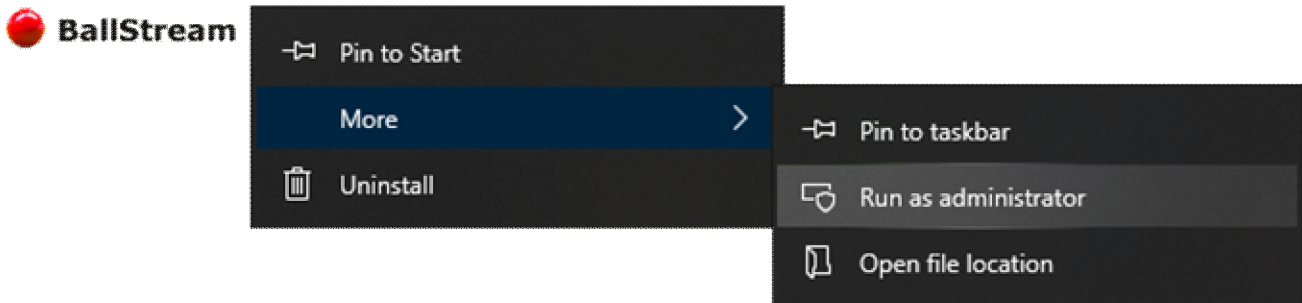# BallStream Ultimate

The BallStream ULTIMATE Scoreboard includes all the tools needed for managing tournaments, pennant ladders, players, drawsheets and more. However this Ultimate version is for a local scoreboard display. To provide an online scoreboard, or for a live video stream overlay, please see the MatchPlay version.

- o Provide live a scoreboard display at a tournament
- o Record and compare player performance
- o Record results and manage rankings for tournament and pennant seasons
- o Manage players and collate information about players and events

FIRST THING

First thing to note is that this software needs to write to its database and it needs permission to do that. Running your computer as Admin is not enough in modern Windows. Instead you need to right click the start icon or its EXE file, and select [Run as Administrator].

LANGUAGE

The Billiards scoreboard will support names and comments in most RTL languages. The Billiards software can also display menu items in different languages to help scorers find their way around the scoring functions.

Afrikaans	Danish	German	Italian	Norwegian	Spanish
Chinese	Dutch	Greek	Japanese	Polish	Taiwanese
Croatian	English	Hungarian	Korean	Portuguese	Thai
Czech	French	Indonesian	Malay	Russian	Turkish

INSTALLATION

System requirements

- Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows 10 or Windows 11
- Install and start by right clicking for *Run as Administrator*

Installation

Download the ZIP file sand unzip (Extract All). Start BallStream_setup.exe by right-clicking the file and selecting *Run as Administrator*.

This software uses a local database and needs admin rights to update it in modern Windows. So it is imperative that when starting Billiards scoreboard, that you always start by right-clicking and selecting *Run as Administrator*. Note – running your computer while using an admin account is not the same... so please pay attention.

Updates and re-installing

If updating to a more recent version of this software, to prevent loss of existing records, first make a copy of your database and store it elsewhere. After installing the new version, copy the old database across. Note that version 1.0 databases are not compatible with this version 2.0 edition.

Data corruption

At any time, if settings need to be restored due to changes in settings or the database is ever corrupted by an error, simply re-install the original software.

Internet connection

The Billiards scoreboard can be used without an Internet connection as saves its data to a database on your computer.

Warranty

BallStream software has been rigorously tested and found to be free of any fault but that will depend on your input. Inputs are filtered and governed by rules to prevent accidents so there will be some limitations.
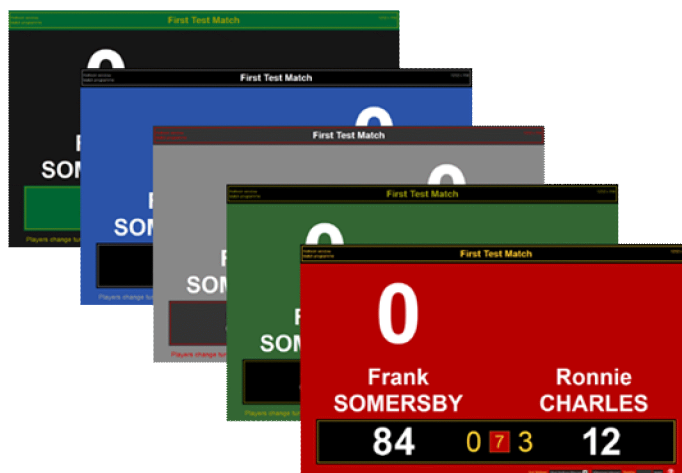
Suggestions for improvement are most welcome... send email from our website.

SCOREBOARD DISPLAY & SCREENS

All sized screens can be used for the scoreboard display which automatically detects the usable screen size and adjusts size proportionally. All graphics for number and ball displays are high quality to look good even on screens up to 4 metres wide.

Local scoreboard

The scoreboard that you display at the event from your computer can use a variety of different themes that can be changed in *Design* settings.

SNOOKER, BILLIARDS & POOL

The Ultimate scoreboard can be used for one or all types of cue sports simultaneously. Rankings and performance statistics are automatically separated according to whether the event and match is for:

- o Snooker
- o Billiards
- o 8-Ball Pool
- o 9-Ball Pool
- o 10-Ball Pool

DISCIPLINES

Each cue sport has different rules and their scoring functions are different:

Snooker

Points are scored between 1 and 7. Break only needs to be set once (for the first frame) and the software will automatically rotate the player to break for the next frame. The software will automatically decide the winner when the time comes. The scoreboard displays current turn, current break, player's points for the current frame and overall frame score for the match.

Billiards

Points are scored between 1 and 9. Break needs to be set at the start. Upon scoring the first point or changing players at the table the software will automatically start the clock and display a count down in minutes for the time remaining to play. When time runs out an audible alarm sounds. The scoreboard displays current turn, current break, players points and a clock showing the minutes remaining to play before the end of the game.

8-Ball Pool

Instead of points, ball numbers are scored according to version of overs/unders. For example "unders" may be balls numbered from 1 to 7 or they may b plain "yellow" balls, "Overs" may be balls numbered from 9 to 15 or they may be plain "red" balls.

The scoreboard displays current turn, overall rack score for the match, which balls have been potted by each player and the balls remaining to finish the rack.

9-Ball and 10-Ball Pool

Instead of points, ball numbers are scored. The scoreboard displays current turn, overall match score and which balls have been potted by each player and the balls remaining for each player before the rack can finish.

SCOREBOARD DISPLAY & MONITORS

While using your own screen for scoreboard display should suffice for practice matches, at an event where you want the audience to see the scoreboard, the screen needs to face the audience and also be much larger.

Scoring from a PC

If using a PC with a large monitor you can sit off to side and score without blocking the audience's vision. To use an extension monitor on a PC as well as your usual monitor your PC will most likely need to have two graphics cards.

Scoring from a laptop (notebook)

The ideal solution! Every laptop has its own built in LCD screen for your view while scoring and it should also already have a monitor port on the back to plug in a large monitor for the audience's scoreboard display.

Monitor displays

All sized monitors can be used and no adjustment is necessary as the scoreboard display will automatically detect the usable screen size and adjust size proportionally. All graphics for number and ball displays are high quality PNG images and of adequate size to look good even on the largest monitors which can be up to 4 metres wide.

RANKINGS & FORMULAS

When each match is finished the software will evaluate the results and update the player's ranking points accordingly. Different ranking formulas can be applied to different events and new formulas can be added to cater for almost any variation of point assessment. The formula options should be self-explanatory. Holdover is the percentage retained of a previous year's points when starting a new year or season.

SCORING FUNCTIONS

Handheld number pads

Once a match has been started, the only keys that are need can be found in the number pad. So it is possible to score while refereeing the game by using a wireless keypad. Such keypads can be small enough to fit in the hand like a mobile phone and connect to your main computer via a USB wireless modem.

Getting started

Before using the score control on the master scoreboard, it is recommended to first try using the score controls from the match index page (click on a player's name) because you will see more of what happens when you use different score functions and any input errors will be shown.

Starting a new match

Before selecting players and format you will first need to add some ingredients:

- o Add the event details to the tournament list.
- o Add the player details to the players list.
- o Add the clubs host the vents and those that players represent.

In most cases you may have a timetable but until the lead up matches finish and winners have been decided you may not know the players for each round. However you set up each round and use your index as a timetable by simply nominating "TBA" (To be advised) as a player's name.

Setting player to break

First, the player to break needs to be set. This should only need to be done once.

Adding points

Once a match has been set up in your match index, all of the score control functions that you need can be controlled by keyboard or number pad only. In fact by using a wireless number pad you can score the game remotely while playing or refereeing.

UNDO score function

While scoring a match you can undo the last scoring event all the way back to the start of that frame. The undo function will also remove any performance record. If you have made a total mess of the scoring it may be easier to "Restart" the frame.

Restart

By using the "Restart" option you can clear all scores for that frame and reset the break to what it was. Restarting only applies to the current frame while it is active.

NEXT frame

To finish a frame minimum, requirements may be needed for the system to allow it:

1. Snooker requires a player to have scored a minimum of 22 points.
2. 8-Ball requires the 8 ball to have been potted.
3. 9-Ball requires the 9 ball to have been potted.
4. 10-Ball requires the 10 ball to have been potted.

While the frame winner is decided automatically for snooker and billiards according to the points score, for pool you need to nominate who won that frame because in some rule sets potting the king ball can mean either a win or loss of frame depending on the order that it was potted. Once a frame is finished it cannot be undone and further scores can only be added to the new or next frame.

FINISH the match

To finish a match, minimum requirements may be needed for the system to allow it:

1. The frame may need to qualify as in "Next frame" above.
2. Snooker and Pool requires that enough frames have been won.
3. Billiards can be finished at any time.

After you finish a match no further scores can be added. If you have finished in error you can make the match active again by editing the match details and changing "Finished" to "No". However it is NOT recommended because the performance records will not be altered at all… corrupting the accuracy of your statistics. Until you Finish a match its performance statistics and any ranking points earned will not be updated, so always make sure that you close of by Finishing.

Handicaps

Handicaps apply to snooker and billiards, but not for pool. Each player can be assigned a handicap in the "Player's details" which serves as the master handicap that is used for each new match that you create. However because handicaps may vary on the day and between snooker and billiards, you can over-ride the master handicap by setting a new one from your score control when you start scoring the match, preferably at the start of the match and first frame, then the new handicaps will apply throughout that particular match.

Ranking formulas

You can create an unlimited number of ranking formulas to use. For example you will need different formulas for snooker, billiards and pool, and you may want to use different formulas for each cue sport to cater for pennant, tournaments, state championships, etc and have certain events earning double ranking points on the odd occasion.

Printing out frame records

Most printers will automatically print "Landscape" format if the scoresheet doesn't fit the page, otherwise "Landscape" may need to be set at the time of printing. Billiards print outs will cater for scores and breaks in excess of 4000 points and more by wrapping onto the next line every 100 strokes.

Performance recording

Only matches that have both players nominated will be recorded.

Performance statistics

Statistics can be searched by each different cue sport. For example if you look up the performance of any player for snooker, the statistics will be based on his snooker matches only… if he hasn't played billiards he will show no performance for billiards.

Recording breaks

Only breaks equal to or greater that the limit set in your settings will be recorded. The default setting of 40 can be changed by editing "Scoreboard settings" if required.

Restarting a frame

Restarting a frame will only reset the scores of that particular frame, but it will remove any performance statistics associated to that frame for a fresh start.

Average shot time

The average shot time is recorded in seconds and is based on the time between your scoring inputs, so a good practice is before you start scoring a frame, use the Frame Restart option to update the records so any rest breaks between frames doesn't corrupt your record keeping. Otherwise there is an inbuilt safe guard that will prevent a recording in excess of 5 minutes.

Breaks

For snooker and billiards breaks are only recorded when they are equal to or more than the minimum set according to the ranking formula that you select to use. Breaks in pool are recorded as ball strings. For example a break of 9 in 8-Ball indicates that the player cleared the table from scratch. Statistics will show the number of qualifying breaks made and the high break.

Yield

The yield rate is shown as a percentage based on the return from scoring shots played. For example in snooker, a break comprised mostly of blue balls or lower will produce a lower yield than a break comprised mostly of blacks. The yield rate in billiards will not fluctuate mush at all because most shots score only 2 or 3 points. A yield rate in pool does not apply.

History

<u>Warning</u>: Please be advised that adding records from past events without the full records attained by using this software at the game will not provide true performance statistics. For example, without the records of each stroke regarding their success and difficulty, the percentages for potting success, long potting success, effectiveness of safety and snookers, and yield from the shots played will not be accurate, and if anything may corrupt existing results that have been properly recorded.

However if this software is used mainly for collating old records there is no need to worry.

Deleting records

Deleting a match will also remove all frame records and performance statistics for that match. However deleting a player will not remove any other records so as to preserve the results and statistics.

Country selection

A full country list is provided with their national flags.

Player images

While photos of the players are not used on the scoreboard, there is provision to maintain a record of images that you may want to use later for publicity, etc. The images folder can be found in the BallStream program folder.

LICENSING

Licensing for the Billiards Scoreboard is FREE. However you are welcome to make a donation towards our server and hosting costs.

SCOREBOARD HELP

 While scoring you can click the [?] icon for a list of functions to use.