

The Republic of Ireland Billiards & Snooker Association



Snooker HQ Unit 8 Barrowvalley Retail Park
Graiguecullen Co Carlow R93 T2W2
Text 085 2428701



SPÓRT ÉIREANN
SPORT IRELAND

E-Mail: info@ribsa.ie: Web Site: www.ribsa.ie

Dear Member,

The 2017 - 2018 season is fast approaching and we are finalising the Calendar of Events.

Membership Fees:

21 and over = €15; 16-20 = €10; under 16 = €5. All members have full voting rights at the AGM

Enclosed with this letter you will find a Registration Form. Please fill in and return with relevant membership fee to the address above or hand in to the T D at your first tournament.

All forms must be filled in clearly and completely using capitals. You can also download the form by going to www.ribsa.ie and clicking on the Player Membership button. Only clear and fully completed forms can be added to the mailing list.

For all Under Age Tournaments, proof of age is required at your first tournament. Passport or ID card or original birth certificates are the only accepted documents. These will be photocopied and kept on file in the office for future reference. No player will be permitted to participate in the tournament if valid proof of age is not submitted. This will be strictly adhered to with no exceptions.

Club Registration:

5 tables or more is €40.00 per year and will receive 2 free RIBSA tournament entry vouchers; 1 to 4 tables is €20.00 per year and will receive 1 free RIBSA tournament entry voucher.

Club Registration runs from January 1st to December 31st each year. Only Registered Clubs can hold a RIBSA event. Each Registered club is entitled to have a representative attend and vote at the AGM.

Tournaments:

You can now text your entry to 085 2428701. This is a text number only and you must include your name, club and event you wish to enter. Example Text - Event: Senior 1 -Name: John Smith - Club: Celbridge. National waistcoats are not permitted to be worn at RIBSA tournaments. No player will be permitted to enter a tournament if they have outstanding debts.

Senior Ranking Events:

All senior ranking tournaments will be held on Saturdays in the Ivy Rooms, Carlow as per Calendar of Events. The cost of entry for Senior Tournaments will be €30.00 for 21 and over. Players under 21 on 31st December 2017 will be classed as Junior – Entry fee for juniors will be €15. Entry for under 16's will be free, however all no shows including free entries will be required to pay either Senior or Junior entry fee as appropriate before playing in future tournaments. All players must be members of RIBSA to play in any tournament. *Ladies will be allowed free entry to all Senior, Masters, Intermediate and under age events.*

Closing dates:

The Closing dates for senior tournaments will be 1pm Thursday before the start of competition, without exception. The draw for each tournament will be available on the website www.ribsa.ie, as soon as possible after this time. There will be six Senior Ranking events and the National Championships. These rankings will be used to select the senior International players. National waistcoats are not permitted to be worn at RIBSA tournaments. If the tournament is running late the T D may decide to hold over the Semi-Finals and Final until the Sunday but should be scheduled so as not to interfere with the Masters Tournament schedule.

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Intermediate Events:

There will be six National Intermediate Ranking Tournaments and a National Championships. The entry fee for Intermediate Tournaments is €20 for seniors, €10 for under 21's and €5 for under 16's. These Tournaments will be the best of five frames. The closing date for all Intermediate tournaments is 1pm on the Friday before the tournament. National waistcoats are not permitted to be worn at RIBSA tournaments.

Underage Tournaments:

There will be international qualifying tournaments in under 14, 16, 18 and 21 categories. There will be a National Championships in under 12, 14, 16, 18, 19 and 21 as usual. A ranking list will be compiled from the tournaments and National Championships. The new Elite Tour rankings will qualify U-18 & U-21 players for International events. The top ranked junior on senior rankings provided they are inside top 32 will also be selected for the International events. Please refer to separate Junior Tour letter. Players must be under the age on 31st December 2017 i.e. for Under 16 they must be U-16 on 31st December 2017. **To enter Text Event: U-14 (1) Name: John Smith Club: Celbridge**

The entry fee for all under age tournaments will be €10.00. For further information text RIBSA on 085 2428701, or PJ Nolan on 086-8634507. You can also view our Association website; www.ribsa.ie. The closing date for all Under Age Tournaments will be 1pm on the Friday before the tournament. National waistcoats are not permitted to be worn at RIBSA tournaments.

Ladies Ranking Tournaments:

Ladies Tournaments will be held in various locations on Sundays. Entry is free. Each player will be required to pay a €2 table fee to the host club. Senior and intermediate events will be held on the same day. Entry to senior events is restricted to players who have made a 30 plus break in competition. Entries are accepted on morning of the tournament before 11.30am.

If you know of any ladies who might be interested, please give them the details. For further information contact Michelle Sherwin on 087-4140864. National waistcoats are not permitted to be worn at RIBSA tournaments.

Billiards Ranking Tournaments:

Senior Billiards Ranking Tournaments will be held on Sundays as per Calendar of Events. Entry fee is €20 for seniors; €10 for under 21's and free for under 16's. Entries will be accepted on the morning before 10.30am. For further information contact Brendan Devlin on 086-6062420. National waistcoats are not permitted to be worn at RIBSA tournaments.

Handicap Billiards Tournaments will be played on Sundays as per Calendar of Events. Entry Fee is €20 for seniors, €10 for under 21's and free for under 16's. Entries will be accepted on the morning before 10.30am. For further information contact Brendan Devlin on 086-6062420. National waistcoats are not permitted to be worn at RIBSA tournaments.

Intermediate Billiards Championships will be played on Sundays as per Calendar of Events. Entry Fee is €20 for seniors; €10 for under 21's and free for under 16's. Entries will be accepted on the morning before 10.30am. For further information contact Liam Byrne on 086-2585694. National waistcoats are not permitted to be worn at RIBSA tournaments.

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Masters Ranking Tournaments:

Masters Tournaments will be played on Sundays in the Ivy Rooms as per Calendar of Events. Entry fee is €20. Entries will be accepted up to 6pm on the Saturday prior to the tournament.

You can now text your entry to 085 2428701. Draw will be on the website by 8pm. For further information please contact Tony Thorpe on 087 7709903.

National waistcoats are not permitted to be worn at RIBSA tournaments. Details of all tournaments and Closing Dates for entries are available on the www.ribsa.ie web page.

Players must be properly dressed for all RIBSA competitions. The dress code is dark shoes, dark one coloured trousers (no jeans), one colour shirt buttoned at the wrist and waistcoat (waistcoat is compulsory for all matches).

A Copy of the Rules for all tournaments will be available on the website and at tournaments. National waistcoats are not permitted to be worn at RIBSA tournaments.

Ranking points will be awarded as follows:

100 points for Winner	50 points for beaten quarter-finalists
75 points for Runner-up	40 points for Last 16
60 points for beaten Semi-finalists	30 points for Last 32
	20 points for Last 64 10 points for Last 128

The Merit Points system will be continued with points awarded for every frame you win by. 3-0 = 3 merit points, 3-1 = 2 merit points, 3-2 = 1 merit point. The same formula will apply to best of 3 or 7 frames etc. Merit points are used to separate players on equal ranking points.

Social Media:

Members will be expected to behave in a manner on social media which does not bring the association into disrepute. Respect for other players, referees, officials and clubs are paramount. Guidelines adopted at the last two AGM's will be enforced to their full extent.

If any individual, club, coach or referee would like to be included on the e-mail list from the office, please ensure that you include an e-mail address when completing the Registration Form. This way you can be constantly updated with information from the office, e.g. draw, rankings, notification of closing dates, etc... or you can send reports into the office.

Coaching:

A reminder to all players and Clubs that National Coach PJ Nolan is available full time for coaching to all affiliated members and clubs throughout the country.

Contact PJ on 086 8634507 or email pjcoach147@hotmail.com to book a coaching session. RIBSA National Coach Cost is €20.00 per hour coaching and €20.00 per hour travel time from Carlow.

The players will have to pay the table charge in the club. RIBSA offers professional coaching with specific training programs using video analysis and a DVD is given to the player to study at home after the lesson.

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Qualification for International Events:

No player will be selected from outside the top 20 on the relevant rankings list unless they have qualified as an International in the previous three seasons. The Intermediate rankings list will not qualify players for Senior or Masters Events.

Selection for International competitions:

The Committee have decided that the following criteria will be used in selecting players for International competition.

World Snooker

Q school free place; No.1 available player on Senior Rankings at closing date will qualify.

IBSF World Championships: The National Champion and No.1 on the Rankings, in Men's, Masters and Ladies, or next available player on relevant Ranking lists. Additional players selected from the ranking list. *To be eligible for the RIBSA International travel grant each National Champion must have played in at least 50% of the relevant ranking tournaments during the season they won the National Championship.*

IBSF World U-18 & U-21 Championships: National U-21 & U-18 National Champions, No.1 on Elite Tour U-21 & U-18 Rankings, Highest U-21 / U-18 Junior on Senior Rankings - at end of season but must be inside top 32. Additional players from U-21 & U-18 Elite Tour Rankings

EBSA European U-18 & U-21 Championships: No.1 & 2 on Elite Tour U-21 & U-18 Rankings, Highest U-21 & U-18 on Senior Rankings – at cut of point must be inside top 32, Additional players from Elite Tour U-21 & U-18 Rankings.

European Championships: Top 2 available players on Senior, Masters and Senior Ladies Ranking List at closing date. Additional players selected from relevant Ranking Lists.

European Team Championships: Top 2 players on current Senior Ranking List, plus Top 2 on current Senior Ladies and Masters Ranking Lists at closing date. Additional players selected from relevant Ranking lists.

Celtic Challenge: National Champions, plus top 5 players available on the under 14 and 16 ranking lists.

Home International Teams:

Seniors – The National Champion plus the Top 3 players available on the Senior Ranking List.

Juniors – The National Champions plus the Top 3 players available on the relevant Junior Ranking List.

Ladies – The National Champion plus Top 2 players available on Senior Ladies Ranking List.

Masters – The National Champion plus Top 3 players available on Masters Ranking List.

Additional players for each category selected from relevant Ranking List.

All-Ireland Championships:

The Champion in each category from RIBSA against the Champion in each category from Northern Ireland.

Billiards World Championships:

National Champion plus No.1 on the Senior Ranking List, or next available player on the ranking list.

Billiards Team Event

National champion plus top available players selected from the Senior Billiards Ranking List.

Other Team Events:

Selection will be from the relevant Ranking Lists.

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New Junior Structure next season.

The Republic of Ireland Billiards & Snooker Association will introduce a new qualification system for the European Under 18 and Under 21 Championships, IBSF World Under 18 and Under 21 Championships and Home International Under 21 Team for the 2017 – 2018 season.

This new system will see our top ranked Irish juniors playing against each other in the same format as International snooker and at the same time we will hold open events to build up the confidence of the younger players to enable them become winners in the future.

This new structure will be guided and overseen by our National Coach PJ Nolan who will be the Tournament Director at every U-18 & U-21 junior event next season. Events will start in September and run until December to qualify players from the EBSA Championships. The second qualification will run from January to May to qualify players for the IBSF Championships and the Home Internationals.

RIBSA / EBSA Elite Tour

RIBSA will introduce an Elite Tour where the top 10 underage players from last season's ranking will play in a league format of 4 frames per match. The players will play three matches per day during the three qualifying days to identify the qualifiers.

At the end of the three qualifying days, the bottom three players are relegated into the Open Tour while the top 3 on the open tour are promoted to the elite tour for the IBSF qualification. To separate players on equal points the following protocol will be used:

- Matches Won
- Frames Difference
- Head to Head
- If Ties – 1 frame Playoff

Qualifying for EBSA Championships

1. Number 1 & 2 on Elite Tour Rankings
2. Highest Junior on Senior Rankings not qualified through elite tour – at cut off point but must be inside top 32.
3. Additional players from Elite Tour Rankings

Entry Fee

The entry fee is a total of €30.00 for the three qualifying events plus registration fee. This must be paid to RIBSA on or before the 29th of July. After this date the next player on the ranking will be invited into the Elite Tour.

There will be no Elite Tour prize money or trophies as all the Entry fees will be added to the players grant to the players playing in the upcoming International championships.

All juniors can qualify

All juniors also have a chance to qualify for the EBSA International events through the Senior Rankings as RIBSA will give the highest ranked junior on the senior ranking a qualifying spot for the Championships. This is to encourage more juniors to compete in the senior events.

If the senior rankings highest junior is the same player who qualifies from the Elite Tour Rankings then the Elite Rankings will choose the next qualified player.

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RIBSA / EBSA Open Tour

RIBSA will also hold an open tour which will be played on the same day as the Elite Tour and in the same club. This is open to all player not on Elite Tour. This event will be played in a knock out format of best of 5 frames up to and including the final. This open tour will qualify players for the Elite Tour for the next qualification.

The closing date for entries will be the Friday before each event @ 1pm and the draw will be then published on the RIBSA web site at 3pm.

Entry Fee

The entry fee will be €10.00 plus Reg. This can be paid on the day. Trophies will be awarded to the winner, runner up and high break in each of the three ranking events.

RIBSA / IBSF Elite Tour

In January 2018 RIBSA will invite the top 7 players from Elite Tour plus the top 3 players from the Open Tour to play in a league format of 4 frames per match. The players will play three match per day over the three qualifying days to find the qualifier or qualifiers.

At the end of the three qualifying days, the bottom three players are relegated into the Open Tour for the next season while the top 3 on the open tour are promoted to the elite tour for the following season. To separate players on equal points the following protocol will be used:

- Matches Won
- Frames Difference
- Head to Head
- If Ties – 1 frame Playoff

Entry Fee

The entry fee is a total of €30.00 for the three qualifying events plus Reg €10.00. This must be paid to RIBSA on or before the 29th of December. After this date the next player on the ranking will be invited into the Elite Tour.

There will be no Elite Tour prize money or trophies as all the Entry fees will be added to the players grant towards them playing in the upcoming championships.

All juniors can qualify

All juniors will also have a chance to qualify for the IBSF International events through the Senior Rankings as RIBSA will give the highest ranked junior on the senior ranking a qualifying spot for the Championships. This is to encourage more juniors to compete in the senior events.

If the senior rankings highest junior is the same player who qualifies from the Elite Tour Rankings then the Elite Rankings will choose the next qualified player.

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Qualifying for IBSF Championships

1. National U-21 & U-18 National Champion
2. Number 1 on Elite Tour Rankings
3. Highest U-21 / U-18 Junior on Senior Rankings - at end of season but must be inside top 32.
4. Additional players from Elite Tour Rankings

RIBSA / IBSF Open Tour

RIBSA will also hold an open tour which will be played on the same day as the Elite Tour and in the same club. This is open to any other player to enter. This event will be played in a knock out format of best of 5 frames up to and including the final. This open tour will qualify players for the Elite Tour for the next qualification.

The closing date for entries will be the Friday before each event @ 1pm and the draw will be then published on the ribsa web site at 3pm.

Entry Fee

The entry fee will be €10.00 plus Reg. This can be paid on the day. Trophies will be awarded to the winner, runner up and high break in each of the three ranking events.

The 2018 Junior Home International Teams

Qualifying for Home Internationals

Under 21 Team

1. National U-21 National Champion
2. Highest U-21 Junior on Senior Rankings but must be inside top 32.
3. Number 1 on Elite Tour Rankings
4. Additional players from Elite Tour Rankings

Under 16 Team

1. National U-16 National Champion
2. Additional players from Under 16 Rankings

Wishing you all the best

Yours in sport,

Jim Leacy

Jim Leacy

The National Governing Body for Billiards & Snooker in the Republic of Ireland