VBSA VICTORIAN BILLIARDS & SNOOKER ASSOCIATION

Patron: Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Margaret Gardner AC, Governor of Victoria

Roving Referee

A roving referee is an accredited referee who oversees several or all the matches in one venue or room and is responsible for the correct interpretation of the rules by the players who are acting as referees for each match, when called upon to do so.

Section 3 Rule 21 b states: *"Where there is no referee, the opposing player or side will be regarded as such for the purpose of these rules".*

This will hold true for all interpretations of the rules in the normal course of completing matches but in cases where wrong decisions are made or rules missed and in the case of foul and a miss situation, it will be held that there is a referee if a roving referee is in attendance.

The duties of a roving referee are to assist non-strikers who are acting as the referee in self-adjudicated matches. Their primary role is to help in situations where the rules are not known or not known fully by the players and who ask for that assistance.

It is also the duty of the roving referee to alert the acting referee at the table, if fouls are missed or wrong decisions are made, without waiting for a request and if they are observed.

Please remember that if a foul is committed and a subsequent stroke is played without the foul being called or claimed, it is condoned. (Colours incorrectly off the table must be spotted). Section 3. Rules 10 c) & d). Advice may also be sought in snookered situations where a miss may be called.

Provided that the roving referee is alerted by the players before the stroke is made, there must be a suspension of the authority of the acting referee and a transfer to the roving referee who must then act as a match referee for the duration of that stroke or series of repetitions of that stroke, but only if asked or if there is a dispute and that there was a call by the players to oversee the stroke before it was made. If the roving referee is not consulted and there is no dispute the decision made by the opposing player must stand.

It is the duty of the roving referee to stay alert and be in the vicinity of the tables at all times so that players are not craning necks and waiving arms in search of assistance.

In the case of any unsporting conduct by any player or acting referee, the roving referee is instructed to take immediate charge of the situation and to bring it as swiftly as possible to a reasonable conclusion. All the powers invested in an accredited Referee are available to resolve any untoward instances and will be fully supported by the association. In serious cases a report from the roving referee, the players involved and opposing team captains to the score registrar is mandatory. Independent observers may also be consulted.