

FORMATION OF MSBF/MSN NATIONAL SNOOKER COACHING ACADEMY SNOOKER - COURSE SYLLABUS

PREAMBLE

In early years, snooker in Malaysia was taken up by players who had no prior fundamental coaching. Most merely picked up a cue and knocking about the balls, with inspiration gathered from recorded video tapes from UK professional snooker championships.

Credit, however, must be given to those pioneers who have collectively brought reasonable international success of the game to Malaysia. Owing to the high cost and culture shock, these players were unable to compete in the UK circuits, thus curbing prematurely their prospect to excel further. Over time, they have naturally and unavoidably phased themselves out of competitiveness.

A NEW ERA FOR PLAYERS

With the advent of televised snooker coupled with the relatively ease of mobility by professional snooker players to stretch their wings to the far-east, the spread of skills among Asian talents had correspondingly registered with distinctive success in recent years.

Meanwhile, due to multi-sport games, most countries have since embarked on youth development programmes for snooker both in the commercial circles and in schools. Foreign coaches were engaged at random on short and long plans to impart the much-needed knowledge and skills of the game amidst the local scenario. However, such adhoc engagements are expensive and are rarely effective to achieve the overall desired results.

In consequence, there is a general lack of positive response by players and the fraternity alike to take up snooker coaching as their preferred, particularly viewed in the absence of accredited emulations for such a positive encouragement. To compound matters further, there is likewise an absence of accreditation status attached thereto, in which a standard scale of fees and charges is adopted to commensurate with the qualifications and experience of coaches concerned.

Malaysia has since launched its school development programmes for snooker for the past few years, including the short engagement of foreign coaches to beef up this exercise. This programme, however, is hampered by lacking behind in the supply of qualified coaches.

FORMATION OF NATIONAL COACHING ACADEMY

Arising therefrom, the MSBF in conjunction with MSN have jointly decided to establish a National Snooker Coaching Academy to be housed at the National Snooker Centre in Bt Jahil, with the short term objective to service all local snooker centres and another longer one to render it a regional coaching centre of excellence, where overseas participants are encouraged to enter the course.

To maintain consistency in coaching standards, the Academy is now working out and adopt a detail coaching syllabus that will categorize in 3 prescribed levels of accreditation, with each being certified and duly accredited at the end of the course, thus giving due credence to the coaching profession for snooker.

The prescribed syllabus, apart from concentrating on the fundamentals of play, shall include mental and strategy in match competitions as well as sports science, entailing the essentials in physical and mental inculcation to be further supplemented with the study of nutritional inputs.

It is expected that the above prescribed syllabus would be ready by the year end, to be followed by a nationwide workshop, before the Academy will be officially launched for intakes of applicants both locally and internationally.

The Committee for the syllabus in English consist of :

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