



Press release, March 17, 2019

## Turkey is the new World Champion!

In today's final in Viersen/Germany the duo Murat Naci Coklu and Lütfi Cenet had the better end against the Netherlands with individual world champion Dick Jaspers and his partner Raimond Burgman. The final score was 40:22 points after 17 innings.

The match was played in the so-called Scotch Double mode and dominated by the two Turks. After a comfortable 14:6 they increased the lead to a score of 22:12. After the mandatory break everybody thought that the Dutch team will now start one of their phenomenal comebacks but this time it was different. They missed the first shot after the break and Coklu/Cenet answered with another eight points.

Just a few moments later at the score of 30:21 they ran another eight and then two to reach the 40th point. As Turkey had opened the match, Jaspers/Burgman had another chance to equalize the game but after only one point the reigning individual world champion Jaspers missed. At first Coklu/Cenet couldn't realize what they've achieved but after some moments they started to celebrate their world championship title.

In the first semifinal this morning Belgium faced the Netherlands. Frédéric Caudron and Eddy Merckx seemed to be the favorites and they took an early lead of 20:7-points. Then, after the break the Dutch duo came back much stronger and closed the gap just a few minutes later. But world class players like the both belgians know how to answer and at a score of 33:24 nobody thought that the Netherlands will make another comeback. What a mistake! Dick Jaspers and Raimond Burgman played like they both have nerves of steel, scored and scored and twelve points later they were in the lead for the first time. A few innings later at a score of 37:37 the Netherlands had another good chance and made the missing three points to reach the final.



TURKEY IS THE NEW  
WORLD CHAMPION

### Organizer:

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### Venue:

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Hermann-Hülser-Platz 1  
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The second semifinal between Korea and Turkey was even closer. The reigning champions from Asia were the favorites and were already in the lead by a clear score of 28:13. But then turned the tide in favor of Turkey who ran 7, 5 and smaller series to tie the score 34:34. In the last innings the game became really dramatic. Korea scored three but the Turkish duo certainly didn't want to be beaten and promptly answered with four points.

South Korea equalized, but then missed by millimeters. This was followed by another point for both Turkey and Korea, who then also left out the match point. Thereafter the Turks failed the fortieth point, while the Asians missed their second match point. But now it was finally time that Murat Naci Coklu and Lüfti Cenet reached the 40th point. Korea had another chance but surprisingly failed to make the opening shot.

Today the UMB announced that the Scotch-Double-System, which was played for the last three years will be replaced next year. Starting 2020, two singles will be played with the doubles then determining the winner in case of a draw.

Futhermore the former German sportsdirector for Carom-Billiards, Mr. Kurt Dahlhaus, who also acted as tournament director in Viersen for thirty years, said goodbye from the World Championships. The UMB and also the Deutsche Billard-Union thanked for his efforts, commitment and time in the last three decades.

#### **Semifinals:**

Belgium - Netherlands 37:40  
Turkey - Korea 40:39

#### **Final:**

Netherlands - Turkey 22:40

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