

1)Coaching (VNEA and C&N)

In team play, a player at the table can ask his teammates what the score is or how many balls they need to win the match. However, a teammate cannot blurt out the score without being asked by the player at the table, that would be a foul.

2)8 Ball on the break: (VNEA and C&N)

A player that makes the 8-ball on the break has the option of spotting the 8 ball and continue shooting the table, or re-breaking. The player can spot the 8 ball, then walk around the table and examine options.....then that player can decide to play the table as is or re-break. It does not matter that the player “took his hand off the 8 ball.”

3)Shooting Opponents Ball Set: (VNEA and C&N)

If your opponent shoots at your ball set and makes contact with your ball first, it is a foul. You do not need to call that foul however. If your opponent pockets your ball and keeps shooting, it is up to you if you want to call the foul, or let him keep shooting. If your opponent pockets multiple balls that belong to you, you may call this foul at any time. Although legal, it is not very sportsmanlike to allow this to go on. We suggest you call the foul the very first time it happens. The players never “switch” ball sets once established.

4)Breaking Stick down during the Match (VNEA and C&N)

There is no concession rule in regard to a player “breaking their stick down” during the match. The shooter is still required to complete their turn at the table and the match will continue. However, it is recommended that players don’t break their stick down until the match is over.

5)Laying Cue Down on the Table (VNEA and C&N)

A player may lay the cue stick down on the table when it is their “turn” at the table. This is not a foul. However, the cue stick cannot be dragged on the table to make a shot. See VNEA rules video for more detail on this.

6)Three Fouls in a Row (VNEA and C&N)

Three fouls in a row is not a loss of game. There is no limit on how many times a player fouls in a row. (see stalemate rule below)

7)Stalemate (VNEA and C&N)

If both players foul 3 times in a row (six total fouls), and both players agree that moving an object ball is a disadvantage, the game will be considered a stalemate. The breaker of this game will re-rack and break.

8)Jumping balls off the table (VNEA and C&N)

If an object ball or cue ball leaves the table during a shot, it is considered a foul. Opponent will spot any object ball that has left the table, and then have cue ball in hand. If it was the break shot, cueball must be placed behind the headstring.

9)Break Shot/Rack (VNEA and C&N)

Breaker racks the balls for his own break. Balls on the rear side of rack must be parallel to the back rail. Only racks supplied by the tournament organizer may be used.

10)Cue Specs (VNEA and C&N)

Cue tip width maximum is 15mm

Shaft length minimum is 40”

11)Played Wrong Player (VNEA & CN)

If two players play each other but do not match up on the score sheet, the game does not count. If the two players play each other later in the match, the scores are recorded in the proper spot and the game counts.

12)Marking a spot to Aim (VNEA and C&N)

A player is not allowed to “mark” a spot on the table to help in the aiming process. Putting chalk on the table to “mark” a spot is considered unsportsmanlike and can be called a foul. Normally the player would get a warning first.

Rules that apply to C&N events, not necessarily the VNEA

1)Substitute Players (C&N only)

Players that start each match need to finish the match. Players can “sub in” between matches only.

2)Tiebreakers (C&N only)

In the event of a tied match (ball count), both teams will select a shooter for a one game tiebreaker. Flip to see who breaks. In team play, we do not recognize the number of “wins” each team has to break a tie.

3)Moving Object balls while shooting (C&N only)

Moving an object ball by accident is not a foul unless the moved ball comes in contact with the cue ball. Here is an example of a situation that may create an issue within this rule: Player shoots a long bank shot, immediately after the shot his cue stick “accidentally” moves an object ball. This object ball which was moved appeared to be blocking a pocket preventing a successful bank shot. The shot is then successful. This can be ruled unsportsmanlike and loss of turn may be called, and if the 8 ball is pocketed, loss of game.

4)Soft Breaks/Safety Breaks (C&N only)

During team matches at the C&N Year End tournament, intentional soft breaks are not allowed until the last round of the match. If a player shoots a soft break prior to the last round, the player and team will receive a warning and be allowed to re-break. If either team does it after the warning, it will be a foul and the opponent will get the break.

5)Patches/8 Ball (C&N only)

Shooter needs to call the pocket when shooting the 8 ball. It is not necessary to use a patch during C&N league or tournaments. The VNEA still requires the patch but they will be voting in May 2025 to possibly remove the patch rule.