

Interview with Frank Dewens at the Australian Open Snooker 2018

BSASA: How old were you when you first started playing? Where was the billiard room?

Frank: I was about 16 and started playing in the Royal Oak Hall on the Parade at Norwood which was run by Nick Teti

BSASA: Who was your first coach?

Frank: Never had a coach until Bill Barrie gave me some coaching

BSASA: How long before you made your first 100 break at Snooker

Frank: I was about 25 but cannot remember details

BSASA: When you were a young man improving, before you won your first major event, how many hours a week did you practice?

Frank: Probably about 30 hours

BSASA: If you watch sport on TV (not billiards and snooker) – what do you watch?

Frank: AFL

BSASA: Who is your sporting hero (outside of cue sports)?

Frank: West Indies batsmen - Sir Vivian Richards

BSASA: How many different cues have you used in competition?

Frank: Two – current one is an Alcock Champion – Ash, 20 ounces, 9mm tip

BSASA: What were the strengths and weaknesses of your game?

Frank: Strength – Long Potting – Weakness – Long Potting (“really”)

BSASA: Your first year in State Snooker & Billiards and how far did you get?

Frank: Snooker 1964 – possibly 2 matches in the match I remember was against Yogi Bear (Bruce Wilson). He needed the black late in the match to win – turned around to me and said “You have had your one pounds worth son” then turned back & potted black to win

BSASA: Your toughest opponent at Snooker & Billiards at State & National level?

Frank: State was Bill Barrie, Snooker and Ken Mitchell Billiards. National, Leon Heywood

BSASA: Your most memorable match at Snooker?

Frank: Royal Park Open against Tom Parish – I had 3 centuries in four frames.

BSASA: What was your highest competition break Snooker & Billiards? When and where?

Frank: Snooker 142 against Tom Parish in the Royal Park Open. Billiards 328 against Leon Heywood in the Norwood Club Championship. Also managed a practice break clearance of 139 by potting a red off the break.

BSASA: Of all the Snooker & Billiards players you have seen play, who did you admire the most?

Frank: Alex Higgins World level & Bill Barrie – Max Williams National

BSASA: Date of Birth & where

Frank: 10 December 1944 in Plymouth, England. Family migrated to Australia arriving 6 June 1956.

BSASA: Schools & how long

Frank: Prince Rock Primary, Plymouth - Highgate Primary School, - Norwood High till age 16

BSASA: Have you an AFL team

Frank: Crows

BSASA: What is your proudest achievement in Snooker & Billiards?

Frank: At State Association level, organised the acquisition of poker machines late 1990's at the UQ2 rooms which helped to set up a very good financial base for BSASA.

BSASA: Any superstitions before or when you played

Frank: While driving to play a big match I always stopped to purchase a packet of Stimorol chewing gum. Nothing when I played.

BSASA: Anything else you would like to add

Frank: Would be good to see Snooker & Billiards playing standards in South Australia elevate to what they were from 1960's to 1980's

BSASA: Thanks for your time. Much appreciated.

State Snooker titles

	Winner	Runner up
1982	K W Mitchell	F H Dewens
1986	M C Bovington	F H Dewens
1987	F H Dewens	G H Hubner
1989	P W Udycz	F H Dewens
1990	K W Mitchell	F H Dewens
1995	W King	F H Dewens
1996	P J Reilly Jnr	F H Dewens
1997	A Campbell	F H Dewens
2001	F H Dewens	P W Udycz
2002	J Delahunty	F H Dewens

State Billiards titles

	Winner	Runner up	Dewens breaks
1987	K W Mitchell	F Dewens	F Dewens 132
2000	P Udycz	F Dewens	
2001	P Udycz	M Rendziak	F Dewens 71
2002	P Udycz	F Dewens	



1988 Launceston, Tasmania – Australian National Snooker



● ABOVE: The president of the Tasmanian Billiards and Snooker Association, Peter Akie, presents programs and gifts to visiting competitors Leon Heywood (NSW, left) and Frank Dewens (Sth Aust) at a welcoming reception.

Best break a top start for Dewens

Nobody made a more impressive start to the 1988 Fosters Australian snooker championships than South Australian Frank Dewens.

Dewens, a 43-year old sales manager, put his name up in bright lights on the opening day of the week-long tournament with a sizzling display of potting to score the highest break of 106.

An incentive for the 32-man field is a cash reward of \$2 for every point up to 100 and \$5 for every point after — Dewens is set to take home \$260 — if no-one beats his mark.

The Launceston Federal Country Club Casino, the venue for the tournament, also has on show a brand new motor car — the reward for any player to register the maximum snooker break (not including fouls) of 147.

The only other player to go close on the first day was brilliant Victorian Stan Gorski who scored a neat 100 break on the way to a 4-0 win over Ron Coomber, of New South Wales.

Dewens also added his name into another sort of record — his opening match against Gary Cullen of Victoria took more than four hours!

The likeable South Australian finally won the best of seven-frame match 4-3, but not before Cullen had applied "undue" pressure.

"That was a big one for me today and I'm extremely pleased to get through with a win," Dewens said.

"It was sweet revenge to beat Gary, as he beat me in the round robin games at Coomeralla in the 1986 national titles."

Dewens is a former South Australian snooker champion and last year was also runner-up in the billiards title.

In official tournaments he has made three century breaks, including a highest of 143.



Dewens admitted that he had been unable to put in very little practice for these titles, but added "sometimes that can be a good thing, as you can burnt out too quickly".

His main ambition over the opening three days of round robin play was to make sure of qualifying for the final 16 — a win against Cullen was a major step in the right direction.

South Australian Frank Dewens, who has put on a sizzling display of potting at the national snooker championships in Launceston, shows his style lining up a shot yesterday.

1991 Australian Amateur Snooker Title

The Canberra Times (ACT) Fri 16 Aug 1991 Page 25

SNOOKER AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS In Adelaide August 15

MEN

A: B. Rogers b J. Purcell 4-1, C. Duffy b M. Miller 4-0, B. Rogers b M. Miller 4-2, C. Duffy b J. Purcell 4-1.

B: G. Mares b P. Udyecz 4-1, S. Gorski b P. Towle 4-0, G. Mares bt Towle 4-0, S. Gorski b P. Udyecz 4-3.

C: R. Beggs b R. Coomber 4-1, J. Bonner b R. Boutcher 4-0, R. Coomber b R. Boutcher 4-2, R. Beggs b J. Bonner 4-3.

D: P. Worth b T. Emmett 4-3, P. Hawkes b R. McGifford 4-3, P. Worth b R. McGifford 4-0, T. Emmett b P. Hawkes 4-1.

E: P. Reilly b N. Croft 4-3, S. Budd b S. Sullivan 4-1, P. Reilly b S. Sullivan 4-0, S. Budd b N. Croft 4-0.

F: C. Carter b A. Hicks 4-1, D. Waller b L. Higgins 4-3, A. Hicks b D. Waller 4-1, C. Carter b L. Higgins 4-0.

G: D. Collins b S. Lawler 4-3, W. Turpin b A. Siddons 4-3, A. Siddons b S. Lawler 4-2, D. Collins b W. Turpin 4-0.

H: F. Dewens b S. Eaton 4-0, Q. Hann b S. Eaton 4-1, P. Balzer b F. Dewens 4-1.