

POSER # 5

A frame of Snooker has reached the stage where only one red is left to be potted. The outgoing striker on leaving the table has left the balls in the following positions. The cue ball on the Baulk line next to the Brown. The Yellow just behind the cue ball towards the Baulk cushion, the Green on its spot and the Blue tight to the top cushion. The Black, Pink and final Red are in a line with the Red in the middle, the Black on one side touching the Red and the Pink on the other also touching the Red. The Pink is on its spot and the line formed by all three object balls is at right angles to the cue ball.

With his first attempt to strike the Red the player first strikes the Black. The referee calls "Foul and a Miss" as penalty points are not required by either player to win the frame even after the awarding of the 7 points for the foul on the Black. His opponent asks for the balls to be replaced and the stroke replayed. At his second attempt the player this time strikes at the opposite side of the Red and in doing so first strikes the Pink. The referee again calls "Foul and a Miss", awards 6 points to the non striker and the balls are re-set on his request. The referee then warns the offender that a third Miss will result in the frame being awarded to the non striker.

The next stroke played sees the Red and the Pink struck simultaneously.

What is the next action to be taken by the referee and explain the rule that is applicable to the decision?

Striking two balls simultaneously other than two reds, or a free ball and the ball on, is a foul. As full central ball contact was available to the striker and given that the warning was delivered to him it means that the frame must be awarded by the referee because of the three 'miss' calls rule

Section 3 Rule 6 - Hitting Two Balls Simultaneously

Two balls, other than two Reds or a *free ball* and a ball *on*, must not be struck simultaneously by the first impact of the *cue-ball*.

Section 3 Rule 14 – Foul and a Miss

(d) After a *miss* has been called under paragraph (c) above when there was a clear path in a straight line from the *cue-ball* to a ball that was *on* or could have been *on*, such that central, full ball, contact was available (in the case of Reds, this to be taken as a full diameter of any Red that is not obstructed by a colour), then:

(i) a further failure to first hit a ball *on* in making a stroke from the original position shall be called as a FOUL AND A MISS regardless of the difference in scores;

(ii) if asked to play again from the original position, the offender shall be warned by the referee that a third failure will result in the frame being awarded to his opponent