



## ENTRY FORM – WORLD SNOOKER Q SCHOOL 2021

**Closing Date: Thursday, 6 May (12.00 noon)**

All entrants will be drawn to play in 3 individual knock-out tournaments which will be run consecutively.

- Dates:** 1<sup>st</sup> Event Thursday 27 May 2021  
2<sup>nd</sup> Event Consecutively after the first event  
3<sup>rd</sup> Event Consecutively after the second event
- Venue:** Ponds Forge, Sheffield
- Entry Fee:** £1,000 All entries are non-refundable after the closing date except for those players who will have paid their entry fee to Q School and are subsequently invited onto the World Snooker Tour via an officially recognised alternative qualification route. All players must be in good standing with their National Federation at the time of entering and competing in the Q School. In the event of a dispute with a National Federation there will be an appeals process via the WPBSA Company Secretary.
- Max No of players:** No Maximum
- Prize:** Qualification for 2021/2022 & 2022/2023 World Snooker Tour. Any World Snooker Tour places awarded to players are subject to WST and WPBSA approval. In the event of a player qualifying for the World Snooker Tour more than once through a recognised qualifying route, the selection will be based on chronological order with the first event in the calendar counting as the qualifying place on the World Snooker Tour. The resulting available place will revert to a concession.
- Players Qualifying:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Events - four semi-finalists from each event, plus the top 2 players on the Order of Merit, making a total of 14 qualifying places. After the 1<sup>st</sup> event, the names of the successful players will be withdrawn from the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> events and those players who they were drawn against shall receive a bye into the next round of that tournament, likewise after the 2<sup>nd</sup> event. Players who qualify for the World Snooker Tour will be required to attend a MANDATORY WPBSA induction day at the start of the season. Failure to attend may result in the player being refused entry to compete in World Snooker Tour events.
- Number of Frames:** 7
- Seeding:** Players falling off the World Snooker Tour from the 2020/21 season along with top players on the Q School Order of Merit from 2020 will make up 64 seeded players in each Q School event. These players will be placed at random in the draw but seeded apart from one another in the opening rounds of the events so that they do not meet before the L64 round.
- Round Structure / Draw / Format:** Dependent on the number of entries. The draw for each tournament will be made as soon as possible after the closing date.
- Q School Order of Merit:** A separate Order of Merit will be compiled during Q School with players earning 1 point for every frame won. During the 2021/2022 season, should the number of entries in any World Snooker Tour event fall below the required number of entrants, subject to wildcards and commercial agreements, the highest ranked players from the Q School Order of Merit will be used to top up to the required number of entrants.
- WPBSA Challenge/Q Tour**  
Further playing opportunities may become available for the top 32 players on the Order of Merit who do not qualify for the World Snooker Tour in the way of a WPBSA Challenge/Q Tour, although this cannot be guaranteed. This remains subject to the easing of travel and covid-19 restrictions.
- Age Restrictions:** There are no age restrictions for entry to Q School, however, the WPBSA and WST reserve the right to refuse entry to any player under the age of 16 years of age as of 27 May 2021. Any player under 18 years of age as of 27 May 2021, must have their entry confirmed in writing and be accompanied to the event by a parent or guardian before competing.

**Covid-19 Testing:** All entrants will be required to perform a test for covid-19 immediately before and during the events, the precise details of which will be forwarded nearer the time.

Parents/guardians accompanying players under 18 years of age will also need to be tested.

**Dress Code:** Dress code will be dark trousers, shoes, collared plain shirt and waistcoat, however, no bow ties are required. No jeans or trainers are allowed.

**Player logos to sell:** 3 **World Snooker Logos:** 1

**Brand Exclusion:** Details of any potential brand exclusion will be circulated in advance of the event.

All events in the World Snooker Tour (WST) are subject to the following Standard Conditions of Entry which are subject to change at the discretion of World Snooker Limited ('WSL') & are played in accordance with the WSL Players' Contract. All obligations & penalties will be applicable. All players entering any WSL event are required to sign the WSL Players Contract before they compete in any WSL event. It is a breach of the WPBSA members' Rules & Regulations not to compete to the conclusion of an event once you have entered. **Please be reminded that all players are responsible for keeping World Snooker up to date with your current email address.**

**Entry Criteria:** WST Ranking events are open to all WST players, Invitational Tour Card holders, & invited amateur players although some events have restricted entry numbers. WST Invitational events are open to players as laid out in each individual Event Entry Pack. Some WSL events are open to WST players, Invitational Tour Card holders, & amateur players as defined on the Event Entry Form. All non-WSL WST players (amateurs) must be in good standing with their National Governing Body. WSL's decision shall final in respect of invitations to all WSL events.

**Entry Fees:** Non-refundable, & payable via the online entry system. **No entries will be accepted after the closing date save for where players have qualified for an event after the closing date when at the point of closing, they had not qualified for that event.**

**Prize Money:** Prize money for each event is defined on the Event Entry Form. The sterling equivalent amount of prize money will be paid, either by WSL or the event promoter, after deduction of the 2.5% WPBSA Levy, any local withholding tax as applicable, WPBSA Flight costs or any other amount due to WSL &/or WPBSA. An original withholding tax certificate for each player will be produced & sent to you which may be used to reclaim the WHT against your tax liabilities. Due to Chinese banking regulations, payments from China could take up to 8-10 weeks to reach your bank account. For payment to be paid directly into your account WSL will disclose your bank details to the event Promoter. It is the Players sole responsibility to ensure WSL have a completed up to date bank nomination form at all times.

**Maximum Break Prize** – There will be no maximum break prize other than individual event prizes where announced within the entry pack for an event.

**Prize Money Rankings:** Players will receive prize money ranking points as outlined in the Indicative Prize Money Rankings Points Schedule for each season. Standardised conversion rates for non-sterling events are shown on the Indicative Prize Money Rankings Points Schedule. Should a Player compete in the qualifying rounds for an event & qualify to participate in the final stages of that event but then fail to appear in the final stages of that event, for any reason whatsoever, the Player will not be eligible to receive any prize money whatsoever, or prize money ranking points relating to the event until the situation has been considered by the Appeals Committee who may, at their absolute discretion, allocate ranking points where it can be demonstrated that there are extreme mitigating circumstances. These points will be allocated from the date of the committee meeting and will not affect previously issued draws. For the avoidance of doubt this rule shall in no way affect WSL's right to take any further action it decides in accordance with any relevant provisions of the Players Contract. Any Player or Players seeded through beyond the first round who go on to lose their 1st match where there is guaranteed prize money will receive their prize money in full, but, they shall not receive any prize money ranking points.

**World Grand Prix, Players Championship and Tour Championship:** Qualification for these events will be determined using the 1 year ranking list, starting at the start of the 2020/21 season and running until the seeding cut off point identified in the Event Entry Pack. In the event that place(s) become available should any player not enter the tournament for whatever reason the subsequent place(s) will be offered to the next in line on the 1-year ranking list. If this is after the draw has been made the reserve player will be a straight swap into the draw. Players on equal points on the 1-year ranking list, will be ranked on their best performance in the most recent event working backwards from the last event until the position is determined. If still equal, then the seeding of those players will be determined at random

**WST Seeding:** Players on equal prize money will be seeded based on the best performance (stage/round reached through winning a match) working backwards from the most recent ranking event.

**WST qualification for season 2021/2022:** Top 64 from Prize Money Rankings after World Championship 2021. Additional tour spaces will be announced in due course. Tour places are at the sole discretion of WST.

**Draw & Format:** Each event draw will be conducted by WSL in conjunction with the promoter as soon as possible after the closing date of entry & relevant seeding cut-off date. Once the draw for an Invitation Event is completed WSL reserves the right to nominate a reserve player should anyone withdraw for whatever reason, that Player will be a straight swap in the draw.

**Withdrawals:** Withdrawals after the proposed cut off point, which will be close of play (17:00 BST) on the penultimate business day prior to the start of an event, will result in the player being referred to the WPBSA Disciplinary Committee in addition to any fine imposed by WSL. These new rules for withdrawal are summarised below:

**Withdrawal after the closing date,** but before the draw has been performed, will result in no fine imposed as is currently the case for all players. **Withdrawal after the draw has been performed, but before close of play (17:00 BST) on the penultimate business day prior to the first day of qualifying (Proposed Cut Off Point),** will result in a fine from the appropriate level of the tiered fine system, as is currently the case for all players. In these circumstances, World Snooker will seek to replace the player with the Next Highest Ranked Eligible Player, in a straight swap in the draw. **Withdrawal after the Proposed Cut Off Point (Late Withdrawal)** will result in an appropriate fine, taking account of the full circumstances of the withdrawal as well as referral to the WSL Disciplinary Committee. In these circumstances, World Snooker may make a place available in the draw for the Next Highest Ranked Eligible Player.

The '**Next Highest Ranked Eligible Player**' will be either:

- i) the next highest ranked professional player who otherwise didn't qualify for the tournament, or
- ii) the next highest ranked player on the Q School Top Up list if the next highest ranked professional player had already been afforded the opportunity to enter and compete in the tournament and had not accepted this invitation before the expressed deadline.

For Q School and European Challenge Tour Events, a reserve list will be maintained with any player eligible to enter, and will be populated on a first come first served basis with the next highest ranked eligible player being the first on the reserve list. For UK Challenge Tour Events a reserve list will be maintained from those players outside the guaranteed 64, but only those who have entered the event before the extended deadline, and were not ranked high enough on the Q School Order of Merit to qualify for the event, will be included on the reserved list. The Late Withdrawal option will not be applicable in the Gibraltar Open, or any similarly formatted Pro-Am event. In these events there will be no replacement of any player who withdraws. This process only applies to the first round of an event, any withdrawal after the first round of an event will automatically qualify as a Late Withdrawal and there will be no replacement player.

**Wildcards:** A Tour Player can only be selected to play a WST event wildcard round once per season. No ex tour players will be allowed to play as wildcards in events in China.

**Pre-qualifying round:** A pre-qualifying round may be required to accommodate all Tour players. This will involve the Wildcard players in addition to the relevant number of players selected at random from outside of the top 64 players to reduce the field to 128. Wildcard players will be automatically included in any pre-qualifying round. The winners will progress at random into bottom 64 seed places in Round 1. Main Tour Players can only be included in one pre-qualifier per season. Winners of a pre-qualifying round will receive half of the Last 64 round prize money and this WILL count towards the prize money rankings, but this only applies to those players who then lose in Round 1. Players winning a pre-qualifying round and then winning further matches will be paid the prize money as outlined for that round in the prize money breakdown.

**PR Activities:** Players may be required to attend PR Activities for an event scheduled for the day before play starts of that event.

**Dress Code:** Long sleeved shirt, waistcoat & bow tie with tailored trousers & shoes should be worn unless otherwise stated in the Event Entry Pack.. Subject to the Tournament Directors discretion, the appropriate sanction for a breach of dress code will be withdrawal from the tournament without refund of the entry fee as well as reserving the right to refer the individual to the WPBSA. **Dress code backstage:** Everyone must wear acceptable clothing ie trousers & shirt of a reasonable standard; baseball caps & smart jeans (no rips) are permitted. Track suits are not allowed.

**Logos:** All logos are subject to approval from WST, and must comply with all regulations within the Logo Code of Practice. Contact Simon Brownell for the application form at [simon.brownell@wst.tv](mailto:simon.brownell@wst.tv) or on 0117 317 8216. Local legislation may prohibit certain products eg tobacco & gambling. Players are responsible for providing personal sponsor logo patches. Logos should be manufactured appropriately.

**Flights & accommodation:** These costs will be the responsibility of the Player unless specified in any player correspondence. If a player chooses an alternative hotel to the one provided all costs & security will be the responsibility of the Player concerned.

**Players Contract:** All obligations & penalties in relation to Player obligations as per the Players Contract will be applicable. **Nothing within this clause prohibits WST from reporting a player to the WPBSA Disciplinary Committee deemed to be a flagrant breach of the Players Contract.**

**Cancellation/Relocation/Postponement:** If a tournament is cancelled, entry fees will be refunded if applicable. If a tournament is cancelled, relocated or postponed the terms & conditions of the Players Contract will apply.