



CONSTITUTION

COMPETITION RULES

BY-LAWS

N.S.W. R.S.L. BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION, COMPETITION RULES AND BY-LAWS

1. THE ASSOCIATION

The name of the Association shall be called the
NEW SOUTH WALES R.S.L. BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER ASSOCIATION.

2. CONTEXT

In this **CONSTITUTION, COMPETITION RULES AND BY-LAWS** the words:

- ASSOCIATION** - shall mean the New South Wales R.S.L. Billiards and Snooker Association.
- CLUB** - shall mean the Sub-Branch or other eligible service or ex-service club affiliated with the Association.
- CONSTITUTION** - shall mean The Constitution, Competition Rules and By-Laws of the N.S.W. R.S.L. Billiards and Snooker Association.
- EXECUTIVE** - shall mean the Executive Committee formed by the Association.
- HIM (HIMSELF)** - shall mean both genders (male or female)
- R.S.L.** - shall mean the Returned & Services League of Australia.

3. AFFILIATION AND MEMBERSHIP

- (a) The Association shall consist of all clubs affiliated in accordance with this Constitution.
- (b) The Association may affiliate and or appoint delegates to confer with anyone who may be of assistance in furthering the objectives of the Association.
- (c) An annual affiliation fee shall be determined from time to time, and shall be paid to the Association by each club, due one (1) month after the issue of the Invoices. The current annual fee structure of the Association shall be as follows:

| FEE | COST |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Affiliation | \$ 50.00 per club |
| Snooker Team Capitation | \$ 30.00 per team |
| Billiards Team Capitation | \$ 30.00 per team |
| Player Registration | \$ 2.00 per player |
| Match | \$ 5.00 per match |
| Majors & Minors | \$ 5.00 per entry |

- (d) Player memberships fall into three (3) categories:
- (i) **R.S.L. MEMBERS** - Players who are financial members of the Returned & Services League of Australia (N.S.W. State Branch).
 - (ii) **SOCIAL MEMBERS** - Players who are not eligible under Rule 3(d)(i) above but are financial members of the affiliated Club.
 - (iii) **TEMPORARY MEMBERS** - Players invited to play only under Rule 12(i) but shall not hold any official position in the Association.

4. OBJECTIVES

The **OBJECTIVES** of the Association shall be to promote, advance and foster R.S.L. Billiards and Snooker in New South Wales by:

- (a) Arranging matches between members of the Association and players from any other representative or governing body in Australia.
- (b) Organising inter-club competitions.
- (c) Participation of Association teams in country and inter-state competitions.
- (d) Any other means that the Association may determine from time to time.

5. MANAGEMENT AND COMMITTEES

- (a) The **MANAGEMENT** of the Association shall comprise of the following office bearers:

President;
Vice Presidents (2);
Honorary Secretary;
Honorary Treasurer;
Honorary Recorder;
Honorary Assistant Secretary;

who shall be elected annually, except if otherwise provided, the President, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall be ex-officio members of all administrative committees with power to vote thereon. Vice Presidents may represent for any of the three (3) above named positions.

- (b) The Executive shall comprise the above office bearers and two (2) delegates from each club.
- (c) Only two (2) members from any one (1) club may serve together on the competition, handicap or selection committee, except the President and the Honorary Secretary who are ex-officio, in which case each club shall only have one (1) vote.
- (d) Notwithstanding the powers of the Executive by this Constitution, the Association may at any time should the necessity arise, appoint a special committee with such powers

- (e) A selection committee comprising of a maximum of two (2) representatives from each club shall be formed, in which case each club shall only have one (1) vote.
- (f) A life membership committee comprising of three (3) R.S.L. members shall be formed with the most senior member appointed as chairman.
- (g) An Honorary Auditor shall also be appointed.
- (h) A patron or patrons of the Association shall also be elected.

6. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE

The duties of the Executive shall be to:

- (a) Investigate and report on applications to affiliate with the Association.
- (b) Investigate all appeals, defaults or other matters.

Where a dispute exists or appears to exist, the Executive shall have the power to call representatives from all parties, in an endeavour to settle such dispute.

NB: A member of the Executive may not take part as a member of the committee in the investigations of any dispute which concerns him or his club directly but may appear to represent himself or his club.

- (c) Prepare programs of matches.
- (d) Deal with correspondence and accounts.
- (e) Carry out any other functions that the Association may direct.

7. CLUB DELEGATES

- (a) Each club shall elect two (2) delegates and notify the Honorary Secretary of the names of such delegates.
- (b) An alternate delegate may be nominated who shall, in the absence of either delegate, have the same powers as the elected delegate.
- (c) The delegates are requested to attend monthly committee meetings and report back to their clubs and members on all pertinent matters.
- (d) The Honorary Secretary must be notified immediately of changes to club delegates.

8. MEETINGS

- (a) The Executive shall meet once each month to hold a committee meeting unless a resolution to alter such meeting night is passed.

- (c) All delegates present at any such meetings must sign the attendance book prior to the meeting including the name of the club they represent.
- (d) All meetings shall be open to members of the Association and R.S.L. unless otherwise determined but shall not be entitled to vote on any matters other than at general meetings.
- (e) All matters on **NOTICE OF MOTION** shall be submitted in writing to the Honorary Secretary who shall give delegates twenty-eight (28) days' notice on such matters.
- (f) At all committee meetings two (2) delegates from each club shall be entitled to vote except on matters on **NOTICE OF MOTION**, in which case each club shall only have one (1) vote.
- (g) The annual general meeting shall be held in February of each year for the presentation of annual reports, financial statements, election of office bearers and the transaction of any other business that may be brought forward within the rules of the Association.
- (h) An extra-ordinary general meeting may be called by the Executive or by requisition of five (5) voting delegates of which twenty-eight (28) days' notice shall be given for the purpose of such meeting.
- (i) A delegate may bring a pertinent matter before the Executive. This matter shall be submitted in writing and lodged with the Honorary Secretary prior to the committee meeting and shall take priority in general business at that meeting.

9. ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

- (a) The financial year of the Association shall end on the 31st day of December.
- (b) The Honorary Treasurer shall receive and pay all moneys in the name of the Association to such institutions as the Association may determine.
- (c) The account shall be operated by any two (2) signatories from the following office bearers: President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer or Assistant Secretary.
- (d) The Honorary Treasurer shall pay all accounts or advances when passed by the Association.
- (e) The Honorary Treasurer shall present the Association's financial statement at each monthly committee meeting and at such times as the Executive may direct.
- (f) The Honorary Treasurer shall submit the accounts ledger for auditing prior to the annual general meeting and present a financial statement at such meeting.

10. REPRESENTATION

- (a) All players currently participating in the regular competitions shall be eligible for nomination to represent the Association under Rule 4 (c).

- (b) Failing to fulfil the number of players required for a team other players, who are eligible under Rule 3(d)(i), may be invited to play and represent the Association.
- (c) **MATCHES AGAINST THE VICTORIAN R.S.L. BILLIARDS & SNOOKER ASSOC.**
 - (i) All nominations to represent the Association for matches against the Victorian R.S.L Billiards and Snooker Association must be submitted to the Honorary Secretary by the June committee meeting.
 - (ii) The selection committee shall meet as soon as practicable after the nominations have closed and select billiards and snooker teams to represent the Association.

11. LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The criteria for life membership shall be as follows:

- (a) Not less than 10 years outstanding service to the Association.
- (b) The number of elected life members in any one (1) year shall not be more than two (2) with a maximum of five (5) living at any one (1) time.
- (c) Nominations are to be proposed and seconded by two (2) Clubs and submitted to the life membership committee.
- (d) The life membership committee shall investigate the nominations and make recommendations to any committee meeting.
- (e) All nominations for life membership must be accompanied by written submissions with reasons and relevant details and must be submitted prior to the October committee meeting.
- (f) Voting is to be done by secret ballot.
- (g) Approval shall be by no less than two-thirds (2/3) majority of clubs attending the meeting.
- (h) **SPECIAL LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

In the opinion of two (2) Clubs, and after investigation by the life membership committee, a life membership may be given to a person for certain outstanding achievements pertaining to the Association and its' competitions.

This life membership shall be limited to one (1) living at any one (1) time.

12. GENERAL RULES OF PLAY – INTERCLUB COMPETITIONS

- (a) All matches shall be played in accordance with the rules set down by the **AUSTRALIAN BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER COUNCIL** with the exception that:
 - (i) The 'foul & miss' rule is not applicable;
 - (ii) A '7-point penalty' shall still apply for non-genuine attempts at getting out of snookers.

- (b) A team capitation fee together with a player registration fee shall be determined from time to time, and shall be paid to the Association, due at the commencement of the competition season.
- (c) Competition match fees shall also be determined from time to time, and shall be payable to the Association, due by the completion of the regular competition season. This is currently set at \$4.00 per player per match (Refer Clause 3c).
- (d) A registered team shall comprise a maximum of ten (10) players of which one (1) must be a member under Rule 3(d)(i).
- (e) On competition nights a team shall comprise of four (4) players. Preference (if possible) must be given to a player who is a member under Rule 3(d)(i).
- (f) The inter-club teams' competitions shall be run as singles matches on a handicap basis.
- (g) All players shall play off their current (and correct) handicaps and shall be placed on the draw / result sheets prior to commencement of play.
- (h) All matches shall be played over:
 - (i) For BILLIARDS - One (1) game, first to 200 points.
 - (ii) For SNOOKER - Two (2) single frames.
- (i) In the event that any team is short of players on the night of play the captain may register a new player, who is eligible under Rule 3(d), by consent of the opposing captain for the prescribed registration fee.
- (j) No player may play for more than one (1) club in one (1) competition season unless he obtains a clearance from his first club and the Association.
- (k) Where a club has more than one (1) team, a player having played three (3) matches with either team, becomes a permanent member of that team for the remainder of the competition season.
- (l) Each club shall advise the Honorary Secretary the night(s) of play at their respective club prior to the commencement of the competition season.
- (m) Matches are to commence at 7.30 pm.
However, matches are encouraged to commence at 7.00 pm (or earlier) at venues where only two (2) or three (3) tables are available for play.
- (n) Prior to commencement of play, the scoreboard shall be adjusted as follows:
 - (j) For Snooker - the lowest minus (-) handicap players shall start on zero (0) on the scoreboard with the opponent's handicap then adjusted to the 'gap' at the commencement of each frame.
 - (iii) For Billiards - all minus handicaps are adjusted to zero (0) on the scoreboard and the target revised to 200 plus their (minus) handicap.

Plus handicaps are not affected.

13. HANDICAPS

- (a) The Executive shall determine players' handicaps. These handicaps may be altered from time to time if the executive sees fit to do so. The Honorary Recorder shall distribute these handicaps at the commencement of a competition season, or at other times that the Executive considers necessary.
- (b) The **maximum starting handicap** for all new players shall be:
 - (i) For BILLIARDS : Plus (+) 20 points.
 - (ii) For SNOOKER : Plus (+) 10 points.
- (c) The **maximum plus handicap** for all players shall be:
 - (i) For BILLIARDS : Plus (+) 100 points.
 - (ii) For SNOOKER : Plus (+) 50 points.
- (d) There shall be **no limit for maximum minus handicap** in both Billiards and Snooker.
- (e) The captain of each team is:
 - (i) Responsible for determining the handicap of any new player nominated for his team in accordance with (b) above;
 - (ii) Monitor the new handicaps on a weekly basis;
 - (iii) Re-assess the new handicaps and determined it's accuracy;
 - (iv) Report to and liaise with the Honorary Recorder should there be significant inaccuracy and accordingly make the necessary adjustments;

Should the Captain fail to take action then the Executive retains the right to forfeit any points earned by that new player.

- (f) The Honorary Recorder shall also monitor the progress of all new players and has the authority to override the team captains' handicap and adjust these handicaps as necessary.
- (g) Handicaps will remain unchanged where the disqualification of a result took place.
- (h) **IN TEAMS' BILLIARDS COMPETITIONS:**
 - (i) A player winning his game will forfeit ten (10) points for his next game.
 - (ii) A player losing his game will receive ten (10) points for his next game.
 - (iii) All members of the team winning the final will forfeit twenty (20) points for the next competition season. (This includes **all players** who have represented the team throughout the regular competition season).
 - (iv) All members of the team being runners-up in the final will forfeit ten (10) points for the next competition season. (This includes **all players** who have represented the team throughout the regular competition season).
- (i) **IN TEAMS' SNOOKER COMPETITIONS:**
 - (i) A player winning two (2) frames will forfeit five (5) points for his next match.
 - (ii) A player losing two (2) frames will receive five (5) points for his next match.
 - (iii) Where matches are drawn players' handicaps will remain unchanged.
 - (iv) All members of the team winning the final will forfeit ten (10) points for the next

- (v) All members of the team being runners-up in the final will forfeit five (5) points for the next competition season. (This includes **all players** who have represented the team throughout the regular competition season).

14. RESULTS

- (a) All match details shall be recorded on the official result sheets.
- (b) It is the captain's responsibility to ensure that correct names, handicaps and match results are recorded.

Incorrect handicaps recorded may lead to a disqualification of a result.

This is left to the discretion of the Honorary Recorder to adjust results where an advantage may have taken place. He shall advise the captains A.S.A.P. that such adjustment has taken place.

- (c) Points are allocated as follows:
 - (i) For BILLIARDS - One (1) point for each game won.
 - (ii) For SNOOKER - One (1) point for each frame won.
- (d) Where a player concedes during the course of the match, his opponent shall be awarded maximum points allowable under the **RULES OF SNOOKER**, which shall count towards the team's aggregate points tally.
- (e) Any highest breaks should also be recorded.
- (f) Team captains must phone, fax or post results to Honorary Recorder within forty-eight (48) hours.
- (g) It is advisable that team captains should also keep a record of results for future reference in case any disputes that may arise.

15. MATCH FORFEITS

- (a) All match forfeits apply from 8.00 pm.
- (b) A minimum of 2 players designates a team on the appointed night before match results become valid.
- (c) Should a team be short of players on the appointed night such team shall be penalised the following points:
 - (i) For BILLIARDS - One (1) game point plus 150 aggregate points per player short.
 - (ii) For SNOOKER - Two (2) frame points plus 150 aggregate points per player short.
- (d) The opposing team receiving the forfeit shall be awarded the following 'unplayed' match points towards their points tally:
 - (i) For BILLIARDS - One (1) game point plus 150 aggregate points per player short.

- (e) Should the whole team fail to attend on the appointed night, such team shall lose all the matches, unless the Executive agrees that circumstances have caused such default. In this event the Executive may direct that these matches are to proceed on an alternate night mutually agreed between the captains.
- (f) Due to unforeseen circumstances that the re-scheduled match could not take place then the original forfeiting team shall be penalised as follows:
 - (i) For BILLIARDS - Three (3) game points plus 600 aggregate points.
PLUS ALL TEAM MEMBERS FORFEIT 20 POINTS OFF THEIR HANDICAP.
 - (ii) For SNOOKER - Five (5) frame points plus 375 aggregate points.
PLUS ALL TEAM MEMBERS FORFEIT 10 POINTS OFF THEIR HANDICAP.
- (g) The team receiving the forfeit for shall be allocated the following points:
 - (i) For BILLIARDS -Three (3) game points plus 600 aggregate points.
 - (ii) For SNOOKER - Five (5) frame points plus 375 aggregate points.
 - (iii) **THERE SHALL BE NO ADJUSTMENTS TO PLAYERS' HANDICAPS.**

16. SEMI-FINALS AND FINAL

- (a) Semi-final and finals positions shall be determined on the basis of:
 - (k) For BILLIARDS - By game points, and if equal, by count-back on the aggregate points score tally.
 - (ii) For SNOOKER - By frame points, and if equal, by count-back on the aggregate points score tally.
- (b) No team shall be eliminated from fourth (4th) position on count-back, but will have to play a sudden death play-off for this position.
- (c) The **semi-finals** shall be played on the basis of **(1 v 4)** and **(2 v 3)**. The both winners shall then contest the finals.
- (d) Teams participating in the semi-finals & finals shall comprise five (5) players of which one (1) must be a member under Rule 3(d)(i), unless a team cannot field a Sub-Branch member.
- (e) To be eligible for the semi-finals, players must have played a minimum number of matches during the regular competition season:
 - (i) 3 matches in competitions comprising 7 teams or less; or
 - (ii) 4 matches in competitions comprising more than 7 teams"
- (f) Handicaps will remain unchanged throughout the semi-finals and final.
- (g) Matches shall be played over:
 - (i) For BILLIARDS - One (1) game, first to 300 points.
 - (ii) For SNOOKER - Best of three (3) frames.

- (i) No match fees are payable during the semi-finals and final.
- (j) Minor Premiers shall be awarded a 'home-night' for their semi-final matches.

17. MAJORS AND MINORS SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

- (a) The Association shall organise annual singles championships in billiards and snooker and shall be known as:
 - (i) MAJOR Singles Billiards Championship
 - (ii) MINOR Singles Billiards Championship
 - (iii) MAJOR Singles Snooker Championship
 - (iv) MINOR Singles Snooker Championship
- (b) Singles championships shall be open to all members who have been participating in the current competitions.
- (c) The MINOR singles championship shall be open only to members who have not previously won a MINOR or MAJOR championship in billiards and snooker organised by this Association and have a handicap of zero or plus. Minus handicap players at the time of closure of the nominations are ineligible to enter the MINORS championships.
- (d) An entry fee shall be determined from time to time, and shall be payable to the Association by all entrants, due at the commencement of the respective championship. (Refer Clause 3c).
- (e) All matches (including the final) shall be played **off scratch**:
 - (i) For BILLIARDS - Highest score in one (1) hour's play.
 - (ii) For SNOOKER - Best of three (3) frames.
- (f) All players must comply with the competition rules issued at the time of the championship.
- (g) All match results must be phoned, faxed or posted to Honorary Recorder within forty-eight (48) hours of match completion.

18. THE "OVER 60's" SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

- (a) The Association shall organise annual **OVER 60's** singles championships in billiards and snooker.
- (b) The **OVER 60's** singles championships shall only be open all financial members under Rule 3(d)(ii) and are over sixty (60) years of age.
- (c) All matches (including the final) shall be played **off scratch**:
 - (i) For BILLIARDS - Highest score in one (1) hour's play.
 - (ii) For SNOOKER - Best of three (3) frames.

- (e) The championships are to be held on a date to be fixed by the host club.

19. TROPHIES AND PRIZES

- (a) Perpetual trophies shall be presented to all winning teams.
- (b) Cash prizes shall be presented to all winning and runners-up teams.
- (c) Cash prizes shall also be presented to all singles champions and runners-up.
- (d) All cash prizes shall be determined at the annual general meeting prior to the commencement of the competition season.
- (e) Token trophies shall be presented to the winners in the following highest break handicap categories:
- (i) For BILLIARDS - A Grade: -50 and below;
- B Grade: -40 to +40;
- C Grade +50 to +100.
 - (ii) For SNOOKER - A Grade: Scratch and below;
- B Grade: +5 and above.
- (f) A delegate shall be appointed as trophy registrar. He shall maintain the Association's register and retrieve or make arrangements for trophies to be present at grand finals or presentation functions.

20. MISCELLANEOUS

- (a) This **CONSTITUTION** may not be altered, repealed or added to without twenty-eight (28) days' written **NOTICE OF MOTION** to all delegates and the consent of a majority of clubs present at an annual general meeting or extra-ordinary general meeting.
- (b) Should any alterations to the **CONSTITUTION** become a point of urgency, the Chairman may rule that the **NOTICE OF MOTION** be accepted, discussed and voted on at that same meeting.
- (c) Any club or player violating the **CONSTITUTION** may be liable to censure or suspension during the pleasure of the Association if passed by a seventy percent (70%) majority of votes of the delegates present.