



PROGETTO FISBB BILIARDO & SCUOLA

A project by FISBB
approved by the Italian Ministry
of Education and Merit.



School & Billiard FISBB project

When: In 2003, a teacher passionate about billiards proposed a new educational initiative to the Italian Ministry of Education and the Italian Olympic Committee.

Why: Between the 1960s and 1980s, billiards were common in bars and sports clubs, making the game—especially 5 Pins—widely popular. However, during the 1990s, billiard tables disappeared from these local venues, replaced by large billiard centers. As a result, the average age of players increased significantly, with fewer young people taking up the sport.

What: The project aimed to introduce billiards as an official school sport. Once approved, it was formally presented to thousands of **high school** principals across the country and has recently expanded to **middle schools** as well.

Where: Participating schools equipped with billiard tables become official “*Billiard School Sport Centers*.”

Who: The initiative involves the Ministry of Education, FISBB (Italian Billiard Sports Federation), local education authorities, schools, and students.

How: Once billiards are introduced in a school and a certified federal instructor is assigned, student training can begin. Additionally, senior FISBB trainers can deliver dedicated training courses for schoolteachers, enabling them to become certified school billiard instructors. The program now includes both FISBB-certified instructors and trained schoolteacher instructors.



The project is about all
billiard disciplines





Support and Organization

- Schools can either **purchase or borrow** a billiard table (typically a used one).
- **FISBB contributes €500** to help cover maintenance costs.
- All **necessary equipment** — including tables, cues, balls, and accessories — is **provided by FISBB**.
- **Student manuals, digital materials, and course handbooks** are also supplied by FISBB.
- The **sport season runs from October to June**.
- The competition follows a **progressive format**:
 - Schools within the same province compete to determine a **provincial champion**.
 - Provincial winners advance to the **Regional Tournament**.
 - Regional Champions qualify for the **Italian National Championship**.
- The **best players** are invited to compete in the **Season Finals in Saint-Vincent**.



Participation and Organization

- Each school must complete and submit an **annual membership form** to join the FISBB National “ Billiards & School “ Program.
- Participating students follow a **weekly 2-hours training session** that includes both theoretical and practical instruction.
- Schools are encouraged to organize **internal tournaments** to promote greater participation and visibility.
- The **Local Education Authority**, together with the Regional Coordinator, may develop and manage a comprehensive plan involving all participating schools — a program that is fully overseen by the Ministry of Education, rather than by FISBB.



Why it is so successful?

- Engages and **inspires teachers**.
- A truly **multidisciplinary activity**, blending physical and mental challenges across multiple subjects.
- Directly connects to **mathematics, geometry, and physics**.
- Develops a positive mindset and sharpens **problem-solving** skills, which educators appreciate.
- Instills a strong sense of **fair play** in competitions.



FISBB Org chart

- **Regional Level:**

- Each Region must designate a **Regional Coordinator** to manage and supervise all local FISBB Federal and School Teacher Instructors, as well as current and new activities.
- At the provincial level, each Regional Coordinator may get fully co-operation from local **Education Authority, being part of Ministry of Education**, that oversees all school sports activities.

- **National Level:**

- A **National Coordinator**, aligned with the Federal Council, is responsible for national oversight.
- A **National Education & Training Committee** covers all billiard disciplines (5-Pins, 3-Cushion Carom, Pool, Snooker).



Some numbers and achievement

- We helped many players from the (large) school pool to develop their billiard skills: this is the main **path towards next gen players**
- **Many student players** participating to official team league tournament during main sport season!
- Starting from 2012 till 2026 a total of **14 national yearly championship** have been organized
- Year to date **80 schools** have joined 2025-2026 season representing **14 Italian regions (out of 20)**
- **around 2500-3000 students** have received the FISBB student billiard card
- **the World Champion 5 pins Andrea Ragonesi was student involved in this program 13 years ago !...**



PROGETTO BILIARDO & SCUOLA

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