

The CUE-TEST player!



Having a break



Jude with his records

Seeing her toddler at the snooker table, Sinead realised she had a pot-shot hot-shot on her hands...

Holding my son Jude's hand, I guided him through to the living room.

'You can open your eyes now,' I smiled.

It was his second birthday, and his dad Luke and I had bought him a mini pool table.

'Surprise!' we chorused, as Jude toddled towards it.

His eyes lit up and he had the biggest grin on his face.

Since childhood, Luke had been an avid pool and snooker player. So when we had Jude, I knew it wouldn't be too long before Luke was showing him how to rack them up himself.

Luke eagerly taught Jude how to grip a pool cue and how to aim.

Quickly, we realised Jude was a natural.

'He's really got the hang of this,' Luke smiled, as we watched him play.

His hand-eye coordination was impressive.

Before too long, we plonked him on a bar stool while on

holiday and let him play with a full-sized cue on a proper table.

As he potted balls with ease, we couldn't believe what we were seeing.

'He's a little pro!' I smiled.

'Maybe I can take him to the local sports club when we get home, so he can play for real,' Luke said.

After that, Luke took Jude to play snooker regularly.

Jude came on leaps and bounds with his trick shots.

'He's got a good aim on him!' one player commented when they spotted him.

'He's got a good aim on him!'

Jude always drew a crowd as he potted away – with some people wanting to play against him!

We started filming him as he played and, even set up an Instagram page, @judey147, where he quickly amassed a loyal following.

But one day, we got an email that shocked us all.

'Luke, the Guinness Book of World Records has been in touch!' I said.

They said they'd seen Jude's

videos and noticed how talented he was, asking whether he wanted to go for a world record.

If successful, he'd be the youngest ever title holder in the sport.

We jumped at the chance, and shortly after we took Jude to two separate events to see if he could set a new record.

Still just two, his first attempt was for a snooker double pot shot, which is where two balls are legally potted with a single strike of the cue ball, into different pockets.

Plonking him on the stool and handing him his cue, Luke and I, alongside the invigilators, watched with bated breath as he lined up his shot.

With no effort at all, he potted two balls into two pockets.

We were thrilled! 'Jude, you've done it!' I smiled, picking him up and twirling him around in a hug.

He was presented with his first world record, and we couldn't believe what a little superstar we had on our hands.

Just a month later, he set his sights on his second challenge, aiming for the record for the youngest person to make a pool bank shot.

A bank shot is when the cue ball is struck to hit the object ball off one or more cushions before

it enters a pocket.

Like before, we handed him his cue and let him aim before he took his shot. He made it look easy.

Our two-year-old had bagged himself two world records!

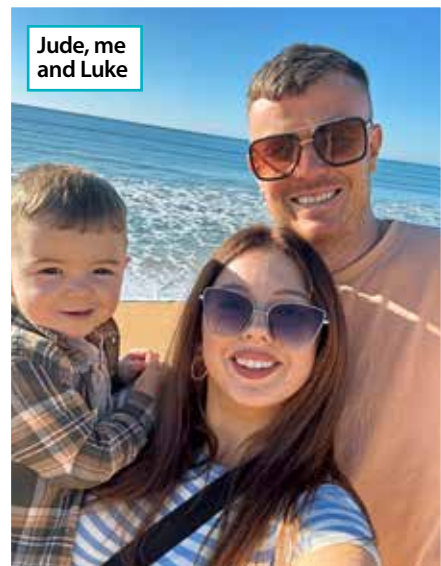
Since then, Jude has blown up in the snooker world. He was given a special walk-out entrance at the 2025 UK Snooker Championship, and is the youngest person to have a snooker sponsorship.

When he's older, we'll see if he wants to play competitively. He can decide for himself, but he'll have our full support, whatever he chooses.

At the moment, he can just focus on being the cue-test player at the table!

Sinead Owens, 34, Manchester

By Danielle Lett



Jude, me and Luke