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TASMANIAN SQUASH RACKETS ASSOCIATION INC

**Minutes of Committee Meeting held on
Saturday 25 August 2012 Time: 9:30am
Meeting held at Eastside Squash Centre**

1. PRESENT

Chris Doig, Cheryl Unsworth, Michael Brown (arrived 10:10am)(in person); Greg Ward, Nathan Ward, Mark Noonan, Julie Smith-Kingston, Kent Harbutt (via skype).

2. APOLOGIES

None.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was moved Greg Ward, seconded Kent Harbutt "that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Saturday 16 June 2012 be confirmed".

All in favour. **CARRIED.**

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- Deferred until later in the meeting as listed under 7.8 – Outstanding Items from Minutes.

5. CORRESPONDENCE – INWARDS AND OUTWARDS

A list of emails and correspondence received up until 22 August 2012 was circulated prior to the meeting. It was moved Mark Noonan, seconded Julie Smith-Kingston "that the correspondence list be received."

All in favour. **CARRIED**

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report was circulated prior to the meeting. It was moved Mark Noonan, seconded Julie Smith-Kingston "that the Treasurer's Report be received".

All in favour. **CARRIED.**

The Treasurer commented as follows:

- The report was of projected expenditure and income for the rest of the year.
- Built up reserves have now been spent.
- Difficulties for Squash Tasmania finances are that membership numbers are down, reducing affiliation fee income. Expenses have also gone up such as Squash Australia affiliation fees and discretionary expenses (junior and senior tops, Tasmanian Open sponsorship etc) have increased.
- There is expenditure in the new year where no affiliation income has been received.
- The auditor's advise not to trade insolvently.

Chris Doig mentioned that Squash Tasmania would receive a payment of \$2000 (not \$1000) from Squash Australia for running the AJC 2012 and there would be some income from merchandise sales. Greg Ward mentioned that a refund would need to be made to Donna

Woodleigh who had made payments for AJC. There was general discussion about finances and the need to stick to the budget. Chris said we need to budget for profit and make allowance for lesser members. Mark Noonan asked if clubs pay anything. Chris and Michael both advised that clubs do not presently pay a fee, it is the players who are registered.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 AJC 2012

It was moved by Cheryl Unsworth and seconded Michael Brown, “that the report from the Tasmanian Squash Academy on the Australian Junior Championships Hobart 2012 be received and that:

- The Committee decides on the amount to be paid to Leon Barnett for his voluntary contribution to the 2012 Australian Junior Championships.
- The appointment of Max Moorhouse as the Assistant Coordinator is confirmed.
- The appointment of Chris Doig as the Executive Representative is confirmed.
- The appointment of Dawn Moggach as Tournament Director is acknowledged,
- The appointment of Kaye Reeves as Technical Director is acknowledged.
- The Squash Tasmania Performance Pathway Committee be appointed to run the tournament canteen and that all proceeds be directed towards the Performance Pathway Program and be allocated as recommended by the Squash Tasmania Performance Pathway Committee and approved by the Squash Tasmania management committee.
- The profit sharing arrangement between Squash Tasmania, Squash Australia and Inform Connection is acknowledged.”

Recommendation 1 was amended to “No financial compensation is paid to Leon Barnett for his role as AJC Tournament Director.”

All in favour. **CARRIED.**

There was considerable discussion about expenses for Leon Barnett and the proceeds of the Canteen. Proceeds of the canteen will go towards costs of those in the Performance Pathway program. If Squash Australia is to help fund the program then it is a requirement that the state team will come through the PP program. PP Regulations to be reviewed - commitment required. In relation to Leon Barnett’s expenses the committee decided that Leon’s then position of Tournament Director was voluntary and that only direct expenses (such as cost of stationery items already met) would be reimbursed and that time would not be paid for. The committee’s consensus was that all positions are voluntary and a precedent should not be set. Another letter would be sent to Leon thanking him once again and outlining the committee’s position. Bill Cook has been appointed Team Leader/Tour Manager and he has been made aware of his obligations as per the Performance Pathway regulations.

7.2 Expenses – Leon Barnett

Discussed under 7.1.

7.3 President’s Council Meeting

Kent reported on the President’s Council Meeting on 14 July. Kent advised there was general discussion about the Commonwealth Games facilities, matrix, member subscriptions and standardization of player payments. He said the bigger states may struggle to adopt new proposals and Tasmania and the ACT may be used as role models. No resolutions have been confirmed at this stage. The outcomes can be found on the Squash Australia website. Chris asked about future meetings and Kent indicated that it was proposed that 3 or 4 meetings be held per annum. The next one is in Melbourne in December. Kent understood that Squash Australia would fund the transport costs of delegates.

7.4 Matrix Costs

Emails concerning matrix costs had been circulated to the committee. There is talk of a \$20 cost per player which will add to affiliation fees considerably. Fiona Young from Victoria had raised concerns as to value for money. Chris said players would need to be affiliated to be able to use the matrix. Proposed changes by Squash Australia would mean players register on line. Fees would be transferred to states by Squash Australia. Committee members feel that players want Squash Tasmania to justify fees and a rise may turn players away. Kent said affiliation fees for squash are well down on other sports. Budgets are set for the year and Squash Australia may have to absorb costs of matrix (currently \$1.70 per player per year) until fees can be set at their next AGM. There was general discussion about matrix and affiliation costs.

7.5 Player Insurance

A report from Michael Brown was circulated with the agenda. Chris said that he had reviewed Rob Slade's grounds for complaint and said that he was unaware of Gaye's circumstances. Other players have had successful claims. It was moved Kent Harbutt, seconded Julie Smith-Kingston "that Michael Brown's report on player insurance be received" and, following a short discussion, "that Michael Brown investigate, report upon and discuss with Squash Australia".

All in favour. **CARRIED.**

7.6 National Teams Championships

It was moved Greg Ward, seconded Mark Noonan "that Michael Brown's report on the National Teams Championships be received and that Michael would follow-up players for the NTC 2012".

All in favour. **CARRIED.**

7.7 Tasmanian Squash Tour Grant

Chris Doig has applied to Events Tasmania for a grant for 2013. It was proposed that after the Tasmanian Open an event be held in Devonport. Players from almost 20 countries came to the Tasmanian Open this year and it would be beneficial to them to be able to play in another tournament whilst in the State. The players would be bused to Devonport. The Tasmanian Open weekend also included the Eastside Open and it is thought that the Devonport event would also include a tournament for locals. It is also possible that a third event will be scheduled. It was moved Mark Noonan, seconded Kent Harbutt "that the Events Tasmania grant application for the Tasmanian Squash Tour be acknowledged."

All in favour. **CARRIED.**

7.8 Outstanding items from Minutes

A report was presented on outstanding items from minutes from February, May and June meetings. Discussion followed and items were addressed as follows:

February

1. Squash Tasmania website link had been forwarded to committee for comment. Any comments should be forwarded to Michael Brown.
2. Amendments to Constitution – to be done by Chris Doig as soon as possible.
3. Photos on website – provision should be made on tournament forms or registration forms for permission to be provided for use of photos (or not as the case may be).
4. Mark Noonan to do a report (could be covered by code of conduct brochure – see below in May). Mark wants matters to be dealt with by a tournament referee at the time of any incident.

May

1. Constitution – see above.
2. Chris said no response has been received from Tory. Chris has been working on a Code of Conduct for players with Geoff Lucas, and notes from Michael Brown.
3. Membership list provided for Ulverstone and the club has been invoiced.

June

1. AJC 2012 – report in current minutes.
2. Ian Hocking Medal 2012 – recipients were Brett McGrath, Melanie Dunn, Darcy Evans and Claire Ward.
3. PP Committee vacancy – It was moved Chris Doig and seconded Michael Brown “that Melanie Dunn be appointed to the vacant position on the Performance Pathway Committee.”
All in favour. **CARRIED.**
4. President’s Council – report in current minutes.
5. AJC Tournament Manager – report in current minutes.
6. PP Report – report received by Mark Hudson for meeting on 25 August.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- Chris Doig asked Kent about the schools’ pennant (South and North) and Kent advised that a report would be provided for the next meeting.
- Greg Ward asked about police checks for those working with children, particularly with AJC coming up, and what is the Squash Australia policy? Chris Doig to follow up.
- Report presented by Mark Hudson was discussed and acknowledged. The Performance Pathway Committee, in consultation with the President, make recommendations on amendments to the Performance Pathway Regulations. The recommendations will be presented to the Squash Tasmania management committee for approval.

9. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 11:05am. Next meeting to be held on a date to be advised

Cheryl Unsworth

Secretary

unswdc@bigpond.net.au

27/8/2012

TO BE CONFIRMED

Bank Reconciliation Report

Squash Tasmania

23-Aug-2012

From : 16-Jun-2012 To : 24-Aug-2012

Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
16-Jun-2012	Opening Balance			21,005.66
	<i>Credits to Account</i>			
20-Jun-2012	Scottsdale registration 2012		144.00	
22-Jun-2012	D Woodleigh 2012		20.00	
1-Jul-2012	Interest Jul 12		7.19	
12-Jul-2012	Penguin registration 2012		35.00	
12-Jul-2012	Penguin registration 2012		118.00	
24-Jul-2012	D Woodleigh 2012		49.27	
1-Aug-2012	Penguin registration 2012		105.00	
1-Aug-2012	Eastside registration 2012		4,897.00	

1-Aug-2012	Longford registration 2012		72.00
1-Aug-2012	Scottsdale registration 2012		192.00
1-Aug-2012	Launceston College registration 2012		96.00
1-Aug-2012	Interest Aug 12		5.06
15-Aug-2012	Ulverstone registration 2012		<u>25.00</u>
	<i>Total</i>		5,765.52 26,771.18

Debits to Account

18-Jun-2012	993660, PP Conference Dinner	877.50	
25-Jun-2012	993662, Squash Aust Tas Open grant to TSA	5,500.00	
25-Jun-2012	993665, PPCC C Doig claim	285.98	
29-Jun-2012	993666, PPCC M Dunn claim	301.20	
1-Jul-2012	Bank fee Jul 12	14.75	
12-Jul-2012	993667, Tas Open refs accomm	570.00	
17-Jul-2012	993664, PPCC dinner refund Wards	92.00	
17-Jul-2012	993668, Tas Squash Academy	1,150.00	
30-Jul-2012	993663, PPCC G Mitchell claim	36.30	
31-Jul-2012	993669, Tas Open refs flights + allow	1,644.00	
1-Aug-2012	Bank fee Aug 12	<u>9.85</u>	
	<i>Total</i>	<u>10,481.58</u>	<u>16,289.60</u>

All Unpresented Cheques

2-Aug-2012	993670; Squash Matrix payment	755.65	
2-Aug-2012	993671; Tas Open PSA+WISPA fees	1,115.00	
22-Aug-2012	993672; Business Affairs 2011	79.20	
24-Aug-2012	993673; Squash Aust reg Aug 2012	<u>1,031.80</u>	
	<i>Total</i>	<u>2,981.65</u>	<u>13,307.95</u>

All Outstanding Supplier Invoices

24-Aug-2012	999; Michael Brown; Web fees 2012 ***	200.00	
24-Aug-2012	24/8/2012; Tas Squash Academy; Squash in schools part 2 ***	12,000.00	
24-Aug-2012	999; Squash Australia; National teams entry 2012 ***	360.00	
24-Aug-2012	998; Squash Australia; AJC 2012 refs ***	550.00	
24-Aug-2012	997; Squash Australia; AJC 2012 entry ***	1,600.00	
24-Aug-2012	999; Squash Tas; AJC 2012 polo tops ***	1,500.00	
24-Aug-2012	996; Squash Australia; Sep 2012 affiliation ***	1,031.00	
24-Aug-2012	995; Squash Australia; Matrix ***	<u>770.00</u>	
	<i>Total</i>	<u>18,011.00</u>	<u>-4,703.05</u>

All Outstanding Sales Invoices

9-May-2012	267; Kingborough; Kingborough Registration 2012	177.00	
22-Aug-2012	299; Kingborough; Kingborough Registration 2012	212.00	
5-Aug-2012	295; Tas Squash Academy; Longford player registration 2012	72.00	
5-Aug-2012	296; Tas Squash Academy; Scottsdale player registration 2012	72.00	
5-Aug-2012	297; Tas Squash Academy; Penguin player registration 2012	192.00	
5-Aug-2012	298; Tas Squash Academy; Eastside player registration 2012	1,685.00	
24-Aug-2012	999; Ulverstone; Ulverstone 2012 ***	880.00	
24-Aug-2012	999; Squash Australia; AJC 2012 admin payment ***	<u>1,100.00</u>	
	<i>Total</i>	<u>4,390.00</u>	<u>-313.05</u>

Please Note:

The items marked with *** in outstanding sales + supplier invoices are estimates only. I have put them in to give a fuller picture for the year.

Report to Squash Tasmania Committee

From: Michael Brown

Subject: 2012 Player Insurance Policy

Background

Both Rob Slade and Gaye Mitchell have had significant injuries this year while playing. Both made claims under the player insurance policy and both commented that they were not happy with the process and did not receive any payment.

Recommendation

That Squash Tasmania investigate, report upon and discuss with Squash Australia.

Michael Brown
18 Aug 2012

Report to Squash Tasmania Committee

From: Michael Brown

Subject: 2012 National Teams Event

Status Update

I have sent an email to the top Tasmanian men and women players informing them of the National Teams event and asking for players who are available and interested in attending. (Email cc'd to committee on 13 Aug 2012).

Responses so far are:

Men Available: Darcy Evans, Mark DeVries, Hamish Laws, David Mulchay

Men Maybe: Paul Tuffin

Women Maybe: Mel Dunn

Women Not Available: Gaye Mitchell, Mel Shutt

Recommendation

1. I will continue following up with players.

2. Either Chris Doig or myself will contact Squash Australia to see if female players from outside Tas can be included in the Tas team if none are available from Tas. (This may be done before the meeting.)

Michael Brown
18 Aug 2012

Report to Squash Tasmania Committee

Subject: Outstanding items from previous Minutes

I was asked by Chris Doig to list any outstanding items from previous minutes. They are listed below. Please refer to minutes to refresh your memory if need be.

February

1. Web page (link has been circulated for committee to look at)
2. Amendments to constitution
3. Photos on website – establishing facebook page (GW – done) but Angela Desire raised the question of permissions required for photos
4. Junior behaviour – Mark Noonan to do a report

May

1. Constitution
2. Tory Puglisi (written to with no response) – Brochure – CU/MB – work in progress
3. Affiliation – Ulverstone still outstanding (but action being taken)

June

1. AJC 2012
2. Ian Hocking Medal – Officially name recipients
3. PP Committee – M Hudson to clarify members and vacancy be formalised
4. President's Council meeting (Kent) – although outcomes have been circulated
5. AJC Tournament Manager (to be included in AJC report by CD)
6. PP report – regular report to Squash Tas from Chairperson
7. Proposed meeting during Tas/ES Open not held due to time constraints & illness

Recommendation

That the list be addressed at the meeting on 25 August 2012.

Cheryl Unsworth

Secretary

18/8/2012

Report to Squash Tasmania Committee

From: Manager Tasmanian Squash Academy

Subject: Australian Junior Championships, Hobart, 2012

Background

Squash Australia has an allocation for states to host the Tasmanian Junior Championships. Tasmania is the host for 2012.

Discussion

Squash Tasmania had proposed that the Australian Junior Championships be held in Devonport. However, after a visit to Tasmania by the National Development Manager, Squash Australia decided to move the event to Eastside Squash in Hobart.

As a result a number of issues have arisen;

1. Leon Barnett, the original Squash Tasmania appointed tournament organizer has requested funding for his “voluntary” contribution. Leon has requested that Squash Tasmania reimburse him for his time spent on organizing the event and has requested a fee of \$1,000 for his time spent on the event. I agreed to forward his request to the Squash Tasmania Committee. I will leave this up to the committee to decide.
2. Squash Australia has now taken control of the Australian Junior Championships. Previously the host state was asked to organize the event. We are now required to assist Squash Australia with the event. We have been asked to nominate an Executive Representative and a Coordinating Assistant. I have accepted Trevor Smith’s recommendation that I be the Executive Representative and that Max Moorhouse be the Coordinating assistant. I have recommended that these appointments be accepted.
3. Dawn Moggach has been appointed by Squash Australia as Tournament Director.
4. Kay Reeves has been appointed by Squash Australia as Technical Director.
5. Trevor Smith will be on site to assist.
6. Squash Australia will organize and pay for the event trophies and court hire costs.
7. As the Executive Representative, I have been assigned the task of organizing the canteen for the event. I will recommend that the Squash Tasmania Performance Pathway Committee run the canteen and that all proceeds be assigned to the Performance Pathway Program.
8. Squash Australia will pay for 50% of the referees required to attend. Squash Tasmania will be required to fund the balance.
9. After the event, Squash Tasmania will receive a \$2,000 payment for hosting the event. There are no restrictions on the use of this money.
10. Profits from shirt sales will be shared by Squash Australia, Inform Connection and Squash Tasmania. Exact details are to be finalized.
11. As Assistant Coordinator, Max Moorhouse has been assigned the task of organizing the on-site arrangements such as, volunteers for the control desk, car parking arrangements, billets as requested, accommodation recommendations, etc. He will also organize referee and other official transport.
12. The Eastside Squash Centre staff will be required to keep the Squash Centre clean and tidy during the event.
13. The staff of squash.com.au will provide sales assistance at the event.

The role description for each Squash Australia position will be attached to this report.

Recommendation

That the report from the Tasmanian Squash Academy on the **Australian Junior Championships, Hobart, 2012** be received and that:

1. The committee decides on the amount to be paid to Leon Barnett for his voluntary contribution to the 2012 Australian Junior Championships.
2. The appointment of Max Moorhouse as the Assistant Coordinator is confirmed.
3. The appointment of Chris Doig as the Executive Representative is confirmed.
4. The appointment of Dawn Moggach as Tournament Director is acknowledged,
5. The appointment of Kaye Reeves as Technical director is acknowledged.
6. The Squash Tasmania Performance Pathway Committee be appointed to run the tournament canteen and that all proceeds be directed towards the Performance Pathway Program and be allocated by the Squash Tasmania Performance Pathway Committee.
7. The profit sharing arrangement between Squash Tasmania, Squash Australia and Inform Connection is acknowledged.

Chris Doig
Manager
Tasmanian Squash Academy
25/08/2012

SQUASH TASMANIA PERFORMANCE PATHWAY

REPORT TO SQUASH TASMANIA

25 AUGUST 2012

Please refer to reports on the:

- 2012 Oceanic Junior Championship Victoria
- Selection of the State Junior Team
- Activities undertaken
- Other Matters for consideration by Squash Tasmania and Pathway Committee
- Attachments

Mark Hudson
Chairman

2012 OCEANIC JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP VICTORIA

Once again a very well run tournament, however the numbers were down from last year. This was very disappointing for Squash Vic, especially the low number of Victorian participants. Tasmania was well represented with the following players:

Player	Club
Harrison Banks	Eastside
Kathrine Clarke	Eastside
Liam Woodleigh – Hardinge	Eastside
Eamon Garrett	Eastside
Aiden McGuinness	Eastside
Jack Hudson	Eastside
Coach – Mel Dunn	
Jamie Pattison	Ulverstone
Grace Pattison	Ulverstone
Coach – Leon Barnett	
Toby Moore	Wynard
Jordan Stokes	Wynard
Coach – Steve Lee	

The introduction of the new ranking system to be introduced in 2013 will hopefully improve the number of players competing for future years. The awarding of potentially Gold Status to this event with an appropriate number of ranking points will encourage greater participation for players looking to improve their national ranking.

On court and off court behavior was impeccable and all bonded extremely well. Tasmania faired well with the trophies, with Toby Moore runner up in the 11 year age group, Jack Hudson runner up in the 13 year age group and Grace Pattison taking out the 13 year girls section

Jordan Stokes put in a great effort to get a third spot and he once again showed that he has the making of a true champion.

From a Performance Pathway point of view more extensive training, improved coaching resources and commitment by the players is needed if we are to continue to keep in touch with the Mainland juniors. We have youngsters coming through who will soon be in contention for the 13 years age bracket but we must continue to work with the juniors who will be leaving that age section. Finally it must be emphasized that the players all flew the Tasmanian flag proudly and were true ambassadors for our State.

Leon Barnett

SELECTION OF THE STATE JUNIOR TEAM FOR THE AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS TO BE HELD IN TASMANIA OCTOBER 2012

The second selection event for the state junior team was held in Devonport on the 21-22 July.

Following the conclusion of the event, the state team was chosen as below:

DIVISION	STATE AGED BASED RANKING
19 YAG MALE	
Darcy Evans	1
Brodie Stokes	5
Nathan Ward	8
19YAG FEMALE	
No Selection	
17YAG MALE	
Jordan Stokes	1
Brendan Ward	2
Harry Bird	4
17YAG FEMALE	
Claire Ward	2
15YAG MALE	
Eamon Garrett	2
Cameron Ward	1
Liam Woodleigh - Hardinge	3
15 YAG FEMALE	
Kelcey Pitt	1
Chelsea Jamieson	2
13YAG BOYS	
Jamie Pattison	1
Jack Hudson	2
Toby Moore	3
13 YAG GIRLS	
Grace Pattison	1

The Team Leader/Tour Manager selected was Bill Cook – he has been made aware of his obligations in undertaking this role as per the performance pathway regulations.

Selections of the individuals were reasonably clear. As noted for the eligible chosen players the state rankings (as per the matrix) did prove to be accurate in the selection of the players. The only exception being in the 15YAG male where Eamon Garrett ranked 2 was graded higher than Cameron Ward ranked 1. This occurred as a result of a play off between these players on the training camp held 11/12 August.

A couple of issues arose in the selection:

Male Under 19's. Some comments made regarding the non-selection of Mitchell Bird, however Mitchell did not attend the compulsory first selection event and therefore was ineligible to be selected. This had been previously advised to Mitchell. Based on the criteria of extenuating circumstances and no detailed explanation provided, it was felt that this decision was correct.

Female Under 19's. As shown no selections were made in relation to this age group. It was felt that the standard of the players in this division would be very much uncompetitive in the national competition.

Male Under 15's. Edward Strugnell – narrowly missing out on selection however past performance, matrix rankings, and previous losses to the selected players contributed towards not being selected. Andrew queried the non-inclusion of Edward - refer correspondence and reply from me.

Other: Only one player selected in the 17YAG and 13YAG Female divisions due to insufficient depth and standard.

Suggestions:

Thought may have to be given to improving the selection process as holding non-aged based event makes selection more difficult for age based competitions. The Pathway Committee will look to provide recommendations in relation to this process for next year.

Mark Hudson

RECENT ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

- STPP Conference and Training Squad Eastside 26-27 May.
- Devonport Junior Selection Event 21-22 July.
- Correspondence sent to selected State Juniors advising of selection and obligations.
- Correspondence sent to coaches of selected State Juniors advising of their player's selection and invitation to attend the AJC 2012.
- Requests called for Coaching Team Leader/Tour Manager for the AJC 2012.
- Requests called for Pathway Coaches for State Junior Team Training in Devonport for 11-12 August.
- State Junior Team Training Devonport – 11-12 August
- Rankings submitted to Squash Australia August 2012

- Photos of juniors being uploaded onto the matrix
- New State Shirt designed (refer photo)

SPECIFICATIONS

Colours (PANTONE):



- Meeting with Gaye and Wendy regarding organization of canteen for AJC.
- Dinner for the State Team being organized for the 3rd October

Mark Hudson

OTHER MATTERS

A number of issues will require addressing either by Squash Tas and or Pathway Committee over the forthcoming months.

- Resolution for the appointment of Mel Dunn onto the committee
- Resolution for the STPP to run the Canteen for the upcoming AJC 2012
- Discussion around the running and administration of canteens for Tasmanian junior events.
- Ensuring separation of funds generated by STPP activities (i.e. fund raising, raffles, canteen proceeds). These funds to be used for STPP activities.
- Discussion regarding the selection process for the State Junior Team for 2013 and beyond.
- Clearer definition of “extenuating circumstances” as referred to in the current regulations, together with clearer guidelines on a number of areas either currently (or in some cases) not covered by the existing regulations.
- Discussion around the scheduling and type of events for the 2013 Calendar.
- Confirming the number and standard of players submitted to Squash Australia for national ranking purposes.

- Adjusting the pathway document to take into account changes being brought in by Squash Australia – discussions held with Byron Davis. Chris, Mel and Mark in attendance in Hobart during the Tasmanian Open.
- Consideration regarding the selection criteria for Pathway players.
- Consideration regarding the commitment from Pathway players.
- Ramifications for STPP coaches not attending STPP coaching conferences given it is a compulsory requirement of being a STPP coach.

Mark Hudson

ATTACHMENTS

Mark and others

Having driven all the way back thinking about it I need to express my disappointment in the grading process for this weekend.

Edward has been an active member of the pathway squad attending the compulsory training events in Hobart and Launceston and was a member of the u13 TAS side in Victoria last year (not the reserve). He has played competitive games (and won some) against the other u15 candidates in this weekend's div 2. This is the division he needed to play to even be considered. However due to the rankings based on matrix points he was I think only a qualifier for div 3, which he won quite well. Due to the ad hoc way the matrix is updated I can think of at least two recent wins Edward has had against adult opponents with rankings in the 140-145 range (div 5 prelim final and grand final)

I accept he may not have even won a game in div 2 but should have been given the opportunity to compete at that age group level, why was there a bye in div 1?, why couldn't someone from 2 who wasn't competing for the u15 group be bumped up (Clare for example, she was always going to be selected so division would have made no difference) making room for another in div 2?

On top of that had we known he wasn't even going to compete for a place we may well have reconsidered attending given the \$800 price tag for fuel, 2 night's accommodation, breakfasts, lunches, dinners and entry fee. (which at \$30 was ridiculous for a prize of a two dollar medal)

Don't misunderstand my comments here I think the junior squash group is heading in the right direction, and things will only improve in time, (and the job overall by those concerned is fantastic) but I think more thought could have gone into the grading especially with all the emails shooting around in earlier weeks stating "... You must attend to be considered for selection..." (or something along those lines)

Regards
Andrew STRUGNELL

Hi Andrew, I appreciate your feedback. This was the most difficult and time involved decision of all with regard to Edward. I assure you it was not taken lightly. You may recall that I indicated this was the case before announcing the players in the under 15's division. Leon and I took into account a range of issues including but not limited to the performance on the weekend.

I would like nothing more than to have depth in each age group to have a truly aged based event to assist in the selection process and hopefully over time as we increase the junior ranks this can occur. Unfortunately as soon as you have to mix ages and sexes within a division due to the lack of depth there will be a distortion which will mean a degree of subjectivity in determining the final selection outcome. I, like you, would like as little subjectivity as possible. As it currently stands in terms of selecting the squad as you know you don't have to be a pathway player, which doesn't necessarily mean that the player is doing any more or less work/training than pathway players.

Having said that I think you make a couple of good points and as a committee we will take these on board.

In terms of that email I had sent around it was to re-enforce that to be eligible for selection it was necessary to have attended both selection events. This automatically excluded a number of players that attended this weekend, but at least it made them aware of the situation and they could revisit their decision taking into account their reasons for attending. Cost obviously comes into that decision as well. The cost to travel to Devonport unfortunately, win or miss out is expensive as is the cost to attend tournaments in Hobart for the Northern group, all junior sporting families no doubt have to bear the same burden if their children aspire to represent their State.

For your further information I had a meeting with a number of coaches on Saturday night indicating that next year there will be changes to the pathway requirements. Firstly to be considered for the state team you must be a pathway player. To remain in the pathway a number of criteria have to be met (different to those currently in place) which will I believe will improve the structure. We are still finessing the exact criteria going forward for next year but happy to have your input if you have time. By being in the pathway additional benefits will be accessible in terms of training, access to world class coaches, and technology such as ball machines and video analysis. I think this will make the direction of junior squash stronger as it will increase compliance and in line with Squash Australia's terms and conditions on a number of areas.

Regards

Mark Hudson