English Pool Referee's Association

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ENGLISH POOL REFEREES ASSOCIATION

BYELAW 2
GRADING

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1. General

1.1. This document describes the English Pool Referee's Association's grading system for qualifying and ranking Referees.

1.2. Referee grades are issued and achieved based on event organisational skills and application of the rules in play.

1.3. Any requests for upgrade must be done through the relevant Regional Delegate and then sent to the General Secretary. Any request will be added to the next Delegates Meeting Agenda for consideration.

2. D Grade

2.1. Any candidate taking a Cue Sports exam produced by the Association (EPRA) and being successful in that exam will be awarded a grade D Pass, which qualifies them as a competent referee at local level and able to work under supervision at Interleague and Intercounty level and some hotel & National type events.

2.2. After one full year (from date of Exam Pass Notification) can apply for upgrading to C grade, this is via their Regional Delegate and the upgrade granted with the agreement of their EPA County and EPRA Regional Delegate.

2.3. Where exceptional circumstances occur, the regional delegate can decide as to whether someone can be upgraded early.

3. C Grade

3.1. Minimum of one year's experience at County level.

3.2. Must be able to work without supervision at Interleague and Intercounty level and under supervision at some hotel type events.

3.3. After one full year at C Grade (from date of Upgrade to C Grade), they can apply for B grade, this is via their Regional Delegate and the upgrade granted with the agreement of their EPRA Regional Delegate.

4. B Grade

4.1. To consist of experienced referees able to work unsupervised.

4.2. B Grade is divided into two Levels Regional Grade B2 and National Grade B1

4.3. All Referees upgrading from C Grade to B Grade will start initially at B2 (unless requesting to Upgrade to B1 Grade. See 4.4 below), this is via their Regional Delegate and the upgrade granted with the agreement of their EPRA Regional Delegate. Should they not wish to rise to a higher level and only participate at Regional or lower level they will remain as B2 Grade Referees.

4.4. Referees wishing to rise through the Grades will do so as follows:

4.4.1. Level B1 will consist of experienced referees able to work unsupervised.

4.4.2. B1 referees must have a good working knowledge of official 8 ball rules and must be immaculate in dress and general appearance.

4.4.3. B1 referees are considered for all types of hotel events.

4.5. Referees wishing to rise from B2 Grade to B1 Grade will apply to the National Committee via their Regional Delegate.

4.5.1. They will produce a basic CV outlining their Refereeing work to date and any other information they might consider relevant. If their application is granted, they will be assessed at two National, 2 day, events. (must be within 12 months) Providing at one of the assessments are satisfactory, the applicant will be granted B1 Grade status.

4.5.2. After one full year B1 Grade (from date of Upgrade to B1 Grade), they can apply for A Grade.

5. A Grade

5.1. To consist of top-class referees.

5.2. Must be Immaculate in dress and immaculate in general appearance.

5.3. Perfect on official 8 ball pool rules and any other rules decided by the grading committee.

5.4. For upgrade to A grade, referees must write to their Regional Delegate requesting the upgrade and must include a full career CV.

5.4.1. The Regional Delegate will then forward this to the General Secretary, including any other relevant information and comment, and the General Secretary will then add the request to the agenda for the next Delegates Meeting for discussion.

5.4.2. If accepted, the candidate will be assessed at three separate National or International events and pass a written examination and verbal assessment.

5.4.3. A decision for upgrading to A shall then be made at a National Committee meeting based upon the assessments and other information available.

5.4.4. A National tournament weekend with two events, will count as two assessments.

5.4.5. If the committee agree to the request, the General Secretary will arrange for the candidate to officiate at three events where they can be assessed as to their suitability for upgrading and take a written examination.

5.4.6. The assessment forms will be collated by the Examination Secretary, and when completed a recommendation for acceptance, or failure, will be made at the next Delegates Meeting.

5.4.7. The result of the committee's decision will be sent in writing from the Examination Secretary, and any advice for future improvement will be included. Where applicable, reasons for rejection will be stated.

5.4.8. Should a B Grade referee fail the assessment for A Grade but passes the written examination, and if they reapply for upgrade within two years, then the exam will not have to be retaken, unless there has been a change in the playing rules.

5.4.9. Providing the candidate is successful in two of the three Assessments and the written examination and verbal assessment, they will be awarded A Grade status.

5.5. After two full years at A Grade (from date of Upgrade to A Grade), Referees can apply for S Grade.

6. S Grade

6.1. To consist of top-class referees capable of taking control of, and running any type of competition, and must be able to organise any event should the organiser be absent.

6.2. The ability to run a competition equals the ability to referee.

6.3. S Grade must be:

6.3.1. Immaculate in dress

6.3.2. Immaculate in general appearance

6.3.3. Perfect on official 8 ball pool rules and any other rules decided by the grading committee.

6.4. The candidate will be assessed, by an experienced Senior Referee, at a two-day National event, where they will effectively act as Senior Referee.

6.4.1. Should any problems arise, the assessing Senior Referee will take control from the assessed candidate,

to ensure that the event runs smoothly.

6.4.2. Prior to being Assessed, the candidate will be mentored, at prior two-day National event, by an experienced Senior Referee (not necessarily the Assessing Senior) and will effectively act as Assistant Senior Referee.

6.4.3. The Assessment folder will be presented to the Examination Secretary and then to the National Committee for a decision. If successful, the candidate will be awarded S Grade status.

7. Grade Retention

7.1. To retain their current Grade, Referees must comply with the following conditions (per 12 months).

7.2. Failure to comply with the requirements will result in a drop in grade i.e. S to A/B1 to B2/B2 to C/C to

7.3. D. D Grade referees will lose their recognition as an EPRA qualified Referee.

7.3.1. D Grade: To remain a Qualified Member of the EPRA and retain Grade, they must ensure relevant membership Fee is paid when required.

7.3.2. C Grade: To remain a Qualified Member of the EPRA and retain Grade, they must ensure relevant membership Fee is paid when required. Officiate at League Level up to County Level on a regular basis.

7.3.3. B2 Grade: To remain a Qualified Member of the EPRA and retain Grade, they must ensure relevant membership Fee is paid when required. Officiate at interleague Level up to County Level on a regular basis.

7.3.4. B1 Grade: To remain a Qualified Member of the EPRA and retain Grade, they must ensure relevant membership Fee is paid when required. Make themselves available and officiate at a minimum of one National two-day event, per 12 months.

7.3.5. A Grade: To remain a Qualified Member of the EPRA and retain Grade, they must ensure relevant membership Fee is paid when required. Make themselves available and officiate at a minimum of two National two-day events, per 12 months.

7.3.6. S Grade: To remain a Qualified Member of the EPRA and retain Grade, they must ensure relevant membership Fee is paid when required. Make themselves available and officiate at a minimum of two National two-day events, per 12 months.