

REPORT ON 2013 BERRI RESORT HOTEL OPEN 8-BALL SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD ON SATURDAY JULY 20TH & SUNDAY JULY 21ST



Phil Reilly defeated Sawon Naker by 4 frames to 1 to be the 26th Winner of this prestigious event. An appreciative audience of over 180 spectators witnessed the final. Both finalists live in Adelaide.

Players were competing for \$16,000 in prize-money.

Phil became the first player to win this event three times, with his other victories being in 1998 and 2000. Phil received \$4,500 in prize-money, together with a trophy for being crowned “Champion”, while Sawon received prize-money of \$1,700 plus a trophy for finishing Runner-up.

The Grand Final saw Sawon break the first frame and made a 5 ball break. Phil then proceeded to make a table clearance to lead 1-0 in the best of 7 frame final. Phil broke the second game, which came up dry. After a tactical game, Sawon had the first shot on the black, which he jawed. Phil then proceeded to clear the table to take a 2-0 frame lead. Sawon made a dry break in the third frame. After Phil committed a foul, Sawon calmly potted out to trail 1-2. Phil made a “cool pot out” in the fourth frame to lead 3-1. The pivotal moment in the fifth frame came as a result of Sawon jawing a ball while attempting to pot it in the middle pocket. Phil the snookered his opponent and as a result of obtaining 2 shots, proceeded to calmly pot out to take the Championship by 4 frames to 1.

Semi Final results were:

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|-------------|----------|-----------------|-----|
| Phil Reilly | defeated | James Delahunty | 4/3 |
| Sawon Naker | defeated | Ben Andretzke | 4/2 |

Quarter Final results were:

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|-----------------|------------|----------|-------------------|-------------|-----|
| Ben Andretzke | (Gawler) | defeated | Peter Butterworth | (Melbourne) | 4/3 |
| Phil Reilly | (Adelaide) | defeated | Mark Stone | (Adelaide) | 4/2 |
| Sawon Naker | (Adelaide) | defeated | Tom Hall-McLeod | (Adelaide) | 4/3 |
| James Delahunty | (Adelaide) | defeated | Ben Nunan | (Melbourne) | 4/2 |

In what must be by now becoming a physiological nightmare for both Ben Nunan and James Delahunty, despite winning major events all over Australia, neither of these players have been able to add the “Berri Open” title to their long list of achievements. Ben was defeated by James 4-2 in a high class Quarter Final. Phil Reilly then played James in the Semi Final and after being locked away at 3 all after 6 frames, Phil won the seventh frame to win the match 4-3 and advance to the Final, while for James it was another case of so close and yet so far.

It is the Tournament Director’s opinion that Ben and James will both eventually win this title as they have so much talent. It is easy for me to say that they need to persevere and with the skill level that they have and with an ounce of luck, they will in the future be able to add the “Berri Open” to their long list of achievements.

Three hundred and thirty two players nominated in this year’s tournament, compared to 365 players that entered the 2012 event. The event consisted of players being divided up into 34 sections, with the sectional play being held at various Clubs and Hotels in the Riverland. At the conclusion of play on Saturday, 136 players had qualified for the finals on the Sunday.

The Friday night restricted knock-out competitions resulted in Geoff Brunnsma (Melbourne) defeating Bruce Knight (Riverland) and Ramon Dunn (Adelaide) defeating Ron Callener (Melbourne). The Friday night Invitational knock-out competitions resulted in Russell Youlten (Adelaide) defeating Alec Evreniadis (Adelaide) and James Delahunty (Adelaide) defeating Nathan Nemes (Adelaide).

The Under 18 knock-out resulted in Erik Westerholm (Murray Bridge) defeating Mitchell Huchins (Adelaide) in the final.

The Saturday night Pot out competition was won by Andy Ripley (Whyalla). The Saturday night Ladies knock-out resulted in Elise Mabbott (Adelaide) defeating Renata Delahunty (Adelaide) in the final.

The “Non Qualifiers” knockout on Sunday was won by Joe Calabro (Adelaide) defeating John Westerholm (Murray Bridge) in the final.

The “Could have been Champions” knock-out on Sunday for Round 1 & 2 losers only resulted in Noah Cunningham (Adelaide) defeating Steve Jamieson (Melbourne) in the final.

I wish to mention the work done by the Riverland 8-Ball Association. President Daryl and his committee spent many hours over the week-end to make sure that everything ran smoothly. I would also like to show my appreciation to the members of the Riverland Women’s 8-Ball Association who assisted with the selling of raffle tickets over the weekend, all proceeds of which are distributed as prize-money to the Saturday night Ladies and Under 18’s knock-outs. Special thanks also goes to Deb Trenwith and Deb Albanese for their assistance in organizing the Ladies Knock-out.

All 18 tables used at the Berri Resort Hotel are supplied and serviced by Aaron Court from Court’s Amusements and I would like to acknowledge his efforts to supply tables of the highest quality.

At the Official Presentation, Berri Resort Hotel’s Assistant Manager Darren Baker assisted in the handing out of the major prizes.

As the Tournament Director, it was particularly pleasing to hear 2013 Champion Phil Reilly in his acceptance speech mention that he and many of his fellow players rate the “Berri Open” as the best organized and run 8-Ball Tournament in Australia.

I would also like to mention the excellent job done by the Host venue. The efforts of all staff to cater for the players was excellent, as are the facilities provided by the Berri Resort Hotel.

Neil Lemmey
Tournament Director