

VBSA SURVEY NOV/DEC 2017 – RESULTS

A total of 131 responses were received, which is a great sample from the 400+ VBSA membership. Where totals differ from 131, this is due to there being more than one answer permitted to a particular question or where an answer has not been given.

Breakdown against any question by Grade/Season played or age can be provided on request. It is only shown here for Questions 3 & 4 due to the high interest.

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS, COMMENTS & VBSA ACTIONS.
Q1. DRESS CODE. For ALL finals, would you prefer	125 Answered
Team/Club Polo Shirt. If preferred, the shirts must be mandatory and must be identical.	66 (52.8%)
No change	59 (47.2%)
	VBSA. Responses were split almost 50-50. The Board received constructive feedback explaining complications associated with team polos (e.g. some players would have to buy multiple polos) and describing the experience of other sports that have introduced team polos. Consequently, the Board decided not to switch to team polos. Home & Away attire is to remained unchanged.
Q2. DRESS CODE. If these B to D grade competitions go ahead, would you like the dress code to be	124 Answered
Team/Club Polo Shirt. If preferred, the shirts must be mandatory and must be identical.	71 (57.2%)
Home & Away Dress Code	35 (28.3%)
Finals Dress Code	18 (14.5%)
	VBSA. The highest support was for team polos, and 85% voted for one of the two options that are less formal. Based on the experience of billiards ranking tournaments (where Home & Away attire is worn) and the decision not to introduce team polos for Home & Away matches, the Board decided to adopt Home & Away attire for these snooker tournaments.
Q3. PENNANT CHANGES. Would you be agreeable to the VBSA modifying 6 person/3 table format Snooker & Billiards competitions to a 4 person/2 table format?	128 Answered
Yes, for both billiards and snooker.	58 (45.3%). Grade played A=13; A/B=6; B=11; B/C=4; C=14; C/D=1; D=5; Other=4

No, for both billiards and snooker.	33 (25.8). Grade played A=14; A/B=9; B=8; B/C=0; C=2; C/D=0; D=0; Other=0
Yes, for billiards only.	4 (3.1%). Grade played A=3; A/B=0; B=1; B/C=0; C=0; C/D=1; D=0 Other=0
Yes, for snooker only.	13 (10.2%). Grade played A=4; A/B=3; B=3; B/C=1; C=1; C/D=0; D=1 Other=0
Neither for nor against the proposal.	20 (15.6%). Grade played A=4; A/B=2; B=7; B/C=1; C=6; C/D=0; D=0 Other=0
	VBSA. 4-man teams to be trialed for Season 1 of 2018 for both snooker & billiards. Support for the elimination of 6-player teams was much stronger among snooker players than billiards players and was strong among all grades of snooker players. Refer VBSA website notice for detailed explanation.
Q4. PENNANT CHANGES. If the format was changed, would you still play?	129 Answered
Yes	94 (72.9%). Grade played A=30; A/B=14; B=20; B/C=6; C=17; C/D=1; D=4 Other=2
No	20 (15.5%). Grade played A=6; A/B=5; B=8; B/C=0; C=1; C/D=0; D=0 Other=0
No strong opinion as it would not affect me.	15 (11.6%). Grade played A=2; A/B=1; B=3; B/C=0; C=5; C/D=0; D=2 Other=2
	VBSA. Refer Q3.
Q5. COMMUNICATIONS. What social media do you regularly use? Tick all that apply.	131 Answered
Facebook	82 (62.6%)
Twitter	10 (7.6%)
Linkedin	10 (7.6%)
Snapchat	6 (4.6%)
Instagram	17 (13.0%)
None	42 (32.1%)
	VBSA. Referred to Communication Strategy Sub-Committee to develop systems going forward. Key objectives of this Sub-Committee are to improve the way that the VBSA contacts and makes information available to its members and to the general public. Several respondents wrote comments that indicated a sophisticated level of IT expertise and a willingness to contribute. Those members are requested to contact Warwick Loton at wloton147@gmail.com .

Q6. COMMUNICATIONS. What other communications platforms do you regularly use? Tick all that apply.	130 Answered
E-mail	116 (89.2%)
Text	109 (83.9%)
Website	91 (70.0%)
	VBSA. Refer Q5.
Q7. COMMUNICATIONS. How would you prefer to receive VBSA communications?	131 Answered
Facebook	36 (27.5%)
Twitter	1 (0.8%)
Linkedin	0
Snapchat	0
Instagram	3 (2.3%)
E-mail	109 (83.2%)
Text	71 (54.2%)
Website	51 (38.9%)
	VBSA. Refer Q5.
Q8. COMMUNICATIONS. On which device would you prefer to receive VBSA communications?	129 Answered
Desktop/Laptop	38 (29.5%)
Tablet	7 (5.4%)
Smartphone	84 (65.1%)
	VBSA. Refer Q5.
Q9. PARTICIPATION & IMPROVEMENT. If you currently play pennant snooker only or pennant billiards only, might you be interested in also competing in the other discipline?	122 Answered
Yes	81 (66.4%)
No	41 (33.6%)
	VBSA. These questions were inspired by the Billiards Sub-Committee, which in 2017 trialed two very different programs i.e. a scotch doubles event, and a strengthened B-grade billiards competition. Guided by Survey responses and other feedback, they will be rolling out a number of initiatives in 2018.

	<p>The first of these is a Lightning Billiards Day, on Sunday 4th February. Players of all standards are invited to participate. It is intended as a fun day so don't be intimidated!</p> <p>The Survey indicated that many competition snooker players would like to try playing competition billiards, and vice versa. If you are tempted to give billiards a go, then try the Lightning Billiards event or contact Warwick Loton at wloton147@gmail.com.</p> <p>The Board was pleasantly surprised by the high rate of interest in player improvement programs among snooker players and has realised that there is a latent demand for the sorts of programs that were already planned for billiards. Accordingly, this task has been referred to State Coaching Director and Snooker Convenor to develop strategies to address.</p>
<p>Q10. PARTICIPATION & IMPROVEMENT. Some players are content with their existing standard of play. Are you actively trying to improve the standard of your play?</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No</p>	<p>131 Answered</p> <p>120 (91.6%)</p> <p>11 (8.4%)</p> <p>VBSA. Refer Q.9</p>
<p>Q11. PARTICIPATION & IMPROVEMENT. If programs were in place to help you improve your standard of play, would you use these?</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No</p>	<p>130 Answered</p> <p>111 (85.4%)</p> <p>19 (14.6%)</p> <p>VBSA. Refer Q.9</p>
<p>Q12. PARTICIPATION & IMPROVEMENT. If Yes to Q10, what type(s) of assistance would you like? (Tick all that apply).</p> <p>Instructional clinics (occasional)</p> <p>Individual mentoring</p> <p>Coaching</p> <p>Instructional videos / literature</p> <p>Social events aimed at informal instruction (eg Scotch doubles tournament, where highly skilled players are paired with less skilled players).</p>	<p>120 Answered</p> <p>69 (57.5%)</p> <p>48 (40.0%)</p> <p>72 (60.0%)</p> <p>44 (36.7%)</p> <p>45 (37.5%)</p> <p>VBSA. Refer Q.9</p>

Q13. ABOUT YOU. What Associations are you a member of? Tick all that apply	130 Answered
VBSA	126 (96.9%)
BBSA	7 (5.4%)
Church Billiards	19 (14.6%)
MSBA	17 (13.1%)
Over 55's	13 (10.0%)
RSL	15 (11.5%)
Southern	16 (12.3%)
Q14. ABOUT YOU. What grade competition do you currently play? Tick all that apply.	131 Answered
A	59 (45.0%)
B	59 (45.0%)
C	30 (22.9%)
D	7 (5.3%)
Q15. ABOUT YOU. Do you play... (Tick all that apply.)	131 Answered
Season 1 Snooker?	87 (66.4%)
Season 1 Billiards?	34 (26.0%)
Season 2 Snooker (Willis)?	67 (51.2%)
Season 2 Billiards?	53 (40.5%)
Q16. ABOUT YOU. How old are you?	130 Answered
Under 21	1 (0.8%)
21 to 30	9 (6.9%)
31 to 40	18 (13.8%)
41 to 50	30 (23.1%)
51 to 60	35 (26.9%)
Over 60	37 (28.5%)
Q17. ABOUT YOU. Are you interested in becoming a Referee?	126 Answered
Yes.	8 (6.4%)
No, not interested OR I already am a Referee.	118 (93.6%)
	VBSA. Referred to State Director of Referees to follow up. 4 potential referees identified. A number of members failed to identify themselves and so if you have not been contacted by Larry Eforgan, please get in contact at larry147@optusnet.com.au