

Billiards vs Pool vs Snooker

Understanding the differences between billiards vs pool vs snooker can be tricky if you do not pay close attention to their features. However, there are differences between them, and you'll be able to spot them easily after reading this article. Although the three seem the same and generally involve the use of balls and a table, they are, in fact, quite unique from each other.

You can frequently find people using any of these terms interchangeably because they often confuse the three different types of games with one another. Other times, they just assume the games serve the same purpose, so why not use the same term. For instance, even though billiards originally was used to describe "carom billiards," it has become a term used interchangeably with several types of games that involve the use of sticks, a table, and balls.

With this article, we set out the things you should know about the distinction between Billiard vs Pool vs Snooker. The differences cut across the balls, table, and rules guiding the games. Bite in to understand all you need.

Rule Differences

The rules guiding the game are different. In billiards, the aim is to earn points by striking your cue ball off the others or by specific pocketing shots. In snooker, the aim is to win frames, scoring points using your billiard cue to pocket legal balls or through faults of your opponent. Concerning pool, the objective is to use the cue ball to pocket your opponent's balls.

Table Differences

The table upon which people play the games represent one of the differences. For billiards, the game is often played on tables with sizes ranging from seven to nine feet, which is also the same with pool. The tables used often fall within the range of the sizes used in billiards.

However, you do not find pockets with billiard tables, while pool tables come with pockets. Snooker also makes use of tables with pockets, indicating a difference between it and billiard tables. Concerning sizes, snooker tables in America are often ten feet in length, while British snooker tables usually stay at a massive twelve feet.

Ball Differences in Billiards vs Pool vs Smoker

The ball number used in each game varies. There are precisely 22 balls for snooker games, one of which is white in color and is referred to as the "striker ball." The others are in different colors, including blue, pink, yellow, green, black, and brown. The size of the balls used in snooker is $2\frac{1}{16}$ inches.

On the flip side, billiards only use three balls: red, white, and yellow. The striker ball for billiards can be any of the yellow and white ones, and all of the balls' are sized at $2\frac{7}{16}$ inches.

Concerning pool, the amount of balls in use can vary from game to the other. Irrespective, a set contains sixteen balls with a diameter of $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches. Eight balls carry numbers 1 to 8, while seven carry 9 to 15, and the last is a white ball that serves as the cue.

Final Thoughts

We hope you have a better understanding of the differences between these classic table games through this concise breakdown and comparison. Understanding what separates billiards vs pool vs snooker requires that you study the games' features, including evaluating the balls, table, and rules guiding each game.