

Snooker and Billiards NSW Chairman's Report – for 2020/2021

Presented by Alex Render to AGM 25/11/2021

Welcome to everyone to the 104th Annual General Meeting of Snooker and Billiards NSW. This year we have decided to run the event in a virtual setting only given the success of last year's AGM. This allows Members from around the State to easily attend rather than having to making a special trip to Sydney. This year's report will once again be short due to the nature of the last 12 months.

The last 12 months once again was completely unpredictable with the COVID-19 Global Pandemic which has disrupted the economy significantly and has had an incredible impact on sporting organisations in NSW. Snooker and Billiards in NSW has had its share of this impact. Last year it seemed that 2021 will be a better year but that was a complete understatement. But I think we would all agree that with the progress made in controlling the Pandemic in NSW will mean we will start to see some normality in 2022.

Over the period, the Board worked with the NSW Government on a number of grant business cases and was able to secure its normal \$5,000 annual funding. We were also able to successful hold the West Illawarra Women's National Snooker event which was in most part funded by NSW Government for \$20,000 in a previous year. A special call out to Carlie Tait who did a huge job staging this National event. We were able to deliver the Referee development Program which was also part funded by a Government grant. Funds to the tune of \$15,000 still remain for 2021/2022 financial year for Junior and Coaching development subject to a variation request that has been submitted, as we were unable to execute this program due to Covid.

A number of NSW State events were successfully hosted and supported by our usual Club partners as well as 147 Society who kindly provided access to their Sydney venue. But in most part many events were not hosted at both the State and the National level. Unfortunately, history will see some gaps in our tournament results for the last 2 years. A big call out to Dave Waller, Carlie Tait and the Billiards Sub-Committee members for their hard work in hosting the events we were able to. Even I was back in action and hosted the 6 Red Snooker.

As the we had a quieter year with events, we had the opportunity to improve some of our internal processes and use of digital tools. We have enhanced our membership system and database, automated several payment processes with

better integration with the websites, and implemented a venues database that can now be populated with content for our members. Gary Knight has continued to work closely with the Board to improve our Referee management processes.

The Australian Billiards and Snooker Council (ABSC) has had an equally tough year navigating through the Pandemic. The disruption to National Programs and Events has only been second to the times during the World Wars that prevented the hosting of National Championships. I have continued with the role Vice President of the ABSC as well as Media Officer. I have also recently been elected to the Board of the newly established Australian Confederation of Billiard Sports (ACBS) which has a key objective of getting Cue Sports into the Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games. The establishment of this new overarching governance that brings Snooker, Billiards and other Pool disciplines under one umbrella can only be a positive step for Cue Sports in Australia.

This year we have published the individual reports for Women's, Billiards, Snooker, Referees and Coaching, Juniors and Financial reports online with the AGM notice. These are available to members who are attending the AGM and will also be published as part of our Annual Report process. I would like to thank all of the Board Members and non-Board members participating on the various sub-committees. Our Public Officer and Board Member Bill Chan has indicated that this year will be his last so I would like to thank Bill for his efforts over the years. Bill has been a great asset in managing some of the fundamental activities for our Sport including coordinating of the NSW Government grant process. With the renewed activity expected for the next 12 months, I am hoping to see some extra assistance come forward.

To close I would like to thank all members for the opportunity to perform the role of Chairman of the Board for Snooker and Billiards NSW for the last financial year. And thank you to everyone who has made the effort to attend tonight's virtual AGM.

I look forward to working with everyone over the next 12 months.

Alex Render

Chairman – Snooker and Billiards NSW Inc.

10th October 2021

