



Squash Australia Memorandum - June (Following the 8th June Board Meeting)

1. State Investment Agreement

The State Investment Agreement has been improved on the positive ASC funding news for the next financial year. We have received no reductions again and have been promised an increase in the Participation space. To reward the States and their members for all the good work we have enhanced the proposed 2017/2018 Funding Agreement, with a total funding pot to the States of \$224,000.

Details are below:

- 2016/2017 State Funding Agreement Value - \$19,500 per State
- Old - 2017/2018 State Funding Agreement Value \$22,000 per State
- Proposed - 2017/2018 Funding Agreement Value \$29,000 per State (Plus a considerably higher cash contingent, rather than equipment)

The new State Investment Agreement is attached.

2. 2017 Oceania Championships

Australia will be sending a graded team to the Oceania Championships in Tahiti 2017. The team is made of the best place finishes at the Townsville National Graded Event. The event is largely self-funded but a wonderful opportunity for Australian players to try and win a Oceania Title! Future winners of the National Graded Championships will have the same opportunity. Details to be published shortly.

3. 2018 Australian National Championships, Australian Doubles, Commonwealth Training Camp, National Graded Championships, National Club Championships and Annual Awards Evening – MSAC, Melbourne, Victoria

The above events are confirmed and broken down below. Please communicate to all of your members to ensure we have an excellent turnout from around Australia.

- Australian Closed – Melbourne - Friday 16th February – Sunday 18th February
- Australian Doubles – Melbourne - Tuesday 13th February – Thursday 15th February
- Commonwealth Games Training Camp – Melbourne - Monday 12th February – Sunday 18th February
- National Graded Championships (Grade A, C and E) – Melbourne - 13th February – Thursday 15th February
- National Club Championships – Melbourne – Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th February
- Squash Australia Annual Awards – Friday 16th February (Novotel St Kilda Hotel)

4. 2017 Australian Open, Australian Doubles and National Graded Championships – Darwin, NT

- Australian Open – Tuesday 14th November – Saturday 18th November
- Australian Doubles – Saturday 18th November – Monday 20th November

- National Graded Championships (Grade Premier, B and D) – Friday 17th November and Saturday 18th November

5. Australian Junior Championships

The 2018 AJC entries are open – 30th September – 8th October – Geelong.

Please can all States confirm their Referee details – names, arrival and departure times etc in order for accommodation to be booked and all the referees can stay together. Costs will be invoiced. Doubles will be added on the evening of the normal individual dates, starting day 2 – this event is not compulsory and will be a trialed individual event.

The finalized AJC Future Direction Report will be circulated soon for discussion in Geelong at the 2017 AJC.

For any entries on this event please contact Ludo the events Officer events@squash.org.au.

Entries open here - <https://www.squash.org.au/tournament/view/Australian-Junior-Championships-Platinum>

6. Australian Junior Open and Oceania Junior Championships

The Australian Junior Open and Oceania Junior Championships are confirmed for the Brisbane area;

- Oceania Junior Championships – Redcliffe, Brisbane – 11-14th January
- Trans-Tasman Match – Redcliffe, Brisbane – 15-16th January
- Australian Junior Open – Brisbane area – 18-21st January

The exact location of the Australian Junior Open will be confirmed shortly. It will be a Brisbane based Centre. Please contact Luda Graizzaro events@squash.org.au for more information.

7. 2017 Annual General Meeting and Squash Australia Forum

Please note the Annual General Meeting for Squash Australia is Saturday 4th November and will be run alongside the annual squash Forum which will finish later on the Sunday to allow for a richer programme.

On Friday 3rd November there will be an Executive Meeting starting at 1000. We would appreciate any topics you feel appropriate are shared with us in advance, can I ask by 1st July to allow us to prepare.

By locking in the date early we hope you can get good flight options.

An important suggested change is around cost for the States. The standard costs are:

- Return flights – at cost
- Accommodation 1-2 nights – per night \$160 (Single) and \$180 (Double) (Mercure Brisbane)
- Saturday evening meal (The Summit Restaurant Mt Coon-tha, a lovely restaurant overlooking Brisbane) - \$50 per person (2 course meal with wine)

It has been proposed that for flights costs, that we combine the total cost of all States flights and then divide by 8, so there is a more equal spread of costs and nobody is penalised by location of the AGM. This will mean WA Squash pay less and Q Squash for example would pay more. Overall it would be fairer.

Can I please get all the States feedback on this before the 1st August. If I hear nothing then I will take it as acceptable, and we will propose all costs for travel to the AGM are handled this way, Please book via Hayden in the office membership@squash.org.au.

8. Squash Australia Staff Structure

One staffing change to note, and that is that Zac Alexander is leaving Squash Australia shortly. Zac with the Commonwealth Games on his horizon is going back playing full time after some good form on the Squash Australia Tour the past 12 month, moving back to New York.

All education queries now should go to Jordan Till who is stepping across to a new position of Office and Education Coordinator. Jordan will remain the contact for all Participation queries in the interim period, and we will shortly recruit a new Participation team member.

Jordan Till – jtill@squash.org.au and education@squash.org.au.

9. Oz Squash Special Equipment Sale

A special price is available to the States and your centres for basic squash starter kits. There are two versions attached, one a full length racket set was\$ 649, now \$349!; and the second a hybrid Squash/Racquetball version was \$599, now \$299! Any purchases please contact Hayden membership@squash.org.au.

10. Governance

- New AFRC Member – Peta Murphy
- New Chair HR and Nominations Committee – Margo Foster

11. Working Groups

The second Working Group meetings of 2018 were held in May, the first for some of the new members. [Full details of the Working Groups can be found by clicking here.](#)

Memorandums from each Working Group area have been made public and will be available on the Working Group web page. The next Meetings are scheduled for August/September.

12. Sporty HQ

One of the outcomes from the Membership Working Groups was to create a shared dropbox with the current 'Sporty HQ Issues' list. The folder will be within the currently shared executive Council dropbox this week. There is a lot of great work going on with Sporty HQ at the moment, we are inundated with requests, which is great, however we need to manage the process.

Please note any support issues can be emailed to support@sportyHQ.com, please cc membership@squash.org.au so we can track. SO support is handled direct by Sporty HQ.

In addition, [any updates or maintenance timelines for the Sporty HQ system can be found by clicking here.](#) - <http://blog.sportyhq.com>.

We have been working closely with Sporty HQ to improve the system and there has been one major improvement to the payments set up, which is highlighted below in the email from Sporty HQ:

From Sporty HQ:

I am writing to let you know about our new payment platform that has just gone live. If you use SportyHQ to collect Australian dollar payments, then it's important you read this information, as your action is required.

Our new payments platform is aimed at resolving all of the shortcomings of our previous system. In particular, our new platform will:

- Reduce the time it takes to pay you, allowing you to access funds on a regular basis.
- Pay you directly to your bank account the complicated requirements of wire transfers (this is for our Canadian customers).
- Reduce payment gateway fees.
- Remove "international cross-border fees" which have sometimes been imposed by banks.
- Make SportyHQ and payment gateway fees more transparent and instantly available for you to view.

I'm sure you'll agree that these are very welcome changes and we're delighted to bring them to you today.

Here's what you'll need to do to get hooked up to the new payment platform...

Clubs & Organizations

If you're an administrator of a club or organization that uses our payment platform, then it's important that you go to your club or organization administration page in SportyHQ, click on *Payout Settings* as soon as possible and enter in the requested information.

Tournaments or Leagues

If you're running a tournament or league on SportyHQ in Canada or Australia, then:

- If your tournament or league has already received payments, then you'll still continue to use the previous payment gateway for that event.
- If you're about to start a new event, you'll need to enter in your account details before you can publish your event. If your event is sanctioned by a governing body that collects payments on your behalf (and then pays out to you), that process will be confirmed with you before publishing.

What other benefits can you expect with our new payments platform:

- In Australia, we will be providing a payment gateway rate of 1.75% + \$0.30 per transaction for domestic cards and 2.9% + \$0.30 per transaction for international cards.
- If you use the "Events" feature under clubs or organizations, you'll no longer have to enter in your payout details for each event. We'll automatically link it to your club or organization.
- When creating a new tournament or league, you'll be able to reuse previous payout information, saving you from having to enter it again.

We very much hope you enjoy this big update and thank you again for all of your support.

Richard Vaughan

Chief Executive Officer



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