

# Phil Marmion

## Things that I'd like to tell you....



### What I enjoy most:

- I love playing snooker and I like to come to the Northern Club three or four times a week to play. I've been a member for over 10 years
- I love the history of sport and love talking about this!
- My favourite drink is a pint of bitter
- I enjoy having conversations with people at the Northern club, although I am really shy so having these conversations can be difficult for me.

### What's would be helpful for you to know about me?

- I live with disabilities called Autism and Asperger's and this means sometimes I feel it's hard to be fully socially accepted and some people see me as different and don't always treat me as an equal. Sometimes this makes people nervous around me to. I know this can be fear of the unknown for those that don't understand my condition.
- I have a photographic memory so can recall lots of facts very easily – this makes some people nervous as they think I'm a bit spooky but I think it's a real talent!
- I find prolific swearing really uncomfortable and the effect that it can have on me is I become very nervous, withdrawn and I wish that I could be in another place.
- I really struggle with crowds and it makes me feel really on edge
- My nick name in the snooker team is 'The Ambassador' I got given this by an opposing captain who said I should be an ambassador for the league as I am so polite. This about sums me up as I always want to be polite and respectful. Simone McCaskill who wrote this with me thinks I'm a real gentleman which she says are a dying species! (Her words not mine)

### How can you best support me to enjoy my time at the club:

- Be patient, understanding and don't be afraid to have a chat or ask me questions about my condition to help you in understanding me better.
- I've had really negative experiences for the last 40 years of people that don't understand me mocking me which has been really hard – please don't do this or stand by and watch if others do!
- My condition can be very emotionally painful for me so people being understanding and respectful of this would be helpful to me
- There are some people in the club who know me best such as Tony Coin, John Reardon, Ade Taiwo and Jack Snaylam. If you're worried about me you could always have a chat with these people on my behalf. You can also chat to Simone McCaskill the club Welfare Lead.