



## **ETIQUETTE**

As the peak body for the sport of Snooker and Billiards in Australia, the Australian Billiards & Snooker Council (ABSC) has developed and implemented a formal “Code of Ethics” which is required to be applied across all levels of play in our sport – i.e. throughout competition at Local, Club, Regional, State, National and International events.

By way of its State membership, Snooker & Billiards Central Coast (SBCC) is closely affiliated with ABSC and is therefore bound to uphold and enforce their policies as well as the rules of the games of both Snooker & Billiards in all sanctioned competitions conducted. In terms of the “Code of Ethics” it is the responsibility of competitors to act in the spirit of good sportsmanship and do nothing to bring discredit to the games of Snooker & Billiards.

**SBCC members need to be aware of the existence of this formal “Code of Ethics” and comply with its terms and conditions at all times. A copy of the ABSC document is available for download in pdf format and should be attached to all Member Club’s notice boards.**

**Etiquette** (defined as the “conventional rules of personal behaviour in polite society”) also falls within the “Code of Ethics”. [This deals more directly with how a person conducts themselves in public and the general non-acceptance of poor behaviour in today’s society.](#)

Some examples of breaches of etiquette and poor behaviour by individuals include:

- refusing to shake an opponent’s hand upon completion of a game;
- not marking frames and/or games as and when required;
- non-striker moving within the striker’s line of sight or talking aloud and making a noise of any kind when the striker is playing a shot;
- disputing decisions of referees/markers or officials;
- criticising, berating and/or demeaning players, referees, officials or spectators and swearing audibly in public;
- making complaints of an unsubstantiated or frivolous nature;
- answering a mobile phone or texting whilst playing;
- incidents of bullying, intimidation and all other acts of anti-social behaviour, etc.

**Such misconduct is certainly not sportsmanlike nor in the spirit of how the games of Snooker and Billiards are expected to be played and enjoyed.**

Being involved in competitive sports where there are winners and losers, some players may at times experience personal disappointment and frustration. However, this will never be an acceptable excuse for instances of poor behaviour and lack of respect shown to others.

[In addition to being players, we are also ambassadors for the games of Billiards and Snooker. As such, we are always expected to conduct ourselves in the appropriate manner and do nothing to bring discredit upon our sport, our individual clubs, the SBCC – and even ourselves as individuals.](#)

***Issued by Direction of the Board of Snooker & Billiards Central Coast***

***Dated: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018***