

# WPBSA Q TOUR GLOBAL 2024/25

PATHWAY TO THE WORLD SNOOKER TOUR



 **QTOUR**  
GLOBAL



# INTRODUCTION

The WPBSA Q Tour Global is snooker's leading amateur tour which provides opportunities for elite talent to qualify for the professional World Snooker Tour (WST).

As snooker's world governing body, the WPBSA recognises the importance of providing a global structure within our sport which provides a clear pathway for elite amateur talent to be able to join the main tour and fulfil their dreams.

To maximise the opportunities for players around the world, the 2024/25 WPBSA Q Tour Global will again offer FOUR places on the World Snooker Tour and in addition to its existing European events will comprise a number of regional Q Tour Series' held around the world.

International players competing in Q Tour events will have the chance to qualify for the expanded Q Tour Global Playoff which represents the ultimate test for amateur players. Last year saw two players from the Middle East region successfully earn their place on the professional tour, demonstrating the international growth of Q Tour.





## ***Q TOUR GLOBAL STRUCTURE***

A summary of the key points relating to the structure of Q Tour 2024/25 is as follows:

- There will be FOUR main tour cards to be won from Q Tour for the 2025/26 and 2026/27 seasons
  - Top ranked player on the Q Tour Europe Rankings (unless already qualified via another route)
  - Three winners from the WPBSA Global Playoff
- Q Tour Europe will continue to incorporate seven tournaments, with an updated event format to be retained for the new season (see below)
- The WPBSA will invite interest from other regions around the world to stage their Q Tour Series with guaranteed places in the Q Tour Global Playoff at the end of the season.





## Q TOUR EUROPE

- There will be a minimum of seven events staged with a minimum of £14,300 prize in money in each event.
- The overall winner of Q Tour Europe will receive a bonus payment of £2,000, on top of their prize money, prior to joining the WST (to be paid following the completion of their first match on professional Tour during the 2025/26 season)
- Weekend tournaments will be made up of a maximum of 64 players (see below) including:
  - 32 Q School qualifiers
  - 8 Asia-Oceania Q School qualifiers
  - 8 Junior qualifiers
  - 16 open qualifiers
- Each event will have an open-entry element allowing players from all regions and all age groups the opportunity to qualify for the final stages.
- The winner of each Q Tour Europe event will be guaranteed a place at the Q Tour Global Playoff.

## THE EVENTS

Each Q Tour Europe event will comprise a two-day weekend tournament made up of 64 players.

There will also be additional preliminary qualifying rounds played on the Friday from which up to 16 players will qualify for the weekend's final stages. These will be open to ALL players at the discretion of the WPBSA.

### WEEKEND STRUCTURE

- **Friday:** All qualifying rounds to be played over the best of 5 frames
- **Saturday:** Last 64 & last 32 to be played over the best of 7 frames
- **Sunday:** Last 16, Quarter-finals, Semi-finals to be played over the best of 7 frames.

All matches from the quarter-finals stage onwards will be individually refereed.





## THE PLAYERS

The 64 players who will compete during the weekend stages of each event will qualify as follows:

### **UK Q SCHOOL ORDER OF MERIT 2024 (32)**

The highest 32 ranked players on the 2024 UK Q School Order of Merit, who have not qualified for the World Snooker Tour, will automatically qualify to compete in Q Tour Europe events for the whole of the 2024/25 season. Should any player not take up their place, this will be offered to the next highest qualifying place on the Order of Merit until all 32 places are filled.

Each of these players will be required to commit to Q Tour Europe and enter ALL seven events at the start of the season.

### **ASIA-OCEANIA Q SCHOOL ORDER OF MERIT 2024 (8)**

The highest 8 ranked players on the 2024 Asia-Oceania Q School Order of Merit, who have not qualified for the World Snooker Tour, will automatically qualify to compete in Q Tour Europe events for the whole of the 2024/25 season. Should any player not take up their place, this will be offered to the next highest qualifying place on the Order of Merit until all 8 places are filled.

Each of these players will be required to commit to Q Tour Europe and enter ALL seven events at the start of the season.

### **UK Q SCHOOL ORDER OF MERIT 2024 (JUNIORS) (8)**

As part of the WPBSA's commitment to developing the next generation of professional players, eight players at each event will be reserved for the world's leading junior talent. These players must be aged under-21 at the start of Q School.

The highest ranked eligible players on the 2024 UK Q School Order of Merit, not already qualified, will be invited to compete in Q Tour Europe events.

Each of these players will be required to commit to Q Tour Europe and enter ALL seven events at the start of the season.

### **OPEN QUALIFIERS (16)**

The field of 64 will be completed by 16 players who progress through open qualifying rounds held on the Friday immediately prior to the weekend competition. This will allow local federations to engage with Q Tour Europe as part of their commitment to developing pathways to the WST.

Additional days may be required/The number of entries for the open rounds may be limited subject to time available and venue restrictions.



# THE VENUES

A provisional seven European events will be held during the 2024/25 season:

1. Q Tour 1 – 16-18 August 2024 – Leeds, UK
2. Q Tour 2 – 13-15 September 2024 – Sofia, Bulgaria
3. Q Tour 3 – 4-6 October 2024 – Stockholm, Sweden
4. Q Tour 4 – 8-10 November 2024 – Manchester, UK
5. Q Tour 5 – 13-15 December 2024 – Vienna, Austria
6. Q Tour 6 – 10-12 January 2025 – Zurich, Switzerland
7. Q Tour 7 – 7-9 February 2025 – Landywood, UK

English host venues for each Q Tour Europe event must be a member of the EPSB's club affiliation scheme the 147 Club.





## **Q TOUR GLOBAL**

WPBSA Q Tour Global will incorporate regional Q Tour Series staged around the world as part of the continued international expansion of Q Tour.

The WPBSA welcomes expressions of interest to stage Q Tour tournaments from venues and recognised organisations which share our vision for high-quality amateur events.

As part of our commitment to the international growth of our sport the leading players from these Regional Q Tour events will qualify to compete at the Q Tour Global Playoff, alongside players from Q Tour Europe.

Players competing in Q Tour events outside of Europe, must be resident for a minimum six months in the region they are seeking to play to be eligible to compete in these events.





## ***Q TOUR MIDDLE EAST***

The Q Tour Middle East Series will again include a minimum of three events with the top two ranked players following the final event to qualify for the Global Playoff.

### **EVENTS:**

- 1.** 21-23 May 2024 – Bahrain
- 2.** 19-21 July 2024 - United Arab Emirates
- 3.** November/December 2024 TBC - Saudi Arabia





## ***Q TOUR ASIA PACIFIC***

The Q Tour Asia-Pacific Series will grow to a minimum of five events for the first time during the 2024/25 season with one place at the Global Playoff to be won by the top ranked player following the final event.

### **EVENTS:**

- 1.** 28-30 June - West Coast International, Australia
- 2.** 2-4 August - Fred Osbourne Classic, Australia
- 3.** 26-29 September - New Zealand Open, New Zealand
- 4.** 10-13 October - Bob Hawke AC Australian Open, Australia
- 5.** 24-27 January (TBC) - Queensland Open, Australia



## ***Q TOUR TOUR AMERICAS***

The Q Tour Americas Series will expand to a minimum of four events for the 2024/2025 season, with the top two ranked players (one from North America and one from South America) at the end of the Series to qualify for the Global Playoff.

The first event of the season has already taken place, with a further three events to be held over the coming months (details TBC).



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## ***CBSA TOUR***

For the first time, the China Billiards and Snooker Association's CBSA Tour will become a recognised pathway to the Global Playoff from the start of the 2024/25 season.

The player ranked third in the final CBSA Tour rankings will qualify to compete in the Global Playoff (with the top two ranked players to secure direct qualification to the WST).

The CBSA Tour is made up several events, run across China during the season.

# Q TOUR GLOBAL PLAYOFF

The WPBSA Q Tour Global Playoff will return for the 2024/25 season with three places on the World Snooker Tour to be won.

## THE FIELD (24)

- Q Tour Europe (16) – Winners of Q Tour Europe events, followed by the highest ranked players from the Q Tour Europe Rankings
- Q Tour Global (8) – Up to eight players will qualify through regional Q Tour events held around the world. Should these eight places not be taken, any remaining places will be filled from the Q Tour Europe Rankings.

## FORMAT

- To comprise three seeded eight-player tournaments, with quarter-finals (bo9), semi-finals (bo11) and finals (bo19).

## PRIZE MONEY

The WPBSA Q Tour Global Playoff will carry a prize fund of almost £20,000, with each tour card winner set to take home £2,000.

Each qualifier will be guaranteed to earn at least £500, with prize money increasing to £750, £1,000 and the £2,000 top prize.

