

Squash SA Pennant Bylaws

1. DEFINITION OF BY-LAWS AND PENNANT COMMITTEE

- a) The following By-Laws shall apply to and govern all Pennant Squash.
- b) The Pennant Committee shall consist of at least three (3) members.
- c) The Pennant Committee solely shall interpret, administer and enforce these By-Laws.
- d) The Pennant Committee may at any time delegate all or any of its powers or duties under these By-Laws to the Registrar.
- e) As soon as possible after each Annual General Meeting of the Squash Rackets Association of South Australia Inc. (hereinafter called "Squash SA") the Board shall nominate the members of the Pennant Committee who shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting of Squash SA.
- f) Board under these By-Laws shall mean the Board elected at each Annual General Meeting of Squash SA.
- g) The Pennant Committee is appointed by the Board of Squash SA to adjudicate any complaints arising from any form of Squash competition / tournament endorsed by Squash SA. Examples include but are not limited to:
 - Junior Tournaments / Events
 - Junior League
 - Pennant Competition
 - Matrix League
 - Open and Graded Tournaments

2. STRUCTURE OF PENNANT COMPETITION

- a) There shall be separate open and women's Pennant Competitions.
- b) Both men and women may nominate to play in the open Pennant Competition.
- c) In exceptional circumstances, the Pennant Committee may approve for a male player to reserve in the women's competition.
- d) If special permission is granted under By-Law 2(c), 24 hours notice must be given to the opposition team.
- e) If special permission is granted under By-Law 2(c), a maximum of one man may play for any single team in any individual match of the women's competition.
- f) The top grades for open and women shall be known as State Grades. The Pennant Committee shall determine the number of State Grades for each Pennant, eg State 1, State 2 etc., which shall not be zoned except in special circumstances with the consent of the Pennant Committee. All other Grades shall be known as Divisions and shall be in numerical order, eg. Div. 1, Div. 2 as determined by the Pennant Committee. (g) There shall be one competition formed by the open State Grades and one competition formed by the State Grades for Women. For the Divisional Grades there shall be a separate competition each night of the week for both open and women.
- g) The Pennant Committee may geographically zone all or some Divisions into Zones for each Pennant Season, eg. Div. 1 North, Div. 1 South, Div. 1 Central etc.
- h) The Pennant Committee may vary the number of teams in each Pennant Grade or Division if such variation is in the best interests of the Pennant Competition.
- i) The Pennant Committee shall be responsible for the grading of all teams.

3. TEAM NOMINATIONS

- a) Teams shall be nominated on the form provided by Squash SA (with all players in order of merit) in the manner, and within the time period as stipulated by Squash SA for each Pennant Competition.

Squash SA Pennant Bylaws

4. ELIGIBLE PLAYERS

- a) To be eligible to play in Pennant Competition, a player must be a financial member of the Club he or she represents.
- b) When team nominations close, all players who are nominated and have transferred from one Club to another Club must be cleared from their previous Club. A clearance in writing from the Secretary of the previous Club will authorise the transfer. The clearance must be attached to the team nomination Form. It shall be the responsibility of the Club submitting the team nomination form to ensure that the clearance is attached to the said form and is in order. In the event of an uncleared player being nominated in and/or playing for a team, the Pennant Committee may impose a fine not exceeding \$50 on the Club submitting the team or deduct the points gained by the team as a result of the breach.
- c) Any player refused a clearance by a Club may appeal to the Pennant Committee. Clearances will only be refused on the ground that the player still owes Club membership fees (as well as Pennant fees, fines and re-imburement of fines) to his or her previous Club. In the event of an appeal, the Pennant Committee may make such order relating to the clearance as it deems fit.
- d) Penalties for breach of By-laws 4(a) through to 4(c) refer 19(a).

5. TEAM COMPOSITION

- a) Teams shall consist of a minimum of four (4) players (or three (3) player teams at the Pennant Committee's discretion).
- b) A player may not be nominated for more than one team in the same Divisional pennant competition.
- c) A player may be nominated for more than one team in the State Grade pennant competition where it is clearly anticipated that the teams nominated for will be graded into separate Grades playing on different nights. If the Pennant Committee determines that any two teams for which an individual player has been nominated will be graded into the same State Grade, or into State Grades that play on the same night, the lower ranked nomination will be rejected.
- d) Players will be ranked within the club(s) they represent according to their 'Matrix' rating as at specified dates during the Pennant Season. The Pennant Committee will determine player rankings at the following intervals:
 - e) Prior to the commencement of the Pennant Season, and;
 - f) Prior to the commencement of Rounds 5, 9 and 13 during the Pennant Season.
- g) A player's club ranking will be maintained for the whole of the ranking interval. Only official results received by Squash SA for matches played up to and including the Friday 10 days prior to the commencement of a ranking interval will be taken into account in establishing player rankings for that ranking interval.
- h) No nominated player shall play for more than one team in the same zone of a Division during the course of a Pennant Competition.
- i) All nominated players in each team shall play in their correct order of ranking.
- j) All players must play in the team(s) for which they are graded by the Pennant Committee for each Pennant Competition, except when playing as an eligible reserve under these By-Laws.
- k) No change shall be made to team composition after team grading by the Pennant Committee without the express consent of the Pennant Committee.
- l) Notwithstanding By-Laws 5(d) and 5(e) hereof, the Pennant Committee may in special circumstances during the course of a Pennant Competition allow a player to be re-ranked during a ranking interval.
- m) Penalties for breaches of By-laws 5(a) through 5(j) refer 19(a).

Squash SA Pennant Bylaws

6. RESERVES

- a) During the course of a minor round or major round, a player may play as a reserve, substituting for any player who is unable to play a match so long as that reserve complies with these By-Laws.
- b) A nominated player may only substitute for another player if their rating (as at the commencement of the current ranking interval) is a maximum of 5 points above the rating of the player for whom they are to substitute (as at the commencement of the current ranking interval), however no further concessions will be made, except in special circumstances with the prior consent of the Pennant Committee.
- c) An unnominated player must be rated by the Pennant Committee prior to substituting for another player. The rating of unnominated players may occur at any time before or during the Pennant Season, but must occur before the player is permitted to play. Once rated by the Pennant Committee, an unnominated player can only substitute for another player if their rating is a maximum of 5 points above that of the player for whom they are to substitute (as at the commencement of the current ranking interval), no further concessions will be made, except in special circumstances with the prior consent of the Pennant Committee.
- d) **In Major Round (finals) matches, no player may reserve for another player if the player for whom they are to substitute has a lower ranking than them, except in exceptional circumstances with the prior consent of the Pennant Committee.**
- e) When one or more eligible reserves are playing for a team, the players in the team (including reserves) must play in order of rating (as at the commencement of the current ranking interval).
- f) A reserve may play for more than one team in the same zone of a Grade or Division during the course of a Pennant Competition, provided the reserve is not a nominated player of any team in that zone of the Grade or Division on that night.
- g) A team may use a player that does not comply with By-Laws 6(b) and 6(c) as a reserve, provided that they have obtained consent from the nominated representative of the opposing team. This consent must be notified (verbally or in writing) to the Pennant Committee by the opposing team's nominated representative prior to the match being played. No consent will be considered after the match has been played. Once the Pennant Committee has received notification, the consent may not later be withdrawn.
- h) There is absolutely no obligation for the opposing team to provide consent under this By-law.
- i) Penalties for breach of By-laws 6(a) through 6(g) refer 19(a).

7. CONDUCT OF PENNANT COMPETITION MATCHES

- a) All Pennant Competition Matches shall be played under the International Rules of Squash as adopted by Squash S.A. All players aged 19 and under must use Squash Australia approved protective eyewear which meets or exceeds the frontal impact of AS4066:1992 or ASTM F803, for all pennant matches.
- b) The Pennant Committee shall set the program including the days and nights of play, the commencement time of play, venues etc. for each Pennant Competition.
- c) Subject to By-Law 5(a), a match shall consist of four (4) rubbers. Each player shall play one rubber only and each rubber shall be the best of five (5) games. In each match, the number one (1) ranked player from one team shall play the number one (1) ranked player from the opposing team, the number two (2) ranked players shall play each other and so on.
- d) Prior to the commencement of each match, the opposing Captains shall each nominate their team in correctly ranked order on the official Squash S.A. Result Card.

Squash SA Pennant Bylaws

- e) In all minor round matches, the first rubber played shall be as printed by Squash SA in the Pennant Program. The choice of players for subsequent rubbers shall alternate between teams, commencing with the visiting team. The choice for the following rubber shall be indicated to the opposing team before the commencement of the third game of the current rubber. If a choice has not been indicated by the required time, the opposing team shall have the right to choose which players shall play that particular rubber, and the following rubber.
- f) No player shall be guilty of misconduct before, during or after a match.
- g) State 1 and State 2 matches (Open) shall use the Point-a-Rally Scoring (PARS) system to 11 points (with a player need to win by 2 clear points if the score reaches 10-all).
- h) All other State grades and all Divisional matches (Open and Women) shall use the Point-a-Rally Scoring (PARS) system to 15 points (with a player need to win by 2 clear points if the score reaches 14-all).
- i) Penalties for breach of By-law 7, refer 19(c).

8. FORFEIT(S)

- a) Forfeit(s) before the commencement of a match: If, before a match commences, a team finds it necessary to forfeit a rubber(s), the team must forfeit at the lowest position first, and the remaining players must play in the correct ranked order e.g, position numbers 1, and 2 etc. If it is necessary to forfeit more than one rubber, the team must forfeit at the lowest position first, the next lowest position second, and so on.
- b) If play has not commenced within fifteen (15) minutes of the specified commencing time, the defaulting team shall lose the first chosen rubber. Fifteen (15) minutes' grace shall be allowed after each rubber for the next chosen rubber to commence. If play does not commence immediately after fifteen (15) minutes' grace, the defaulting team shall lose that rubber. The final rubber shall commence no later than fifteen (15) minutes after the completion of the third rubber.
- c) Forfeit(s) after the commencement of a match: If, after the match has commenced, a team forfeits one or more rubbers, then that team shall score no points for the rubbers forfeited in addition to scoring no points for any rubbers played below the positions so forfeited. If the player or players who have forfeited subsequently arrive at the courts prepared to play before play in the last rubber has ceased, then the forfeit(s) in the rubber(s) played does not apply but otherwise this By-Law shall apply.
- d) Notwithstanding By-Law 8(c), if a player, who has presented themselves in a fit state to play, becomes injured during the warm up period and subsequently forfeits the match, then that player's team shall score no points for that rubber only and that forfeit shall have no effect on the points scored for any other rubber(s) played.
- e) A match in which a player, after commencing the match, withdraws through injury will be counted a loss. The marker must indicate the match is forfeited due to injury on the scorecard. The forfeit will be recorded in the Matrix as a loss with the player retaining any games and points won prior to forfeiting. The Pennant Committee will consider exceptional circumstances.
- f) Points allocated for a rubber shall only be awarded to the team receiving a forfeit for rubbers played and won as well as for the rubber(s) forfeited. If both teams forfeit one or more rubbers, then neither team shall receive points for those rubbers.
- g) Should a team forfeit more than two rubbers in any individual match; a fine as defined in the following will be charged to the club of the forfeiting team:
- h) Three rubbers forfeited - \$30.
 - (i) Four rubbers forfeited - \$50. (h) All monies paid under by-law 8(g) will go directly towards junior development

Squash SA Pennant Bylaws

- (ii) Should the fine not be paid, or an appeal lodged, within 7 days of the invoice being presented, the fine may be cancelled and the following deduction of points may be applied to the team that forfeited:
 - i) Three rubbers forfeited – 30 premiership points.
 - j) Four rubbers forfeited – 50 premiership points.
 - k) Notwithstanding anything contained in this By-Law, the Pennant Committee shall have the power to waive, reduce or apply any of the above forfeiture of points and fines, in circumstances that the Pennant Committee considers as special circumstances.

9. CONDITION OF COURTS

- a) Squash courts used for Pennant Competition must be maintained in good playing order. It shall be the responsibility of both the Club and the home team to ensure that their courts are maintained in good playing order.
- b) The Pennant Committee may at any time whatsoever inspect or appoint a person to inspect squash courts. If the Pennant Committee is not satisfied that a squash court is in good playing order, it may request the Club to place the said squash court in good playing order at the sole expense of that club. The Pennant Committee may also order that until the said squash court is placed in good playing order, it is not to be used for Pennant Competition. The Pennant Committee may also make such other orders relating to the condition of the squash courts as it sees fit.

10. MARKERS AND REFEREES FOR MINOR ROUND MATCHES

- a) Each minor round match shall be marked and refereed in accordance with the International Rules of Squash as adopted by Squash S.A.
- b) Teams shall supply a marker or referee for each match alternately. The home team shall provide the marker for the first match and the referee for the second match and so on. The away team shall provide the referee for the first match and the marker for the second match and so on.

11. BALLS

- a) During all minor round matches the home team shall provide new balls as may be required. The said balls must be as approved by Squash S.A. The balls currently approved by Squash S.A. are the Dunlop Pro (double yellow dot) and Dunlop Competition (single yellow dot).
- b) Only the above approved balls shall be used in Pennant Competition as follows:
 - All State Grades (Open & Women) Dunlop Pro (double yellow dot)
 - All Divisions (Open & Women) Dunlop Competition (single yellow dot)
- c) For all Divisions, should both players agree, then the Dunlop Pro (double yellow dot) or the Dunlop XX (yellow dot) may be used in any individual rubber. Should the players not agree then By-Law 11(b) shall apply.

12. DRESS

- a) Each and every player must dress in such a manner so that in the opinion of the referee such dress does not interfere with the opponent's sighting of the ball.

13. LOCAL RULES

- a) Any Club may ask the Pennant Committee to approve such local rules for a particular squash court as may be necessary or desirable, and, if the Pennant Committee approves such local rules, then the same shall become and form part of these By-Laws. It shall be the sole responsibility of the Club to prominently display at the squash court concerned such approved local rules.

Squash SA Pennant Bylaws

14. MATCH RESULTS

- a) For all matches, the winning team (or the home team in the event of a draw) shall forward the official Squash S.A. Result Card to Squash S.A. Such card must be duly completed with the exact results of all rubbers played and signed by a representative of each team and must be received by Squash S.A. within two (2) working days of the match being played.
- b) In the event of the official Squash S.A. Result Card not being received by Squash S.A. after two (2) working days Squash S.A. will notify both teams of the fact that the card has not been received. On receipt of the card the team responsible for forwarding the card shall have 10 premiership points deducted. These points will be reinstated when a fine of the sum of \$15.00 has been paid by the team. After the completion of Round 10 of a Pennant season, the reinstatement of premiership points is dependent on the fine for late receipt of card being received by Squash S.A. within five (5) working days of Squash S.A notifying the teams that the card has not be received.
- c) Notwithstanding anything contained in this By-Law, where no points for the relevant match are awarded as a result of this By-Law, the Pennant Committee, where it considers the circumstances appropriate, may award points for the relevant match provided that the Pennant Committee imposes an additional fine not exceeding the sum of \$50 upon the relevant Club.
- d) Notwithstanding anything contained in this By-Law, the Pennant Committee shall have the power to waive any of these penalties in circumstances that the Pennant Committee considers as special circumstances.
- e) If a team withdraws from the Pennant Competition after the Pennant Season has commenced, all the points gained by any opposing team in all matches played against the team that withdraws shall be forfeited and deducted from the opposing teams total points. The club at which the team withdrawing from the Pennant Competition plays shall also pay a fine not exceeding the sum of \$50 as the Pennant Committee sees fit.

15. PREMIERSHIP TABLE

- a) For all matches played, *four (4)* match points shall be awarded to the team winning the match, and *six (6)* points shall be awarded for each rubber, *i.e. 3/0 results in the winner being awarded all six (6) points, 3/1 results in a five (5) one (1) split, 3/2 results in a four (4) two (2) split.* To decide the winner of any match, rubbers shall be counted first, then games and, if necessary, points. The winner shall be the team which gains the greater number of rubbers, and, if equal rubbers, the greater number of games and, if equal games, the greater number of points. In the event of a draw, each team shall receive two (2) match points. *The points awarded for each match must equal a total of twenty-eight (28) points (or twenty-two points (22) for a 3 person team).*
- b) In order to determine the match result In the circumstances where the Pennant Committee has determined that a breach has occurred such that penalties are applied under By-Laws 19(a) and 19(c), the following shall apply. The offending rubbers will be scored as if the team that breached the By-Laws won no games and scored no points and the opposing team won maximum games and scored maximum points in those games.
- c) Premiership Points will be withheld until the club that a team represents is deemed to be financial with Squash SA.
- d) In the event of a minor round pennant match being tied, the match shall not be replayed.
- e) Subject to these By-Laws if for any reason a minor or a major round pennant match is deferred or postponed, the match must be replayed at the centre and on the date and at the time and upon such conditions as set by the Pennant Committee.

Squash SA Pennant Bylaws

- f) If two (2) or more teams gain an equal number of total points, their respective positions will be decided on the percentage of games won in relation to games played:
i.e. $\text{games won} * 100 / \text{games played}$

16. PLAYER TO PLAY UNDER CORRECT NAME

- a) Each and every player shall play under his or her true and correct name. In the event of any change of name, the player shall notify Squash S.A. in writing of such change within seven (7) days of the change.

17. MAJOR ROUND

- a) All major round matches shall be played at courts as directed by the Pennant Committee.
- b) The Pennant Committee will determine finals venues some time after the conclusion of Round 10 of the relevant competition. Neutrality will be considered but the focus shall be on geographic equity in all matches.
- c) For all State Grade Matches referees shall be allocated by the Association of Squash Referees of South Australia (where possible). In all other Grades/Divisions, the referees (and markers where possible) shall be supplied by the Club at which the finals matches are played. Where a referee only has been provided, the team nominated as the home team shall provide the marker for the first and third match, and the team nominated as the away team shall provide the marker for the second and fourth match.
- d) To be eligible to play in a Major Round (finals), a player must have played a minimum of 4 matches for a team in which they are nominated, if they have not played 4 matches for their nominated team, a team can not use that player's Matrix to find a reserve for the finals as that person is not deemed a team member. Reserves must play a minimum of 5 matches for the Club for which they seek to play, and be compliant with by-law 6, except in exceptional circumstances with the prior consent of the Pennant Committee.
- e) In ten (10) team competitions, the team at the top of the ladder at the end of the minor rounds will be deemed the Premier team. No finals will be played.
- f) In eight (8) team competitions, the top four (4) teams at the end of the minor round shall compete in the major round in the following manner over three (3) weeks-
 - 1st Week - 1st Semi Final: 1st vs 2nd
 - 2nd Semi Final: 3rd vs 4th
 - 2nd Week - Preliminary Final: Loser of 1st Semi Final vs Winner of 2nd Semi Final.
 - 3rd Week - Grand Final: Winner of 1st Semi Final vs Winner Preliminary Final
- g) In four (4) and a six (6) team competitions the top three (3) teams at the end of the minor round shall compete in the major round in the following manner over two (2) weeks:
 - 1st Position after completion of Minor Round goes straight through to Grand Final.
 - 1st Week - Qualifying Final: 2nd vs 3rd, with the winner going through to the Grand Final.
 - 2nd Week - Grand Final: Minor Premiers vs Winner Qualifying Final.
- h) The Captains of the teams participating in a major round match shall toss a coin and the Captain winning the toss shall decide whether to be the home or away team. The choice of order of rubbers played shall alternate between the teams, commencing with the away team.
- i) In the event of a finals match being tied, the last players to play their match will play a 'sudden death' game to decide the outcome of the final. The game will be played as normal, to 11 points or 15 points depending on the teams' division.
- j) Squash SA shall be responsible for the payment of all Court Fees for Major Round Matches, as determined by and at the Boards discretion.

Squash SA Pennant Bylaws

18. COMPLAINTS

- a) The handling of all complaints will be in accordance with the Squash SA Pennant Committee Hearing Procedure (Policy SSA006)
- b) Any Club or person may lodge a complaint with Squash SA in relation to any breach of these By-Laws. Such complaint shall be made in writing to Squash SA within **two (2)** working days of the date of the alleged breach. Correspondence may be in the form of a written letter or email and should be addressed to the Squash SA CEO. Squash SA and the Pennant Committee shall have the power in each and every case to waive the above requirement if it sees fit.
- c) Squash SA and the Pennant Committee shall have power at any time to demand from any Club, team, member or any other person whatsoever any documents, papers or information whatsoever directly or indirectly relating to or arising out of any complaint.
- d) Squash SA and the Pennant Committee shall have power to consider all complaints in relation to or arising out of these By-Laws.
- e) Squash SA and the Pennant Committee shall also have the power to set down complaints for hearing and to summons any person to attend at such hearing in relation to or arising out of these By-Laws.
- f) The Pennant Committee will endeavour to hold a hearing, if necessary, on the Monday following the receipt of a complaint. Only the Pennant Committee has the power to alter this timeline.
- g) In relation to any complaint made under these By-Laws, Squash SA and the Pennant Committee may make such determinations and orders and may impose such penalties as it is empowered under these By-Laws.
- h) Players will remain eligible to continue to play until Squash SA and the Pennant Committee has handed down its decision.
- i) Notwithstanding anything herein contained, the Pennant Committee may of its own volition (and without any complaint having been made) investigate any matter under these By-Laws and lay any complaint(s) or make any charge(s) against any player, member of any team, team or Club under these By-Laws and set down for hearing and hear any such complaint(s) or charge(s) and may make such determination(s) and order(s) and may impose such penalty or penalties as it is empowered under these By-Laws. The Pennant Committee shall also have all the powers as are contained in By-Laws (j)(c), (d), (e) and (g) hereof when exercising its powers under this By-Law.

19. PENALTIES

- a) All cases heard by the Pennant Committee and / or the Independent Tribunal Panel will be adjudicated in line with the Squash SA Penalty Guidelines (Policy SSA006)
- b) If any team breaches any part of the By-laws 4, 5, or 6, they shall score no points for the offending rubber in addition to scoring no points for any rubbers below the position so breached.
- c) If any person breaches By-law 7, they shall score no points for the offending rubber.
- d) In relation to the breach of any of these By-Laws other than By-Laws for which a specific penalty is stated, the Pennant Committee shall be empowered to impose a fine on the relevant club not exceeding \$50, a fine on the relevant team not exceeding \$50, and/or a fine on the relevant player(s) not exceeding \$50 and to make such other orders including, but without limiting the generality thereof, the suspension of a player(s) from playing in any pennant competition and/or any tournament(s) approved by Squash SA for such period or periods as the Pennant Committee sees fit.

Squash SA Pennant Bylaws

- e) Notwithstanding anything contained in these By-Laws, Squash SA and the Pennant Committee shall have the power to waive any penalties in circumstances that they consider as special circumstances.

20. APPEALS

- a) A player shall have the right to appeal a decision as a result of a hearing conducted by the Pennant Committee to an Independent Tribunal Panel appointed by the Board
- b) All appeals must be lodged in writing within two (2) working days from the notification of the decision of the Pennant Committee. The cost for lodging an appeal will be \$50.00. The lodgement fee is non refundable.
- c) All costs associated with engaging an Independent Tribunal Panel will be borne by the player who has lodged an appeal against the Pennant Committee. The cost incurred to engage an Independent Tribunal Panel will be refunded to the player should the Independent Tribunal Panel find in favour of the player.
- d) If an appeal is lodged a player who has been suspended by the Pennant Committee may take part in matches until the appeal has been heard.
- e) Any decision of the Independent Tribunal Panel once ratified by the Board shall be final, and no further appeals shall be considered.

21. AMENDMENTS

- a) These By-Laws shall only be repealed or amended by a majority vote of the Squash and Racquetball Committee.

Squash SA Pennant Committee – 2015