

**Cleveland Billiards & Snooker
Referee's Association**
Incorporating
The Teesside Boys Billiards & Snooker League
Sponsored by Smithfield Timber Ltd

Chairman

Mr. T M Riley
29 Sycamore Road
Woodlands Estate
Stockton On Tees
TS19 0NB

President

Mr D Livingston
1a McTaggart Avenue
Denny
Falkirk
FK6 6EN

Secretary

Mr J Rhodes
1 Windermere Avenue
Redmarshall
Stockton On Tees
TS21 1HR
Email-johnrhodes59@hotmail.com

18th January 2010.

The Secretary/Manager.

Dear Secretary/Manager,

I am writing to advise you of some recent changes that have taken place in The Teesside Boys Billiards League.

You may be aware that the Boys Billiards League was founded by Ralph Macklin In 1973, its purpose being to encourage the children of members to take up the art of billiards playing and to compete against other like minded individuals in other clubs.

From these early days the league grew from small beginnings up to a maximum where 32 teams were playing in two separate divisions and players from the Teesside area were competing and winning junior competitions at National level. Many of these juniors went on to become Professional players and we can boast having developed a number of World Champions.

Regrettably over the last few years the number of clubs/teams participating has shrunk to an all time low with just 6 clubs and 10 teams now actively involved in the current season.

In an effort to encourage more clubs/teams to become involved a major decision was taken earlier this year and as the new league title suggests, Snooker is now making an equal appearance within the league structure.

The traditional format of six 30 minute billiard games has been slimmed down to three 30 minute billiards, and three frames of snooker which are also limited to a maximum of 30 minutes. The added advantage of the new format is that players can compete at both games, meaning a minimum of three players is needed to make up a team, as opposed to the original 6 player format. This is a major financial boost for teams, who can now travel to away games in one car, rather than clubs having to provide a minibus.

Also as a part of this major shake up the control of the league has been passed over to the Cleveland Billiards and Snooker Referees Association, John Rhodes will now become secretary of both associations with Terry Riley as Chairman, Billy Bousfield will remain as Treasurer of the boys league.

With the new structure in place we are contacting all clubs in the Teesside postal code area and asking them to consider putting at least one team forward for the start of next season.

All that is required is for one member, probably of the snooker/billiards team, to ask his team mates if their children would like to play and then get them to come into the club on a Saturday/Sunday morning and provide some coaching instructions. A little time given in order to ensure that the future of billiards and snooker is in safe hands.

There is no minimum lower age limit for junior players who can continue playing until they reach their 18th Birthday and provided that they are 18 on the first day of organised league activity then they remain eligible to play throughout that season in all league promotions.

Teams can be registered with the association anytime between now and the start of the next season which will be in September 2010; this will allow time for the coaching to start and for the interest to develop with the youngsters. The cost of registration is £20.00 per team with a maximum of £40.00 for 2 or more teams.

Teams play on a home/away basis as in the senior games excepting that junior games are played on Saturday/Sunday mornings before opening time. For away games, as stated above, with the 3 man format all players can travel in a single vehicle thus cutting down on costs. Many of the teams still involved in the league also run one or two blind cards each week with the proceeds being used to meet expenses including registration.

I would therefore ask you to consider having at least one team registered for the start of the 2010/2011 season thus helping to stave of the inevitable collapse of the league if the interest cannot be maintained.

If you require any further information or help in any way please do not hesitate to contact me, my address and email details are shown at the top of this letter, and I will be happy to offer any assistance that I can.

Yours in sport,

John Rhodes
Secretary.