

**2019 US OPEN 9 BALL CHAMPIONSHIP – PLAYERS CONTRACT**

I hereby accept the offer made by Matchroom Sport Limited to play in the 2019 US Open 9 Ball Championship and agree to the conditions of entry annexed hereto and abide by the rules contained therein.

**SIGNED**.....

**PRINT NAME**.....

**DATE**.....

**AMOUNT PAID (\$250 OR \$1,000)**.....

**EMAIL ADDRESS**.....

## **CONDITIONS OF ENTRY INTO THE 2019 US OPEN 9 BALL CHAMPIONSHIP**

### **1. Definitions & Interpretation**

- 1.1. "The Event" means the 2019 US Open 9 Ball Championship, a 9-ball pool double elimination and single elimination tournament.
- 1.2. "Players" means the players who have accepted an offer made by the Promoter to play in the Event.
- 1.3. "Sponsors" means such person, business or company as the Promoter appoints to be Sponsor for the Event.
- 1.4. "Promoter" means Matchroom Sport Limited of 'Mascalls' Mascalls Lane, Brentwood, Essex CM14 5LJ.
- 1.5. Except where the contest otherwise requires, words denoting the singular includes the plural and vice versa; words denoting any one gender include all genders; words denoting persons include firms and corporations and vice versa.

### **2. Event Rules**

- 2.1. The Event will be conducted and played according to WPA Rules & Regulations, with the exceptions of the shot clock (See Appendix IV) which will be in use from the round of 16 onwards, and the breaking conditions (see Appendix III). The Event will conform with IOC anti-doping regulations. Players may not be allowed to smoke or drink alcoholic beverages during their matches.
- 2.2. All competing players must have signed the WPA Players' Agreement prior to the commencement of the Event.
- 2.3. It is a fundamental term of this agreement that every match is conducted in a completely fair basis and that there is no overt or covert collusion between Players that could affect the result of any match at any time. In the event any unusual betting activity/patterns are identified which suggest inappropriate activity involving any Player or Players, the Promoter shall have the absolute right to immediately disqualify any Player or Players. The Player or Players concerned shall forfeit any Prize Money earned in the Event and the matter will be reported to the WPA and any relevant Gambling Commissions for further disciplinary action as felt appropriate. Players shall not be permitted to place bets on any match in the Event.
- 2.4. The Event Director shall have the absolute right to disqualify a Player from the Event at any time for any breach of these Conditions of Entry or the Event Rules or for any behaviour which in the Event Director's opinion is prejudicial to the good name of the Event or its Sponsors or Promoter.
- 2.5. If any Player has any complaint to make regarding any Event business, that complaint must be registered with the Event Director or his agent in writing within sixty minutes of the end of the Player's match. The Player shall not give details of any such complaint to the Press or Media or any Third Party until such time as the matter has been fully investigated by the Event Director.

2.6 The Event Director's decision shall be final.

### 3. **Venue**

3.1 The Event will take place at the Mandalay Bay Resort, Las Vegas, Nevada from Sunday 21 to Friday 26 April, 2019.

### 4. **Prize Money**

4.1 The Event will carry a guaranteed US\$300,000 prize fund.

4.2 The Event is sanctioned by the WPA and all Players will be subject to a 5% sanction fee which will be deducted from the added money portion of their prize money.

4.3 Players who are United States tax-payers will need to complete form W9, while non-USA resident Players will need to complete form W8. Tax payable, if any, will be determined by the earnings threshold from Players' respective countries and the level of prize money achieved.

4.4 The majority of prize money will be paid by bank transfer after the event direct to the player's bank account. Full bank account details should be provided to the Event Director prior to the conclusion of the event. Some rounds of prize money may be paid in cash at the venue.

### 5. **Entry Fee**

5.1 The entry fee for the Event is US\$1,000 per player with the exception of previous Event champions whose entry fee will be paid for by the Promoter.

5.2 Until a player has paid the full entry fee, they will not be considered to have entered the event.

5.3 There is one exception to this rule; a player may pay a 25% deposit of \$250 in advance of the Event to ensure their spot but the remaining portion of the entry fee (\$750) must be paid by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019 or the deposit portion of the entry fee will become non-refundable.

### 6. **Event Officials**

Event Director – Emily Frazer  
Tournament Media Director - Nick Teale  
Commercial Director – Luke Riches

### 7. **Referees & Matches**

7.1 All referees and recorders for the Event shall be appointed by the Promoter.

7.2 The referee is in sole charge of any match. Any dispute of the rules may be discussed with the Tournament Director whose decision is final and absolute.

7.3 Schedule & Format- See Appendix II

- 7.4 Shot Clock – From the round of 16 onwards, there will be a 40 second shot clock in force throughout the tournament. There will be a 5 second warning issued to the player at the table when 40 seconds have elapsed. Each player is allowed one 40 second extension per rack. They must signal this to the referee by clearly saying 'Extension'. The onus is on the player to make himself/herself loud and clear.

The referee will then repeat 'extension' to confirm that they have heard it. The player may call 'extension' at any time during the 40 seconds - the additional 40 seconds will not start until the initial 40 seconds has elapsed. Ball cleaning, the use of a rest / mechanical bridge, or any other regular interventions by the referee will be included in the 40 second period.

## 8. Dress

- 8.1 Players should wear smart polo shirts / shirts which should be worn with dark smart or smart casual trousers. No waistcoats (vests), bow ties, denim jeans, t-shirts or sports shoes will be permitted. Plain black shoes are preferred.
- 8.2 The Player will be entitled to wear a maximum of three logos on his or her playing apparel ("Player Logos") at the Event. Each logo must not exceed 7.5 cm x 5 cm (3" x 2") or 6 square inches. The Player shall submit to the Promoter no later than 7 days before the first day of the Event details of the Player Logo's for approval.

The Promoter shall have absolute discretion to disallow a Player the wearing of any Logo that, in the opinion of the Promoter, conflicts with any sponsor or broadcaster of the Event. Further, the Promoter shall reserve the right, to be exercised in its sole discretion, to require the Player to display a fourth logo on the Players apparel, for the use by a sponsor of the Event. This logo will be provided to the player at the Promoters cost in advance of the Event.

## 9. Press & Promotion

- 9.1 Players should always refer to the Event by its title "THE 'SPONSORS' US OPEN" and will make themselves available to attend press conferences and television interviews for the duration of the event as requested by the Tournament Media Director.

## 10. Profile Form

- 10.1 Players should complete the attached Profile Form as soon as they receive it and well before the commencement of the tournament. It should be either e-mailed to [info@matchroom.com](mailto:info@matchroom.com). The completion of the Profile Form prior to the event is a CONDITION OF ENTRY INTO THE TOURNAMENT and there will be no exceptions.

## 11. General Conditions

- 11.1 All consents under the Performers' Rights Protection Acts 1958 to 1972 or under similar legislation in other countries of the world in connection with the performance of the Player in the League and the exploitation of the Player's performance in the League by any means and in all media including (but not by way of limitation) all forms of theatrical exhibition, television broadcast (including all forms of television, whether free or pay, interactive or linear, and other audio-visual display now known or hereafter developed including without limitation any terminal which is capable of receiving or down loading video signals

originating from a location outside the premises in which such terminal is situated howsoever such signals are delivered including delivery via one or more of the following: satellite, cable, SMATV, microwave, MMDS, analogue and digital terrestrial television and all telecommunications systems (including the Internet, DSL, XDSL and mobile telecommunications including 2.5G, 3G, 4G, UMTS and GPRS) and including onward transmission within any such premises to multiple terminals) exploitation are hereby granted and assigned by the Player to the Promoter.

- 11.2 The Player acknowledges to the Promoter that the entire copyright throughout the world in any film and/or video or other recordings of the Player taken or made during the Event shall belong to the Promoter absolutely.
- 11.3 The Player warrants to the Promoter that he is able to assign all such rights and give such acknowledgments as are contained in Clauses 10.1 and 10.2 above.
- 11.4 The Player agrees to carry out any reasonable request by the Promoter on match days to assist in hospitality or promotion for the benefit of the event or Sponsor.
- 11.5 The Player's participation in the Event shall be at the Player's own risk and the Promoter excludes to the fullest extent possible at law any and all liability of the Player arising out of or in connection with the Player's participation in the Event. Nothing in these Conditions of entry is intended and nor shall it be construed as an attempt by any party to exclude or limit to the other party: (i) for death or personal injury caused by its negligence; (ii) for fraud; or (iii) to the extent such limitation or exclusion is not permitted by the applicable law of the UK.

## 12. **Tables & Equipment**

- 12.1 The Promoter will ensure that tables, cloth and balls used throughout the Championship will be of standard tournament quality.

## 13. **Players & Players Guests**

Players are entitled to one players pass and one guest pass for the duration of the Event.

## 14. **Travel & Accommodation**

The Player will be solely responsible for travel and subsistence for the duration of the Event.

## 15. **Security**

- 15.1 Neither the Sponsor, Promoter nor the owners of the venue can be held responsible for any articles of value left anywhere in the venue at any time.
- 15.2 All matters relating to security should be referred to the Tournament Director.

## **APPENDIX I**

### **Schedule of play**

All matches race to 11, winner breaks

#### **Sunday April 21<sup>st</sup> to Tuesday April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Opening rounds of double elimination play to reduce the field down to 16 players.

#### **Wednesday April 24<sup>th</sup>**

Sessions at 12.00 noon, 4.00pm and 8.00pm – 6 x last 16 matches.

#### **Thursday April 25<sup>th</sup>**

Sessions at 12.00 noon, 4.00pm and 8.00pm – 2 x last 16 matches and 4 x quarter-final matches.

#### **Friday April 26<sup>th</sup>**

2.00pm – 2 x semi-final matches

7.00pm – The final (Race to 13)

## **APPENDIX II**

### **The Break Rules**

1. Over the first three days of the Event, during the double elimination rounds, a racking device will be used.

From the round of 16 onwards, the following conditions on the break shot:

1. The balls will be racked with the 9 (nine) ball resting on the spot.
2. The balls will be hand racked by the referee into a wooden rack. Some balls may be tapped to 'hold' the rack.
3. Players will be permitted to inspect the rack but cannot ask for the balls to be re-racked, re-positioned or moved.
4. With a 40 second shot clock in operation, the incoming player following the conclusion of the break shot will have a maximum of 60 seconds to appraise the table before continuing.

## **APPENDIX IV**

Shot Clock Rules (Only applicable in the round of 16 onwards)

Under the shot clock rules, each player will have up to 40 seconds to complete each shot.

A dedicated tournament official will operate the clock and an audible five-second count down will commence once the player has reached 40 seconds.

The clock will start when the last moving ball on the table comes to rest.

Failure to play a shot in the allocated time will result in loss of visit and cue ball in hand to the incoming player.

There are two exceptions to this:

After the break shot, a player can take a maximum of 80 seconds to appraise the table. The clock will start after the completion of the first shot in open play. A push out does not count as the first shot.

Each Player is allowed one 40 second extension per rack. This can be called at any time within the initial 40 seconds.

The timekeeper will then allow the original 40 seconds to expire, and then restart the clock to allow another 40 seconds. This will serve the purpose of extending the shot to one minute.

All players will make this known by audibly calling 'extension' to the referee. The referee, who will be miked up at all times, will then call 'extension' to the timekeeper.

In addition, the referee can stop the clock. This is in the event of any extraordinary occurrence.

Having the cue ball cleaned or calling for a rest / mechanical bridge will be part of the 40 seconds.

The match will then recommence with the referee stating 'start the clock'. The clock will not be reset; rather it will continue from when it was stopped. This is at the referee's discretion.