

## The World Championships National Teams - Triathlon

As a result of the European Championships for national teams in pentathlon, which had been taking place for some time, there was also a growing desire in the UMB for a world championship for national teams in the combined discipline. At the beginning of 1988, the German Billiard Federation organized a tournament for national teams in triathlon with the disciplines balkline 71/2, one cushion and three cushion for the opening of a new center of billiards in Bottrop. The tournament was very well received by players and officials. Compared to a pentathlon, the triathlon also required significantly less effort and was easier to organize; only three players were needed per nation and the number of games was significantly lower.

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The first world championship of this kind began four months later in Essen in January 1989. Another year later, the first billiards trade exhibition was held in the Grugahalle in Essen, providing an ideal setting for this tournament. It was a recipe for success for six years. With the end of the billiard trade exhibition in 1995, this world championship was also discontinued.

The organization mode always remained the same for the seven tournaments, with one exception. In 1991, more than 12 nations applied to take part and the tournament was played once with qualification and seeded teams.

