

Northern Tasmanian Billiards & Snooker Association Behaviour Policy

April 2010

Players Code of Behaviour

Under the terms and conditions of this Code of Ethics it shall be the responsibility of all who compete in events conducted under the auspices of the Northern Tasmanian Billiards & Snooker Association to comply with this Code of Ethics and at all times act in the spirit of good sportsmanship and do nothing to bring discredit to the games of Billiards and Snooker.

This requirement applies to all levels of play at Club and State level events.

Failure to comply with the requirements could be considered a breach of this Code of Ethics and may result in a fine, suspension, or a combination of both.

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of fellow players, coaches, officials and spectators.
2. Do not tolerate or initiate acts of aggression.
6. Conduct yourself in a professional manner relating to language, temper and punctuality.
7. Maintain high personal behaviour standards at all times.
8. Abide by the rules and respect the decision of the official, making all appeals through the formal process and respecting the final decision.
9. Be respectful and courteous to the sponsors and hosts of the event

BEFORE THE MATCH Competitors shall:

- a) Arrive in suitable time to ensure that they are ready at the table to commence play at the appointed time for the start of the match.
- c) Ensure that their requirements for liquid refreshments are met before the commencement of the match so as not to distract their opponent.
- d) Meet acceptable dress standards, which include conditions laid down by the NTB&SA and unless otherwise specified precludes Track suit trousers, T-shirts and thongs

DURING THE MATCH Competitors shall:

- a) Competitors who commence a match showing evidence of an over indulgence of alcohol shall not be permitted to play and shall be in breach of this Code of Ethics.
- b) Shake hands at the commencement and conclusion of the match.
- c) Refrain from placing the chalk on the cushion rail or the table during the visit.

The Striker shall:

- a) At the conclusion of his visit immediately vacate the table area and not procrastinate over a missed shot. It is not necessary for him to wait until all the balls have come to rest.
- b) Not to take an unwarranted amount of time over shot selection, for by doing so faces the possibility of being warned by the referee for time wasting. This tactic is used by some players to upset their opponents. Nevertheless, it is not possible for all players to play at the same pace due to physical disabilities etc.
- c) Not dispute a referee's decision regardless of whether they know it to be incorrect, they may however, ask a referee for an explanation and upon his response suggest to him that he may seek a further opinion from a more experienced referee or official, or, in the case of an alleged incident, suggest he consult responsible spectators who were best placed to observe the incident. The referee, however, does not have to seek a further opinion, nor does he have to act upon a further opinion and his next decision remains final. This Section also applies to a decision made by the referee under Snooker Section 3 Rule 14, the Foul/Miss Rule. Under this Section it is important to remember that the referee has to make a decision whether the striker has endeavoured to hit the "ball on" to the best of his ability. It may well be that the striker has endeavoured to hit the "ball on", but he is not entitled to remonstrate with the referee over the decision. In both the aforementioned cases the only option open to the player is to report the matter to the organisers at the conclusion of the match, which will have no affect on the result.
- d) Not refuse to continue playing after being instructed to do so by the referee.
- e) Not berate or continue to berate a referee either by actions, words or aside comments to other persons during the course of the match or at its conclusion.

The Non-Striker shall:

- a) Either sit or stand without causing distraction either by movement or sound. They should not stand in the line of vision or in close proximity to the table. Some competitors use this tactic to impose their physical presence on the striker. They should take particular care to refrain from chalking their cue or drinking or pouring from a glass when the striker is about to play a stroke or is in their arc of vision.
- b) Not converse with or make comment to the referee, marker or striker unless he is claiming an undetected foul.
- c) Not engage in unreasonable conversation or comment with members of the audience.

AFTER THE MATCH

At the conclusion of the match it is common courtesy for the loser to congratulate the winner, shake his/her hand and, in this country, it is customary for the winner to invite the loser to a glass of liquid refreshment. Disappointment in defeat or a dislike of the other competitor should not be a reason to avoid this custom which is, in itself, an exercise in good sportsmanship. It is also customary to thank the Referee.