



## **WORKING MEN'S CLUB AND INSTITUTE UNION LIMITED**

CLUB UNION HOUSE, 253-254 UPPER STREET, LONDON, NI IRY

### **NATIONAL TEAM SNOOKER AND INDIVIDUAL SNOOKER CHAMPIONSHIPS**

#### **GENERAL RULES**

1. The Championships shall be held annually. Trophies will be awarded to the Winners and Runners-up. For outright win purposes the Trophies to be won three times in successive contests or five times in all. In the event of a club holding a trophy ceasing to be affiliated to the Working Men's Club and Institute Union Limited, the Trophy to be returned to the Head Office of the Union. The winning clubs will hold the Trophies until the Semi Final stage of the next contest or until disposal the Union Leisure Secretary issues instructions.
2. Prize vouchers, which will be announced prior to the Contest, will be awarded to the Winners, Runners-up and losing Semi Finalists in the Team Snooker, Individual Billiards and Individual Snooker contests. Highest Breaks prizes will be awarded in each contest.
3. The winners of Individual contests will be entered by the Union, if they so desire, for their National Championships. The Union will pay entrance fees and fares incurred. In local rounds, day expenses will be paid. The competition proper, day expenses will be paid and an allowance will be made for overnight stay if it is necessary. The winners will be informed prior to the Contest of the amount of expenses payable.
4. All competitors must be at least 18 years old and hold Associate and Pass Cards issued by the clubs they represent in the contest.
5. Only players (as opposed to Professionals) may compete.
6. The entrance fees will be announced prior to the Championships. In the Team Snooker Contest no Club may enter more than two teams. In the Individual Contest any number of players from a club may be entered.
7. For the Team Snooker contest clubs may register six players, from whom the Team of three is to be selected. Registrations cannot be varied after the draw for first round has been made. A player registered for one Team cannot be transferred to another during the contest. In the event of a club playing an unqualified man, the heat to be awarded to the opposing Team. In Team games it is the Clubs responsibility to keep an accurate record of its registrations. In the event of a dispute over registrations the official entry form retained at Head Office is the deciding factor
8. All contests to be run on a Knockout basis. Competitors to be grouped for the rounds so as to avoid long distance travelling. No two Teams or two players from one club shall be drawn to meet each other prior to the Quarterfinals.

9. In all rounds preceding the Semi Finals, the matches to be played at the clubhouse of the Team or individual first named in the draw. Competitors drawn at Home shall submit to their opponents, **within seven days of despatch of the draw**, at least four suggested dates for play, two of which shall be Weekend dates ( Friday evening Saturday or Sunday). Should the Home Competitor fail to submit dates within the time allowed, the responsibility for suggesting four dates to be automatically transferred to the Away competitor. The Home Competitor is then bound to accept one of the dates. Games may only be played on tables in mutual agreement.
10. Results forms to be completed and forwarded to the Union Leisure Secretary to reach him not later than the date notified on the draw. It is the winner's responsibility to submit the results, though it is preferable that both competitors do so. **Competitors whose results are not received by the closing date will be automatically disqualified. It is strongly recommended that the results be sent by Recorded Delivery. Provisional Results can be faxed, phoned or E-mailed to this office.** The Union Leisure Secretary to keep a record of all games. Extensions of time for play will not be granted, unless there are exceptional circumstances.
11. Protests must be made to the referee on the spot (and to the opponents captain in Team games), following which the game must be completed. Any club not satisfied with the referee's decision may appeal to the Union Leisure secretary within 72 hours of the game finishing. The appeal to be accompanied by a fee of £10, such fee to be refunded at the discretion of the Union Leisure Committee. The attention of all clubs is drawn to the necessity for efficient referees and markers being appointed.
12. All Semi Finals and Finals to be played on Saturdays at a neutral club selected by the Union Leisure Secretary. Standard return railway fares or actual fares (whichever is the lesser) plus £5 out of pocket expenses to be paid to each player in Semi Finals and Finals. Similar expenses to be paid in respect of one reserve, providing the reserve is present and available to play.
13. In Semi Finals and Finals the Union Leisure Secretary to fix the date and time for commencing games. The games to be competed within three months of the completion of the Rounds. In the event of a player in an Individual contest or a Team arriving more than 30 minutes after the scheduled start that player or team will be disqualified. The Union representative(s) must be informed if a late arrival is envisaged.
14. The Union Leisure Committee to have the power to settle all matters arising even if not covered by these rules, and its decision shall be final. In the event of a misdemeanour being committed by a competitor (team or individual) or by their supporters, the Committee have disciplinary powers to suspend or bar the offender from competing in Union Contests, and its decision is final.

## **PLAYING CONDITIONS**

1. All games shall be played on full sized tables with 2 1/16th balls (or such metric measurement as is determined by the EASB) under EASB rules. Only Super Crystallite balls or other balls recognised by the EASB will be used in the Championships  
In Semi-Finals and Finals once a match has commenced there must be continuous play. No break in the match will be allowed without the Union representative permission.
2. In the Team games, should a competitor be absent when due to play as drawn, any registered player from that club present must take his place. If no reserve is present, the game shall be played last (third frame). In the event of the third player or a registered reserve still not being present for the last game (third frame) the match to be awarded to the opposing team on the grounds that their opponents had not produced a full team.

### **3. Length of Games.**

**Team Snooker** All Heats, Semi Finals and Final shall be the best of seven frames. Pairings shall be determined by a draw made by the Team captains prior to the match commencement, and all games shall be played in the order drawn. Each pair to play one frame, then a second frame is played by the same pairs in the same order. In the event of a match tie, Captains to nominate a team member to play an extra frame.

**Individual Snooker.** All heats to be the best of five frames. Semi Finals and Final, the best of seven frames. Players to toss for breaking-off in first frame and break off alternately in remaining frames.