

OFFICIAL RULES OF THE NATIONAL SHUFFLEBOARD ASSOCIATION, INC.

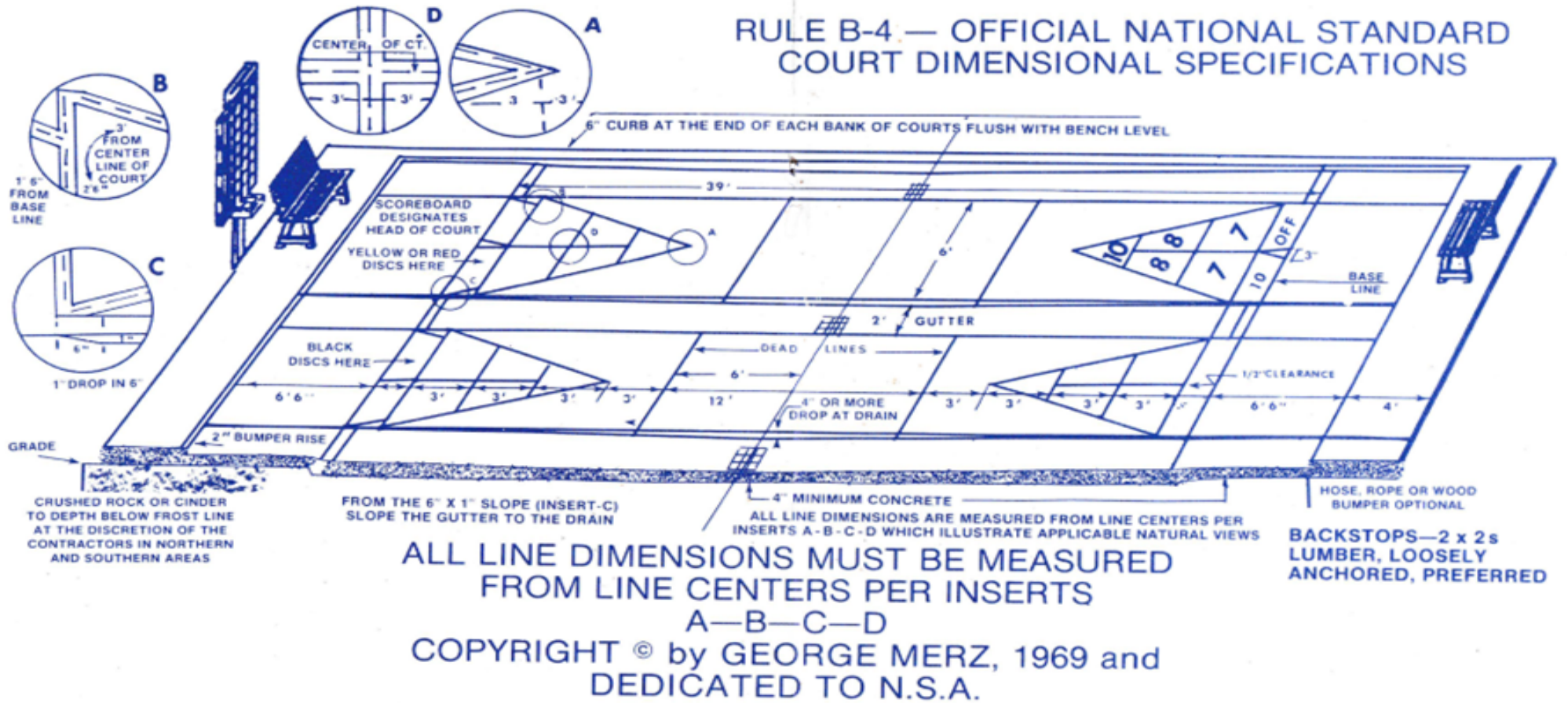
Revised 1997, Updated January 2005 & January 2023

A - GAME

1	The game of shuffleboard is played by: two (2) persons (called singles), or by four (4) persons (called doubles).
2	The object of the game is to propel discs by means of a cue on to scoring diagram at opposite end of court--to score, to prevent opponent from scoring, or both.
3	A player must be 18 years of age or older to play in a National Championship Tournament, unless it states otherwise in the hosting state's shuffleboard rules.

B - EQUIPMENT

1	Discs shall be made of composition not less than 9/16" and not more than 1" in thickness, 6" in diameter, and not less than 11 1/2 ounces in weight. New discs shall weigh 15 ounces. Four (4) discs shall be colored yellow, four (4) colored black. These eight (8) discs comprise a set. (Other colored combinations may be used.) Care should be taken that all discs in a set shall be uniform in weight and thickness.
2	The cue shall not have overall length of more than six feet, three inches (6'3"). No metal part of cue shall touch playing surface of court.
3	Players shall not be required to play with discs, new or old, that are not in satisfactory condition. Defective discs will be replaced by good discs, if available. Any change of discs must be made before practice rounds begin. New discs are not to be used in tournament play, unless thoroughly broken in.
4	Official National Standard Court Dimensional Specifications and court construction guidelines are on pages 2-3.



Building a Court:

Any good home mechanic, experienced in cement work, and having acquainted himself with the above diagram, can build his own shuffleboard court. The specifications, as to size, materials, dimensions and recommended procedures, are there stated for you by the National Shuffleboard Association. Actually, it is rather like laying a sidewalk, with extra attention given to leveling and smoothing. You could proceed in this manner.

Choose a level, well drained site. Strip away all sod and get down to firm soil. Level this and tamp or roll to correct grade. In northern climates this must be below frost line. If this is the case, then use crushed rock or cinders to fill back up to ground level.

Building a Court (Continued)

Set in securely a form made of strong lumber. Forms should be 2" x 6" Redwood or western cedar, selected for straightness, and oiled, well secured to resist any movement after establishing levels, and positioned so as to allow for a 4" thick concrete slab. It is especially important to position forms so as to assure a maximum tolerance of 1/32" from level across the 6 ft. width of the court. Make sure that it is level.

Place crushed rock or cinders to a depth below frost line and on this a layer of building felt. Reinforcing shall consist of seven (7) 1/2" rods placed lengthwise and 3/8" rods crosswise on 12" centers, all placed in center of slab.

You are now ready to pour a four inch concrete slab. The NSA recommends two layers: the first layer is 3-1/2 inches of 3000 psi concrete. After it is poured and leveled, wait forty-five minutes and pour a top coat of 1 part cement to 2-1/2 or 3 parts of sand. Test again for level with a straight edge. This will detect high or low spots to be eliminated. Trowel the surface to a fine and finish. Colors should be added to the finish layer. Green is, by far, the most popular color for courts today. The concrete must "cure" slowly to prevent cracking. Burlap sacks or sand put on the surface and kept wet for several days will accomplish this.

When it is cured for about seven days, carefully and lightly stone the surface with a "rubbing brick" (available from building supply companies) to remove sharpness and loose grit. This will provide a surface free from sharp edges so that the discs can move freely.

After about a week of drying, clean the court and apply the markings. Exterior white latex concrete paint is recommended for the marking of the lines on green or other dark colored courts. It may be applied by brush, sprayed or with a felt applicator. Care should be taken to apply as thin a coat as possible and yet have strongly visible lines. For light gray courts, black liquid shoe dye applied with a felt applicator is recommended for high contrast. This dye is water thin and need not be thinned further. 3/4" to 1" wide lines are standard, lines to have sharp edges; all line dimensions are measured from line centers. (See courts layout specifications on page 2.)

After line markings are dry, shuffleboard wax can be applied or loose glass beads can be sprinkled on the court in order to provide a slick surface for the travel of the discs. For bumper strips, National rules recommend 2" x 2" lumber loosely anchored to prevent excessive rebound of discs; 1" rope may be substituted. Live rubber hose is not recommended unless a suitable size steel rod is placed inside to prevent rapid rebound of the discs.

C - PLAYING RULES

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The official playing rules of the State that hosts any type of National Tournament shall be followed, without exception. Each hosting state shall supply a copy of its official playing rules to the USA NSA President. Said official playing rules will be included on the USA National Shuffleboard Association website.