

THE LIFE MEMBERS

Throughout the history of the QBSA, Life Membership has been granted to worthy persons. The honour is generally only granted after years of meritorious service.

A Dorsett	No History except as a Billiard Player
A Thurlow	President (1927-1935); Patron for many years(40's – 50's); President ABSC 1926 and 1930
A J Sapsford	President and Secretary QABA and state Billiards Champion
A Sakzewski	Patron, B&S Champion, President, Philanthropist, ABSA President 1930; Knighted 1973(Sir Albert Sakzewski)Aust Billiards Champ 1932 (206 Break)
H L (Hugh) Titcombe	from 1927 ABAQ President many times and delegate to the ABSA for 10 years
L Tozer	President 1950 and 51.
R N Graves	Former long serving Secretary/Treasurer 1940's.Retired 1947. Secty/Treas ABSA 1930 and Secty 1938
J Anderson	No History available – Paddington Tramways Billiards Player
C (Cec) Klinger	QBSA President and Secty ABSA 1953
J Devon	Long-serving Secretary and referee
W (Bill) South	Snooker Champion (2), President (7 years), V/President, Treasurer
C (Charlie) Thompson	Long term Committee Member and Administrator; Secty/Treas ABSC
Derek Law	Longest serving QBSA President to 1981; ABSC President
John Poirrier	President ('81 –'82, '86 -'91), ABSA Secretary 1990, '91 and '92
John Orr	President, Secretary, Treasurer. ABSA Secretary (1987-1989)
Dr Clem Jones AO	Patron, Advisor, ABSA President (1887-1992)
Terry Stewart	QBSA Publicity, Registrar, President, Secretary
Larry Grabish	President
John Balderson	QBSA Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar and Club Administrator
Noel Gourley	Qld and National Director of Coaching, Junior Development, long-serving Committee Member
Andrew Theodorou	Committee, Financial Supporter
W H (Chips) Lawrence	Long term Supporter and Administrator
Alan Bevan	Long term Club Administrator, Junior Development
Bob Turpin	State and National Junior Development, Qld Director of Coaching
Harold Silver	Many years Services to Refereeing Development and Training
Des Turner AO	Long term Services to Refereeing and Administration

AN INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

I am pleased to have agreed with the Queensland Billiards and Snooker Assn. Inc. Committee (QBSA) to attempt writing a history of our sports in Queensland and, in particular, of the QBSA itself. Unfortunately, history of such does not exist prior to around 1970 when the Assn. was nearly 100 years old. This is really appalling. Little or no history has been put aside thereafter. No one or group is to be blamed, it's just that no one has ever been given or accepted the task from what can be seen.

For this reason alone, it is most important that, from now on, the QBSA Secretary lodge with the State Library, a Financial Statement and confirmed Minutes of the AGM, each year, for the sake of posterity.

As the QBSA committee has been of a voluntary nature for most of its existence, regular changes in QBSA administration, (sometimes almost no administration), have left such matters to fall by the wayside. This was through the need to attend to much more important issues, particularly of an income generating nature. For example, little or no records exist of QBSA Champions, administrators or life members since the 70's, let alone prior to then. So let's have a go at improving things.

Research Objectives

1. Primarily, to research the **origins of the (QBSA)**;
2. Secondly, to provide a more expansive **list of Champions, Life Members, Administrators,** and the like;
3. Incidentally, in the process, to draw forth any **noteworthy or interesting people, achievements or events.**

An Appeal for Assistance

Whilst I am prepared to give this my best, I will never make it alone and hope that the Committee and members may enjoy and benefit from helping. It could take a couple of years or more. The QBSA has agreed to start at year dot (Australian Settlement) 1788 and work forward.

It would please me to be able to place some brief status reports on the Forum from time to time and for Members with any supporting information at all to send it to the QBSA forum, or my personal email, so it can be incorporated.

Best if we can confirm such, but if not, a decision whether to incorporate it or not may have to be made. I am not seeking a way out in this, it's just that mistakes will happen and once written it tends to move from the hearsay department to fact.

The Broad Plan in Identifiable Periods

From:

1. British Settlement (1788), through Federation (1901), to WW1 (1918) (Section 1);
2. 1918 to 1949 (Limit of Digitised Courier Mail, Telegraph, Sunday Truth and "The Referee" [NSW] Newspapers); (Section 2);
3. 1950 to 1970. Whatever Records - QBSA and Individual; microfilm newspaper articles, interviews with former players, officials, anecdotal reports. (Section 3);
4. 1970 Forward. (Section 4).

Time Line

So, where are we now?

Having started in April, 2016, all digitised copies of local newspapers have now been searched and many references to the objectives separated for further analysis by using TROVE (recommended). These comprise hundreds of newspaper articles, some with photos. Quite a lot are irrelevant to the cause. These the author just read in some detail, extracting all relevant and/or interesting material. Some time will certainly be required, particularly at the end of the digitised newspaper period, when microfilm records will have to be perused, page by page.

Observations

The wording on the (Trove) items is interpreted by a computer. There are many spelling misinterpretations and other errors. The opportunity exists to correct it, going ahead. However, it is considered this will make an already difficult task almost impossible. Thus it is unlikely to happen, at least in the first attempt.

The photographs are pretty much unusable, being too rough to copy, but an attempt will be made to insert a few possibly from other sources to make the end product more accurate and enjoyable. Sections 1 and 2 have been combined, since all of this period is covered by TROVE.

Introduction and Overview

Object: To research and produce a plain language paper on the history of Billiards and Snooker and, in particular, of the QBSA Inc and its forerunners, from 1970 onwards.

Resources

Press media, QBSA records, minutes and anecdotal contributions from members appropriate to their term of involvement. Press records if possible.

Timeframe

Somewhat optimistically perhaps, this section is to be concluded for the AGM of the QBSA in 2018.

Review

The author had been in a quandary for some time as to just how to attack the history of this period. In these years the only substantial records kept (QABSA) are those of the champions, although there are many gaps in these. No records exist of who administered the QBSA; which clubs existed and contributed; the administrative extent (geographically) of it; or its contribution to the national QABSA which was substantial.

So since there are really no written references, apart from fifty years of QBSA minutes, a question on process (HOW TO) arises and the answers to this will be used to provide a format for the paper.

These answers will be WHO; WHAT; WHERE; WHEN; and WHY.

Research Parameters.

1. Contributors (Who)

Information will be sourced from interviews with former administrators, players, club officials and the like and this process was early this year (2017). Readers can please contribute by requesting amendments/inclusions, on topic, where they see the need.

2. The Subject Matter (What)

This will include Executive Officers (President, Secretary/Treasurer); Refereeing and Coaching; Patrons, Special Performances and contributing clubs (Affiliates). It is envisaged that a history of the Executive Committees will emerge, but unfortunately not of the general Committee members. These are a very fluid group, large in numbers and constantly changing. Hopefully no major contributors will be missed because of this.

Thus I will describe activities by the era and period of service of the various Presidents.

3. The QBSA Geographic Reach (Where)

Whilst the Association has always been SEQ-centric, substantial efforts were made, particularly in the late 1970's, to embrace all of Queensland in terms of major regional areas and should be canvassed.

4. Production Time Frame (When)

Somewhat optimistically perhaps, this section is to be concluded for the AGM of the QBSA in 2018.

Terry Stewart