
The First Tee, a golf program for youths, established Nine Core Values that represent some of the many inherently positive values connected with the game of golf. These values can be related to any sport and even individual families and relationships. I have taken the liberty to incorporate the game of Billiards into the document – however, all credit for this documentation goes to “The First Tee.”

1. **Honesty** - the quality or state of being truthful; not deceptive
Billiards is unique from other sports in that players regularly call penalties on themselves.
2. **Integrity** - strict adherence to a standard of value or conduct. Personal honesty and independence.
Billiards is a game of honesty, etiquette and composure. You are responsible for your actions and personal conduct during your match.
3. **Sportsmanship** - observing the rules of play and winning or losing with grace.
You must know and abide by the rules and be able to conduct yourself in a respectful manner.
4. **Respect** - to feel or show deferential regard for; esteem.
It is important to show respect for yourself, your team mates, your opponents and the game of Billiards.
5. **Confidence** - reliance or trust. A feeling of self-assurance
Confidence plays a key role in the level of play that you achieve. You must have confidence in your abilities every time you play.
6. **Responsibility** - accounting for one's actions. Dependable
You are responsible for yourself and your actions
7. **Perseverance** - to persist in an idea, purpose or task despite obstacles.
To succeed, you must learn to persevere through bad breaks and your own mistakes.
8. **Courtesy** - considerate behavior toward others. A polite remark or gesture.
A Billiard match should begin and end with a handshake between fellow competitors. Show courtesy toward others by remaining still and quiet while they prepare and execute a shot.
9. **Judgment** - the ability to make a decision or form an opinion. A decision reached after consideration.
Using good judgment is critical. It comes into play when deciding on strategy, ball selection, when to play safe and when to take a chance, the type of shot you consider executing, as well as understanding and abiding by proper etiquette.