

Newsletter No.3 September 2016

Referees required for the following major events

15-18 Sept 2016	Mike Pero Cashmere Christchurch City Open Billiards <i>Contact Chris Anderson 03 383 2171 for more information</i>
20 - 22 Sept 2016	Loan Brokers International Billiards, Auckland. Free accommodation to referees on a twin share basis
23 - 26 Sept 2016	New Zealand Open Billiards, Auckland. Free accommodation to referees on a twin share basis
6 - 9 Oct 2016	IBSF Women's World Ranking Event, Sydney Australia
14 - 16 Oct 2016	Australian Open Snooker, Sydney Australia. Accommodation provided for referees on a twin share basis
18 - 29 Nov 2016	IBSF World Snooker Championships, Men, Women and Masters AI – Sadd Club Stadium, Sheikh Jassim Stadium, Doha, Qatar

What are some advantages of becoming a certificated referee?

In the last 20 years kiwi refs have officiated in the following countries; Australia, England, India, Singapore, Egypt, USA, Papua New Guinea, France, Belgium, Latvia, Ireland, Israel, South Africa and Holland, to name a few. Every year the opportunity arises for at least 2 or 3 kiwi refs to travel to major events. What more incentive do you need? Financial assistance is usually available and many lasting friendships are made. This year we are calling for expressions of interest to travel to the above events. Contact Cliff Hazelton on 07 888 7838 or hazelton.j@xtra.co.nz for further information.

Did you know? Most people know that Snooker was invented by army officers in India in the mid 1800s. What is not so commonly known is the reason for the position of the snooker balls. The pack of 15 reds represent the troops and the colours represent the officers. Black being the most important is the general and placed in safety behind the troops. The other 5 colours in descending order represent the ranking officers, yellow being the lowest ranked, therefore the lowest value and so on to the pink who has control of the troops. To secure an officer you must first capture or destroy one of the troops.

The traditional flat edge on the butt of the cue was originally used butt first on the bed of the table and was known as a mace. Modern cues now have largely done away with that practice.

Early 20th Century ivory balls vs composition balls

Prolific Billiards writer Riso Levi in the early 1900s was promoting the use of composition balls because of their consistency. The top players of the day ridiculed his ideas. Top player Willie Smith stated on the 29 March 1924 " I can say at once and with out the slightest hesitation that any attempt to put composition balls on the table for a championship match will have my unrelenting opposition" he went on to say "they would make the game too easy". Tom Newman had this to say " they are not and never will be anything like so pleasant to play with as Ivories. They have their inherent limitations and cannot imitate the natural product". In his book Advanced Billiards he maintained that the composition ball was okay for amateurs, but not nearly good enough for the professional game.

However by 1928 with the continued slaughter of elephants and the support of players like Joe Davis, Stevenson and Inman, in July of that year the controlling body ruled that, professional championships must be played with composition balls.

Smith, who introduced the brass ferrule on the cue was the first to respond. In the first 6 months he had 100 breaks in excess of 500 including 15 breaks over 1000. In 1929 he produced a break of 2743 and acknowledged that his improved play was due to the crystallite composition balls. Walter Lindrum with the same make of balls compiled the world record break of 3905. Newman also crossed the 1000 line on thirty occasions with a best of 1827.

Now nearly 100 years on, after names like Bonzaline, Duralite, Vitalite and Crystallite, the game has settled on the Belgian Aramith ball.

The original ivories are now extremely rare. Bill Earle in Christchurch is a keen collector and is always interested in purchasing ivories. Bill can be contacted on 03 942 1156.

Results

New Zealand Billiards Champion 2016		Gary Oliver
New Zealand Snooker Champion 2016		Louis Chand
South Island Snooker	Semi Finals	Neil Whalley 3 Bill Earle 1 Mark Canovan 3 Ian Muir 2
	Final	Neil Whalley 4 Mark Canovan 2
	High Break	Neil Whalley – 86
North Island Snooker	Semi Finals	Mathew Scarborough 3 Baden Jackson 1 Mark Hannah 3 Des Wilcox 1
	Final	Mathew Scarborough 3 Mark Hannah 1
	High Break	Baben Jackson – 104
Barton McGill Open	Semi Finals	Chris McBreen 3 Louis Chand 0 Steve Robertson 3 Vanny Ry 0
	Final	Chris McBreen 3 Steve Robertson 0
	High Break	Chris McBreen – 80
New Zealand Under 21 Snooker <i>Played at Royal Oak Auckland</i>	Final	Mikey Stewart 4 Adam Lilley 3
New Zealand Ladies Snooker	Final	Agnes Kimura 3 Zoe West 0
Canterbury Open Snooker <i>Held at the Woolston Club which is now the Canterbury Association's home venue, and the only club now with 8 tables. Since the 2011 earthquake 21 tables have been lost. The Richmond Club which had seven, when rebuilt, will only have four replaced</i>	Semi Finals	Neil Whalley 3 Jason Todd 0 Mark Canovan 3 Dave Witehira 1
	Final	Neil Whalley 4 Mark Canovan 2
	High Break	Neil and Mark shared the high break of 67
Clubs NZ South Island Pairs Snooker <i>Played at Gore Town and Country Club Flight won by R Goodall and D Marshal</i>	Semi Finals	G Hale & A Gill 2 H White & M Herlihy 1 N Whalley & J Todd 2 N Geddes & R Denby 0
	Final	Whalley & Todd 3 Hale & Gill 0
	High Break	Neil Whalley - 73

Stalemate - While this usually occurs when a colour is blocking a pocket and reds accumulate around it. It has become quite usual for players to agree early in the frame when the cue ball is being continuously tapped in and around the pack of reds while a loose red is potable in the baulk area. Usually players will suggest a re rack, but the referee would be quite entitled at this early stage also to call for a re rack.

Foul and Miss - if snookers are required after a foul, a 'foul' and a 'miss' would not be called. However the referee could still call the miss if it was felt that the player played a deliberate bad shot e.g. straight into a ball not on. The other option available to the referee would be to warn the player that the frame could be lost for un-gentlemanly conduct Section 4. 1(a) (iii).

What is a Professional? - professional status at Snooker is defined by membership of the WPBSA. That is those players in possession of a main tour card. Everyone else is an amateur, even former professionals. In Billiards, professional status has been abolished, all players are simply players.

Snooker in the Olympics

WPBSA Chairman Jason Ferguson, has confirmed that a bid to include Snooker as a medal sport in the 2024 Olympics is being prepared. Discussions also continue between WPBSA and the IBSF, the world amateur governing body of which we are affiliated to. Unfortunately the IBSF has become quite a political body so the future may involve direct affiliation of national bodies to the world Snooker Federation with the IBSF being left to its own devices.

Classifieds

Classic Billiards books for sale - Billiards, The Strokes of the Game Parts 1, 2 and 3 by Riso Levi

The full set of three, very rare, classic and collectable. (Author) Riso Levi, the worlds greatest Billiards writer, so said Walter Lindrum, the world's greatest Billiards player. Contact Ray Habgood 09 479 4987.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADVERTISE YOUR COMPANY IN THIS SPACE?

Contact Chris Anderson on 03 383 2171 or 021 150 7084 or Malcolm Barton

PRESIDENT - **Malcolm Barton**

TREASURER - **Neil Glyde**

Contact us by email nzbsrefsass@gmail.com

Contact us by phone Malcolm 04 298 8438 or Neil 04 234 8715