

## Guidelines for 'Foul and a Miss' rule

The full 'Foul and a Miss' rule can be found in the WPBSA rules at <http://www.wpbsa.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/official-rules-of-the-game.pdf> under 'Rules of the game/Snooker' section 14.

### Section 14(a) - To the best of his ability

A most important part of this rule is section 14(a) is "The Striker shall, **to the best of his ability**, endeavour to hit the ball on". In general players always attempt to hit the ball on to the best of their ability, and as such **a miss should not be called unless:**

- The referee considers that the player **has the ability** to hit the ball on **and** has gained a possible advantage by the miss.
- If the cue balls lacks sufficient pace to reach the ball on.
- If the striker chooses a ball on that is harder to hit than another ball that is on. e.g. choosing a single red instead of a cluster of reds

In all cases a Miss cannot be called if:

- (1) before or after the stroke, penalty points are required by either player
- (2) the points available on the table are equal to the points difference excluding the value of the re-spotted black
- (3) it is impossible to hit the ball on

### Section 14(c) – clear path in a straight line

If the striker, in making a stroke, fails to first hit a ball on when there is a clear path in a straight line from the cue-ball to any part of any ball that is or could be on, the referee shall always call FOUL AND A MISS except if points (1) or (2) apply.

If central, full ball, contact was available and the Miss is called and the offender is asked to play again from the original position and fails to hit a Miss will be called regardless of the scores and will be warned a further failure to hit will be loss of frame.

### Flow chart for the Foul and Miss rules

See flowchart on next page.

# FLOW CHART FOR THE "FOUL" AND "MISS" RULES

