

2026 WPA PUDONG TANGZHEN 9-BALL CHINA OPEN

Tournament Regulations

September 5th to 13th 2026
Shanghai, China

1. HOSTS

World Pool Association (WPA)
Chinese Billiard Sports Association (CBSA)
Shanghai Sports Federation

2. ORGANIZERS

Pudong New Area Administration of Culture, Sports & Tourism, Shanghai
People's Government of Tangzhen, Pudong New Area, Shanghai
Shanghai Billiards Association

3. CO-ORGANIZERS

Pudong New Area Sports Federation, Shanghai
Shanghai Pudong Billiards Association
Beijing Xingpaiweiye Sports Goods Co., Ltd.
Tangzhen Culture & Sports Service Center, Pudong New Area, Shanghai

4. SUPPORTERS

VOCO Shanghai Zhangjiang Hotel
Shanghai Wanlong Trading Co., Ltd.
Beijing Taichuang Technology Co., Ltd.
Beijing Qingzhou Technology Co., Ltd.
Zhoushan KAMUI Sports Equipment Co., Ltd.
Shanghai Fanwu Cultural Communication Co., Ltd.
Suzhou Ruihu Sports Group Co., Ltd.



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Beijing Zekang Zhenxuan Trading Co., Ltd.

ZEN Sports Goods (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.

CRAND (Beijing) Technology Co., Ltd.

Shanghai Dynaspheres Sports Goods Co., Ltd.

Beijing Xingpaiweiye Sports Goods Co., Ltd.

Foshan Nanjiang Hengchang Sports Goods Co., Ltd

Jiujiang Lixing Stone Co., Ltd., Lushan City, Jiangxi Province

5. PROMOTOR

Shanghai Pudong Billiards Association

6. VENUE

Stage 1: Pudong Tangzhen Culture & Sports Service Center

Address: 1/F, No. 3150, Gu Tang Road, Pudong New Area, Shanghai

Stage 2: Pudong Tangzhen Culture & Sports Service Center

Address: 2/F No.3150, Gu Tang Road, Pudong New Area, Shanghai

7. EVENTS DATES

Stage 1: September 5th - 7th 2026 (Saturday - Monday)

Stage 2: September 9th - 13th 2026 (Wednesday – Sunday)

8. DISCIPLINE

8.1 9-Ball Men's Singles

8.2 9-Ball Women's Singles

9. MEDIA COOPERATION

Xinhua News Agency, China News Service, People's Daily, Guangming Daily, China Sports Daily, China Youth Daily, Workers' Daily, Wenhui Daily, Jiefang Daily, Xinmin Evening News, Labour Daily, Global Times, Shanghai Daily, Youth Daily, Shanghai Morning Post, Pudong Times, Migu Sports, Douyin, Sina Sports, Tencent Sports, Sohu Sports, NetEase Sports, Huya Streaming, EASTDAY.COM, the CBSA Website, TOP147, CCTV Sports Channel, CCTV Billiards Channel, Beijing TV, Guangdong TV, Shanghai TV, Oriental TV, Great Sports, Pudong Cable TV, Pudong Radio, Great Sports Radio, Shanghai People's Radio Station, WPA Live.tv etc.

10. OFFICIAL EQUIPMENT & SERVICE SUPPLIER

10.1 Table: Beijing Xingpai Pool Table



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10.2 Ball: Dynaspheres Pool TV Ball

10.3 Table Cloth: Andy Pool Cloth

10.4 Cue: ZEN cues

10.5 Cue Tip: Mammoth Cue Tip

10.6 Chalk: TP Chalk

10.7 Cue Bag: Case ONE Cue Bag

10.8 Slate: Lufeng Slate

10.9 Rubber: Nanjiang Rubber

10.10 Live APP: Sports Master Show APP

10.11 Live Streaming: CRAND, Ruihu Sports

10.12 Scoring System: CRAND Scoring System

10.13 WeMedia: Ruihu Sports

10.14 Water: Fanwu Springwater

10.15 Hotel: VOCO Shanghai Zhangjiang Hotel

11. OFFICIAL WEBSITE

Chinese Billiard Sports Association / www.cbsa.org.cn

12. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

12.1 Invitation for Stage 2

The WPA ranked Top 16 men and Top 16 women athletes (by July 31st 2026) shall be automatically invited to the **Stage 2**.

The Champions of the 2025 China Open shall be automatically invited to the **Stage 2**.

12.2 Entry Method

12.2.1 Athletes from Mainland China

Entry open to athletes from Mainland China (including athletes who are eligible to directly start from the Stage 2) who should fill out the entry form and send it via e-mail to chinaopen_9ball@126.com.

Contact: Ms. Zhang Xi

Mobile (WeChat account): +86 13795253885

Address: 3/F, No.201, Yun Lian Road, Pudong, Shanghai



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Telephone: +86 (021)-50936220

12.2.2 Entry open to overseas athletes.

Overseas athletes please fill out the entry form with necessary information and send the via e-mail to cbsa-jingsai@sports.cn and copy chinaopen_9ball@126.com.

Contact: XU Nuo (Lucy), ZHANG Ye, Competition Department, CBSA

Telephone: +86 (0) 10 -87189635, +86 13810778715

12.3 Visa

Should an athlete need to apply for the Chinese visa, please send a scanned copy of passport to cbsa-jingsai@sports.cn and confirm which visa center/consulate the athlete plans to visit.

12.4 Entry Deadline

Athletes from Mainland China: August 20th 2026 (Thursday)

Overseas Athletes: August 10th 2026 (Monday)

12.5 Entry Fees

12.4.1 Stage 1

CNY1500.00 for the Stage 1 (all 3 chances).

12.4.2 Stage 2

CNY1000.00 for the Stage 2.

12.4.3 Payment and Bank Account

Both Stage 1 and Stage 2 athletes from Chinese Mainland please pay the entry fees to the following account:

- Account Name: Shanghai Pudong New Area Billiards Association
- Account number: 450759216179
- Bank Name: Bank of China, Shanghai Minsheng Road Sub-branch

Overseas athletes shall pay the entry fees directly to the organizer upon arrival.

12.5 Organizing Committee Office

Address: Shanghai Pudong Billiards Association (Address 3/F, No.201, Yun Lian Road, Pudong, Shanghai)

Contact: Ms. Zhang Xi

TEL: +86 (0) 21-50936220



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E-mail: chinaopen_9ball@126.com

12.6 Airport transfer services for international athletes

12.6.1 Shanghai Pudong Int. Airport

The transfer service fee from Shanghai Pudong International Airport to the VOCO Shanghai Zhangjiang Hotel is 150 RMB per person and 300 RMB for a round trip;

12.6.2 Shanghai Hongqiao Int. Airport

The transfer service fee from Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport to the VOCO Shanghai Zhangjiang Hotel is 250 RMB per person and 500 RMB for a round trip.

12.6.3 Ordering of Airport transfer

The airport transfer service needs to be requested and confirmed before [August 25th Tuesday](#) and transfer service fees shall be paid to the organizer upon arrival.

13. RULES AND FORMAT

13.1 WPA 9-Ball Rules

All matches shall be played in accordance with latest WPA 9-Ball rules with the Three-Ball Break Rule included. The pocket openings of the tables will remain the same as the 2025 China Open, the corner pockets will be 4" (with the drop point 41 mm away from the jaws of the pocket opening) and the middle pockets will be 4.5".

13.2 Two stages

The 2026 China Open consists of 2 Stages.

Stage 1 (qualifying events): Winner breaks.

Men's events: Single elimination, race to 9.

Women's events: Single elimination, race to 7.

This stage consists of 3 chances. Each athlete is eligible to play all three events. Each event shall be started respectively with a maximum of 128 men athletes and 64 women athletes. Eight men athletes and eight women athletes will be qualified to the Stage 2, specifically with two men and two women from the first event, two men and two women from the second event, four men and four women from the third event.

Stage 2 (main events): Two phases. Alternative breaks.

- Phase 1 (Group round): 64 men athletes will be divided into 8 groups, double elimination, race to 9; 48 women athletes will be divided into 8 groups, double elimination, race to 7.

Men's: four athletes of each group will qualify to the Phase 2, with two athletes from the winner's bracket and two athletes from the loser's bracket;



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Women's: two athletes of each group will qualify to the Phase 2, with one athlete from the winner's bracket and one athlete from the loser's bracket.

- Phase 2 (Play-off Round): 32 men athletes, single elimination, race to 11; 16 women athletes, single elimination, race to 9.

13.3 Seeding

Stage 1: No athlete will be seeded.

Stage 2: Top 16 men athletes and Top 16 women athletes will be seeded according to the WPA latest rankings (by July 31th 2026), with the champion for 2025 seeded as the number 1 (if participating).

13.4 Seeding and draw in Phase 2

Athletes advanced from the winner's bracket (16 men and 8 women) will be seeded into Phase 2 Play-off Round according to their competition results in the Phase 1 following a snake shape, athletes advanced from the loser's bracket will be drawn randomly, with the following exception: An athlete advancing from the losers' qualification bracket will not be drawn against an athlete they previously faced in the winners' bracket.

13.5 Shot Clock

A Shot clock shall be used in each match. Each athlete will have 35 seconds per shot, a warning will be given when 10 seconds remain, a countdown will be given when 5 seconds remains. Each athlete will be allowed one 25-second extension during each rack. No shot clock is used in the deciding/final rack.

13.6 Time Out

Each athlete can take one time-out of 5 minutes during one match and must be taken between racks.

13.7 Ball Rack Template

Ball Rack Templates will be used to rack the balls with the 9-ball on the spot in the center of the diamond. Athletes can check but are not allowed to ask the referee to adjust the rack. According to WPA 9-Ball rules, at least 3 object balls must either be pocketed or cross the head string as a result of a break in order for it to be legal. Circumstances below are legal breaks:

- No object ball is pocketed and at least 3 or more object balls cross the head string.
- 1 object ball is pocketed and at least 2 or more object balls cross the head string;
- 2 object balls are pocketed and at least 1 or more object ball crosses the head string;
- 3 object balls are pocketed, and other object balls do not have to cross the head string;

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E. If athlete A's break is considered illegal, athlete B has the option either to accept the table as it is, or hand it back to the athlete A who breaks;

F. If athlete B accepts the table as it is, he/she cannot perform a push-out;

G. If athlete A is chosen to continue the play, he/she can perform a push-out;

H. If the 9-ball is pocketed in an illegal break, it will be re-spotted before the next action is taken, the opponent will choose to play or not.

13.8 Appeal Methods and Procedures

A. All complaints, objections or disagreements should be raised before the next shot if the athlete does not agree with the judgments made by the duty referees, otherwise it will not be attended to.

B. If an athlete disagrees with the judgment made by the referees on duty, the athlete can make complaints to the Head Referee, and the Head Referee's decision shall be final.

14. AWARDS

Trophies will be provided to the champions, runners-up and third places. The prize money breakdown – see table below:

Prize money (Tax rate 20%)	Men		Women	
	USD	After tax	USD	After tax
Winner	40000	32000	36000	28800
Runner-up	20000	16000	18000	14400
The 3 rd -4 th	10000	8000	9000	7200
The 5 th -8 th	6000	4800	5400	4320
The 9 th -16 th	3000	2400	2700	2160
The 17 th -32 nd	2000	1600	1800	1440
The 33 rd -64 th (Men) The 33 rd -48 th (Women)	1500	1200	1350	1080
Sub Total	208,000		165,600	
Total Prize Money	\$373,600.00			

Please be noted: The prize money is before tax and shall be deducted at a rate of 20% as the withheld

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tax by the organizers in accordance with national tax regulations. The organizers are responsible to provide the athletes with the applicable tax certificates.

15. EXPENSES

Athletes are responsible for their own expenses in respect of his/her participation in the China Open. The Event Organizing Committee will be responsible for staff & referees' round trip tickets, accommodation and allowances.

16. CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

16.1 Cooperation

Athletes understand and shall fully cooperate with the arrangements and abide by the regulations of the Event Organizing Committee.

16.2 Arrival on time

Athletes are required to arrive in time and abide by the event regulations including but not limited to attending all related activities according to the Athletes' Notice.

16.3 Physical check

Athletes are required to undergo physical check before participation and apply for personal accident insurance on their own.

16.4 Stand-By

Athletes shall have to be stand-by at the Call Area 30 minutes before their match time. If the Head Referee announced Match Start and an athlete failed to be present, they shall be deemed as conceding of their match and the match will be awarded to the their opponent. A first rack is lost after 5 minutes, a second rack after 10 minutes, and the whole match after 15 minutes.

16.5 Tobacco & Mobile phones

No smoking in the venue. Active athletes must have their mobile phones on silent mode and it must be stowed away so that they are not visible, and a vibration cannot be noticed.

16.6 Gambling & Disorderly Behaviour

Any forms of gambling, any illegal disorderly and unethical behavior is strictly forbidden during the tournament, any of these violations will be dealt seriously in accordance with the relevant regulations.

16.7 Match Fixing

Any forms of match-fixing or disguised manipulation of the match results is strictly prohibited. Once found out, it will be dealt in accordance with the relevant regulations and those serious cases will be transferred to the judicial authorities.

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16.8 Dress Code

All athletes are obliged to ensure their play attire meet with the requirements of the dress code as follows.

16.8.1 Male Athletes

Nice shirt with collar and sleeves, long dress pants of dark color, black leather dress shoes.

16.8.2 Female Athletes

Elegant tops, long dress pants of dark color, black leather dress shoes.

16.9 Promotional Activities

Stage 2 Athletes are obliged to attend the sponsors' promotional events for one time organized by the Event Organizing Committee. Athletes of Stage 2 will not be allowed to appear in any other commercial activities or events during the China Open event (September 7th to 14nd 2026) without a prior consent in writing from the Event Organizing Committee. In the event the Athlete does not comply with the notice provision set out in this clause and he/she is found violating this clause, the Athlete will be disqualified by the Event Organizing Committee.

16.10 Attendance

All athletes must attend the activities in relation to the China Open including sponsor activities, athletes' meetings, the opening ceremony, and the closing ceremony, unless the Athlete has submitted a reasonable report and been approved by the Event Organizing Committee beforehand, otherwise the Athlete failed to appear may receive penalty decisions made by CBSA or the Event Organizing Committee in accordance with relevant regulations.

16.11 Sponsor Logos

Each athlete is allowed to wear a maximum of 4 Logos, 2 tournament sponsors logos and 2 athletes' personal logos including his/her national flag or emblem. Spots are only allowed on right/left chest, 2 spots maximum on each side of the chest. The maximum size of the Logos is 5cm*8cm, for round shape the maximum diameter is 7cm.

16.12 Tournament Logos

Tournament LOGOs: It is mandatory that athletes shall wear 2 tournament logos at the specified positions (Logo positions on the sleeves are reserved by the CBSA). The tournament logos will be made and provided by the Event Organizing Committee. In the event the Athlete does not comply with the notice provision set out in this clause, the Athlete is not allowed to play.

16.13 Personal Logos

Personal LOGOs: each athlete must wear her/his personal commercial logos or national flag or emblem on the specific spots. The Athlete will be prohibited from playing if logo(s) not on the stated positions. For the purpose of this clause the Athlete shall fill out the entry form with the logos of



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personal sponsors contemplated to appear on any apparel of the Athlete to the Event Organizing Committee for review and approval. Logo(s) not provided in the entry form, or not meet the measurement requirements, or logo(s) including any commercial or promotional material that may damage the interests of the hosts and tournament sponsors, the Athlete shall be prohibited from wearing such logo(s). The Athlete will be disqualified from the Event if the logo(s) not approved by the Event Organizing Committee and the Athlete refused to correct or make a change.

Athletes' personal logo(s) including or indicating political orientation, racial discrimination, gender discrimination, terrorism and any contents that go against the public interests, or in relation to betting, sex, violence, tobacco, or inappropriate for exhibition, and any contents prohibited by decree in Law of Advertisement and/or relevant regulations, the Event Organizing Committee is entitled to prohibit the athlete from wearing such logo(s).

16.14 Violations of Rules & Regulations

For violations of rules and regulations and the applicable laws during the China Open, CBSA will impose corresponding penalties in accordance with the *Rules and Punishment Regulations of the Chinese Billiards & Snooker Association*. If he/she disagreed with the outcome, he/she is entitled to submit to the Sports Arbitration Committee according the applicable laws.

17. Final Interpretation

The final interpretation of the above Tournament Regulations belongs to the CBSA and the Event Organizing Committee of China Open. Matters not included herein shall be subject to further notices.

Appendix:

[Entry Form](#)