

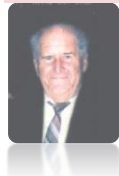
## HISTORY OF B&S AND QBSA – SECTION 8 - JOHN POIRRIER'S SECOND TERM – 1986/1991

Following Ken Fleming's term in 1984 the author commented:- With the Management Committee chaos of the past few years, it will certainly be interesting to see what 1985 holds – more change or even stability perhaps. That would be a pleasant result for certain.

There was certainly good reason for this opinion because following the solid, record breaking 10 years of presidency by Derek Law in 1980, the Assn fell into a period of chaos in the form of sequential short term occupancy of the Chair and resultant, disjointed management, which, as history does so, repeated itself right into the next century. John Poirrier served two years; Terry Stewart one; and Ken Fleming two years so far. Such upheaval as this does very little to promote member confidence; financial management and planning; and sound, forward-looking governance, without any reflection on the participants.

What would 1986 bring?

Having been defeated in 1985, **John Poirrier was elected President**. With him as **Secretary/Treasurer was John Orr**, who had not stood in the previous year. "The two Johns" were back in control and could this be the start of stable government. **Sam Catanzaro took on the Treasurer's Role**, his first foray into QBSA management. So far, so good. Only one major [position remained to be



filled. Though not an executive position one might say, but this required a committed, hard working operator. **John Balderson accepted the Registrar's role**, to keep all QBSA results, a very time consuming task without the use of a computer. As a public servant, John had the skill. More than half of the two Vice Presidents and six Committee men were also experienced at working on Committees, so it looked good.

John Balderson

The treasurer inherited **\$30,004.15 in an interest bearing account**, and so the finances were still strong as well. In June, at the Nth. Permanent Building Society, this had grown to a **\$32,924.95 total**. However, by September, this was depleted to **\$18, 924.95** with three withdrawals amounting to the \$14,000 difference.

**Not so strong?**

On the Affiliated Club scene, the following table illustrates that this was still in good shape, going by the Clubs, teams, and player numbers and so forth.

Snooker Metro Comps	Derek Law 1975	John Poirrier 1982	Ken Fleming 1984	John Poirrier 1985	Today 2017
Clubs	18	22	20	18	7
Teams	60	72	61	55	23
<b>Players</b>	300	360	305	275	150
Grades	6	7	7	6	3
Committee	13	13	13	6	4
Referees.	3	15 est.	22	23	24
Qual Coaches	nil	nil	nil	nil	12

### Overview 1985-86

The official rule book of 1984 had been somewhat poorly framed with many clauses having dual interpretations. Australian Council addressed this by having the rules legally proof-read and a series of amendments was issued until a new book was issued. Plans were well under way for the hosting of the **Australian Open Men's Snooker Championship** to be held at the **Gaythorne RLS Club in Brisbane**. The number and quality of the referees continued to improve and Qld's juniors were making a name for themselves. **The Graded Player System** was plagued with operational difficulties; problems of maintaining accurate grading; and operation in the matches; **was abolished**.

## The State Snooker

For the first time, the QBSA decided that Queensland Snooker Championships would be open events available to any player other than professionals.

## Refereeing

A Queensland and Referees Association Orr. Refereeing was referees in the table],



possibly Australian first was set up in the form of the Qld as a sub-committee of the QBSA. This was headed up by John holding up well in numbers and the standard was high. Of the 22 four (4) were now examiners. [See next page] Referee training continued with symposiums in city and country areas, whilst in 1985, at the Nationals in Coomealla, Terry Stewart was appointed on behalf of the QBSA to attend and report on the ABSA National Referees' Conference held there. The purpose was to make more uniform, the performance of the referees. Qld's first female Referee Kay Digby had been recently certificated and was performing well. It would be a short while before the next, Jackie Jordan, would also qualify and Jackie is still actively refereeing today along with husband Pat. Today, female referees are quite plentiful.

## Zone Arrangements (non-Metropolitan Affiliates)

The expansion programme to embrace country affiliates was gaining traction as geographical groups were forming and stronger tournaments. Well worth \$1000 Snooker Classic and hampton RSL Club. It was players to the near country player Rod Muller also advised that Mackay had 8-10 players wanting to be examined for Referees Certificates.



clubs reflected their eligibility with a series of open mention was Mackay RSL with their Australia Day The Central Qld Invitational Snooker at the Rock-also planned to take the Super League competition clubs, as a promotion. Former Brisbane state level player Rod Muller also advised that Mackay had 8-10 players wanting to be examined for Referees Certificates.

Some other competent players from the country areas were:

Eros Bertocci – Kingaroy

Les Kelly – Townsville

John Bonke Nambour

Bill Munster Rockhampton



The Wide Bay B&S Assn; Central Qld B&S Assn; and Townsville had already framed constitutions amenable for QBSA Affiliation; however, the parent constitution needed an update to accommodate this. (Comprised Gympie, Bundaberg and Maryborough/Wide Bay RSL clubs)

## Junior Development

On the junior really starting to make his mark. Wayne was Champion in '84, '85; the U/18 in '83, '85; importantly, arguably, Wayne was U/18 1985 and 1987. A great young player and



player side of Wayne Turpin was the Queensland U/15 Snooker and the U/23 champion in '86. More National Snooker Champion in absolute gentleman was he.

## Major Event

Mid-year 1986, Queensland hosted the Australian Open Snooker Championships at the Gaythorne RSL Club, Mitchelton. The event was heavily patronised with (16 x 4 player) groups in a round-robin elimination series. A majority of the referees were home grown and the well organised tournament concluded with Geoffrey Miller, from Sydney, the Champion. A civic reception at Brisbane's City Hall and the traditional ABSC AGM held at Clem's private home put the icing on the cake. Ken Fleming resigned as Qld Executive Member before the meeting. This made way for John Poirrier's appointment to fill the vacancy, having been losing contender at the earlier AGM.

### Presentation Nights

These were the days of very popular end-year presentation nights. In 1986 one hundred and forty-five (145) patrons attended a catered event for entertainment, trophy collection and to thank the sponsors, most of whom were present. Great social activities were these. As well virtually all Brisbane affiliates held their own events, to which the QBSA executive officers were generally invited too.

### Qld Billiards Championships

**Wren Souvenirs (owner Vic Kusskopf** (from the Sunshine Coast and Member of the Buderim Billiards and Snooker Club) sponsored the Billiards again with great results. This time **the winner was Ron Moore**. Ron travelled to Toronto NSW for the Australian Billiards where famous Billiards cueist **Bob Marshall OAM** was defending the title he had won in 1985 in Hobart. Bob won that after an absence of 16 years from competition. That had been his 20th. title and 1986 number 21. He had been a State Member of Parliament in West Australia for all those years and four times world amateur champion .



Inspired by Marshall, Ron had his self confessed best ever matches and the tournament high break of 228. After this Bob Marshall toured the eastern states, starting in Brisbane on a coaching trip. The Pink Ball was the venue and, after an exhibition game with Ron, he played lucky locals **Graham Clarkson, Jim Wicks and Wayne Turpin**.

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Grades	6	7	7	6	6	3
Committee	13	13	13	6	6	4
Referees.	3	15 est.	22	23	26	24
Qual Coaches	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil*	12

\*Les Kelly, Townsville was already on the waiting list. ABSA adoption of Coaching Accreditation Scheme was now very close.

### 1987

#### Non-Metropolitan Affiliates – Zone Development

At this time, interest in non-metropolitan affiliation having incorporated, **as well as Mackay**, made **Qld Billiards and Snooker Assn**, (based at Sarina), and Rockhampton with Rodney Muller, former



continued. **Maroochydore**, applications. **The Central** embraced Sarina, Mackay Brisbane cueist, at the helm.

#### Junior Development

for the second time disciplines. But there National Under 18 Championship best at



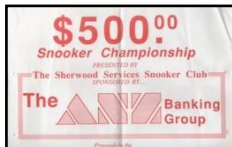
By now **Wayne Turpin held the U/18 and U/23 Snooker titles** and was already credited with century breaks in both was stiff competition on the way for Wayne. He was also Champion in 1985 and 1987. His high break of 62 was a the time.

### “Table Talk” Newsletter

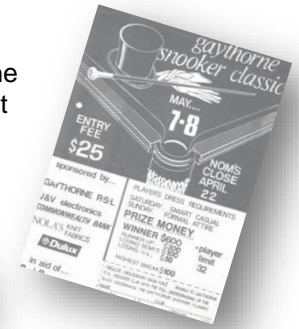


During the various terms of John Poirrier, QBSA President, a simple communication tool was developed in the form of a semi-regular newsletter. This was not a periodical, but was issued when necessary to 70 clubs, players, sponsors and other assns comprising 461 mailboxes. It was “roneoed” and mailed out in the days before faxes, emails or text messages.

**Secretary John Orr was the editor.**



**Sherwood Services Club and Gaythorne RSL** joined the ranks of the clubs offering off-pennant competitions, with the first of their **Open Snooker Tournaments** played in May 1988. First prizes were \$500, but entries, winner and so forth not known.



**Don Sharples.** Long time *Sherwood stalwart* and QBSA Committeeman was killed tragically as an electrician in an industrial accident.

### “Wear and Tear”

Until having experienced it, players generally lack understanding of the “wear and tear” on voluntary executive sporting administrators. The price is paid heavily in costs; family time and relationships; careers and playing performance. In 1987 **John Orr** was not only Secretary/Treasurer/Editor for the QBSA but also Secretary/Treasurer of the ABSC.



At the 1988 AGM in Brisbane, **John Orr resigned from the latter.** Let's hope it stops there!

**Pam Poirrier, (John's wife) took this on.** With Clem Jones now National President it turned into a successful relationship for all concerned. John Poirrier was still Qld Executive Officer.

### Women's' Snooker

**Marion Westaway** appeared again for Qld and her best performance to date. Undefeated in the Round-Robin, Marion drew Ann Green (a top seed) in the Quarters and was knocked out.

**And so 1988 dawned. It was our Bi-centenary year.** What would 200 years of white settlement bring to our sports this year?

1988 marked 200 years since the arrival of the first fleet of British convict ships at Sydney in 1788. The event triggered debate on Australian national identity, Aboriginal rights, historical interpretation and multiculturalism. Celebrations too, but how would Billiards and Snooker be presented?

The **Australian Bicentennial Authority (ABA)** was set up to plan, fund and coordinate projects that emphasized the nation's cultural heritage. State (ABA) Councils were also created to ensure cooperation between the federal and state governments. The result was a national programme of events and celebrations to commemorate the Bicentenary. World Expo 88, in Brisbane, was the largest event of these celebrations and great fun. Anyway, the ABSC had been doing some planning and our contribution as a national sporting body was well under way. More later!

**However World Expo 88 would cause the QBSA the loss of one of its very best clubs?**

**The South Brisbane Businessmen's Club (SBBC)** operated from the basement of a building in Grey Street South Brisbane. It relied largely on city businessmen eating and drinking or playing snooker on one of the three tables there. The club had a warmth and personality which was appealing. It was not “stuffy” or expensive as were some of its contemporaries and SBBC holds the honour of being the first of Qld's clubs to permit women to be members. But, as luck would have it, it was built in the wrong place!

**The club was completely flooded in the 1974 deluge and was refurbished only to be resumed as part of what is now the Southbank site for the World Expo.** A favourable compensation claim enabled resiting to the location of the German and Dutch Clubs (opposite Boggo Road Jail) which were languishing in a fine club premises. The SBBC was safe for the present but this site turned out to be wrong too. Too far from the city now it lost its target audience of business people and eventually was forced to close.

The 1988 QBSA AGM was held for the first time at the "Broncos" Club in March. The Broncos had been formed in 1987 and purchased the Wests Old Boys and Juniors property at Red Hill as a club and training base. Renovations were underway. The QBSA team then, comprised **John Poirrier**, **John Orr** (Secty/ Treas), **Mal Mollenhauer** (Registrar); **Phil Vincent\*** (Referee Organiser); and, for his first Committee responsibility, **Bob Turpin** (Tournament Director), though Bob had been attending meetings for some time. It is not common knowledge that the Broncos continued to field inter-club teams for some time, in which, President Poirrier was a B Grade team player. \* Sadly, Phil passed in 2017

### World Under 21 Snooker Championships 1990

The Queensland Billiards and Snooker Assn was appointed to run this prestigious tournament, arguably its most ambitious project ever. A Committee of Management was formed for the purposes of doing so, and work was underway early to select a suitable venue. A first call for referees was made as well to provide abundant time and best selection from available B Grade referees nationally. The Committee were given clear responsibilities and the QBSA would be incorporated to provide maximum financial protection.



The usual run of activities continued, although **Wren Souvenir State Billiards Championships** was **granted official Bi-centennial status** for its May-Day weekend event. This year attracted 4 groups of 6 players in RR elimination, won **again by Ron Moore** (pictured), **by four (4) points over junior Wayne Turpin**. Entries were down from last year, but still a very impressive outcome for Billiards. On the same weekend the \$2000 Townsville Open \$2000 Snooker was held.

Wayne

The first National U/15 Burwood Plaza and was also our U/16 could play above his would rep for Australia **Championships**, at



Stephen Snooker was held at Sydney's new won by a new face, **Stephen Balderson**. Steve Champion for two years then, but weight. **Wayne Turpin** (who in the **U/21 World Snooker**

Bangkok), needs to keep an eye on this young man. Steve's brother Kevin was strong player at snooker too. Stephen won the Aust U15 Snooker Title over Stuart Lawler (4-1) with high breaks of 41 and 46.



Another great young player, **Craig Duffy** was now on the scene and was the cause of stiff competition for all. Craig had won all invitation events he had played in so far that year in Qld. He won the right to represent in the Australian Open Snooker, when **state champion Angelo Siokos** could not attend; and was credited with a 140 break by year's end. All three abovementioned are still in Qld today. Craig excelled both Snooker and American Nine Ball Pool. He turned professional for both. Craig now resides at the Gold Coast. (The press clip shows Wayne and Craig in practice at the Wynnum RSL Cancer Fund \$1500 Charity match. Winner \$700, Cancer Fund \$1000; major Sponsor Radio 4BC)

### Winfield Qld Snooker Championships 1988

For the very first time three zone Champions competed - [Bill Munster [CQ], Ray Hughes [NQ] and Kerry Lewis [Wide Bay). Munster and Lewis progressed to the semi-finals. **The Qld Women's Snooker Championships** was won by Sue Martin, defeating Megan Fullerton 4-0.

*Of interest Megan is still competing and won the Australian Women's in 2018.*

#### Junior Development

**Rhys Cochrane**, who won the Snooker Rhys was also a junior Rhys later recorded a tournament. Another junior Gaythorne RSL and the pair



A new face and brilliant young player was U12 Snooker; was runner-up in both the U18 runner-up nationally in his age group. Still as 114 break in the A Grade Billiards inter-club **Danik Lucas** had already made his debut for would go on to produce remarkable billiards.

#### Junior Comp Progression

**1986** U/18 and U23 only junior events on Nat Calendar

**1987** U/23 replaced by U21

**1988** U/15 introduced plus Junior Teams Challenge

### The 1988 Australian Bicentenary World Snooker Championship

It was time to find out fully what the ABSC had been up to in relation to our contributions. Some may ask why put this into a Queensland Historical attempt? Of interest should be the extent to which Qld was involved. So here we go.

Historically championships were held in clubs supportive of the ABSC and it is supposed that is what most fanciers presumed, although it was a world Championship, and a very important one at that. It definitely required something out of the ordinary. It really had to be in Sydney, that's where it all started 200 years back. If the politics of the day (1977) is considered, there is a very strong thread through the major players when the Sydney Olympic site was being prepared for the 2000 Olympics. Qld had **Wayne Goss**; NSW – **Barry Unsworth**; Australia – **Bob Hawke**; and Australian Billiards and Snooker Council (ABSC) had **Clem Jones**. All were Prominent Labor personalities. **Clem then was ABSC President** and Bob Hawke is Patron now, but was a supported even way back then. Anything could be achieved and in fact it was.

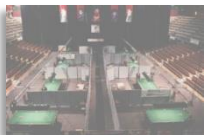


**The Sydney Olympic Park** site is a large sport and entertainment complex in the West of Sydney. Previously it was mostly derelict former industrial land, after more than a century of industrial and military activities on the site.

Driver Harold



These days it is also an official suburb known as **Olympic Park** (but is sometimes still just called Homebush as it was called then). The only building on the site then, from recollection, was **The State Sports Centre** built in 1984 and used



Championship Table (Left)

hold 5000, with the lower seating rolled out). Clem soon found another way to help by giving the organisers the use of a near-new Toyota 30 seat bus for moving players and officials from accommodation to Homebush to organised tours, whatever. Brisbane Referee/drivers, **John Poirrier, John Orr and Terry Stewart** called for the fourth, **Harold Silver**, at Ballina on the way down and back. **Harold and Terry each refereed one final session.**

8 tables in use



### Junior Interstate Challenge (The Clem Jones Shield)

These are still today, a very successful and enjoyable opportunity to give Qld Juniors more match play experience. Funded by the QBSA, they are usually supervised by player parents, and taken very, very seriously by the juniors themselves. Friendships and rivalries formed here last lifetimes. **This, the first one staged in Qld, was at the Gaythorne RSL Club**, featuring all age groups (U/12, 15, 18, and 21). The first had been held in NSW in 1984.

All Eastern snooker Affiliates would be represented, with Qld to provide a country team as well to balance the draws. However, NSW wound up placing two teams, which played each other in the final. It has been reported that the standard of play displayed was extremely high and it augured very well for the sports in Australia.

### Zone Arrangements (non-Metropolitan Affiliates)

The increase in affiliate numbers and proposed country cash competitions encouraged the QBSA to issue Club Tournament Guidelines. Of interest was the \$500 minimum aside from entry fees. This encouraged the clubs to find sponsors, which if pleased, might just spread the funds to state matters. Many of these events benefitted **charities, for example the Red Cross** in the case of Gaythorne RSL "Snooker Classic". All competitors had to be QBSA members, also increasing cash flow for the state body. Zone Championships were held in Wide Bay, Central Queensland and North Queensland.

A contact list also exists of every RSL club and several other social type clubs in Queensland, canvassed in relation to non-metropolitan expansion. From this activity the list was reduced presumably to those clubs which had at least two full sized billiard tables and the potential for affiliation.

**1989**

### **Governance**

Throughout the year the Constitution was being reassessed, rewritten with a final draft targeted for the 1989 AGM. Major considerations were to accommodate beneficiaries of country expansion, some of which were becoming restless from the delay. It was necessary to consider changing the "three frame" matches to "best of three" frames, because late finishes were a problem with some clubs and to the registrar as well, with unfinished matches. Captains were sometimes tossing a coin for a result. "F" Grade Snooker was under a cloud because of lack of club patronage.

Thirty Members attended the 1989 AGM with no change to the Executive Officers. John Orr, as Vice President, was doing his share, the major effort being the Interstate Junior Challenge and regional expansion.

**The financial position was weakening, and with a world championship commitment and organisation under way. Of the \$15,209 at year-end 1988, only \$7,420 remained in 1989.**

### **Marketing and Promotion**

An active sub-committee was formed to address a perceived lessening of participation in the games and, if so, halt its progress. The proceeds of deliberations were plentiful, but the following will indicate the major areas of concern were to increase or improve:

**Membership**

**Player Numbers**

**More Competitions**

**QBSA Image**

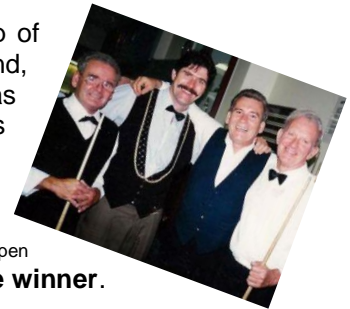
**Communications**

**Sponsors**

### **Winfield State Snooker Championship**

Concerns were growing that Winfield would be forced to cease sponsorship of snooker events. A major world tournament, the Winfield Masters in England, had suffered this fate as a result of anti-smoking legislation, and the tide was turning everywhere. This one, notwithstanding, was a success, with 8 groups of 4 competing in a round robin format. For the first time this was conducted at an outer Brisbane club, Southport RSL. Some impetus for this was the presence of some strong competitors at the coast, mainly from Twin Towns.

This included, **Robbie Janson, Gordon Robinson, Jim Bonner** (1985 Aust Open Snooker Champion), **Ron Moore**, (all pictured), and of course **Craig Duffy who was the winner**.



Special mention is to be made of **Graham Clarkson** in this event **with a 119 break**, a new Qld record. Graham went to the Nationals with Craig and performed at one of his highest levels to make the Semi's.

Graham

Otherwise regular activities continued, with Megan Fullerton winning the Women's Snooker; Ron Moore the Billiards; and Rhys Cochrane defeating Steve Balderson for the U/18 Snooker.

### **"Wear and Tear"**

Throughout the year the Assn was very unfortunate to lose the services of **John Orr** as Secretary/Treasurer due to work and family commitments. He had already relinquished similar responsibilities with the ABSC. However, John was able to rejoin the Committee later in the year as a Vice President. His portfolios were conducted by Kath Mollenhauer (assistant Registrar with husband Mal) and Kay Digby (referee) at short notice in his absence.

### **Refereeing**

Later in 1988 **John Poirrier** was honoured with an elevation to **A Grade Referee and Examiner** in both codes. John had spent much time at refereeing all over Australia and examined many candidates. In these times there were four grades (A, B, C and D), later reduced back to three, and now designated 1, 2, and 3. John Orr and Terry Stewart would soon follow suit as A Grade referees.

### A Grade Referee Criteria

A Grade (now Class1) used to be issued under the following criteria.

*“Appointed by Council from the ranks of senior “B” grade referees of at least five years standing at that level, who have qualified In both subjects, on recommendation of the CRRC. (Rules Committee). Awarded only for outstanding service and proven ability to contact matches of importance”.*

### 1990 QBSA Committee

**President:** John Poirrier, **Secretary:** Graham Baker, **Treasurer:** Michael Cadiz, **Registrar** Mal Mollenhauer. **Vice President:** John Orr. **Committee:** Noel Gourley, Phil Morris, Dennis McLean, Kevin Hamilton-Reen, Bob O’Shea, and John Balderson. The full Committee is presented because, **largely from this, a special Management committee will be selected to run the 1990 World Junior Snooker Championships.** John was elected as President for a three-year-term under the new (and largely current) Constitution of the Qld Billiards and Snooker Assn Inc (QBSA). This Constitution was adopted at a meeting called for the purposes in September, 1990.

On the Australian Billiards and Snooker Council Inc. (ABSC), John and Pam Poirrier were still serving, Pam as Treasurer, with Clem as President.

**Twin Towns Services Club** first entered a team in QBSA fixtures in this year. **Des Turner as President** was already entrenched there and was attending Assn meetings. Billiards and Snooker facilities in those days were in the “main” club at Tweed Heads, but these were later moved to the Banora Golf Club when sporting amenities of Twin Towns were amalgamated there. Banora club housed seven (7) full sized tables therein and it became a large part of QBSA operations, thankfully, because of geographic location. It is now called **Club Banora.**



Team: R Ganson G Robinson J Bonner R Moore

The club is respected for its **Twin Towns Snooker Open**, played on a NSW long weekend which had attracted over 100 entries in days before the main club management reduced the table population to just three, severely limiting operations. Another, tourney the **Eamon Duff Snooker Classic** celebrates the life and club commitment of this lovable Irish wag, who passed in 2009.

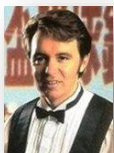
### Qld Under 21 Snooker at Sherwood

In readiness for representation in the 1990 World Juniors, the Qld Championship was held at the Sherwood RSL Club. Qld would be allowed, as host, to enter six (6) players into the 1990 world U21 event. This would be an unofficial qualification.

### Winfield State Snooker

It is unfortunate that the winner of this title in 1992 is not listed, along with many similar discrepancies. It is presumed it was **Craig Duffy**, who was runner-up the previous year and for the following reason.

### Noteworthy Achievement



#### Australian Open Snooker Championships

And the winner was..... **Craig Duffy, from Qld.** The event was conducted in Sydney and **the win included his high break trophy of 106. This notable achievement was the first instance of a Queenslander winning the National Title since Sir Albert Sakzewski, in 1940.**

Craig switched to Pool, becoming 14 times Australian, Qld, and NSW Open Pool Champion and was runner-up in a World Championship. Taken, with our congratulations, from his Face book page.



## The 1990 World Under 21 Snooker Championships

Having accepted the challenge planning and work began in 1988 with the formation of the Management Committee:

<b>John Poirrier</b>	Event Manager
<b>John Balderson</b>	Tournament Director
<b>Terry Stewart</b>	Director of Referees
<b>John Orr</b>	International Liaison
<b>Bob O'Shea</b>	Accommodation
<b>Phil Morris</b>	Media
<b>Kevin Hamilton-Reen</b>	Publicity
<b>Michael Cadiz</b>	Finance
<b>Peter Warwick</b>	Catering and Refreshments

Anything which could be started was kicked off early - media releases; referee expressions of interest; venue search; sponsors; and international notifications.

- ❖ **Eight Major Sponsorships** were available for \$20,000 each. This earned one of the championship tables upon tournament completion and included full participation in the tournament official ceremonies etc.
- ❖ **Eight (8) brand new match-play tables** were ordered from Pot Black (Don Keogh) which was granted "**Major Sponsor**" status.
- ❖ **A Major Art Union** would be conducted with a new car as first prize.
- ❖ Four (4) **Practice Tables** were loaned, free-of-charge by QBSA members **Ticket and Programme sales** and sundry small fund raiser completed the package.
- ❖ **The Venue**, and certainly most suitable of those inspected, was **the Clem Jones Centre, at Carina**. Here, a basketball (and mixed game room) would be converted for the purpose, with the twelve tables; referees' room; office space; and seating for 500.

**A Budget** was set in March 1989, projecting costs of about \$140K to run the world championship, and a potential profit of about the same, if all proposed fund raisers maximised returns. Comprehensive organisational reports were lodged by the Tournament Director and Director of Referees. Regular meetings then took place, generally at the offices of Phil Morris who was involved in the field of marketing.

**Entries began rolling in** right up to the event, by which time they were received from 50 countries, including Japan for the very first time. Finally, **8 groups of 9 presented for the Round Robins**, with the final 32 players entering a straight elimination contest for the World Championship.

**Referees** were accommodated two-up (usually 3) and assisted with travel allowance for the first time. As well a daily subsistence allowance was paid for food. They were each rostered off every third day for R & R; and a **referees snooker tournament** was conducted at/with Noel Gourley's "Pink Ball" as sponsor. **A daily Referees' Pools draw and a Tournament "Lotto"** conducted as necessary distractions for such a long and important tournament. **Markers and Check Scorers** were trained. They were then managed and supervised by **Phil Vincent and Anne Stainthorpe** (wife of Brian, from Wollongong, one of the referees).

The **Art Union prize, a brand new Ford Laser**, was provided at wholesale cost by Alan Piper Ford.

**Alan Piper**, (a regular player/member and great supporter of the QBSA), **also took out a \$20k Major Sponsorship**.

*So, it seemed to be a highly organised, well planned event – how did it go?*

## THE WASH UP World Under 21 Snooker Championships

### FOR:

#### **Organisation**

Deemed by all, particularly by participants and overseas visitor and officials, to be excellent.

#### **Players and Tournament Officials**

Play was of a very high standard with **winner Peter Ebden** turning Professional immediately and still playing at that level in 2017. The Referees and Match Officials were judged by many players to be of a higher standard than those at home, including Great Britain. This is quite a tribute to the ABSC referee selection, training and development methods. **Player behaviour** was generally of a high standard, but let's add that it would be hard to get any group of men, let alone junior men, together, without blemish. These were minor problems, from minor players, and quickly "put to bed".

#### **Playing conditions, Tables and Facilities**

The venue was ideal for the separation of the tables and the general daily organisation and facilities were excellent.

#### **Match Committee**

Thus was a great Match Committee which worked very hard for the benefit of the players. They were generally compatible and tended each to leave the other to his or her responsibilities and outcomes.

### AGAINST

The following comment is hard to write by the author having been part of the Tournament Committee. However, the responsibility for the overall outcome of the event is shared. No member can be responsible for any single problem.

***In terms of its financial outcome and that of the QBSA, it was a real failure, a white elephant!***

#### **Organisation**

The tournament organisation was excellent, however, the organisation of the sales of Art Union tickets and Major Sponsorships was lacking. The Affiliated Clubs were just not interested in an art union not directly benefiting their activities. Potential sponsors generally lacked the ability to participate in a scheme that yielded a snooker table, many of whom made or owned one. Pre-match sampling did not reveal this.

#### **Match Committee**

The Match Committee was a well seasoned group of organisers. Notwithstanding this, such an outcome can make anyone "gun shy" given similar future opportunities. It is the writer's opinion that such as borne out here. Some later vanished from the organisational field and others were slow coming back to help.

#### **Eight Major Sponsorships**

Of the eight were available for \$20,000 each **only ONE was taken up, that of Alan Piper**, and Alan already had a fine table. Those who knew Alan Piper don't have to be told that he honoured the deal.

(For Information, Alan contracted cancer and passed shortly after this time – a great and sad loss.)

**The eight (8) brand new match-play tables** (now 7) were placed in storage with the QBSA unable to pay for them.

#### **A Major Art Union**

Soon after the event sufficient tickets were finally sold to just cover the cost of the Ford Laser.

**Ticket and Programme sales** were extremely poor because the QBSA Members did not support the event and "stayed away in droves". Virtually all spectators were visitors and on the complimentary list.

#### **A Budget**

This was awry, sadly, and, although fine-tuned several times in the planning stage, went nowhere near illustrating the real situation which developed.

And so 1990 closed on a very dismal note for the QBSA and nothing, it seemed, could right this one.

## Some Statistics

### Participating Clubs (Affiliates) Snooker Teams

(Usually 5 players to a team)

PRESIDENT	Affiliate	1973 Teams	1975 Teams	198.1 Teams	1985 Teams
<b>D Law '73</b>	Coorparoo RSL	B C			B C E
	Gaythorne RSL	A B C D	B C D E	A C E F	2A C E
	Kedron Wavell Services	B C D	2B C D	A C D E	A C D E
	Post-Tel Institute	B	B	C D E 2F	2D E
	Q. Bookmakers Club	A	A		
	Q. Cricketers Club	A	A C D E F		B D E
	Q. Irish Assn	A	A B		
	Q. Masonic Club	A B D	A B E F	A B C	B C E
	Wynnum RSL	AC		B C 2EF	2C E
	Buffalo Memorial	BC			
<b>J Poirrier '75- '83</b>	Redcliffe RSL	A C D	A B D F		
	RQYS	B	B E		
	Sherwood Services	B C D	A C D E F		B
	Sth Brisbane Club	A C	A B C E	A B E F	2A B C D
	Tattersalls Club	A	A		
	Toowong RSL	A B C D	A B C D F	B C E F	B C D
	Toowong Bus Depot	C D	C E	2E F	B E
	University Qld	B			
	Valley Club Rex Arcade	A	2A B C	2A B C 2D E F	
	Waterside Workers	B C			
	Gabba Pink Ball	A B C D	2A 2B C D	2A 2B C D	3A B C E
	Wests OB & Juniors			B C E F	B C D
	Wests Seniors			B C D E	
	Ritz Snooker Ipswich			B D F	
	Redlands Services			C D E F	2E
	Light Street Bus Depot			D E F	
	Brothers Rugby League			2F	B C D E
	<b>Team Number</b>		<b>44</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Players Approx</b>		<b>220</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>250</b>

Snooker Metro Comps	Derek Law 1975	John Poirrier 1982	Ken Fleming 1984	John Poirrier 1985	J.P. 1986	J.P. 1988	Today 2017
Clubs	18	22	20	18	15	*15	7
Teams	60	72	61	55	50	50	23
<b>Players</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>150</b>
Grades	6	7	7	6	6	5	3
Committee	13	13	13	6	6	6	4
Referees	3	15 est.	22	23	26	28	24
Qual Coaches	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	12

\*N.B. A Supplementary List of 7 clubs comprising Bribie RSL, "Ritz" Ipswich, Pine Rivers RSL, Waterside Workers, Southport RSL, Gympie RSL and Kingaroy RSL exists.