



PLAYING RULES

“Roller Ball”



DOUBLES

THE SERVE

The serve shall begin with the ball being tossed into play between the two 5-man rods at the middle of the playfield.

- a. The player with the serve must ask the opponent “ready/ via” and may only serve the ball after the direct opponent responds with “ready/go/ vai”. The player in possession of the ball has three seconds to toss the ball into play. The opposing teams’ 5-man rod must be perpendicular to the playfield during the serve. The 3-man rod of the serving team can only be lifted if grasped.
- b. Once the “Via/ready” is heard the ball must be tossed against the opposite side wall. It is considered legal to spin the ball into the opposite wall in order to gain the advantage on the serve.
- c. The ball must be served in a single movement with the players hand at the edge of the field without obstructing the opponent’s view of the ball. ([video nr.1+2](#))
- d. After the ball has touched the opposite side wall, it may be directly advanced by any figure on the 5-man rod.
- e. In order for the serve to be valid, the ball must be directly advanced from the 5-man rod with a single contact.
- f. If the ball touches the top edge of the side wall while being tossed into play, it is considered invalid and must be repeated. ([video nr. 3](#))
- g. If there are two consecutive serve errors committed by the same player, even by accident, the serve is awarded to the opponent. ([video nr. 4](#))
- h. In the shooting phase of the serve, it is considered a foul to strike the ball twice with one or more playing figures. ([video nr. 5](#))

RESUMING PLAY

If the ball becomes dead between the two 5-man rods, play shall resume with a serve at the 5-man rod by the team last score upon. If the ball goes off the table or goes dead anywhere else on the table, it shall be put into play from the nearest goalie area. *(same as international)*

The ball must touch both the back wall and then a side wall before it may be legally advanced. The counting of the number of touches allowed begins after the ball has struck both the back and side walls. [\(video nr. 6+7\)](#)

1. The two defensive rods are allowed a maximum of 3 touches, including a defensive block and the final strike to advance the ball. [\(video nr. 8 \(ok\)+ video nr. 9 \(not acceptable\)\)](#)
2. The ball may strike both the back and side walls within the 3 touches allowed and may also be passed between the goalie and defensive rods. [\(video nr. 8\)](#)
3. The forward rods are allowed a maximum of 3 touches including a defensive block and the final strike to advance the ball. [\(video nr. 10 \(ok\) + video nr. 11 \(not acceptable\)\)](#)
4. On the forward rods and within the maximum number of touches allowed, the ball may be legally hit against the side walls.
5. If the ball should go into the goal by flying above the goalie rod, the point shall not count and play shall resume in the goalie area where the ball entered the goal.
6. If the ball stops in a players' area after a defensive block, the serve is awarded to the opposing team at the 5-man rod. [\(See point A. page 1\)](#)
7. The ball must always be in motion during play and may not come to a complete stop. If the ball stops in a players' area the serve is awarded to the opposing team at the 5-man rod.
8. It is not a foul if the ball stops anywhere on the table where it would be out of reach of any playing figure and considered a dead ball.
9. If the ball strikes a playing figure causing it to fly above the rods and then subsequently played into the goal, the goal will be considered legal unless the ball flies over the goalie rod into the goal.
10. If the ball touches two player figures on the same rod after gaining possession following the opponents serve, it must touch a side wall before it may be struck again by any figure on that rod. [\(video nr. 13\)](#)

11. If the ball touches two player figures on the 3-man rod after a shot from the opponents' goalie rods, it must touch a side wall before it may be struck again by any figure on that rod. [\(video nr. 14 + 15\)](#)
12. It is considered legal to pass the ball from one rod to another rod regardless of whether the ball goes forward or backwards. *(same as international)*
13. Fouls can only be called by the team affected by the infraction. The call must be done immediately and by clearly announcing "Stop", "No", "Foul", or similar.
14. If a team makes an incorrect call, the ball will be awarded to the opposing team for serve at the 5-man rod.
15. To begin a technical foul shot, the ball must be put into play from the center figure of the 3-man rod.
16. Players may disregard a foul by the opponent if they believe it would be to their advantage to continue play.
17. It is considered an illegal spin to rotate any rod more than 360 ° when striking the ball. After an illegal spin, play shall resume at the opponents 5-man for serve.
18. It is illegal to cause the table to move by banging or jarring the rod against the wall. If a team is penalized for jarring, play shall resume at the opponents 5-man for serve.
19. When striking the ball, the players hand must remain in constant contact with the handle. If a player lets go of the handle during a shot, play shall resume at the opponents 5-man for serve.
20. It is not allowed to change hands during the match.
21. The ball can be touched twice by the same man on the same rod and then advanced as long as it first hits the side wall and doesn't exceed the maximum number of touches allowed. [\(video nr. 16\)](#)
22. After blocking an opponents' shot, the ball may be directly struck with a second touch, otherwise, it must strike a side wall before being advanced. [\(video nr. 17\)](#)
23. If the ball is blocked with the front of the playing figure, it may be struck again with the same figure without having to strike a side wall. [\(video nr. 18\)](#)
24. If the ball touches the back of any man, it must strike a side wall before being advanced.

SINGLES

25. Singles is played by the same rules as Doubles except for the variations below.

26. The rods cannot be elevated unless grasped by the player.

27. If the ball is caught by a man on an un-grasped rod, the first touch is not counted, however, the ball must strike a side wall before it may be legally advanced. **(video nr. [19](#) + [20](#))**

28. The rods may only be positioned or played by a players' hands or arms during play.