

JINK JUNIOR SENIOR: “POOL IS THE LOSER”

Enmore Wed 30 Nov 2022:

The headline quote could not be a more appropriate description of one of the first games of the second night of the famed and infamous Nick Power Cup held in Enmore, Newtown and Marrickville last Wednesday evening. The quote was in direct reference to the abysmal game played between **Peter T**, usually one of the more outstanding performers in this prestigious competition, and **Smokin' Joe** who has demonstrated his fair share of skills in previous years. The night's game between these two proved to be not only one of the longest ever games in history but was also one of the most lacklustre sporting events since the COVID-impacted 2020 Enmore Public Primary School end-of-year Tiddly Winks playoff held with only 1 player.

Mortified onlooker, **Jink Junior Senior** (see below), made the suggestion that both players be awarded loser status along with the sport of pool itself for such a pathetic attempt at simply completing a game after making multiple attempts each on the black ball and some shocking misses throughout. Both Peter T and Smokin' Joe were unavailable after the game for comment as they walked to the bar heads bowed in shame to consume significantly more commiseratory drinks than good shots played during the “game”.

Jink Junior Senior arrived late into the 2022 NPC, not having been present on Week One, to find that his esteemed title of Jink Junior had been reclaimed by its rightful owner, the real Jink Junior, Chris, who was the surprising winner of the



Above: 2½ generations of Jinks. (From L to R) Jink Junior, Jink Senior and Jink Junior Senior

previous week's matches. In order to avoid a potentially nasty confrontation, the ex-Jink Junior agreed to henceforth go under the pseudonym of Jink Junior Senior owing to his more advanced years than Jink Junior.

Winner's honours on the night went to buyback spoiler, **Garth**, who also failed to impress the crowd in his first-round early loss. However, Garth then took out several fellow buybackers before taking out the final.

Justin, unable to attend the previous week, showed he was still in the running by slashing his way through to the final, mercilessly cutting out first Mitch then other glory-seekers such as Dior, Smokin' Joe then finally Dean in the semis.

However, it was stalwart stayer, **Dean** who, desperate to get his name plaque on the cup again, and following a good 3rd round performance the previous week, gained sufficient week 2 points to catapult himself into 1st place on the NPC ladder.



Above: Dean (front) about to spoil Dave C's (rear) chances of more NPC points in the 3rd round

Despite his disgraceful 1st game, Smokin' Joe managed to move into 4th place displacing Peter T into 7th place. Although **Alex** had an almost equally bad 1st round game as Peter T had endured, he at least retains 3rd placing on the ladder just behind **Dior** in 2nd spot.

Of course, the NPC would not be quite the same without the jolly presence of **Dave G**. After almost scoring the pool-equivalent to a 'misère' in the first week, Dave managed to scrape up a few tricks more in week 2, albeit it just. His hasty retuning of his mythical but largely redundant headband appeared to have added a touch

of performance enhancement possibly allowing him to win one game. At the time of press, judges are still examining his headgear for signs of tampering to provide an unfair advantage.

It is fitting to note at this stage just how cutthroat the Nick Power Cup can typically be. Those who may have performed well in previous weeks or years may find themselves brutally slaughtered the next week or year and cruelly cast onto the slagheap of NPC has-beens.

This year, as most, despite setbacks to several key contenders following the 1st week, there is still no clear winner that bookies are giving short odds on. There still remain 16 players (see below) who still retain a chance of taking out the cup this year. After all, it can take just one bad 1st round game to destroy one's hopes.

NPC 2022 Potential Winners:

name	total
Dean	50
Dior	44
Alex	43
Smokin' Joe	37
Dave C	37
Justin	36
Peter T	22
Dave G	16
Drew	14
Mike	13
John L	13
Aidan	13
Ninja Dave	12
Garth	12
Jink	12
Mike 2	12



Following his safe return from his latest Battlestar Galactica mission, NPC Scoremeister, Henare, has managed to update the NPC statistics website at: stats.hpdp.org.au/2022/npc