

AUSTRALIAN AMATEUR BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIPS

1900 – 1914

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The first recorded "Australian Amateur Billiards Championships" were held
1906 in Melbourne

1906 AUSTRALIAN AMATEUR BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIPS
Alcocks Rooms, Elizabeth St. Melbourne

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW) 27 Sep 1906 Page 10

AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP.
The New South Wales Sports Club has appointed Mr. H. Rumball to represent this State in the match against Mr. A. H. Tricks. Each man is the amateur champion of his State. The Victorian Association wants the game to be 8000 up. The Sports Club thinks 2000, with sessions of 400, a long enough game.

Referee (Sydney, NSW) Wed 31 Oct 1906 Page 11

A game between Mr. Hubert Rumball, amateur champion of New South Wales, and Mr. A. H. Tricks, who holds the corresponding title in Victoria, will take place in Melbourne next week, under the auspices of the Victorian Amateur Billiard Association. Next year a championship tournament, open to the whole of Australia, will probably be played, when the winner will be styled "champion" of Australia; but as next week's game is only between the reps. of the States mentioned, it will not carry that important title.

H. Rumball defeats A. H. Tricks.

The match between the holders of the title of "Amateur Champion" of the two most prominent States of the Commonwealth has been the chief billiard feature of the past week.

As was generally expected, the New South Wales representative had little difficulty in annexing the honors attached to the contest, by scoring the winning 3000 points to the Victorian's 2305.

Mr. Rumball led from the commencement, winding up the first session's play with a lead of 182 points, and generally exhibited the better billiards.

The following synopsis of the play, session by session, may be of interest:—

MONDAY.—Rumball scored 600 points to Trick's 418. Breaks: Rumball, 56, 23, 32, 65, 38, 42, and 21 (unfinished); Tricks, 20, 27, 64, 56, 27, and 21. Averages: Rumball 10, Tricks 7.2.

TUESDAY.—Rumball scored his quota, 600, to opponent's 426, making breaks of 39, 26, 27, 53, 30, 63, 81, and 47 (unfinished), and an average of just on 11, to Trick's 23, 23, 22, 20, 39, 27, 24 and an average of a trifle over 7.

WEDNESDAY.—Afternoon and evening sessions took place. In the afternoon the leader went further ahead, scoring 601 points to Trick's 286, and making runs of 76, 28, 33, 105, 40, and 31, to 23, 26, 27, 24.

In the evening the Victorian did much better by compiling 520 to opponent's 600, the total for the two sessions being: Rumball 1201, Tricks 806. The former averaged 11 and 9, and put in breaks of 31, 32, 33, 37, and 30; while Trick's best were 27, 29, 20, 24, 41, 29, and 31. The closing scores were: Rumball 2401, Tricks 1650.

The representative of the Southern State was seen to much greater advantage on the final night, and managed to more than hold his own with the Welshman, by scoring 655 to 599. He also made the fine average of 11.7—the best of the series—to Rumball's 10.5. His spurt, however, was too late, and the representative of the Mother State ran out a winner of the first Amateur Billiard Championship under the present rules between Victoria and New South Wales, by 695 points. The principal breaks were: Rumball, 79, 52, 50, 36, 35, 31; Tricks, 49, 43, 37, 33, and 41. The final scores:—

H. RUMBALL (N.S.W.)	3000
A. H. TRICKS (Victoria)	2305

The championship took place at Alcock's billiard parlor, Elizabeth-street, Melbourne. The scores were called and the game umpired by F. Farmer, while the Amateur Billiard Association of Victoria arranged and managed the function.

1907 AUSTRALIAN AMATEUR BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Heiron and Smith's, 214 Castlereagh-street, Sydney, NSW

Extensive article on first session to 600 points

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/229501766>

The West Australian (Perth) 26 Sep

The Age (Melbourne) Fri 27 Sep 1907 Page 6

The contest for the Australasian amateur billiard championship between Belfield, of New South Wales, and Jacoby, of Victoria, was begun to-night. The match is of 3,000 up. Belfield gave a splendid exhibition of all-round play, and made 176, thus breaking the world's amateur record, which stood at 174. His striking was beautifully accurate, and his strength of stroke perfect. Jacoby was not in good touch, and luck was against him. Belfield ran to his point with 25, unfinished, the scores being:—Belfield, 600; Jacoby, 338.

Mr. J. B. Belfield is playing like a winner in the match against the Victorian, Mr. E. L. Jacoby, for the amateur championship of Australia. Following on his break of 176 (a world's record), he was in very good form on Thursday afternoon, and at night the strong feature of an all round good game was his losing hazard play. Confidence came as he gradually assumed the upper hand, and his commanding position enabled him to go out after shots that would necessarily have been left alone if his opponent had been pushing him closely. The consequence was that, in place of a cramped game, that is the rule in contests of the kind, Mr. Belfield gave an attractive exposition. In the afternoon he averaged more than 16, his breaks including one of 83. There were others of 78, 55, 47, 45, 39, 39 (unfinished), 28 and 20. He went from 600 to 1201 while Mr. Jacoby carried his score from 338 to 641, with principal breaks of 63, 60, 32, 25 and 23.

At night Mr. Belfield was again in perfect touch, and almost every visit to the table meant a break worth noting. He carried his unfinished break to 82, and he made others of 70, 58, 54, 54, 44, 42 unfinished, 39, 34, 33, 32, 25 and 20, with the good average of 20. Mr. Jacoby carried his score from 641 to 920, his principal breaks being 57, 51, 32, 27 and 25. The visitor played solidly, but was outclassed. The position now is that while Mr. Belfield has to make 1200 to win, Mr. Jacoby has to make 2080.

Scores:—Afternoon session: Belfield (in play), 1201; Jacoby, 641. Evening session: Belfield (in play), 1800; Jacoby, 920.



J. C. BELFIELD.

Extensive article on the match

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/24877462>

Photo of Belfield at the table

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/5717257>

Extensive article on the match – commences column 6

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/15999388>

The Sydney Morning Herald, 23 Sep 1907, Mon, Page 2

AUSTRALASIAN AMATEUR BILLIARD CHAM-
PIONSHIP at HEIRON and SMITH'S,
Castlereagh-street,
23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, at 8 p.m.
Admission, One Shilling; Reserved, Shilling extra.
FRANK G. UNDERWOOD, Secretary.

1908 AUSTRALIAN AMATEUR BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Alcocks Rooms, Elizabeth St. Melbourne

The Argus (Melbourne) Wed 16 Sep 1908

AMATEUR BILLIARDS.

AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP.

At the billiard-parlour of Alcock and Co. Pty. Ltd. A. H. Tricks (Vic.) and J. B. Belfield (N.S.W.) last night entered upon a game of 3,000 up for the Amateur championship of Australia. Belfield holds the title, and in addition is amateur champion of New South Wales. Tricks occupies a corresponding place in the Victorian billiard world. The players were introduced to a large audience by Mr. H. W. Meakin, president of the Victorian Amateur Billiard Association, who said that, from what they had heard of Mr. Belfield, something out of the ordinary could be expected. Mr. Tricks, however, was game to the backbone, and would fight to the last. If each man played to his own satisfaction everyone would be pleased. He hoped that the better man would win. (Applause.)

The game opened inauspiciously for Tricks. Having left his keys at home, he had to break the lock off his cue-case. Following this up, he miscued at his second stroke. Both men were slow in getting into touch, and their failures on moderately easy strokes were numerous. The first decent break was 30 from Belfield, bringing his score to 100. Tricks was then 35, and shaping poorly, compared with his form in the local competitions. Belfield is a graceful player, who has fashioned his game on the principles observed by such masters of style as Stevenson and Menzies. The cue is held lightly but firmly between the thumb and first finger, and muscular action is confined absolutely to the forearm. Belfield was weak on forcing shots at the outset last night, and marshalled the balls indifferently, but, once familiar with the strength of the table, he gave an attractive exhibition. Soon after making 36 off the red, he put up a fine break of 65. Tricks was consistent only in his failures, and was so far behind even his average standard as to rob the session of a great deal of interest. Belfield reached 200 with a lead of 81, was 123 in advance at 300, and completed his fourth century when the local champion was only 221. Tricks then had a couple of useful visits to the table, but his prospect of a recovery was extinguished when Belfield made 37 and 101. The latter break included 84 off the red, and was loudly applauded. Belfield ran to his points with a lead of 318. He averaged 11.7 points per visit, as against 5.6 by Tricks. The chief breaks were:—Belfield—30, 36, 65, 41, 37, and 101. Tricks—30, 24, 31. Closing scores:—

Belfield (in play)	670
Tricks	282

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Even Belfield's most ardent admirers must have "held their breath" at his magnificent display on Wednesday afternoon. He fairly excelled himself; and certainly never before in the history of Australian billiards has any amateur eclipsed, or even approached Belfield's record in this session. Running his over-night score into a break of 46, he followed on with 60, 57, 82, and 87, and with only two resultless visits in the meantime. This meant a grand total of 372 points for seven consecutive visits to the table, or the truly phenomenal average of 53. The precision of Belfield's losing hazard work, especially at long range, was his mainstay at all times, and on more than one occasion his failure was brought about by a very simple shot. This is the fate of even the best professionals, however, and "position" is the cause of it all. Belfield's great performance was not calculated to improve the form of his opponent. On the contrary, Tricks sat down, admiring the skill of his rival, until he must have grown cold at his activity, and heartily tired of it all. He had added but 29 points to his over-night total, while Belfield approximately had been totting up 300, and it was not till his tenth visit to the table that Tricks settled down to a well-executed 50. Even yet, however, he lacked much of his characteristic easy style and confidence, and was clearly not at his best. No billiardist ever is whose opponent keeps him idle for so long. A few minutes later Tricks was busy with another useful compilation of 42, and his next visit yielded 33. Although he had slowed down somewhat, Belfield had not been idle, and with several sundries he carried his score to 1,000, Tricks at this time being only 482. Tricks's next effort—58—was his best break of the two sessions, and it came to an end only through losing the white, to be followed by a safe miss. When Belfield had reached 1,057 he led by 500 points exactly, and almost immediately ran up a break of 44, to be followed two visits later by a dashing 63, ending at a fast "white loser." With an unfinished 30, Belfield then ran to his points, his average being the record one of 27 points per visit, as against Tricks's 14. The scores at the adjournment were:—

Belfield (in play)	1,200
Tricks	504

BILLIARDS.

AN AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP.

Melbourne, September 16.

In the amateur billiard championship to-day at the afternoon session Belfield made runs of 97, 87, 82, 63, 60, and 66, an average of 27.2. Tricks made breaks of 58, 50, 42, and 33, averaging 14.1. In the evening both slowed down, and the Sydney man's best efforts were 81, 75, 66, 57, and 36, while Tricks' only decent scores were 51 and 47. The averages of Belfield and Tricks respectively were 13.9 and 8.8, and the scores were:—Belfield, 1,800; Tricks, 965.

The Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser (NSW) Wed 23 Sep 1908

BILLIARDS.

J. B. Belfield, of New South Wales, had no difficulty in defeating A. H. Tricks (Victoria) for the championship of Australia. The game was 3000 up, and the New South Wales man won by 1245.

In the first session the best breaks were:—Belfield, 30, 36, 65, 41, 37, and 101; Tricks, 20, 24, 31, the closing scores being Belfield 600, Tricks 283.

On Wednesday evening the breaks were:—Belfield, 46, 60, 97, 82, 77, 44, 63, 57, 36, 66, 81, and 75; Tricks, 50, 42, 33, 58, 47, and 51. The game was called: Belfield, 1800; Tricks, 965.

In the second last session all Tricks could hope for was to reduce the disparity between the scores. With breaks of 37 and 73 in the first few visits Tricks made an excellent start, but after a burst the Victorian remained very quiet. The champion compiled 323 while Tricks put together a mere 52. At 2130 Belfield was just over 1000 ahead, and for the remainder of the session Belfield practically monopolized the table, and registered a beautiful break of 82. There were other runs of 47 and 40, the latter being off a fluke. He averaged 19.3 for the session, as against 11.5 per visit by Tricks. At the close of the afternoon's play the scores were:—Belfield (in play), 2400; Tricks, 1321.

In the evening Belfield was in good form, and with 48 unfinished ran out a winner by 1245. The chief breaks were:—Belfield, 97, 71, 48, 37, and 45; Tricks, 81, 34, and 30. The final scores were:—Belfield, 3000; Tricks, 1755.

Long article on 2nd & 3rd sessions

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/10167567>

Long article on 4th & final session

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/202181034>

1909 AUSTRALIAN AMATEUR BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Heiron and Smith's, 214 Castlereagh-street, Sydney, NSW

Sydney Sportsman (Surry Hills) Wed 22 Sep 1909

THE AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP OF AUSTRALASIA.

Making allowance for a certain amount of nervousness, due to his initial appearance amongst us and to the presence of a number of ladies, Tricks opened well, and with the assistance of a well-played 24 and 38, forged to the front. The Victorian has an acceptable appearance, being tall and athletic-looking, with a genial face veiled with a ruddy complexion. He loses little or no time in placing his ball, and, being on the quick-witted side, plays a rather fast game, in which losing hazards appear to be his forte. After he had established a lead of over 60, and had secured the honor of being first to round into the first and second centuries, the Victorian champion carelessly mulled a couple of easy strokes, one of which cost him a 74 and the lead, which Rumball now secured by meritorious play, which he consistently exhibited to the end. The N.S. champion proved in excellent form, his display being well up to the Plimsoll mark, and he gradually drew away and ran to his points with a lead of 182. Towards the latter part of the session the balls ran a bit unkindly for Tricks, but he gamely battled along, and bettered his position by over 40 points. Alf Wood called scores:—

Mr. Rumball 600

Mr. Tricks 118

Breaks—Rumball: 80, 74, 56, 43, 38, 36, 33, 30, 27, 23, 20.

Tricks: 58, 38, 36, 33, 24, 23, 21, 20.

There was a very fine attendance last night, and both played well, but Tricks showed the better form, and gave a confident display. Rumball, however, reached his points first, scores standing:—

Mr. Rumball 1200

Mr. Tricks 1031

Rumball: 41, 26, 25, 28, 39, 51, 54, 61, 44, 41.

Tricks: 23, 49, 20, 27, 64, 57, 42, 68.

AUSTRALASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Messrs. H. Rumball (N.S.W.) and A. H. Tricks (Victoria), who are playing at Messrs. Helron and Smith's Parlor, Castlereagh-street, Sydney, for the Australasian Billiard Championship, have reached the exciting stages of the game. A large attendance witnessed last night's play. Both men were in excellent form. At one time Tricks took the lead—at 1362 to 1360. To that point he had made 25, 44, and 70 in successive visits, 22, 96—the biggest run of the match to date. During that time Rumball put together 24, 22, 25, 29, and 27. Profiting by a succession of small visits by Tricks, Rumball made breaks of 25, 29, 20, 29, 56, and 23. The closing scores were: Rumball (in play), 1800; Tricks, 1610. The match will be continued this evening.

Article on match up to 2400 points

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/139686937>

The Australasian (Melbourne) Sat 2 Oct 1909

AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP.

SYDNEY, Sept. 24.—The Australasian amateur billiard championship was concluded to-night. H. Rumball (N.S.W.) defeated A. H. Tricks (Vic.) by 153 in a game of 3,000 up. When play opened to-night Rumball was 288 to the good, so that the Victorian reduced his lead substantially. Both men played consistently, but Rumball was beaten on the evening. His best was 77 (18 of which were carried over from the previous evening). Tricks put together a very fine 110, and also obtained 79. The closing scores were:—

H. Rumball	3,000
A. H. Tricks	2,847

Both players were congratulated, Rumball on his victory, and Tricks on his plucky finish.

Discussion article on match – gives averages all sessions

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/164340553>

1910 AUSTRALIAN AMATEUR BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Alcocks Rooms, Elizabeth St. Melbourne

The Daily Telegraph (Sydney) Wed 24 Aug 1910 Page 14

BILLIARDS.

AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP OF AUSTRALIA.

BOTH PLAYERS IN FORM.

MELBOURNE, Tuesday.—The billiard match of 3000 up, for the amateur championship of Australia, between Mr. H. Rumball and Mr. A. H. Tricks, was commenced to-day.

Play was of a most even nature, until Tricks, at his fourteenth turn, rattled up a nice break of 57, which caused the scores to be called 229 to 143 in his favor. Rumball was not long in making up his leeway, and at 283 he had taken the lead. Several times the scores were even, but eventually the visiting cueist ran to his points with 31 (unfinished), with Tricks only 24 points in arrears. Rumball's highest contributions were 53, 42, 38, 36, 33, 30, 29, 27, and 25, while the Victorian's best breaks were 72, 57, 32, 31, 30, 27, and 22. The interval scores were:—

Rumball (in play)	500
Tricks	476

In the evening Rumball at once found his touch, and converted his suspended item of the afternoon into 74; while his next two hands yielded 67 and 30. Tricks did not begin so well, but as the game progressed he gradually got on terms with his opponent, the game being called 892 all. The Victorian from this point assumed the lead, and retained it to the end, finishing up with a narrow margin of 16 points to the good. His highest breaks were: 73, 65, 46, 43, 41, 29, 24, and 23, while Rumball was credited with runs of 74, 67, 62, 42, 37, 36, 29, 28, and 25. The Victorian averaged 16.9 and the visitor 15.1, as against their respective figures of the afternoon session, 12.2 and 12.8.

The closing scores were:—

A. H. Tricks (in play)	1060
H. Rumball	984

TRICKS V. RUMBALL.

AN AUSTRALIAN RECORD.

Yesterday afternoon's session of the match of 3,000 up between Rumball and Tricks for the amateur championship of Australia afforded no indication at the earlier stages of the surprise it held in store. Both men started very indifferently—Tricks, careless, out of touch, and showing a remarkable capacity for missing certainties; Rumball taking painful care with each shot, but playing in a peculiarly ungainly and ineffective style. Tricks, after scoring in twos and threes, put up 50, and at the second century he got a lead of over 80. Rumball strung together a laboured 91, and the scores were called "1,235 all." The visitor then began drawing slowly ahead, while Tricks repeatedly endeavoured to check him by tactics. But he made a fatal mistake when, with the option of a penny into the middle pocket, he elected instead to give a safety miss just above the opposite middle pocket. The ball, stopping some inches further from the cushion than was intended, Rumball cross-cannoned. Before he was pulled up by a hard loser he had scored 180. The break was not marked with any elegance, but it was compiled with great knowledge of the game, and without a single fault, until the last shot. At its conclusion Rumball received a prolonged ovation, Tricks being one of the first to congratulate him. This break constitutes the Australian amateur record (standard table, match played under B.B.A. rules), Belfield's 176 being the next best. The world's amateur record is 188, made in London a little over two years ago by G. Heginbottom. Tricks, in no wise disconcerted, ran up 64, but Rumball by this time only wanted a few to go out, and two cues later he went to his seasonal points with 34 unfinished.

The principal breaks were:—Rumball, 22, 20, 91, 42, 34, 180, 34; Tricks, 21, 20, 22, 64. Rumball got 515 during the session, which, with 41 cues, gives him an average of 12.5.

The scores were—

Rumball (in play)	1,500
Tricks	1,368

A splendid struggle was witnessed in the evening. After a few uneventful visits, Tricks made a break of 86; Rumball replied with 126, compiled mainly at the spot end. He was loudly applauded, and Tricks came in for another round of applause when, at the next cue, he ran up 125 in fine, free style, and noticeable for some beautiful long-bazard runs. At this stage Rumball, who had been scoring uneasily, but with machine-line accuracy, missed a couple of chances, and the Victorian took advantage of them by adding 32 and 35 to his aggregate. The scores were called:—Rumball, 1,872; Tricks, 1,800. A hush interval followed, until Rumball made 60. Tricks lost several opportunities, and the visitor eventually ran out with 18 unfinished. His average was 18.5, as against 15 by Tricks.

The breaks were:—Rumball, 47 (full), 32, 30, 156, 22, 21, 60, 14 (unfinished); Tricks, 30, 26, 86, 125, 35, 32. The game now stands:—

Rumball (in play)	2,000
Tricks	1,865

The amateur billiard championship between Tricks and Rumball (present holder) furnished a sensational finish, Tricks catching Rumball in the final stage, and winning by 3000 to 2970—a margin of only 30 points. This is the first time a Victorian has won the Australian championship, which has been held in different years by Belfield and Rumball, both of N.S.W.

H. Rumball and A. H. Tricks, amateur champions of New South Wales and Victoria respectively, concluded a match of 3000 up on even terms in Melbourne on Thursday night last, Rumball winning by 30 points. During the progress of the match Rumball made an Australian amateur record break of 180, the previous record being 178 by J. B. Belfield.

A.H. Tricks



Extensive articles on last two sessions & on aspects of play incl session averages

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/10455812>

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/142931041>

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/120142218>

1911 AUSTRALIAN AMATEUR BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Heiron and Smith's, 214 Castlereagh-street, Sydney, NSW

Sydney Sportsman (Surry Hills) Wed 23 Aug 1911 Page 2

AUSTRALASIAN CHAMPIONSHIP.

A commencement was made of this, the second championship under control of the Billiard Association, on Monday evening, in the large hall of Heiron and Smith's, when Rumball (N.S.W.) and Von der Luft (Vic.) crossed cues in friendly battle. The game is 3000 up, upon a fine table, passed as standard by the B.A., and bonzoline balls are being used. Percy Beddoe is looking after the scores. The Victorian opened with much confidence, and at once proved himself a really fine player, being especially good on the red losing hazard. His second effort was a 96, put together in good fashion, mostly off the red ball. When our visitor gets properly set a very interesting finish may be anticipated. Friend Rumball is plodding along in his customary careful and solid fashion, and no matter what breaks his opponent may have brought with him, he is certain to even up when required. There will be an afternoon session tomorrow, at 3 o'clock, and the game will finish in the evening. The breaks made were:—Rumball, 68 62 54 51 44 35 30 29 22 21 30 unfinished, his score being 601. Von der Luft made 96 62 48 32 30 29 25, and his score was 517.

The West Australian (Perth) Wed 23 Aug 1911 Page 5

AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP.

Sydney, Aug. 22.

The match for the Australasian amateur billiard championship between H. A. Rumball (New South Wales), and C. Von Derluft (Victoria), was continued to-night. The match is being played in five sessions of 600 points each. The Victorian, who stood overnight at 517 against Rumball's 601, gradually overhauled his opponent, and thereafter it was a neck and neck contest. The scores were:—Von Derluft, 1,202; Rumball, 1,179. The chief breaks were:—Von Derluft, 54, 61, 73, and 41 (unfinished); Rumball, 46, 48, 49, 46, and 45.

The match for the Australasian amateur billiard championship between H. Rumball (New South Wales) and C. von der Luft (the Victorian) was continued to-night, the match being played in five sessions of 600 each. The Victorian, who stood overnight at 517 against Rumball's 601, gradually overhauled his opponent, and thereafter it was a neck-and-neck contest. Scores:—

Von der Luft 1202

Rumball 1179

The chief breaks were:—Von der Luft, 54, 61, 73, and 41 (unfinished); Rumball, 46, 18, 49, 46, and 45.

The contest for the Australasian Amateur billiard championship was resumed last night, when the Victorian representative, Von Der Luft, increased his lead from the New South Wales representative, Rumball, to 263 points. The visitor ran up the best break of the match (127) without a flaw. Rumball was out of touch, and at no stage did he play up to form. Scores:—

Von der Luft (in play) 1800

Rumball 1537

The best breaks were:—Von der Luft, 57, 60, 127 and 65; Rumball, 35 and 49.

VON DER LUFT WINS BY 125 POINTS.

The sixth contest for the amateur championship of Australasia was conducted at Heiron and Smith's Billiard Hall last evening, when the Victorian representative, Von der Luft, won by 135 points. The title was stubbornly contested right through. On the opening night Mr. Rumball finished with an advantage of 84 points, but failed to sustain his position the second evening, when Mr. Von der Luft scored 685 points to the Sydney man's 578, and finished the session with a lead of 23. Continuing in fine striking form on Wednesday, the Victorian increased his lead to 263, amongst his breaks being the only century run of the contest, 127, made in free, confident style, mostly from red losing hazards.

Yesterday the two final sessions were played, and with his big lead, and only 1200 to go, the Victorian's chance of victory appeared a particularly rosy one, but so resolutely did the N.S.W. champion play that before half the session was completed he had caught and passed Von der Luft. Then a battle royal ensued. With 53, 41, and 48, the Victorian again went ahead; but Rumball is a hard man to stop. Putting in a painstaking 64, he almost reached the Victorian, but the latter two sticks later got in with 19 unfinished, and reached his points, 40 ahead. Von der Luft averaged $11\frac{1}{2}$ for his 600, while Rumball's figures worked out at 16.7 for the 823 points which he scored during the three hours 10 minutes which the session lasted. The chief breaks were:—Von der Luft: 33, 42, 53, 41, 31, 33, 48, and 19 unfinished. Rumball: 42, 72, 71, 67, 58, 75, 58, 41, 35, and 54. The closing scores were:—

C. Von der Luft (in play)	2400
H. A. Rumball	2200

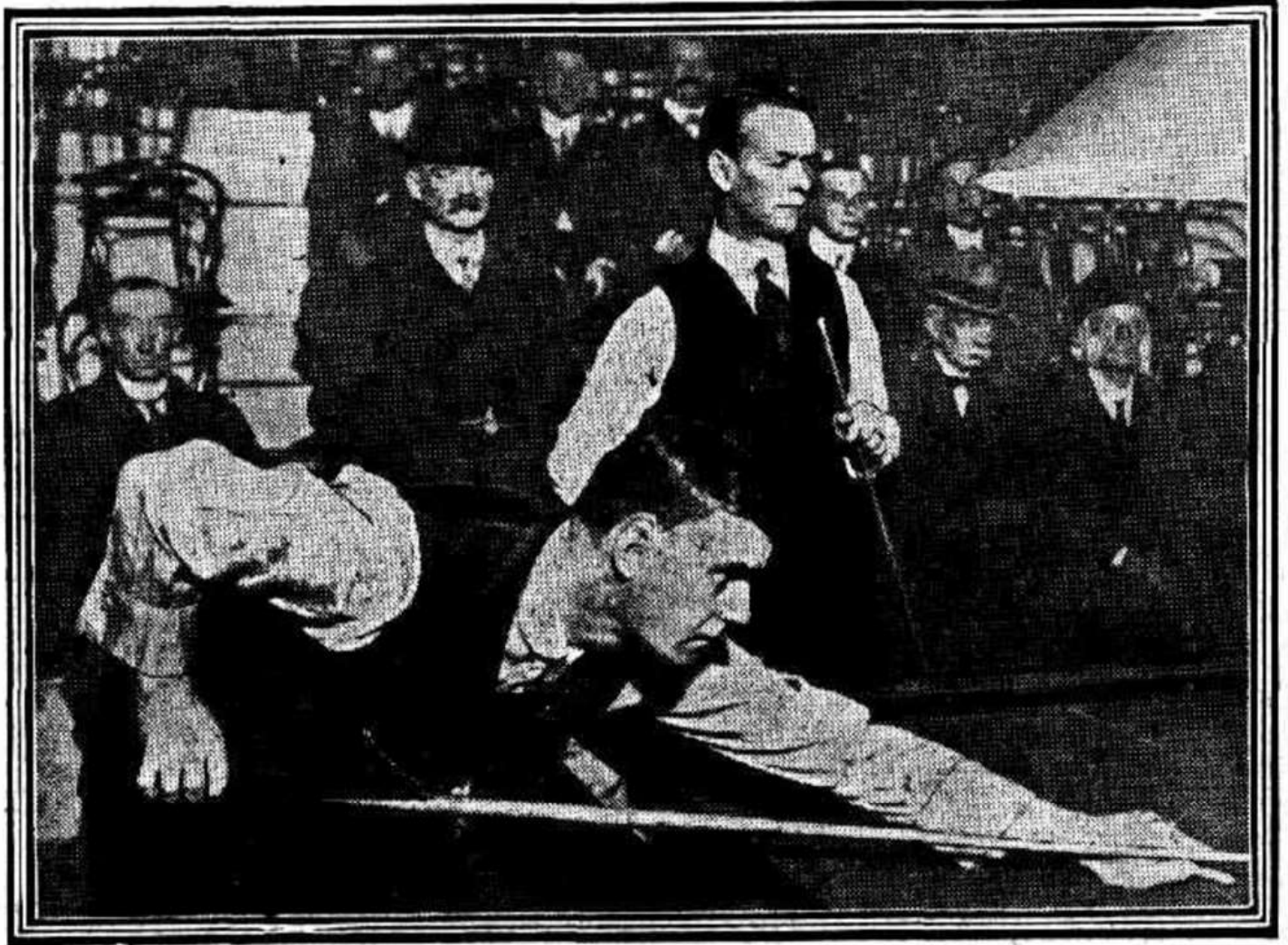
Interest was keen when Von der Luft started the balls rolling in the final session at night. The final test was a repetition of the afternoon, the players passing and repassing each other. The Victorian, playing the red in perfect style, ran up 36, 76, 66, and a number of breaks over 30; while Rumball played in his very best style, making one fine break of 121. But his opponent was too constant, and annexed the title for his State by 135 points. The breaks were:—Von der Luft, 31, 49, 66, 32, 76, 96, 31, 42, 43 (unfinished); Rumball, 53, 121, 54, 48, 33, 35, and 65. The final scores were:—

C. Von der Luft	3000
H. A. Rumball	2865

The averages for the whole game were:—Von der Luft, 13.10; Rumball, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$.

PREVIOUS WINNERS.

Winner.	Runner-up.
1906.—H. A. Rumball	A. H. Tricks
1907.—J. B. Belfield	E. L. Jacoby
1908.—J. B. Belfield	A. H. Tricks
1909.—H. A. Rumball	A. H. Tricks
1910.—A. H. Tricks	H. A. Rumball
In 1909 J. B. Belfield (holder) did not compete.	



H. RUMBALL (AMATEUR CHAMPION OF NEW SOUTH WALES) AND C. VON DER LUFT (AMATEUR CHAMPION OF VICTORIA),

who played at Heiron and Smith's rooms for the amateur championship of Australia. The winner (Von der Luft) is seen striking.

C. T. VON DER LUFT.



1912 AUSTRALIAN AMATEUR BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Alcocks Rooms, Elizabeth St. Melbourne

These were the first championships where representatives from most states competed

It appears play was not a full round robin

Referee (Sydney) Wed 21 Aug 1912 Page 14

FIRST HEAT.

R. KIDSTON (Q.) DEFEATS A. G. FAY (N.S.W.).

FIRST SESSION.—Kidston scored 601, Fay 524. Breaks : Kidston, 52, 48, 36 ; Fay, 79, 56, 44. Averages : Kidston 7.5, Fay 6.46. Totals : Kidston, 601 ; Fay, 524.

SECOND SESSION.—Kidston scored 599, Fay 487. Breaks : Kidston, 50, 46, 39, 31, 31 ; Fay, 64, 44, 30, 30, 25. Averages : Kidston 7.20, Fay 6.15.

FINAL SCORES.

R. KIDSTON (Q.) 1200

A. G. FAY (N.S.W.) 1011

Averages : Kidston 7.12, Fay 6.30.

SECOND HEAT.

L. L. BEAUCHAMP (Vic.) DEFEATS A. DEMODENA (S.A.)

FIRST SESSION.—Beauchamp scored 601, Demodena 588. Breaks : Beauchamp, 45, 44, 34 ; Demodena 61, 42, 30. Averages : Beauchamp 6.53, Demodena 6.32. Totals : Beauchamp, 601 ; Demodena, 588.

SECOND* SESSION.—Beauchamp scored 599, Demodena 461. Breaks : Beauchamp 55, 54, 45, 44, 33 ; Demodena, 39, 33, 32. Averages : Beauchamp 8, Demodena 6.11.

FINAL SCORES.

L. L. BEAUCHAMP (Vic.) 1200

ANGELO DEMODENA (S.A.) 1049

Averages : Beauchamp 7.26, Demodena 6.21.



Signor A. Demodena.

FINAL HEAT.

L. L. BEAUCHAMP (V.) DEFEATS R. KIDSTON (Q.).

FIRST SESSION.—Beauchamp scored 500, Kidston 449. Breaks : Beauchamp, 54, 39, 49 ; Kidston, 86, 58, 30. Averages : Beauchamp 7.2, Kidston 6.5. Totals : Beauchamp 500, Kidston 449.

SECOND SESSION.—Beauchamp scored 501, Kidston 384. Breaks : Beauchamp, 49, 25, 24 ; Kidston, 71, 36, 24, 23. Averages : Beauchamp 8.78, Kidston 6.7. Totals : Beauchamp 1001, Kidston 833.

THIRD SESSION.—Beauchamp scored 500, Kidston 407. Breaks : Beauchamp, 41, 41, 40, 30 (unfinished) ; Kidston, 57, 44, 31. Averages : Beauchamp 8.77, Kidston 7. Totals : Beauchamp 1501, Kidston 1240.

FOURTH SESSION.—Beauchamp scored 499, Kidston 290. Breaks : Beauchamp, 20, 65, 50, 32, 32, 21 (unfinished) ; Kidston, 47, 36, 20. Averages : Beauchamp 11.1, Kidston 6.4.

FINAL SCORES.

L. L. BEAUCHAMP (Vic.) 2000

R. KIDSTON (Q.) 1530

Average for whole heats : Beauchamp 8.4, Kidston 6.6.

PREVIOUS WINNERS.

1906—H. A. Eumball. No average kept.

1907—J. B. Belfield. Average 14.116

1908—J. B. Belfield. Average 16.1

1909—H. A. Eumball. Average 12.34

1910—A. H. Tricks. Average 18.15

1911—C. Von der Luft. Average 13.08

1912—L. L. Beauchamp. Average 8.4

The Championships were played at Alcock Proprietary's Billiard Parkers, Elizabeth-street, on a standard table erected by that firm. The compliment of refereeing the games was extended to Mr. F. A. Boyle, hon. sec. of N.S.W. Amateur Billiard Association, who accompanied the Mother's State's representative to Victoria.

Extensive article on the final match plus other match reports

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/143276295>



Messrs. H. Kiddon (center up) and L. Bouchamp (winner). The scores at the conclusion of the game were 2,000 and 1,000.

1913 Australian Amateur Billiards Championships

Heiron and Smith's, Edward St, Brisbane

Referee (Sydney) Wed 20 Aug 1913 Page 14

FIRST HEAT.—G. B. SHAILER (N.S.W.) defeated L. L. BEAUCHAMP (Victoria) by 10 points. Scores : Shailer 1200, Beauchamp 1190. Breaks : Shailer, 37, 75, 66, 41, 62, 61, 81, 62 (all off white ball), 35, 34, 35, and 37 unfinished; Beauchamp, 30, 30, 49, 42, 99, 106, 71, 28, 60, 33, and 30. Averages : Shailer 11.21, Beauchamp 11.2.

SECOND HEAT.—R. KIDSTON (Queensland) defeated L. L. Beauchamp (Victoria) by 207 points. Scores : Kidston 1200, Beauchamp 893. Breaks : Kidston, 64, 48, 46, 121, 41, 97, 63, 40, 38, and 111 unfinished; Beauchamp, 33, 37, 32, 34, 100, 46, 37, 55. Averages : Kidston 12.84, Beauchamp 9.50.

THIRD HEAD AND FINAL, 2000 UP.

FIRST SESSION.—Kidston scored 500 to Shailer's 399. Breaks : Kidston, 45, 51, 57, 89, and 27 unfinished; Shailer, 83, 43, 39, and 39.

SECOND SESSION.—Shailer scored 601, Kidston 276. Breaks : Shailer, 72, 107, 46, 72, 68, and 42 unfinished; Kidston, 56 (full), 98. Totals : Shailer 1000, Kidston 775.

THIRD SESSION.—Shailer scored 500, Kidston 271. Breaks : Shailer 161 (full), 137, 35, 45, and 38 unfinished. Kidston, 87 and 89. Totals : Shailer 1500, Kidston 1047.

FOURTH SESSION.—Shailer scored 500, Kidston 386. Breaks : Shailer 83 (full), 50, 135, 121, 33, and 29; Kidston, 32, 35, 52, 33, 31, and 32.

FINAL SCORES :

G. B. SHAILER (N.S. Wales)	2000
R. KIDSTON (Queensland)	1433

AVERAGES :

SHAILER	13.76
KIDSTON	9.101

BREAKS OVER 50.

SHAILER—161, 137, 135, 107, 83, 83, 81, 75, 72, 68, 66, 62, 62, 61, 50.

KIDSTON—121, 111 (unfinished), 98, 97, 89, 87, 64, 63, 56, 52.

BEAUCHAMP—106, 100, 99, 89, 71, 60, 57, 55, 51.

Extensive article on final & on tournament in general
<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/202657407>
<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/15443927>

As was generally anticipated, the N.S. Wales Champion, G. B. Shaller, succeeded in winning the Australasian Amateur Championship at Brisbane on Friday night. But the event did not turn out to be the "good thing" expected, as in his opening heat the winner only just scraped home with ten points to spare in the 1200 from Victoria's champion, L. L. Beauchamp. The final was a much easier victory, for a fourth of the game separated Shaller from the Queensland representative, R. Kidston, when game was called.

The surprise of the games was Beauchamp's moderate showing in the first session of his heat against Kidston. An onlooker informs me that the Victorian's play was not within 50 in 100 of the form in his previous heat, many easy openings being spoiled through careless cue-manship. However, he would have had to be at his best to have won, as Kidston played beyond himself, putting in 121, 97, and going out with 111 unfinished. Such scoring requires a lot of holding.

The final was a much easier thing for the Welshman, although at the close of the first session Kidston led by 500 to 399. He soon wiped out the deficiency at night, and wound up the half-way stage with a lead of 244, while he increased the first session on Friday to 1500-1047, and at night also had the better of the play with 500 to 384.

A marked advance on last year's form is shown by the figures of the game, for, whereas the highest breaks in the previous championship was 90 by Beauchamp and 86 by Kidston, no fewer than seven centuries were recorded at Brisbane—161, 137, 121 by Shaller; 106 and 100 by Beauchamp; and 121 and 111 unfinished by Kidston. In the matter of averages also there is a decided advance. Beauchamp's 8.4 in the final heat last August was the highest average made by any of the four players, the next best being Kidston's 7.12. In last week's game the averages read, Kidston 12.84 against Beauchamp, Shaller 11.12, and Beauchamp 11.2 in their interesting tussle in the first heat, while in the final Shaller average 13.76, and Kidston 9.101. Their figures are encouraging, for the whole of the three players were practically unknown as possible champions four or five years back. There are many more young amateurs coming on, but even so, if Shaller keeps to practice he should hold the title for some time to come. The best that is in him has not yet been developed.

Heiron and Smith's, 214 Castlereagh-street, Sydney, NSW

Referee (Sydney) Wed 12 Aug 1914 Page 14

The meeting of J. R. Hooper and S. H. Wilson (South Australia) on Monday afternoon attracted considerable attention, not that the experts were of opinion that the Southern representative would have much chance of defeating his brilliant opponent. Their curiosity was aroused as to how Wilson would show under such adverse conditions.

The visitor's opening visit gave every promise of success, as from Hooper's safe miss he ran up 19, and had 30 on the board before the N.S.W. champion came in with 20, 63, and 60, reaching 238 a trifle later on, to Wilson's 132. Then came a superb exhibition of high-class billiards by Hooper, who worked the balls in faultless fashion until he broke down after running up a break of 176, which he supplemented a few sticks afterwards by 122. Two such breaks almost on top of each other would have unnerved most players, but Wilson, in gritty style and clean shot play, battled on with breaks of 30, 31, 33, 29, and 38. Shortly after, Hooper reached his points with 601 to Wilson's 316.

Starting the evening session, Wilson appeared to be helplessly out of the game, but to the surprise of everyone, he scored 620 to Hooper's 599, his supreme effort being a break of 99, a third of which came from the red. His other breaks were 33, 34, and a number of 20's. Although Hooper played so well in the afternoon, he was not enjoying the best of health, and was considerably off-color during the evening session which, in a measure counts for his poorer showing, even though Wilson played consistently and well. The final scores were :

HOOPER	1200
WILSON	936



S. H. Wilson

AUSTRALASIAN AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP.

The second heat in the Australasian amateur billiard championship was played at Billiards, Ltd., yesterday, between L. Beauchamp (Vic.) and C. Artly (Q.), and resulted in an easy win for the Victorian, who will meet J. Hooper, of New South Wales, in the final. In the afternoon both men played cautiously and with a trifle too much restraint, consequently the billiards shown did not represent the best form of either man. At night, however, Beauchamp paid attention to the red ball game, and so consistent was he that he ran to his points before Artly had reached half way. Beauchamp's best runs were: 50, 43, 34, 31, 22, 73, 21, 21, 83 (81 off red), 74 (72 off red), 38, 66 (30 off red), 61, 21, and 121 unfinished (51 off red). Artly's best were: 27, 22, 27, 24, 20, 37, 22, 32, 30, and 24, and the final scores were:—

Beauchamp	1200
Artly	563

Sydney Sportsman (Surry Hills) Wed 19 Aug 1914 Page 2

Monday afternoon, August 10.

Hooper, scored 601. Breaks: 20, 63, 60, 36, 38, 176, 122, 15 (unfin.); average, 22.7—601.

Wilson, scored 316. Breaks: 30, 31, 33, 29, 26, 28; average, 11.8—316.

Evening.

Hooper, scored 599. Breaks: 39, 24, 33, 44, 32, 20, 39, 22, 20, 60; average, 9.52—1200.

Wilson, scored 614. Breaks: 25, 21, 33, 25, 23, 24, 34, 23, 26, 99, 23, 22; average, 9.56—930.

J. R. Hooper	1200
S. H. Wilson	930



J. R. HOOPER.

Tuesday Afternoon, August 11.

Beauchamp, scored 601. Breaks: 30, 43, 34, 37, 22, 73, 27, 23; average 9.25—601.

Arthy, scored 416. Breaks: 27, 22, 27, 24, 20, 37, 22, 32; average 6.26—416.

Evening.

Beauchamp, scored 599. Breaks: 81 (81 r), 74 (72 r), 38 (27 r), 66 (30 r), 61, 21, 121 unf.; average 21.11—1200.

Arthy, scored 147. Breaks: 30 and 20; average 5.7—563.

L. L. Beauchamp	1200
C. Arthy	563

Final—Wednesday Afternoon, Aug. 12.

Hooper, scored 500. Breaks: 27, 114, 42, 96, 83, 61 unf.; average 22.6—500.

Beauchamp, scored 239. Breaks: 37, 44, 53, 35; average, 10.19—239.

Evening.

Hooper, scored 501. Breaks: 98 full, 21, 81, 51, 133, 27, 82 unf.; average 50—1001.

Beauchamp, scored 71. No breaks; average 7.1—310.

Thursday Afternoon, August 13.

Hooper, scored 500. Breaks: 114 full, 46, 27, 33, 24, 114, 92, 20 unf.; average 14.24—1501.

Beauchamp, scored 402. Breaks: 20, 22, 23, 27, 96, 50, 41; average 12.6—712.

Evening.

Hooper, scored 499. Breaks: 43 full, 57, 22, 34, 45, 87, 45, 70 unf.; average 17.6—2000.

Beauchamp, scored 291. Breaks: 45 (r), 25, 23, 58; average 10.1—1003.

J. R. Hooper (champion)	2000
L. L. Beauchamp	1003

No titles held during WW1