



HSS CUP SNOOKER COMPETITION

Minutes of AGM held Wednesday 22nd February 2023

The 2023 HSS Snooker Competition Annual General Meeting was held at 7.30pm at the Hornsby RSL Club on Wednesday 22nd February 2023.

Attendance:

Present:-

Andy de Haan – President
Patrick Gauci – Secretary (C Hill 2)
David McMahon - Treasurer
Dennis Tritt – City Tatts
David Walsh – City Tatts
Richard Hunter – Hornsby RSL
David Giles – Castle Hill RSL 1
David Kool – Forestville RSL

Apologies: David Chan – City Tatts RSL.

The meeting was formally opened at 7.30 pm by the Secretary.

1. Minutes of the last year's AGM

The Secretary confirmed that copies of the previous year's AGM had been provided to all attendees at last year's meeting; these were both available at the meeting and able to be accessed on the HSS website. There were no matters arising with the Minutes being agreed as presented.

2. Business arising from last year's AGM

There was no business arising from the minutes for last year's AGM.

3. President's Report

Andy de Haan presented the President's report which will again be made available on the HSS website. The President paid tribute to the Secretary and Treasurer for their respective efforts in ensuring the Cttee was able to successfully hold a successful 22 rounds competition in 2022. He also congratulated both 147 Society and Chatswood ICS on an entertaining HSS Cup final reversing the prior year's result as well as C Tatts 2 defeating C Hill 1 in the Scottish Cup Grand Final.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer submitted his Balance of Account report informing the meeting that last year's competition resulted in a closing credit balance of \$ 95.08 which is carried forward to the forthcoming year.

5. Secretary's Report

Patrick Gauci delivered his report which will be posted on the HSS website. This importantly confirmed that both the 147 Society and Chatswood ICS team finalists of last years HSS Cup, were regrettably to withdraw from this year's competition.

Hard copies of the 2023 Team entry forms and 2023 match score-sheets are to be distributed to all Captains by email once team nominations have been in principle finalized. These will once again both be equally available on the HSS website. It would be appreciated if these updated forms are be used by all Captains.

6. Election of Office Bearers for 2023

The President, Secretary and Treasurer vacated their position and Richard Hunter was invited to briefly take over proceedings for the election.

Andy de Haan was proposed, seconded and re-elected unopposed as President, Patrick Gauci was proposed, seconded and re-elected as Secretary as was David McMahon as Treasurer for the 2023 competition.

7. Team nominations for 2023 competition

The following teams were formally nominated, considered and accepted:-

- **Castle Hill RSL #1 is confirmed**
- **Castle Hill RSL #2 is confirmed**

- **City Tatts, #1 is confirmed**
City Tatts, #2 is confirmed

- **Hornsby RSL #1 is confirmed**
Hornsby RSL #2 is confirmed

- **Forestville RSL #1 is confirmed**
- **Forestville RSL possible team #2 may be formed which to be advised by Friday 24th March please.**

Therefore, the 2023 HSS Trophy competition will be comprised of a confirmed total of 7 teams from 4 clubs, with possibly an 8th team from Forestville yet to be advised.

On the basis of a reduced number of participating teams this year, the meeting further agreed that the 2023 competition will be played as follows:-

In case of 7 teams, in a total 21 Rounds (made up of 6 @ Home + 6 Away + each of a further 6 played either @ H or A for each* team + 3 byes (due to the odd number of teams), or

In case of 8 teams, again in a total 21 Rounds (made up of 7 @ Home + 7 Away + each of a further 7 played either @ H or A for each* team (with no byes required).

It is therefore noted and recognized that due to the teams exceptionally playing one another 3* times this year, some teams will end up playing twice at home and once away, with others in a reverse position playing twice away and once at home. This could not be avoided and will be randomly determined by the Secretary when preparing the draw as it falls.

Team Captains are required to please have their respective team sheets fully correctly completed and emailed to the Secretary no later than Sunday 20th March, many thanks.

8. 2023 Competition – Host clubs Supper requirements

Discussion took place with each of Hornsby, Castle Hill and City Tatts confirming that they were intending to provide suppers at their venues. David Kool advised that due to contractual arrangements being different at Forestville RSL, he would investigate what options are realistically and practically available to them and would endeavor to provide some form of supper if at all possible keeping in mind the limitation of their Club requirement for a required approx. 10.30pm finish of play.

9. 2023 Competition – Review of any Covid-19 special requirements

This subject was again briefly discussed and whilst it was acknowledged that whereas Covid-19 was largely behind us, agreement was essentially noted that there is still some virus around and that all venues would be taking any appropriate measures and precautions necessary in enforcing any Government requirements and as may be promulgated by each individual venue.

10. 2023 Competition – Starting time for club venues with only 2 tables

This was actually not discussed due to the fact that there were no clubs entering this year's competition that would be hosting with only 2 tables.

11. Dates for Round 1 of HSS 2023

It was tentatively decided that Round 1 of the 2023 home / away competition will take place on **Tuesday April 4th**. This year's competition Rounds will be uninterrupted consecutive Tuesdays with the exception of Anzac Day on April 25th when there would be no scheduled competition play.

Once there is a decision as to a potential Forestville RSL 2nd team or otherwise, the Secretary will prepare an appropriate draw including the 7 or 8 teams as might be required. The agreed final competition draw will be circulated on approx. 28th to 30th March with the expectation that where clubs have entered 2 teams, then in those instances, team 1 will be playing against team 2 at home as has been the previous practice.

12. 2023 team entry subscriptions

The meeting proposed that given the reduction in team numbers and the notable high inflation reflected through increase in prices, the team entry fee be **increased to \$120** per team. This was unanimously agreed and will apply. Team captains are requested to please effect prompt early payment no later than by the 2nd or 3rd round. EFT payment is preferred. The Bendigo Bank account details are the same as last year's. Should anyone need to ask for them please request the Treasurer in the first instance otherwise myself. Thanks in advance to team managers for arranging early payment.

13. 2023 Finals and Semi-Finals venues Dates for semi-finals and finals play-offs venues will be advised at a later stage closer to the completion of the ordinary home and away rounds when opposing teams will be identified. The expectation is that Hornsby RSL will be hosting the HSS Grand Final and Castle Hill RSL would be hosting the Scottish Cup Grand Final.

14. 2023 Scottish Cup Finals format

Depending on the to be finally confirmed number of team entries being at 7 or going up to 8 for this year, it is probable that the format may well need to be reviewed in 2023 should that involve only teams ranked 5th to 7th.

If on the other hand that will be 8 teams, then this will remain as per last year with playing 1st against 2nd, winner to Grand Final, and loser to play winner of 3 v/s 4th,

with the winner of that match, playing for a spot in the GF, and the loser out of finals contention.

15. General business

a) HHS Foul & Miss rule change:

David Giles invited the meeting to review the last year's AGM amended rule which was to be trialed for one year. It was agreed that there were still instances of misunderstandings, misinterpretation and dispute over the controversial rule.

Further to some extensive robust discussions, it was agreed that the HSS competition was deemed an A Grade competition and that any suggestion of potentially removing the HSS rule altogether was not to be contemplated.

It was also agreed to further simplify the rule to read as follows commencing w.e.f. this year's competition:-

In the HSS 2023 Competition, a Foul & Miss will be called in the following two circumstances:-

- a) where the striker plays a stroke whereby the cue-ball does not reach the object ball therefore failing to make contact, due to being short or whether it has so failed due to striking any other non-object ball in its path, or***
- b) where the marker deems that the striker has failed to make a fair and reasonable genuine attempt to reach the object ball.***

It is importantly further noted that:-

- 1) the first unsuccessful attempt foul will be so automatically deemed and ruled as a Foul & Miss, and***
- 2) there will be no limit to the number of attempts made which may fall within the criteria stated under a) or b) above.***

PLEASE IMPORTANTLY NOTE THAT THIS RULE REVIEW NOW MEANS AN IMPORTANT CHANGE TO THE FOUL & MISS RULE ESTABLISHED LAST YEAR. THIS WILL REPLACE AND NOW APPLY TO THE 2023 HSS CUP COMPETITION.

THE RULE WILL BE CHANGED ON THE HSS WEBSITE FOR ALL TO SEE AND BE AWARE OF.

b) Hornsby RSL Snooker Room refurbishment:-

Richard Hunter informed the meeting that the Hornsby RSL has decided to entirely refurbish the Snooker Room, such would involve (as currently understood) the removal of 6 tables to be replaced with 5 new high quality tables, as well as the expansion of the existing Table Tennis room which it is presumed will be extended further into the current Snooker tables playing area, necessarily making that area slightly smaller.

It is also understood that plans, Board and Hornsby Council project approval are pending and that the timing is at this stage unknown. It is however anticipated that this year's HSS competition Hornsby venue will most likely be impacted for an unknown period to be advised in due course. Teams will be appropriately updated of developments in a timely manner.

c) HSS Dress Code:-

David Chan of City Tatts has recently addressed an email to the Cttee on the above subject seeking that it be considered at the AGM. This was circulated to Andy and David prior to the meeting. Again, whilst the incidence of Dress Code Breaches (DCB) have been indeed very occasional in recent competitions, there is evidence that Captains are not always conscious and keen or prepared to call a DCB with players “pushing the envelope” as to compliance and regarding such as unimportant, which should not be the case.

The meeting was reminded clearly and emphatically by the President as to the status of the HSS competition and that strict compliance of the Dress Code will remain unaltered as clearly expressed on the HSS website.

Accordingly once again, all team Captains are requested to keep an eye on compliance by their own and opposing teams and call any and all breaches early in the evening (to enable rectification if/where practicable) and also to avoid any surprises at the close of play. Furthermore, players are required to remain diligent in compliance so to avoid point penalties to their team.

d) Match Coin toss procedure:-

Dennis Tritt put forward a proposal regarding the coin toss to decide the player to break at the start of each frame. After some clarification as to the exact intent, this was unanimously agreed. Such being, that at the commencement of each Round of matches, opposing team Captains will call a coin toss between them with the winning Captain deciding the team to break in the 1st Singles and the Doubles frames for the evening. Furthermore, the 2nd Singles frame break will be taken by the team which did not break in the 1st.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at approx. 9.20 pm.

Patrick G. Gauci
Honorary Secretary
2023 HSS Cup Snooker Competition.