate Pool to a new audience and inspire the future stars of professional pool.

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OMNIA HEALTH GROUP

[Omnia Therapy](#) was developed to make therapy accessible to all and to support people who may need help managing their mental health. We also look for people who are on the journey of becoming therapists themselves. Therapy is conducted online and in person based upon the individual's needs. We have therapists who specialise in mental agility which can be vital in cue sports.

CUE TOWN

LONDON

Cue Town is a snooker/pool cues and accessories online business, where Cue Town would look to sponsor the snooker event to promote our snooker cue range: www.cuetown.com.



Additionally, this event is affiliated with the [Ultimate Pool Ireland](#) branch of the Ultimate Pool brand. Ultimate Pool Ireland runs eight-ball pool events on the Island of Ireland.

Section 1 – Entries submission

- Entries will only be accepted if the **Player Details Form** is provided to Tournament Director, Declan Connelly, by the closing date of **Friday 31st January 2025**. This needs to be sent to the following e-mail address: declan.connelly@upc-pool.org.uk.
- **Players at the event will only be allowed to play if the required fees are paid before entering.** The entry fees are given in detail on page 3. **There will be no exceptions given on the day.**
- The UPC values players from all backgrounds and aims to create and maintain an inclusive playing environment where everyone is encouraged to reach their full potential. If any of your players declare themselves as disabled, and/or require **reasonable adjustments** to compete, please indicate this on the form and provide details to your sports office or equivalent so that they may make the UPC aware.
- If you have any additional queries about this event, please contact declan.connelly@upc-pool.org.uk or message the [Facebook page](#) at the earliest opportunity.

Section 2 – Completing the Player Details Form

- This form is designed to provide UPC with the full details of your entry, including contact details, fees due for entering, and a complete list of players at time of entering.
- **Please read carefully and complete the sections in blue (for Sports Offices or equivalents) and yellow (for the main contact player) in full**, prior to emailing the form to Tournament Director, Declan Connelly, at declan.connelly@upc-pool.org.uk.
- If your Sports Office or equivalent refuses to sign their part of the declaration but you are still interested in still participating, please let the Tournament Director know and we can discuss your entries further.
- Ensure all players are submitted into the correct individual competition (see [section 4](#)). It is up to the institution to make the Tournament Director aware of any non-first team players that wish to play at Individual Championship level on the form. Any changes cannot be accommodated following the draw.
- Please ensure your rankings of players are correct on the form: These will be used to determine those players who will get byes into the later qualifying rounds of the individual competitions, and which players will be promoted if there are withdrawals in higher teams.
- The main contact is the main point of contact between the UPC and the players and teams listed on the form. Please ensure the number is correct to make sure you can be contacted in case of emergencies.
- There are no separate men's and women's competitions for the Irish Intervarsity Eight-Ball Pool Championships. The only exception to this is the additional Women's only individual event, which is to assist in the picking of the Irish UPC Student Home Internationals women's teams,

Section 3 – Payment of entry fees

- **The entry fee per person will be €40.00 per player for institutions in the Republic of Ireland, or £35.00 per player for institutions in Northern Ireland.** This provides entry into both team and individual competitions.
- **All entry fees must be paid before play commences on 14th February 2025. There will be no exceptions to this where those players will be refused to play at the event until all entry fees have been settled.** Entry fees for all players named on the Player Details Form will be required before entry.
- Institutions can pay by the following two methods:
 - a) By bank transfer: This is our preferred method of payment for the event. Fees can be transferred to the following bank account:

Bank: Barclays

Name: Universities Pool Council

IBAN Number: GB46 BUKB 20254370384496

SWIFT Number: BUKBGB22

For Northern Ireland institutions - Account Number: 70384496, Sort code: 20-25-43

This is a bank account from the United Kingdom so there may be some foreign exchange fees applicable for transfers from the Republic of Ireland. These are the same bank details as from the event in February 2024, but may be different from previous accounts that have been provided before by the UPC for events prior to that.

- b) By cash at the event. This should be provided by the institution's main contact before the captain's briefing on the first morning.
- Note that the UPC will not be accepting institutional cheques any more due to the costs of paying in cheques from banks in the Republic of Ireland at our bank. If this is an issue, please contact Declan Connelly (declan.connelly@upc-pool.org.uk) for further guidance.
 - **If you wish to replace players due to withdrawals**, the main Sports Office or equivalent contact must contact the Tournament Director, declan.connelly@upc-pool.org.uk, detailing this change. There will be a surcharge to these changes following the entry deadlines on **Friday 31st January**, which must be paid before play begins in the team event.
 - Entry fees do not include accommodation, or travel to the event, if it required by the players. **We strongly encourage players to book refundable accommodation and travel** in case of teams not being allowed entry due to the team entry cap.
 - Entry fees are non-refundable, unless entry is refused by the UPC for operational reasons.

Section 4 – Individual competitions: Individual Championship and Trophy

- **All first team and unattached players are entered into the Individual Championship, while players from a non-first team will by default enter into the Individual Trophy** (providing there are sufficient players for the Trophy to go ahead; if not all entries play at Championship level). Should any non-first team players wish to play at Championship level, these players need to be detailed on the Player Details Form.
- Those institutions that are unable to raise a team may enter a **maximum of two** individual entries into the Individual Championship. This is done by the same entry process by submitting a Player Details Form. Please contact the Tournament Director, Declan Connelly, at declan.connelly@upc-pool.org.uk for further details if this applies.
- The Individual Trophy is subject to the field being at least a fifth of the total number of individual entrants, with a minimum number of sixteen entrants in the Individual Trophy; if these criteria are not met there will be no Individual Trophy for this event and all entrants will play in the Individual Championship. The Individual Trophy will have no prize money attributed to it.
- Reserves are not entered into the individual competition unless promoted into a team due to a withdrawal, where they will normally take the place of the withdrawn player in the draw. Once a team is registered at the event, only those registered for a team will be able to play in the tournament. unless promoted into a team, where they will normally take the place of the withdrawn player in the draw.

Section 5 – Cap on the number of team entries

- **There will be a total team cap for this event of 20 teams.** This is to ensure the venue is not physically overloaded with players and we have enough time to schedule in all competitions.
- To accommodate this team cap, teams will be accepted with preference given to first teams, then second teams, etc. For example, if 25 entries are received comprised of 15 first teams, 7 second teams, and 3 third teams, then all of the first teams, and the 5 highest-ranked second teams would be accepted (with the highest ranked second team not entered being first reserve, and so on down the ranking list). These rankings are based on the results from the February 2024 Irish Intervarsities event from the higher teams from that institution. If these rankings are exactly equal or the institutions are not directly comparable from 2024, this scenario will be determined by the Tournament Director ahead of the event.
- If more first teams than the cap enter, the tournament format will change to accommodate all first teams if that is at all possible.
- If more teams than the cap enter, an ordered list of entries will be shared on our social media shortly after the entry deadline. If one team withdraws after the draw but before the tournament begins, the next team on this ordered list will be invited to attend. Please ensure the main university contact puts an accessible telephone number on the player details form to ensure we can contact that team quickly.
- If a team enters the event but does not get the opportunity to attend as the event is past the team limit cap, they will not be charged any entry fees. The institution will also be given the opportunity to change player lists if required, e.g. the promotion of a sixth player to an institution's second team, if their third team is denied entry.
- For the individual competitions, there is no exact cap on the number of individual entrants. However, only those individuals in a team can play in the competition, unless that institution does not have a team, where a maximum of two individuals will be allowed from a single institution.

Section 6 – Event specific rules

- The event will be played to the 'International Rules' rule set. These rules can be found at the following link: https://www.wepf.org/iro_rules.php.
- There will be a separate women's only competition at the event. This is primarily to assist in the picking of the Irish Student Home Internationals teams. There will be no prize money for the event, but we intend on giving out medals to the two finalists. All female players who are either on a team or are unattached individuals without a team from their institution will automatically be entered into this competition. Please indicate all players who are female on the Player Details Form. If you wish to enter but are either not part of a team or attending as an unattached individual, please contact declan.connelly@upc-pool.org.uk.
- There will be seedings for both teams and individuals based on results from the previous UPC Irish Intervarsities events in February 2024 and April 2023.

APPENDIX – Eligibility to compete

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) or Student Sport Ireland (SSI). The full criteria can be found at the following links:

BUCS: <https://www.bucs.org.uk/rules-and-regulations/general-regulations/reg-4-individual-eligibility.html>

SSI: <https://www.studentsport.ie/ireland/eligibility-guidelines-domestic/>

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 full name and a photograph of the student. A student may provide an alternative method of proof, such as a passport or photographic driving licence.

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.

As all player entry forms are approved by their Athletic Union / Sports Office, such as the approval of their eligibility on BUCS Play, the players are defined as being eligible for the event they are participating in. 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 as linked to above.

8.1.4 Transgender policy

The eligibility of transgender players for events where there are separate Men's and Women's competitions are as defined by the [BUCS eligibility criteria](#).

8.2 Entry into tournaments

For competitions where entry and fee payment are managed by a third-party or a third-party online entry system such as BUCS Play, 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.

For competitions where entry and fee payment are 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.

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 as detailed in these regulations.