

The World Championships 1-Cushion

In the attempts to replace the free game, which had become monotonous due to the American Series, with a new discipline, the one-cushion game, the first so-called World Championship of Professionals in this discipline was held in New York from November 14-19, 1881. The Canadian Joseph Dion won with a general average of 3,40. In total, 8 of the 10 players had a general average of over three. This was the only championship for professional players in this discipline, as the newly developed and very popular balkline dominated the game too quickly.

It was not until the early 1930s that tournaments were held again in the professional academies in Paris with international participation. In contrast, the first world championships in one cushion were organized by the "Union Internationale des Fédérations d'Amateurs de Billard" (UIFAB) from 1934. Three years later, one cushion once again disappeared from the schedule of world championships and only returned to the spotlight in 1968 and from 1974 to 1984 thanks to the initiative of the Belgian Billiards Federation. After three tournaments in the 1990s, there was another break of 10 years. The 2007 World Championship in Spain was followed by another in France in 2014.

In the meantime, the UMB had removed all classic disciplines from the tournament schedule with the exception of one cushion, but there has not yet been another world championship.

Before the Second World War, the game distance was 150 points, and with the attempted revival from 1968, the game was played on 200 points until 1984. The set system came into play in 1992, before the last championships in 1995, 1997, 2007 and 2014 went over 150 points again.

The best general average was achieved by Belgian Ludo Dielis in 1974 with 16,16 for games up to 200 points. At the distance of 150 points, Jean Paul de Bruijn from the Netherlands achieved 16,40 in 2007.

The highest tournament average of 9,25 was played by eight players in 1983 in Rucphen, the Netherlands, with a total of 28 games played at a distance of 200 points.