



**CLIFF THORBURN
JOINS PABSA**



**FIGUEIREDO SECURES
WST CARD AND 2021
WORLD SENIORS ENTRY**



**KEVIN PATRICK
APPOINTED HEAD
REFEREE**

PABSA Newsletter

April 2021

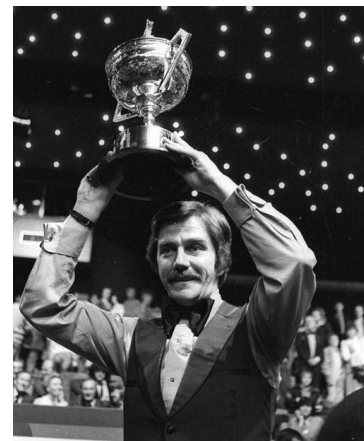
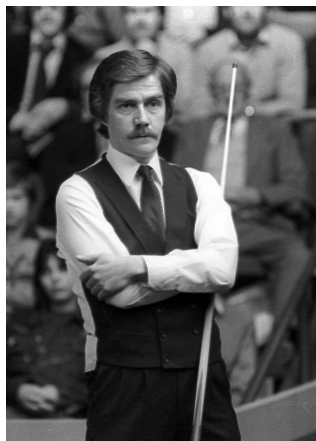
Cliff Thorburn joins PABSA

One of the greatest players to grace the baize, Cliff Thorburn has joined PABSA as Director of Coaching and PABSA Ambassador.

Nicknamed the “Grinder” for his determined style of play, Thorburn qualified for the World Championship in 1977, the first held at the Crucible where he eventually finished runner-up. Things soon changed in 1980 where he stamped his presence in the history books and won The World Championships, and in doing so became the first player from outside of the United Kingdom to do so. A popular winner, largely due to being a non United Kingdom player. Thorburn went on to win The Masters in 1983, 1985 and 1986 whilst finishing runner up in another two world finals in 1977 as mentioned, and also in 1983.

Thorburn is also well known for one of snookers most famous moments when he made the first 147 break at The Crucible Theatre in the 1983 World Championships playing in the second round. In doing so he became the first player in World Championship history to make a 147 break since the championship began in 1927. It was another nine years before another was made at The Crucible Theatre. This moment is ranked as one of the most defining in the sports history. Thorburn also held the world number one ranking during the 1981-82 season. Having played on the professional snooker tour from 1973 until 1996, Cliff Thorburn won a total of two ranking events and eighteen invitational events during his illustrious career amounting to \$2.5 million in prize money. Cliff now competes on the seniors tour where he won the 2018 Master Seniors at The Crucible Theatre.

PABSA President, Ajeya Prabhakar “I am extremely thrilled to announce this, as I learned snooker reading Cliff’s first book! Cliff has already been involved in coaching and youth development and it’s an absolute honor for PABSA that he will now be heading the coaching as the director of coaching and will also be the snooker ambassador for PABSA.”



Figueiredo secures another two year WST tour card

After a fantastic run in the qualifying rounds for the 2021 World Snooker Championships, Igor Figueiredo has secured another two-year tour card on the World Snooker Tour.

In the first round of qualifying, Igor secured a comfortable win in beating Farakh Ajaib 6-0. In the second round he came up against the left-handed Robbie Williams. The match went all the way to a deciding frame, but Igor made a 105 break in the final frame to win and advance to the third round 6-5. In his toughest match yet Igor came up against the very fast and talented world number nineteen, Thepchaiya Un-Nooh. Again the match went to a deciding frame, but Igor showed incredible composure to win the deciding frame with a solid break of 59, win the match 6-5, and go within one match of reaching the Crucible Theatre.

In the fourth and final round of qualifying and just one match away from the main World Championship event, Igor played Mark Joyce in a longer best-of-19 match played over two sessions. After the first session, Joyce led 6-3 and Igor eventually lost 10-7 after a mini fightback from 9-4 down. Igor represented PABSA, Brazil, and the entire pan-American region with pride, and we thank you for your support for Igor during this great run at qualifying.

Thanks to this fantastic run at qualifying, Igor secured another two-year tour card on the WST. The top eight on the one-year season list who have not already secured a tour card will earn another two-year tour card, and Igor finished the season in second place on this list. Congratulations Igor!!! He will now represent PABSA, Brazil, and the pan-America region on the WST for another two seasons at least.

Figueiredo to play in the 2021 Seniors World Championship

Igor Figueiredo has been selected to play in the 2021 Seniors World Championships at The Crucible Theatre.

Igor has been seeded 5th and has been draw against former world champion John Parrott in the first round. Also in the draw will be the likes of seven times World Champion, Stephen Hendry, and current Seniors World Champion, Jimmy White. This means Igor will become the first player from Brazil and the first player from South America to play The Crucible Theatre. A fantastic achievement!



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Support PABSA



PABSA needs your help to continue to grow snooker and billiards in the Pan American region. To support our association and donate please follow the link below. Thank you for your continued support.

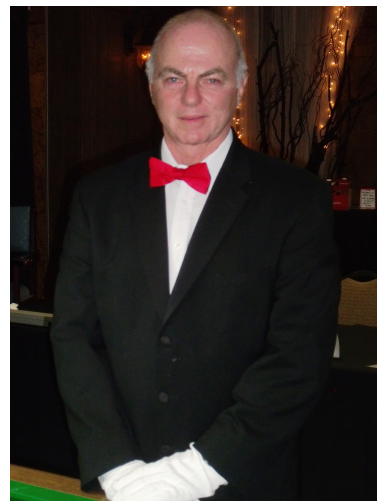
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Kevin Patrick announced as Head Referee

PABSA is pleased to announce the appointment of Kevin Patrick as Head Referee.

Kevin is the head referee for Canada and has over thirty years of refereeing experience to his name. Having been upgraded to an examiner in 1994, Kevin has refereed in many top level events including seven Canadian Championships and Jimmy White vs Stephen Hendry at The Corner Bank in The World Seniors. Kevin has trained and certified many referees in Canada and is dedicated to growing and training referees in the PABSA region going forward to allow future referees to reach their full potential.

PABSA president, Ajeya Prabhakar "We are extremely proud to have Kevin as the Head Referee of PABSA. He has many many decades of experience with refereeing, training referees and also certifying referees into the world organizations. I'm excited to see our refereeing program in such capable hands".



Partners of The Pan American Billiards and Snooker Association

