



Information for Referees

RULE CLARIFICATION: BAULK-LINE CROSSING

In events, either timed or the long-up version, the baulk-line must be crossed between 80-99 in every 100 points in a break.

In the short up games, either 100 or 150 up, the baulk-line crossing must be made in any 100 break, between 80-99.

An explanation of the baulk-line crossing rule is as follows:-

Crossing the baulk-line must be made **into baulk**, i.e. against the nap of the cloth. The cue-ball is in Baulk when it rests centrally on the Baulk-line or between that line and the bottom cushion, but it does not have to return out of the Baulk area. Obviously it must be a legal scoring stroke. The example below is for the timed or long-up event.

The referee must state “baulk-line warning at 80” even if the player has scored a 5 point score at 79. i.e. his score would be 84, but the baulk-line warning would be at 80.

The baulk-line crossing must be made when the Break is within the tolerance, that is 80 up until 99.

If the referee fails to warn the player at the correct time, the player shall have the ‘forgotten’ points allowed. i.e. the referee fails to warn until the score is 86, then the player shall have an extra 6 points to cross the baulk-line, but then the next time in a continuous break will be at 180-199.

When the referee is satisfied that the cue-ball has crossed the baulk-line legally, he shall call the score and state “baulk-line crossed”

If the player is playing from in-hand, it is possible to screw back after making contact with a ball which is out of baulk, or to use a cushion, before crossing back into baulk to continue scoring.

If a player fails to cross the baulk-line during the stipulated 80-99points, it is a foul, and the incoming player will have the usual options.

The above explanation also applies to the short-up game.

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