



# Oceania Region Billiards & Snooker

World Billiards Ltd and World Snooker Federation

## February 2018 Newsletter

Upcoming Events – Support our Sport

### Billiards Tournaments

**2018 Sydney Open Billiards**

**Club Marconi, Bossley Park, NSW**

**April 6<sup>th</sup> – April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Details Below and Entry Form attached**

### Snooker Tournaments

**World Snooker Federation Championships  
Dolmen Hotel, Malta**

**WSF World Championship  
WLBS Women's Championship  
WSF Seniors Championship**

**Entries Closing Date March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018  
via your National Federation**

**\*\*Check out the new WSF Social Media\*\***

<https://www.facebook.com/World-Snooker-Federation-258325214703290/>

<https://twitter.com/WorldSnookerFed>

**This month's interview is with the late Bob Marshall  
One of Australia's greatest Billiards Legends  
As interviewed in 1996**



Billiards  Australia

[www.billiardsaustralia.com](http://www.billiardsaustralia.com)



## **2018 Club Marconi Sydney Open Billiards Championship**

**Friday April 6th to Sunday April 8th 2018**

(Friday matches will start no earlier than 1.00 pm)



Prairie Vale Road, Bossley Park

### **Guaranteed Prize Pool \$5000**

Winner \$1600, Runner-Up \$800, Losing Semis \$400,  
Losing Quarters \$200, Last 16 \$100, High Break \$200

**Level 4 World Ranking Event**

**Full National Ranking Points**



**Sanctioned National Ranking Tournament**



**Entry Fee \$80**

**Entries Close at midnight on March 28th**

See page 2 & 3 for how to enter and conditions of entry



## **World Snooker Federation Championships, Malta**

The [World Snooker Federation \(WSF\)](#) has announced the beginning of its own official WSF Championships, which will run from 14-24 March 2018. The event will be played at the Dolmen Hotel, Malta and provide new and exciting opportunities for amateur players.

The winner of the main WSF Championship will receive a first prize of €10,000 and earn a two-year tour card for the World Snooker Tour. The four semi-finalists of the event will all be invited to compete at the 2018 World Snooker Championship in Sheffield, England, which this year carries a record first prize of £425,000. The event will run from 18-24 March.

The WSF Championships will also consist of the official 2018 World Women's Snooker Championship, the champion of which will receive €6,000 and again the winner will qualify to enter the 2018 World Snooker Championship in April.

There will also be an event staged for players over-40 years of age, to be known as the WSF Seniors Championship. There will be a first prize of €6,000 for this competition and following the recent WPBSA announcement regarding an official World Seniors Tour, the winner will receive a personal invitation to compete in a major international World Seniors event.

# World Snooker Federation Championships, Malta

## Eligible players

National Federations **who are members of the World Snooker Federation** can nominate the following players to compete at the WSF Championships:

- 4 players to WSF Championship (entries may be of mixed gender) (players must be aged 13 on 18th March 2018)
- 4 players to the WLBS World Women's Snooker Championship (consideration will also be given to the current WLBS ranking list)
- 4 players to WSF Seniors Championship (entries may be of mixed gender) must be 40 or over on 14th March 2018).

**To register players National Federations must use the following link: [http://esnooker.pl/entry\\_form\\_wsf/entry\\_form.php](http://esnooker.pl/entry_form_wsf/entry_form.php)**

## Tournament information

The Championships will consist of three events; the WSF Championship, the WLBS World Women's Snooker Championship and the WSF Seniors Championship.

- WSF Championship winner to receive a first prize of €10,000 and earn a two-year tour card for the World Snooker Tour
- The four semi-finalists of the WSF Championship will all be invited to compete at the 2018 World Snooker Championship
- WLBS World Women's Championship winner to receive €6,000 and will qualify to enter the 2018 World Snooker Championship
- WSF Seniors Championship winner to receive €6,000 and will be invited to compete at a major international World Seniors event
- The best eight players of both the Women's and Seniors events will automatically qualify to play in the WSF Championship

The events will also be played on Star tables, further preparing players before they join the lucrative professional circuit

## Further Information

Learn more about the prestigious new event that will create new pathways to the World Snooker Tour and how National Federations can nominate their players for all three competitions now:

<https://www.wpbsa.com/about/wsf/wsf-championships-2018/>

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN OPEN BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIP 2018

Snooker SA @ The Venue  
57 Milner Road, Richmond, South Australia



Peter Gilchrist won the South Australian Open Billiards Championship by displaying his excellent skills of classic and impeccable Billiards, by outpacing Steve Mifsud 1179 to 410 in the two-hour Final. The Championship was played at The Venue, a high quality Snooker and Billiards Centre in Richmond, South Australia.

Peter Gilchrist also won the Friday Night Flyer, again defeating Steve Mifsud in the final.

### Championships results

#### Last 16

Peter Gilchrist 634 b Dirk Hellenbroich 185, Simon Scerri 371 b David Pitt 180, George Chammas 255 b Don Richter 217, Jason Colebrook 394 b Peter

Tankard 194, Ben Judge 365 b Roger Davey 196, Peter Udyycz 220 b John Machen 213, Max Rendziak 258 b Adwin Teh 229, Steve Mifsud 421 b Neil Maclachian 176

#### Quarter Finals

Peter Gilchrist 678 b Simon Scerri 308, Jason Colebrook 290 b George Chammas 210, Ben Judge 360 b Peter Udyycz 260, Steve Mifsud 962 b Max Rendziak 149

#### Semi Finals

Peter Gilchrist 901 b Jason Colebrook 445, Steve Mifsud 597 b Ben Judge 438

#### Final

Peter Gilchrist 1179 b Steve Mifsud 410



## South Australian Open Billiards Championship

### High Breaks

Peter Gilchrist	621, 281, 203, 193, 180, 161, 145, 134, 132, 123, 113, 101, 93, 84, 82, 80, 75, 74, 72, 70, 66, 64, 59
Steve Mifsud	281, 243, 211, 182, 178, 178, 161, 134, 131, 107, 100, 90, 84, 80, 69, 68, 65, 61, 55
Don Richter	113, 42
Ben Judge	101, 95, 69, 64, 62, 61, 60, 56, 54, 51, 51, 46
Jason Colebrook	95, 82, 81, 75, 69, 66, 59, 57, 52, 51
Simon Scerri	86, 65, 55, 47, 47
George Chammas	83, 78, 74, 71, 54, 47



### BOB MARSHALL INTERVIEW

*By Mike Peachey*

In 1996 I had the privilege of interviewing the great Bob Marshall at his home. I asked Bob at the WA State Billiards Championship Final which he came to watch, if he could spare me an hour and grant me an interview. No problem was his reply but come to my home and we will have a chat there. I arrived at his home in the morning at 10.00 am and at 4.30 pm we finally finished the interview! In the meantime, his homely and lovely wife Jean had looked after us both so well - morning tea, then lunch and later afternoon tea! What a magnificent character of our sport of Billiards Bob was, and with such a wealth of Billiards experience that he was always willing to pass on to budding Billiards players. Attached is a copy of the interview that was published in the UK Pot Black Magazine in 1996, but I apologise for the low quality of my only copy. If you enlarge the page, it is far easier to read. Enjoy, as much as I thoroughly enjoyed the interview with Bob Marshall – an incredible legend of our sport.

*Next month's interview  
will feature the evergreen New Zealand Billiards player, Wayne Carey*

## **Billiards Australia News**

### **Memberships**

Memberships for 2018 are now payable. Please renew by mid-January so we can prepare our budgets for the coming year. Members who are not financial will be deleted from the email database in February 2018. Billiards Australia Inc. is focused on promoting the sport in Australia and elsewhere and providing more opportunities for Australian players of all levels to compete. We will be providing funding and logistical support to at least 5 events in 2018 and have played a major role in getting new events on the calendar.

We can only achieve this with the support of our members. We spend members money sparingly – we have no honorary or life members, so everyone pays the same membership fee, and web site and administration expenses are donated – all members money goes back into the development of the sport. Support our sport by renewing your membership or join as a new member – just \$50 per year!

<https://www.billiardsaustralia.com/online-payments.html>

### **2018 Sydney Billiards Open**

Entries are now being accepted for the 2018 Sydney Open Billiards Championship.

Full Details: [www.billiardsaustralia.com/club-marconi-sydney-open-billiards.html](http://www.billiardsaustralia.com/club-marconi-sydney-open-billiards.html)

### **Lightening Billiards Tournament Report**

The VBSA recently ran their first ever Lightning Billiards tournament at the recently established Reventon Academy at Yarraville Club in Melbourne.

Lightning Billiards is a concept first introduced at the Hornsby Club in Sydney in 2014 to give players exposure to the short form of the sport in quick fire matches up to 150. One of the instigators Andy de Haan said “while we were just trying to give players more exposure to the short game, in fact we ended up attracting a whole new group of players. People like the short format, the close finishes and the camaraderie”.

Lightning Billiards is a handicapped race to 150 where the head start goes onto the scoreboard at the beginning, the better player trying to run down the head start, the higher handicapped player trying to defend his lead, both just focussed on that 150-finish line.

Everyone gets 3 or 4 round robin matches before the top two in each group go through to the knockout stages. Everyone gets lots of games against new opponents and all done in a one day. Given the short race and the handicaps it leads to some incredibly close, even agonising finishes. “We have had countless matches where players finish within one or two points. 148

or 149 to 150 is a very common result said David McMahon", unofficial numbers guru, spreadsheet maestro and one of the main drivers for the Sydney competition.

The competition was set up on a very simple premise that Billiards at this level should be fun and accessible and that many of the rules of stricter competition for titles need not apply. There are no official referees, the players are meant to keep the score and spot the balls but usually one of the other players in the group helps by refereeing and marking the game.

"Everyone just pitches in, egos are left at the door. We have National and State champions marking games for beginners" said Peter Tankard.

Most importantly though before each session there is a coaching clinic, where top players and coaches reveal their secrets. It may be the only competition in cue sports where the competitors help each other and then compete.

"Our focus has been on participation and the fact is that Billiards is complex and quite impossible to learn unless you are taken in hand by a senior player, so we provide that framework and just let people get hooked on the beauty and elegance of the game" said de Haan. "People in the Billiards community have always enjoyed sharing shots and helping each other to develop as players and we encourage that"

"Handicaps are always contentious, so we try to take the human element out of the equation" explained McMahon. "If you win the day you lose 15 off your handicap, the runner up loses 10 and the losing semi-finalists lose 5 each. However, if you fail to win a match on the day next time you get 5 added to your head start".

The concept has been very popular and has led to increasing numbers in local leagues and a resurgence in the sport throughout NSW. Numbers have increased in State level competition largely due to the easy entry that Lightning Billiards has provided.

For four years and 16 rounds of Lightning Billiards in Sydney the organisers have never once known every name on the online entry form, there have been newcomers in every round as the word spreads about the competition. New and exciting young talents have been unearthed and the established players are going to be challenged by the new blood in years to come.

The oldest player so far was in his late 80's and the youngest so far was 12, there have been 3 ladies and even a few married couples who decided to make a day out of the competition.

It has attracted many Snooker converts and quite a few pool players who have realised that the Billiards concepts have improved their understanding of cue ball control, touch and table craft.

The Sydney based competition has attracted people from all over the state and a few visitors from Queensland and Victoria as well. Local Lightning Billiards competitions have also been set up on the NSW Central Coast and Central West.

With the Billiards powerhouse state of Victoria now involved it cannot be long before there is a national series where the top players from each state fight it out to be champion.

*Report supplied by Peter Tankard*

### Sports Quote of the Day

**"Always make a total effort,  
even when the odds are against you."**

## **Associated Websites and Social Media**

Billiards Australia <https://www.billiardsaustralia.com/>

World Billiards <http://world-billiards.com/>

World Billiards & Snooker Association <https://www.wpbsa.com/>

World Snooker Association <http://www.worldsnooker.com/>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/World-Snooker-Federation-258325214703290/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/WorldSnookerFed>



## **The Mission and of Vision Statement World Billiards Ltd, Oceania Region**

### **World Billiards**

World Billiards Ltd organises Tournaments, Championships, Coaching Courses and other promotional opportunities for English Billiards

### **World Billiards Mission Statement**

To grow World Billiards position and profile through amicable and successful working relationships, inspirational and innovative thinking, and a dynamic management team delivering the world's best English Billiards Tournaments and World Championships

### **World Billiards Vision Statement**

To foster the development and participation in the game of English Billiards by way of open entry, and to reward excellence, and provide encouragement to all players to improve and enjoy the game of English Billiards

### **World Billiards Tournaments**

Currently World Billiards is organising around 20 world ranking events, plus a number of UK based events and importantly, the World Billiards Championship.

Tournaments are held in modern short multiple game format, long single game format and the more traditional timed format.



### **World Billiards Coaching**

The World Billiards Coaching Scheme is aimed at personnel who wish to become a WPBSA approved World Billiards Coach, and promote the game of English Billiards by coaching in their region

### **World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association**

The WPBSA is responsible for the governance of Billiards and Snooker worldwide. As the World Governing Body for Billiards and Snooker, the WPBSA recognises that in addition to supporting the professional players on the World Snooker Tour, it also has a key role to play in the development of both Snooker and Billiards at all levels

### **Contact Details**

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