

The World Championships Team - Coupe Glorieux

In 1906, a championship for national teams, the “Coupe Glorieux”, was established. The professional Emile Glorieux (BE) was in charge, who initiated a world championship for teams of national teams, for “equipes national”, similar to the individual world championship in Cadre 45/2.

However, this tournament was not given the title of an official world championship until 1935, as there was no world federation until 1923 and the UIFAB (Union Internationale des Fédérations d’Amateurs de Billard) only became involved with the game of multi disciplines in 1933.

The “Coupe Glorieux” was to be played every year or every season from 1906 in Brussels in Cadre 45/2. Each team consisted of at least three players. The planned distance was 400 points.

As there were just two federations at the beginning (in France and Belgium), there was initially a duel in which “mixed” teams could also compete, i.e. with players from other nations. These players (such as Albert Poensgen, Rudolphe Agassiz, etc.) were then members of one of these two national federations, as their countries did not yet have their own federation.

On 14.1.1906, a committee was set up by the Belgian federation to organize and run the Coupe Glorieux, consisting of Theo Moons, Francois Weerts, A. Hecking, A. Garsou, Henri Maréchal, Simon, Jaussens, Robert Glorieux and two delegates from the FFB/FSFAB - Raymond de Dree and Charles Darantière.

The first tournament took place on 20.3.1906 in Brussels. This world championship for teams was played every year, always in Brussels until 1926. Other new national federations were added (Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland).

In the 1908/09 season, there was a separate scoring system for matches, although this was immediately abolished a year later.

Between 1927 and 1932, there was no Coupe Glorieux as a team competition, but as a tournament for 1st class players, which was not counted as a world championship.

From the 1932/33 season, the UIFAB expanded the Coupe Glorieux into a championship for national teams with 7 disciplines and from the 1935/36 season, the tournament was also given the status of an official world championship for national teams with 5 disciplines (free game, balkline 45/2, balkline 71/2, three cushion and artistic). The knockout system was used, with the defending champion being seeded for the final (similar to the Davis Cup in tennis). Accordingly, the matches took place at different locations.