

WDBS Belgian Open 2024

Closing Date: Friday 23 February 2024 (12.00pm GMT)



Dates:	15-17 March 2024 It is planned that the first matches will start no earlier than 6pm Friday, subject to the final number of entries. If required, players will be expected to play on Friday unless they can demonstrate exceptional circumstances before entering the event. Due to the likely volume of players, it may not be possible to accommodate requests to begin Saturday. <u>Should a group receive fewer than four entries, we reserve the right to combine classification groups.</u>
Groups:	All Classification Groups (1-8)
Venue:	The Trickshot, Gouden-Boomstraat 80, 8000 Bruges
Entry fee:	Main Tournaments: £25.00 Challenge Cup: FREE to players who do not qualify for the KO rounds. There is no official Friday Open Day at this event.
Format:	Group stage: Best of 3 frames Knockout stage: TBC subject to entries All matches to be played using 15 reds.
Minimum prize money:	To be confirmed subject to sponsorship and entries.
Draw/Format:	To be published on Tuesday 12 March or later.
Enter online:	Enter via WPBSA SnookerScores: https://snookerscores.net/events/2024-belgian-open To enter you are recommended to create a WPBSA SnookerScores account and follow the instructions to enter the event and pay your entry fee via either PayPal or by debit/credit card. Alternative paper entry instructions can be found below. Your entry and payment MUST be received before the event entry deadline of 12:00pm (GMT) 23 February 2024 . Your entry is not valid until you have entered, and we have received your entry fee.

Dress code:	<p>Collared shirt, waistcoat, trousers and smart shoes. A tie will be optional. If for any reason your disability means that this is not possible, please contact us to discuss this directly.</p> <p>Please refer to our Standard Terms of Entry below for full information on what is permitted and for the consequences of any breach of the dress code.</p>
Seeding cut-off:	<p>The official two-year WDBS Rankings after the 2024 British Open shall be used to seed this event.</p>
Logos and brand exclusion:	<p>WDBS will retain one logo, patch to be provided on arrival. A maximum of four logos to be worn during competition.</p> <p>Brand exclusion: N/A – WDBS reserves the right to implement subject to event sponsorship</p>
Hotels:	<p>Local hotel options include:</p> <p>Hotel Velotel Bruges (1.4m) - Please note that there is a discounted hotel rate at the Hotel Velotel when booking directly through their website using the discount code WDBSSNOOKER2024</p> <p>Martin's Bruges Hotel (1m) Hotel Ibis Brugge Centrum (1.2m) NH Bruges (1m) Ibis Bruges Centrum (2.1m) Hotel Monaco (9.6m)</p>
International Travel:	<p>Airports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ostend - Bruges Airport – 30-minute drive to venue • Brussels Airport Zaventem – 70-minute drive to venue • Brussels Airport Charleroi – 100 minute drive to venue <p>By Train: Bruges Central Station – 5-minute drive, 10 minutes by bus to venue</p> <p>WDBS Minibus</p> <p>As in previous years, WDBS plans to run a return minibus service from the UK to Bruges for the event. More information will be published at wdb.info.</p> <p>Bruges Travel Guide</p> <p>We have produced further information and travel advice which can be accessed HERE.</p>

Return entry form to:

WDBS, 75 Whiteladies Road, Bristol, BS8 2NT or to chris.hornby@wpbsa.com

Extras:	Rules The tournament will be played in accordance with the latest WPBSA Rules of Snooker and Billiards Rulebook available to view at the WPBSA website . It is the responsibility of the players to be aware of the current rules. Referees Please be aware that where the number of referees is limited, matches involving Groups 1+2 and 6A will be prioritised. Matches involving all other classification groups may be required to proceed without a match referee, but there will be roaming referees available at all times.
Further questions:	If you have any further questions about the tournament, then please do not hesitate to contact the team.

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Player Information			
First name:		Surname:	
Date of Birth:	-- / -- / ----		
Address:			
Tel (day):		Mobile:	
Email:			
Profile:		Group:	
Consent for photos to be taken during event:	<p>There are likely to be photographs and videos taken at WDBS events. WDBS may use such images for promotional material both at the current and future events and promotions across several media platforms.</p> <p>I confirm that I authorise WDBS to use the images taken of me at this WDBS event. This includes any reproductions or adaptation of the images for all general publicity purposes.</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>		
Individual's declaration:	<p>By signing this declaration, I agree that I have read and understood the notes and rules & procedures relating to this WDBS event. I understand that I have truthfully completed all the sections of this form including the survey/feedback form to the best of my knowledge at the time of completion.</p>		
Signature:		Date:	

Payment options

PayPal or Credit/Debit Card:

Online entry is now available for WDBS events via WPBSA SnookerScores:

<https://snookerscores.net/events/2024-belgian-open>

To enter you will be required to create a WPBSA SnookerScores account and follow the instructions to enter the event and pay your entry fee via either PayPal or by debit/credit card.

Further guidance: <https://www.wdbs.info/tournaments/how-to-enter/>

Bank transfer:

Bank Name: Natwest, Account Name: World Disability Billiards and Snooker

Account Number: 89089073, Sort Code: 52-10-03

For reference, please add your initials, followed by 'BELGIUM'. For example 'CHBELGIUM'

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WDBS Tournament Rules

BY ENTERING THIS EVENT YOU AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THE [WDBS STANDARD CONDITIONS OF ENTRY](#)

Full WDBS rules of competition are available here: <https://www.wdbs.info/tournaments/rules/>

Dress code: Collared shirt, waistcoat, trousers and smart shoes. A tie will be optional. If for any reason your disability means that this is not possible, please contact us to discuss this directly.

Food: Players and their supporters are kindly asked to support our host clubs and not to bring their own food and drink to venues.

Lateness: If you know that you are going to arrive late for the start of play on any day of the tournament, or for any match during the tournament, please contact the tournament director as soon as possible. Should we not hear from you, the tournament director reserves the right to enforce tournament rules, e.g. to dock frames in accordance with our rules of competition.

Non-completion of matches: Please note that if you do not complete your group stage matches all of your results will be deleted from the group table. This can affect who progresses from the group and so we encourage all players to complete their group matches unless there is a genuine reason why they cannot.

If you cannot complete your matches, please inform a member of the team as soon as possible so we can ensure that you are ok and adjust the match schedule accordingly.

Please note - Players who do not complete all of their scheduled matches will forfeit any prize money otherwise earned at the event.

Disability Classification

There are 36 individual WDBS profiles, grouped into eight classification groups. For more information read more at our website: <https://www.wdbs.info/classification/> If you are unsure of your profile or group please contact WDBS by telephone on 0117 317 8200.

Competitors must declare all prosthetics and sport specific aids when entering an event as it may change their group and/or profile. It should also be declared when requesting classification.

Group 6

WDBS tournaments include classification groups 6A and 6B for people with a range of intellectual disabilities, neurodevelopmental disorders and neurological conditions.

- [View the Eligibility Criteria](#)
- [Download the self-declaration form \(all Group 6 players\)](#)
- [Download the Endorsement form \(Group 6A players only\)](#)

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We aim to be as inclusive as possible and therefore while we follow Paralympic/International Sports Federation for Persons with Intellectual Disability (Virtus) and Special Olympics Great Britain criteria, we do allow some people that would not fit to compete in our events.

What Does Having Intellectual Disabilities Mean?

Intellectual disabilities (ID) or learning disabilities is a term used when a person has certain limitations in cognitive functioning and skills, including communication, social and self-care skills.

- Intellectual disabilities originate from a wide range of health conditions.
- Having intellectual disabilities means that the brain has developed differently during childhood and adolescence, resulting in lowered cognitive abilities (intelligence) and impaired adaptive behaviour – the skills needed to manage everyday life such as communication, social relationships and self-care skills.

People with intellectual disabilities will be eligible for **Group 6A**

People who do **not** have intellectual disabilities but do have certain neurodevelopmental disorders (e.g. autism spectrum disorder) or neurological conditions (e.g. acquired brain injury) may be eligible for **Group 6B**.

- View our [Eligibility Criteria](#) in full
- To enter WDBS events, **all** Group 6 players should complete a [self-declaration form](#)
- Those entering Group 6A who cannot, upon request, provide the required documentation listed in the self-declaration form, will need to complete an eligibility [Endorsement Form](#)

Should entries for either 6A or 6B events be low for an event, either competition may be cancelled. WDBS will no longer hold combined events with players of both groups competing against each other.

Group 7

All Group 7 players **MUST** be British Blind Sport classified and produce a copy of their BBS certificate prior to their first competition.

The cost of classification is £20.00 for a member of British Blind Sport. Following receipt of your classification result WDBS will discount the membership cost from your first event. Should you be charged by your optician for completing your form, upon proof of costs WDBS will also offer up to a maximum of two free event entries.

For more information please visit:

<https://britishblindsport.org.uk/educationandresearch/classifications/>

Group 8

All Group 8 players **must** provide an audiogram showing a loss of hearing of **55 decibels in the better ear** at frequencies 500Hz, 1000Hz, and 2000Hz, in accordance with Audiogram Regulations set out by the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf, adopted by Deaflympics that can be accessed here:

<https://www.deaflympics.com/pdf/AudiogramRegulations.pdf>

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WDBS STANDARD CONDITIONS OF ENTRY 1.6

Issued: 31st May 2023



All events staged by World Disability Billiards and Snooker (WDBS) are subject to the following Standard Conditions of Entry which are subject to change at the discretion of WDBS. **Please be reminded that all players are responsible for keeping WDBS up to date with their current email address.**

WPBSA Members Rules and Disciplinary Rules

All Players: From the date of entry to any WDBS event until 28 days after the conclusion of the event all players entering WDBS events are bound by the [WPBSA Conduct Regulations](#),

The General Obligations under the Members Rules can be found here:

<https://wpbsa.com/governance/members-rules/>

Please ensure that you have read and understand the terms and conditions of entry, rules, and regulations of the WPBSA.

Entry Criteria: All WDBS events are open to players of any age, gender or nationality, who fall within one of the [WDBS Classification profiles](#) included at that event. All entries are subject to board approval and WDBS reserves the right to refuse entry where appropriate.

Entry/closing dates: Entry fees (cleared funds) for all WDBS tournaments must be received together with a completed entry form (online or paper) by 4:30pm BST on the relevant closing date as set out within each tournament entry pack in order for your entry to be accepted into the event. Entry fees are non-refundable following the event entry deadline & payable via bank transfer or PayPal. Late entries may be accepted after the closing date at the absolute discretion of WDBS. Please note that if paying by bank transfer this may take a number of days so allow sufficient time for your payment to be transferred.

Prize Money: Prize money for each event is defined on the Event Entry Form or will be communicated to players either prior to or at the event itself. For payment to be paid directly into your account WDBS requires a completed bank nomination form from you. It is the players' sole responsibility to ensure WDBS has a completed up to date bank nomination form at all times, blank forms to be available at each event.

Draw & Format: Each event draw will be conducted by WDBS as soon as possible after the closing date of entry. The format is to be decided at the discretion of the Tournament Director and the WDBS board. Progression at tournaments will be determined in accordance with the [WDBS Draw Information Guidelines](#) in force at the time.

Ranking Points: WDBS Ranking Points are awarded in line with the latest ranking points schedules provided on our website. Points from historic events are removed in line with the latest re-ranking points document.

Seeding Structure – Unless otherwise stated in the Event Entry Pack the defending champion (if applicable) will be number 1 seed and the remaining players will be seeded according to the official WDBS world ranking lists. Players on equal ranking points will be seeded based on the best performance (stage/round reached through winning a match) working backwards from the most recent ranking event.

There will be one seed allocated per group. Unseeded players will be drawn at random.

Classification: Events are open to players from specific [WDBS classification groups](#) as set out in the event entry pack. Classification is declared on a self-declaration process at the point of event entry. The WDBS board reserves the right to change a player's classification where this is appropriate or has been selected in error. Specific guidance relating to groups can be found within each event entry pack and on our website.

Dress Code: Long sleeved shirt or blouse, fastened waistcoat & optional bow tie with trousers (not jeans) or skirt & shoes should be worn unless otherwise stated in the Event Entry Pack. We do NOT allow footwear including trainers, running shoes, sneakers, sandals, slippers, boots or playing with bare feet. The decision of the Tournament Director will be final in respect of Non-adherence to the Dress Code. Non-compliance with the Dress Code will result in a breach of the terms and conditions of entry for this tournament. For the avoidance of doubt WDBS may on the Tournament Director's discretion consider the appropriate sanction in this case MAY be withdrawal from the tournament without refund of the entry fee. The Tournament Director also reserves the right to report a player to the WPBSA for a breach of the dress code.

Mobile Phones/Electronic Communication Devices: Players are NOT permitted to use any mobile phones or other electronic communication devices during the course of a match, unless during permitted breaks of at least 15 minutes. Any player seen in breach of this by any WDBS tournament official or referee will be reported to the Tournament Director and will be dealt with by the Tournament Director on conclusion of the match. The Tournament Director will then determine whether any sanction is required taking account of any mitigating circumstances. The only available sanction in this case to be at the discretion of the tournament director MAY be withdrawal from the tournament without refund of entry fee. The Tournament Directors decision will be final in respect of exceptional mitigating circumstances.

Smoking/E-cigarettes: Players are NOT permitted to smoke or use e-cigarettes during the course of a match, unless during permitted breaks of at least 15 minutes. Any player seen in breach of this by any WDBS tournament official or referee will be reported to the Tournament Director and will be dealt with by the Tournament Director on conclusion of the match. The Tournament Director will then determine whether any sanction is required taking account of any mitigating circumstances. The only available sanction in this case to be at the discretion of the tournament director MAY be withdrawal from the tournament without refund of entry fee. The Tournament Director's decision will be final in respect of exceptional mitigating circumstances.

Coaching: Coaching is not permitted during play. For the avoidance of doubt this includes between frames during the current session, unless during permitted breaks of at least 15 minutes. Any player seen in breach of this by any WDBS tournament official or referee will be reported to the Tournament Director and will be dealt with by the Tournament Director on conclusion of the match. The Tournament Director will then determine whether any sanction is required taking account of any mitigating circumstances. The only available sanction in this case to be at the discretion of the tournament director MAY be withdrawal from the tournament without refund of entry fee. The Tournament Directors decision will be final in respect of exceptional mitigating circumstances.

Grievances:

- a. Should the Player wish to make any criticism or complaint or raise any grievance in respect of any matter relating to WDBS or its employees or directors, a Referee, Tournament, Director, Equipment, any of the Partners or any of the Venues at any time then the Player shall do so by:
 - i. Contacting the Referee for those complaints relating to Equipment or other item which affects the Player's ability to play snooker during a Match.

ii. Contacting the Tournament Director for those complaints arising during a WDBS Event.

iii. Contacting a board member in writing for any other complaint or grievance.

Any player found to have made public any grievance outside of the above options shall be reported to the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director will then determine whether any sanction is required taking account of any mitigating circumstances. At the discretion of the tournament director sanction MAY be withdrawal from the tournament without refund of entry fee and/or referral to the WPBSA.

Social Media Guidelines: Players are to be aware of the [WPBSA Social Media Guidelines](#). Please note that a breach of the WPBSA social media guidelines is likely to be reported to the WPBSA disciplinary committee.

WDBS Disciplinary Procedure: In the event of any breach of these terms and conditions reported by the Tournament Director or any other party the WDBS Disciplinary Rules shall apply

Transgender Policy: WDBS and its events operate in accordance with the official WPBSA Trans and Gender Diverse Policy.

Roaming Referees: If a dispute arises in a match where there is no match referee, either player has the right to call upon a roaming referee. In the event of there not being a roaming referee either player has the right to call upon the senior referee. If neither available, either player may call the Tournament Director.

Lateness: Where a player arrives late for their scheduled match time, a frame will be docked at the scheduled start time. A second frame will be docked fifteen minutes later and then after every five minutes until the match is over. Regardless of the scheduled length of the match, once a player has been docked five frames the match is over.

WDBS Events Rule Adaptations: WDBS has introduced specific [WDBS Events Rule Adaptations](#) relevant for players with disabilities at WDBS events that will be enforced unless otherwise notified.

Logos: Players are permitted to wear up to four logos, to cover an area no greater than 6 square inches (38.7 square cm). WDBS reserves the right to apply brand exclusion on an event by event basis. This will be notified clearly within the entry pack for each relevant tournament where applicable. WDBS reserves the right to hold one logo place back for event title sponsor or WPBSA/WDBS partner, players to be notified in advance.

Accommodation: Each player is responsible for the payment of their hotel and expenses at WDBS events. If you request WDBS to reserve you a room with the host country, WDBS may assist in making a booking in the hotel/location, however following reservation, any changes, cancellation fees, early/late check in/out, travel to and from the airport are the responsibility of you the player unless agreed in advance by WDBS. WDBS will not be responsible for any charges incurred. If you do not pay for your hotel then this may be referred to the WPBSA who will have the right to withhold prize money to pay any outstanding charges.

Cancellation/Relocation/Postponement: If a tournament is cancelled, relocated or postponed entry fees will be refunded.

Non-attendance: In the event that you cannot appear at a tournament that you have entered you must inform WDBS as soon as possible as this will impact upon the draw. If you do not inform us you this will be considered a breach of the Event Conditions and MAY be subject to the WDBS Disciplinary Rules.

Non-completion: Players must complete all of their scheduled matches at events unless there are exceptional circumstances. If you do not complete your matches this will be considered a breach of the Event Conditions and MAY be subject to the WDBS Disciplinary Rules. Players who do not complete all of their scheduled matches will forfeit any prize money otherwise earned at the event.

Photo/Video Consent: There are likely to be photographs and videos taken at WDBS events. WDBS may use such images for promotional material both at the current and future events and promotions across a number of media platforms.

Data Use: WDBS will use the information you provide on your event entry to contact you and provide updates e.g. email newsletters. You can unsubscribe at any time. View our [Privacy Policy](#) online.

Presentations: Medallists must be available to attend medal/trophy presentations if required by the WDBS, unless explicitly permitted not to by the WDBS.

Please ensure that you have read and understand the terms and conditions of entry, rules and regulations of the WDBS and its governing body the WPBSA.