**THE LEADING CENTURIONS IN THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 1927-2023**

The Crucible Theatre was first used as the Championship venue in 1977, fifty years after the inception of the event. Defending champion Ray Reardon opened proceedings on the morning of the first day on one side of the infamous divide whilst ex-champions Fred Davis & John Pulman featured on the other side…their nineth meeting in this event. The following list of the leading centurions emphases the divide…this dichotomy between championship snooker before the Crucible and what came next. Only nine players who made their mark from snooker’s ancient past are featured in the list, where qualification for this principal listing is (fittingly) defined by Joe Davis. Meanwhile, all of the men who contested the most recent Championships are to be found somewhere in this document, with the vast majority of them featured in the Principal Listing shown below.

In order to aid the reader, the entries have been colour-coded to better explain and define their presence. Entries coloured green represent players who took part in the Crucible contest of 2023. Those coloured black did not qualify for the main event, whilst those coloured blue no longer take part in the competition. Here, the latter should not necessarily all be either regarded or dismissed as retired players. Many are still very active in the game and are only no longer competing in the World Championships because of extremely stringent limitations placed on the numbers that are actually allowed to enter. Indeed, today, in any given snooker season, the numbers of players involved in serious snooker competition throughout the World vastly outweighs the tiny percentages that are able to compete in the World Championships. Meanwhile, entries coloured dark red relate to hundred breaks of 140 or above…in the fifty years before 1977 there are just three examples of this!

Please, also note that where players score exactly the same number of centuries and the number of centuries in the same class, their ranking in the list is further defined by (first) their best performance in the World Championships and (second) the highest seeding that was achieved. A player who achieves a seeding in the Top Sixteen for a minimum of ten seasons is highlighted by having his name under-lined. Essentially, players ranked in the top sixteen were granted direct entry into the main event and did not have to play qualification matches to earn a Crucible place. Players identified in italics were seeded to take part in the most recent event but, for one reason or another, did not take part, a major betting scandal robbing many Chinese players the chance to take part…the so-called & oft-termed China Ten. Meanwhile, a latest event of many surprises saw one player (Si Jia Hui) enter the principal list and another (Jak Jones) move to the cusp of the principal list, despite no previous appearance anywhere in this document. Beyond that, something similarly quite unforeseen saw Belgian Luca Brecel double his century count from the previous decade.

This Last Player Country Status Top Date of Era played Years Centuries Main event In Most recent Highest

 year year Seeding Birth Qualifying Century

1 1 Ronnie O’Sullivan England Champion x7 1 5.12.75 1993- 31 206 203 3 2023 **147**

 **147** 1997 Hex-final Mick Price 141 1998 Semi-fin. John Higgins **147** 2003 Hex-final Marco Fu

 140 2006 Oct-final Ryan Day 140 2008 Oct-final Mark J. Williams **147** 2008 Oct-final Mark J. Williams

 140 2009 Hex-final Stuart Bingham 141 2012 FINAL Allister Carter 146 2017 Qtr.-final Ding Jun Hui

2 2 John Higgins Scotland Champion x4 1 18.5.75 1993- 31 174 171 3 2023 **147**

 143 1998 Qtr.-final John Parrott 142 1999 Hex-final Gerard Greene 141 2000 Hex-final Dave Harold

 141 2000 Oct-final Steve Davis 141 2009 Qtr.-final Mark Selby 141 2017 FINAL Mark Selby

 146 2018 Oct-final Jack Lisowski 143 2019 Semi-fin. Nigel B. Gilbert **147** 2020 Oct-final Kurt Maflin

3 3 Stephen Hendry Scotland Champion x7 1 13.1.69 1986- 29 134 127 7 2023 **147**

 141 1986 Last 96 Paddy Browne 141 1989 Qtr.-final Terry Griffiths **147** 1995 Semi-fin. Jimmy White

 141 2002 Qtr.-final Ken Doherty 140 2008 Semi-fin. Ronnie O’Sullivan 140 2009 Oct-final Ding Jun Hui

 **147** 2009 Qtr.-final Shaun Murphy **147** 2012 Hex-final Stuart Bingham

4 4 Mark Selby England Champion x4 1 19.6.83 2000- 24 115 106 9 2023 **147**

 142 2010 Semi-fin. Graeme Dott 143 2017 Qtr.-final Marco Fu 142 2021 Hex-final Kurt Maflin

 **147** 2023 FINAL Luca Brecel

5 5 Shaun Murphy England 05 Champ 1 10.8.82 1999- 25 103 86 17 2023 144

 144 2021 Oct-final Yan Bing Tao

6 6 Neil Robertson Australia 10 Champ 1 11.2.82 1999- 24 98 85 13 2023 **147**

 140 2007 Oct-final Ronnie O’Sullivan 140 2010 Semi-fin. Allister Carter 143 2013 Hex-final Robert Milkins

 140 2014 Hex-final Robbie Williams 143 2015 Hex-final Jamie Jones 145 2015 Oct-final Allister Carter

 141 2015 Qtr.-final Barry Hawkins 142 2015 Qtr.-final Barry Hawkins 140 2020 Hex-final Liang Wen Bo

 **147** 2022 Oct-final Jack Lisowski 146 2023 Hex-final Wu Yi Ze 146 2023 Hex-final Wu Yi Ze

7 7 Ding Jun Hui China 16 Final 3 4.3.87 2004- 20 93 73 20 2023 140

 140 2016 Last 48 Nigel Bond

8 8 Matthew Stevens Wales Finalist 5 11.9.77 1995- 29 86 58 28 2023 145

 143 2000 Semi-fin. Joe Swail 145 2002 Qtr.-final John Higgins 143 2019 Last 80 Chris Wakelin

 143 2019 Last 48 Tian Peng Fei

9 9 Judd Trump England 19 Champ 1 21.8.89 2006- 18 83 74 9 2022 142

 142 2007 Last 96 Bradley Jones 142 2013 Hex-final Dominic Dale 141 2019 Hex-final Thepchaiya Un-Nooh

10 10 Mark. J. Williams Wales Champion x3 1 21.3.75 1993- 31 79 77 2 2023 **147**

 140 1999 Hex-final Ian McCulloch **147** 2005 Hex-final Robert Milkins 145 2009 Last 48 Tom Ford

 140 2018 Hex-final Jimmy Robertson

11 11 Marco Fu Hong Kong Semi-final 8 8.1.78 1998- 24 70 42 28 2023 142

 142 2007 Last 48 Michael Judge

12 13 Stuart Bingham England 15 Champ 1 21.5.76 1996- 28 69 47 22 2023 146

 146 2003 Last 48 Nigel Bond 145 2015 Qtr.-final Ronnie O’Sullivan 140 2021 Last 48 Luca Brecel

 140 2021 Last 48 Luca Brecel 140 2022 Hex-final Lyu Hao Tian

13 12 Stephen Maguire Scotland Semi-final 2 13.3.81 1998- 26 69 41 28 2022 144

 144 1999 ‘Last 112’ Phaitoon Phonbun 143 2007 Qtr.-final Anthony Hamilton 142 2012 Semi-fin. Allister Carter

14 11 Barry Hawkins England 13 Final 5 23.4.79 1997- 27 65 48 17 2021 141

 141 2016 Hex-final Zhang Anda

15 14 Ryan Day Wales Qtr.-final 6 23.3.80 1998- 26 64 19 45 2023 146

 145 2004 Last 128 Adrian Rosa 140 2004 Last 96 Tony Jones 141 2018 Hex-final Anthony McGill

 145 2018 Hex-final Anthony McGill 146 2023 Last 48 Scott Donaldson

16 17 Mark Allen N. Ireland Semi-final 3 23.2.86 2003- 21 63 53 10 2023 146

 146 2010 Oct-final Mark Davis

17 16 Peter Ebdon England 02 Champ 1 27.8.70 1992-2019 28 60 53 7 2018 144

 144 1996 Hex-final Dene O’Kane 143 2008 Qtr.-final Allister Carter

18 18 Allister Carter England Finalist 5 25.7.79 1997- 27 59 42 17 2023 **147**

 144 2007 Qtr.-final Mark Selby **147** 2008 Qtr.-final Peter Ebdon 143 2023 Hex-final Jak Jones

19 19 Ken Doherty Rep. of Ire 97 Champ 1 17.9.69 1991- 33 54 34 20 2023 137

20 20 Jimmy White England Finalist 2 2.5.62 1981- 43 51 38 13 2017 **147**

 140 1991 Oct-final Neal Foulds **147** 1992 Hex-final Tony Drago 143 1998 Oct-final Darren Morgan

21 21 Steve Davis England Champion x6 1 22.8.57 1979-2016 38 50 46 4 2011 144

 144 1993 Oct-final Alan McManus

22 22 Kyren Wilson England 20 Final 7 23.12.91 2011- 11 50 45 5 2023 **147**

 143 2016 Qtr.-final Mark Selby 140 2018 Semi-fin. John Higgins **147** 2023 Hex-final Ryan Day

23 26 Ricky Walden England 13 Semi-f 7 11.11.82 2000- 24 46 17 29 2023 140

 140 2013 Hex-final Michael Holt

24 27 David B. Gilbert England 19 Semi-f 12 12.6.81 1998- 24 45 16 29 2023 135

25 23 Tom Ford England Hex-final 24 14.8.83 2001- 23 44 2 42 2022 140

 140 2015 Last 144 Andrew Norman 140 2020 Hex-final Judd Trump

*26 24 Liang Wen Bo China 08 Qtr.-f 13 25.3.87 2005- 17 43 9 34 2021* **147**

 **147** 2018 Last 144 Rod Lawler 140\* 2018 Last 144 Rod Lawler 141 2019 Last 48 Gary Wilson

 141 2020 Last 48 Fergal O’Brien

27 25 Anthony Hamilton England Qtr.-final 10 29.6.71 1992- 32 42 19 23 2020 145

 145 1995 Last 96 Nick Walker 140 1997 Last 48 Karl Broughton

28 28 Mark Davis England Oct-final 13 12.8.72 1992- 32 42 1 41 2023 143

 143 2021 Last 80 Stuart Carrington

29 32 Joe Perry England 08 Semi-f 9 13.8.75 1994- 30 40 21 29 2023 145

 142 1997 Last 192 Tony Meo 145 2004 Oct-final Mark J. Williams 140 2017 Last 144 Zack Richardson

 143 2023 Last 80 Sanderson Lam

30 29 John Parrott England 91 Champ 1 11.5.64 1984-2012 29 39 33 6 2009 140

 140 1990 Qtr.-final Cliff Thorburn

31 30 Martin Gould England Oct-final 11 14.9.81 2000- 22 39 14 25 2021 137

32 31 Graeme Dott Scotland 06 Champ 1 12.5.77 1995- 29 38 22 16 2022 **147**

 141 1999 Last 48 Marco Fu 146 2010 Semi-fin. Mark Selby 140 2019 Last 144 Hamza Akbar

 **147** 2022 Last 80 Pang Jun Xu

33 33 Barry Pinches England 04 Oct-f 19 13.7.70 1990- 31 37 3 34 2023 143

 140 1998 ’Last 128’ Nick Terry 143 1998 ‘Last 112’ Joe Perry 140 1999 Last 208 Jeff Cundy

 143 1999 Last 208 Jeff Cundy 140 2023 Last 144 Ross Bulman

34 39 Anthony McGill Scotland 20 Semi-f 13 5.2.91 2011- 13 36 23 13 2023 137

35 36 Dominic Dale Wales Qtr.-final 19 29.12.71 1993- 31 35 8 27 2023 142

 141 1996 Last 96 Joe Johnson 142 1997 Last 192 Neil Tomkins

36 34 Fred Davis England Champion x9 1 14.8.13 1937-1993 43 34 34 0 1980 140

 140 1952 FINAL Walter Donaldson

37 35 Alan McManus Scotland Semi-final 6 21.1.71 1991-2021 31 34 23 11 2020 143

 143 1994 Hex-final Fergal O’Brien

38 38 Jack Lisowski England 22 Qtr.-f 11 25.6.91 2011- 13 33 16 17 2023 137

39 47 Zhang Anda China Hex-final 71 25.12.91 2010- 12 32 1 31 2023 137

40 37 Stephen Lee England 03 Semi-f 5 12.10.74 1993-2012 20 31 27 4 2012 140

 140 2003 Semi-fin. Mark J. Williams

41 43 Gary Wilson England 19 Semi-f 13 11.8.85 2004- 13 30 12 18 2023 **147**

 **147** 2017 Last 144 Josh Boileau 140 2019 Semi-fin. Judd Trump

*42 40 Mark King England Oct-final 11 28.3.74 1992- 31 29 11 18 2021 138*

43 41 Jamie Burnett Scotland Hex-final 27 16.9.75 1993-2016 24 29 1 28 2015 142

 141 1994 Last 256 Graham Cripsey 141 2006 Last 80 David B. Gilbert 142 2012 Last 64 Adam Duffy

44 42 Ian McCulloch England 05 Semi-f 17 28.7.71 1993-2012 20 28 13 15 2011 144

 144 1999 Last 96 Barry Pinches

45 44 Jamie Jones Wales 12 Qtr.-f 32 14.2.88 2005- 16 27 10 17 2022 140

 140 2012 Last 64 Andy Hicks

46 45 Kurt Maflin Norway 20 Qtr.-f 25 8.8.83 2000-22 19 27 4 23 2021 134

47 67 Thepchaiya Un-Nooh Thailand Hex-final 19 18.4.85 2010- 12 27 3 24 2023 145

 140\* 2016 Last 48 Anthony McGill 144 2016 Last 48 Anthony McGill 145 2022 Last 48 Matthew Selt

 145 2023 Last 80 Mark Joyce 142 2023 Last 48 Ricky Walden

48 46 Robin Hull Finland Hex-final 32 16.8.74 1994-2020 20 27 1 26 2017 140

 140\* 1999 ’Last 112’ Tom Finstad

49 52 Noppon Saengkham Thailand Oct-final 38 15.7.92 2011- 10 26 6 20 2023 146

 146 2019 Last 144 Adam Stefanow

50 48 John Spencer England Champion x3 1 18.9.35 1969-92 24 25 23 2 1988 139

51 49 Nigel Bond England 95 Final 5 15.11.65 1990- 33 25 11 14 2021 139

52 51 Fergal O’Brien Rep. of Ire 00 Qtr.-f 9 8.3.72 1992- 32 25 5 20 2023 140

 140 2021 Last 144 Fergal Quinn

53 **NEW** Luca Brecel Belgium 23 Champ 9 8.3.95 2012- 12 24 16 8 2023 141

 141 2023 FINAL Mark Selby

*54 50 Yan Bing Tao China 22 Qtr.-f. 10 16.2.00 2017- 6 24 16 8 2022 136*

55 57 Andy Hicks England 95 Semi-f 17 10.8.73 1992- 29 24 5 19 2023 140

 140 1995 Last 48 Martin Clark

56 53 Eddie Charlton Australia Finalist 2 31.10.29 1968-95 25 23 16 7 1992 137

57 54 Joe Swail N. Ireland Semi-final 10 29.8.68 1992-2020 28 23 13 10 2016 141

 141 2000 Hex-final Paul Hunter

58 55 Darren Morgan Wales 94 Semi-f 8 3.5.66 1989-2006 18 23 11 12 2004 143

 143 1989 Last 48 Alex Higgins

59 56 Michael Holt England Oct-final 21 7.8.78 1997- 27 23 8 15 2021 140

 140 2016 Hex-final Neil Robertson

60 58 Sam Baird England 16 Oct-f 53 17.6.88 2010-20 11 23 3 20 2020 142

 142 2013 Last 48 Joe Perry

61 62 Matthew Selt England Hex-final 21 7.3.85 2002- 20 23 3 20 2023 142

 142 2021 Last 80 Nigel Bond

62 59 Willie Thorne England Qtr.-final 7 4.3.54 1977-2002 26 22 11 11 2002 143

 143 1982 Qtr.-final Alex Higgins

63 60 Xiao Guo Dong China 17 Oct-f 23 10.2.89 2008- 14 22 1 21 2021 140

 140 2012 Last 80 Aditya Mehta

64 61 James Wattana Thailand Semi-final 3 17.1.70 1990-2019 29 21 11 10 2016 141

 140 2006 Last 48 David B. Gilbert 140 2010 Last 96 Lee Page 141 2011 Last 96 Justin Astley

65 63 Alfie Burden England 98 Hex-f 38 12.4.76 1995- 26 21 2 19 2016 138

66 64 Paul Hunter England 03 Semi-f 4 14.10.78 1996-2007 12 20 16 4 2005 135

67 65 Jamie Cope England Oct-final 14 12.9.85 2003-18 16 20 5 15 2018 141

 141 2018 Last 144 Hossein Vafaei

68 66 Michael White Wales 13 Qtr.-f 15 5.7.91 2008- 15 20 4 16 2022 144

 144 2017 Last 80 Ross Muir

69 68 Robert Milkins England Oct-final 13 6.3.76 1996- 28 20 2 18 2020 **147**

 **147** 2006 Last 48 Mark Selby **147** 2012 Last 64 Xiao Guo Dong

70 73 Chris Wakelin England Hex-final 26 16.3.92 2014- 10 20 2 18 2023 141

 141 2018 Hex-final Judd Trump

71 69 Jimmy Robertson England Hex-final 22 3.5.86 2003- 18 20 1 19 2022 136

72 70 Liam Highfield England Hex-final 41 1.12.90 2011- 13 19 1 18 2022 139

73 71 Ray Reardon Wales Champion x6 1 8.10.32 1969-91 23 18 17 1 1990 133

74 72 Neal Foulds England 87 Semi-f 3 13.7.63 1984-2003 20 18 6 12 2003 133

75 82 Lyu Hao Tian China 18 Oct-f 27 29.11.97 2014- 8 18 5 13 2023 136

76 74 Drew Henry Scotland Oct-final 18 24.11.68 1992-2008 17 17 5 12 2005 133

77 92 Zhou Yue Long China 19 Oct-f 17 24.1.98 2015- 8 17 3 14 2023 140

 140 2016 Last 48 Zhang Anda

78 75 Michael Judge Rep. of Ire 01 Oct-f 24 12.6.75 1993- 22 17 3 14 2008 126

79 76 Patrick Wallace N. Ireland 01 Qtr.-f 34 20.9.69 1995-2013 18 17 3 14 2013 139

80 77 Stuart Carrington England Hex-final 40 14.5.90 2012- 11 17 3 14 2021 141

 141 2018 Last 48 Zhang Anda

81 85 Ben Woollaston England 13 Hex-f 25 14.5.87 2004- 18 17 0 17 2023 145

 145 2012 Last 48 Dominic Dale

82 78 Bjorn Haneveer Belgium Last 48 53 4.9.76 1994-2011 15 17 n/a 17 2010 138

83 79 Lee Spick England Last 48 65 25.4.80 1999-2010 12 17 n/a 17 2009 134

84 80 Steve James England Semi-final 7 2.5.61 1987-2005 19 16 12 4 1999 140

 140 1988 Hex-final Rex Williams

85 81 Tony Drago Malta 88 Qtr.-f 10 22.9.65 1986-2016 30 16 8 8 2015 144

 144 1996 Oct-final Ronnie O’Sullivan

86 83 Tian Peng Fei China 19 Hex-f 39 16.8.87 2005- 15 16 3 13 2021 139

87 84 Rod Lawler England 96 Oct-f 20 12.7.71 1991-2021 31 16 0 16 2015 143

 143 2003 Last 96 Ian Preece

88 86 Alex Higgins N. Ireland Champion x2 1 18.3.49 1972-98 26 15 11 4 1995 137

89 87 Dene O’Kane New Zeal. Qtr.-final 18 24.2.63 1985-2007 18 15 4 11 1998 140

 140 1996 Last 48 Paul Davies

90 88 Gerard Greene N. Ireland Hex-final 26 12.11.73 1994- 30 15 0 15 2021 140

 140 2003 Last 64 Marcus Campbell

*91 89 Li Hang China 19 Hex-f 28 4.10.90 2009- 10 15 0 15 2021 138*

92 93 Craig Steadman England 15 Hex-f 64 14.7.82 2000- 17 15 0 15 2023 140

 140 2015 Last 80 Michael White

93 94 Daniel Wells Wales Last 48 46 31.7.88 2009- 14 15 n/a 15 2023 136

94 90 Walter Donaldson Scotland Champion x2 2 2.2.07 1933-54 12 14 14 0 1954 121

95 91 Cliff Thorburn Canada 80 Champ 1 16.1.48 1973-96 24 14 11 3 1996 **147**

 **147** 1983 Oct-final Terry Griffiths

96 **NEW** Si Jia Hui China 23 Semi-f 74 11.7.02 2020- 4 14 8 6 2023 132

97 **NEW** Andrew Higginson England 12 Oct-f 20 13.12.77 1997- 26 14 1 13 2023 139

98 95 John Pulman England Champion x8 3 12.12.23 1947-1981 31 13 13 0 1974 133

99 96 Dave Harold England 96 Qtr.-f 11 9.12.68 1992-2014 23 13 7 6 2007 137

100 97 Euan Henderson England 96 Hex-f 38 30.6.67 1992-2003 12 13 1 12 2001 118

101 **NEW** Elliot Slessor England 20 Hex-f 48 4.8.94 2014- 9 13 1 12 2023 138

102 98 Terry Griffiths Wales 79 Champ 1 16.10.47 1979-97 19 12 12 0 1993 133

103 99 Joe Davis England Champion x16 1 15.4.01 1927-46 16 12 12 0 1946 136

 *[Joe Davis is listed beneath Terry Griffiths because some of his centuries were compiled in post-result frames]*

 [140\*: Break came to an end upon a missed black, Liang Wen Bo being one ball short of a unique two-in-a-match 147 achievement]

 THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMPLETE HISTORICAL RECORD: Journeymen players & other professionals

 *Not within the leading centurions of the championship, but compiled four centuries or more, in the event.*

 Rex Williams England Finalist 4 20.7.33 1952-95 34 12 11 1 1987 142

 141 1956 Semi-fin. Fred Davis 142 1965 FINAL John Pulman

 Kirk Stevens Canada Semi-final 4 17.8.58 1979-99 16 12 6 6 1999 143

 143 1991 Last 128 Jonathan Birch

 Hossein Vafaei Ayouri Iran 23 Oct-f 18 14.9.94 2015- 9 12 3 9 2023 138

 Joe O’Connor England Last 48 28 11.8.95 2015- 7 12 n/a 12 2023 138

 Shailesh ’Joe’ Jogia England Last 48 47 13.11.75 1995-2012 16 12 n/a 12 2010 126

 Doug Mountjoy Wales 81 Final 6 8.6.42 1977-2002 22 11 8 3 1992 145

 145 1981 Semi-fin. Ray Reardon

 Jak Jones Wales 23 Qtr.-f 44 29.7.93 2011- 10 11 5 6 2023 138

 David Gray England 04 Qtr.-f 12 9.2.79 1997-2012 16 11 4 7 2012 140

 140 1998 Hex-final Alan McManus

 Mick Price England 92 Oct-f 21 2.6.66 1989-2002 14 11 1 10 2000 132

 James Cahill England 19 Oct-f 79 27.12.95 2014- 9 11 1 10 2023 131

 Robbie Williams England Hex-final 47 28.12.86 2013- 11 11 1 10 2023 125

 Nick Terry England 96 Hex-f 38 15.9.67 1989-2001 13 11 0 11 2000 138

 Leo Fernandez Rep. of Ire 99 Hex-f 67 5.7.76 1996-2021 15 11 0 11 2018 138

 Adrian Gunnell England Last 48 36 24.8.72 1995-2012 18 11 n/a 11 2012 132

 Matthew Couch England Last 48 47 30.6.74 1993-2012 19 11 n/a 11 2010 129

 Joe Johnson England 86 Champ 1 29.7.52 1980-2004 25 10 7 3 2001 141

 141 1992 Last 48 Mick Price

 Dean Reynolds England 89 Qtr.-f 8 11.1.63 1982-2003 21 10 3 7 2001 120

 Nick Dyson England Hex-final 44 19.12.69 1990-2006 17 10 1 9 2006 143

 143 2000 Last 160 Jason Wallace

 Lee Walker Wales 97 Qtr.-f 42 11.2.76 1995-2022 21 10 0 10 2022 130

 Rory McLeod England Oct-final 33 26.3.71 1992- 26 10 0 10 2018 145

 145 2007 Last 80 Alex Borg

 Bradley Jones England 97 Hex-f 33 16.5.74 1992-2007 15 10 0 10 2007 133

 Oliver Lines England Last 80 57 16.6.95 2015- 9 10 n/a 10 2023 140

 140 2023 Last 112 Sean F. O’Sullivan

 Dennis Taylor N. Ireland 85 Champ 1 19.1.49 1973-2000 28 9 8 1 1996 140

 140 1996 Last 48 Rod Lawler

 Tony Meo England 89 Semi-f 10 4.10.59 1980-97 18 9 8 1 1991 142

 142 1989 Last 48 Tony Jones

 Chris Small Scotland Oct-final 12 26.9.73 1992-2005 14 9 6 3 2005 141

 141 2001 Last 48 Barry Pinches

 Gary Wilkinson England Qtr.-final 5 7.4.66 1988-2006 19 9 4 5 2003 130

 John Virgo England 79 Semi-f 10 4.3.46 1977-93 17 9 3 6 1987 137

 Jackson Page Wales 22 Oct-f 71 8.8.01 2017- 7 9 3 6 2023 135

 Alain Robidoux Canada 97 Semi-f 9 25.7.60 1988-2004 17 9 2 7 2000 136

 Billy Snaddon Scotland Hex-final 24 7.7.69 1992-2004 13 9 2 7 2002 137

 Stefan Mazrocis Holland 97 Oct-f 65 18.4.67 1992-2009 16 9 1 8 2009 128

 David Grace England Hex-final 51 5.5.85 2009- 13 9 1 8 2023 137

 Marcus Campbell Scotland Hex-final 24 22.9.72 1992-2015 24 9 0 9 2008 132

 Stuart Pettman England Hex-final 37 24.4.75 1993-2011 19 9 0 9 2009 133

 Kristjan B. Helgason Iceland 00 Hex-f 66 27.3.74 1996-2018 7 9 0 9 2003 139

 Yu De Lu China Last 48 46 11.10.87 2012-18 7 9 n/a 9 2017 140

 140 2013 Last 64 Jamie Burnett

 Craig MacGillivray Scotland Last 64 84 3.7.72 1992-2005 14 9 n/a 9 2003 140

 140 2003 Last 272 Johan Oenema

 Quinten Hann Australia Oct-final 14 4.6.77 1996-2005 10 8 0 8 2000 142

 142 1997 Last 256 Mark Fenton

 Nick Walker England 99 Oct-f 54 4.8.73 1992-2005 14 8 0 8 1999 128

 Scott Donaldson Scotland Hex-final 22 19.3.94 2013- 11 8 0 8 2023 139

 Mark Johnston-Allen England 92 Hex-f 31 28.12.68 1989-2000 12 8 0 8 1999 126

 Mike Dunn England 02 Hex-f 38 20.11.71 1992-2020 29 8 0 8 2018 136

 Peter Lines England 98 Hex-f 42 11.12.69 1992- 30 8 0 8 2017 142

 141 1998 Hex-final John Parrott 142 2016 Last 144 Miss Ng On Yee

 Dave Finbow England Last 48 28 27.2.68 1992-2004 13 8 n/a 8 2004 140

 140 1997 Last 48 Bradley Jones

 Jonathan Birch England Last 48 42 15.2.68 1991-2004 14 8 n/a 8 2002 141

 141 1996 Last 96 Chris Shade

 Yuan Si Jun China Last 48 48 29.5.00 2018- 5 8 n/a 8 2023 133

 David Morris Rep. of Ire Last 48 51 27.11.88 2007-16 10 8 n/a 8 2016 141

 141 2007 Last 96 Christopher Melling 140 2015 Last 144 Lee Walker

 Ian Burns England Last 48 60 11.3.85 2013- 11 8 n/a 8 2023 141

 141 2022 Last 144 Marco Fu

 John J. Astley England Last 48 66 13.1.89 2014- 8 8 n/a 8 2023 128

 Paul S. Davison England Last 64 72 1.10.71 1993-2021 25 8 n/a 8 2017 144

 144 2001 Last 208 Damian Massey

 Jason Weston England Last 64 93 11.1.71 1992-2017 14 8 n/a 8 2002 142

 142 1997 Last 192 Dermot McGlinchey

 Munraj Pal England Last 80 85 21.4.76 1996-2008 11 8 n/a 8 2008 133

 Tony Knowles England Semi-final 2 13.6.55 1981-2013 31 7 6 1 2001 137

 Mike Hallett England Qtr.-final 6 2.7.59 1980-2005 26 7 4 3 1999 133

 *Zhao Xin Tong China 22 Oct-f 7 3.4.97 2016- 6 7 3 4 2022 136*

 Wu Yi Ze China 23 Hex-f 58 14.10.03 2020- 3 7 2 5 2023 140

 140 2023 Last 48 Chris Wakelin

 Mark Joyce England 21 Hex-f 37 11.8.83 2003- 20 7 0 7 2021 139

 Alexander Ursenbacher Switzerland 20 Hex-f 47 26.4.96 2014- 9 7 0 7 2023 141

 141 2020 Last 80 Gary Wilson

 Stephen Murphy Rep. of Ire 92 Hex-f 50 23.9.69 1990-99 10 7 0 7 1998 108

 Simon Bedford England 98 Hex-f 63 8.2.76 1996-2013 15 7 0 7 2004 123

 Sam Craigie England 21 Hex-f 37 29.12.93 2009- 9 7 0 7 2021 140

 140 2017 Last 144 Yan Bing Tao

 Shokat Ali Pakistan Last 48 34 4.3.70 1992-2007 16 7 n/a 7 2007 125

 Paul Wykes England Last 48 56 15.4.71 1993-2013 17 7 n/a 7 2013 141

 141 2006 Last 96 Stefan Mazrocis

 Paul Sweeny England Last 64 80 27.3.75 1994-2005 12 7 n/a 7 2005 130

 Justin Astley England Last 64 87 20.5.83 2000-13 10 7 n/a 7 2013 137

 James Reynolds Wales Last 80 106 19.9.78 1997-2005 9 7 n/a 7 2005 139

 Bill Werbeniuk Canada Qtr.-final 8 14.1.47 1974-92 19 6 4 2 1988 143

 142 1979 Qtr.-final John Virgo 143 1985 Hex-final Joe Johnson

 Cao Yu Peng China 12 Oct-f 38 27.10.90 2012- 9 6 3 3 2018 125

 Brian Morgan England 94 Oct-f 27 16.7.68 1990-2006 17 6 2 4 1997 134

 Dechawat Poomjaeng Thailand 13 Oct-f 39 11.7.78 2012- 7 6 0 6 2023 134

 Sean Storey England 03 Oct-f 50 19.8.71 1992-2008 17 6 0 6 2003 134

 Liu Chuang China Hex-final 51 6.6.90 2008-14 6 6 0 6 2014 139

 Michael Georgiou Cyprus 19 Hex-f 52 18.1.88 2009- 9 6 0 6 2020 121

 David McLellan Scotland 97 Hex-f 75 10.1.70 1992-2003 12 6 0 6 2003 134

 Akani Songsermsawad Thailand Last 48 44 10.9.95 2016-22 7 6 n/a 6 2020 120

 Brian Rowswell England Last 48 64 18.3.67 1987-99 13 6 n/a 6 1998 135

 Lei Pei Fan China Last 48 73 31.5.03 2021- 3 6 n/a 6 2023 138

 *Chang Bing Yu China Last 48 73 8.8.02 2021- 2 6 n/a 6 2022 135*

 Allan Taylor England Last 48 79 28.11.84 2014- 10 6 n/a 6 2023 145

 145 2020 Last 112 Lee Walker

 David Lilley England Last 48 82 19.10.75 2002- 7 6 n/a 6 2023 133

 Colm Gilcreest Rep. of Ire Last 48 84 7.5.74 1995-2005 11 6 n/a 6 2004 118

 Ian Preece Wales Last 64 55 23.6.82 2000-20 13 6 n/a 6 2008 135

 Wayne Brown England Last 64 69 21.10.69 1995-2005 11 6 n/a 6 2005 141

 141 2002 Last 128 Christopher Melling

 Thanawat Thirapongaiboon Thailand Last 64 71 14.12.93 2011-15 4 6 n/a 6 2015 128

 Stuart Mann England Last 64 110 30.12.72 1992-2006 14 6 n/a 6 2005 132

 Jason Wallace England Last 64 110 8.1.73 1992-2002 11 6 n/a 6 2002 132

 Louis Heathcote England Last 80 67 3.7.97 2020- 4 6 n/a 6 2023 136

 Malcolm Bilclough England Last 96 162 19.2.79 1997-2002 5 6 n/a 6 2002 123

 Graham Miles England 74 Final 2 11.5.41 1972-91 20 5 4 1 1974 131

 Martin Clark England Oct-final 12 27.10.68 1988-2000 13 5 4 1 1997 139

 Michael Wasley England 14 Oct-f 75 23.2.90 2013-16 4 5 3 2 2014 135

 David Roe England Oct-final 13 11.9.65 1987-2010 24 5 0 5 2008 124

 Wayne Jones Wales 89 Oct-f 23 24.12.59 1985-2002 18 5 0 5 2000 138

 Terry Murphy Rep. of Ire Hex-final 29 6.3.72 1992-2005 14 5 0 5 2002 124

 Pan Jun Xu China 23 Hex-f 33 15.2.00 2019- 4 5 1 4 2023 144

 144 2022 Last 112 Farakh Ajaib

 Fan Zheng Yi China 23 Hex-f 34 27.1.01 2019- 5 5 2 3 2023 131

 Joe O’Boye Rep. of Ire 89 Hex-f 35 6.3.60 1986-2000 15 5 0 5 1998 118

 Tony Chappel Wales 90 Hex-f 37 28.5.60 1985-2013 19 5 0 5 1999 143

 143 1999 Last 96 Craig MacGillivray

 Jason Prince N. Ireland 98 Hex-f 41 17.6.70 1991-2004 14 5 0 5 2003 131

 Robert Marshall England 91 Hex-f 46 25.8.64 1988-95 8 5 0 5 1995 133

 John Read England 00 Hex-f 62 3.5.69 1992-2003 12 5 0 5 1999 115

 Paul Cavney England 95 Hex-f 94 6.8.67 1992-2011 15 5 0 5 1995 133

 Paul R. Davies Wales Last 48 35 22.6.70 1992-2011 20 5 n/a 5 2006 126

 Liu Song China Last 48 53 8.12.83 2004-12 8 5 n/a 5 2011 137

 Nick Pearce England Last 48 57 25.1.67 1993-2003 11 5 n/a 5 2002 127

 Scott MacKenzie Scotland Last 48 60 21.7.80 1998-2009 12 5 n/a 5 2009 107

 Chris Scanlon England Last 48 64 17.2.75 1993-2000 8 5 n/a 5 1997 125

 Igor Figueiredo Brazil Last 48 74 11.10.77 2011-21 10 5 n/a 5 2021 133

 Ian Brumby England Last 64 69 17.9.64 1990-2005 16 5 n/a 5 2003 138

 Craig Butler England Last 64 73 30.4.74 2001-05 5 5 n/a 5 2004 130

 James McBain Scotland Last 64 80 22.6.78 1998-2011 12 5 n/a 5 2011 112

 Martin O’Neill N. Ireland Last 64 142 23.4.72 1993-99 7 5 n/a 5 1997 110

 Jamie O’Neill England Last 80 77 19.8.86 2004- 11 5 n/a 5 2023 115

 David McDonnell England Last 80 79 10.11.71 1992-2006 15 5 n/a 5 2005 109

 Sanderson Lam England Last 80 90 28.1.94 2014- 7 5 n/a 5 2023 125

 Brian Salmon England Last 80 200 5.4.78 1998-2005 6 5 n/a 5 2005 123

 Lee L. Richardson England Last 96 84 15.6.71 1992-2005 14 5 n/a 5 2004 112

 Silvino Francisco South Africa 82 Qtr.-f 10 3.5.46 1982-97 16 4 3 1 1988 128

 Steve Longworth England 87 Oct-f 30 27.7.48 1985-94 10 4 1 3 1993 120

 Jason Ferguson England Hex-final 28 31.5.69 1991-2004 14 4 1 3 2000 139

 David Taylor England 80 Semi-f 7 29.7.43 1970-2010 28 4 0 4 199 6 131

 Peter Francisco S. Africa Hex-final 14 14.2.62 1985-95 11 4 0 4 1995 134

 Nigel Gilbert England Hex-final 44 20.3.59 1987-2000 14 4 0 4 1991 135

 Karl Payne England 93 Hex-f 51 8.2.70 1992-99 8 4 0 4 1997 143

 143 1994 Last 192 Robert Chapman

 Andrew Pagett Wales 11 Hex-f 78 25.4.82 2004- 9 4 0 4 2022 135

 Tai Pichit Thailand 95 Hex-f 124 10.1.63 1995-99 4 4 0 4 1997 128

 Joe Delaney Rep. of Ire 07 Hex-f 199 4.8.72 1992-2012 21 4 0 4 2007 120

 Martin O’Donnell England Last 48 30 4.6.86 2005- 11 4 n/a 4 2019 139

 Tommy Murphy N. Ireland Last 48 42 8.1.62 1982-94 14 4 n/a 4 1990 108

 Adam Duffy England Last 48 59 30.3.89 2012- 10 4 n/a 4 2018 123

 Xu Si China Last 48 65 24.1.98 2017- 6 4 n/a 4 2023 116

 Jamie Woodman England Last 48 68 11.7.71 1992-98 7 4 n/a 4 1996 128

 Mark Flowerdew England Last 64 50 4.6.71 1992-97 6 4 n/a 4 1997 116

 Joe Grech Malta Last 64 68 9.7.54 1989-99 10 4 n/a 4 1999 136

 Martin Smith England Last 64 72 12.6.61 1986-93 8 4 n/a 4 1991 140

 140 1991 Last 128 Ken Doherty

 Alex Borg Malta Last 64 79 5.6.69 1992-2021 17 4 n/a 4 2014 134

 Dylan Leary N. Ireland Last 64 110 8.2.69 1992-2001 10 4 n/a 4 1998 104

 Adrian Rosa England Last 64 117 17.1.71 1992-2004 13 4 n/a 4 2001 126

 James Leadbetter England Last 64 125 23.12.80 2002-07 5 4 n/a 4 2007 138

 Iulian Boiko Ukraine Last 80 32 22.5.05 2020- 4 4 n/a 4 2023 126

 Kuldesh Johal England Last 80 89 25.9.80 2001-16 8 4 n/a 4 2011 113

 Christopher Melling England Last 96 89 27.1.79 2001-16 8 4 n/a 4 2016 128

 Darryn Walker England Last 96 91 3.9.72 1992-2005 14 4 n/a 4 1999 130

 Philip W. Williams Wales Last 96 104 21.6.67 1994-2004 11 4 n/a 4 2004 130

 Chris Shade Scotland Last 96 115 19.3.76 1996-2002 7 4 n/a 4 1999 116

 Leigh Robinson England Last 96 126 11.8.71 1992-99 8 4 n/a 4 1994 129\*

 *[Break came to an end on a missed blue]*

 Sam Chong Malaysia Last 96 145 14.1.62 1992-99 6 4 n/a 4 1999 132

 Nic Barrow England Last 112 179 25.6.70 1992-2010 7 4 n/a 4 1998 113

 Luke Fisher England Last 128 90 19.5.82 1999-2004 5 4 n/a 4 2002 113

Compiled a championship-high break of 140 or over but not featured in the centurions listed above:-

 Aditya Mehta India Last 64 53 31.10.85 2005-18 8 3 n/a 3 2012 140

 140 2012 Last 80 Xiao Guo Dong

 Johl Younger Australia Last 64 88 14.4.78 1997-2004 4 3 n/a 3 2003 140

 140 2003 Last 64 Robin Hull

 Matt Wilson England Last 96 96 1983 1994-2001 8 3 n/a 3 1999 140

 140 1999 Last 208 Stuart Reardon

 Joe Meara Rep. of Ire Last 96 251 4.8.75 1998-2004 7 3 n/a 3 2004 142

 142 2003 Last 208 Leonard de Griffa

 Leigh Griffin England Last 48 73 14.5.68 1992-2001 10 2 n/a 2 1998 143

 143 1998 Last ‘112’ Leo Fernandez

 Pat Kenny England Last 64 127 22.3.71 1992-96 5 2 n/a 2 1993 143

 143 1993 Last 256 Norman Maher

 Yasin Merchant India Last 128 73 17.12.66 1993-97 5 2 n/a 2 1997 141

 141 1997 Last 192 Stephen Taylor

 Damian Massey England Last 144 201 18.12.73 1995-2003 8 2 n/a 2 2001 143

 143 2001 Last 240 Del Smith

 Billy Kelly Rep. of Ire Last 64 44 1.5.45 1982-2013 16 1 n/a 1 1988 141

 141 1988 Last 128 Tony Kearney

 Sean Francis O’Sullivan England Last 96 84 29.4.94 2013- 9 1 n/a 1 2023 140

 140 2023 Last 112 David Grace: 15 red-black clearance including two-pot reds

 **THE HIGHEST BREAKS IN THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 1927 – 2023**

 TOP TWENTY BREAKS FOR THE PRE-CRUCIBLE ERA 1927 – 1976: B.C. (Before Crucible) only five players who never appeared in a World Final

 succeeded in compiling a century break. Unsurprisingly, therefore, all entries on this list have featured in a World Championship Final.

 Rex Williams 142 1965 FINAL Rex Williams 141 1956 Semi-fin. Fred Davis 140 1952 Final

 John Spencer 139 1973 Oct-final John Spencer 138 1976 Oct-final Eddie Charlton 137 1976 Oct-final

 Joe Davis 136 1946 FINAL Fred Davis 135 1947 FINAL Joe Davis 133 1946 FINAL

 John Pulman 133 1953 Semi-fin. Ray Reardon 133 1976 Semi-fin. Alex Higgins 133 1972 Oct-final

 Clark McConachy 132 1947 Qtr.-final Graham Miles 131 1974 Semi-fin. Rex Williams 129 1965 FINAL

 Fred Davis 129 1956 Semi-fin. Eddie Charlton 129 1976 Qtr.-final Eddie Charlton 129 1971 Qtr.-final grp.

 Sidney Smith 128 1947 Semi-fin. Dennis Taylor 128 1975 Qtr.-final

Meanwhile…

Listed below is the complete list of the leading centurions in the game as it stood upon the eve of the World snooker championships of 1976-77.

Here, in line with the main listing shown above, players who took part in the main event at the Crucible Theatre are identified in green and those who failed to qualify are shown in black. Players listed in blue did not enter the 1977 tournament and, in some cases, were no longer active in the sport. The World Championships, as defined by the largely self-appointed world governing body – the Billiards Associating & Control Council – began with the tournament of 1935. Prior to this, the championships which they staged between 1927 to 1934 were mounted as the British Championships and, at the time, no-one in the sport ever claimed any more wide-ranging hegemony than these islands…least of all, title-holder Joe Davis. Indeed, prior to 1935 the only matches ever purporting to be for the World title were the best-of-61-frame & best-of-81-frame challenges staged in Australia over a week, or more, in 1924 & 1934. The officials of the BA&CC – well-meaning amateurs, reputedly, working on a part-time basis – did not recognise either of these events, and in later years also failed to formally sanction any tournaments not staged by themselves between 1952 and 1958 or, for that matter, 1972. Thankfully, later snooker historians have refused to become too hidebound by the strictures – well, attitudes – of people whom could never have commanded a salary for operating in the way that they did, even on a zero-hours contract basis, preferring to take greater notice of actual performances on the table; forty-five championships, in all. The first tournament staged at the Crucible Theatre was a sixteen-man event. All of the competitors went on to ultimately compile one or more tournament centuries in their career except 1978 World Championship finalist Perrie Mans. Meanwhile, two players made their first tournament century in the process of qualifying for the ‘77 event itself.

1 1 Fred Davis England Champion x9 1 14.8.13 1937- 26 30 30 0 1964 140

 140 1952 FINAL Walter Donaldson

2 2 John Spencer England Champion x2 1 18.9.35 1969- 8 16 16 0 1976 139

3 4 Eddie Charlton Australia Finalist 2 31.10.29 1968- 7 16 10 6 1976 137

4 3 Walter Donaldson Scotland Champion x2 2 2.2.07 1933-54 12 14 14 0 1954 121

5 5 John Pulman England Champion x8 3 12.12.23 1947- 26 13 13 0 1974 133

6 6 Joe Davis England Champion x16 1 15.4.01 1927-46 16 12 12 0 1946 136

7 8 Ray Reardon Wales Champion x5 1 8.10.32 1969- 8 10 10 0 1976 133

8 7 Rex Williams England Finalist 4 20.7.33 1952- 15 9 9 0 1973 142

 141 1956 Semi-fin. Fred Davis 142 1965 FINAL John Pulman

9 10 Alex Higgins N. Ireland 72 Champ 1 18.3.49 1972- 5 5 4 1 1976 133

10 9 Graham Miles England 74 Final 2 11.5.41 1972- 5 5 4 1 1974 131

11 11 Gary Owen Australia 69 Final 6 5.3.29 1969-76 7 3 3 0 1971 105

12 12 John Barrie England Qtr.-final 7 30.6.24 1946-54 7 3 2 1 1953 125

13 13 Sidney Smith England Finalist 2 26.3.08 1936-51 9 2 2 0 1947 128

14 14 Marcus Owen Wales Qtr.-final 16 4.4.35 1974-76 2 2 1 1 1974 102

15 15 George Chenier Canada 58 Final 3 14.1.07 1950-71 3 1 1 0 1950 100

16 16 Jackie Rea Northern Ire. 57 Final 5 6.4.21 1949- 13 1 1 0 1955 102

17 17 Dennis Taylor Northern Ire. 75 Semi-f 9 19.1.49 1973- 4 1 1 0 1975 128

18 18 John Dunning England 74 Qtr.-f 6 18.4.27 1972- 5 1 1 0 1974 100

19 19 Horace Lindrum Australia 52 Champ 2 15.1.12 1934-52 8 1 1 0 1936 101

20 20 Clark McConachy New Zealand Finalist 7 15.4.1895 1932-52 4 1 1 0 1947 132

21 21 Warren Simpson Australia 71 Final 14 21.5.22 1971-75 4 1 1 0 1971 103

22 22 Sydney Lee England Qtr.-final 7 25.4.10 1936-74 11 1 0 1 1950 101

 THE CRUCIBLE ERA (1977 to date) top breaks and leading centurions listed on a year-by-year basis.

1977 John Spencer 135 Semi-final Doug Mountjoy 135 ‘Last 32’ Cliff Thorburn 111 Semi-final

1978 John Spencer 138 Oct-final Ray Reardon 119 Qtr.-final John Spencer 118 Oct-final

1979 Bill Werbeniuk 142 Qtr.-final John Virgo 137 ‘Last 48’ Willie Thorne 131 ‘Last 48’

1980 Steve Davis 136 Qtr.-final Kirk Stevens 136 Hex-final Doug Mountjoy 123 Oct-final

1981 Doug Mountjoy 145 Semi-final Dennis Taylor 135 Oct-final Tony Meo 134 Hex-final

1982 Willie Thorne 143 Qtr.-final Alex Higgins 135 FINAL Dave Martin 127 Last 48

1983 Cliff Thorburn **147** Oct-final Kirk Stevens 139 Oct-final Steve Davis 131 FINAL

1984 Rex Williams 138 Hex-final Jimmy White 119 FINAL Kirk Stevens 115 Semi-final

1985 Bill Werbeniuk 143 Hex-final Tony Knowles 137 Qtr.-final Danny Fowler 137 Last 64

1986 Stephen Hendry 141 Last 96 Steve Davis 134 Qtr.-final Paul Thornley 126 Last 128

1987 Dene O’Kane 132 Last 96 Dene O’Kane 130 Last 64 Steve Davis 127 FINAL

1988 Billy Kelly 141 Last 128 Steve James 140 Hex-final Steve James 132 Last 96

1989 Darren Morgan 143 Last 48 Tony Meo 142 Last 48 Stephen Hendry 141 Qtr.-final

1990 John Parrott 140 Qtr.-final Steve James 135 Hex-final Nigel Gilbert 135 Last 48

1991 Kirk Stevens 143 Last 128 Jimmy White 140 Oct-final Martin Smith 140 Last 128

1992 Jimmy White **147** Hex-final Joe Johnson 141 Last 48 Mike Dunn 136 L432 or L288

1993 Steve Davis 144 Oct-final Pat Kenny 143 Last 256 Nigel Bond 139 Qtr.-final

1994 Alan McManus 143 Hex-final Karl Payne 143 Last 192 Jamie Burnett 141 Last 256

1995 Stephen Hendry **147** Semi-final Anthony Hamilton 145 Last 96 Andy Hicks 140 Last 48

1996 Tony Drago 144 Oct-final Peter Ebdon 144 Hex-final Dominic Dale 141 Last 96

 Jonathan Birch 141 Last 96 Dennis Taylor 140 Last 48 Dene O’Kane 140 Last 48

1997 Ronnie O’Sullivan **147** Hex-final Joe Perry 142 Last 192 Dominic Dale 142 Last 192

 Jason Weston 142 Last 192 Quinten Hann 142 Last 256 Yasin Merchant 141 Last 192

 Anthony Hamilton 140 Last 48 Dave Finbow 140 Last 48

1998 John Higgins 143 Qtr.-final Jimmy White 143 Oct-final Barry Pinches 143 ‘Last 112’

 Leigh Griffin 143 ‘Last 112’ Ronnie O’Sullivan 141 Semi-final Peter Lines 141 Hex-final

 David Gray 140 Hex-final Barry Pinches 140 ‘Last 128’

1999 Ian McCulloch 144 Last 96 Stephen Maguire 144 Last 112 Tony Chappel 143 Last 96

 Barry Pinches 143 Last 208 John Higgins 142 Hex-final Graeme Dott 141 Last 48

 Mark J. Williams 140 Hex-final Robin Hull 140 ‘Last 112’ Barry Pinches 140 Last 208

 Matt Wilson 140 Last 208

2000 Matthew Stevens 143 Semi-final Nick Dyson 143 Last 160 John Higgins 141 Oct-final

 John Higgins 141 Hex-final Joe Swail 141 Hex-final

2001 Paul S. Davison 144 Last 208 Damian Massey 143 Last 240 Chris Small 141 Last 48

 Joe Swail 140 Oct-final

2002 Matthew Stevens 145 Qtr.-final Stephen Hendry 141 Qtr.-final Wayne Brown 141 Last 128

2003 Ronnie O’Sullivan **147** Hex-final Stuart Bingham 146 Last 48 Rod Lawler 143 Last 96

 Joe Meara 142 Last 208 Stephen Lee 140 Semi-final Gerard Greene 140 Last 64

 Johl Younger 140 Last 64 Craig MacGillivray 140 Last 64

2004 Joe Perry 145 Oct-final Ryan Day 145 Last 128 Ryan Day 140 Last 96

2005 Mark J. Williams **147** Hex-final Shaun Murphy 138 Semi-final Stephen Hendry 138 Qtr.-final

 John Higgins 138 Hex-final James Wattana 138 Last 64

2006 Robert Milkins **147** Last 48 Jamie Burnett 141 Last 80 Paul Wykes 141 Last 96

 Ronnie O’Sullivan 140 Oct-final James Wattana 140 Last 48

2007 Rory McLeod 145 Last 80 Allister Carter 144 Qtr.-final Stephen Maguire 143 Qtr.-final

 Marco Fu 142 Last 48 Judd Trump 142 Last 96 David Morris 141 Last 96

 Neil Robertson 140 Oct-final

2008 Allister Carter **147** Qtr.-final Ronnie O’Sullivan **147** Oct-final Peter Ebdon 143 Qtr.-final

 Stephen Hendry 140 Semi-final Ronnie O’Sullivan 140 Oct-final

2009 Stephen Hendry **147** Qtr.-final Mark J. Williams 145 Last 48 John Higgins 141 Qtr.-final

 Stephen Hendry 140 Oct-final Ronnie O’Sullivan 140 Hex-final

2010 Graeme Dott 146 Semi-final Mark Allen 146 Oct-final Mark Selby 142 Semi-final

 Neil Robertson 140 Semi-final James Wattana 140 Last 96

2011 James Wattana 141 Last 96 Ding Jun Hui 138 Semi-final Mark King 138 Hex-final

2012 Stephen Hendry **147** Hex-final Robert Milkins **147** Last 64 Ben Woollaston 145 Last 48

 Stephen Maguire 142 Semi-final Jamie Burnett 142 Last 64 Ronnie O’Sullivan 141 FINAL

 Jamie Jones 140 Last 64 Aditya Mehta 140 Last 80 Xiao Guo Dong 140 Last 80

2013 Neil Robertson 143 Hex-final Judd Trump 142 Hex-final Sam Baird 142 Last 48

 Ricky Walden 140 Hex-final Yu De Lu 140 Last 64

2014 Neil Robertson 140 Hex-final Andrew Higginson 139 Last 48 Martin O’Donnell 139 Last 128

2015 Stuart Bingham 145 Qtr.-final Neil Robertson 145 Oct-final Neil Robertson 143 Hex-final

 Neil Robertson 142 Qtr.-final Neil Robertson 141 Qtr.-final Craig Steadman 140 Last 80

 Tom Ford 140 Last 144 David Morris 140 Last 144

2016 Thepchaiya Un-Nooh 144 Last 48 Kyren Wilson 143 Qtr.-final Peter Lines 142 Last 144

 Barry Hawkins 141 Hex-final Michael Holt 140 Hex-final Ding Jun Hui 140 Last 48

 Thepchaiya Un-Nooh 140 Last 48 Zhou Yue Long 140 Last 48

2017 Gary Wilson **147** Last 144 Ronnie O’Sullivan 146 Qtr.-final Michael White 144 Last 80

 Mark Selby 143 Qtr.-final John Higgins 141 FINAL Joe Perry 140 Last 144

 Sam Craigie 140 Last 144

2018 Liang Wen Bo **147** Last 144 John Higgins 146 Oct-final Ryan Day 145 Hex-final

 Ryan Day 141 Hex-final Chris Wakelin 141 Hex-final Stuart Carrington 141 Last 48

 Jamie Cope 141 Last 144 Kyren Wilson 140 Semi-final Mark J. Williams 140 Hex-final

 Liang Wen Bo 140 Last 144

2019 Noppon Saengkham 146 Last 144 John Higgins 143 Semi-final Matthew Stevens 143 Last 48

 Matthew Stevens 143 Last 80 Judd Trump 141 Hex-final Liang Wen Bo 141 Last 48

 Gary Wilson 140 Semi-final Graeme Dott 140 Last 144

2020 John Higgins **147** Oct-final Allan Taylor 145 Last 112 Liang Wen Bo 141 Last 48

 Alexander Ursenbacher 141 Last 80 Tom Ford 140 Hex-final

2021 Shaun Murphy 144 Oct-final Mark Davis 143 Last 80 Mark Selby 142 Hex-final

 Matthew Selt 142 Last 80 Stuart Bingham 140 Last 48 Stuart Bingham 140 Last 48

 Fergal O’Brien 140 Last 144

2022 Neil Robertson **147** Oct-final Graeme Dott **147** Last 80 Thepchaiya Un-Nooh 145 Last 48

 Pang Jun Xu 144 Last 112 Ian Burns 141 Last 144 Stuart Bingham 140 Hex-final

2023 Mark Selby **147** FINAL Kyren Wilson **147** Hex-final Neil Robertson 146 Hex-final

 Neil Robertson 146 Hex-final Ryan Day 146 Last 48 Thepchaiya Un-Nooh 145 Last 80

 Allister Carter 143 Hex-final Joe Perry 143 Last 80 Thepchaiya Un-Nooh 142 Last 48

 Luca Brecel 141 FINAL Wu Yi Ze 140 Last 48 Sean F. O’Sullivan 140 Last 112

 Oliver Lines 140 Last 112 Barry Pinches 140 Last 144

A year-by-year record of the leading centurions is listed below, showing the record-makers in the main event in the first row and those in qualification in the second row. In 1977, 1978 & 1979 the main event was restricted to four rounds and the centuries compiled by Doug Mountjoy & David Taylor in qualifying (1977) were made in the round of the Last 32…part of the main event beyond 1979. Prior to the relocation of the event to the Crucible Theatre, two all-time records were established which have remained unchallenged to this day. In the 1970-71 tournament, the main event embraced no fewer than 837 frames whilst, commensurate with this, 48-year old finalist Warren Simpson undertook the longest World championship campaign of all time. Simpson played a total of 396 frames composed during the course of 62 separate sessions of play…eventually compiling the one & only century of his championship bid in the very final session of the event. Nearly three decades later, in the 1997-98 event, Marco Fu essayed a faint echo of the Simpson effort when he played nine matches in order to progress to the round of the Last 128. Fu played 83 frames as part of a campaign that embraced eleven centuries…a record in World Championship qualifying. Fu’s competitive experience happened during the period of 1992-2005 when the sport became open to all-comers and an entire generation of new players were suddenly catapulted into formal competitive play. To afford the reader a sense of what this meant, in the historical context, I have listed all centurions in qualifying beyond the round of the final 128 in 1994 & 1995…a period in the game when, in essence, one Higgins was supplanted by another. Meanwhile, during the rest of 1992-2005, I have limited the analysis of the qualifiers to rounds between the Last 48 and the Last 128/144, in order to afford an easy comparison between the different years…the different decades.

In order to aid the reader, entries below have been colour-coded. Items identified in red ink highlight examples of successive/ back-to-back centuries compiled in a match and those in blue signify a championship campaign where three (or more) centuries in a match were compiled. Where a player performs both feats their name is coloured royal purple and is further highlighted in italics. In the nearly fifty years of championship play before relocation to the Crucible Theatre (1927-76) there was only one single example of a performance that warranted royal purple embellishment…by John Spencer in the World Championships of 1970-71. During this tournament, no fewer than six of the nine competitors combined to compile fifteen tournament centuries in the event – 21, if the qualification process is also included – which remained the tournament record at the time of relocation. Beyond this, names coloured purple which are under-lined identify examples of the compilation of three centuries (back-to-back-to-back) in succession. A comparatively recent innovation, given the very long history of the event, the only examples of this are by John Higgins (1998, 2000) Ronnie O’Sullivan (2000, 2021) Ryan Day (2005) Mark Selby (2007) Neil Robertson (2012) Stuart Carrington (2017) & Yuan Si Jun (2022). The most centuries compiled in any one championship remains the sixteen amassed by Stephen Hendry in 2002 (five matches), having previously beaten the 1946 record eight by Joe Davis, in 1995. Hendry’s total was equalled by Mark J. Williams in 2022 (four matches) but has only been exceeded if qualification matches are also included, where Ding Jun Hui made eighteen centuries in 2016 (eight matches) and Stuart Bingham seventeen in 2021 (six matches).

1977 6 [375] 4 Centurions

 John Spencer **❷** Cliff Thorburn **❷** Doug Mountjoy **❶** Eddie Charlton **❶**

 → Last 48 (2) 2 centurions

 Doug Mountjoy ① David Taylor ①

1978 7 [382] 5 Centurions

 John Spencer **❷** Ray Reardon **❷** Eddie Charlton **❶** Patsy Fagan **❶** Fred Davis **❶**

 → Last 48 (0) 0 centurions

1979 13 [373] 8 Centurions

 Terry Griffiths **❹** Fred Davis **❷** Alex Higgins **❷** Dennis Taylor **❶** John Spencer **❶** Bill Werbeniuk **❶** Cliff Thorburn**❶** Eddie Charlton **❶**

 → Last 48 (6) 2 centurions

 John Virgo ④ Willie Thorne ②

1980 11 [465] 8 Centurions

 Steve Davis **❷** Cliff Thorburn **❷** Doug Mountjoy **❷** Fred Davis **❶** Alex Higgins **❶** John Spencer **❶** Bill Werbeniuk **❶** Kirk Stevens **❶**

 → Last 80 (1) 1 centurion

 Pat Houlihan ①

1981 13 [455] 8 Centurions

 Steve Davis **❸** Doug Mountjoy **❸** Dennis Taylor **❷** Tony Meo **❶** Ray Reardon **❶** Tony Knowles **❶** Terry Griffiths **❶** Cliff Thorburn **❶**

 → Last 64 (6) 4 centurions

 Willie Thorne ③ John Dunning ① Bernie Mikkelsen ① Eddie Sinclair ①

1982 10 [587] 5 Centurions

 Willie Thorne **❹** Alex Higgins **❷** Jimmy White **❷** Kirk Stevens **❶** John Virgo **❶**

 → Last 80 (3) 3 centurions

 Mike Watterson ① Mike Hallett ① Dave Martin ①

1983 18 [585] **Cliff Thorburn:** The first instance of a maximum (147) break in the tournament 11 Centurions

 Eddie Charlton **❸** Doug Mountjoy **❷** Kirk Stevens **❷** Steve Davis **❷** Ray Reardon **❷** Alex Higgins **❷**

 Cliff Thorburn **❶** Jimmy White **❶** Bill Werbeniuk **❶** John Spencer **❶** Tony Meo **❶**

 → Last 80 (8) 8 centurions

 Silvino Francisco ① Ian Black ① John Virgo ① Doug French ① Warren King ① Dean Reynolds ① Eddie Sinclair ① Rex Williams ①

1984 8 [569] 6 Centurions

 Jimmy White **❷** Kirk Stevens **❷** Rex Williams **❶** Ray Reardon **❶** Dennis Taylor **❶**  Steve Davis **❶**

 → Last 96 (9) 7 centurions

 Neal Foulds ② Tommy Murphy ② Mario Morra ① John Parrott ① Jim Donnelly ① Gino Rigitano ① Ian Williamson ①

1985 14 [567]9 Centurions

 Steve Davis **❸** Tony Knowles **❷** Jimmy White **❷** Dennis Taylor **❷** Bill Werbeniuk **❶**

 Tony Meo **❶** John Parrott **❶** Cliff Thorburn **❶** Neal Foulds **❶**

 → Last 112 (10) 9 centurions

 Bob Chaperon ② Neal Foulds ① Steve Longworth ① Bernie Mikkelsen ① Dave Chalmers ① Danny Fowler ① Tony Jones ① Steve Newbury ① John Virgo ①

1986 20 [587] **Steve Davis:** Equals Joe Davis’ record eight centuries in the main event 10 Centurions

 **Steve Davis:** First instance of the compilation of a century in every round since the event was extended beyond a three-round tournament

 *Steve Davis* **❽** Joe Johnson **❸** Terry Griffiths **❷** Jimmy White **❶** John Virgo **❶** Willie Thorne **❶**

 Dean Reynolds **❶** Tony Knowles **❶** Cliff Thorburn **❶** Silvino Francisco **❶**

 → Last 128 (12) 10 centurions

 Stephen Hendry ② Barry West ② Tony Drago ① Robby Foldvari ① Vic Harris ① Steve Longworth ① Joe O’Boye ① Martin Smith ① Paul Thornley ① Ian Williamson ①

1987 18 [585] 11 Centurions

 Neal Foulds **❹** Joe Johnson **❸** Jimmy White **❷** Mike Hallett **❷** Steve Davis **❶** Stephen Hendry **❶**

 Ray Reardon **❶** Rex Williams **❶** Steve Longworth **❶** John Virgo **❶** Tony Meo **❶**

 16 [→ Last 144] 11 centurions

 Dene O’Kane ⑤ Stephen Hendry ②

1988 18 [567] 8 Centurions

 Steve Davis **❹** Steve James **❹** Stephen Hendry **❸** Terry Griffiths **❷** Silvino Francisco **❷** Tony Knowles **❶** Jimmy White **❶** Neal Foulds **❶**

 20 [→ Last 144] 16 centurions

 Dene O’Kane ② Matt Gibson ② Bill Werbeniuk ② David Taylor ②

1989 19 [568] 9 Centurions

 Steve Davis **❹** John Parrott **❹** Stephen Hendry **❸** Mike Hallett **❷** Tony Meo **❷** Dene O’Kane **❶** Joe Johnson **❶** Dennis Taylor **❶** Willie Thorne **❶**

 28 [→ Last 144] 22 centurions

 Darren Morgan ④ Wayne Jones ② Mick Price ② Martin Smith ②

1990 18 [594] 10 Centurions

 *Stephen Hendry* **❻** Steve Davis **❸** Terry Griffiths **❷** John Parrott **❶** Steve James **❶** Cliff Thorburn **❶** Willie Thorne **❶** Jimmy White **❶** Darren Morgan **❶** Tony Drago **❶**

 22 [→ Last 144] 15 centurions

 Alain Robidoux ④ Mark Johnston-Allen ③ Nigel Gilbert ② Mick Price ②

1991 31 [583] **John Parrott:** Equals Joe Davis & Steve Davis’ record eight centuries in the main event 10 Centurions

 John Parrott **❽** *Stephen Hendry* **❻** Jimmy White **❺** *Steve James* **❹** Tony Meo **❷** Gary Wilkinson **❷**

 Alan McManus **❶** Dean Reynolds **❶** Martin Clark **❶** Tony Jones **❶**

 34 [→ Last 144] 22 centurions

 Ken Doherty ③ Nigel Bond ② Peter Francisco ② Nick Dyson ② Nigel Gilbert ② Mick Price ②

 Rod Lawler ② Warren King ② Alan McManus ② Robert Marshall ② Nick Terry ②

1992 25 [580] **Stephen Hendry:** The first instance of winning/closing-out a match with successive/back-to-back centuries 11 Centurions

 *Stephen Hendry* **❻** Jimmy White **❻** Peter Ebdon **❸** Neal Foulds **❷** Dene O’Kane **❷** Mick Price **❶**

 Nigel Bond **❶** Dean Reynolds **❶** Chris Small **❶** Tony Knowles **❶** Willie Thorne **❶**

 33 [→ Last 128] 25 centurions

 Stephen Murphy ④ Mark Johnston-Allen ③ Ken Doherty ② Mick Price ② Kirk Stevens ②

1993 35 [558] **Stephen Hendry:** Equals Joe Davis, Steve Davis & John Parrott’s record eight centuries in the main event 14 Centurions

 Stephen Hendry **❽** Neal Foulds **❹** James Wattana **❹** Nigel Bond **❸** Jimmy White **❸** Steve James **❷** Willie Thorne **❷** Gary Wilkinson **❷**

 John Parrott **❷** Steve Davis **❶** Terry Griffiths **❶** Alan McManus **❶** Peter Ebdon **❶** Martin Clark **❶**

 30 [→ Last 128] 26 centurions

 Ronnie O’Sullivan ② Doug Mountjoy ② Paul Tanner ② Spencer Dunn ②

1994 35 [596] 18 Centurions

 Stephen Hendry ❺ Jimmy White **❹** Alan McManus **❸** Darren Morgan **❸** Steve Davis **❷** Martin Clark **❷**

 Ken Doherty **❷** Fergal O’Brien **❷** Drew Henry **❷** Brian Morgan **❷**

 34 [→ Last 128] 25 centurions

 Drew Henry ③ Mark Davis ② Paul Cavney ② Mark King ② Stephen Lee ② Dean Reynolds ② Cliff Thorburn ② Leigh Robinson ②

 R. Chapman ① A. Hamilton ① N. Noppachorn ① A. Hicks ① Alex Higgins ① John Higgins ① J. Johnson ① B. Jones ①

 M. Judge ① C. Kelly ① S. Gill ① S. Mazrocis ① G. Peters ① A. Rosa ① C. Small ① N. Walker ① J. Birch ①

1995 30 [584] **Stephen Hendry:** Compiled a record twelve centuries in the event 10 Centurions

 *Stephen Hendry* **⓬** John Parrott **❹** Andy Hicks **❸** Nigel Bond **❸** Ronnie O’Sullivan **❷** Peter Ebdon **❷**

 Tony Drago **❶** Dave Harold **❶** Alan McManus **❶** Darren Morgan **❶**

 43 [→ Last 128] 31 centurions

 Mark Davis ④ Jamie Woodman ③ Nick Terry ③ Euan Henderson ③ Jamie Burnett ② Billy Snaddon ② Tai Pichit ② T. Chappel ① M. Couch ① A. Hicks ①

 P. Daubney ① A. Davies ① D. Finbow ① P. Francisco ① M. Hallett ① A. Hamilton ① D. Hendry ① I. McCulloch ① S. Murphy ① T. Murphy ① S. Newbury ①

 Alex Higgins ① John Higgins ① M. Judge ① R. Lawler ① L. Richardson ① A. Robidoux ① C. Scanlon ① N. Walker ① J. Wallace ① B. Pinches ①

1996 48 [583] 14 Centurions

 *Stephen Hendry* **⓫** *Ronnie O’Sullivan* **❾** Peter Ebdon **❽** Steve Davis **❹** John Higgins **❹** Dave Harold **❸** Tony Drago **❷** Jimmy White **❶**

 Jason Ferguson **❶** Alan McManus **❶** Anthony Hamilton **❶** Euan Henderson **❶** Darren Morgan **❶** Ken Doherty **❶**

 38 [→ Last 128] 32 centurions

 Euan Henderson ③ Mark Davis ② Paul Davies ② Wayne Brown ② Jonathan Birch ②

1997 39 [615] 16 Centurions

 *Stephen Hendry* **❾** John Higgins **❹** Darren Morgan **❹** John Parrott **❹** Anthony Hamilton **❸**Ken Doherty **❸** Ronnie O’Sullivan **❷** Alain Robidoux **❷**

 52 [→ Last 128] 40 centurions

 Matthew Stevens ④ Drew Henry ③ Anthony Hamilton② Paul S. Davison② Bradley Jones② Brian Morgan② Joe Swail② Nick Terry② Brian Rowswell②

1998 59 [598] **John Higgins**: The first instance of three centuries in succession, compiled back-to-back-to-back 19 Centurions

 **John Higgins:** Compiled a record fourteen centuries in the event

 *John Higgins* **⓮** Peter Ebdon ❻ Ronnie O’Sullivan ❺ *Anthony Hamilton* **❹** Jimmy White **❹** Ken Doherty **❹** John Parrott **❹**

 Mark King **❷** David Gray **❷** Stephen Lee **❷** Matthew Stevens **❷** Alfie Burden **❷** Fergal O’Brien **❷**

 53 [→ Last 144] 35 centurions

 Matthew Couch ④ Marco Fu ④ Quinten Hann ④ Barry Pinches ③ Matthew Stevens ③ Bjorn Haneveer ③ Alfie Burden ② David Gray ② Jason Prince ②

1999 53 [594] 16 Centurions

 *John Higgins* **❾** *Stephen Hendry* **❽** *Ronnie O’Sullivan* **❼** Mark J. Williams **❻** James Wattana **❸** Stephen Lee **❸** Matthew Stevens **❸**

 Mark King **❷** Chris Small **❷** Joe Perry **❷**  Anthony Hamilton **❷** Tony Drago **❷**

 61 [→ Last 144] 37 centurions

 Marco Fu ⑤ Leo Fernandez ④ Dave Harold ③ Craig MacGillivray ③ Alfie Burden ③ Joe Grech ③ Stephen Maguire ② Joe Perry ②

 Steve James ② Euan Henderson ② Quinten Hann ② Michael Judge ② Ian McCulloch ② David McLellan ② John Read ②

2000 54 [598] 14 Centurions

 *John Higgins* **⓬** *Matthew Stevens* **⓫** Mark J. Williams **❻** *Ronnie O’Sullivan* **❺** Dominic Dale **❺** *Ken Doherty* **❹** Joe Swail **❸**  Stephen Lee **❷**

 Stephen Hendry **❶** John Parrott **❶** Stuart Bingham **❶** Drew Henry **❶** Peter Ebdon **❶** Chris Small **❶**

 35 [→ Last 128] 24 centurions

 Stuart Bingham ④ Michael Judge ③ Marco Fu ② Drew Henry ② Malcolm Bilclough ② Darren Morgan ② Stuart Pettman ② Phaitoon Phonbun ②

2001 53 [578] 16 Centurions

 John Higgins **⓫** *Ronnie O’Sullivan* **❾** Matthew Stevens **❻** Joe Swail **❹** Paul Hunter **❸** Stephen Hendry **❸**

 Patrick Wallace **❸** Ken Doherty **❸** Stephen Lee **❷** Anthony Hamilton **❷** Peter Ebdon **❷**

 58 [→ Last 128] 42 centurions

 Patrick Wallace ③ Sean Storey ③ Ian McCulloch ③ Alfie Burden ③ Stuart Bingham ② Stephen Maguire ② Kristjan B. Helgason ②

 Nigel Bond ② Bjorn Haneveer ② Craig Butler ② Marcus Campbell ② Andy Hicks ②

2002 68 [581] **Stephen Hendry:** Compiled a record sixteen centuries in the event 15 Centurions

 *Stephen Hendry* **⓰** Peter Ebdon **❿** *Ronnie O’Sullivan* **❽** *John Higgins* **❽** *Matthew Stevens* **❼** Ken Doherty **❹** Joe Perry **❸** Dave Harold **❷**

 Stephen Lee **❷** Stuart Bingham **❷** Anthony Hamilton **❷** Alan McManus **❶** Paul Hunter **❶** Drew Henry **❶** Michael Judge **❶**

 66 [→ Last 144] 36 centurions

 *Ryan Day* ⑦ *Shaun Murphy* ⑥ Robin Hull ⑥ *Barry Pinches* ④ Darren Morgan ③ Stuart Bingham ③ Marcus Campbell ③

 Neil Robertson ② John Parrott ② Tom Ford ② Allister Carter ② Matthew Couch ②

2003 53 [589] **Ronnie O’Sullivan:** The first man to compile a second maximum (147) break in the tournament 17 Centurions

 Ken Doherty **❽** Paul Hunter **❼** Stephen Hendry **❻** Mark J. Williams **❻** Peter Ebdon **❺** Stephen Lee **❹** John Higgins **❹** Marco Fu **❸**

 80 [→ Last 144] 48 centurions

 *Shaun Murphy* ⑤ Barry Hawkins ⑤ Ryan Day ⑤ Mark Selby ③ Rod Lawler ③ Martin Gould ③ Stuart Bingham ③

 Alfie Burden ② Gerard Greene ② Tom Ford ② Steve Davis ② Andrew Higginson ② Barry Pinches ②

 Christopher Melling ② Munraj Pal ② Sean Storey ② Kristjan B. Helgason ② Bjorn Haneveer ② Justin Astley ②

2004 55 [594] 19 Centurions

 *Ronnie O’Sullivan* **⓭** Matthew Stevens **❽** Ian McCulloch **❹** Ryan Day **❸** Stephen Hendry **❸** Paul Hunter **❸** Steve Davis **❷**

 Joe Perry **❷** John Higgins **❷** Joe Swail **❷** Stephen Maguire **❷** Graeme Dott **❷** Barry Pinches **❷** Mark J. Williams **❷**

 93 [→ Last 144] 51 centurions

 Ryan Day ⑦ Ding Jun Hui ⑥ *Neil Robertson* ⑤ Ricky Walden ④ *James Wattana* ③ Tom Ford ③ Barry Pinches ③ Lee Walker ③

 Colm Gilchrist ③ Brian Salmon ③ Stephen Maguire ② Nigel Bond ② David B. Gilbert ② Andy Hicks ② Michael Holt ②

 Leo Fernandez ② Joe Delaney ② Michael Judge ② Bjorn Haneveer ② Stuart Mann ② Ian Preece ② Martin Dziewialtowski ②

2005 63 [605] 23 Centurions

 *Shaun Murphy* **⓫** Ian McCulloch **❼** Matthew Stevens **❺** Ronnie O’Sullivan **❹** Stephen Hendry **❹** *Stephen Lee* **❸** *Alan McManus* **❸**

 Steve Davis **❸** Mark J. Williams **❸** John Higgins **❸** Paul Hunter **❷** Peter Ebdon **❷** Michael Holt **❷** Ken Doherty **❷**

 69 [→ Last 144] 45 centurions

 *Ryan Day* ④ Craig Steadman ④ Ben Woollaston ④ *Shaun Murphy* ③ Neil Robertson ③ Lee Spick ③ Kurt Maflin ③

 Ding Jun Hui ② Stuart Bingham ② Tom Ford ② Stephen Maguire ② Fergal O’Brien ② Gary Wilson ② Ricky Walden ②

2006 46 [579] 16 Centurions

 Marco Fu **❽**  Peter Ebdon **❼** Ronnie O’Sullivan **❻** Neil Robertson **❺** Matthew Stevens **❸** Stephen Lee **❸**

 Mark Selby **❸** Allister Carter **❷** Shaun Murphy **❷**

 53 [→ Last 144] 35 centurions

 Ding Jun Hui ⑤ Mark Allen ⑤ Tom Ford ④ Mark Selby ③ Judd Trump ② Mark Davis ② Lee Spick ② Fergal O’Brien ② Paul Wykes ②

2007 68 [604] 23 Centurions

 *Mark Selby* **⓬** John Higgins **⓫** Stephen Maguire **❼** Shaun Murphy ❺ Ronnie O’Sullivan ❺ Allister Carter **❹** Matthew Stevens **❸**

 John Parrott **❷** Mark Allen **❷** Anthony Hamilton **❷** Nigel Bond **❷** Joe Swail **❷**

 62 [→ Last 144] 39 centurions

 *Jamie Burnett* ⑥ Mark Allen ④ Judd Trump ④ Mark Davis ③ Shailesh ‘Joe’ Jogia ③ James Leadbetter ③

 Ding Jun Hui ② David B. Gilbert ② Matthew Couch ② Bradley Jones ② David Morris ② Ben Woollaston ②

2008 63 [593] **Ronnie O’Sullivan:** The first man to compile a third maximum (147) break in the tournament 23 Centurions

 **Ronnie O’Sullivan/Allister Carter:** The first instance of two maximum (147) breaks compiled in the same event

 *Ronnie O’Sullivan* **⓬** Joe Perry **❻** Allister Carter **❻** Stephen Maguire **❺** Stephen Hendry **❺** Peter Ebdon **❹** Mark King **❸**

 Joe Swail **❷** John Higgins **❷** Marco Fu **❷** Ding Jun Hui **❷** Jamie Cope **❷** Liang Wen Bo **❷**

 45 [→ Last 144] 34 centurions

 Liang Wen Bo ④ Ian Preece ③ Patrick Wallace ③ Matthew Stevens ② Andy Hicks ② Dominic Dale ② Alex Davies ②

2009 83 [601] 20 Centurions

 John Higgins **⓫** *Mark Selby* **❿** Mark Allen **❿** Shaun Murphy **❿** Ronnie O’Sullivan **❺** Stephen Maguire **❺** Neil Robertson **❺**

 *Marco Fu* **❹** Ding Jun Hui **❹** Stephen Hendry **❹** Jamie Cope **❸** Ryan Day **❸** Barry Hawkins **❷**

 58 [→ Last 144] 37 centurions

 Martin Gould ④ Daniel Wells ④ Jimmy White ④ Ian McCulloch ③ Liang Wen Bo ③ Tom Ford ③

 Judd Trump ② Barry Hawkins ② Matthew Selt ② Lee Spick ② Andy Hicks ② Li Hang ②

2010 60 [608] 19 Centurions

 Graeme Dott **❽** Neil Robertson **❼** *Ronnie O’Sullivan* **❻** Mark Selby **❻** *Mark Allen* **❺** John Higgins **❹** Allister Carter **❸**

 Ding Jun Hui **❸** Martin Gould **❸** Shaun Murphy **❸** Steve Davis **❷** Liang Wen Bo **❷** Stephen Maguire **❷**

 52 [→ Last 144] 29 centurions

 Zhang Anda ⑤ Bjorn Haneveer ④ Adrian Gunnell ③ Tom Ford ③ Michael White ③ Rod Lawler ② Chris Norbury ② Matthew Stevens ②

 Jimmy White ② Barry Hawkins ② Craig Steadman ② Brendan O’Donoghue ② Martin Gould ② Mark Davis ② Mark Joyce ②

2011 74 [598] **Judd Trump:** First instance of a century compiled in every round when playing the competition as a six-match event 17 Centurions

 **Mark Selby:** Equals Joe Davis’ record compiling six centuries in one match

 *Judd Trump* **❿** *Mark J. Williams* **❾** *John Higgins* **❾** Mark Selby **❽** Ronnie O’Sullivan **❼** Ding Jun Hui **❼** Mark Allen **❹** Graeme Dott **❹**

 *Allister Carter* **❸** Stephen Hendry **❸** Marco Fu **❷** Stuart Bingham **❷** Neil Robertson **❷**

 72 [→ Last 144] 43 centurions

 Jamie Burnett ⑤ Sam Baird⑤ Patrick Wallace④ Xiao Guo Dong④ Kuldesh Johal③ Matthew Selt③ Steve Davis② Ryan Day② Dominic Dale②

 Ken Doherty② Stuart Bingham② Kurt Maflin② Fergal O’Brien② Michael White② David Gray② Michael Holt② Paul S.Davison②

2012 71 [580] 22 Centurions

 *Ronnie O’Sullivan* **⓬** *Jamie Jones* **❼** *Neil Robertson* **❻** Stephen Maguire **❻** Allister Carter **❻** *Ryan Day* **❺** Matthew Stevens**❹** Cao Yu Peng **❸**

 Stephen Hendry **❸** Martin Gould **❷** John Higgins **❷** Judd Trump **❷** Joe Perry **❷** Stephen Lee **❷** Shaun Murphy **❷**

 58 [→ Last 144] 39 centurions

 Ken Doherty ③ Liu Chuang ③ David B. Gilbert ③ Stephen Hendry ② Tom Ford ② Marco Fu ② Barry Hawkins ② Jimmy Robertson ② Ryan Day ②

 Jamie Burnett ② Jamie Cope ② Anthony Hamilton ② Jamie Jones ② Liang Wen Bo ② Aditya Mehta ② Ben Woollaston ②

2013 55 [586] **Ronnie O’Sullivan:** Equals Joe Davis & Mark Selby’s record compiling six centuries in one match 15 Centurions

 *Ronnie O’Sullivan* **⓭** Judd Trump **❼** *Ding Jun Hui* **❻** Ricky Walden **❻**  Shaun Murphy **❺** Barry Hawkins **❺**

 Michael White **❸** Stuart Bingham **❷** Robert Milkins **❷**

 62 [→ Last 144] 36 centurions

 Kurt Maflin ④ Yu De Lu ④ Jack Lisowski ④ Sam Baird ④ Ben Woollaston ③ Liam Highfield ③ Michael White ③ Matthew Selt ②

 Mark Davis ② Tony Drago ② Mike Dunn ② Joe Swail ② Mark King ② Joel Walker ② Patrick Wallace ②

2014 58 [604] 18 Centurions

 *Ronnie O’Sullivan* **⓭** *Neil Robertson* **❿** Mark Selby **❺** Marco Fu **❹** Barry Hawkins **❹** Ricky Walden **❸**

 Michael Wasley **❸** Shaun Murphy **❸** Ryan Day **❷** Judd Trump **❷** Allister Carter **❷**

 69 [→ Last 128] 45 centurions

 *Martin Gould* ⑥ *Martin O’Donnell* ③ Robin Hull ③ Ian Burns ③ Cao Xin Long ③ Li Hang ③ Thanawat Thirapongpaiboon ③

 Sam Baird ② Matthew Selt ② Tom Ford ② Jamie Cope ② Jamie Jones ② Kyren Wilson ② Sanderson Lam ②

2015 86 [586] 20 Centurions

 *Shaun Murphy* **⓭** Neil Robertson **⓫** *Judd Trump* **❿** *Barry Hawkins* **❿** Stuart Bingham **❿** *Ronnie O’Sullivan* **❼** Mark Selby **❹**

 Anthony McGill **❸** Mark Allen **❸** Matthew Selt **❷** Matthew Stevens **❷** Ricky Walden **❷** Ding Jun Hui **❷**

 83 [→ Last 144] 51 centurions

 Robin Hull ⑤ *Tom Ford* ④ Liang Wen Bo ④ Fergal O’Brien ④ Kurt Maflin ③ Zhang Anda ③ Sam Baird ② Graeme Dott ②

 Thepchaiya Un-Nooh ② Mark Davis ② David B. Gilbert ② Robert Milkins ② Jack Lisowski ② Mark King ② Adam Duffy ②

 Yu De Lu ② Craig Steadman ② Jimmy Robertson ② Dechawat Poomjaeng ② Rod Lawler ② Andrew Higginson ②

2016 86 [619] **Ding Jun Hui:** The first instance of seven centuries in one match 24 Centurions

 *Ding Jun Hui* **⓯** *Marco Fu* **❾** Mark Selby **❾** Alan McManus **❻** John Higgins **❻** Ronnie O’Sullivan **❺** *Mark Allen* **❹**

 Kyren Wilson **❹** Allister Carter **❸** Michael Holt **❸** Sam Baird **❸** Liang Wen Bo **❷**

 Neil Robertson **❷** Barry Hawkins **❷** Judd Trump **❷** Anthony McGill **❷** Shaun Murphy**❷**

 132 [→ Last 144] 63 centurions

 *Jimmy Robertson* ⑤ Noppon Saengkham ⑤ Allister Carter ⑤ *Ryan Day* ④ Jack Lisowski ④ Anthony Hamilton ④ David B. Gilbert ④ Robert Milkins ④

 Liang Wen Bo ④ Liam Highfield ④ Tom Ford ③ Ding Jun Hui ③ Stuart Carrington ③ Sam Baird ③ Thepchaiya Un-Nooh ③ Kurt Maflin ③

 Anthony McGill ③ Mitchell Mann ③ Zue Yue Long ③ D. Poomjaeng ③ K. Wilson ② Li Hang ② A. Burden ② S. Donaldson ② Xiao Guo Dong ②

 K. Doherty ② G. Dott ② M. Stevens ② M. King ② R. Williams ② K. Hirani ② O. Lines ② Lyu Chen Wei ② D. Morris ② Hossein Vafaei ② Zhang Anda ②

2017 74 [590] 23 Centurions

 *Ding Jun Hui* **⓭** *Mark Selby* **❽** John Higgins **❽** *Mark Allen* **❻** Ronnie O’Sullivan **❻** Marco Fu **❹** *Stuart Carrington* **❸** *Shaun Murphy* **❸**

 Barry Hawkins **❸** Stephen Maguire **❷** Stuart Bingham **❷** Neil Robertson **❷** Gary Wilson **❷** Martin Gould **❷** Allister Carter **❷**

 84 [→ Last 144] 51 centurions

 *Gary Wilson ⑧* Dominic Dale ④ Mark Davis ③ Stephen Maguire ③ Martin Gould ③ Xiao Guo Dong ③ David Grace ③

 Noppon Saengkham ② Zhang Anda ② Yan Bing Tao ② Joe Perry ② Michael Holt ② Jamie Jones ② Fergal O’Brien ②

 Akani Songsermsawad ② Michael White ② Yu De Lu ② Chris Wakelin ② Sanderson Lam ② Hossein Vafaei Ayouri ②

2018 84 [594] 21 Centurions

 *Mark J. Williams* **⓬** *John Higgins* **⓫** Barry Hawkins **❾** Kyren Wilson **❼** Ding Jun Hui **❺** *Judd Trump* **❺** Ronnie O’Sullivan**❹**

 Allister Carter **❹** Lyu Hao Tian **❹** *Shaun Murphy* **❸** Joe Perry **❸** Marco Fu **❷** Mark Allen **❷**

 Ricky Walden **❷**  Thepchaiya Un-Nooh **❷** Jack Lisowski **❷** Ryan Day **❷** Jamie Jones **❷**

 111 [→ Last 144] 53 centurions

 Ricky Walden ⑦ Zhang Anda ⑥ Jack Lisowski ⑤ Liang Wen Bo ⑤ Yang Bing Tao ④ Lyu Hao Tian ④ Andrew Higginson ④ Liam Highfield ④

 *Mark Davis* ③ Ryan Day ③ Noppon Saengkham ③ Gerard Greene ③ Stuart Carrington ③ Jimmy Robertson ③

 Tian Peng Fei ③ Ken Doherty ② Matthew Stevens ② Jamie Jones ② Joe Perry ② Alan McManus ② Thepchaiya Un-Nooh ②

 David B. Gilbert ② Mark King ② Gary Wilson ② Chris Wakelin ② Li Hang ② Jamie Cope ② Xiao Guo Dong ②

2019 100 [612] **Judd Trump:** The first instance of seven centuries in a World Championship final 23 Centurions

 Judd Trump **⓮** John Higgins **⓬** Gary Wilson **❽** *Kyren Wilson* **❼** Stephen Maguire **❼** David B. Gilbert **❼** *Shaun Murphy* **❻**

 Neil Robertson **❻** *Barry Hawkins* **❹** Mark Selby **❹** Ding Jun Hui **❸** Allister Carter **❸**

 Zhou Yue Long **❸** Mark J. Williams **❸** Stuart Bingham **❸** Tian Peng Fei **❷** Jack Lisowski **❷**

 122 [→ Last 144] 57 centurions

 James Cahill ⑥ *Liang Wen Bo*⑤ *Daniel Wells*⑤ Matthew Stevens⑤ Joe O’Connor⑤ Ali Carter④ Joe Perry④ Noppon Saengkham④ Zhou Yue Long④

 Chris Wakelin③ Gary Wilson③ Xiao Guo Dong③ Graeme Dott③ Mark Davis③ Martin Gould③ Anthony McGill③ Michael Georgiou③

 Marco Fu ② Tom Ford ② Yan Bing Tao ② Scott Donaldson ② Michael Holt ② Mei Xi Wen ② Tian Peng Fei ② Thepchaiya Un-Nooh ②

 Ian Burns ② Stuart Carrington ② Sam Craigie ② Lu Ning ② Lyu Hao Tian ② Ben Woollaston ② Zhao Xin Tong ② John J. Astley ②

2020 79 [606] 27 Centurions

 Ronnie O’Sullivan **⓬** Kyren Wilson **❽** *Mark Allen* **❺** *Ding Jun Hui* **❺** *Martin Gould* **❺** Mark Selby **❹** Kurt Maflin **❹** Judd Trump **❹**

 Neil Robertson **❹** Barry Hawkins **❸** Yan Bing Tao **❸** Stuart Bingham **❷** David B. Gilbert **❷**

 Noppon Saengkham **❷** Anthony McGill **❷** Jack Lisowski **❷** John Higgins **❷**

 51 [→ Last 144] 32 centurions

 *Allan Taylor* ④ Elliot Slessor ④ Tom Ford ③ Luca Brecel ③ Ricky Walden③ Hossein Vafaei Ayouri ② Ryan Day ②

 Anthony McGill ② Robert Milkins ② Anthony Hamilton ② Jordan Brown ② Barry Pinches ②

2021 108 [590] **Ronnie O’Sullivan:** The first instance of winning/closing-out a match with three successive/back-to-back-to-back centuries 22 Centurions

 Stuart Bingham **⓭** *Mark Selby* **⓬** *Shaun Murphy* **⓫** *Kyren Wilson* **❿** Neil Robertson **❿** Anthony McGill **❽** Judd Trump **❼**

 *Ronnie O’Sullivan* **❺** Mark J. Williams **❹** Yan Bing Tao **❹** John Higgins **❹** Barry Hawkins **❹**

 David B. Gilbert **❸** Mark Allen **❸** Ricky Walden **❷**  Jack Lisowski **❷**

 106 [→ Last 144] 50 centurions

 *Matthew Selt* ⑥ Chang Bing Yu ⑤ Jamie Jones ⑤ *Stuart Bingham* ④ *Tian Peng Fei* ④ Joe O’Connor ④ Oliver Lines ④ Chris Wakelin ④

 *Kurt Maflin* ③ *Zhao Jian Bo* ③ Lyu Hao Tian ③ Sam Craigie ③ Igor Figueiredo ③ Duane Jones ③ Stuart Carrington ③

 Bai Lang Ning ③ Martin Gould ② Dominic Dale ② Mark King ② Liang Wen Bo ② Gary Wilson ② Xiao Guo Dong ②

 Louis Heathcote ② Lukas Kleckers ② Li Hang ② Fraser Patrick ② Jak Jones ② Steven Hallworth ②

2022 109 [587] **Mark J. Williams:** Equals Stephen Hendry’s 2002 record of sixteen tournament centuries 24 Centurions

 *Mark J. Williams* **⓰** Ronnie O’Sullivan **⓯** Judd Trump **⓫** John Higgins **❽** Yan Bing Tao **❽** Neil Robertson **❼** Mark Selby **❻**

 *Jack Lisowski*  **❺** *Jackson Page* **❸** Anthony McGill **❸** Ding Jun Hui **❸** Stuart Bingham **❸**

 Noppon Saengkham **❸** Zhao Xin Tong **❸** Mark Allen **❸** Kyren Wilson **❸** Stephen Maguire **❷**

 89 [→ Last 144] 49 centurions

 *Yuan Si Jun* ⑤ *Thepchaiya Un-Nooh* ⑤ Zhang Anda ⑤ Matthew Stevens ④ Stephen Maguire ④ *Andrew Pagett* ③ Noppon Saengkham ③

 Graeme Dott ③ Lei Pei Fan ③ Jackson Page ③ Chris Wakelin ③ Andy Hicks ② Scott Donaldson ② David B. Gilbert ②

 Ding Jun Hui ② Liam Highfield ② Ashley Hugill ② Lyu Hao Tian ② James Cahill ② Gao Yang ② Iulian Boiko ②

2023 90 [567] **Mark Selby:** The first maximum (147) break in a World Championship final 24 Centurions

 *Luca Brecel* **⓬** Mark Selby **⓬** *Si Jia Hui* ***❽*** *John Higgins* ***❼*** Jak Jones **❺** Anthony McGill **❺** *Neil Robertson* ***❺*** *Kyren Wilson* ***❺*** *Ronnie O’Sullivan* ***❹***

 Mark Allen **❸** S. Bingham **❸** S. Murphy **❸** Wu Yi Ze **❷** H. Vafaei **❷** J. Lisowski **❷** M.J. Williams **❷** G. Wilson **❷** Fan Zheng Yi **❷**

 135 [→ Last 144] 69 centurions

 Thepchaiya Un-Nooh ⑦ Ricky Walden ⑤ John J. Astley ⑤ Zhang Anda ⑤ *Louis Heathcote* ④ David Lilley ④ Wu Yi Zi ④ Jak Jones ④ Elliot Slessor ④

 *Zhou Yue Long* ③ David B. Gilbert ③ Dominic Dale ③ Fan Zheng Yi ③ Oliver Lines ③ Si Jia Hui ③ David Grace ② Ian Burns ②

 Lei Pei Fan ② Lyu Hao Tan ② A. McGill ② J. O’Connor ② J. O’Neill ② M. Davis ② Pang Jun Xu ② A. Higginson ② R. Williams ②

 J. Perry ② Xu Si ② H. Pinhey ② A. Ursenbacher ② J. Page ② C. Wakelin ② Yuan Si Jun ② I. Boiko ② B. Pinches ② A. Hill ②

 **SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN SNOOKER HISTORY: THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A CENTURY OF TOURNAMENT CENTURIES**

As might be easily guessed, until 2022, this listing was the most exclusive by far of the various listings in this document. Stephen Hendry created it as he became the first man to achieve the feat in the World Championships of 2002. Since that time, for almost twenty years, there have only been two players who have been able to match Hendry’s exacting standards. Entries listed in black relate to matches played in the entire event, and entries listed in green are limited to matches played in the main competition of the World Championships which, since 1977, has been staged at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield. In the very rare instance of the completion of a second century of centuries, the count for the number of frames played begins with the frame immediately following the completion of the first century of centuries and is further explained in the much, much shorter listing immediately below. HERE, ALL NAMES ARE LISTED IN CAPITAL LETTERS.

 Stephen Hendry Scotland Peter Ebdon Frame 7 THE FINAL 5 May 2002 1,442 frames

 Stephen Hendry Scotland Gary Wilkinson Frame 4 Hex-final 19 April 2003 1,339 frames

 John Higgins Scotland Barry Hawkins Frame 11 Hex-final 17 April 2010 1,101 frames

 John Higgins Scotland Steve Davis Frame 18 Oct-final 24 April 2010 1,037 frames

 Ronnie O’Sullivan England Mark J. Williams Frame 22 Oct-final 26 April 2010 1,245 frames

 Ronnie O’Sullivan England Dominic Dale Frame 8 Hex-final 18 April 2011 1,149 frames

 Mark Selby England Jamie Jones Frame 15 Hex-final 16 April 2022 1,380 frames

 Shaun Murphy England Stephen Maguire Frame 10 Hex-final 17 April 2022 1,345 frames

 RONNIE O’SULLIVAN ENGLAND JUDD TRUMP FRAME 2 THE FINAL 1 MAY 2022 862 FRAMES

 RONNIE O’SULLIVAN ENGLAND HOSSEIN VAFAEI FRAME 6 OCT-FINAL 21 APRIL 2023 883 FRAMES

 Mark Selby England John Higgins Frame 14 Qtr.-final 26 April 2023 1,200 frames

 **EVEN MORE SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN SNOOKER: ACHIEVING A DOUBLE-CENTURY OF TOURNAMENT CENTURIES**

In the second frame of the 2022 World Championship Final, at 1.43 in the afternoon of the first day of May, Ronnie O’Sullivan compiled a break of 120 which was the two-hundredth century he had compiled in this tournament. The century came in his 2,107th frame of competitive play and twenty-nine years 281 days after his first, compiled on July 24 1992. This event necessitated the addition of this latest listing to this document and the creation of clearly the most exclusive compilation on this set of pages. Meanwhile, the following year, Ronnie O’Sullivan compiled a break of 102 at 16.47 in frame six of his Octagonal-final match against Hossein Vafaei to complete his two-hundredth century in the main event…the oft-called Crucible stages. Coming on 21st April, this was twenty-eight years, six days after his first, compiled on April 15 1995. Reference to the listing immediately above examines the compilation into its two constituent parts, each of a century of centuries.

 RONNIE O’SULLIVAN ENGLAND JUDD TRUMP FRAME 2 THE FINAL 1 MAY 2022 2,107 FRAMES

 RONNIE O’SULLIVAN ENGLAND HOSSEIN VAFAEI FRAME 6 OCT-FINAL 21 APRIL 2023 2,032 FRAMES

 **PLAYERS WHO HAVE COMPILED WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT CENTURIES OVER A SPREAD OF 25 YEARS OR MORE**

Stephen Hendry took the decision to take a very long break from serious competition at the age of 43 in 2012. Presumably, he took the view that he had passed his sell-by date so as to speak in terms of robust competitive play and in the same breath proved the truism that the most important ball that a snooker player could ever play was when to choose to play the mothball. Before this, apart from emphasizing the maxim that you are a long time retired, snooker history had shown that, by and large, a quarter of a century was the excepted lifespan that any snooker professional of any repute might be expected to enjoy. Beyond that, there was a measure of continuance on borrowed time.

This listing identifies the players who have shown proven longevity in the game, with the acid test and ultimate measure of achievement defined by compilation of tournament centuries over that quarter-century lifespan. For the best part of two decades the only person who could qualify to go on this list was Fred Davis, having created as he joined it in 1964. Rex Williams was the second entrant in 1983 but Mr. Davis has stood alone at the top until this very day, although the three players immediately behind him in this list all took part in the most recent tournament. Here, the sea-change that overtook the game in the wake of Stephen Hendry’s first World title (1990) heavily influences the make-up of this listing with those compiling their first century after 1989 dominating and Hendry himself positioned in the runner-up position.

Until 2020 Fred Davis still remained the only man to have compiled a tournament century in ***every*** event that he had appeared in during a twenty-five-year period. He did so during the twenty-six seasons between 1939 and 1964, albeit in circumstances – most of them beyond his control – where he had only indulged in tournament play for half of those years. In 2020, however, Ronnie O’Sullivan achieved a totally unbroken period of century compilation between 1995-2020 to replicate Fred Davis’ feat in a way that embraced tournament championships played in **all** twenty-six years. This specific achievement was a close-run thing. A virus pandemic had necessitated the cancellation of the 2020 World Championships on its due date and it could have been that no tournament was played in 2020. However, the event was eventually staged behind closed doors in August…traditionally the beginning of the next snooker season. Players listed in green appeared in the draw for the main event at the Crucible Theatre, whilst those in black did not qualify to appear in that final draw. Players listed in black italics were on the main tour but did not take part in 2023 whilst those in blue have effectively retired from the main tour.

1 Fred Davis Joe Davis Semi-fin 25 Feb 1939 David Taylor Oct-final 28 April 1980 41 years 63 days

2 Stephen Hendry Paddy Browne Last 96 31 Mar 1986 James Cahill Last 144 5 April 2023 37 years 5 days

3 Jimmy White Cliff Thorburn Hex-fin 5 May 1982 Jack Lisowski Last 144 7 April 2017 34 years 337 days

4 Ken Doherty Martin Smith Last 128 25 Mar 1991 Hammad Miah Last 112 7 April 2023 32 years 13 days

5 Rex Williams Fred Davis Semi-fin 26 Jan 1956 Murdo MacLeod Hex-final 18 April 1987 31 years 82 days

6 Nigel Bond Paul Watchorn Last 64 27 Jan 1990 Matthew Selt Last 80 10 April 2021 31 years 73 days

7 Steve Davis Terry Griffiths Oct-fin 26 April 1980 Jack Lisowski Last 64 10 Mar 2011 30 years 318 days

 *[Steve Davis’s penultimate & last century in the World Championships came in successive frames]*

8 Ronnie O’Sullivan Guy Dennis Last 256 24 July 1992 Luca Brecel Qtr.-final 25 April 2023 30 years 275 days

9 Dominic Dale Alex Borg Last 128 16 Sept 1992 Jordan Brown Last 80 9 April 2023 30 years 205 days

10 Alan McManus Billy Kelly Last 144 23 Mar 1991 Mark J. Williams Hex-final 31 July 2020 29 years 130 days

11 John Higgins Martin O’Neill Last 192 12 Jan 1994 Mark Selby Qtr.-final 26 April 2023 29 years 104 days

12 Mark Davis Kevin Ashby Last 192 12 Jan 1994 Joe Perry Last 48 12 April 2023 29 years 94 days

13 Andy Hicks Bjorn l’Orange Last 96 17 Jan 1994 Jamie O’Neill Last 144 7 April 2023 29 years 78 days

14 Tony Drago Graham Cripsey Last 128 28 Mar 1986 Sam Baird Last 144 11 April 2015 29 years 14 days

15 Anthony Hamilton Opponent unknown 21-4 July 1991 Scott Donaldson Last 48 27 July 2020 29 years 3-6 days

16 Fergal O’Brien Alan McManus Hex-fin 19 April 1994 Liam Davies Last 144 5 April 2023 28 years 351 days

*17 Mark King Karl Payne Last 128 16 Sept 1992 Florian Nuessle Last 112 10 April 2021 28 years 206 days*

18 Barry Pinches Matthew Stevens Last 384 7 Jan 1995 Ross Bulman Last 144 4 April 2023 28 years 87 days

19= Graeme Dott Jason Curtis Last 464 5 Jan 1995 Jamie Clarke Last 48 13 April 2022 27 years 98 days

19= Matthew Stevens Stephen Kershaw Last 320 4 Jan 1996 David B. Gilbert Last 48 12 April 2023 27 years 98 days

21 Gerard Greene Lyndon Smith Last 384 9 Jan 1994 Gary Wilson Last 80 12 April 2021 27 years 93 days

22 Lee Walker Darryn Walker Last 192 9 Jan 1995 Ms. Reanne Evans Last 144 5 April 2022 27 years 86 days

23 Peter Ebdon Dermot McGlinchey ‘Last 432’ 21 July 1991 Ryan Day Last 48 17 April 2018 26 years 270 days

24 Mike Dunn Opponent unknown 21-3 July 1991 Dominic Dale Last 80 12 April 2018 26 years 265-7 d.

25= Stuart Bingham Brian Morgan Last 96 20 Jan 1997 Mark Allen Oct-final 21 April 2023 26 years 91 days

25= Joe Perry Tony Meo Last 192 9 Jan 1997 Sanderson Lam Last 80 10 April 2023 26 years 91 days

27 Mark J. Williams Stephen Hendry Oct-final 25 April 1997 Luca Brecel Oct-final 20 April 2023 25 years 360 days

28 Peter Lines Opponent unknown 21-3 July 1991 Thepchaiya Un-Nooh Last 144 6 April 2017 25 years 259-61 d.

29 Marco Fu John Gallagher Last 400 3 Dec 1997 Martin O’Donnell Last 144 3 April 2023 25 years 121 days

30 Allister Carter Scott Cooney Last 176 7 Jan 1998 Jak Jones Hex-final 15 April 2023 25 years 98 days

31 James Wattana Craig Edwards Last 48 1 April 1991 Peter Ebdon Last 144 6 April 2016 25 years 5 days

32 John Parrott Perrie Mans Last 48 3 April 1984 Matthew Couch Last 64 3-4 Mar 2009 24 years 333-4 d.

 **WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT CENTURIES COMPILED BY PLAYERS BEYOND THEIR FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY**

Following on from the testament to longevity shown above, this listing highlights all World Championship centuries compiled by players aged fifty or older. Most of the tons shown on this list were fashioned by players no longer active in this game but when the compiler took part in the most recent championship event, that man is highlighted in blue. Cross-referencing this list with the one immediately above, it is at once surprising to find that World Champions Ray Reardon & John Spencer and three-times World finalist Eddie Charlton are not featured, even though they compiled tournament centuries in their advancing years. Such omissions point to the decidedly strange past of snooker history in which Spencer did not play his first championship match until he was in his mid-thirties, Reardon until he was in his late-thirties and Charlton until his even later thirties. Beyond this, Pat Houlihan (at no. 43) debuted at the age of forty-one and John Dunning (no. 11) only just short of his forty-fourth birthday. Such absurdities point to a time in the sport where it was under the discretion of the Billiards Association & Control Council, a decidedly amateur governing body of which the less said the better, under whose direction competitive snooker at the professional level was not encouraged. Allied to this, an equally detrimental effect to competition in the premier competition was the retirement from this event by standing-champion Joe Davis, at the age of just forty-five. Beyond this departure Davis continued to be the premier attraction in the sport, compiling more centuries than the rest of the field put together in the £1,500 News of the World tournament of 1952-53 at the age of 51 and in the same breath setting a new record for centuries compiled in one single event. Indeed, Davis went on to repeat this feat the following season, and it was to take none other than the arrival of Stephen Hendry in the late 1980s to finally surpass this achievement. Little wonder therefore that a decidedly pale alternative of a Joe Davis-less World Championship lost much of its stature and allure.

In the list below Ray Reardon and Steve Davis stand out, having compiled back-to-back centuries in one of their matches. For Reardon in particular, this was the first time that he had achieved such juxtaposition in the main event. Clark McConachy, who was the first man to make a tournament century in his fifties, is the only man in the list born in the nineteenth century. The highest break in this listing is 140 by Barry Pinches. The number of players featured here is less than those who have compiled centuries over a span of twenty-five years.

1 Fred Davis OBE England 106 Frame 10 Oct-final 28 April 1980 David Taylor 66 years 258 days

2 Fred Davis OBE England 110 Frame 6 Qtr.-final 20 April 1979 Eddie Charlton 65 years 249 days

3 Fred Davis OBE England 109 Frame 6 Oct-final 16-17 April 1979 Kirk Stevens 65 years 245-6 days

4 Fred Davis OBE England 105 Frame 5 Qtr.-final 21 April 1978 Patsy Fagan 64 years 250 days

5 Eddie Charlton AM Australia 108 Frame 3 Last 48 28 March 1992 David Roe 62 years 149 days

6 Ray Reardon MBE Wales 120 Frame 16 Last 96 25 January 1990 Andrew Cairns 57 years 109 days

7 Nigel Bond England 122 Frame 7 Last 80 10 April 2021 Matthew Selt 55 years 146 days

8 Jimmy White MBE England 122 Frame 3 Last 144 7 April 2017 Jack Lisowski 54 years 340 days

9 Ray Reardon MBE Wales 100 Frame 16 Oct-final 24 April 1987 Steve Davis 54 years 198 days

10 Stephen Hendry MBE Scotland 102 Frame 1 Last 144 5 April 2023 James Cahill 54 years 82 days

11 John Dunning England 132 Frame 2 Last 64 26 March 1981 Bernard Bennett 53 years 342 days

12 Rex Williams England 112 Frame 5 Hex-final 18 April 1987 Murdo MacLeod 53 years 272 days

13 Ken Doherty Rep. of Ireland 137 Frame 5 Last 112 7 April 2023 Hammad Miah 53 years 202 days

14 Steve Davis OBE England 105 Frame 12 Last 64 10 March 2011 Jack Lisowski 53 years 200 days

15 Steve Davis OBE England 101 Frame 11 Last 64 10 March 2011 Jack Lisowski 53 years 200 days

16 Eddie Charlton AM Australia 115 Frame 5 Qtr.-final 25 April 1983 Steve Davis 53 years 176 days

17 Eddie Charlton AM Australia 104 Frame 12 Hex-final 18 April 1983 Les Dodd 53 years 169 days

18 Eddie Charlton AM Australia 118 Frame 8 Hex-final 16 April 1983 Les Dodd 53 years 167 days

19 Barry Pinches England 111 Frame 15 Last 144 4 April 2023 Ross Bulman 52 years 265 days

20 Barry Pinches England 140 Frame 2 Last 144 4 April 2023 Ross Bulman 52 years 265 days

21 Jimmy White MBE England 106 Frame 10 Last 144 11 April 2015 James Wattana 52 years 344 days

22 Steve Davis OBE England 128 Frame 11 Qtr.-final 27 April 2010 Neil Robertson 52 years 248 days

23 Steve Davis OBE England 102 Frame 7 Oct-final 22 April 2010 John Higgins 52 years 243 days

24 John Spencer England 104 Frame 4 Last 48 31 March 1988 Warren King 52 years 195 days

25 David Taylor England 131 Frame 9 Last 192 19 January 1996 Michael Duffy 52 years 174 days

26 *Clark McConachy MBE New Zealand 132 Frame 45 Qtr.-final 23 January 1947 Fred Davis 51 years 283 days*

27 Barry Pinches England 131 Frame 3 Last 144 5 April 2022 Lee Stephens 51 years 266 days

28 Fred Davis OBE England 105 Frame 59 THE FINAL 19 March 1965 John Pulman 51 years 217 days

29 Ray Reardon MBE Wales 109 Frame 8 Oct-final 26 April 1984 Silvino Francisco 51 years 201 days

30 John Spencer England 110 Frame 3 Last 64 2 April 1987 Bob Chaperon 51 years 196 days

31 Nigel Bond England 102 Frame 8 Last 144 6 April 2017 Ms. Ng On Yee 51 years 142 days

32 Dominic Dale England 129 Frame 11 Last 80 9 April 2023 Jordan Brown 51 years 105 days

33 Dominic Dale England 124 Frame 5 Last 80 9 April 2023 Jordan Brown 51 years 105 days

34 Dominic Dale England 113 Frame 6 Last 112 6 April 2023 Asjad Iqbal 51 years 102 days

35 Fergal O’Brien Rep. of Ireland 132 Frame 2 Last 144 5 April 2023 Liam Davies 51 years 28 days

36 Jimmy White MBE England 130 Frame 16 Last 80 9 April 2013 Tian Peng Fei 50 years 342 days

37 Rex Williams England 138 Frame 12 Hex-final 24 April 1984 Jimmy White 50 years 279 days

38 Fred Davis OBE England 108 Frame 27 THE FINAL 22 April 1964 John Pulman 50 years 252 days

39 Mark Davis England 104 Frame 16 Last 48 12 April 2023 Joe Perry 50 years 243 days

40 Mark Davis England 104 Frame 11 Last 112 7 April 2023 Michael Georgiou 50 years 238 days

41 Ray Reardon MBE Wales 122 Frame 5 Oct-final 24 April 1983 Tony Knowles 50 years 198 days

42 Ray Reardon MBE Wales 116 Frame 4 Oct-final 24 April 1983 Tony Knowles 50 years 198 days

43 Pat Houlihan England 108 Frame 12 Last 64 12 April 1980 Joe Johnson 50 years 156 days

44 *John Pulman England 104 Frame 9-15 ‘Hex-final’ 16 April 1974 Sydney Lee 50 years 125 days*

45 Dominic Dale Wales 110 Frame 12 Last 48 12 April 2022 Lyu Hao Tian 50 years 108 days

46 Doug Mountjoy Wales 128 Frame 7 Last 48 20 September 92 Tony Chappel 50 years 104 days

47 Doug Mountjoy Wales 100 Frame 2 Last 48 20 September 92 Tony Chappel 50 years 104 days

48 Barry Pinches England 114 Frame 7 Last 112 24 July 2020 Craig Steadman 50 years 11 days

49 Barry Pinches England 111 Frame 3 Last 144 22 July 2020 Dean Young 50 years 9 days