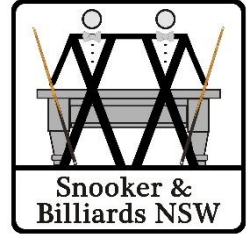


Snooker & Billiards New South Wales Inc.

Established 1917



Billiards Report

Like all cue sports, the year has been almost an entire washout. Along the way we have learned that our sport is particularly susceptible to decisions which are outside the control of the sports organisers and administrators. Our two key vulnerabilities are that we are an indoor sport and thus subject to the most stringent restrictions and secondly that we do not own or control our venues. We can play only at the pleasure of the clubs that host our events.

We did manage however to complete two well attended events, our State Minor events. The timed event was run at Central Coast Leagues Club and was won by the popular evergreen Victor Mifsud, (his first state title having competed in six different decades), defeating new Australian citizen David Walsh for whom it seemed the luck of the Irish had deserted him. In winning his first state title we believe that Vic become the oldest ever state Titleist in any sport in NSW, a very significant achievement and one which gives hope to us all.

The Point Score title was played at Guildford Leagues Club and was delayed several times as clubs opened /closed/reopened but was finally completed in April with a fresh name added to the list of state title holders. Michael Newman, Captain and founder of Club Newman, which boasts a worldwide supporter base, was a very popular winner. This was just reward for his rapid rise up the NSW ranks and a deserving prize for one of the game's great organisers and enthusiasts. Mike has almost single-handedly put Central Coast billiards on the map and we expect other "coasties" to follow in his footsteps. He defeated Vic Mifsud (yes, the same) in a thrilling come from behind win to snatch victory with a series of breaks when they were most needed.

When things do return to "normal" it will be our host clubs which will be policing entry and compliance with vaccination requirements and may delay reopening their billiards rooms. There are many unknowns at the time of this report. We urge all members wishing to play in 2022 to get vaccinated and to make it easier for our host clubs to feel confident in reopening Billiards rooms.

It had been our hope to play catch up events to maintain continuity in the record books but with the year drawing to a close that now seems impossible. Indeed there were unplayed events from 2020 which we were hoping to catch up, but the backlog has become too great and our best hope now is for a fresh start in the New Year and an uninterrupted 2022.

Submitted by: Peter Tankard 7 October

Billiards Sub Committee, Snooker & Billiards NSW Inc