

Pan American Snooker Championships 2026



Pan American Billiards and Snooker Association (PABSA)



Mampituba Country Club
Criciúma, Santa Catarina, Brazil
October 31 to November 8, 2026

Pan American Snooker Championships 2026

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 Championships Entry Document, is pleased to announce the staging of the Pan American Snooker Championships 2026 (PANAM 2026).

Please read the following Entry Document. Your entry into the tournament will be your acceptance to abide by and conform to the Rules & Conditions of Entry. In case of any disagreements or disputes 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. Championships Details

1.1. The Championships will be staged from October 31 to November 8, 2026 at:

Mampituba Country Club
SC-108 Highway, Km 336, No. 413
São Simão, Criciúma - SC, 88811-400
Brazil

1.2. Playing schedule (all subject to change):

PANAM 2026 Seniors Championship

Oct. 31	Commencement of Seniors group stages
Nov. 1	Seniors group stages
Nov. 2	Seniors knockout stages, up to and including quarterfinals
Nov. 3	Seniors semifinals followed by finals on allocated tables (at least a 30-minute player rest break from the previous semifinal match and a 10-minute interval to be taken after the fourth frame). Followed by a trophy presentation.

PANAM 2026 Open Championship

Nov. 4	Commencement of the Open group stages
Nov. 5	Open group stages
Nov. 6	Open group stages, and initial Open knockout stages
Nov. 7	Open knockout stages, up to and including quarterfinals
Nov. 8	Open semifinals followed by finals on allocated tables (at least a 30-minute player rest break from the previous semifinal match and a 10-minute interval to be taken after the fourth frame). Followed by a trophy presentation.

2. Conditions of Entry

- 2.1. In accordance with the Rules of PABSA, entrants must be:
 - 2.1.1. A citizen of any of the Member or Associate Countries of PABSA, which are a part of the 41 nations which make up the Pan American Olympic Movement - with a special dispensation for legal "Permanent Residents" of those countries who have resided for a continuous period of the past FIVE YEARS and have had NO PREVIOUS representation for a foreign nation in ANY international snooker championship.
 - 2.1.2. For Seniors Event, the minimum age for participating in the tournament is 40 years.
 - 2.1.3. An individual member of PABSA [see following rules 2.2 and 2.4].
- 2.2. Open Event Entry fee for PABSA members will be US\$275 each person, with all fees to be paid in full to be entered into the Championship draw. 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 Championship draw.
- 2.3. Seniors Event Entry fee for PABSA members will be US\$175 each person, with all fees to be paid in full to be entered into the Championship draw. 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 Championship draw.
- 2.4. PABSA Membership fee is an annual fee, and your credit card will be charged every subsequent year unless you explicitly request cancellation of the membership.
- 2.5. Once a membership or entry fee has been received, not under any circumstances does it become refundable. Players will be charged for entry fees on or around June 2026. Membership fees are due at the point of sign-up.
- 2.6. 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.
- 2.7. PLEASE NOTE: All players wishing to enter PANAM 2026 must follow and abide by local, regional and national 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 2026 Pan American Snooker Championships must register at Cloud Snooker using the link below and then enter the desired event(s) there - PABSA will not be accepting any other form of entry. Entries will be limited to 64 for the Open Championship and 48 for the Seniors Championship.

- 3.1.1. Entry details can be found at the following online address:

Cloud Snooker - <https://cloudsnooker.com>

- 3.1.2. To sign up for PABSA membership, please use the following link:

PABSA Membership - <https://pabsa.org/membership>

PLEASE NOTE: Closing date for entries is by the end of Tuesday, June 30th, 2026.

- 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 the first week of June 2026. PABSA will not accept any cash payments.
- 3.2.2. PABSA Membership fee is an annual fee, and your credit card will be charged every subsequent year unless you explicitly request cancellation of the membership.

4. Championships Format

- 4.1. The 2026 Pan American Snooker Championships will be played using an initial Round Robin phase of eight groups (please note that the number of groups may change based on number of entries), with the qualifying placed players from each group advancing into the Single Elimination Knockout phase of the event. The following order will determine the final Group positions:

- 4.1.1. Highest number of match wins
- 4.1.2. Win-Loss frames difference (frames won - frames lost)
- 4.1.3. Winner of Group match (head-to-head)
- 4.1.4. Least number of frames lost
- 4.1.5. Highest break

- 4.2. All Group matches shall be contested over a determined number of frames based on entries. Maximum time allowances for this phase must be followed. Knockout rounds up to and including the finals shall be contested over the determined number of frames based on time restraints due to the number of entries received.
- 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. All other players will be drawn into the groups, using a system that will reflect a balance of players between the entered nationalities.
- 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 before the start of Group play to even the group numbers.

5. Championships Rules

- 5.1. The PABSA appointed Tournament Director will solely be responsible for the running of the Championships 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. Failing which, PABSA reserves the right to initiate disciplinary proceedings against the offending player.

- 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 during the Knockout phase.
- 5.3.3. Match allocations: During the Groups phase of the Championships:
 - 5.3.3.1. All matches will be played in an order scheduled by the Tournament Director and on the next available table on a roll-on roll-off basis. Upon request, the Tournament Director will endeavor to provide an estimated time for a particular match so a player may plan a meal or comfort break.
- 5.3.4. During the Knockout phase of the Championships:
 - 5.3.4.1. All matches will be allocated table numbers and commence at a scheduled start time.
 - 5.3.4.2. If a player is not in attendance at precisely their scheduled start time, that player will forfeit one frame.
 - 5.3.4.3. If a player is still not in attendance after precisely 30 minutes from their scheduled start time, that player will forfeit two frames.
 - 5.3.4.4. 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 Championship.
- 5.3.5. 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 before 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.

- 6.2. Should the withdrawal of a player occur during the Groups phase, all previous match results shall become null and void. Should the withdrawal of a player occur during the knockout phase, that player's opponent shall receive a walkover into the next round or be awarded the Championship 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. A copy of the official rules in PDF format can be downloaded from the WPBSA website from:

<https://wpbsa.com/wp-content/uploads/2198-WPBSA-Rulebook-2024-25.pdf>

An update to the rules published in August 2024 can be downloaded from:

<https://wpbsa.com/wp-content/uploads/Updates-to-the-Rules-of-Snooker-Aug-24.pdf>

- 7.2. The official code of conduct as defined by the World Professional Billiards & Snooker Association (WPBSA) will be upheld. A copy of the official code of conduct can be downloaded in PDF format from the WPBSA website at:
<https://wpbsa.com/wp-content/uploads/WPBSA-Conduct-Regulations-ratified-WPBSA-Board-on-17.11.2023-final-.pdf>
- 7.3. Players are not allowed to consume Alcohol in the playing arena. A specific callout from the Code of Conduct, Section 1.10., states: “Members shall not be under the influence of alcohol whilst competing in a WPBSA sanctioned event and at all times comply with the WPBSA Anti-Doping rules.”

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 the first foul. 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. Mandatory clothing requirements are as follows:
 - 10.1.1. Formal dress shoes - leather, able to apply polish, no dock or sport shoes.
 - 10.1.2. Formal suit waistcoat (no sweater vests) or cummerbund.
 - 10.1.3. Formal ties, bow ties or dickie bow ties.
 - 10.1.4. Dress pants or trousers, which are plain colored.
 - 10.1.5. Long sleeve, plain colored collared shirt.
- 10.2. Players will be permitted to wear national symbols and sponsors' logos with the approval of PABSA and the Tournament Director.
- 10.3. Players will not be permitted to wear or display any political symbols.
- 10.4. PLEASE NOTE: All dress items must be worn correctly. Strictly no trainers/sneakers, no t-shirt, no jeans, and 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 are 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 Championships.
- 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 arrangements to acquire the visa for 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. The host association may announce an official hotel for the stay, details of which will be published at a later date.
- 13.3. Official Transportation: The organization will provide free transportation between Florianópolis International Airport (FLN) and the city of Criciúma, taking all athletes and delegations directly to the official hotel of the competition. Transportation schedules and dates will be pre-established and communicated in advance. This service will be offered both upon arrival and departure.

PABSA looks forward to welcoming all players from across the Pan American region to this year's Pan American Snooker Championships in Brazil.