



IN THE COMPETITION
APPEAL TRIBUNAL

Case No: 1701/5/7/25

BETWEEN:

NST WORLDWIDE LIMITED

Claimant

- v -

(1) WORLD SNOOKER LIMITED

(2) WORLD SNOOKER HOLDING LIMITED

**(3) WORLD PROFESSIONAL BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER ASSOCIATION
LIMITED**

Defendant

ORDER (CMC3)

UPON the third CMC in these proceedings held on 6 and 15 July 2026.

AND UPON hearing leading counsel for the Claimant, Ben Quiney KC, counsel for the First and Second Defendants, Tim Johnston and counsel for the Third Defendant, Tom Mountford

AND UPON the application of the First and Second Defendants for the following orders:

- (i) *Confidentiality Designation*: that the Recording (and any transcript thereof) of the telephone call between Mr Hearn and Mr Francis of 5 September 2023 (the **Recording**):
 - (a) be formally designated as Confidential under the Confidentiality Ring Order, and
 - (b) that it should be treated as confidential for the purpose of these proceedings, pursuant to CAT Rule 101.
- (ii) *Take-Down Order*: that an order be made prohibiting the Claimant and Mr. Francis from using the Recording other than for the purposes of these proceedings, meaning that it

should immediately be removed from all social media platforms, pursuant to CAT Rule 102.

- (iii) *Express Undertakings*: that Mr. Francis be directed to provide signed, personal and express undertakings to the Tribunal confirming he will not publish, disseminate, disclose or refer to the content of any disclosure documents, inter-party correspondence, or evidence, other than for the purposes of these proceedings, pursuant to CAT Rule 19.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. Scope of economic expert evidence

The list of questions to be put to the economic experts shall be the list provided to the Tribunal on 9 June 2026.

2. Further experts

- a) The Claimant and the Defendants (together) shall have permission to adduce evidence from a sports industry expert.
- b) The parties shall liaise in order to agree a list of issues that shall be addressed by the sports industry expert and a timetable for the serving of that evidence. If and to the extent that the parties cannot agree on those matters, any dispute between the parties will be resolved by the Tribunal on the papers.

3. The Recording

- a) The First and Second Defendants' applications for orders (i) and (iii) identified above are dismissed.
- b) Pursuant to CAT Rule 102(5), the Claimant is prohibited from using the Recording (and any transcript thereof) other than for the purposes of these proceedings.

4. Costs

- a) Costs in the case, relating to the hearing of 6 July 2026.

- b) Costs in the case between the Claimant and the First and Second Defendants on the said applications as between the Claimant and the First and Second Defendant, relating to the hearing of 15 July 2026.

Charles Morrison

Chair of the Competition Appeal Tribunal

Made: 15 July 2026

Drawn: 9 September 2026