

## VICTORIAN BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER ASSOCIATION

REFEREE REPORT – 2007

January, 2008

The year 2007 has been an excellent one for referees in Victoria. Most referee requirements were met or exceeded during this period with players, officials and referees relationships continuing to be healthy and improving. There are some opportunities with regard to refereeing Billiards and these will be a focus for the coming year.

The level of consistency between referees continues to improve along with the spreading of knowledge of rules and interpretations. Cooperation between officials, referees and players during the year has been very good and continues to be an enjoyable asset to the sport.

With the arrival of the Kings cup now and with pennant finals using qualified referees, the workload has increased considerably and this looks like continuing in future. Adding to this, the option of players paying \$30 rather than refereeing has also increased the demand on referees (it is not acceptable for players to use other than qualified referees for this purpose).

All of this adds to a very healthy state at present but it does highlight the need to examine and promote new referees both to add to our stocks and also to replace those in the twilight of their career. Several of our existing qualified referees also enter ranking events as players and as such are restricted in their availability to referee. Others perform official roles during the running of events and as a result are also restricted.

I would like to thank all referees for their support and commitment during 2007 and the manner in which they have presented when needed. It was very pleasing to myself personally to see the way senior referees were prepared to assist the newer graduates and help them to adjust to their new roles. We were again able to introduce several new referees during this period as well as welcoming back a couple of 'oldies' who have rejuvenated interest. There are currently thirty referees on my 'active' list and there is also a healthy list of candidates who are willing and keen to take up the challenge. It will be my objective to examine these during 2008 as well as gaining Billiards certification for those who currently do not have it.

As a group we must also express our sincere thanks to the V.B.S.A for their continued support and recognition of referees. Victoria is a state in which referees are well rewarded for their efforts and they are offered the encouragement to participate and improve their standing within the sport.

Thanks must go to the A.B.S.R for their support particularly with the provision of blazer material and pocket emblems for new referees and the sponsored subsidy for referee travel to interstate tournaments. Plans are being developed to increase this support in future by the A.B.S.R. Thanks also to all players for their acceptance and cooperation during the year which was a huge help to referees with the carrying out of their duties.

There have been several highlights amongst our referees ranks during 2007 and some of these are listed below. Apologies for any that I may have overlooked and congratulations to those where appropriate.

- Damian Willcox refereed at the 2007 world billiards championships in Singapore.
- Peter Jackson was presented with international colours by the A.B.S.C for his work in international events.
- Two Victorian referees participated at Oceania championships in Brisbane (Peter Jackson and John Ivett).
- Two Victorian referees participated in the Bob Hawke snooker championships in Sydney (Jim Lewis and John Ivett).
- Seven Victorian referees participated in the Fred Osbourne snooker classic at Albury, N.S.W (refer referee stat sheet enclosed)
- Alan Symonds officiated at his first tournament final at Yarraville (Lance Pannell).
- Michael D'Silva was victorious in the V.B.S.A snooker handicap series.
- Kim Ivett (trainee referee) refereed the final of the consolation plate during the Princes Coca Cola Cup.
- Paul Cosgriff was tournament director for The Nationals snooker at R.A.C.V club.
- Paul Cosgriff was elected secretary of the A.B.S.C at A.G.M in Sydney.
- John Ivett attended and chaired general meeting of the A.B.S.R during the Bob Hawke snooker event in Sydney.
- John Ivett attended A.B.S.C A.G.M in Sydney as V.B.S.A delegate (also during Bob Hawke).

There were six major snooker ranking events during 2007 and again we were able to use a different referee for each final:

- |                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| - Victorian snooker championship | Paul Cosgriff   |
| - Kings Australia cup            | Michael D'Silva |
| - Lance Pannell                  | Alan Symonds    |
| - Australian Nationals           | Tommy Watson    |
| - Princes cup                    | Larry Eforan    |
| - City of Melbourne              | Jim Lewis       |

Also attached is a summary and individual statistics of matches refereed in these events. Referees who attended Albury and also those who refereed in pennant finals are shown as well.

Interstate referees who participated in Victoria during 2007 included: Tommy Watson (Tas), Terry Collins (Tas), Roger Davey (S.A), Bill Orr (N.S.W), Mike Peachey (W.A and President A.B.S.C) and Barrie Jones (WA and A.B.S.C secretary). Our thanks are also extended to these referees who helped out during the nationals snooker at R.A.C.V and the Kings cup at Dingley.

Once again, thanks to you all for the results we achieved in 2007 and I look forward to seeing you in 2008 to commence another successful period.

Best Regards

John Ivett  
Victorian Director of Referees  
Chairman A.B.S.R committee.