



BY-LAWS

Bendigo Billiard & Snooker Association
Incorporated: A0018246K

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BBSA COMMITTEE
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Primary By-Law:

These By-laws may only be altered by majority vote at an Association General Meeting.

Eligibility

To be eligible to play in BBSA competitions, a player must:

- Be a member of a club within the Association.
- Be registered by your club to play in competition, including applicable fees.
- Be a member of the Association.

Penalty for a breach of any of the above conditions is a loss of all game/frame points scored by that player.

Association membership

To be accepted as a member of the Association a player must complete a Membership application form & Agree to the Rules, Policies & Procedures of the Association.

Annual Player Registration Fee's

The Annual Player registration fee shall be a sum fixed at the Association Annual General Meeting and payable prior to that player playing their first match of Billiards or Snooker each year.

The Current Annual Fee is \$5 per player.

Commencement and Composition of Seasons

The commencement of the Billiard and Snooker seasons shall be decided by the Association.

Each team is to consist of a number of players as determined by the Association, who shall play as many rounds for the season as may be determined by the Association prior to the draw being made.

Night of Play

- | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| Snooker: | A Grade - Thursday (7:30pm start) |
| | B Grade - Tuesday (7:30pm start) |
| Billiards: | A Grade - Monday (7:30pm start) |
| | B Grade - Tuesday (7:30pm start) |

Registrations

14 days prior to the commencement of each season's competition, each Club shall forward to the Secretary a list of its players in their teams.

Clubs shall also forward a list of club emergencies (who may play in any team/grade within that club) and Association Emergencies (who may play in any club/team/grade within the Association, provided they are not required by their home club).

Player registration will be valid only when all requirements by the Association have been met.

Ladder

The statistician shall be responsible for producing and publishing the ladder each week. Ladders will be determined by:

Snooker: Premiership points, then percentage of frames won to lost (2 Premiership points for an overall match win, 1 for a draw. A match consists of all frames played on the night)

Tie-break for finals positions: most match wins, then most frame wins, then highest individual break by registered player.

Billiards: Games won = Premiership points, then by points difference (calculated per night, and accumulated across the season, based on finishing score including handicap start), then highest individual break by registered player.

Charges for Games

Charges for players competing in home and away matches shall be decided at the Association's Annual General Meeting.

The current fee is 7\$ per night

The home team is to be responsible for the collection and remittance of fees.

All money from venues of all FINALS in Billiard and Snooker team competition, and singlehanded matches are to be retained by the venue, provided the tables are suitably prepared and markers are provided by the host club.

Tables and Equipment

All Billiard tables and equipment in use in competition must be approved by the Association. Host clubs shall have their tables brushed and padded/ironed before 7.25pm for all competition and championship matches.

Practice is permitted on competition tables up until the table preparation. Players may have up to 2 minutes to practice after table preparation provided it does not hold up the commencement of play. If requested, the tables may be re-prepared between the first matches and the second matches. Tables not in use for competition on the night of play in home and away matches may be used for practice by persons not in competition on the night, provided they do so in a courteous and respectful manor towards the competition matches and players, as judged by the competing team captains.

Dress and Conduct

Home Club Rules must be followed by all players/spectators. These rules must be displayed clearly in the club rooms.

Team Sheets

Prior to the commencement of the first game each night a list of players, in order of handicap, shall be entered on the score sheet by the team captains and a draw for the allocation of tables completed by 7.25pm. Players playing out of handicap order shall forfeit their games. Two players on equal handicaps can change their positions if so desired. In the event of a walkover, players shall remain in their order on the score sheet.

In the event of a walkover from 1 player from each side, to avoid 2 walkovers the captains shall move players up on the score sheet.

Starting Time

First round matches must commence by 7.30pm.

All players are to be in attendance by 7.45pm, unless prior notification to team captain or a forfeit will result. After notification the latest stipulated time that a second round player is eligible to play is 9.00pm for Billiards and Snooker. Second round matches must commence as soon as possible. Offending players shall forfeit their matches.

Requests for early or late games;

When a player wishes to have an early or late game (due to work commitments, family illness, unexpected circumstances etc...) then that player must notify his captain in advance, who in turn must notify the opposing team captain (no later than 7.25pm when the score sheets are completed) and by mutual agreement between the team captains early or late games are then arranged PRIOR to the draw being done.

Where no agreement can be reached (one player wants an early game and his opponent wants a late game) then a coin will be tossed to decide. As a result of this, one team will need to find an emergency or a walkover (forfeit) will be given.

Score Sheets

Match results should be recorded on Association score sheets. Entries should be legible, with names written in block letters.

All details must be completed (team names, venue, grade, scores, frames, date etc).

Captains should check completed score sheet for accuracy and sign when satisfied. Score sheets cannot be altered after signing. Once signed, either captain (or a member from one of the teams under the captain's supervision) must take a photo of the completed scoresheet using a smart device, and SMS it directly to the statistician. This must be done on the night of competition. The scoresheet should then be retained at the home club until the completion of the season. The scoresheet should be available to the statistician at any time without notice.

Incomplete details including result, signature, venue, grade, teams, date etc shall incur 1 game penalty (Billiards) and 1 Premiership point penalty (Snooker) for offending team. Failure to provide scoresheet to the statistician in a timely manner incurs 1 game penalty (Billiards) and 1 Premiership point penalty (Snooker) to the team of the infringing person, at the discretion of the Association's Committee.

Referees and Markers

The competing teams shall provide referees for all home and away matches and be responsible for the conduct of these games.

Marking shall be divided evenly between the competing teams at the players' discretion (eg 20 minute intervals).

The Association shall only appoint referees and markers where deemed necessary. The host club shall be responsible for marking in ALL Final matches allotted to such club, otherwise forfeiting the match fees to the association.

Extent of Games (Home and Away)

Billiards - All matches shall be 80 min duration, handicap shall determine the starting scores. Each game won by a player shall count 1 point towards the ladder for their team.

If the cue-ball is struck prior to the conclusion of the game, then any score, fair or foul will count.

Snooker - **A Grade:** All pairings shall decide prior to any competition on the night whether they will aim to play 3 frames (Time permitting) or 2.
If either player desires to play only 2 frames then only 2 frames will be played for that pairing.

B Grade: All pairings will play 2 frames

Aiming to play 3 frames: The timers shall be set at 50 minutes and started at the first shot of the first frame for each pairing. If the first 2 frames are not completed within the 50 minute cap, the third frame shall be abandoned for that pairing.

Timers must be paused at the conclusion of the first frame and re-started at the break of the second frame.

Handicap shall determine the starting scores.

All frames will count towards the match result (A match consists of all frames played on the night).

A frame of snooker comprises the period of the play from the start (see Rules of Snooker Section 3 Rule 3(c)), with all the balls set as described in Section 3 Rule 2, each player playing in turn until the frame is completed by:

- (a) Concession by any player during his turn;
- (b) Claim by the striker when; Black is the only object ball remaining on the table, aggregate points are not relevant, and there is a difference of more than seven points between the scores in his favour;
- (c) The final pot or foul when; Black is the only object ball remaining on the table (see Section 3, Rule 4); or
- (d) Being awarded by the referee under Section 3 Rule 14(c) (ii) or Section 4 Rule 2.

Player Regulations

Registered players (in either 'A' or 'B' grade) are only allowed to fill in for another grade within their club nine (9) times within a home and away season.

Club emergencies must have played at least five (5) matches in home and away games for that club in order to play finals.

Registered players (in 'A' grade) may not play in finals in another grade.

Registered players (in either 'A' or 'B' grade) may not play for more than one team in the same grade.

Association Emergencies are not eligible to play finals outside of their home club.

Penalty for a breach of any of the above conditions is a loss of all game/frame points scored by that player.

Walkovers

A team giving a walkover in any matches will not be credited with any match or score points for these matches.

The player receiving the walkover will receive;

Billiards: One (1) game point and +50 points difference for that game.

Snooker: 2 frame wins (**Unless the player had already decided to aim for 3 frames prior to the commencement of their frames**)

NOTE: If player 1, 2 or 3 is absent any night, the remaining players should still play their normal order (even if they know in advance that a player is not attending).

Walkovers do not affect either player's handicap.

NO CHARGE is made for a walkover (No play, no pay).

Postponed Matches

If a player/team is prevented by unforeseen circumstances from playing a scheduled match, they must make every possible effort to reschedule/relocate the match. If the Committee is satisfied that every effort was made to reschedule but it wasn't possible, the Committee shall deem the match a draw. For Billiards this means 2 game points each and a point's difference of zero for each team. For Snooker this means 1 Premiership point each and a frame score of 4-4.

In Regards to heat, both captains must agree not to play for it to be considered an unforeseen circumstance. Otherwise the team refusing to play shall be deemed to have given as walkover.

In Regards to illness, the player who cannot complete their game shall be deemed to have given a walkover.

Clearances

Any player desiring to transfer to another club, team or institute after the season has commenced must apply for a clearance from the previous club.

Note: this does not apply to clubs not affiliated with this Association.

Should such clearance be refused the player may make a complaint in writing to the Association. Players are to notify the Secretary after obtaining a clearance at least 2 days prior to playing their first match. No clearances will be dealt with by the Secretary after 10 rounds of competition.

If transferring after end of one season and before the commencement of the next season then no clearance is required.

Time Wasting

Official Rules of Billiards and Snooker. Section 4 The Players subsection 1 states:

"If the referee considers that a player is taking an abnormal amount of time over a stroke or the selection of a stroke, he shall warn the player that he is liable to have the game awarded to his opponent."

Any further instance shall see the frame/game forfeited.

Markers will be encouraged to call players on this rule.

Markers must be shown respect at all times, abuse should be reported to captains, and may be punished by the Committee.

Handicapping

Markers shall start the lowest handicap player of the pairing off scratch, whilst their opponent shall start off the difference between the handicaps.

'First year' players shall be given a provisional handicap at the discretion of the Committee.

Players may be re-handicapped at the discretion of the Committee.

Players have one handicap regardless of which grade they play in. Registered players handicaps do not change when filling in for another grade. For emergencies, all results will affect their handicap.

- (a) If a player plays off an incorrect handicap which disadvantages the player's opponent at the start of a game/frame: and the offending player wins the game/frame, the win shall be forfeited and awarded to his/her opponent; and the offending player's handicap shall be subject to the normal handicapping procedure, with the adjustment being applied to the player's correct handicap.
- (b) If a player plays off an incorrect handicap which only disadvantages himself/herself at the start of a game/frame; the offending player's handicap at the start of the game/frame shall be deemed to be the player's new handicap, which shall be subject to the normal handicapping procedure; and no forfeiture of points or other penalty shall be applied.
- (c) It is the responsibility of the individual player to know his/her correct handicap.
- (d) Clubs should endeavour to keep an updated handicap list in their rooms at all times, as supplied by the statistician.

Billiards:

Two successive wins (on same handicap) lowers handicap 10 points and a further 10 points for each consecutive win. The reverse shall apply to losses.

Maximum starting handicap - A Grade: 340 B Grade: 380

Snooker:

Snooker handicaps are determined on the results of two consecutive competition nights play since the last handicap change. Each frame is worth 2 points (for re-handicapping purposes only).

Maximum starting handicap - A Grade: 35 B Grade: 50

Penalties

All penalties shall be imposed by the Committee. Any player or club may protest any penalty imposed under these Bylaws.

All protests shall be made in writing to the Secretary.

Finals

Playing Finals.

- (a) That all finals be played under the Paige system when more than four teams compete. The top two teams in a four team competition shall play off for the premiership.
- (b) Teams finishing higher on the ladder shall be awarded home finals for all Finals other than the Grand Final.
- (c) The Grand Final shall be held at a neutral venue as determined by the Committee, unless 2 teams from the same club are competing.
- (d) Host clubs are to close down any spare tables while ALL FINAL matches are in progress.
- (e) Should a draw result based on games/frames won (and aggregate points for Billiards), then a random draw of the 4 player positions shall result in the playing of a single frame in snooker, and 10 minutes of additional play in billiards, to determine the winner.

Singlehanded Championships

- (a) Players must have played at least five (5) matches in home and away games prior to the closing date of entries or entry will be rejected and entry fee refunded.
- (b) All singlehanded championships shall be played by elimination off scratch;
 - (i) i.e. without handicap assistance.
 - (ii) Times of play and seeding shall be decided by the Committee.
- (c) Both the Bendigo Billiard and Snooker Championships shall be contested between a number of players as determined by the Committee.
- (d) Neutral venues will be allotted by the Committee for all matches. Host clubs are to close down any spare tables while Semi Final and Grand Final matches are in progress.
- (e) Charges per game and entry fees shall be decided by the Association.

NO CHARGE FOR A WALKOVER.

- (f) Any player who fails to appear by 7:45pm, unless otherwise agreed to by both players and the host club concerned, shall forfeit his/her match.
- (g) Games must be played at a BBSA venue, unless alternative arrangements have prior approval from the Committee, otherwise both players will be disqualified.
- (h) Host clubs must provide markers, otherwise forfeiting the match fees to the Association. The Association shall only appoint referees and markers where deemed necessary.
- (i) Billiard games shall be:

Bendigo Championship	80 minutes
Final	120 minutes
'A' Minor	80 minutes
'B' Grade	80 minutes

In the event of a tie at the completion of the allocated time, play will continue for an additional 10 minutes.

- (j) Snooker games shall be:

Bendigo Championship -	best of 5 frames
Final -	best of 7 frames
'B' & 'C' Grade -	best of 3 frames
Final -	best of 5 frames

Game Rules [Billiards & Snooker]

The Game Rules applied by the Association are the WPBSA Official Rules of the Games of Snooker and English Billiards: <https://www.wpbsa.com/governance/rules-of-snooker>.

All venues should endeavour to have a copy of these rules on hand during competition games.

Rule Exception:

By 'gentleman's agreement', 2 opponents can opt not to apply "Snooker Rule 14 - Foul and a Miss" in its full capacity during their frames on the night. This must be done prior to the commencement of their first frame.

In doing so they are reminded that in the spirit of the rule, they must still make a genuine attempt to hit the object ball that is 'on' and failure to do so should still be deemed a foul and a miss by the marker and the cue ball should be replaced as per the official rule.

Complaints/Protests

Any player/team may make a complaint against any other player/team.

Wherever possible, Complaints must first be directed to the team captain for potential resolution. If resolution is not possible, the complaint must then be directed to the clubs committee, before being directed to the Association Committee in writing. The Committee shall then make a decision on the matter.

Any player/team desiring to protest against the Committee's decision, shall forward to the Secretary of the Association (within a period of 72 hours of the Committee's decision) a notice of protest setting out the grounds thereof, together with a sum of \$50 as a protest fee.

Such protest shall be considered by a neutral Subcommittee who shall have the power to call a Special General Meeting to deal with the matter.

If the Subcommittee deem the protest frivolous, the fee shall be forfeited and the plaintiff notified.

Stipends

The Statistician is entitled to a Stipend of \$250 per financial year as compensation for their time.

Unusual Situations/Amendments/Alterations

To resolve an unprecedented situation, the majority of the committee must consult. A decision will be made by majority vote.

Any requests for 'special consideration' must be made in writing to the Committee.

If required, an Association Special General Meeting shall be called without notice to resolve the situation or address the amendment/alteration.