

15 Ball Pool

Overview

Fifteen-ball pool, also known as sixty-one pool, is a nineteenth century American pocket billiards game that developed from pyramid pool. Created by members of the Bassford's Billiard & Chess Rooms in Manhattan during the late 1830s or 1840s, it is the ancestor to most American pool games.

Rules

The game is played on a six pocket table with fifteen numbered red object balls racked in triangle and a white cue ball. The 15-ball is the apex ball and is placed at the foot spot. Behind it are the other high numbered balls with the rest in the back rows, most likely in descending order.

The number of the ball pocketed by a player scores the player that number of points. The goal is to get the highest number of points (when there are more than two players) or become the first player to get 61 or more points (being more than half of the total of all the ball numbers combined) to win a frame. Tournament matches consist of winning the best out of 21 frames. It is possible to lose a frame despite sinking twice the number of balls over the winner. Three points are subtracted for each foul; three consecutive fouls will cost the player the frame. In 1880, a new rule to discourage safety shots required the cue ball to make contact with an object ball in each shot. This must cause an object ball to be pocketed or at least one ball to hit the cushion.



**Excerpt from Wikipedia*