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**2023-2024 – LBSO - League & Competition Rules**

**Last amended at the AGM on 11/09/23 - (for 2023/24)**

**(Both League & Competition Rules are now part of the same document since the start of the 2018-19 season)**

**SECTION 1 - LBSO - LEAGUE RULES:**

**(See also Section 3 – LBSO General Rules for BOTH Leagues & Competitions).**

**\*\*currently ALL rules apply to Snooker ONLY\*\***

**(**~~All references to Billiards are currently struck out~~**).**

1. The League shall be called **“The Leeds Billiards & Snooker Organisation” (LBSO).**
2. The League shall consist of ~~two sections~~:-
	1. **~~Billiards~~**
	2. **Snooker (numerous divisions).**
3. **ANNUAL REGISTRATION-:**

Clubs may enter the LBSO each year with as many teams as they wish.

All players eligible to play in the LBSO, must be members of the club for which they are registered.

Once registered, no player may play for another club without the permission of the Management Committee.

1. **ENTRY FEES & REFUNDS-:**

**Entry fees** will be re-assessed annually and determined by the Management Committee and **must** accompany the **registration forms**.

**REFUNDS-**

Once registration forms and fees are accepted, a **period will commence** whereby claims for refunds – in whole or in part – can be made by registered clubs / teams.

Claims for fee refunds – in whole or in part – must be made by clubs / teams **direct to the LBSO Treasurer** preferably by email, **which must give specific reasons as to why the claim is being made and how much for**, **otherwise,** the claim will be **refused** outright by the LBSO Treasurer at this point, **until** the required information is provided.

Only once the required information is then provided, will the LBSO Treasurer acknowledge receipt of the claim and then start to engage the other members of the LBSO Management Committee, to make a **mutual and final decision** on the claim.

This **mutual and final decision** about the claim**, will take all extenuating circumstances into consideration.**

Any **final decision** reached by the LBSO Management Committee, will be made available to the club / team **including any reasons**, but **NO** further claims can be made by the cub / team, against any **final decision** where any refund - in whole or in part - is **declined**.

Once the League Secretary has finalised the new league structure, the **period** for clubs / teams **to make claims for fee refunds** – in whole or in part - will **expire four weeks** before the start of the new league season.
 **Only** in circumstances where teams are deprived of playing facilities due to **club closure**, will **claims for refunds** – in whole or in part – be considered **during this four-week period**.

1. Players of any age may be registered to play in the league. However the contents of rule 6 must always apply.
2. All teams enter the league on the clear understanding that the house rules of the host club will be respected. All teams on entry to inform the League Secretary where their clubs house rules forbid under 18 or 16 players, and under 18 or 16 visitors, subject then to any relaxations shown on the website.

***The LBSO will not however support any situation regarding the rules of any host club, which could potentially contravene the laws on the discrimination of any individual, based on (but not restricted to), gender, age, disability, race and religion.***

1. On entry to the league, each Club shall submit to the League Secretary a list of players in order of merit, from which the teams must play in order of their current handicap.

Team captains are responsible for ensuring a player’s submitted handicap reflects the player’s ability, and the player’s last handicap is recorded on the entry form, together with his/her last club played for, if different from his present club.

Where the ability of a player is not known, they will receive a handicap of 20 (snooker), ~~90~~ (~~billiards~~).

Where players’ handicaps are equal, they can play in any order which the captain chooses, and the order can vary from week to week whilst the players’ handicaps remain equal.

1. The Management Committee will have the right-:
2. To **forfeit** any points played for by any player who is not first registered with the LBSO by the League Secretary,
3. To **forfeit** any points played for by any player found to be playing off the wrong handicap, plus or minus, or playing out of order,
4. To **re-handicap and amend** the results of any player who has been registered with a false handicap,

But in all 3 cases of rule 8(a)(b)&(c) above, the offending team shall **not** be deducted **any further penalty points**.

1. Matches on individual handicap basis to consist of:-
	1. **~~Billiards:~~** ~~4 players each play one game of 200 up.~~
		1. ~~Visiting players to have the option of “breaking off”~~
	2. **Snooker:** 4 players each playing 1 game of two single frames.
		1. Visiting players to have the option of “breaking off” in each frame.
2. **~~Billiards:~~**
	1. ~~Individual handicaps will not go on the score board but will be entered on the score card to become part of the team aggregate score;~~
	2. ~~Matches will be played up to 200;~~
	3. ~~2 points will be awarded for each individual win, including individual handicap, and 2 points for the team aggregate win;~~
	4. ~~In the event of a tie on individual games, including handicap, 1 point will be awarded to each player, and in the event of a tie on team aggregate points, 1 point will be awarded to each team.~~
3. **Snooker:**
	1. Each player will play two separate frames consecutively. Individual handicaps will go on the board at the start of each frame for each player, (not the difference between the handicaps);
	2. 1 point will be awarded for each individual frame win. If there is a tie on an individual frame, the black will be re-spotted and the two players draw lots for choice of playing at the black from hand;
	3. In the event of a player conceding a frame **the value of the balls remaining on the table will be ignored for the purpose of the frame score.**
4. The team with the highest number of points at the end of the season will be declared divisional champions, where teams have equal points, see rule 13.
5. At the end of each season, teams finishing with equal points irrespective of their position, will be separated using the following method(s):
	1. *Most matches won, but if not, then*
	2. *Fewest number of defeats, but if not, then,*
	3. *Highest aggregate tally of frames won after playing each other home and away during the season, but if not, then finally,*
	4. *If the three options in their order above, do not resolve the situation, the teams will play off in a best of 9 match at a chosen neutral venue – at 4-4 the no. 1’s will play a deciding frame.*
6. **At the end of each season, three teams will be promoted in each division**.

The makeup of the divisions for any new season, will be determined by the finishing order of the previous season, **and** inclusion of new teams for the start of the next.

*As a result of every new season makeup-*

* 1. *the number of teams to be* ***relegated*** *from each division may fluctuate year on year, and*
	2. *prove to be less, the same as, or more than the three teams to be promoted, and*
	3. *the number of teams relegated, may also be different from one division to another.*
1. League fixtures will take place weekly on **Wednesday’s**, as determined every season by the League Secretary, with the only exceptions being-

where clubs have more than two teams registered in the league, matches will be played on the Thursday (i.e. the night after),

* 1. of the corresponding weeks for league fixtures, or
	2. where matches are re-arranged in accordance with rule 17.

On the nights of League fixtures (Wednesday or Thursday)-:

1. Matches must commence at 7-45pm, when two tables must be made available, otherwise the non-offending team will be entitled to claim 2 points for each table which is unavailable, and
2. Once commenced, if then a board becomes and remains vacant for more than 15 minutes waiting for a player / players to arrive, the non-offending team will be entitled to claim 2 points for each table which has been vacant.
3. The visiting captain must give the home captain a list of his players for the evening’s game, and the home captain then decides on the order of play.
4. **League Match Rules:**
	1. Any team unable to provide four players for a fixture should still endeavour to play the fixture, but shall also be reported to the Management Committee. The points awarded for winning a game will be forfeited where a player is absent, and awarded to the opposing side. *Where a team can only provide 3 players, the no. 1, 2 and 3 positions will play and no. 4 positions for both teams will be vacant, and where a team can only provide 2 players, the no. 1 and no. 2 positions will play, and the no. 3 and no. 4 positions for both teams will be vacant*;
	2. All fixtures must be played on the day/date stated on the league website;
	3. No re-arrangements will be allowed except in exceptional circumstances, and only with the permission of the League Secretary;
	4. Where a team fails to fulfil a fixture, without providing at least 24 hours’ notice, the offending team will lose 4 points from the league table.

With the exception of adverse weather conditions, or any other bona fide reasons at the discretion of the League Secretary, 4 points will **not** be deducted, but **only** where the League Secretary **and** the opposing team have been informed of the postponement, prior to the scheduled start of the fixture, **and** approval has been given by the League Secretary;

* 1. Any fixture not played on the original date must be played within 14 days of the original fixture date [subject to 17(vii) below]. The **offending** team **must** inform the League Secretary **and** the opposing captain prior to the postponement of the match, **and** also later advise the League Secretary **and** the opposing captain, on which date the match has been re-arranged.

**Where notification is not given as described above, then the offending team will lose 4 points from the league table**;

* 1. Any arrangements outside of the 14 day period must be authorised by the League Secretary.
	2. Where the original fixture falls within 14 days of the season finishing, the fixture must be completed no later than 2 days after the final fixture date of the season, otherwise in line with 17(v);
	3. Matches not completed will be referred to the management committee.
1. **Entering Match Results:**
	1. Club internet delegates/internet team captains are responsible for entering their team results on the internet site. When neither team has an internet delegate/internet team captain who can enter the result, then the home team captain is responsible for completing a result card and forwarding it to the League Secretary not later than the following day. In addition both home and away team captains should complete a duplicate result card;
	2. Any scorecard not received by the League Secretary, nor the result recorded onto the website by 6.00pm on Saturday following the date of the match, will result in a 2-point deduction from the home team’s points total.

**SECTION 2 - LBSO – RULES FOR ALL COMPETITIONS:**

**(See also Section 3 – LBSO General Rules for BOTH Leagues & Competitions).**

**GENERAL - HANDICAPPED COMPETITIONS ONLY:**

1. Generally under normal circumstances, for LBSO competitions **which involve handicaps**, each player’s competition handicap will be the same as their league handicap, as all competition entrants have to be included in teams currently registered with the league at the time of entry.
2. But if any players league handicap is adjusted during any particular season, then the same players competition handicap will be adjusted accordingly, for any competition they still remain involved in during that particular season.
3. Therefore, it follows, just as a player’s league handicap can fluctuate during a particular season, then similarly the same player’s competition handicap can fluctuate during the same season.
4. However, in **‘exceptional circumstances’**, and totally at the discretion of the Management Committee, any player’s league handicap can be adjusted in either direction (plus or minus) during any particular season, where it is considered this should be the case, **not because of the player’s league performance as is normal, but because of the player’s performance in competitions alone**, and in some cases, competitions other than those organised by the LBSO.
5. Further, and for any reason, if any player’s handicap in LBSO competitions is found to be excessive and clearly does not reflect that player’s ability, then the Management Committee are given a wide discretion to deal with any such matter as ‘it sees fit’ to do so.

**‘General Rules’ for ALL Competitions-:**

**STAGE 1 - UP TO THE SEMI-FINALS:**

1. All tournament matches must be completed by the date stipulated on the website or shown elsewhere.
2. Both players/pairs/teams should attempt to arrange the playing of a match but the **ultimate responsibility is with the home drawn player/pair/team**, who will be withdrawn if the match is not completed by the closing date or an extended date for any round decided by the Competition Secretary.
3. Results of matches should be forwarded to the Competition Secretary via the website (or by text but only if absolutely necessary) as soon possible afterwards.
4. The rules and conditions of the club staging a match must be accepted and followed, in the same way as the league rules 5 & 6, which are-
5. Players of any age may be registered to play in the league. However the contents of rule 6 must always apply,
6. All teams enter the league on the clear understanding that the house rules of the host club will be respected. All teams on entry to inform the League Secretary where their clubs house rules forbid under 18 or 16 players, and under 18 or 16 visitors, subject then to any relaxations shown on the website.

***The LBSO will not however support any situation regarding the rules of any host club, which could potentially contravene the laws on the discrimination of any individual, based on (but not restricted to), gender, age, disability, race and religion.***

1. In handicap tournaments any player(s) playing off an incorrect handicap will have their scores/frames declared void.
2. Regarding all competition formats **at the time of entry**-
3. **Individuals**: must be listed with a club currently registered with the league, but may then play out of another club, providing that club is also registered in the league,
4. **Pairs**: any two players forming a partnership, can be from different clubs, providing both clubs are currently registered with the league,
5. **Teams**: players forming any team, may do so from different clubs, providing all clubs and players are currently registered with the league, unless the team rules dictate otherwise.
6. Any player, pair or team, entering a tournament run by the LBSO, who are subsequently drawn at home and who’s club does not usually allow under 18’s to play, must in every instance make every effort to play the match by either-:
7. Persuading the club to allow the match to go ahead as drawn; or
8. Arrange the match to be played on a neutral venue, or;
9. Arrange to play the match at the opponents’ venue if everything else fails.

*(In the case of a two-legged semi-final, b) and c) will apply to both legs.)*

1. Players or members of a team must not practice once the match has commenced.

**‘General Rules’ for ALL Competitions-:**

**STAGE 2 - FOR BOTH SEMI-FINALS & THE FINAL:**

1. The Competition Secretary will arrange times and venues for all semi-finals (where applicable) and finals, and information will be posted on the LBSO website as early as possible.
2. Players should make every effort to ensure they are available on the dates arranged. Only in **exceptional circumstances** will fixtures be re-arranged at the discretion of the Competition Secretary.
3. On the day of any arranged fixture, if no contact is made with the **Competition Secretary** up to **the limit of 2 hours before** the scheduled start, fixtures will proceed as agreed and arranged and any absentees will forfeit the game.
4. Matches at neutral venues at semi-final and final stages must start no later than the prescribed time, which will be 7-30pm unless otherwise stated. Failure to do so will result in the offending player/pair/team forfeiting a frame for every 15 minutes the match is not underway. In team matches all members of a team must be in attendance by the stipulated starting time. For each player short a frame will be forfeited.
5. Players or members of a team must not practice once the match has commenced.
6. **Where possible**, qualified referees will officiate in the ~~semi-finals and~~ finals of every tournament **(where the match is played at a neutral venue)**.
7. A dress code will apply to all ~~semi-finals and~~ finals **that are played at neutral venues.** The dress code will be smart casual = no denims **(tailored trousers only)**, no trainers or collarless shirts.

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| **\*\*STANDARD RULES FOR INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS\*\*****There are three groups of competitions run by the LBSO:-**1. Competitions that are played off **SCRATCH**;
2. Competitions which are all **HANDICAP** (handicaps ruling at time of match) and played on **FRAMES** basis; and
3. Stan Brooke Memorial competitions which are all **HANDICAP** (handicaps ruling at time of match) decided by **AGGREGATE**.

**The up to date entry and format details for each individual competition will be published on the website.****SEE BELOW – FOR FURTHER GROUP / INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION DETAILS-** |

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| 1. **LBSO - COMPETITIONS PLAYED OFF SCRATCH –**

**(see website for further entry / format details)****LEEDS CITY CHAMPIONSHIPS – SINGLES & PAIRS:*** Unless otherwise stated, entries will be open to amateur players only.
* Entry is at the complete discretion of the Competition Secretary in all cases.

**LEEDS CITY CHAMPIONSHIPS – TEAM EVENT:*** On entry, eligible teams will be made up of players from clubs currently registered with the league-:
* either with the same team, or
* from different teams but from the same club,
* and discounting their league handicaps in both instances.

*(Teams made up of players from different clubs, currently registered with the league or otherwise, will no longer be entitled to make up a team in this competition).* Once started, players cannot be added to the team, or switched from other teams of the same club.**LEEDS CITY CHAMPIONSHIPS – JUNIORS – U.16’s & U.18’s:**In the case of both the U.16 and U.18 Snooker Championships, competitors must -:* be under 16 or 18 at the commencement of the tournament,
* ordinarily reside within an area with a Leeds postcode or within the boundaries of the Metropolitan District of Leeds, or
* currently be registered with the junior coaching classes at the Northern Snooker Centre.

**LEN LEE INVITATION SNOOKER:*** Limited to 16/32 entries by invitation only and subject to a minimum number of 8 matches played in the League.
* All invitations and the number of entries are at the discretion of the Competition Secretary.

See previous general competition rules, and the website for entry / format details. |

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| 1. **- LBSO - HANDICAP COMPETITIONS –**

**(see website for further entry / format details)****Sykes Cup – Individual Snooker:**See previous general competition rules, and the website for entry / format details.**Len Lee Pairs – Pairs Snooker:**See previous general competition rules, and the website for entry / format details.**3 Man KO – Team Snooker:**Once started, players cannot be added to the team, or switched from other teams of the same club, or from other clubs.See previous general competition rules, and the website for entry / format details.**Windsor Trophy – Team Snooker:*** Open to only one team per club.
* Eligible players throughout –
1. any player listed with any team but only from that particular club registered in the league, and
2. with no additions to any team of the club, after the completion of the league season.

Once started, players cannot be added to the team, or switched from other teams of the same club, or from other clubs.See previous general competition rules, and the website for entry / format details.**Champion of Champions – Team Snooker:*** Open to one team per division.
* Eligible players throughout –
1. any player registered with the winning team in the division, but
2. with no further additions after the completion of the league season.

Once started, players cannot be added to the team, or switched from other teams of the same club, or from other clubs.See previous general competition rules, and the website for entry / format details.**Veterans:**See previous general competition rules, and the website for entry / format details. |

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| * **LBSO - STAN BROOKE MEMORIAL AGGREGATE COMPETITIONS –**

**(see website for entry / format details)****Snooker - Singles, Pairs and Team events:** * Winner(s) based on highest aggregate score after all frames played – 3 in the case of singles & pairs, and 4 in the case of the team event.
* For decisions on the ‘miss’ rule to be based on the scores in each individual frame, scores are **not** carried forward on the scoreboard after each frame, including for the start of the final frame.
* A re-spotted black only occurs when the aggregate scores are level after the final frame has been played, **not** if the frame scores are level after a frame prior to the final frame.
* In singles and pairs two-legged semi-finals, the re-spotted black will apply only to the end of the 2nd leg / 6th frame played (not the end of the 1st leg / 3rd frame).
* In team event two-legged semi-finals, the re-spotted black will apply only to the end of the 2nd leg / 8th frame played (not the end of the 1st leg / 4th frame).

**Team Event-:**Once started, players cannot be added to the team, or switched from other teams of the same club, or from other clubs.See previous general competition rules, and the website for entry / format details. |

**SECTION 3 - LBSO – GENERAL RULES -**

**(BOTH leagues and competitions) – SEE ALSO:**

**(Section 1 – LBSO – LEAGUE RULES) &**

**(Section 2 – LBSO – ALL COMPETITION RULES)**

1. **GRIEVANCES & APPEALS:**
* Any **GRIEVANCE** of any kind with any of the rules covering **league** **matches &/or competitions** must be sent in writing through the post, or by email, to be received by the League / Competition Secretary **within 48 hours** of the match being played.
* The League / Competition Secretary will then either alone, or if considered necessary, after consultation with the Management Committee, make a determination **within a further 48 hours** (wherever possible), before informing the complainant of the decision forthwith by email, who **within a further 48 hours** of being informed, may then further **appeal** that determination.

**APPEALS:**

1. Any **appeal** within the allotted time, is to be forwarded to the General Secretary, in order for a further determination to be considered forthwith by the Management Committee.
2. The appellant will then be informed forthwith by the General Secretary, of any further determination by the Management Committee, by email, or alternatively by post, which will specify this decision is final.

Written records of the full details of all such grievances, appeals and determinations will be retained by the General Secretary.

1. **SNOOKER ~~& BILLIARD~~ BALLS:**

(a) All LBSO registered clubs should attempt at all times, to comply with the rules of the world professional governing body in relation to offering facilities to play snooker ~~and billiards~~, which **includes providing sets of snooker balls** ~~and billiard balls~~, all kept within the tolerances allowed under those rules, in relation to the size and weight of the balls.

**With the playing of ANY LBSO 1) league fixture OR 2) competition tie**-

(b) If **any club** hosting such a fixture or tie, **has a set of match balls**, then they **must** be used by **any team** which plays out of that **club**, which **includes** where a team / player from that club possesses its own set of match balls.

Either way, **Aramith Tournament Champion '3G' Snooker Balls** are the **recommended set of match balls**, where the **preferred** **Aramith Tournament Champion ‘1G’ Snooker balls** are **NOT** available.

(c) If the balls are **not** provided by the **home team** in line with (b) above, then the **away team** are entitled to **bring their own set of match balls** to play the fixture or tie, providing they are as described at (b), and either 1G or 3G.

**Sub-paragraphs (b) & (c) apply equally to ONLY the white cue-ball, as they do to a full set of match balls**.

(d) If neither sub-paragraphs (b) or (c) are accomplished, then **the away team or away team player/s** has/have **the right** to send a **written complaint** to the LBSO Management Committee.

(e) If the LBSO Management Committee receives **three separate complaints about the same club, or any team from the same club**, regardless of the time span and concerning the quality of the balls/cue ball, then a **‘nominated person’ from the LBSO**, will visit the club to weigh the balls/cue ball which are subject of the complaint.

(f) On a visit by the **‘nominated person’**, if the set of balls/cue ball in question are found to be in breach the rules of the governing body in terms of size and/or weight, then an **official warning** will be given **by the LBSO Management Committee** to the club or team in question, requesting that the purchase of a new set of match balls, or replacement of the individual ball/balls deemed to be breaking the rules, is/are required at the earliest opportunity - including the white cue ball alone.

(g) **If** sub-paragraph (f) still persists and **any future number of complaints** are received **about the same club, or any team from the same club**, regardless of the time span, and if after a **second visit by the ‘nominated person’**, the ball/balls in question are still found to be in breach of the rules of the governing body in terms of size and/or weight, then **2 points will be deducted** from the total points tally of the team in question, but only that particular team, where a club has more than one registered team.

1. **PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES & CASH PRIZES – LEAGUE & ALL OTHER COMPETITIONS:**
	1. **League** **Trophies** will be presented at the end of each season to the winning teams / pairs / individuals. These trophies must be returned at the end of the following season on the date stipulated on the website. Where a club/individual fails to return the trophy on time they/he will be liable for a fine of £10;
	2. Where a team/individuals fails to return or cannot return a **league trophy** at all, then the team/individuals will be invoiced for the cost of replacing the trophy by the LBSO;
	3. **Individual trophies** will **usually** be awarded at the end of the season to the winners and runners-up in ~~the Billiards League and~~ each of the Snooker divisions. Some other competitions will provide for prizes being awarded to the losing semi-finalists. In the case of each league division and all other competitions, teams concerned will normally pay for any number in excess of the 6 trophies per team paid for by the LBSO;
	4. In respect of any **cash prizes** for competitions, these may fluctuate from one season to another depending on the number of entries in that particular season, and the finances of the LBSO at that time.
	In addition, any **cash prizes** which are **NOT** claimed-:
* either before, on, or after the presentation night,
* but only up to the AGM,

will be forfeited and returned to the LBSO finances, to be accounted for on the balance sheet of the following season.

1. **LBSO – Delegate Meetings:**

Delegate meetings will only be arranged in **exceptional circumstances**, either by-

* 1. Any member of the management committee, or
	2. Any team player through their club delegate / team captain, and then only at the discretion of the management committee, after all other avenues have been explored first.

Where the above applies and a meeting is deemed necessary, the General Secretary, wherever possible will no later than 14 days before, will display notice of the place, date and time of the delegates meeting on the website, and circulate the same via the website email system, also giving basic details of the reason(s) for the meeting.

Minutes of the meeting will be taken and any actions required as a result, will be instigated by the General Secretary accordingly, giving appropriate advice via the website, and within any timescales agreed at the meeting.

1. **LBSO - Annual General Meeting, Rule Changes and Finances:**
	1. To conclude each season, the date and venue of the **AGM** shall be determined each year, by the Management Committee and shown on the website as soon as is reasonably practicable by the General Secretary;
	2. any **proposed changes to any LBSO league & competition rules**, shall be sent in writing or by email to the General Secretary, but no later than 14 days prior to the AGM;
	3. the General Secretary will then put any **proposed rule changes** received on the agenda for the AGM;
	4. the **final agenda for the AGM**, shall be displayed on the website and notification shall be given by email to all on-line delegates/captains by the General Secretary, no later than 7 days prior to the AGM;
	5. Only after going through the above procedures first, at the AGM any additions, amendments or deleting of any **rules**, in whole or in part, can **only** be agreed by the Management Committee and delegates **present at the AGM**, where, unless otherwise stated, they will take immediate effect at the start of the following season;
	6. Each club shall be allowed two delegates, each with the power to vote at the AGM;
	7. **FINANCES**: Annually, the appointed Treasurer shall produce at the **AGM**, the bank account balance and a financial report showing the details of all income and expenses for the playing season just completed and compared to previous playing season, to be signed off as a true record by the Management Committee and delegates present at the AGM;
	8. The rules concerning LBSO adaptations of the WPBSA / world governing body official rules of the games of Snooker (& English Billiards when applicable), shall apply equally to this LBSO rule 5 of Section 3 and any amendments made to it – see section 4.
2. Anything at all, not provided for in these rules, or any amendments made to existing rules due to exceptional circumstances, will be left in the hands of the Management Committee, whose decision with recorded reasons will be final.

**SECTION 4 –**

**LBSO - RULE ADAPTATIONS OF THE WORLD PROFESSIONAL BILLIARDS & SNOOKER ASSOCAITION (WPBSA)-**

[**BOTH** LBSO league and competitions – also see Section 3 Rule 5(h) above]:

**WPBSA – SNOOKER – SECTION 3 RULE 14 – “FOUL & A MISS”-**

As first approved at the AGM held on the 7th September 2022 and then affirmed again at the AGM held on the 11th September 2023, this is the **actual wording**, as put before the delegates present at both these meetings and approved-:

* *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.*

By way of clarification only, and to hopefully assist in certain situations which may arise, the following advice is also given about this rule adaptation-

* With regards to **where snookers are required**, apart from applying to **“either player”** (and **not** just the striker), the difference in scoreboard points applies-
1. **EITHER, BEFORE the stroke** has been played, **OR**
2. **“As a result of” / AFTER the stroke** has been played.

(THERE IS **NO CHANGE** IN THIS RESPECT & NEVER HAS BEEN).

* The **first two attempts where ‘snookered’**, are based on the **cue ball** being replaced to its **“original position”**, and **NOT** played from the **“position left”**.

Therefore, if asked to play at any time from the **“position left”**, then the **‘3 attempt sequence’ starts again**, which would **include**, where the **cue ball** is left in a **different ‘snookered’ position** to the original snooker.

* **Players** are entitled to **assist** the referee in re-positioning any balls being replaced after a ‘foul & a miss’, **but NOT to touch ANY ball, otherwise this could incur a straight seven-point penalty.**
* **The OTHER 2 parts** of the **FULL ‘foul and a miss’ rule** which involve ‘**non-snookered’ situations**, remain **UNAFFECTED** by this LBSO adaptation, & therefore **REMAIN** **COMPULSORY!**

(Other **2 parts** = where 1) any part, or 2) the centre of a ball on, can be seen).



**THIS CONCLUDES THE LBSO RULES FOR 2023/24**