

Refereeing Tips

Never call out the score before or when spotting a ball. Wait until you have completed the task (as this is a signal for the striker to continue with his break/make the next shot).

Never call out the score as soon as a ball is potted. Wait until you are sure that no foul can result from the balls in motion.

A player can “nominate” his intended ball by his stance, but should this not be immediately obvious then the referee should ask the player to “Declare” which ball he is playing. (state clearly – Please Declare) .

You only state “Touching Ball” if that is a “ball on”, and any movement of that ball is a foul unless it moves because of the vagaries of the table. (moves forward into space vacated by the cue-ball or settles because of an uneven spot/dig in the cloth/join in the slate).

All attempts to escape from a “Snooker”, must be played with sufficient strength to reach the ball on, either directly or indirectly.

Should the striker be snookered, it is an advantage to take up a position as close to the object ball as possible.

When possible. Take the rest off the striker, but if you have to spot a ball which has been potted/pocketed, then leave the striker to return the rest to its place.

Whenever there is a possibility of a “Miss” occurring, the referee should ask the player to allow him to view the exact line of the shot and position of the balls. (especially important where only a thin shot is available).

Should the striker be able to see any ball on “Full Ball” (centre to centre contact) and fails to make first contact with ball on, a “Miss” will be called. If a foul shot is repeated again a “Miss” will be called and warn the striker that a third consecutive offence will result in the frame being awarded to his opponent.

Hitting an intervening ball or completely missing the ball on by playing a Swerve shot should always result in a “Miss” being called.

The referee should consult both players about the replacing of the balls after a “Miss” has been called, (it is a foul for any player to touch the balls) the referees decision will be final.

REMEMBER PLAY FOR FUN AS WELL AS TO WIN, SO ALL DECISIONS SHOULD ALSO BE MADE WITHIN THE SPIRIT OF THE RULES

Compiled from information gathered from various sources by Greg Jones as guidelines to when carrying out refereeing duties during Seaton Snooker League matches.

