



Winnipeg English Billiard Players cross the pond to take on the World

October 5th, 2014



For immediate release

The Winnipeg Veterans English Billiards League, established in 1921 in Winnipeg starts the 93rd season with a bang. Four players from this league will travel to Leeds, UK October 17th thru October 29th to take on all competitors from all over the world in the Jim Williamson Open and the World English Billiards Championships.

For Fraser Durham this will be his fifth trip over and for Shane, Don and Jon their first trip. The WVEBL, friends and families wish them best of luck and good cueing.



I've played snooker since I was 12 years old. Took up billiards after a motorcycle accident in 1989 and have been playing for the better part of 25 years. My favorite accomplishment in our billiard league is being the only player in league history to win both the prestigious Harry Lockwood and Neil Bardal trophies in the same league year.

Realistically I have no expectations of winning a match at the World Championships. Since I am only a club player, playing against world class competitors, I am hoping to soak up the experience and bring back some insight to techniques and strategies to share with my fellow players in our league.



Fraser Durham joined the Veterans English Billiard League approx. 28 years ago, having played snooker previously. I am married and have 3 children and 2 new grandchildren.

I have won the Lockwood Trophy 11 times and also a Bardal Trophy winner. The best I have done in an international tournament to date is a semi-finals at the Jersey Open at Jersey, U.K. in May 2014. His highest break in competition currently is 130.

He is treating participating at the Worlds competition in 2014 as an opportunity to compete against the best in the world, a learning opportunity and resource, and renew previous acquaintances with players from other countries. You can always pick up something from watching and playing against other players. That information can then be passed along to our players here.



I started playing pool at age of 11 at the Village Inn Bowl & Cue, a local pool/bowling center in Winnipeg, MB. I played a lot of eight ball, nine ball and mushroom pool.

I took up the game of snooker while I was living in Toronto at Silver Tip Billiards. When I returned to Winnipeg I ran into an old friend who was a member of the Anavets Assiniboia Unit # 283 (ANAF283) and he asked me to join the snooker league. Well it is 17 years and later still playing at same club.

Approximately 12 years ago I became interested in English Billiards and now I am in my fourth year as President of the Winnipeg Veteran's English Billiards League. I currently have a handicap of -100. I am using a Ray Reardon

Signature cue I bought over 30 years ago, 9.5mm Elkmaster tip.

I have been married over 20 years with 2 children and have been at the same company for over 20 years as a buyer of automotive parts. I enjoy playing Snooker, English Billiards and darts. In my spare time I am in the Anavets Assiniboia Unit #283 Color party, carrying flags for general meetings, funerals and various parades.

This will be my first time refereeing at an International Level, looking forward to that as well as playing in the Pre-World tournament, Jim Williamson Open.



Born in Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada on June 5, 1961. I started playing snooker at the age of 12 years and joined the Veteran's English Billiards League at the age of 19 years. Even though I have never excelled at either game, I thoroughly enjoy playing these cue sports, especially English Billiards. My high break in the Veteran's English Billiards League is 64 and high break in practice is 69.

I refereed in both the very first Vimy Ridge Classic and Americas Cup tournaments that were held in Winnipeg, Canada in 2013 and with training and guidance from Dan Lewis, I was able to obtain a level 3 Referee Certification. Being invited to Leeds, England to referee in the 2014 World Championships and playing in the Jim Williamson Memorial are major highlights in my life.

Jon Miller and Don Senkiw were asked by the World Governing body to come and referee at the World Championships. Both accepted and will also play in the pre-World tournament, Jim Williamson Open.