

BUCS-UPC SNOOKER CHAMPIONSHIPS 2019-2020 REGULATION AND GUIDANCE ON THE 'MISS' RULE

After prolonged discussions with other EPSB referees a different miss rule will be played at this years' competition compared to the previous one. The regulation is as follows:

"The full 'miss' rule will be played with the following exception: After a third consecutive miss has been called, the player coming to the table does not have the option to have the balls replaced, subject to the third miss being a genuine attempt to contact a ball 'on'.

If the players feel a miss may take place they are advised to get a referee or official to observe the shot to determine whether the shot can be called a miss or not."

We would like all Captains to explain this rule to their players before the Tournament begins. We also provide **guidance** below on how the 'miss' rule should be interpreted for the playing standard in the event.

This regulation is being implemented for the first time in the 2019-2020 competition, where there should be a referee at each venue for any queries. The 'miss' rule for 2020-2021 is under review following its application this season; if you would like to provide any feedback on this rule after the event, please e-mail ben.hubbard@upc-pool.org.uk.

Guidance on its application:

The 'miss' rule relies on its interpretation where there is no table referee present during a frame. The WPSBA rules stipulate that a miss 'is when the cue ball fails to first contact a ball on and the referee considers that the striker has not made a good enough attempt to hit a ball on'. A number of factors should determine what constitutes a 'good enough attempt' such as:

- The ability of the player concerned;
- The difficulty of the easiest possible stroke that could be played;
- The difficulty of the stroke that has been played;
- The pace of the stroke being played;
- The want or need to impart side on the cue ball.

In particular, a miss must be called when centre ball contact can be made to any of the balls on, or when the player makes a significantly more difficult attempt to hit any of their balls on. A referee or official should be consulted before the shot is played if there is any doubt the shot may be called a miss. Supporters viewing a frame may be consulted for advice regarding whether a shot is a miss or not but they must give this advice with impartiality, with the final decision being between the players and any referee that may be further consulted.

A good example is where the striker is attempting to hit a loose red at the top of the table behind the black with the rest of the pack of reds still relatively intact. The pack offers a much larger surface area of balls on to strike, but striking the red behind the black may likely offer less opportunity for an incoming striker to score from it. If the striker insists on attempting a shot at a ball on which the referee does not deem to be the easiest shot available, this will be called a miss. This example also requires consideration of the players' ability level and what could be classified as the 'easiest shot available'.