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**\*\*2022-2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING\*\***

**MONDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 2023 – 7-45pm**

**SOUTH LEEDS CONSERVATIVE CLUB**

**(Arranged in accordance with current LBSO Rule 5 of Section 3)**

**\*\* ADAPTATION OF WPBSA RULES\*\***

**WPBSA RULES – SECT. 3 – SNOOKER – RULE 14 – “FOUL & A MISS”**

Yet further **proposed adaptions** of the WPBSA rule quoted above, have been received to be dealt with at this AGM.

**This will be fourth occasion in total, and the third consecutive AGM at which proposed adaptations of this rule have been dealt with** – (although there was NO AGM held in 2020 or 2021 due to Covid 19 / Coronavirus).

Details of this years proposed adaptations are shown below, but it will probably be helpful to show how we have arrived at this point, with regards to this particular WPBSA rule.

1. **DELEGATES MEETING - 8th December 2014:**

This initial proposal in 2014, was brought by the Management Committee, as a result of many complaints received and over a number of years, all based on the ‘foul & a miss’ rule being abused, but predominantly in only one particular way – in a snookered situation.

Some teams were threatening to leave the LBSO because of this situation, unless some kind of action was taken by the Management Committee.

At this meeting, **delegates voted overwhelmingly to approve the proposal**, that where a player fails to get out of a snooker, then a ‘miss’ would **NOT** be called (unless the ‘miss’ was clearly intentional).

However, the decision was also taken in December 2014**, to apply the ‘miss rule’ in full (i.e. including where a player is snookered), but only where competition ties were presided over by official referees.**

**The decision of 2014 proved to be a total success**, although the committee always acknowledged, it didn’t suit everybody.

1. **AGM – 2nd September 2019:**

With the proposal again brought by the Management Committee, the AGM of 2019 dealt with ONLY the latter point of the 2014 decision – i.e. in a snooker a miss would NOT be called, **unless** intentional and **unless competition ties were being presided over by official referees**.

This 2019 AGM therefore dealt with a proposal to **reverse** only that latter point, in order that the situation with regards to where a player fails to get out of a snooker, **applies right ‘across the board’, i.e. a ‘miss’ will NOT be called at all (unless the ‘miss’ is clearly intentional), & even where there is an official referee presiding.**

***In other words, the proposal was to* disregard *the ‘snookering’ element of the rule altogether.***

As in 2014, this proposal was brought before the delegates to approve, after careful consideration and prior agreement by the Management Committee.

The proposal was based on too many instances which had been witnessed by all members of the committee since late 2014, where the outcome of numerous competition semi-finals and finals, have been negatively influenced by the ‘foul and miss’ rule, and even where the rule has been properly implemented and consistently applied by officiating referees.

**The vote went again overwhelmingly in favour of the change, with only one delegate against the proposal.**

1. **AGM – 7th September 2022:**

(NO AGM’s were held in 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid 19 / Coronavirus pandemic).

At the last AGM in 2002, Joint Competition Secretary Mark Ball proposed a different adaptation of the WPBSA ‘foul & a miss’ rule, **but still based on the ‘snookering’ element**.

The actual wording of the proposal finally deliberated over at the AGM was as follows-

* *If your opponent puts you in a snooker, no matter how hard or how easy it is, you have a maximum of 3 attempts to get out of the snooker, after the 3rd attempt,* ***your opponent*** *can either play from where the white ball finishes,* ***or your opponent can ask you to play*** *from where the white ball finishes, UNLESS*
* *EITHER PLAYER already needs snookers, or does so in the event of the 1st or 2nd attempt.*

This particular proposal, not surprisingly, attracted more interest than normal and also took up an above average amount of time at the 2022 AGM.

**Notwithstanding this however, when it was time to vote to either accept or reject the proposal, whilst some voted against the proposal, the vast majority voted for it!**

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| **\*\*\*\***  IT IS **IMPORTANT** TO ASSERT AT THIS POINT, **THAT THESE 3 ADAPATATIONS ABOVE** DEALT WITH SO FAR (& INDEED THE ONES PROPOSED FOR THIS YEAR SHOWN BELOW AS WELL)-  **HAVE ALL DEALT WITH ONLY THE ‘SNOOKERING’ ELEMENT OF THE ‘FOUL & A MISS’ RULE.**  **THERE ARE 2 OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE SAME RULE ‘FOUL & A MISS’ RULE-**  WHICH SOME SEEM TO FORGET ARE **COMPULSORY!**  DEALING WITH THE ‘SNOOKERING’ ELEMENT ONLY, **DOES NOT MEAN WE CAN DISREGARD THOSE OTHER 2 MANDATORY ELEMENTS.**  TO HIGHLIGHT THIS PARTICULAR POINT, A COPY OF THE **FULL WPBSA ‘FOUL & A MISS’ RULE** WILL BE HANDED OUT AS PART OF THIS BUNDLE AT THE AGM.  **\*\*\*\*** |

**See page 3 for further proposals received for this year’s AGM-**

**To be dealt with in the order they are set out below-**

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| **Received from-**   1. **Proposer Gary Popple (Upper & Lower Wortley Liberal Club) & seconded by (Stewart Quinn (Bramley WMC) on the 15th August 2023 and** 2. **Proposer Darren Bell (Harehills Labour Club) on the 22nd August 2023,**   **Who ALL propose that the current adaptation is cancelled, and the LBSO reverts back to the previous adaptation approved at the AGM held on the 2nd September 2019.**  Just to clarify the position here, the adaptation voted for at the AGM held on the 2nd September 2019, **disregarded the ‘snookering’ element of the WPBSA ‘foul & a miss’ rule ALTOGETHER –** so thatin a snookered situation, a miss would **NOT** be called, & **even where** **qualified referees were officiating in competition ties** (subject to some private agreements which has since occurred), **unless** of course the miss is **intentional** (which has always been the case and is covered and highlighted on the official WPBSA ‘foul & a miss’ rule hand out).  **The proposal from Gary (& Stewart in support), cites the following reasons and suggested outcome, in some detail-**  “Hi Bob,  After consultation and careful consideration, we have decided to put a proposed rule change forwards for this year’s AGM.  After a season we still feel the downs out way the ups from our experience.  I feel it fair to put it to the AGM to see what the conscientious is one year on and when we have a dedicated AGM (no presentation) with hopefully the required focus.  I totally respect the decision and proposal from Mark last year and we will fully support the majority at the meeting either way…….as everybody then will have had the opportunity to vote on experience rather than a lack of understanding in terms of what might happen.  I just want to know what the majority view of the league is one year on.  I will not make any sales pitch to have it removed and it will purely be based on our opinion and experience as on balance we still believe as we voted last year that it has not improved the league in terms of issues raised and the quality of snooker overall. We have a good range of handicaps from -22 to 60 so on that basis I feel we are a good representation to have a valid view from all perspectives.  I have never submitted a rule change before so apologies if does not conform to the required standard or requirement. To aid me I tried to base it around the structure Mark submitted last year.  Here goes and just let me know if I need to do anything else.  Many thanks  Gary  **WPBSA RULES – SECT. 3 – SNOOKER – RULE 14 – “FOUL & A MISS”**  **Submitted by League Player Gary Popple (Upper and Lower Wortley Liberal Club) seconded by League Player Stewart Quinn (Bramley Working Mens Club ‘C’ Team) have proposed a deletion of the Third LBSO adaptation of the WPBSA ‘foul & a miss’ rule adopted at the start of the 2022 / 2023 season, for the forthcoming 2023/24 season.**  The last AGM in 2022, dealt with a third LBSO adaptation of the WPBSA ‘foul & miss’ rule, following the previous overhaul in August 2019.  A first adaptation of the WPBSA ‘foul & miss’ rule had taken place at a delegates meeting held in December 2014.  On that occasion, the delegates present at the meeting, voted overwhelmingly to disregard the ‘snookering element’ of the rule, except for where competition ties were presided over by qualified referees.  The second adaptation at the AGM in September 2019 intended to overturn the first, by disregarding the ‘snooker element’ of the rule altogether. The proposal was passed overwhelmingly.  The third adaptation at the AGM in September 2022 was to introduce a three-miss foul rule for all snookers. The proposal was passed with a majority vote.  **Following a season with the third adaptation in place Upper and Lower Wortley Liberal Club and Bramley Working Mens Club ‘C’ team , now propose that the third adaptation be removed from the LBSO adaptation of the WPBSA ‘foul and miss rule’ and the rule reverts back to the position of the second adaptation as at 2019.**  The teams make the proposal for the following bulleted reasons-   * The negativity in players approach to the game as the incentive to snookering players and the points available versus potting balls influenced shot selection too often through the course of the season. * Snookers were the defining feature of too many frames in our opinion over the course of the season. * Became too prominent as a key talking point most weeks and most teams in our Division (B) expressed a negative view towards the ruling at the time of our matches. * The average duration of Wednesday evenings in our experience added up to 45 minutes extra to previous seasons (minimum 20 minutes). When playing away at venues at distance on a midweek evening this has become unacceptable in our opinion. * Refereeing became more contentious and difficult in relation to replacing balls causing unnecessary tension and fallouts when in an ideal world Wednesday is as much a social evening whilst remaining competitive. * The rule being voted in at a joint presentation / AGM evening where attendees and focus may not have been as at a normal AGM in our opinion   Gary Popple will lead the proposal at the actual meeting.”  **The proposal from Darren, is for the same conclusion as the previous one, if a little briefer with reasons given-**  Hi Robert  **I would like to propose as the captain of Harehills Labour that the three foul and a miss rule is abolished and we revert back to the previous rule**. This has given us as a team countless problems last season as on occasions we are guessing where the balls are replaced after numerous balls have been moved on the first and second attempt from getting out of the snooker. It has often generated bad vibes between our team and other teams last season where heated arguments have arisen.  Kind Regards  Darren Bell |

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| **\*\*\***A second and different adaptation of the WPBSA ‘foul & a miss’ rule, **to replace the version voted for last year, so that there will be 2 attempts at getting out of a snooker rather than the current 3**, has also been received from-   * 1. **Robert Kennally (Bramley WMC) on 9th August 2023, and**   2. **Paul Whelan (Crossgates Recreation Hall) on 23rd August 2023.**   **\*\*\***BOTH PROPOSERS SHOULD BE AWARE HOWEVER, **IF THE PREVIOUS PROPOSAL ABOVE IS APPROVED AT THE AGM**, THEN THIS PARTICULAR PROPOSAL WILL **NOT** PROCEED, FOR OBVIOUS REASONS**\*\*\***  **Robert / Bob has sent the following reasons for the proposal-**  Hi Bob thanks for the email,  Having applied the new foul and a miss rule for a whole season.  Time wise it has lengthened the games substantially, it's proved to be a headache to referee.  **I propose a compromise from a three shot miss rule, to a two shot miss rule.**  This will reduce pressure on the referees and reduce the time factor collectively on the evening’s games.  It will also reduce my blood pressure.  Best regards  Bob Kennally. Bramley WMC   c team.  **Paul has sent the following different reasons, but with the very same proposal as the previous one-**  **Proposal :- That the miss rule ( presently 3 attempts ) be reduced to two attempts.**  Due to:- 1) Important to retain a proper advantage for snookers gained. 2) Still deters players gaining advantage by  purposely missing object ball & leaving cue ball safe. 3) Another form of levelling handicap differences. 4) Fairer compromise than going back to unsatisfactory old one miss rule. 5) Makes the conclusion of most frames much more  exciting. 6) Much less stress on referees for repositioning. 7) Gives " the UNDERDOG a DOGS CHANCE " (surely that's the right spirit for this committee).  As I support the 3-miss rule in principal, surely for the above reasons we should retain a minimum of 2 attempts to escape snookers –  Regards Paul Whelan (Cross-gates Rec. registered player). |