

Fargo

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Created by Mike Page

Except when clearly contradicted by these additional rules, the General Rules of Pocket Billiards apply.

- TYPE OF GAME:** FARGO is a game that consists of 10 innings (or frames). The player's game score is the total of the scores for these 10 innings. In each inning, the player scores points until he either misses or succeeds in shooting all 15 balls. FARGO is a challenging game, with aspects of both straight pool and rotation, and is suitable for both beginner and expert players.
- PLAYERS:** Any number of players can compete.
- BALLS USED:** A standard set of balls, 1-15, plus the cue ball.
- THE RACK:** A standard triangle rack is used. The balls are racked at the beginning of each inning for each player. The player may choose to rack his own balls and to place balls in the rack in any order that he believes is to his advantage.
- OBJECT OF THE GAME:** To score more total points than the opponent(s) in a predetermined number of innings (300 points is the maximum in a 10 inning game).
- SCORING:** Each inning consists of a "random phase" and a "rotation phase." In the beginning of each inning the player places a coin on the table rail with the heads up (or some other conspicuous marking device may be used, such as a piece of paper with "random" written on one side and "rotation" on the other). Balls are then pocketed in any order (i.e. In "random" order) and they count one point each. At any time during the inning, including before the first ball is pocketed, the player may choose to turn the coin over. This designates the beginning of the rotation phase. After the coin flip, the lowest numbered ball on the table must be contacted first (i.e. The balls are shot in "rotation"). Any legally pocketed balls after the coin flip count two points each. There is only a single coin flip each inning.
- OPENING BREAK:** At the start of each inning the player breaks from behind the head string and has a free break (no special balls to cushion or other requirements once the break stroke commences, and there is no penalty for scratches or jumped balls). Any balls pocketed on the break shot or jumped off the table are spotted, and the player begins by taking ball in hand anywhere on the table.
- RULES OF PLAY:** 8.1) FARGO is a call shot game. The player must designate the ball and call a pocket for each shot. He need not indicate kisses, caroms, combinations, or cushions (all of which are allowed). A legally pocketed ball entitles the shooter to continue at the table until he fails to pocket legally a called ball, or until he has pocketed all of the balls. 8.2) The player is entitled to any additional balls that are pocketed on a shot, as long as he pockets legally his called ball; the additional balls count the same as the called ball. 8.3) Initial playing order is determined by lag, or if several opponents are playing, by lot. Shooting order for subsequent innings is determined by the scoring results of the preceding innings – the player with the highest score shooting first. If several opponents are playing, all of the players shoot in order of their partial scores, with the higher players going first. In the event of a tied score the playing order is the same as for the previous inning. When playing on separate tables, or in separate locations as in an Internet competition, the player order is determined by the Tournament Director as appropriate and practical for the situation; this includes the option of playing the entire 10 innings and reporting the scores to the Tournament Director at the end of the game.
- PENALTY FOR FOULS:** There is no point penalty for fouls; the player's inning ends and any balls pocketed on the foul stroke do not count. After the coin flip (i.e. During the rotation phase), contacting first an object ball other than the lowest numbered ball (a bad hit) is a foul.

| Rating | Scores |
|--------|-----------|
| Pro | Above 220 |
| AA | 160-220 |
| A | 130-160 |
| B | 100-130 |
| C | 60-100 |
| D | Below 60 |