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## Upcoming Events

New Zealand Championships  
June 30th & July 1st B Grade Snooker  
July 2 to 7th NZ Snooker Champs  
July 8th & 9th B Grade Billiards  
July 10th to 14th NZ Billiards Champs



New Juniors Programme and Academy Schedules

## Gazza's Say... Juniors League announced.

In August this year a new Junior League will be started nationwide. It will comprise of each Coach having a 4 person Junior Team (under 21 as of the 1st of January each year) who train together at their local facility and once a month meet other Junior teams from their region for organised competition.

Once a year all Regions from each Island will meet for their respective Island competition. From this will come the best region from their Island and also from the Island event will be an Island Rep Team selected from those that attend. These Island Teams will meet in a North V South fixture from where a New Zealand Team will be chosen (4 people).

Discussions are underway for this team to visit Australia next year for a 3 test series of matches. All juniors interested can register their interest with their local certified Coach (contact me for details if you don't know who this is).

The difference with this league is that all teams will play Pool and Snooker on the same day. Each player will play 2 games of Chartered Club pool and 1 frame of Simple Six Snooker against each of the opposition. Points are awarded for each win and the team with the most points is the winner. In the event of a tie, each team selects 1 player to have a respotted black on the snooker table to decide the winning team.

**Academy for 2013.** There is a significant growth in numbers of Juniors who wish to attend our Coaching Academies. Therefore it has been decided that we will expand the 1 national Academy and have 1 in each Island plus a National Academy. 1st school holidays it will be in the South Island, 2nd school holidays it will be in the North Island and the 3rd school holidays it will be the National Academy at a venue to be announced. Each Island Academy will only accept a maximum of 4 from each region and only those regions within that Island will be eligible to send players. A maximum of 15 players at each Island Academy which will run for 2 full days. The National Academy will have up to 8 players from each Island selected to attend and will run for 2 full days.

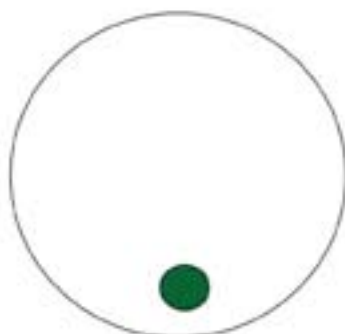
Any Association or Facility interested in hosting an Academy please contact me directly for details.

## This Month's Practice Routine...Screw and Stop shots.

This month I want to go back to the basics for the beginner players.

Every week I get several enquiries from people wanting to know "how do I screw back the white ball?"

Today I am going to go through the 3 steps that will ensure you can do a stop or screw back shot at will.



1. It is vital when attempting to do a screw back shot that you have a good stable stance and your body or head does not move during the shot. If you move during the shot, it will be hard to get the desired reaction from the cue ball as you will not hit the cue ball in the correct place ie low.
2. Hit Low.....You cannot achieve backspin on the Cue Ball by hitting it half way up. You must hit the cue ball at the bottom, no more than a Tip width up from the cloth.
3. You must follow through ensuring you hit through the ball instead of "at it". This requires a relatively flat cue action that is a little longer than normal and that has a full follow through

of at least 10-15cm. A jab at the cue ball will not produce a nice back spin shot.

The next thing you must do to perfect your new found screw shot is practice. Try potting the blue across the table and screwing back to the pocket by you. This shows that you are hitting the middle of the white to the middle of the blue.

Once mastered try a longer distance between the balls. You will be amazed at how quickly this will become one of your favourite shots.

PS: You WILL NOT rip the cloth. Dont be afraid and remember to chalk your cue for EVERY shot.