

Victorian Referees Association

January 2023

ALL THINGS REFEREEING AND VICTORIAN

Issue # 001

A NEW METHOD

In 2018 it was decided that the methods of teaching to produce new referees was in need of an update and to that end a series of Powerpoint presentations were formulated in an effort to produce some visual and interesting content to the seminars used for those students to learn the rules. After many trials and with the input and knowledge of Paul Cosgriff and a later switch to Keynote, which is the Mac version of Powerpoint, some workable presentations were completed. These are now used exclusively for the seminars, both for Snooker and Billiards and have proved invaluable in producing some highly competent and knowledgeable referees.

A NEWSLETTER FOR VICTORIAN REFEREES

In this first edition we will say some hello's and a goodbye, we will discuss the desktop published books, the changes to the rules made in 2022 and it will also include some editorial content.

The first to experience the new methods of teaching with those early and very basic Powerpoint presentations and with the valuable assistance of Jon Moss, then engaged in a mentorship with a view to be upgraded to Class 1, were Maurice Chilton and Balraj Dhaliwal in 2021. The validation of the new method has since been in irrefutable evidence as both Maurice and Balraj have now become two of the most prominent and respected referees in the state. Next to benefit from the new style of teaching was Serina Zhong and high hopes, with some early performances, both as a roving referee for pennant finals and very commendable match duties during a Hat Trick event and especially the 2022 Australian Championships at the R.A.C.V., those hopes of a very promising career with the white gloves for this very personable young lady were certainly enhanced.

Next to experience and successfully negotiate those presentations and methods were Bohan Lin, Tim Forte and Graham Maloney. All three have now been blooded in real competition situations with none of them found wanting and conversely eliciting some very complementary comments from some of our more senior and well respected members, Neil Allison in particular.

A further group of inductees included John Van Zanden and Neville Ingels with Neville already involved in the recent Pennant finals and John champing at the bit and raring to go.



Follow up seminar to the 2021 course at the North Brighton Club.

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Thanks Mike.

Mike D'Silva has been a stalwart for Victoria both as a player and a coach but with an outstanding profile as one of our best ever referees. Mike has served Victoria for many years and latterly as its director of referees until 2014. He has continued to be a guiding force and confidant since retiring as director, including many visits to the coal face, especially for pennant finals when not involved directly. Mike has now decided to hang up his gloves to concentrate on playing and coaching and we offer him our heartfelt thanks for all his valuable input over the years and wish him well in all future endeavours.



Mike with our Tournament Director and Treasurer, George Hoy directing the 2013 Lance Pannell at the Yarraville Club before all its tables were moved down Stephen St. to the Reventon Centre.

A Step Up



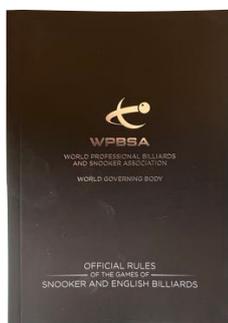
Jon Moss entered a mentoring program in 2019 aimed specifically at preparing him for an upgrade to Class I Examiner. Jon was the first ever to be offered a place in this innovative procedure and took wholeheartedly to all that was expected and required in completing a long and exhaustive education. In acting as mentor for Jon I now have complete trust that he is more than worthy of that upgrade, ratified by the ABSC on December 4th 2022 and that he will prove a worthy holder of the highest classification and will indeed go on to even higher achievement.

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RULES

2019 saw a major overhaul of the rules by the WPBSA. This update also incorporated the changes and additions made in 2014. Unfortunately it was published before it was fully revised and further changes had to be made to bring it to its required format. There were so many rules that were changed and/or reworded that the WPBSA had to publish 6 pages of explanatory notes to accompany the new rule book. The

question still remains, why wasn't this done during the original revision in 2019 and which then had to be done in 2022? The resulting mess of a rule book which is aesthetically pleasing in its cover but is nevertheless unwieldy and unfriendly as a working rules reference and which, at a cost of \$12, is something of a rip-off.



For the teaching seminars a rule book to specifically accompany the presentations was produced. This book is desktop published and has the advantage of being twice the size of the official book as well as including the rules for One for Seven Snooker and the VBSA by-laws. It is intended that this book will be made available to all referees and will also be provided to each major venue as a house copy. They are available upon

request and if your home venue would also like to have one, copies will be produced to accommodate that.



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The Changes

The major ones to the official book are first and foremost the deletion of all references to gender with those rules which contain the word 'his' 'him'; or 'he' changed to 'their' or 'them'. This works in some places but is confusing in others where the 'their' in the sentence could refer to both players rather than just the striker or the non-striker and which was not intended.

Definitions are first dealt with, with clearer demarkations of who is the

striker and when, what is a pot and what is a pocketing, what is a foul and what is a penalty and the addition of a free ball being missed having to be called as such even if a ball otherwise on was first struck.

The other really big change was to the 'in-hand' rule which in one sense is diametrically opposite to earlier versions of the rule and needs to be studied for full understanding.



The final change to definitions was the addition of Rule 22 Consultation Period.

Changes to Section 3 which are not the ones designed to be non-gender specific and are really rule revisions, also disregarding those which are reworded for easier understanding, include the rule deleted for most of the recent updates but now resurrected. This is the one about reds being spotted in error for

colours and what to do if they can or cannot later be identified. There are others concerning penalties and fouls, especially part 4 of rule 11, the 7 point fouls. There are also some changes to the rules of Billiards and a full study of the rule book should be undertaken when you have some spare moments.

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Referee Reference Book

Additional to the desktop published rule book a reference book was also produced which outlined all the things a referee must be a master of, or at least be familiar with in addition to the rules. Initial inclusions in this book were advice on positioning, the personal items of equipment required, the dress rules and conditions, how to use a ball marker, an in depth explanation of 'extreme edge', roving referee duties, what constitutes opinion rather than a hard and fast rule, accepted referee vocabulary and the ABSC Code of Ethics. So many things have been added since its inception that it has become too unwieldy to publish as a hard copy and is now only available in digital form. Amongst later inclusions are those similar things necessary for Billiards, a glossary of terms and phrases and many other cue sport and especially referee related articles.



THE NEXT GROUP

The next set of seminars will begin on February 12th and will continue for the following two successive Sundays. This course will be exclusively for Billiards with Paul Bray and Graham Maloney already enrolled. If you would like to join this

course an enrolment form will be sent to you, with completion and return by the end of January required. If you have already received an enrolment form and still intend to join the course please complete and send, again by the end of January.

Another course for Snooker will later be available in March although some weeks may be interrupted by competition, the 1st Hat Trick event starts on the 18th of that month and the Australian U/21s early in April.

As indicated by the photo on the first page a follow up seminar, along with an accompanying Keynote presentation, has also been produced to further ease the transition from player and/or enthusiast to fully accredited professional referee. It is intended that this single 3 hr. seminar will also be available with enough interest and on a suitable date for all, again at the North Brighton Club. Please indicate your interest if you have any and we will certainly then make it happen.



EST.1911

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Dates for your Diary

JANUARY.

2ND - 7TH.

AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR TEAM CHALLENGE.

VENUE - ALBURY.

26TH - 28TH.

DR. CLEM JONES QLD OPEN.

VENUE - REDCLIFFE SNOOKER CLUB. QLD.

FEBRUARY.

4TH - 11TH.

WSF CHAMPIONSHIPS.

VENUE - MOUNTIES. SYDNEY NSW.

6TH & 8TH.

PENNANT SINGLES FINALS.

VENUE - TBC

12TH.

BILLIARDS SEMINAR 1.

VENUE - NORTH BRIGHTON CLUB.

19TH.

BILLIARDS SEMINAR 2.

VENUE - NORTH BRIGHTON CLUB.

26TH.

BILLIARDS COURSE CONCLUSION.

VENUE - NORTH BRIGHTON CLUB.

MARCH.

4TH - 5TH.

VICTORIAN SENIORS SNOOKER.

VENUE - YARRAVILLE.

18TH - 19TH.

VICTORIAN U/21 SNOOKER & BILLIARDS.

VENUE - TBC.

23RD - 26TH.

AUSTRALIAN SENIORS SNOOKER.

VENUE - ALBURY.

31ST - 2ND APRIL.

HAT TRICK 1.

VENUE - YARRAVILLE.

APRIL.

12TH - 16TH.

AUSTRALIAN U/21 BILLIARDS & SNOOKER.

VENUE - BRUNSWICK CLUB.

29TH APRIL - 5TH MAY.

VICTORIAN STATE TIMED BILLIARDS.

VENUE - TBC.

