



Queensland Billiards and Snooker Association Inc. Junior Development Support Program

Updated 04.02.2022

Introduction

The Queensland Billiards and Snooker Association (QBSA) recognises the importance and value of our junior members. The Junior Development Support Program aims to support junior players by providing pathways for playing snooker and/or billiards at various levels, coaching or refereeing. The QBSA aims to support its Clubs (including Clubs, Private Clubs and Regional Associations) to develop and run their own junior development programs to promote and ensure the sustainability of snooker and billiards in their own Club or Association.

White to Black Program & Cue Zone Rollout

The Australian Billiards and Snooker Council (ABSC) have been working with the WPBSA since mid-2020 to bring the White to Black and Cue Zones Programs to Australia.

The QBSA will help educate our affiliated clubs about the programs and make available the resources needed to execute the program throughout the juniors in their Club. Resources will include promotional materials, administration documents and training aids to use for displays and exhibition games.

Clubs will also be encouraged to contact the schools in their local areas to introduce cue sport programs as a school sport, or at the very least let the students know about their club and the junior program they have.

If the Clubs have any questions or need assistance, please contact the QBSA Management Committee for guidance.

Junior Coaching

Coaching of juniors:

The Management Committee will work closely with the QBSA Coaches Coordinator, Blue Card Coordinator and Juniors Coordinator to develop a scalable coaching program and accreditation system for all Queensland coaches. They will ensure that any coaches of juniors have their required Blue Cards.

The QBSA will help promote any QBSA Accredited Coaches and will pass on details to any juniors or parents/guardians of juniors who contact the QBSA looking for a club/coach in their area.

Junior pathway to coaching:

The Management Committee will work with QBSA Coaches Coordinator to get more juniors involved in a coaching development program.

Junior Coaches / aspiring Coaches will be given close support to help encourage their participation and development.

Junior Referees

Refereeing of juniors:

The Management Committee will work closely with the QBSA Referee Coordinator, ABSC, Blue Card Coordinator and Juniors Coordinator to ensure that any referees of minors have their required Blue Cards.

Junior pathway to refereeing:

The Management Committee will work with QBSA Referees Coordinator and the ABSC to get more juniors involved and accredited as Referees.

Junior Referees will be given close support to help encourage their participation and development as a referee.

National Ranking Events and Queensland State Titles

As per the direction of the ABSC, any player under the age of 18 years old as of the 1st January in that calendar year, will be given free entry into any National Ranking Event held in Queensland and free entry into the Queensland State Titles.

State Junior Titles

Each year the QBSA will hold the following Junior State Championships to match up with the Australian National Junior Championships:

Under 12 Snooker

Under 16 Snooker

Under 18 Snooker

Under 18 Girls Snooker

Under 16 Billiards

Under 18 Billiards

Each event will be conducted in the same format as the national event (where possible) and will be held during the September school holidays. They will be fully seeded based on the Queensland Junior Rankings list. Any player without a current ranking, will be randomly drawn into their seeding position.

Eligibility to compete is determined by the player's age as of 1st January in that calendar year.

Queensland State Team Selection

From 2022, the QBSA Management Committee will nominate ranking events on the snooker and billiards calendars that can count towards eligibility for selection onto the Queensland State Junior Team to compete at the Australian National Junior Championships from 2023 onwards. One Junior State Team will be selected to represent the QBSA. Subsequent teams may be formed after the QBSA team has been announced and this will be at the discretion of the ABSC. Subsequent teams may be entered as Queensland teams, but will not be the representative team of the QBSA.

Eligible Snooker Ranking Tournaments

- U12/U16/U18 Qld State Snooker Title (each age can count toward ranking points for the same position on the team. Eg. ranking points from U12 snooker will only count towards total points for the U12 position on the team)
- Queensland Residents Snooker / Open State Title
- Queensland Women's State Title (for U18 girls position only)
- Queensland Open Snooker
- Queensland Womens Open Snooker (for U18 girls position only)
- Matchroom Open Snooker
- Plus other junior, women's or open snooker ranking events that may, from time to time, be arranged by Affiliate Clubs and sanctioned by the QBSA

Eligible Billiards Ranking Tournaments

- U18 Qld State Billiards Title
- Queensland Residents Billiards / Open State Title
- Queensland Open Billiards
- Plus other junior or open billiards ranking events that may, from time to time, be arranged by Affiliate Clubs and sanctioned by the QBSA

The following positions on the Queensland State Junior Team for the will be filled as follows:

Under 12 Snooker – Best two (2) eligible ranking tournament results in the calendar year

Under 16 Snooker - Best three (3) eligible ranking tournament results in the calendar year

Under 18 Snooker - Best four (4) eligible ranking tournament results in the calendar year

Under 18 Girls Snooker - Best three (3) eligible ranking tournament results in the calendar year

Under 18 Billiards - Best three (3) eligible ranking tournament results in the calendar year

If the same person has the highest total ranking points for multiple team positions, they will need to choose the single spot they will represent. The QBSA will then offer the extra spot to the next highest finisher of the relevant position. If results are tied between two or multiple players, the QBSA Management Committee will have the discretion to select an individual from those who have tied results and their decision shall be final.

Eligibility for team selection is determined by the player's age as of 1st January in the following calendar year.

Junior Events

The QBSA will only be running the State Junior Titles each year. Our Member Clubs will be encouraged to run their own Junior Events as part of their own Junior Development Program.

If a Club complies with the QBSA State Junior Ranking Tournament Playing Conditions, the event will be sanctioned as a Junior Ranking Event and award Junior Ranking Points. If sufficient notice is provided (a minimum of eight (8) weeks and before end February, the tournament can also be entered onto the list to contribute towards team selection (if deemed appropriate by the QBSA Management Committee). Juniors and their parents are encouraged to also speak to their local club about the possibility of more Junior events being held at the Club.

Junior Rankings

Queensland State Junior Ranking lists have been created to rank the current Junior players in both snooker and billiards and will be used to fully seed Junior State Titles and Junior Ranking Events. The system will be the same as the current Snooker, Billiards and Womens State Rankings, with ranking points earned from both non-junior and junior State ranking events, with the exception of high breaks made in junior events. The following high breaks will achieve ranking points:

U12: 20+

U16: 40+

U18 girls: 40+

U18: 50+.

Junior Funding

Any QBSA Member Club that implements their own Junior Development Program, which the QBSA Management Committee deems to be sufficient in its size and focus, will be awarded \$1000 per year to help with the program. This funding must be used within a given year and must be used to run the program. Upon request, Clubs will need to prove the use of funds at the end of each year.

To apply for this funding, a Club must be a current financial Member of the QBSA and must submit a written document outlining their Junior Development Program. The document may address such items as:

- History your junior program
- Philosophy, aims, goals of the program
- Describe Coaching (eg. frequency, coaches participating in the program (please state qualifications of the coach/es))
- Competition/s held for juniors
- Describe aspects secondary benefits to junior members (eg. behaviour, recognition, promotion etc)
- Community involvement
- Outline financial plan
- Program / Club contact person/s and details.

Applications for the Junior Development Program funding will be open from 1st January to 31st March each calendar year.

Junior Players who wish to request funding assistance from the QBSA for open national inter-state events or an international event, will need to apply directly to the QBSA Management Committee in writing. To be successful, players will need to show a certain skill level and have high participation in QBSA run events, such as the Queensland Open State Titles, State Ranking Events and Club Leagues.

The QBSA encourage juniors to look into their funding opportunities via their own Club, family and friends, crowd funding, local business sponsorships and Federal, State and Local Government grants.

If any Member has questions or comments, please email secretary@qbsa.com.au