

TURN PRO FOR A TENNER

English Association of Snooker and Billiards (EASB) are once again offering a helping hand to aspiring snooker professionals unable to afford the £1000 entry fee required to enter the World Snooker Q School.

The three stage event can be entered by EASB members for as little as £10 and allows multiple entries by individuals to maximise their chances of qualifying through to gain one of the Q School places on offer.

EASB will pay for one entry to the Q School for every £2500 collected in entry fees.

Stage 1:	best of 5 frame knock-out:	entry fee £10
Stage 2:	best of 7 frame knock-out:	entry fee £30
Stage 3:	best of 7 frame knock-out:	entry fee £80

At each stage players will be able to enter up to four times each at the appropriate entry fee. The draw will then be made with each entry going into separate quarters of the draw, which is a slight change from last season. And if a player qualifies into the second or third stage - they don't pay any extra - so you could make it all the way through for just a £10 fee.

Stage 1 and 2 will be played in North, Midlands and South zones and Stage 3 will be played in North and South zones.

In Stage 1 the K/O will be played down to the last 16 round. Winners will automatically qualify for Stage 2 and the losing 8 players will receive prize money.

In addition to the qualifiers, Stage 2 will be open to new entries at an increased fee. Any EASB member can enter at this stage, regardless of whether they entered Stage 1 or not. The K/O will be played down to the last 8 round. Winners will automatically qualify for Stage 3 and the losing 4 players will receive prize money.

The qualifiers and additional entries will contest Stage 3. The number of subsidized places available for the Q School is dependant upon entries but EASB anticipate substantial interest and hope to be able to fund at least 6 - 8 places. Players will receive prize money if they lose in the final round, and should any player qualify more than once, they will not only receive the £1000 entry fee, but also an additional £1000 in prize money.

The good news for those of you that might already win a ticket to the Main Tour through other means, or even those of you who aren't quite old enough to play on the Main Tour, is that you can still win the £1000 prize money.

For further information please contact John Hartley on 0808 129 40 40 or by email at j.hartley@englishsnooker.com