



Q Tour Americas 2024

Pan American Billiards and Snooker Association

Leg 1: Canada – Corner Bank, Toronto
Leg 2: USA – PABSA Academy, San Jose,
Leg 3: Brazil – Location TBD

Pan American Snooker Q Tour 2024

RULES AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

as stipulated by the Board of the Pan American Billiards and Snooker Association (PABSA) in affiliation with World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA)

The Pan American Billiards and Snooker Association, referred to as “PABSA” throughout this Championship Entry Document, is pleased to announce the staging of the **Pan American Snooker Q Tour 2024**.

Please read the following Entry Document. Your entry into the tournament will be your acceptance to abide and conform to the Rules & Conditions of Entry. In case of any disagreements or dispute arising before, during or after any of these tournaments, the decision of the **PABSA Board** shall be considered as final and binding.

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1. Q Tour Details

1.1 The Championships will be staged in 3 legs as follows:

Q Tour Event 1 - The Corner Bank, Toronto, Canada, from January 19th to 21st, 2024.

Q Tour Event 2 - PABSA Academy, San Jose, United States, from February 22nd to 25th, 2024.

Q Tour Event 3 – Brazil (venue yet to be finalized), tentative dates March 8th to 10th, 2024.

1.2 Playing schedule: each event location and/or host association will decide on their respective schedules.

1.3 Q Tour Americas are sub-tournaments within WPBSA Q Tour Global, which will culminate in a 24-player playoff, to be held at Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina during March 13th to 15th, 2024, with three places on the professional World Snooker Tour to be won from the start of the 2024/25 season. The playoff will feature a minimum of 16 players from the UK/Europe rankings, who will now be joined by up to eight international qualifiers which will now include two players from the Americas region, one each from North and South American continents.

1.4 The representative from South America to Q Tour Global will be the winner of the event held at Brazil. The representative from North America to the Q Tour Global will be decided on a point system with players collecting points from both the events at Toronto and San Jose. The details of the point system will be published 2 weeks prior to the first event at Toronto. In case the chosen representative is unable to attend the Global event, the next highest ranked player will be chosen (eg. Finalist from Brazil event; Second highest point gatherer from North America). The decision of the PABSA Board will be final in case of any dispute arising on this.

2. Conditions of Entry

2.1 In accordance with the Rules of PABSA, entrants must be:

2.1.1 Q Tour Americas will be open to players born in, or resident in the Pan American region for a minimum of six months.

2.1.2 An individual member of PABSA [see Rule 2.2].

2.2 Event Entry fee for PABSA members will be US\$150 each. Non-members must pay an additional US\$25 annual membership fee to join, with all fees to be paid in full to be entered into the draw.

2.3 Once a membership or entry fee has been received, not under any circumstances does it become refundable. Players will be charged for entry fees at around 2 weeks prior to the respective event. Membership fees are due at the point of sign-up.

2.4 If there is any contention in respect to any interpretation of the Rules contained in this document, a player must respect the final decision of the Tournament Director.

2.5 PLEASE NOTE: All players wishing to enter Q Tour Americas must be fully Covid-19 vaccinated. This

also applies to officials, spectators, family members and sponsors attending the event. Everyone must also follow and abide by local, regional and national pandemic guidelines of the host club, city and country. Players will be removed from the tournaments with no refund of entry fee if these guidelines are not followed.

3. Method of Entry

- 3.1 All players wishing to participate in the Q Tour Americas 2024 must register at Cloud Snooker using the link below and then enter desired event(s) here – PABSA will not be accepting any other form of entry. Entries will be limited to the FIRST 48 entries for each leg of the Q Tour. Entry details can be found at the following online address: **Cloud Snooker** - <https://cloudsnooker.com>. To sign up for PABSA membership, please use the following link: **PABSA Membership** - <https://pabsa.org/membership>
PLEASE NOTE: Closing date for entries for each event will be published by the respective host club/country association.
- 3.2 Entry fee payments:
- 3.2.1 Once you have registered with the PABSA Cloud Snooker System, by also submitting your credit/debit card details, you will then be securely billed your entry fee payments and PABSA membership fee around 2 weeks prior to the respective event. PABSA will not accept any cash payments.

4. Championship Format

- 4.1 The Q Tour Americas 2024 will be played using the Single Elimination Knockout format.
- 4.2 All matches, up to and including the finals, shall be contested as a Knockout as Best of 7 frames (Race to 4 frames).
- 4.3 A complete match schedule will be produced after the completion of determining the draw [see Rule 5.1].
- 4.4 In making the draws, eight players (subject to change, determined by number of entries) of significant national and international snooker achievement (e.g. most recent national champions and former professional players) will be selected by PABSA as seeds and distributed evenly across the draw to maximize the chances of these players only playing each other in latter portions of the draw.
- 4.5 Once the draw has been made, the Tournament Director, if necessary, will only be permitted to make changes if there are any subsequent player withdrawals prior to the start of Group play to even the group numbers.

5. Championship Rules

- 5.1 The PABSA appointed Tournament Director will solely be responsible for the running of the Championship and will do so at their discretion in accordance with these rules. All players must respect the final decision of the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director will also compile the match schedule after the draw, which all players must follow.
- 5.2 Players, officials or any attendees shall never hold the Pan American Billiards and Snooker Association or the tournament venue responsible for any personal belongings for any reason.
- 5.3 Player Match Attendance
- 5.3.1 Players are strongly advised to ensure that should they enter the tournament, they make themselves available for the whole duration of the event.
- 5.3.2 All players are expected to be in attendance and ready to play half an hour before the scheduled start time of their matches. The Tournament Director shall have the discretion, with good reason, to reschedule a match. Due to time constraints, there will be no accommodation for requests for rescheduling of any matches by any player.
- 5.3.3 Match allocations:
- All matches will be allocated table numbers and commence at a scheduled start time.
 - If a player is not in attendance at precisely their scheduled start time, that player will forfeit one frame.
 - If a player is still not in attendance after precisely 30 minutes from their scheduled start time, that player will forfeit two frames.
 - If a player is still not in attendance after precisely 45 minutes from their scheduled start time, that player will forfeit the match and be withdrawn from the tournament.
- 5.3.4 Players are not allowed to take any unnatural breaks during matches, with bathroom breaks being recommended between frames. Bathroom breaks during a frame will be permitted only if an urgent situation arises, and players must inform their opponent and return in a timely manner.

6. Withdrawal of Entry and Player

- 6.1 Please inform PABSA as soon as possible should you wish for any reason to withdraw your entry prior to or during the respective tournament [see Rule 2.3]. Failure to do so may result in a disciplinary procedure of suspension to participate in future PABSA tournaments.
- 6.1.1 Should the withdrawal of a player occur, that player's opponent shall receive a walkover into the next round or be awarded the tournament title should that be the final match.

7. Snooker Rules

- 7.1 The official snooker rules as defined by the World Professional Billiards & Snooker Association (WPBSA) will be upheld, except for specific conditions set in Section 8.
- 7.2 A copy of the official rules (Revised May 2022 - PDF format) can be downloaded from the WPBSA website at: <https://wpbsa.com/wp-content/uploads/Rulebook-Website-Updated-May-2022.pdf>

8. Referee and Player Responsibilities

- 8.1 When a referee is provided all official rules will be enforced. In matches without an assigned referee, the following will apply:
 - 8.1.1 The non-striking player must spot the pocketed colored balls for their opponent and keep an audible running total of the break compiled.
 - 8.1.2 Foul and a Miss: when snookers are not required by a player and the player is snookered, most one rail escapes must be successful, or the foul will be called a 'miss' and replaced based on the non-striker's option. Players can call the floor referee to observe, if desired. Be sure to note the position of the balls before the shot is played and ensure that the non-striker or referee places a coin or other mark if desired - not the striker.
 - 8.1.3 During earlier stages, and for non-refereed matches, rule 8.1.2 will be applied to a maximum of three attempts. After three "foul and a miss" attempts, the non-offending player will then have the option of either playing from the resulting position or requesting their opponent to play from the resulting position.
 - 8.1.4 Conceding Frame: for earlier stages and for non-refereed matches, as determined by the Tournament Director, once all the red balls have been pocketed and just the colored balls remain on the table, if a player on their next visit to the table then requires four or more snookers to the value of the "ball on", that player will then be obligated to concede the frame or their opponent will be permitted to claim the frame at the end of their visit to the table.
 - 8.1.5 If a full ball on is available (defined as a player can make a full ball contact in a straight line) and a ball on is not contacted a miss will always be called. After the second attempt if they fail to hit the ball on the player MUST be warned that they will forfeit the frame if they fail to make contact a third time and failing which the frame will be awarded to the opponent.
 - 8.1.6 In the event of a contentious situation, an independent decision must be called upon. Please consult the PABSA appointed Tournament Director whose decision will be final in such situations.

9. Score Sheets

9.1 Players will be required to complete and sign a score sheet for each match played. The winner of the match should insure to return the completed score sheet to the Tournament Director.

10. Dress Code

EVERY PLAYER IS A BRAND, AND THAT CAN BE ENHANCED BY THE WAY THEY DRESS. WE WANT TO HELP THEM TO MAXIMIZE THEIR POTENTIAL AND THE OVERALL IMAGE OF SNOOKER.

10.1 All dress items must be worn correctly.

10.2 Dress shoes - Leather, able to apply polish, no dock shoes.

10.3 Waist coat (no sweater vests), ties or bowties or dickie ties, dress pants or trousers, and long sleeve collared shirt, cummerbund.

10.4 Players will be permitted to wear national symbols and sponsors' logos with the approval of PABSA and the Tournament Director.

10.5 Players will not be permitted to wear or display any political symbols.

10.6 Strictly no trainers/sneakers, no t-shirt or jeans. No excessive jewelry.

11. Cell Phones

11.1 The use of cell phones will NOT be permitted at any time during a match. To comply with this Rule, and as a courtesy to your opponent, players are asked to have their cell phones switched off during their match unless special circumstances agreed to by the Tournament Director. If you answer or use your phone during a match you will be warned, and a second infraction will result in the loss of frame.

12. Publicity

12.1 If required, players must be available for interviews and photographs in the interest of publicizing the Championship.

12.2 Some matches may be streamed on the internet or video recorded for public broadcast. By participating, players acknowledge their consent to have their match streamed live or recorded and available for public broadcast.

12.3 All pictures and media taken by PABSA shall be the sole property of the Pan American Billiards and Snooker Association.

13. Travel and Accommodation

- 13.1 Each player is responsible for checking if they require a Visa and for making arrangement to acquire the Visa to the host country. PABSA and the host country association will not be responsible for any issues arising from entry into the country, during the stay, or exit from the country.
- 13.2 Each player is responsible for making their own travel and stay arrangements. Each host venue may choose to provide a recommended hotel for the stay.

PABSA looks forward to welcoming all players from across the Pan American region to this year's Q Tour.