



WORLD BLACKBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

20-28 OCTOBER 2026

THISTLE HOTEL, HEATHROW - **LONDON**

OFFICIAL TABLE OF THE 2026 WORLD BLACKBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS **IRONMAN**



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HOSTED BY BRITISH POOL FEDERATION (BPF) Blackball
On behalf of the World Pool Association (WPA)



2026 WORLD BLACKBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

WELCOME

The World Pool Association is pleased to confirm that the 2026 WPA Blackball World Championships will take place in the United Kingdom.

The championship will bring together leading nations from across the world for ten days of elite international competition, celebrating excellence, integrity and world-class cuesports on the global stage.

ABOUT

This guide provides essential information for the Federation that will participating in the 2026 World Blackball Championships, sanctioned by the World Pool Association (WPA), and hosted by the British Pool Federation.

WHAT IS THE 2026 WORLD BLACKBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS?

The 2026 Blackball World Championships is the first sanctioned event for Blackball as a WPA discipline. English Pool thus joins American Pool and Chinese Pool in the WPA, marking a new step forward in the global structuring of Pool.

More and more nations are incorporating English pool into their national competitions, and the world championships offer the best players among them the opportunity to represent their countries.

With this first event, the WPA wishes to continue building on the foundations of Blackball, but also to take it to the next level by offering the best playing conditions and prize money commensurate with a high-level global event.

With the help of our partners Dynasphère, Rasson, and Liber Win, the WPA has great ambitions for Blackball in the years to come.

1. Venue

Thistle London Heathrow Terminal 5, Heathrow Airport, **London, United Kingdom.**

- Shuttle service operates between Heathrow Terminal 5 and the hotel
- Large ballroom suitable for full championship arena build
- Excellent transport links into central London

2. Championship Dates

- Arrival: 19 October 2026
- **Opening Ceremony: 20 October 2026**
- Competition Dates: 20–28 October 2026
- **Presentation Dinner: 28 October 2026**
- Departure: 29 October 2026

The full championship schedule will be confirmed once all nations have returned their official entry forms and deposits.

3. Prize Fund

- The WPA has opened the prize fund with **\$100,000**.
- This amount will be significantly increased to further improve the prize funds for teams, doubles and singles.
- The final distribution of the prize fund will be confirmed once registration closes.

4. Official Equipement

- Tables: Rasson Ironman
- Balls: Dynasphere Blackball
- Cloth: LiberWin



5. Tournament format and dress code

- All matches will be played under official **WPA Blackball Rules**
- Official referees will be appointed

Dress Code Requirements:

- Official team shirt
- Dress trousers
- Dress shoes

The following are strictly prohibited:

- Jeans
- Tracksuit bottoms
- Trainers

6. Competition Categories

There will be two events, **The World Championship**, and **The Hawley Cup**

- World Championship- open to all countries
- Hawley Cup – open to all islands and countries sending second teams.
- All players will be entered into the singles of the World Championships.

A – World Championships

- **Mens**
- **Women**
- **Wheelchair**
- **Under 15:** players born after January 1, 2011
- **Under 18:** players born after January 1, 2008
- **Under 23:** players born after January 1, 2003
- **Seniors** (over 40): players born before October 20, 1986
- **Masters** (over 50): players born before October 20, 1976
- **Grandmasters** (over 60): players born before October 20, 1966

B – Hawley Cup

- **Men**
- **Women**

7. Events Format

Teams

- Round Robin followed by Knockout in each category.
- 5 Player Team Event: Mens, Womens, Seniors, Masters
- 3 Player Team Event: U15, U18, U23, Grandmasters

Singles & Doubles Format

- Single elimination in each category.
- Double elimination in the Wheelchair event.

8. Conduct & Discipline

Zero tolerance for

- Abuse
- Harassment
- Discrimination
- Gambling violations
- Match fixing.

Alcohol is strictly prohibited in and close to the Playing Arena.

9. Safeguarding and player welfare

The **British Pool Federation Blackball**, in partnership with the **WPA**, is fully committed to providing a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for all participants, officials and volunteers.

- Each nation must appoint a responsible Team Manager or Guardian for all Under 18 players
- Under 18 players must not be left unsupervised at any time.

- Dedicated Playing Arena space allocated.

10. Entry Fees

Singles: £100 per player

Doubles: £50 per player

Teams: No entry fee

11. Official Accommodation

- The hotel provides 200 twin/double rooms and all facilities required to host a world-class championship.
- Room Rate: £185 per night (based on 2 people sharing)
- Package includes:
 - Breakfast
 - Bottled water
 - Soft drinks
 - 15% discount off main menu
 - Specially priced players menu
- Rooms will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.
- A 30% deposit is required to secure room allocation.
- Long-distance nations arriving early or departing after the event should indicate this within their official form submission.

12. Official Accommodation Policy

All participants must stay in **British Pool Federation Blackball** allocated accommodation. Any outside booking will not be permitted entry into the event.

13. Presentation Dinner

- A Presentation Dinner will be held following the finals.
- Cost: £49 per person.
- All players and officials are welcome to attend.

14. Nation Confirmation

- All nations are requested to confirm their intention to participate by **1st June 2026**.
- Upon confirmation, official entry forms and deposit instructions will be issued.
- **All confirmations and correspondence must be sent to:** blackball@britishpoolfederation.co.uk