

# The Women's Billiards Association

FOUNDED 1931

## CONSTITUTION AND PROGRAMME

P

PAMPHLET

HEADQUARTERS:

(By courtesy of the Women's Automobile and  
Sports Association)

17 BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDENS, S.W.1

PRICE THREEPENCE

794.  
720604A  
(P)

pamphlet

3900147382  
794.72006

# Women's Billiards Association

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL, 1931-32

794.7206041

**REFERENCE ONLY**

*President :*

THE VISCONTRESS ELIBANK, J.P.

*Vice-Presidents :*

Mrs. LE MARCHANT : Mrs. A. H. PAWSON

<i>Chairman of Council</i>	-	-	-	-	Mrs. LONGMAN
<i>Vice-Chairman*</i>	-	-	-	-	Mrs. BILLINGTON-GREIG
<i>Hon. Treasurer*</i>	-	-	-	-	Miss MARX
<i>Hon. Secretary</i>	-	-	-	-	

(\*Acting as Joint Honorary Secretaries pro tem.)

*Members of Council :*

Mrs. BURGESS .....Lyceum Club, W.A.S.A., and Sports Fellowship  
 Miss BURTON.....Lyceum Club and Sports Fellowship  
 Miss CARPENTER .....Bournemouth, Country Representative  
 Miss CAVE .....Petersfield, Country Representative  
 Miss COUPE .....Birmingham Billiards Circles, Sports Fellowship  
 Lady CONSTANCE  
 CHILDE-PEMBERTON ...Lyceum Club and Sports Fellowship  
 Mrs. CORFIELD .....Lyceum Club and Sports Fellowship  
 Mrs. EDDOWES .....Lyceum Club and Sports Fellowship  
 Miss MACLEOD .....Sports Fellowship  
 Miss SAUNDERS .....Lyceum, W.A.S.A., and Sports Fellowship  
 Mrs. SHUTTLEWORTH .....Forum, Lyceum, and Sports Fellowship  
 Mrs. STRACHEY-HAWDON...Lyceum, W.A.S.A., and Sports Fellowship

*Headquarters :*

(By courtesy of the Women's Automobile and Sports Association)

17 BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDENS, S.W. 1  
TELEPHONE : SLOANE 6235

Women Players and Sympathisers are invited to become members and subscribers and to encourage clubs and circles to affiliate with the W.B.A.

**LONDON GUILDHALL UNIVERSITY  
FAWCETT LIBRARY**

## Programme of Events

### THE INTER-CLUB COMPETITIONS

Two Inter-Club Competitions, "A" for the LONGMAN CUP and "B" for the SHUTTLEWORTH CUP will be run concurrently during October and November in each year.

Affiliated Clubs may compete for either or both of these Trophies. "A" teams will consist of the best players procurable, and will include several of those who competed last year in the Amateur Championship; "B" teams will be the less skilled players and this competition will be more likely to be within the reach of the newly formed Clubs.

Teams will consist of five members and they must be listed in the order of merit in the entry form sent in. All entries must be received by September 14th, and the finals will be played off at Burroughes Hall, by kind permission of the proprietors, on or before November 14th. Games 150 up.

### THE WOMEN'S AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

This Championship for the BURWAT TROPHY provided in 1930 by Messrs. Burroughes & Watts, has now been taken over by the W.B.A. and will be run annually about the same time and under similar conditions as last year. It will be open to women amateur players throughout the country. Full details of date and entries will be issued after September in each year.

### THE WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

This Championship for the Professional BURWAT TROPHY has also been taken over by the W.B.A. It will be open to all women professional players who comply with the conditions laid down by the Council. Full details will be available in due course.

**ADDITIONAL EVENTS** will be promoted as circumstances permit.

**New Clubs and Circles.**—The W.B.A. will gladly respond to any appeal for help in the formation of new groups for the study and practice of the game.

**Individual Players** are invited to communicate with the officials, who will do all that is possible by introduction and information to extend their facilities for learning and playing the game.

## Constitution

OF THE

## Women's Billiards Association

### I. Name and Objects

1. The Association shall be called the Women's Billiards Association.
2. The objects of the Association shall be:
  - (a) To encourage, promote and control women's Billiards.
  - (b) To promote annually women's billiards, championships and other competitions team matches and tournaments, as found desirable.
  - (c) To make arrangements for an Annual General Meeting at which the Governing Council of the Association shall be elected and all questions relating to the game and the control of the Association can be reviewed.

### II. Membership and Management

1. The Association shall consist of:
  - (a) Affiliated Clubs which subscribe 10s. 6d. or more annually and elect delegates to the Annual General Meeting.

(A Club is any club, circle, group or section of ten or more women players organised together to learn or play Billiards.

*A women's section* of a mixed club of men and women is recognised as a club under this definition).

(b) *Associate Members* who subscribe 5s. 0d. annually as unattached players and who by a postal-ballot or at a meeting, as arranged by the Council, elect delegates to the Annual General Meeting.

2. In addition there shall be :

(a) *Subscribers* who support the Association by contributions and who are entitled to attend the annual General Meeting as non-voters.

(b) *Honorary and Consultative Members*, being players or supporters of the game, elected by the Council in the fellowship spirit because of their services to the game or to the association.

3. The Management of the Association shall be vested in a Council consisting of the officers, viz. :

(a) President.  
Two Vice-Presidents.  
Chairman.  
Vice-Chairman.  
Honorary Treasurer.  
Honorary Secretary.

who shall be elected annually and shall all be eligible for re-election.

(b) In addition there shall be twelve members of Council, one third of whom shall retire in rotation and be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. For the first two years the members who retire shall be decided by ballot

of those elected at the first General Meeting in May, 1931. Retiring Councillors are eligible for re-election.

(c) That a minimum of three places on the Council be reserved for country representatives.

A country representative is either a member of one of the provincial affiliated clubs or an unattached player who plays mainly in the provinces.

(d) The Council shall meet at least four times annually to transact the business of the Association.

(e) In the event of a Vacancy on the Council between Annual General Meetings, the Candidate for Election next on the List shall serve until the next Annual General Meeting.

(f) Additional meetings of the Council shall be called when deemed necessary by the officers.

(g) Special meetings of the Council must be called by the officers on receipt of a requisition signed by five Council members.

(h) At a Council meeting seven members shall form a quorum, and the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

(i) The Council may delegate the exercise of its powers to a Sub-Committee or Sub-Committees for which it may co-opt such expert assistance as it requires and these Committees shall report for confirmation at each meeting of the Council.

(j) The Hon. Secretary and the Chairman shall be ex-officio members of all Committees.

### III. General Meetings

1. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in May.

2. The Annual General Meeting shall consist of :

(a) Delegates elected by the affiliated Clubs.

(b) The full Council and officers.

3. The delegates shall be elected in the following manner: Clubs numbering 10 to 20 billiards playing members shall pay the unit fee of 10s. 6d. annually and may elect one delegate to the Annual General Meeting; a further fee of half a guinea shall be paid and one more delegate may be elected for every additional 20 members or part thereof.

(Provided that any club of more than 20 billiards playing members may with the consent of the Council be affiliated on the unit basis if it so chooses, paying half a guinea annual subscription only and electing only one delegate irrespective of its membership).

4. For the purpose of representation at General Meetings of the Association, the unattached players enrolled as Associate Members shall be treated as a Club and opportunity shall be provided for them to elect delegates to the General Meetings on an area basis, and allowing one delegate for every twenty Associate members or part thereof.

5. In addition to the annual subscription which must be paid before the Annual General Meeting, a delegate fee may be charged to meet the expenses of the meeting.

6. The expenses of delegates attending the Annual General Meeting and the delegate's fee shall be paid by the delegate's Club or the delegate herself as arranged between them.

7. In addition to the voting delegates, the subscribers to the funds and members of all affiliated clubs shall be entitled to non-voters' cards of admission to the Annual General Meeting.

8. Six weeks' notice of the date of the Annual General Meeting shall be given to the affiliated Clubs and associate members.

9. Nominations for Council and for officers and all resolutions for consideration at the Annual General Meeting must be sent in to the Honorary Secretary one calendar month before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting.

10. Copies of the Agenda and the programme of the Annual General Meeting shall be issued to the Clubs within 14 days of the fixed date.

11. A special General Meeting of the Association shall be called by the Council on receipt of a requisition signed by five clubs or one fourth of the affiliated clubs which ever is the larger number.

### IV. Alteration of Constitution

1. No alteration of, or addition to, the Constitution shall be made except at a General Meeting of the Association and by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

2. The circularisation of all additions to or alterations of the constitution whether proposed by affiliated clubs, or by the Council of the Association, shall comply with the regulations laid down in Section 3, paragraphs 9 and 10.

## V. Finance

1. The Council shall present to the Annual General Meeting a properly audited statement of accounts and balance sheet for the year ending December 31st previous.

2. The auditor or auditors shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

3. An account shall be opened by the Hon. Treasurer for the Banking of all moneys of the Women's Billiards Association, and cheques drawn thereon shall be signed by two of the members of the Council, one of whom must be the Hon. Treasurer, or, in her absence, the Hon. Secretary.

4. The affiliated Clubs shall subscribe annually as follows: those with membership from 10 to 20 will pay half a guinea, or 20 to 40 one guinea, with an additional half guinea for every further 20 or part thereof; except where a club desires to remain on the unit basis as already laid down.

5. Subscriptions are payable on joining in the first year: thereafter subscriptions shall be payable in January of each year.

6. Clubs whose current subscriptions are unpaid shall not be entitled to send delegates to vote at the Annual General Meeting or at any Special General Meeting, but the Club members may attend as non-voters as laid down in Section 3, paragraph 7.

7. Scattered members shall subscribe 5s. per annum.

8. Delegates' fees, competition, entry fees, and admission charges to any events may be made and fixed at the discretion of the Council.

9. The Council shall have power to enter into business arrangements and agreements in the conduct of the affairs of the Association and for the development of the game, to appoint such paid employees as are needed, and to engage in buying and selling and any other desirable activities provided that no liabilities may be passed on to the Clubs, Associate Members or Subscribers.

## VI. The Players

1. An AMATEUR BILLIARDS PLAYER is one who plays the game for recreation and not for any monetary consideration.

2. A PROFESSIONAL BILLIARDS PLAYER IS

(a) One who plays, teaches or marks the game for a salary or fee.

(b) One who receives salary or wages for duties which include the supervision or management of a billiards room, billiards club or table.

(c) One who is employed by a manufacturer of billiards tables or equipment and part of whose duties consists in playing, teaching or marking the game or in supervising the use of billiards tables or attending in a billiards room.

(d) One who plays with or against a professional player when gate money is charged without the consent of the W.B.A. Council previously.

3. The definitions set down in the preceding paragraphs of this section govern all Championships promoted by the W.B.A. and come into force on and from May 18th, 1931.

Provided always that those women players who are technically classified as professionals under Clauses 2*b* and 2*c*, but are accepted by their affiliated Club as members, shall be free to take part in competitions whenever invited by their Clubs to do so.

The names of such specially classified Club-Players shall be sent in to the W.B.A. Council for approval in September of each year.

4. Club members taking advantage of this special classification shall not be eligible to take part in any professional event within six months of their last appearance as Club Players, and once having competed as professionals cannot return to the special qualification previously enjoyed.

5. The Council of the W.B.A. alone shall adjudicate upon questions of status and hold the power of disqualification and re-instatement in all cases without assigning any reason therefor.

6. Should Competitions be arranged between Men and Women these shall be governed by Rules agreed upon by representatives of the two Associations or by a Committee of the Players.

## VII. Professional Play and Co-operation

1. All women professional players except those taking advantage of the Special Classification dealt with in Section VI, clause 3, shall be entitled to compete in the professional women's Championship and other professional competitions promoted by the W.B.A. provided their entries are accepted by the Council and they comply with the regulations and conditions laid down by the Council.

2. A Committee of representative players from among the women's billiards professionals shall be appointed annually by the Council and shall be called into consultation at least once each season to discuss the conditions and possibilities of professional play.

3. The Council or a Committee appointed by the Council shall in consultation with the Professional Players Committee draft such agreed rules and regulations as will serve the best interests of the game and of the players and will set up a high standard of professional conduct.

4. Such draft rules and regulations shall be confirmed at a Council Meeting and shall then become operative.

## VIII. Rules of the Game

1. With the exception of the rules and definitions set forth herein the Women's Billiards Association will accept as they stand the rules of the Games of Billiards, Pool, Pyramids, Snooker, Volunteer Snooker and Russian Pool as laid down by the Billiards Association and Control Council.

2. But the Women's Billiards Association retains the right to accept or refuse any alteration of the rules as published in 1930; and to issue or amend rules and regulations when in the judgment of the Association these are called for in the interests of women players and of the game generally.

3. Any such changes or additions shall be dealt with by the ordinary routine laid down for resolutions at the Annual and Special General Meetings.

4. Should an emergency occur which calls for immediate action it shall be dealt with by a Special Meeting of the Council which shall devise a temporary rule after consultation with the players concerned.

## IX. Competitions

1. The Council shall cause its programme of competitive events to be notified to its affiliated clubs and associate members as early as possible each season.

2. The Council shall have the right to refuse any entry for a competitive event either amateur or professional without assigning any reason therefor.

3. The Council shall ensure that a uniform system of handicapping will be applied generally and handicaps will be revised at suitable intervals.

4. Players who are members of more than one Club shall nominate the Club for which they intend to play at the beginning of each season and this nomination cannot be cancelled before the end of the season without the consent of the Women's Billiards Association Council.

5. Such nomination shall be made in writing before the first competitive event of the season in which the player intends to compete.

6. The season shall extend from beginning of September to end of May.

## X. Official Recognition of Breaks

1. Breaks made by amateur or professional players may be recognised by the W.B.A. Council on the following conditions:

(a) The break must be made in a game on a standard or approved table and witnessed by at least three persons.

(b) The claim for recognition must be made in writing within a week of the making of the break and must be certified by two witnesses neither of whom is interested in the career of the claimant.

## XI. Trophies and Prizes

1. The Championship Cups and Challenge Trophies offered by the Association for competition shall remain the property of the Association.

2. Trophies shall be held by the winners of the Championship events usually for one year and shall be returned to the Council of the Association as and when required for the next competition.

3. Holders of cups and trophies shall satisfy the Council of the W.B.A. that they will comply with the safeguarding and insurance regulations laid down from time to time; and failing due observance of these regulations the cups or trophies may be recalled at any time.

4. Replicas and prizes which are won outright by amateurs shall not be sold or displayed for money by the winners.



**PAMPHLET**