



GENERAL BY-LAWS (as published on 20 January 2016)

DEFINITIONS

- (a) *“Association”* means Southern Squash League Inc.
- (b) *“Committee”* means the Committee of Management of the Association.
- (c) *“Member”* means a Member of the Association as defined in the Rules of Association, and includes Associate Members.
- (d) *“Secretary”* means the Secretary of the Southern Squash League Inc.

1 INTERPRETATION OF BY-LAWS

The Committee shall be responsible for the interpretation of the By-Laws and shall be the final authority for such interpretation.

2 PENALTIES FOR BREACHES OF BY-LAWS

- (a) The Committee shall have the power to impose penalties for the breach of any of these By-Laws, by any of the following forms: disqualification, suspension, fine, the awarding of any rubber or match to the opposing team, and/or the deduction of points already scored.
- (b) The Committee will determine penalties to the Committee on matters relating to pennant and involving fines and/or loss of points. Other matters may require a Tribunal to investigate and recommend a course of action to it. The members of the Tribunal, which shall consist of three persons from members of the Association, shall be appointed by the Committee. The Tribunal shall meet within seven (7) days of a request for such adjudication.
- (c) Any member, or any person who is associated with any pennant team who is present at any venue when any pennant match is being played or its associated events are being conducted, and who aids, abets, counsels or procures, or who is a party to the commission of any breach of these By-Laws shall be liable to a penalty as is the principal offender.

3 PROCEDURE FOR APPEALS AGAINST DECISIONS

- (a) Any appeal by a member against an interpretation or decision by the Committee under these By-Laws must be lodged in writing with the Secretary within fourteen (14) days from the notification of such decision. If an appeal is correctly lodged, the Committee shall refer the appeal to the Appeals Committee, appointed in accordance with Rule 20(2)(e) of the Rules of the Association. The Appeals Committee shall return its decision to the Committee for ratification.

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- (b) If an appeal is correctly lodged, the disqualified or suspended team, player(s) or member shall not be barred from taking part in matches until the appeal has been heard. Should the appeal not be upheld, the decision of the Committee shall be enforced as from the date of the original notification of the decision to the disqualified or suspended team, player(s) or member or from such date as the Committee decides.

4 PROCEDURES FOR PROTESTS ALLEGING BREACHES OF BY-LAWS

Protests alleging breaches of these By-Laws must be lodged in writing with the Secretary within seven (7) days of the occurrence of the alleged breach.

5 PENALTY FOR NON-PAYMENT OF FINES

- (a) The various amounts payable for fines imposed for breaches of these By-Laws shall be set annually by the Committee and advised to members.
- (b) Any member not paying the full amount of any fine imposed under these By-Laws to the Treasurer of the Association within thirty (30) days after the notification of the imposition of such fine shall, unless that member has appealed within the time specified in Rule 3(a), be penalised under the provisions of Rule 2.
- (c) All teams of any member that has not paid any outstanding fines within the time-frame specified by the Committee shall automatically forfeit all pennant points gained until payment is received by the Association unless an appeal has been lodged against the original notification in accordance with Rule 4.

6 POWER TO DEMAND INFORMATION

The Committee shall have the power at any time to demand from any member information regarding the circumstances under which any match was played or respecting any matters relating thereto.

7 RULES

- (a) Matches shall be played under the World Squash Singles Rules as determined by the World Squash Federation, the interpretation of which shall devolve upon the Committee unless otherwise indicated by these By-Laws.
- (b) All players aged 19 years of age and under must use Squash Australia approved protective eyewear which meets or exceeds the relevant Australian or International Standards for all pennant matches.
- (c) Players shall observe the etiquette of the game and refrain from unseemly or improper behaviour on and off the court while present at a pennant match and its associated events.

8 ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

- (a) To be eligible to play in a pennant competition, each nominated player must be a bona-fide member of the member club by which he/she is nominated.
- (b) No player shall be eligible to play before his/her nomination has been approved by the Committee.
- (c) Each and every player shall play under his/her true and correct name. In the event of any change of name, the player shall notify the Association in writing of such a change within seven (7) days of the change.

9 FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS AND REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

The financial requirements for the acceptance of members' teams and players in pennant competition shall be determined by the Committee, and any member not paying the full amount by the designated date may be penalised in accordance with Rule 2.

10 TRANSFERS

- (a) If a player requests a clearance to another member up to fourteen (14) days prior to team entries closing for any one season, then the transfer shall be granted provided the player has no financial debt to his/her current member.
- (b) If a player requests a clearance less than 14 days prior to the closing of team entries in any one season, then the clearance may or may not be granted at the discretion of the player's current member.
- (c) After team entries have closed, a player may be granted a clearance at the discretion of both the player's current member and the Committee, provided the player has not been nominated by his/her current member.
- (d) No transfer is required if a player resumes pennant competition after an absence of more than twelve (12) months and has no financial debt to any member.
- (e) Except as provided for in Rule 10(a) - (d), no player having been nominated to play for a member shall be allowed to transfer to another member, or if a member has entered two teams in the same grade, to change from one team to another without the approval of the Committee.
- (f) A member has no right to refuse transfers complying with the foregoing conditions, excepting where just cause is demonstrated to the Committee.
- (g) Transfers must be in the hands of the Secretary by the dates advised by the Committee for each season and such transfers must be endorsed by the Executive Committee of the player's current member. Executive members with a furthering interest benefit from the transferral of players from one member to another will not be acceptable signatories for the approval of transfers on behalf of the player's current member.

11 TEAM ENTRIES

- (a) Team entries for pennant competitions must be submitted by the date and in the format as determined by the Committee and advised to members.
- (b) The number of players registered in a team shall be at least one more than the number of rubbers comprising a match in the competition into which the team is entered and no more than twice the number of rubbers.

12 GRADING OF TEAMS

- (a) The Committee shall have the right to restrict the number of teams or refuse the entry of teams from any member and then decide the grading thereof.
- (b) Any newly registered player, who was not included in the member's original nomination of teams for grading, can only be included in a team with the permission of the Committee. Any inclusion will not be permitted to strengthen a team beyond the standard of the particular grade.
- (c) Any member withdrawing a nominated team from a competition after the gradings have been determined but before the commencement of the season may be liable for a fine and may be required to lodge a bond, set by the Committee, before entering teams in the next competition.

13 TEAM ORDER OF PLAY

- (a) The order of play shall be determined by the use of Squash Matrix rankings, or by other means as the Committee may determine from time to time.
- (b) A player shall not play below his/her nominated position in his/her nominated grade.
- (c) Where a player is required to play more than once for the same team, it is only the lowest graded player in the team who can play twice.
- (d) A player may play two matches on the same night during the Home and Away season, as long as the requirements of Rules 13(b) and (c) are met and that the player does not play the same player twice. This Rule does not apply for any finals match.

14 DUTIES OF HOME TEAM

The home club shall arrange to supply the court and shall fulfil any hosting requirements set down by the Committee from time to time. The visiting team shall pay the amount determined by the Committee for matches during the season.

15 BALLS

- (a) During the home and away season the home team shall provide a new ball for every match. Any single or double yellow dot ball that has been tested and approved as meeting the World Squash Federation specifications (as listed on the WSF web-site from time to time) shall be authorised for use.
- (b) A double yellow dot shall be the default ball for all grades.
- (c) For all grades, should court, climate or other playing conditions dictate, then a single yellow dot ball may be used in any individual rubber should both players agree. Should they not agree, then the provisions of Rule 15 (b) shall apply.

16 PENNANT MATCH PROCEDURE

- (a) Players from each team shall compete and each player shall play a rubber against one of the opposition team.
- (b) The members of each team shall be arranged in the playing order as published on the Squash Matrix, with the number 1 player of one team to play the No 1 player of the opposing team, number 2 play number 2, number 3 play number 3, and number 4 play the number 4 (where appropriate).
- (c) If a team does not have sufficient team members available for the number of rubbers to be played in a particular match, the team is permitted to field a substitute player for that match, provided the following requirements are met:
 - (i) The substitute player must be a member of the same club;
 - (ii) The substitute players' position in the team order of play for the match is determined by Rule 13 (a)
 - (iii) The inclusion of the substitute player must not result in a breach of Rule 13 (b).
 - (iv) The inclusion of the substitute player must not make the team stronger than the team originally entered in the competition.
 - (v) Approval for inclusion of the substitute player must be obtained from the Committee in advance of the match if practicable
 - (vi) If approval is not obtained from the Committee in advance, the Committee has the right to retrospectively disqualify the substitute player from that match if it considers the substitute player was not suitable for the position played.

- (d) The captain of the away team shall nominate the first rubber to be played, and thereafter captains alternate choice of subsequent rubbers, unless both captains agree to an alternate playing order. Subsequent rubbers must be nominated prior to the commencement of the last game.

17 DISPUTE OVER PLAYING ORDER

In the event of any dispute over the playing order of a team, the match shall be played under protest, and the Committee shall determine the matter on receipt of a protest submitted according to Rule 4.

18 STARTING TIME AND PLACE FOR PLAYING MATCHES

- (a) All matches shall be played at the venues approved by the Committee, and shall commence at the time approved by the Committee.
- (b) If play has not commenced within 15 minutes of the approved starting time, the team offended against may claim the rubber by default. 10 minutes grace shall be allowed after each rubber for the succeeding rubber to start, and if play does not commence at the expiration of such grace, the team offended against may claim the particular rubber.
- (c) If a rubber is played after the expiration of the 10 minutes period of grace, the team offended against must advise the team at fault of its intention to claim that rubber prior to the playing thereof, otherwise the result of the playing of the rubber shall stand. If both teams default in entirety, the match shall be cancelled.

19 VARIATION IN PLACE AND DATE OF PLAY

- (a) No alteration shall be made in the places and dates set down unless approval of the Committee has been granted.
- (b) Should a match not be played as so arranged, then the team in default shall be deemed to have been defeated.
- (c) The question as to whether a team is in default or not shall be decided by the Committee.

20 POWER TO ORDER REPLAY OR ALTER TIME OF MATCH

The Committee shall have the power to order any match to be replayed, either wholly or in part, and to alter the time for playing any match.

21 MARKING AND REFEREEING

- (a) Marking and refereeing of pennant matches shall be carried out by the members of each team unless otherwise agreed by the team captains, or as directed by the Committee.
- (b) A person from each team, nominated by their respective team captains, shall officiate at each rubber, the roles of marking and refereeing being alternated between teams for each consecutive rubber or by agreement as required.
- (c) If the captains fail to agree, the roles of marking and refereeing of the first rubber shall be decided by the toss of a coin.

22 SUBSTITUTE PLAYER IN SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- (a) Where a match has commenced and a team member nominated as per Rule 16 is unable to commence his/her rubber due to sudden illness, accidental disablement or any good and sufficient reason, a substitute player may take his/her place providing that:
 - (i) the opposing captain agrees, and
 - (ii) the proposed substitute is eligible under these By-Laws.
- (b) If the substitute player is not subsequently approved by the Committee, a forfeit / walkover shall be awarded at the Committee's discretion.

23 MATCH AND INDIVIDUAL WALKOVERS

- (a) If any team receives a match walkover from any other team, it shall be awarded all rubbers, games and points. A walkover is the absence of opposition so that no rubbers commence.
- (b) A forfeit shall be defined as the voluntary withdrawal from play (such as due to injury) or violation of the rules (such as through conduct penalties) once a rubber has commenced.
- (c) In the event of a default occurring in any match which has commenced, the team not defaulting shall be awarded all uncompleted rubbers, games and points.
- (d) In the event of a walkover of an individual rubber being given in a match which has already commenced, the team not defaulting shall also be awarded all rubbers, games and points competed for by the players at all lower positions in the two teams. The Committee may waive this ruling if the circumstances causing the walkover are deemed to be of an extraordinary or sound nature, and declare the result of the individual rubber as a forfeit.
- (e) The member may be fined for each match walkover up to two occasions per season per team. In the event of a third match walkover, that team shall be disqualified for the remainder of the season and the member shall be liable for a further fine.
- (f) In addition, each team which forfeits or grants a walkover will pay for each rubber forfeited or lost by walkover an amount equal to 25% of the cost of hiring a court for the complete pennant match for a 4 person team, or 33% for a 3 person team.

24 POSTPONED MATCHES

In the event of a match being postponed after play has commenced, all rubbers already decided shall stand.

25 PROCEDURE FOR CONVEYANCE OF MATCH RESULTS

- (a) The home club shall be responsible for ensuring the match results are submitted to the Committee. To the greatest extent possible, results are to be submitted electronically via direct entry to the Squash Matrix.
- (b) Where match results are submitted in hard copy, they are to be recorded on the official form for the competition and shall be signed and certified correct by a member of each team. They must be faxed or e-mailed to the Association by no later than midday on the day following the day of play. The Committee may also require match results to be telephoned to the Secretary, or his/her delegate, prior to a specified time limit.
- (c) Where results are submitted electronically, the player entering the results is to ensure that he/she has the agreement of the opposing captain to the results before entry. Any errors are to be brought to the attention of the Secretary as soon as practicable.

26 PREMIERSHIP POINTS SCORING SYSTEM

- (a) For all matches played during the competition, the awarding of premiership points shall be as decided by the Committee from time to time.
- (b) In the event of two or more teams being equal on premiership points at the conclusion of the home and away season, the team winning the greatest number of rubbers during the season will be deemed to have finished in the higher position.
- (c) Should the number of rubbers be equal, the team winning the greatest number of games during the season will be deemed to have finished in the higher position.

27 ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY IN FINALS

- (a) To be eligible to play in the finals series of a grade, a player nominated for the team must have played at least one third of the total number of matches played by the team during the season. One third of matches implies the next whole number where a fraction occurs.
- (b) Under special circumstances however, the Committee may allow players who have not qualified under this Rule to play in any match in the finals series. Players nominated in a team in a lower grade who have played enough matches in a team in a higher grade to qualify to play in the finals must also receive permission before doing so.
- (c) In all other cases permission granted is for one match only and further permission must be received if the circumstances re-occur. However, the Committee reserves the right to veto the finals eligibility of any player, even if qualified, who has been added to the team after grading and whose performances are such that the Committee considers the team to have strengthened beyond the grade.
- (d) To be eligible to play in the finals teams must meet the requirements as determined by the Committee from time to time. This could include, but is not limited to, attendance at a rules lecture as arranged by the Committee.
- (e) No player, however, may play in the same finals match of more than one grade or section.

28 FINALS SERIES

- (a) The competition Premiers shall be decided by the finals system as outlined below.
- (b) For eight team grades:
 - (i) In week 1, the First Semi-Final shall be played between the teams finishing in third and fourth position at the end of the Home and Away season:
 - (ii) In week 1, the Second Semi-Final shall be played between the teams finishing in first and second position at the end of the Home and Away season:
 - (iii) In week 2, the Preliminary Final shall be played between the loser of the Second Semi-Final and the winner of the First Semi-Final.
 - (iv) In week 3, the Grand Final shall be played between the winner of the Second Semi-Final and the winner of the Preliminary Final.
- (c) For six team grades;
 - (i) In week 1, the Preliminary Final shall be played between the teams finishing in second and third position at the end of the Home and Away season:
 - (ii) In week 2, the Grand Final shall be played between the team finishing first at the end of the Home and Away season and the winner of the Preliminary Final.
- (d) To decide the winner of any finals match, rubbers shall be counted first, then games, and if necessary, points.

- (e) For all finals matches except for the Grand Final, should both teams be equal on rubbers, games and points at the conclusion of the match, the match shall be replayed at the same venue on a date and time fixed by the Committee, but before the next scheduled finals match.
- (f) In the event that both teams are equal on rubbers, games and points at the conclusion of the Grand Final, both teams shall be declared Joint Premiers for the grade.

29 OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS TO PROVIDE REFEREES AND MARKERS FOR FINALS MATCHES

- (a) Any member entering teams in the Association's Pennant Competitions is required to provide referees and markers for Finals.
- (b) For eight team grades, a member whose team finishes in eighth position shall provide referees and markers for the First Semi-Final (4v3) of that grade. Similarly, a member whose team finishes seventh shall provide referees and markers for the Second Semi-Final (2v1). A member whose team finishes in sixth position shall provide referees and markers for the Preliminary Final (loser Second Semi-Final v winner First Semi-Final). A member whose team finishes in fifth position shall provide referees and markers for the Grand Final (winner of Second Semi-Final v winner of Preliminary Final).
- (c) Where a bye exists in an eight team grade, a member whose team finishes in seventh position shall provide referees and markers for the First Semi-Final (4v3) of that grade. Similarly, a member whose team finishes in sixth position shall provide referees and markers for the Second Semi-Final (2v1). A member whose team finishes in fifth position shall provide referees and markers for the Preliminary Final (loser Second Semi-Final v winner First Semi-Final). A member whose team loses the First Semi-Final (4v3) of that grade shall provide referees and markers for the Grand Final (winner of Second Semi-Final v winner of Preliminary Final).
- (d) For six team grades, a member whose team finishes in sixth position shall provide referees and markers for the Preliminary Final (3v2) of that grade and a member whose team finishes fifth shall provide referees and markers for the Grand Final (1 v winner of Preliminary Final).
- (e) Where a bye exists in a six team grade, a member whose team finishes in fifth position shall provide referees and markers for the Preliminary Final (3v2) of that grade and a member whose team finishes fourth shall provide referees and markers for the Grand Final (1 v winner of Preliminary Final)
- (f) Any player undertaking the duties of a referee or a marker of a finals match must have attended a Rules Class in the time-frame required by the Association from time to time.
- (g) The referees and markers need not be players from the team which is required to officiate in the Finals or from either participating team.
- (h) If required by the Association, all members must make courts available for the Finals; one court must be made available for each two teams entered in the competition.
- (i) Any member who fails to provide appropriately qualified markers and referees in accordance with the requirements of Rule 30 (a) – (g) may be penalised under the provisions of Rule 2.