



WPBSA – Class 3 Snooker Referee 2026/27 TRAINING COURSE PROGRAMME

Aimed at supporting the Sports requirement of developing an entry level Referee training programme supporting EPSB, WDBS, WWS & Snooker League Refereeing activities within England.
A pathway to the WPBSA – Class 2 Snooker Referee Certificate

Official WPBSA Referee Training Kit

As part of your course induction and to be used throughout your training each Trainee Referee will receive

- An official WPBSA Referee long sleeved polo shirt- Black
- A pair of official WPBSA White gloves
- Ball Marker
- Courses resources
- Trainee Name Badge
- Bag

This course is endorsed by 1st4sport qualifications and achieves 6 CIMSPA points when successfully completed.

Course Details

Part 1 Online – COURSE INDUCTION – SAFEGUARDING & CHILD PROTECTION (SPC)

Group 1 – 15 places – Wednesday 1st July 2026 – 12.30 pm till 3.30 pm with the zoom link open from 12.00 pm

Group 2 – 15 places - Wednesday 1st July 2026 – 5.30 pm till 8.30 pm with the zoom link open from 5.00 pm

Group 3 – 15 places - Wednesday 8th July 2026 – 5.30 pm till 8.30 pm with the zoom link open from 5.00 pm

Part 2 Face to Face - at the [Northern Snooker Centre](#) – RULES & REFEREEING SKILLS

Friday 18th September 2026 – 10.00 am till 6.00pm

Please note:

It is essential that you have access to a laptop or tablet/mobile device to complete the training programme.

It is the delegates' responsibility to attend all aspects of the course and have access to Zoom or any other required online platform.

Who are 1st4sport qualifications [1st4sport Qualifications](#) and CIMSPA [CIMSPA Membership](#)

The WPBSA Learning Agreement

The Wpbsa Promotes an environment to learn whilst the opportunity to speak openly whilst respecting others on the course.

It is expected your course will last up to twelve months with your official course start date being the date of your Part 1 aspect, any requests for extensions based on learner support will be dealt with on a one-to-one basis.

Full attendance on all parts of the course is mandatory, and you must have completed Part 1 before you attend Part 2, failure to attend will result in your removal from the course.

Please note - only in extreme circumstances will a learner be able to attend a missed part of the course with another group following authorisation by the WPBSA training manager.

Whilst learning communication is key to the experience and success of the learner's journey therefore contact is the responsibility of everyone involved.

Course delivery team – should the learner feel that they are not receiving sufficient professional support then they should contact the WPBSA Training Manager.

Learner – if a learner does not respond to a communication request three times, then they will be automatically suspended from the course and the person who is trying to make contact will pass the details to the WPBSA Training Manager who after investigating the matter will either restart the learners course or fully exclude them from the course.

During each session, only you will be allowed on screen during the session unless you are experiencing technical difficulties in which case a third party can assist until the problem is rectified.

Under no circumstances must a third party be allowed to be involved in the session or any requests for autographs or pictures made to any delivery staff – failure to adhere to this will result in you being asked to leave the course.

Please note any learners requiring learner support will be permitted the relevant support by prior arrangement and approval by the WPBSA Training Manager.

Part 1 – COURSE INDUCTION & SAFEGUARDING/THE RULEBOOK – ONLINE (6pm – 9pm)

- Welcome to the WPBSA Referees Training Course Programme
- Why is the course called WPBSA and not EPSB?
- Who are UK Coaching, 1st4sport qualifications and CIMSPA?
- How to use the official WPBSA Referee Training Programme
- Learner Mentoring and Support throughout your WPBSA Referee training course.
- Continuous Professional Development (CPD) opportunities once you are qualified and active. with UK Coaching, NSPCC, AND CPSU.
- The WPBSA Learning Agreement
- Safeguarding and Child Protection - A Guide for sportspeople delivered in partnership with UK Coaching, NSPCC, AND CPSU.
- The WPBSA Referee & officials code of conduct

NOTE - Please ensure you begin to familiarise yourself with the Rule book and the wpbsa referee training programme.

Introduction to the Rule book - THE OFFICIAL RULES OF THE GAMES OF SNOOKER AND BILLIARDS published by the WPBSA World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association

Understanding the rules - for you to become a proficient and competent referee. It is key that you understand the rules and how to interpret them during a snooker match. This will allow the match to be played in line with the laws of the game enabling the players and yourself to enjoy the experience. Section 1 of the WPBSA Referee training programme has a multiple-choice rules trainer to support the learning of the rules.

Part 2 - REFEREE RULES TRAINING- FACE-TO-FACE - Northern Snooker Centre in Leeds (10.00 am – 6.00pm including 30 mins lunch)

Training Learners in the following.

- Following your appointment, how to prepare for a snooker match
- The official uniform and dress code and your appearance as an official Referee
- The Referees toolkit
- The day of the snooker match
- How to check the snooker table and its equipment
- How to iron, brush and block a snooker table
- How to set up a snooker table using various types of triangles
- How to handle, clean and spot snooker balls
- How to use ball marker (s)
- How to effectively use a snooker score board – (manual & electric)
- How to call out the scores during a snooker match
- How to maintain an acceptable level of play with players and spectators during a snooker match
- The Referee and Player relationship
- What to do if there is a problem during your Snooker match
- The miss rule
- The jump shot
- The push shot

- A simultaneous contact
- The lag
- Referee positioning during a snooker match
- The use of equipment during a snooker match
- The Referee code of conduct
- Following Part 2, the learner is required to undertake an online rules test with their nominated mentor to ensure they have the appropriate level of knowledge & understanding to begin their practice matches.
- The Learner then begins their hands-on practice using the official WPBSA Training Programme Refereeing/Marking as a Trainee Referee, it is the learner's decision when they feel they have an acceptable level of practice prior to their assessment.

Assessment

Using the official WPBSA Referee Training Programme, once the learner feels confident that they have grasped and put in to practice the rules of the game to underpin their Referring Skills at this level and have completed their training programme they can request an assessment.

All Assessments will be face to face and undertaken by official WPBSA Referee Assessors, learners will be assessed and receive a decision on the day with supportive and constructive feedback.

Assessment days will be available to book on and take place at the Northern Snooker Centre every four months, please see the WPBSA Referee Training Programme calendar for further details.

On successful completion of all aspects of the course, you will have achieved the **WPBSA - CLASS 3 SNOOKER REFEREE CERTIFICATE**

Certification

Once you have successfully completed your assessment it will be verified internally, and your Certificate will be requested and sent to you within 28 days from 1st4sport qualifications.

You will receive a congratulatory email from WPBSA Chairman Jason Ferguson.

Your details will be added to the EPSB mail chimp distribution list as a EPSB - Class 3 Snooker Referee

You will receive your Name Badge, Blazer Badge and Tie within 28 days.

EPSB ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Referees must be a member of the EPSB, which is an annual membership which runs on a seasonal basis and operates between 1st July – 30th June.

Your membership for the season will be included in your WPBSA referee course fee.

You will be responsible for renewing this membership for the following season, where you will be contacted annually to renew your membership, which at present is £30.