

2022 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2022 has been a year of re-building because of Covid.

Since 2019 we have had to cancel most of our tournaments, but in saying this, the Board has been working hard behind the scenes.

The most important thing we have done is to secure the 2023 World Snooker Federation (WSF) Championships.

Without the generosity of the Board of "Mounties" supporting this event I can say without hesitation that our proposal to host these championships would never happen. We have a long relationship with Mounties and in particular, Steve Fitzpatrick, Vice President of the Club. We owe Steve a huge debt of thanks for all his support and friendship which has grown over the years.

These championships have the potential to be the biggest snooker event Australia has ever hosted. We anticipate the Open will attract around 200 players and the Men's U/18's around 80 players.

In conjunction with the WSF Championships, we are running two World Women's Snooker (WWS) ranking snooker events; the Asia Pacific Open Women's Snooker and the Asia Pacific Women's U/21 Snooker. Both events carry WWS ranking points.

We continue to enjoy sponsorship from our Sponsor of Record, Consolidated Leisure and Sport (CL&S). Ray Atwell Managing Director of CL&S has been supplying Strachan cloth, Aramith balls and sponsorship for many years now and we are truly thankful for his valuable support.

States have enjoyed the hospitality provided by the following venues:

- Launceston Worker Club:
- Mounties Community Club:
- Mingara Recreation Club:
- Blacktown Workers Club:
- Snooker SA:
- Commercial Club Albury:
- RACV Club Melbourne:
- The Brunswick Club:
- Yarraville Club:
- Club Marconi:
- Pot Black Family Pool Centre:
- Redcliffe Snooker Club:
- The Illawarra Club:

My sincere thanks go out to all the above clubs for their valuable support and sponsorship of billiards & snooker over the years. We continue to build strong relationships with these venues and will continue to do so in the coming year.

Unfortunately, the Mingara Club and Snooker SA have decided not to sponsor events for the immediate future. Mingara has been a long-time sponsor of the Australian Masters Snooker but due to renovations at the Club have postponed hosting the Master's until renovations are completed.

We have since negotiated with management at the Commercial Club Albury to host the Australian Masters, now to be named the Australian Seniors, with an exciting opportunity for the future. The winners of the Australian Seniors will now have the opportunity to play at the Crucible to compete in the finals of the World Master's. City Tatts Club, Sydney, will take over the Women's Nationals from Snooker SA.

One of the few concerns I have is the lack of new referee certification. We must make sure each of us do whatever is required to enrol new referees. Many referees have retired, and we MUST replace them. If we do not have referees, then players will be forced to referee their own matches.

Coaching is high on our priority list and always looking for interested people to become a certified coach. If you are interested in becoming a coach, please contact your State Association.

Thanks to Directors of the ABSC for their contribution and support over the past year. This coming year we may see some changes with the possible retirement of some people. For those of you who may be retiring, I thank you for your contribution to our sport

Finally, thanks to those members who have supported me during my tenure as President. Although out of sight from most of you, I have enjoyed the past nine years and proud of the progress we have made. Next year will be my final year as your President, and I will walk away with sadness but with immense pride on what has been achieved. Without the full support of the Board these things would not have been possible, so I thank you all for your contribution.

I am sure that 2023 will be a very successful year and that we all continue to enjoy the opportunities our sport provides for you.

Yours in sport,

Frank Dewens

President ABSC 2014-2022