

## The World Championships in 3-cushion - Ladies

The introduction of World Challenge tournaments and world championships in the junior sector certainly had a positive effect on the realization of the desire for similar competitions in women's billiards. In addition, efforts were made at the turn of the last century to promote the three cushion game among women. A "Ladies Tour" with events in the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and Spain was launched and in the Netherlands a professionally managed women's three cushion team competed in the general league.

The first step towards a women's three cushion world championship was the Ladies World Masters in the Netherlands in 1999. This was followed three years later by the 1st World Challenge in Spain, before the first World Championship took place in October 2004.

In the earlier tournaments, a fixed distance of points was played, which was dropped again for the official title matches in favor of the set system. Initially, 10-point sets were used, later 12-point sets, which were also subject to a shot limit in the group phase. With the best of three system, a luck factor also became increasingly important in the basic round, which was somewhat decreased by the change to three winning sets from the quarter-finals onwards. From 2012, fixed distances of 25 or 30 points were used again.

Two players dominated the women's three cushion world championships. Initially, it was the Japanese Orië Hida, who won the first 6 tournaments and was successful seven times in total. Therese Klompenhower (NL) is currently the world's best player with a total of 5 titles. She also holds the record for general average with 1,393 over 6 matches. She shares the best game average of 1.785 with Orië Hida.