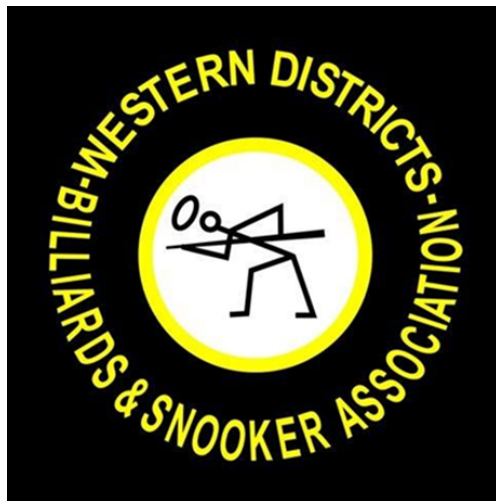


7-25-2017

Western Districts Billiards & Snooker Association  
**By-Laws & Competition Rules**



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## **1. Introductory Provisions & Status of By-Laws**

### **1.1 Power to Make By-Laws**

These By-Laws are made by the Western Districts Billiards & Snooker Association Incorporated under Clause 6.2 of the Association Constitution. They are binding on all Members.

In the event of a conflict between these By-Laws and the Constitution, the Constitution will prevail.

### **1.2 Interpretation**

In this Constitution unless the context otherwise requires:

**“Act”** means the NSW Associations Incorporation Act (2009) as required.

**“Affiliate”** means any organisation or body affiliated to the Association in accordance with these articles.

**“Association”** means the Western Districts Billiards and Snooker Association.

**“By-Laws”** means any by-laws made by the Association.

**“Club”** means and includes those organisations admitted to this category of membership.

**“Committee”** means the Executive Committee of the Association elected or appointed as detailed in this Constitution.

**“Constitution”** means the Constitution for the time being of the Association.

**“Delegate”** means the person elected or appointed from time to time by a Club to represent and act for and on behalf of a Club at General Meetings.

**“Division”** refers to the player category Divisions. These include Division 1, Division 2, Division 3 and may also include a Division 4 should the Executive Committee and members feel appropriate.

**“Fee”** means a payment of money due to the association by its members.

**“Forfeit”** is the awarding of a game “won by forfeit” to a team due to non-attendance of one or more players. The full game points will be awarded to the team as if they had won the game.

**“Game”** means one frame of snooker and or one game of billiards set to a specific time or point limit.

**“General Meeting”** means the annual or any special general meeting of the Association.

**“Individual Member”** means a registered financial member of a Club.

**“Intellectual Property”** means all rights or goodwill subsisting in copyright, business names, names, trademarks (or signs), logos, designs, patents or service marks (whether registered or registerable) relating to the Association or any event, competition, championship, meeting or activity of or conducted, promoted or administered by or under the control of the Western Districts Billiards and Snooker Association.

**“Life Member”** means an individual Member who is elected to receive life membership of the Association.

**“Match”** means the day of competition between two club teams.

**“Member”** means a member for the time being of the Association.

**“Objects”** means the objects of the Association in Clause 2 of the Constitution.

**“Play Offs”** refers to the final series of the competition which may include any of the following - Semi Finals, Finals and a Grand Final.

## **2. Rules of the Competition**

### **2.1 Rules of Snooker & Billiards**

At all times, the governing rules of the competition implemented by the Association will be the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association - World Governing Body – WPBSA Official Rules of the Games of Snooker and English Billiards.

[www.wpbsa.com/rules-of-the-game](http://www.wpbsa.com/rules-of-the-game)

### **2.2 Foul & Miss – Division 2 & Division 3**

Amendment to WPBSA Official Rules of the Games of Snooker and English Billiards.

Foul & Miss Rule – Divisions 2 and Division 3.

For Division 2 and 3 a Foul and a Miss can only be called if the object ball is in clear view or that the snooker has been determined by the Referee as being very simple to hit the object ball.

Under every circumstance the ability of the player MUST be taken into account and whether the Referee believes the foul was played intentionally to disadvantage the other player.

If a Team Captain feels that the Referee is incorrectly applying the above amendment to the rule of Foul and a Miss then it is the Team Captain's responsibility to ensure this amendment to the rule is correctly implemented.

If a player feels as though they are being treated unduly and harshly they should:

- Request a minor break from the Referee.
- Take the matter up with their Team Captain.
- Team Captains should make a decision as to the course of action to be taken in the best interests of all players remembering the context of the competition being a social competition and in fairness for all.
- A request can be made through the Team Captain under special circumstances to have a change of Referee if agreed by both Team Captains.
- If Team Captains or players feel as though decisions on the night are not ruled on appropriately, they are to submit their concerns to the Executive Committee.
- Rulings by the Executive Committee are final.

### **2.3 Commercial Terms and Sponsorship**

The Committee is solely responsible for the commercial terms and sponsorship agreements associated to the Association and any of the Association's activities.

All commercial terms and sponsorship is to be approved by the Committee.

No other agencies, individual persons, companies, clubs or organisations are to approve or engage in commercial dealings or sponsorship matters without the written approval of the committee.

All commercial and sponsorship dealings are to be reported to the members at a minimum at the Annual General Meeting.

## **3. Competition**

### **3.1 Competition Format**

Play should commence at the time nominated of 7.30pm.

All matches finish in time to permit the following match to commence at the specified time, even if through starting late or injury occurring, the match does not run to full time.

Team managers and Captains are responsible for ensuring their teams are ready to play at the designated match time.

### **Western Districts Competition**

Division 1 will consist of 3 games of snooker (two frames) and 3 games of billiards (1 hour duration).

Division 2 will consist of 3 games of snooker (two frames) and 3 games of billiards (1 hour duration).

Division 3 will consist of 4 games of snooker (two frames).

### **Interclub Billiards Competition**

Division 1 will consist of 4 games of billiards (1 hour duration).

Division 2 will consist of 4 games of billiards (1 hour duration).

### **Interclub Snooker Competition**

Division 3 will consist of 4 games of snooker (two frames).

The Executive Committee have the final say on what competitions will be run for the event season.

## **3.2 Divisions**

The following formats are in place for the competition Divisions:

Division 1 – is a handicap based competition with handicaps determined by a Handicap SubCommittee. Handicaps are determined at the beginning of the competition by the SubCommittee and are in force until the end of the competition without change. This handicap format is to be in place from 26 July 2017 until 26 July 2020.

Division 2 – is a handicap based competition with handicaps determined on a player statistical performance measured by the Eureka Handicap System. Handicaps approved at the discretion of the Associations Executive Committee.

Division 3 – is a handicap based competition with handicaps determined on a player statistical performance measured by the Eureka Handicap System. Handicaps approved at the discretion of the Associations Executive Committee.

## **3.3 Nomination of Teams**



All team nominations are to be submitted to the Association's Match Secretary or their appointee.

Teams are to be submitted on a Team Registration Form and to include the players' name, contact details and club membership number.

#### **Western Districts Competition**

Teams for Division 1 and 2 may have up to 9 players in each team consisting of 3 snooker and 3 billiards games on the night.

Teams for Division 3 may have up to 6 players in each team consisting of four snooker players on the night.

#### **Interclub Billiards Competition**

Teams for all Divisions may have up to 6 players in each team consisting of 4 billiards players on the night.

#### **Interclub Snooker Competition**

Teams for all Divisions may have up to 6 players in each team consisting of 4 snooker players on the night.

It is the responsibility of the various teams to ensure each player is a financial member of their home club, and any other requirements they may deem necessary i.e. member of the snooker club etc. This shall not be the responsibility of the Western Districts Association, however, this may be audited and acted on at the Association discretion.

### **3.4 Final Series / Play-Offs**

Competition Final Series/ Play Offs shall be determined by the Match Secretary in consultation with the Executive Committee. This shall be determined based on the number of teams participating in the competition and under normal circumstances consist of Semi Finals, Final and a Grand Final. This may be reduced to a Final and a Grand Final if there are less than six teams in a competition.

### **3.5 Competition Prizes**

Competition prizes will be determined and approved by the Associations Executive Committee.

Prizes may consist of money, trophies or other items as deemed appropriate by the Associations Executive Committee.

### **3.6 Player Handicapping – Eureka Handicap System**

## Eureka Handicap System - Division Average Score Handicap System

The Eureka Handicap System is used to provide a consistent and fair system to handicap individual players based on average score data maintained by the Match Secretary

The system is to be implemented by the Committee by:

- Establishing the average score of each game in each division;
- Elected Handicap Subcommittees assessing individual players' performance results to the established average score for each game;
- A rounding off process is to be used when assessing individuals' average scores to ensure numbers are clear 10 numbers for Billiards and 5 numbers for Snooker.

### Established Average Games Scores

#### Billiards - 1 hour duration

1st Division - 180 in the hour

2nd Division - 150 in the hour

3rd Division - 100 in the hour.

#### Snooker- 2 frames

1st Division - 50 points per frame

2nd Division - 45 points per frame

3rd Division - 35 points per frame

A list of all players competing in the competition is to be assessed by the appointed handicap Subcommittee. The average scores of each player are to be assessed and a handicap assigned based on the average score rounded to the nearest 10 for billiards and nearest 5 for snooker.

### ASSESSING INDIVIDUAL SCORES - HANDICAPPING EXAMPLES:

Player A intends to play in 2nd Division and has a Billiards average of 117 per hour. Player A will be awarded a handicap of 30.

Name	Game	Division	Division Av.
Player A	Billiards	2 <sup>nd</sup> Division	150
120			117
			30

Player AA intends to play in 2nd Division and has a Snooker average of 41 per frame. Player AA will be awarded a handicap of 5.

Name	Game	Division	Division Av.
Player AA	Snooker	2 <sup>nd</sup> Division	45
			41
			40
			5

Player B intends to play 3rd Division and has a Billiards average of 137 per hour. Player B would be awarded a handicap of -40.

Name	Game	Division	Division Av.
Player B	Billiards	3 <sup>rd</sup> Division	100
140			137
			-40

Player BB intends to play in 3rd Division and has a Snooker average of 35 per frame. Player BB will be awarded a handicap of 0.

Name	Game	Division	Division Av.
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### 3.7 Handicap Subcommittees

The Committee shall appoint Handicap Subcommittee to monitor and review Division handicaps.

Each Handicap Subcommittee will be appointed a Chairperson who is responsible for organising handicap meetings and providing any player data figures and recording the results of handicap committee decisions.

Handicaps will be determined using the Eureka Handicap System or in the case of Division 1 based on the speculation of the Division 1 Handicap SubCommittee. Where special circumstances arise, the Handicap Subcommittee may use discretion to rule handicaps outside the use of the Eureka System, but must be able to justify this decision in writing to the Committee.

The results of handicap meetings are to be formally submitted to the Match Secretary and Secretary no less than two days after holding the handicap meeting.

Team Captains may appeal handicap rulings in writing to the Committee.

The Committee must take reasonable consideration of all appeals, and the decisions by the Committee are final. All decisions must be provided in writing in response to all appeals by the Committee Secretary or Match Secretary.

### 3.8 Points System

Points shall be awarded for the game if Billiards and Snooker as follows:

- 1 Game of Billiards – Win is worth 2 Points
- 1 Frame of Snooker – Win is worth 1 Point

**Bonus Point System:** A bonus point system may be implemented on the direction of the Executive Committee.

The bonus point system will consist of:

#### **Billiards**

A single bonus point will be awarded to each player for each 25 rounded points they score above their assessed individual average score. This will be capped to a maximum of 2 bonus points that can be awarded to each player.

#### **Game Points**

Game points will be tallied at the end of the night and the team with the most points wins on the night. No prizes will be awarded to team winning on the night.

These points are to be forwarded to the Match Secretary through a Match Result Sheet and the points will be tallied through to the end of the competition season.

### 3.9 Forfeits

Where possible Team Captains should make every attempt to ensure games are played and if possible. Forfeits should be avoided if a game can be played.

Forfeit time for any one game will be 7.45 PM, any match 8.45 PM.

Explanation of Forfeits due to time elapsed for start of play.

- a) For the purpose of listing players in playing order on the match team sheets, Captains may only place players present in the snooker room as players 1 & 2 in both snooker and billiards.
- b) A forfeit could be claimed if a game cannot commence when due - e.g.: 3 games are required to start by 7:45pm.
- c) Players are required to be available when frames are ready to be played as per the result sheet and as agreed between the two Captains.
- d) The Executive Committee will decide whether forfeits claimed will be accepted.
- e) Should there be more than one forfeit to be surrendered in one match, then there must be no more than one more forfeit in one code than the other. This means that if 3 forfeits are given, then they cannot be 3 billiards or 3 snooker; 1 billiard and 2 snooker forfeits would be correct (or vice versa).

Where a team forfeits a game, the forfeiting team will receive no competition points for the game and this game will count towards the team's for and against calculation. The team that wins on a forfeit will receive the standard awarded points for a win (2 Points for a game of Billiards, 1 Point per frame of Snooker).

### **3.10 Preparation and Final Closing of Match Nights**

It is the responsibility of the home team hosting the match night to ensure the room and facilities where the match is to be played are in a reasonable condition to play competition games. This includes:

- Tables are not obstructed to allow ease of access for players;
- Suitable provision has been made for players at each table to sit when not in hand;
- Reasonable table equipment is available and in generally good condition i.e. jiggers, long cues, etc.
- Tables are in generally good condition and are brushed.
- That pedestrian traffic is minimised where possible to avoid interruptions to players.
- Ideally an allocation for the seating of spectators.
- Where possible ensure spare tables are available to other social players visiting the club.

When finishing the night it is ideal that both Captains perform a general speech thanking the opposing team and ensure the room is in an organised and suitably neat order before leaving. This may include assisting by ensure table covers are put on and table equipment is stored etc.

### **3.11 Champion of Champions/ Minor Grade Competitions**

The Association may on occasions run Champion of Champion and or individual type competitions at the discretion of the Committee. SubCommittees may be appointed to plan, organise and run such competitions.

### **3.12 Scorers/ Referees**

The “home” team is responsible for ensuring competent and reliable referees are available to referee matches on the home game nights.

Referee decisions are final, however in the case of disputes, players should notify their Team Captains and the Team Captains have the responsibility to work together to resolve disputes. All such disputes are to be reported to the Match Secretary for monitoring purposes.

All serious disputes are to be reported to the Match Secretary and will be investigated by subcommittee appointed by the Executive Committee.

Spectators must refrain from commenting or interfering with referee decisions. Certified referees may explain a rule if asked by the Team Captains, following a dispute of a referee's decision.

### **3.13 Match Results & Result Sheets**

Result sheets will be provided by the Association and it will be the responsibility of the both teams' Captain or manager to complete the result sheets and send to the Match Secretary. One point will be deducted from all teams for late result sheets.

Both teams are to provide the results of matches either online results webpage, phone, email, or fax in a copy of the result sheet to Match Secretary by 1.00 PM the following Saturday after the match. A clear copy of the signed match score sheet is to be forwarded to the Match Secretary to verify results. Failure to do so will result in forfeit of 1 point.

In the event of a draw, it will be the responsibility of both Captains to phone or fax the result in by the time stated.

### **3.14 Jury of Appeal and Protests**

Team Captains or registered players may submit appeals or protests in writing to the Association Committee. These appeals or protests must be in either letter or email format and sent to the Committee. Text messages will not be accepted as formal appeals or protests.

Appeals and protests shall be investigated by the Committee and the parties involved notified of the outcome.

## **4. Club Teams**

### **4.1 Club Team**

A club may have unlimited teams in each division.

A team will consist of the following:

#### **Western Districts Competition**

Teams for Division 1 and 2 may have up to 9 players in each team.

Teams for Division 3 may have up to 6 players in each team.

#### **Interclub Billiards Competition**

Teams for all Divisions may have up to 6 players in each team.

#### **Interclub Snooker Competition**

Teams for all Divisions may have up to 6 players in each team.

### **4.2 Players**

All players will be approved by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee is responsible for determining and approving the Division in which a player may be eligible to play in.

All players are responsible for being well mannered and playing in a good sportsmanship like manner. Those not doing so may be subject to disciplinary action as directed by the Executive Committee.

### **4.3 Uniforms**

All teams are encouraged to wear "team" shirts, neat and tidy undamaged trousers, long shorts or jeans (not torn or damaged) and clean shoes determined suitable by the NSW Registered main Club.

Clothing must look neat and tidy (i.e. ironed, no obvious wrinkles) with no obvious signs of damage.

### **4.4 Transfer of Players Between Teams**

A registered player may only play for one registered club at one time. Players may resign from a team to join another team however cannot play for two different clubs during a competition. Players may change registered clubs and play for different teams during various season competitions.

### **4.5 Team Responsibilities**

It is the responsibility of each team to act in a courteous and good sportsmanship like manner at all times.

Should be aware they are representing their retrospective club, team and the sports of billiards and snooker and conduct themselves in a good manner.

Home teams should ensuring playing conditions such as tables are in good condition i.e. ironed, brushed and suitable seating is available with no obstructions.

#### **4.6 Team Captain Responsibilities**

It is the responsibility of Team Captains to ensure all team players are available and conduct themselves in a manner as required for team and player responsibilities.

Team Captains will be responsible on the night for organising draws in consultation with the opposing team and any game related organisation i.e. ensuring handicaps are correct etc.

Team Captains are responsible for ensuring all game results are accurately recorded and results sent to the Match Secretary in a timely manner.

It is the home team Captain's responsibility to ensure playing conditions are at a suitable level on the evening.

Captains are responsible for investigating and settling any disputes on match nights and to ensure good sportsmanship at all times. All disputes must be reported to the Match Secretary.

#### **4.7 Player Responsibilities**

All players are responsible for being well mannered and playing in a good sportsmanship like manner. Those not doing so may be subject to disciplinary action as directed by the Executive Committee. Swearing should not be encouraged and any malicious or argumentative confrontation is to be reported to the Executive Committee for investigation. Players should be aware they are representing their retrospective club, team and the sports of billiards and snooker.

Players are responsible for conducting themselves in a civil and social manner and encouraging good sportsmanship. Players are responsible for using all equipment including tables in an appropriate manner that will not cause damage. This also relates to any fittings, building or fixtures.

#### **4.8 Team Management**

It is the responsibility of registered teams to ensure players conduct themselves in a courteous and good sportsmanship like manner. Captains are responsible for the conduct of their players on the night and should ensure all conduct is appropriate and respects the Association and competition is a positive and good sportsman like manner.

Team Captains where reasonably possible should encourage individual players to perform at their best. This may include such strategies as coaching, team practice nights, etc.

Spectators must not interfere with matches or games in progress. Such interference may require team Captains to confer to have the spectator removed unless authorised by both the host and visiting Captains.

#### **4.9 Register Of Members**

The Western Districts Executive Committee shall keep a register of all current registered players for the purpose of the Act, competition and the Association communications.

### **5. Club & Member Dispute & Discipline Matters**

#### **5.1 Disciplinary Incidents**

The Committee deals with inappropriate behaviour in accordance with 3.11 of the Constitution.

To deal with major incidents, the Committee may establish a Disciplinary Tribunal in accordance to By-Law 5.3.

#### **5.2 Establishment of Disciplinary Tribunal**

The Committee shall establish a Disciplinary Tribunal to deal with all disciplinary actions and matters under Clause 3.11 of the Constitution. A disciplinary action and matter must be solely and exclusively resolved by the Disciplinary Tribunal.

#### **5.3 Composition of Disciplinary Tribunal**

A Disciplinary Tribunal of three (3) persons shall be appointed by the Committee for the purpose of hearing disciplinary actions and matters under Clause 3.11 of the Constitution.

The Committee shall also appoint a member of the Disciplinary Tribunal as Chairperson, who in the opinion of the Committee is competent in dealing with disciplinary matters.

The Committee may call for applications to the Disciplinary Tribunal.

No Committee member or a member of a Club directly related with a matter shall be a member of the Disciplinary Tribunal.

Three (3) members of the Disciplinary Tribunal shall constitute a quorum.

#### **5.4 Notice of Alleged Breach**

Where the Committee is advised of, or considers that a Member has allegedly:

- (i) breached, failed, refused or neglected to comply with a provision of the Constitution, the By-Laws, the policies and the rules or any resolution or determination of the Committee; or
- (ii) acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member or prejudicial to the objects and interests of the Association and/or the sports of billiards and snooker; or
- (iii) brought the Association or the sports of billiards and snooker into disrepute,

the Committee shall notify the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Tribunal.

The Chairperson of the Disciplinary Tribunal shall, as soon as practicable upon receipt of notice in accordance with By-Law 5.3(a), serve on the Member a notice in writing:

- (i) setting out the alleged breach by the Member, and the grounds on which it is based;
- (ii) stating that the Member may address the Disciplinary Tribunal at a hearing to be held not earlier than fourteen (14) days and not later than twenty-eight (28) days after service of the notice;
- (iii) stating the date, place and time of that hearing;
- (iv) informing the Member that they must do one or more of the following:
  - attend that hearing;
  - give the Disciplinary Tribunal, before the date of the hearing a written statement regarding the alleged breach.



## **5.5 Disciplinary Tribunal Procedures**

At a hearing of the Disciplinary Tribunal held in accordance with By-Law 5.3(b)(ii), the Disciplinary Tribunal shall:

- (i) give to the Member every opportunity to be heard;
- (ii) give due consideration to any written statement submitted by the Member; and
- (iii) by resolution determine whether the alleged breach occurred.

The Association and the Member shall not be entitled to legal representation at the hearing of the Disciplinary Tribunal.

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall hear and determine the alleged breach in whatever manner it considers appropriate in the circumstances (including by way of teleconference, video conference or otherwise) provided that it does so in accordance with the principles of natural justice. The purpose of the hearing shall be to determine whether the alleged breach occurred.

If the Disciplinary Tribunal considers that the alleged breach occurred, it may impose any one or more of the penalties detailed in By-Law 5.6.

If the Disciplinary Tribunal considers that the alleged breach did not occur, the matter shall be dismissed.

## **5.6 Penalties**

If the Disciplinary Tribunal considers that the alleged breach occurred, the Disciplinary Tribunal may impose any one or more of the following penalties:

- i. impose a warning;
- ii. where there has been damage to property, direct that the Member pay compensation to the relevant organisation which controls or has possession of the property;
- iii. suspend for a specified period and/or terminate any rights, privileges and benefits provided to that Member by the Association;
- iv. reprimand the Member;
- v. suspend the Member from membership of the Association for a specified period;
- vi. expel the Member from the Association;
- vii. any other such penalty as the Disciplinary Tribunal considers appropriate

## **5.7 Appeal from Decision of Disciplinary Tribunal**

Any Member who is the subject of an adverse finding in proceedings in accordance with By-Law 5 may appeal to the Committee in relation to that adverse finding.

The appeal shall be dealt with in accordance with the disciplinary procedure detailed in the Association's By-Laws, policies or rules.

## **5.8 Powers of Executive Committee**

Decisions made by the Committee are final.

## **6. Fees**

### **6.1 Club Registration Fees**

Each registered Club is required to pay a \$150.00 Club Registration Fee.

Is it the responsibility of the Club Representative to collect these registration fees. Club registration fees are to be made payable to the Western Districts Billiards & Snooker Association and submitted to the Committee Treasurer.

Club Registrations Fees are due 56 days after receiving an invoice.

Clubs that have outstanding Club Registration Fees may not be eligible to play in competitions until these fees are paid. This is to be determined by the Committee.

### **6.2 Individual Member Registration Fees**

Individual registered Members are required to pay a \$5.00 Individual Member Registration Fee at the beginning of each competition season. These fees are to be collected by Team Captains and submitted to the Committee Treasurer.

Player Registration Fees are due 56 days after receiving an invoice.

Failure to provide player registration fees to the Committee Treasurer may result in penalties as determined by the Committee including the loss of team points or other appropriate penalties.

### **6.3 Match Fees**

Each individual player will pay the sum of \$4.00 for player fees for each match played.

It is the responsibility of the Team Captain to manage, collect and submit these individual player match fees to the Committee Treasurer.

Player Match Fees are due at the last round before the Final Series.

Failure to provide player match fees to the Committee Treasurer may result in penalties as determined by the Committee including the loss of team points or other appropriate penalties.

### **6.4 Fee Refunds**

The Committee may refund any fee which, in its opinion, is warranted and approved by the Committee.