

STANDARD CONDITIONS FOR COMPETITIONS

1. These conditions shall apply to all competitions organised by the Welsh Billiards and Snooker Association, unless amended, or otherwise directed.
2. All games shall be played on a full-size billiard table, using Aramith phenolic resin balls or equivalent, and under the rules published in the latest Official Rule Book (copies available from the Secretary).
3. Contestants must be 'players' as defined by, and affiliated to the association (see Players Rules & Regulations 2003/4).
4. To be eligible for entry to all Welsh tournaments, a player must be a national of Wales (Welsh born or of Welsh parentage) or a continuous resident of at least one year before the current season starts. For a continuous resident application, written proof of evidence must be provided to the committee before membership is accepted. Welsh nationals living outside the borders of Wales are eligible to enter WBSA tournaments.
5. All tournaments, competitions etc. must have the ratification of the Association otherwise any referee player, coach or official participating in an event shall be liable to disciplinary action or suspension.
6. In the event of an official referee not being in charge, a nominated referee must be mutually agreed and his decisions accepted.
7. A neutral table is not one in a club, where any player or players is/are playing members.

8. a) When matches are not required to be played on neutral tables, the first named in the draw shall, within three days of notification, offer a choice of three non-consecutive dates and start times, to ensure completion by the date notified.
 - b) The opponent is required to accept one date within a further three days.
 - c) It is the responsibility of the winner to notify the organizer of the result within 24 hours.
9. When matches are played on a neutral table, the official appointed shall be responsible for notifying the result.
10. Latecoming: Players not at the table and ready to play at the stipulated time for the start of any match shall forfeit the first frame. Fifteen (15) minutes after the stipulated start time, the second frame shall be forfeit. Thirty (30) minutes after the stipulated start time, the match shall be forfeit.

11. Dress Code

For all international matches the following is the dress code for any WBSA representatives:

Individual Events: White or black long sleeved shirt, black trousers, black shoes, bow tie and waistcoat. No other coloured shirts allowed.

Team Events: White long sleeved shirt, black trousers, black shoes, bow tie and waistcoat. No other coloured shirts allowed.

Note: Players are to wear white shirts for team/group photographs.

For any WBSA tournament: Up to the quarter-finals smart casual dress may be worn but at quarter-finals onwards plain long-sleeved shirt, black trousers, black shoes, bow tie and waistcoat must be worn. No denims, trainers etc allowed. Ties may only be removed with the permission of a referee and, if required, the tournament director's adjudication in this matter is final.

12. Reserve players may be used in pairs/team events, subject to their fulfilling membership criteria.
13. Dates and venues on published calendars may be changed from time to time at the Association's discretion, with new calendars being produced.
14. Entries must be submitted together with the correct fee and must reach the Association by the closing date notified. A condition of acceptance of entry is that all players should make every effort to be available to play in international events and the Home Internationals.
15. The Association reserves the right to refuse any entry and shall not be required to give any reason for refusal.
16. Submission of an entry form shall be regarded as acceptance of these conditions and, in the event of any dispute arising, or any other matter, the decision of the management committee shall be final.
17. When a play-off is required the match will be a best of five frames (all age categories).

18. The Welsh champion (runner-up does not qualify) and the highest ranked player(s) from the previous season will qualify to represent Wales at the IBSF World Championship.
19. The European event winner (runner-up does not qualify) and the highest ranked player at the time entries need to be submitted will qualify to represent Wales at the EBSA European Championship.
20. The highest ranked players at the time entries need to be submitted will qualify to represent Wales at the IBSF World Team Championships.
21. The highest ranked players at the time entries need to be submitted will qualify to represent Wales at the EBSA European Team Championship.
22. The winner of the Welsh under21s Championship (runner-up does not qualify) and the highest ranked player(s) at the time entries need to be submitted will qualify to represent Wales at the World under21s Championship.
23. The winner of the Welsh under21s European event (runner-up does not qualify) and the highest ranked player(s) at the time entries need to be submitted will qualify to represent Wales at the European Under 21s Championship.
24. The winner of the Welsh under18s Championship (runner-up does not qualify) and the highest ranked player(s) at the time entries need to be submitted will qualify to represent Wales at the World Under 18s Championship.

25. The winner of the Welsh under18s European event (runner-up does not qualify) and the highest ranked player (s) at the time entries will qualify to represent Wales at the European under 18s Championship.
26. Players (in all age categories) are expected to represent Wales at all the international events for which they qualify. Failure to do so may result in them not being nominated to represent Wales at future International events. A “minor” (as defined by the law of England and Wales) must be accompanied by a parent or guardian when representing Wales at an international event. Parents and/or Guardians will be expected to adhere to the rules of the Welsh Billiards and Snooker Association as if they are a member. Failure to do so may impact their child/ward and may lead to the exclusion of that Parent/Guardian from attending certain events.
27. In order to receive financial assistance at any international event a player must have competed in at least three WBSA events IN THAT CATEGORY in that season.

1. CODE OF CONDUCT

28. The Dress Code is stipulated in the Standard Rules of the Association and is applicable to all championship matches, exhibition matches and international matches, or as directed by the Association.
29. Players, Officials, Parents and Guardians must at all times play within the rules and spirit of the sport.

30. Players, Officials, Parents and Guardians must at all times show due respect to opponents, officials, spectators and sponsors.
31. Players, Officials, Parents and Guardians must at all times show due respect to the host venue and organisers and conduct themselves in a gentlemanly and sporting manner.
32. The Association shall deal severely with anyone contravening the letter or spirit of the Rules and Code of Conduct. Any breach of these conditions shall result in a hearing before a disciplinary panel. The Panel should consist of a chair plus two members to hear cases of inappropriate conduct. Before appearing at the hearing the individual will have received a copy of the allegations made so that they can prepare for the hearing. A companion who is NOT a member of the legal profession will be allowed to support the individual at the hearing. The decision of the panel will be conveyed as soon as possible after the hearing. If the Panel determines that a sanction is warranted it will consider an appropriate penalty from the following range of sanctions:
 - (i) suspension from specific events and/or competitions.
 - (ii) ban from competing at specific events and/or competitions (usually for a stipulated period of time.)
 - (iii) deduction of ranking points
 - (iv) withdrawal/removal from nominated representative tournaments.
 - (v) withdrawal of individual membership of WBSA. (vi) monetary fine including refund of financial support already provided.NOTE – the above list is not exhaustive and an alternate sanction may be applied in specific circumstances.

33. Anyone who receives a sanction for any contravention of the Rules or Code of Conduct shall be allowed an appeal against the decision of the Disciplinary Panel. The sanctioned person must notify the Secretary of the WBSA in writing within 28 days of the outcome of the original hearing that they wish to appeal against their sanction. The appeal letter must contain the grounds for the appeal. Appeals will be heard (whenever possible, because of the actual number of people sitting on the Committee) by a chair and two members (but not the same people who sat on the original panel). The appeal will be a one stage and final procedure from which there will be no further right of appeal.
34. The decision of the Officers of the Association is final.
35. Players, Parents and Guardians must not seek to circumvent the Welsh Committee and approach members of other international bodies, such as IBSF or EBSA, in order to obtain information about events or to attempt to gain entry for themselves, their child/ward or for others into events. All such approaches must be made through the Welsh Committee. It is understood that occasionally places become available in international events even after players have arrived at the venue, however the ranking criteria would still apply and players higher in rankings must be asked first (subject to attendance limitations imposed by the ISBF/EBSA)

36. Our core funding is under significant pressure. In order to make it go further, we have introduced a scale of contra charges as follows: -
- 36.1. Players in receipt of funding that subsequently win an international event (IBSF or EBSA) and receive prize money are required to return 50% of the funding they received solely for that event, out of the prize money they receive.
 - 36.2. Players in receipt of funding that subsequently finish runner up in an international event (IBSF or EBSA) and receive prize money are required to return 25% of the funding they received solely for that event, out of the prize money they receive.
 - 36.3. Players in receipt of funding that subsequently finish in the semi-finals positions of an international event (IBSF or EBSA) and receive prize money are required to return 12.5% of the funding they received solely for that event, out of the prize money they receive.
 - 36.4. For the avoidance of doubt, we are fully aware of the way the IBSF and EBSA calculate and distribute prize money. The payment to Welsh Snooker may be made using physical currency (£, \$, or €) in which the cash prize has been paid to the player. Where prize money received is less than the associated refund to Welsh Snooker from items 1, 2 and 3 above, then the requirement to refund will be reduced to a maximum of £50.

36.5. Failure by the player to pay back the funding within 28 days of the end of the international event in question will result in: -

- a) exclusion from all Welsh Events until the monies are paid back.
- b) exclusion from subsequent international events until the monies are paid back.
- c) if the debt remains outstanding for 2 calendar months, recovery action through legal means may be required. Any associated costs will also be recovered from the player.
- d) should item c) above be necessary, future selection of that player for international competition will be in question. In addition, no further funding would be made to that player.
- e) furthermore, the player will no longer be considered "in good standing" with the Welsh Association, which will impact any WPBSA selection/entry criteria for top up events, wildcards and Q School.

36.6. It is understood that some players receive funding for multiple competitions within an event. The deductions detailed within items 36.1, 36.2 and 36.3 apply only to the funding element received for the competition in question. For example, someone competing in Mens and Masters, finishing runner up in the Mens but only last 16 in the Masters will only be required to pay back the 25% of the funding element they received for the Mens competition.

36.7. The above points are integral to any funding allocation and acceptance of funding constitutes a player's agreement to the terms above. Players not wishing to be bound by the above must register their position with the Committee, but must understand that this will exclude them from receipt of any funding.

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