

## **Members Update August 2019**

### **1/ It Never Hurts to Say G'Day.**

There we were, myself and Brendan Rippingale having a beer after completing our match in the George Hendrickson Club Handicap Championship. In should walk a veteran with a cue a bit older than myself, therefore about mid 70's. He enquired if he could get a game of snooker, advising he thought it was restricted to members. After introducing ourselves, Peter, Ian and Brendan, we advised him he didn't look like a poolroom yobbo so go to the bar and ask for a set of snooker balls and they would hold his licence.

Off he went, came back with a set of snooker balls. I enquired where he played and he said he played out of Dee Why Master Builders and was up visiting for a family function. I advised we always make welcome visiting snooker players to our Tues/Thurs comps and Sunday Sponsored tournaments and asked for his contact details so I could pass our summary of events on to him.

Your name. Ian Chappell. "That is a fairly famous name". "Well it was years ago" he replied. He looked a little different to the Ian Chappell we see on the cricket so the inevitable question, " Are you THE Ian Chappell?" "Yes that's me."

As he was looking for a bit of relaxation with a game of snooker, young Brendan, ever full of the spirit of generosity offered to have a game. Away they went, a black ball win to Ian. A round of beers. "Another game"? "Most certainly" said Brendan. Another black ball win to Ian and another round of beers.

After they were done we had a light chat. Ian is the Patron of the Australian Billiards & Snooker Council and sponsors an annual Snooker Classic at Blacktown and he thoroughly enjoys the game. Little mention of cricket, he enjoys the snooker and the camaraderie of the snooker clubs and we hope in the future to see him and also any of his visiting club mates from Dee Why.

I won't forget the occasion and I doubt Brendan will either. As luck would have it, due to the State of Origin being on that night, most of our regulars who would have been in attendance were absent. I am sure they would have loved to catch up with Ian, a legendary cricketer, snooker enthusiast and a most down to earth fellow.

## **2/ Regional Award to Club Member.**

One of our popular members has been honoured by NAIDOC for his services to the aboriginal community.

Brian Green was awarded the Volunteer of the Year Award for the “Bunjalong” region (Tweed - Byron area) recently. As most of our members would be aware, Brian is of great assistance in our Club tournaments and he obviously does the same within the community, a selfless hardworking community member.

Well done Brian, you would no doubt be very proud to receive such recognition for your efforts.

## **3/ Bryne Smith “OBE” Day.**

The now annual Bryne Smith “OBE” Day was held on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019 and a large field of 26 starters nominated. This was a fitting tribute to Bryne & good wife Thalia for his dedication to the Snooker Club for a lengthy period. Bryne also part sponsored the day, making a total of \$450 prizemoney for the day, a very good effort for our Club.

One very welcome member to participate was Peter Rauchfuss making a comeback after a period on the sidelines. Peter and his lovely wife Pat are well known to Club members for his regular support of our tournaments in years not so past. He also provided the trophies of considerable value for our annual Doubles Championships when we had the seven tables and a much larger membership. Great to see you Pete.

Results on the day were as follows.

Winner Austin Taylor def Paul Thomas. semi-finalists Cooper Thomson & Ray Gocke. Quarter-finalists Mitch Gorrick, Terry Malone, Jon Prendergast & Bob Morton. Consolation event was won by Adam Waller def Paul Beggs. Semi-finalists Steve Reynolds & Peter Campbell.

All in all a great days snooker.

## **4/ Sunday Sponsored Tournament 21<sup>st</sup> July 2019.**

The Sponsored Tournament attracted 17 starters which is a good level of support for these popular events.

Winner was Austin Taylor def Adam Waller. Semi-finalists Terry Malone & Rod Marquadt. Consolation event won by Cooper Thomson def Brian Green. Austin Taylor is certainly making his mark in events as he regains the form of his peak days. Well done Austin.

### **5/ FNCSA Doubles Championship.**

The above tournament was held at Club Banora on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2019. A total of 14 teams nominated, 7 from Twin Towns. The team acquitted themselves well with Jimmy Thomson & Ryan Cretan winning the final 2-1 over Tony Rea & Danny Waldock of Casino. Congratulations Jimmy & Ryan.

Twin Towns teams and results –

Jimmy Thomson/Ryan Cretan	Winners
Terry Malone/Graham Wilson	Semi-finalists
Megan Fullerton/Bob Morton	Quarter-finalists
Des Turner/BryneSmith	Quarter-finalists
Jack Malone/Luke Poile	
Steve Springer/Mitch Gorrick	
Paul Chappell/Mark Johnson	

Several other members played in the event but being dual members played with members from other Clubs as follows-

Jon Prendergast/C Taylor (Ballina)	Quarter-finalists
Paul Beggs/J Bowers (Ballina)	Quarter-finalists
Jeff Lawn/Keith Thotsakhui (Lismore)	

### **6/ Championship results So Far.**

The tables have been very busy of late with many members playing matches in the A B & C Grade Handicap Championships. Results to date in these competitions are as follows-

#### **A Grade – 28 Players**

Finalists -	Paul Thomas & Jimmy Thomson – yet to play
Semi-Finalists	Des Turner & Peter Grunsell
Quarter Finalists	Tea Smith, Adam Brown, John Themelkos & Ryan Cretan

## **B Grade – 18 players**

Finalists - Harry Mahia & Gary Davis – yet to play  
Semi-Finalists - Peter Campbell & Dave Jones  
Quarter-Finalists - Tea Smith, Mark Johnson, Terry Malone & Tony Hill

## **C Grade – 12 players**

Finalist - Jim Cruz  
Semi-Finalist - Harry Mahia & Joe Caridi – yet to play  
Steve Reynolds

## **7/ New Events in Calendar.**

The Committee received requests from members re the possibility of conducting a Cricket tournament and a 6 Red Tournament. These have now been included in the calendar on the following dates.

*Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August – 6 Red Tournament*

*Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August – Cricket Championship.*

The rules of Cricket will be explained by the group of keen “cricketers” once noms are finalised. Basically, the bowler has to pot the reds as his wickets whilst the batsman scores runs to the value of the colours he pots until he has lost all his wickets. Then they reverse roles as in cricket itself and whoever gets the most runs wins.

The rules of 6 Red tournaments are contained in the Rules of Snooker. The format of the tournament will be determined once the number of nominations are finalised. Either a knockout or round robin, number of games to be decided.

In both cases Secretary Jimmy will keep members advised of the details in due course.

## **Visit to Ballina Snooker Club - 13<sup>th</sup> October 2019.**

Ballina Snooker Club approached us and asked if we were interested in an inter-club visit to which we agreed. To my knowledge we have never had inter-club visits in recent years between our Clubs so this will be a first. Many of us nevertheless visit Ballina regularly each year for FNCSA events so we are no strangers to the Club.

The date has been set for Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October at Ballina. Noms will be invited in due course. This could be our version of a Test Match.

### **8/ Junior Coaching.**

The 2019 coaching course commenced on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July and will run through to 14<sup>th</sup> September. The day of the FNCSA Champion of Champions, Saturday 17/8/2019 and the Cricket Championships, Saturday 31/8/2019 will be lay days. 6 juniors attended from a list of 11 nominations. The absentees will be contacted to have them join the group.

The coaching panel is Jess Woods, Austin Taylor, Jimmy Thomson & myself. Members are invited to pop along during the afternoon if they so wish.

The coaching commences at approximately 2.30 – 3.0 pm depending upon final numbers so members please don't arrange any championship matches in the Saturdays during the period unless you can have them finished by 2.30pm at the latest.

### **9/ Southport Visit 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2019**

Twin Towns sent a team of 10 members to Southport on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, winning a close encounter 14 – 11. The team comprised Ryan Cretan (3 wins), Jimmy Thomson (2), Mitch Gorrick, Brian Green (1), Bob Morton (2), Des Turner (1), Terry Malone (3), Rod Smith (1), Ray Gocke (3) and Cooper Thomson (2).

Southport Snooker were successful in obtaining a grant to refurbish their snooker room and most importantly, acquire a fourth table. The end result will be a very good snooker room of which they can be proud. We look forward to attending Southport when the upgrade is completed.

What would we give for a 4<sup>th</sup> table?

### **10/ Sherwood Visit 14<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

Twin Towns went to Sherwood on 14<sup>th</sup> July with a team of 8 members and came home with a good win, 18-10. The team comprised Austin Taylor (4 wins), Des Turner (4), Mitch Gorrick (3), Peter Campbell (3), Brian Green (2), Terry Malone (1), Jon Prendergast (2) & Tea Smith (3).

Austin knocked up a 42 break during the day. As always, we were subject to great hospitality and good snooker, a very enjoyable day.

### **11/ Regional Events.**

Club members have been active on the wider scene of late. Jess Woods was in Thailand for 10 days at the WWS Women's World Championships. She came 2<sup>nd</sup> in her round robin group and made the Round of 16. A very high standard tournament and well done Jess.

Ray Wilcher, back after a short hiatus contested the Queensland Minor Billiards Championships and made the semi-finals. A good effort Ray.

Graham Wilson attended the Redcliff Handicap Open tournament and was defeated in the Round of 16 on the black ball, final frame by a familiar adversary, Dennis Payne. Graham does represent us in the regional tournaments and it is good to see him have some success.

“Rocket” Rod Smith attended the Port Macquarie Handicap Open tournament on the weekend of 27/28 July, back in his old stamping ground. He caught up with ex member Joe Darby who lives there these days. Rod didn't meet with success but would have enjoyed his time back with his former club mates. Joe made the Round of 16.

Not snooker but Life Member Ray Carpenter is travelling to Papaya, Thailand presently to see his grandson Joshua represent Australia in the World Dragon Boat Championships. Young Josh has been training 6 days week and is raring to go, a great opportunity and trip for both Josh, Ray & Dawn. We wish them all the best.

Incidentally, Josh and his father are keen fishermen, they have designed and implemented a used fishing line and hook receptacle system for placement at the beaches and rivers for fisherman to discard their U/S line & hooks. It has now been taken up and implemented by the Gold Coast Cnl.

### **12/ The Rub of the Green.**

Some days it is just not your day, nothing goes right and your opponent, a most ungracious fellow at the time, is undoubtedly the luckiest player alive. I was watching a match recently between Players A & B. in a recent tournament and this was just the scenario. I won't mention names.

Player A was giving a fair bit of start, played well and by the time they reached the colours he was ahead by about 13. He potted the yellow, a lead of 15 and then missed the green. Basically he was in the box seat.

At this stage however, Lady Luck began to dance.

Player B had a shot at the green, missed but snookered A tight behind the brown. A got out of the snooker but left the green an easy pot which B duly sank. A lead to A of 12.

Upon attempting the brown B missed but again snookered A tight behind the blue. Again A got out of the snooker and left an easy brown which B sank, a lead to A now of 8. Player A was remaining calm, he still had the lead, two pots and he was home.

Player B then had a shot at the blue, missed but lo and behold again snookered A tight behind the pink, that was 3 tight unplanned snookers in a row. A, by now getting a little concerned, got out of the snooker but the cue ball went in off the middle pocket and to rub insult to injury pushed the blue over the bottom yellow pocket. Player A was now probably thinking “why me Lord?”

Ball in hand, B duly dropped the blue. Now B had the lead by 2. He then dropped a cracking pink  $\frac{3}{4}$  the length of the table and won the match. Ever the sportsman, A congratulated B as they shook hands.

I saw A a bit later, “how are you going mate?” and he relayed the tale above with just a little hint of frustration in his voice. I wonder why? I am sure we have all had similar experiences, and quite often at that.

That bloody Lady Luck.

### **13/ Breaks**

We encourage members to record their breaks in all competition matches. This includes any competition sanctioned by any of the Australian or State bodies, FNCSA and regional tournaments as well as inter-club visits. The level is at their discretion, the A graders may set a higher mark, the C graders happy with a much lower one, it is all up to the player. The following are the breaks recorded to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019.

Adam Brown	22 21
Simon Beattie	38
Len Caccioppoli	25 (2) 21

Joe Caridi	17
Ryan Cretan	44 41
Chris Deazevedo	14
Ted Fairman	14
Ray Gocke	22
Brian Green	40
Mark Johnson	27
Dave Jones	26
Jack Malone	24
Terry Malone	31 20
Greg McConochie	22
Jon Prendergast	22
Brendan Rippingale	27
Nev Robinson	24
Wayne Russell	13 11
Bryne Smith	31 30
Rod Smith	27 (3)
Austin Taylor	42 33 31 29
John Themelkos	44
Cooper Thomson	18
Jimmy Thomson	36 34 31
Des Turner	30 25 24
Chris Wainwright	40
Adam Waller	56 45 37
Ray Wilcher	42
Jess Woods	56 50 49 31 (2)

Leaders –

- A Grade Jess Woods & Adam Waller 56 each
- B Grade John Themelkos 44
- C Grade Len Caccioppoli 25

Aim at raising your personal bar and you will get there.

Until next Update, good potting and as always, just enjoy the game.

Peter Campbell  
President