

# SQUASH AUSTRALIA

## Annual General Meeting – 2012

Sports House – 150 Caxton Street Milton, Queensland  
Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2012

### 1. Opening and Welcome by President

The President opened the meeting at 11.30am and welcomed all attendees.

Chris Sinclair taking the Minutes.

### 2. Attendance, Apologies & Member AGM Voting Entitlements

Attendance and Apologies attached.

John Lee ensured all attendees were aware of the Voting Entitlements as previously circulated.

Bryan Bird, the Squash Victoria Delegate, sought clarification on the financial status of all members.

The SA CEO, Gary O'Donnell, confirmed that all members were financial.

### 3. Minutes of the Previous AGM

Previously circulated 11<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

Motion: That the Minutes be established as an accurate record.

Moved Dawn Moggach

Seconded Marcus Smith

Carried

### 4. Matters Arising

- a. Notice of Motion 5a. - Members to advise on 'instigate an individual player registration system 7.'

The SA President, John Lee, asked if Members (other than NSW) are using the Matrix.

Victoria advised that they have a system in place, the same as South Australia, through IMG Sports Management. The other member organisations used the Squash Matrix for this purpose.

- b. Notice of Motion 5b. - Squash Australia to advise on 'purchase of Squash Matrix by Squash Australia'.

Completed.

- c. Other Business 12. - Squash Australia to advise on 'Governance Review'.

The members were advised of the status of the process at the National Workshop the previous day.

### 5. Notices of Motion

John Lee asked if there were any Motions other than those on the Agenda.

Geoff Harris, an Observer, asked how voting works for Notices of Motion.

John Lee advised that the system was for 2 votes per ordinary Member, and 1 per Director, with a show of hands used as the method of counting.

**5a.** The Squash ACT President, Gary Hampson, read the Motion indicating the addition of "*International or*" between "*Association*" and "*World*" as different to the previously circulated Motion.

*That the Board of Squash Australia commits to maintaining the Australian Open Squash Championships at the Professional Squash Association's and Women's Squash Association International or World Series level for the next four years through effective management of the event and the application of appropriate funds sourced from current budgets, new sponsors, ticket sales or some other form of fund-raising.*

## Discussion

Gary Hampson noted that the topic has been discussed fully at the Workshop prior to this AGM, emphasising that while it was not a "*bleak*" outcome, he could not deny that there would be a \$100,000 loss. He noted event level could be dropped and thus be exposed to lower risk e.g. \$50,000.

Purpose of Motion was not to be a commitment of expenditure by Squash Australia at the expense of other areas but that the issue for the Board was to make a strategic decision on how large the Australian Open (AO) should be. There are issues to be considered, e.g. size of draws, whether TV or not, and that Squash Australia was being asked to take strategic responsibility for the AO.

If the Motion is supported, it is saying that the AO is a priority for Members, that all Members bear the risk and ultimately the return. If Members choose not to support it, Members are saying the AO is not a high priority.

He noted that Squash ACT cannot continue to run the AO in its present format. An option is not to hold it in 2012 and then Squash Australia has their \$10,000 available for other areas. Gary recommended a PSA \$75,000 event, with 16-key draws and with TV - the risk is neutral and close to break-even.

John Lee sought clarification on the 4 year term and asked why this was not ongoing? Meeting can rescind at any time, so no time period needed.

Gary Hampson noted that this was just to show that responsibility will be sitting somewhere for a defined term. Think of it as a "sunset" clause - work at it for 3 years knowing a big decision needs to be made in the 4th.

John Lee. What would it mean to go from \$75,000 to \$100,000?

Gary Hampson. It's another PSA level, with 32-draws and with TV.

Ollie Lind. At break-even, what level players would there be?

Gary Hampson. No guarantee. Recent Swedish event was a \$75,000 and they had only 2 of the top 4 men. If it is lifted to be a World Series Platinum, guaranteed top 8 players.

Cheryl Johnstone. What is the benefit of a high-level PSA event to squash in Australia and its Members?

Gary Hampson. It will underpin the current Tour. The aim will be to get our players into the top group. Gets Australia top referees and top coaches. Status for the sport. Media not interested unless have top players. Could affect juniors in the long-term if they have nothing to aspire to. It can be a focus point for e.g. referee training and development.

Craig Simmich asked besides Foxtel, how much was the AO on TV around the country? He also sought clarification as to who would make the loss or profit if the Members vote for it?

John Lee. Squash Australia.

Gary Hampson. Yes. The purpose of the Motion is that the risks for any profit or loss go to Squash Australia.

John Lee noted that in the past the system has been almost ad hoc and almost designed to fall into disrepair. There are opportunities for Intellectual Property, branding, logos and merchandising. Realise that with the amendment the Motion will allow the Board to make the decision, but the task should be borne by all to promote the game.

John Small. Our WSF refereeing program and referees is almost entirely underpinned by the AO.

Dawn Moggach. If it goes back from ACT to Squash Australia, they would Squash Australia have control of logo, branding, etc?

John Lee. Already do have the control.

Dawn Moggach. Doesn't Squash ACT own the logo?

John Lee. Believe Squash Australia owns the IP rights.

Gary Hampson. Disagree. Believe ACT has developed the IP as ACT paid for so much of it.

John Lee. If ownership goes member-to-member, there will be different levels of approach compared to Squash Australia owning it and thus being consistent.

Ollie Lind. The level of awareness in NSW due to the last 2 AOs is extraordinary. The higher we can run the event responsibly, the better.

Motion: That item 5a be accepted with the addition of the extra words

Moved Gary Hampson

Seconded Bryan Bird

Carried unanimously

**5b.** Gary Hampson withdrew this Motion regarding an Australian Tour Commissioner.

**5c.** Motion. *That the Board of Squash Australia introduce new regulations, or some other way, to establish a Participation Committee whose focus is to attract new players to participate in our sport, both senior and junior, and be formally recorded by the States, Territories and ultimately Squash Australia as a squash player.*

Discussion

Gary Hampson. The Motion is not for an operational Committee but a strategic one. The issue is that Squash Australia makes this their #1 priority, with a Committee in place with responsibilities, to report through the Board at AGMs, to Members.

Craig Simmich. Suggested number for the Committee? 5?

Gary Hampson. No, a small strategic Committee to focus on this alone. Does not need to be representative of each State, but to comprise the best people.

Motion: That item 5c be accepted.

Moved	Gary Hampson
Seconded	Peter Smith
Carried	

**5d.** Motion. *That the Board of Squash Australia introduce new regulations, or in some other way, to establish a Facilities Committee whose focus is to encourage the maintenance of current squash courts and to encourage the development of new squash courts through a census of all squash courts in Australia, promotion of new court-building technologies and promotion of new business models for squash centres to potential investors within the private and public sectors.*

Discussion

Gary Hampson. Do not necessarily want more Committees but Squash Australia needs strategic focus to deal with not just what's urgent, but also with what's important. Wants a Committee to set standards and e.g. count court numbers and report as they grow.

John Lee. Has concern that the Motion might invite replication of expended effort with an element of "*cart before horse*". Creation of new facilities implies we have the capital to do it. His preference is that when we get our full registration system, then it will then be important to spend more on facilities.

Fiona Young. Would like a Facilities Committee (FC). There is a funding model available through Local Government Authorities (LGA) and a FC could expand on the work done at Wavell and such a Business Plan could generate interest with LGA.

John Lee. Does the wording of the option adequately support that?

Fiona Young. Will generate information for a FC.

Paul Mead. Has experience from lobbying NT government to building a facility and has learned a lot and this needs to be shared with the squash community, including information from OSF and WSF re what courts are required for what events. It will save others wasting time as did NT. Need some subject matter experts and need a framework to point others in the right direction, to the right people.

John Lee. The Committee Gary is proposing will then be a "*collection point*" with knowledge to be accessed?

Paul Mead. Yes. NT's investment proposal was a lot of work and we can provide key headings for others.

Carol Kawaljenko. Even the concept of how to approach governments will be helpful.

Steve Bowen. Currently all put in submissions separately. Understands what Gary says - that often important matters cannot be handled. If we do not focus on facilities, we won't have this sport in 20 years.

Gary Hampson. It is to set standards of information to be collected – not to "count" courts. Can show which courts are not being utilised. See it as a "clearing house" for information. The Squash Australia FC can help make presentations.

Motion: That item 5d be accepted as read

Moved	Gary Hampson
Seconded	John Lee
Carried	unanimously.

**5e. Change in the wording in the Constitution from:**

(current) 5.1. *The entrance fee and annual subscription payable by Ordinary and Associate Members of the Company shall be set by the Company at the Annual General Meeting. to*

(new) 5.1 *At the Annual General Meeting, the Company shall set the entrance fee and annual subscription payable by squash participants, Ordinary and Associate Members of the Company for the following calendar year.*

Discussion

Fiona Young. Amendment is recommended so members are able to better plan their budget although it is a 'long way ahead'. What if the circumstances change?

John Lee. Depends whether a Member might be disadvantaged against other members. Doesn't see it as a problem. Asked if Members saw it as a risk that a disadvantage of substance would befall a particular Member?

No Member indicated a problem.

John Lee. Need to decide how to achieve it administratively for 2013.

Gary O'Donnell. Need to establish a deeming provision so as to allow the 2013 to be established by (say) 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012. The meeting set aside Standing Orders to deal further with this as a secondary motion, being 5f. 'The 2013 Subscriptions be determined by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012'.

John Lee asked if anyone was against either Motion being put. No.

Motion: That item 5e & 5f be accepted

Moved	John Lee
Seconded	Paul Mead
Carried unanimously.	

**6. President's Report**

J. Lee referred to the printed Annual Report.

Motion: That the President's report be accepted.

Moved	John Lee
Seconded	Carol Kawaljenko
Carried	

**7. Financial Report**

Gary O'Donnell. The 2011 Audited Financial Statements had been circulated by email.

He commented- Surplus just under \$23,000. Net asset value \$306,000. Overall turnover continues to grow – now about \$1.74m.

Auditor is the same as last year with a different trading name. Be aware that auditors make changes to the Statements format e.g. annual comparisons – it is their choice how it is presented.

Motion: That the Financial report be accepted

Moved	Marcus Smith
Seconded	Gary Hampson
Carried unanimously	

**8. Election of Officers**

John Lee advised that Graeme Pittock had withdrawn his nomination for all positions.

Scrutineers - Mr Col Clapper and Mr John Small appointed.

Ollie Lind took the Chair. He advised that candidates can address the meeting and will also take questions from the Chair.

**8a. President**

Geoff Harris spoke to his nomination. He noted that his CV had been distributed. Squash must seek contacts within the squash community. Wants to achieve opportunities for sponsorship. President should

be conduit to members with openness, availability and transparency – but prepared to explain why if transparency cannot be the case. Has been running company “Unsquashable”.

John Lee then spoke to his nomination. He noted that he had been President of Squash Australia for the previous 2 years and needed time to grow what we already have commenced. Already have provided a plan which has been endorsed by the Board.

Both candidates received and responded to questions from the floor.

Clarification was also sought as to whether John Lee’s vote still counted, given that he stood aside as President for the election?

Ollie Lind (the acting Chair) confirmed that his vote was valid as he was still a Director.

John Lee was re-elected as President and congratulated by acclamation.

### **8b. Vice President (Female)**

Carol Kawaljenko was the only nomination and was elected as Vice President (Female) and congratulated by acclamation.

### **8c. Director**

Geoff Harris spoke to his nomination. He noted that he had heard a lot of good things about Marcus Smith and had considered standing aside to allow Marcus to continue, he elected to let the ballot decide.

Marcus Smith spoke to his nomination. He noted that he had looked after a range of activities, including insurance and IT, over the past two years and that he would like to see through for another 2 years.

Marcus Smith was elected and congratulated by acclamation.

Motion: To destroy all ballot papers.

Moved	Ollie Lind
Seconded	Gary Hampson
Carried	

## **9. Appointment of Auditor**

That Integrated Audit Services Pty Ltd be re-appointed as Auditor of Squash Australia

Moved	John Lee
Seconded	Marcus Smith
Carried	

## **10. Appointment of Patron**

That Sarah Fitz-Gerald & Chris Dittmar continue as Co - Patrons of Squash Australia.

Moved	John Lee
Seconded	Gary Hampson
Carried	

## **11. Confirmation of 2012 Subscriptions**

Moved that the Annual Subscriptions for 2012 be approved as circulated.

Moved	Kent Harbutt
Seconded	Paul Mead
Carried	

## **12. Other Business**

Col Clapper, the President of the Oceania Squash Federation, congratulated the Board over the last 12 months and wishes them well for the future. Australia is a significant country in Oceania, and OSF is appreciative of the support from the Board and Gary O'Donnell.

OSF and WSF recognise the decisions that have been made. A 4-year plan as proposed is integral in terms of major corporate sponsorship. The AO event is the pinnacle of squash in the Asia-Pacific area.

He noted that figures on courts and participants is not accurate compared to data from other countries and that a specialist Committee should be convened to collate accurate information for the benefit of sponsors and other stakeholders.

He also noted that Squash Australia needs to provide somebody to represent Australia on some WSF specialist Committees.

In the past States had their own interests and now trying to move nationally is a challenge. Don't forget to recognise various States and their dynamics. All seems to have been working well in the last couple of years. He wishes Squash Australia well as they continue to head in the right direction.

No other items of business were raised.

## **13. Meeting closed at 1.45pm**

John Lee  
Chairman

Gary O'Donnell  
CEO

## **SQUASH AUSTRALIA – 2012 Annual General Meeting**

Sports House – 150 Caxton Street Milton, Queensland

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2012

### **ATTENDEES**

#### **Squash Australia Board**

Mr John Lee	President
Ms Carol Kawaljenko	Vice President (Female)
Mr Ollie Lind	Vice President (Male)
Mr Stephen Bowen	Director
Mr Marcus Smith	Director

#### **Member Association Delegates**

Squash ACT	Mr Gary Hampson
NSW Squash	Mrs Dawn Moggach
Squash NT	Mr Paul Mead
Q Squash	Mr Peter Smith
Squash SA	Ms Cheryl Johnstone
Squash Tasmania	Mr Kent Harbutt
Squash Vic	Mr Bryan Bird
WA Squash	Mr Stephen Bowen

#### **Associate Member Delegates**

PSCAA	Mr Esdon Lee
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#### **Life Members**

Mr Col Clapper

#### **Apologies**

Mr John Cameron	Life Member
Mr Bob Finch	Life Member
Mr Ken Hiscoe	Life Member
Mr Geoff Hunt	Life Member
Mrs Heather McKay	Life Member
Mr Ken Watson	Life Member
Mrs Margaret Zachariah	Life Member
Mr Nick Barker	Defence Squash
Mr Richard Best	
Mr Graeme Pittock	Squash Vic

#### **Observers**

Mr Mike Cornish	WA Squash
Mr Geoff Harris	Nominee
Mr Darryl Hearn	Q Squash
Ms Samantha Paterson	Squash ACT
Mr Andrew Pratley	ASC
Mr Larry Rauschenbach	Q Squash
Mrs Kaye Reeves	National Selector
Mr Anthony Ricketts	AIS Senior Coach
Mr Craig Simmich	Q Squash
Mrs Chris Sinclair	R & R Committee/Minutes
Mr Phil Sinnott	Squash SA
Ms Fiona Young	Squash Vic

#### **Squash Australia Staff**

Mr Byron Davis	AIS National Head Coach
Mr Andrew Dent	MLO
Mr Gary O'Donnell	CEO
Mr John Small	NRM
Mr Trevor Smith	NDM
Mr Ryan Wiegand	FAO
Mr Gordon Young	PPM