



# Western Districts Billiards & Snooker Association

## By-Laws & Competition Rules

Issue - 2019-06-30

***The Constitution will overrule any contradictions in these 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 District 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 anybody or organisation 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.

“**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 registrable) 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 upon whom life membership of the Association has been bestowed.

**“Match”** means a competition between two club teams.

**“Member”** means a member for the time being of the Association (an Associate Member).

**“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 – Quarter Finals, Semi Finals, Preliminary Finals and Grand Final.

**“Policy”** means the policies made by the Association.

“President” means the president for the time being of the Association.

**“Registered Player”** means any player nominated to play and where registration has been accepted by the Executive Committee.

**“Secretary”** means the person holding office under this constitution as secretary of the Association.

**“Special Resolution”** means a resolution passed; (a) by a General Meeting of the Association of which twenty one (21) days’ notice of intention to move the motion has been given in accordance with this Constitution, and (b) by at least 75% of the persons present and voting at that meeting.

**“Team”** means a Billiards and / or Snooker team comprising at least four (4) or six (6) playing members.

## 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.

<https://wpbsa.com/rules/>

### . 2.2 Mercy Rule

The player behind is required to concede the frame as soon as they need three or more snookers to win when there are no reds left on the table.

This means:

36 or more on the Yellow ball

34 or more on the Green ball 31 or more on the Brown ball 29 or more on the Blue ball and 26 or more on the Pink.

### . 2.3 Foul & A Miss Rule

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

*For Division 1* the rule will be applied as under the WPBSA Official Rules.

*For Division 2 a Foul and a Miss should be called if;*

- (1) there is no attempt to strike a ball that is on
- (2) the cue ball is not struck hard enough to strike a ball that is on and
- (3) there is a central contact available and a player fails to strike the 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 Captains responsibility to ensure this amendment to the rule is correctly implemented.

*For Division 3, a Foul and A Miss should only be called if ;*

there is no attempt made to strike a ball that is on.

*This covers the intentional foul to gain advantage.*

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

- Seek to request a minor break to 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 to the 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.**

## ***2.4 Commercial Terms and Sponsorship***

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

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

No other agencies, individual persons, Company's, 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 the Annual General Meeting.

### 3. Competition

#### 3.1 Competition Format

Play should commence at the time nominated of 7.30pm, unless both captains agree otherwise.

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

#### **Western Districts *Autumn* (Mar.-Sept.) Competition**

**Division 1** will consist of 3 games of snooker (two frames each) 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).

#### **Western Districts *Spring* Inter-club Billiards & Snooker**

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

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

**Division 3** will consist of 4 games of billiards (1 hour duration)

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. Handicaps approved at the discretion of the Division 1 Handicap Subcommittee Committee.

**Division 2** – is a handicap based competition. Handicaps approved at the discretion of the Division 2 Handicap Subcommittee Committee.

**Division 3** – is a handicap based competition. Handicaps approved at the discretion of the Division 3 Handicap Subcommittee 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.

#### **Team Numbers - Western Districts Autumn 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.

#### **Western District Spring Inter-club Billiards**

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

It is the responsibility of the various teams to ensure each player is a financial member of their registered 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 may be audited and acted on at the Association's discretion.

#### ***Changes to Team Members***

Changes to team members after the half way point of the competition can only be made by written application to the committee and with committee approval. Submissions should be received a week before the change is required to enable the committee to consider the application and pass it to the handicap committee.

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

If six or more teams are involved in the Division the Final Series will be between the top 4 teams as follows:

- 1 v 2 (winner proceeds to grand final, loser plays winner of 3 v 4)
- 3 v 4 (loser eliminated, winner to play loser of 1 v 2)
- Winner of game 3 will contest the grand final
- Winners of the grand final will be the Premiers for that year.

If there are five teams in a division the final will be between the top 3 teams as follows:

- Minor premiers go directly into grand final, winner of 2 v 3 will progress to the grand final
- Winners of the grand final will be the Premiers for that year.

If there are four teams in a division the final will be between the top 2 teams as follows:

- 1 v 2 will contest the grand final
- Winners of the grand final will be the Premiers for that year.

### **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**

Handicaps will be determined and managed by appointed handicap subcommittees.

### **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.

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

#### **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 tallied through to the end of the competition season.

### 3.9 Forfeits

Where a team forfeits a game, the forfeiting team will receive no competition points for the game. 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).

Every attempt should be made by both team captains to avoid forfeits were possible and to ensure games are played. The use of a player playing two games on the evening should be used were possible to avoid forfeits. Noting: this can only occur once per player, per round and not in the play-offs/finals.

- All teams must finalise their team before the 1/2 way mark of the season.
- If a team has the full quota of nine (9) registered members, new registrations will not be accepted until an existing registered player is de-registered.
- A non-playing member may function as team captain without affecting player quotas, but cannot substitute for a player if the registered quota has been reached.
- Reserve players names will be put up with nominated players and can play if required but cannot complete a game already started by a nominated player.
- Any player registered in a division may only play in that division or a higher division. A player having played five (5) games in a higher division may not return to their original division. Where a club has 2 teams in the same Division, a player cannot change from one team to another without Executive Committee approval.
- In 1st Div a player must play one third (1/3) of scheduled games in either billiards or snooker to qualify to play in that code in the finals.  
In 2nd & 3rd Div a player must play, or be a reserve for, one third (1/3) of scheduled games for a team in the preliminary rounds of the competition to be eligible to compete in that divisions (finals) play off rounds. Of this total, at least 3 games in either Snooker or Billiards are required to be able to play in that code in the finals.

The player conceding a forfeit will not be eligible to count the forfeit as a game played, the player receiving the forfeit shall not be penalised and shall have the game recorded as having played that match.

- A player is not allowed to play in both Billiards and Snooker in any one match except where the team has less than the required number to play the match - a play off is deemed to be a continuation of such match.
  - a) One player only may then be nominated before the start of the match on the result sheet to be able to play in both snooker and billiards provided that player is not the lowest handicapped player in that code or with the agreement of the opposing captain.
  - b) Using the same handicap restriction, a player may also be nominated on the result sheet as a reserve in the opposite code provided there are no other reserves or players available.
  - c) A limit will apply where a player can only do this once per round.

### **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 is in a reasonable manner to play competition games. This includes:

Tables are not obstructed to allow ease of access for players;

- Suitable provision has been made for players 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 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 suitable clean order before leaving. This may include assisting by ensure table covers are put on and table equipment is suitably stored etc.

. **3.11 Champion of Champions**

The Committee may wish to hold champion of champion competitions. These competitions will be run at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

. **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. This is in the Spirit of the Game. Noting: the two Captains may elect not to have markers to enable more games to commence. This is binding for the match.

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 a subcommittee appointed by the Executive Committee.

. **3.13 Emergency Powers**

At the discretion of the Executive Committee.

. **3.14 Match Results & Result Sheets**

Results sheets for all divisions are to be submitted to the Match Secretary no later than Saturday after the match has been held. Anything past this time will attract penalties of 1 match point.

. **3.15 Jury of Appeal and Protests**

At the discretion of the Executive Committee

## **4. Club Teams**

### **4.1 Team Structure**

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.

#### Western Districts Inter-club Billiards & Snooker

Teams for Division 1 and 2 Billiards may have up to 6 players in each team. Teams for Division 2 and 3 Snooker 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 or jeans (not torn or damaged) and clean shoes in good condition. 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 they cannot play for two different clubs simultaneously 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 and player order is correct. Failure to do so will result in handicaps and results being adjusted and possibly games being forfeited.

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 Captains 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 much be reported through 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 and guests 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 and this may include such strategies as coaching, tea practice nights etc.

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

The Western Districts Executive Committee shall keep a register of all current register players for the purpose of the completion and Association.

### **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 chair 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 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 Billiards and Snooker; or

(iii) brought the Association or Billiards and Snooker into disrepute,  
the Committee shall notify the chair of the Disciplinary Tribunal.

The chair 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 of 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) 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 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 set out 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, 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. Such appeal shall be dealt with in accordance with the disciplinary procedure set out Associations 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's WD 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.

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 **(\$10.00)** Individual Member Registration Fees at the beginning of each competition season. These fees are to be collected by Team Captains and submitted to the Committee Treasurer.

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 such penalties.

### 6.3 Match Fees

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

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

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 such penalties.

### 6.4 Fee Refunds

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

The End