

COLORS (pool game)

~ **Game** - A two player or two team pool game for a race to 11 points. Points will be scored in three or less racks of 15 balls. (Three players can play if 7 points are used instead of a race to 11)

The object of the game is to eliminate Companion color ball sets in 2 consecutive shots each. The Companion balls are numbered 1-9, 2-10, 3-11, 4-12, 5-13, 6-14, 7-15. The Black 8 has no companion and is used exclusively to score points. The Companion balls have distinct colors. The numbers on the balls are meaningless unless used to identify an individual ball.

~ **Game scoring** - Companion balls pocketed consecutively or on the same shot count as 1 Point. Any SINGLE ball of color becomes a POINT ball. Pocketing the Black 8 ball on the same shot or consecutively AFTER any single color ball also counts as 1 Point. Points are earned for each of the colors as they are eliminated. There are 7 total points per rack.

~ **Game play** - If the consecutive color Companion ball attempt should fail NO point is received. The first ball of any color stays in the pocket. The companion ball remains as a POINT ball. Point balls have no existing companion and MUST be followed by the Black 8 ball. Consecutive shots with the Black ball can be made Point ball FIRST at anytime during the game. The Black ball ALWAYS spots immediately on the Center spot for continuous position play. Any ball of color may be pocketed after any point is scored
(Players continue shooting until they miss, scratch, commit a foul or pocket an illegal ball)

~ **Rack** - Typical 15 ball rack with the Black ball on the Foot Spot at the apex of the triangle. The colored balls are placed randomly in the rack behind the Black 8.

~ **Break** - Open break from behind the Head string. All colored balls pocketed accrue to the starting player. The Black 8 always returns to the table. All pocketed balls of color stay down unless two balls of the SAME color pocket with a scratch.
(Only 1 companion ball spots if 2 balls of the same color pocket with a Cue ball scratch)

~ **Neutral balls** - All colored balls start out as neutral balls. The FIRST ball of any color set remains in the pocket and does NOT spot. Pocketing 2 neutral balls in 2 shots is not allowed.

~ **Point balls** - The SECOND ball of any color combination becomes a POINT ball. All Point balls will SPOT unless they are either pocketed on the same shot or ...

(1) consecutively pocketed AFTER the neutral Companion ball.

(2) a single ball of color consecutively FOLLOWED by a pocketed Black ball.

(Point balls would either be a stripe or a solid color ball with the neutral companion stripe or solid color ball already in a pocket)

~ **Black Ball** - The Black 8 is only used to score points and ALWAYS remains on the table.

Pocketing the Black ball without scoring a point is not allowed during the game.
(The Black must follow ALL balls with no existing companion and spots immediately)

~ **Consecutive ball choices** - If a neutral ball pockets, the player must pocket the companion ball with the SAME color to continue play.

- If 2 neutral balls of DIFFERENT colors pocket on the same shot, the player may choose the color companion of either ball.

- If both a neutral and Point ball with different colors pocket on the same shot, the player must pocket the Black. (The companion of the pocketed neutral ball then becomes a Point ball)

- If any Point balls of SINGLE colors pocket at anytime, the player must pocket the Black ball.
(Pocketing the Black consecutively will score 1 point for each Point ball that was pocketed)

~ **Incidental Balls** - Incidental Companion balls that pocket on the same shot will score 1 point.

- An incidental Black pocketed on the same shot with any single Point ball will score 1 point.

- An incidental Black, by itself, or pocketed on the same shot with a neutral ball is loss of turn.

~ **Illegal balls** - Pocketing the Black before any Point ball (unless it spots after a point) is illegal.

- Pocketing any neutral ball before the Black, or 2 neutral balls in 2 consecutive shots is illegal.

- Pocketing ANY colored ball without the Black ball on the table surface is illegal.

(After any loss of turn by an illegal ball the incoming player must accept the Cue ball position)

~ **Spotting of balls** - Point balls spot on the Foot spot. The Black 8 on the Center spot. If there are interfering balls the Black spots on the Head spot. (This allows for position play on the Black)

~ **Scratch** - A scratch on the Black ball after pocketing a color Point ball is a scratch on the point attempt. The Point ball spots. No point is awarded. The Black 8 retains it's position on the table if missed or it spots if pocketed. (Cue ball in hand anywhere on the table after any scratch)

~ **Fouls** - After the Cue ball makes contact with any ball, a ball must be pocketed or ANY ball must hit a rail. (Cue ball in hand anywhere on the table after any foul)

~ **No called balls** - Balls or pockets are NOT called. Any type of kiss, carom or combination using any ball including the Black is permitted.

~ **Set end** - If the last point is of a 2 ball color Companion the Black 8 remaining on the table will be racked for the following set. (The player making the last point in any set breaks)

~ **Game end** - The first player (or 2 man team) to reach 11 points is the winner of the game. There are 21 total points in 3 rack sets. (7 points in 3 or less racks in a 3 player game wins)

Colors by Carl Sandstrom (Spotting the Black on the Center Spot was suggested by Bob Jewett)