INSIDE COURT November 2016 Special Edition: Annual Report





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Why Squash?



Court Update

The official magazine of Squash Australia, Sports House, Office 9,150 Caxton Street, Milton, Queensland, 4064.

Affiliation Fees 2016/2017

Pennant Player Urban \$30

Pennant Player Rural \$20

Pennant Player Urban (Jnr) \$20

Pennant Player Rural (Jnr) \$15

Social (in-house) Player Urban \$15

Social (in-house) Player Rural \$15

Social (in-house) Junior \$10

Non playing Official \$10 [No Insurance]

Friend of Squash \$5 [No Insurance]

Primary School Junior \$0

Chief Executive Richard Vaughan

Editor Ross Sollv

Advertising lain McLennan

Design UpriseVSI

Contributors

lain McLennan, Tara Montgomery, Jordan Till, Zac Alexander, Stewart Carson, Giovanni Capello, Toni van der Kreek, Julian Osborne, John Lockton, Scott Johnston

Your contributions make Inside Court magazine happen.

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The 2016 squash season has been one of the most important in the recent history of the sport in Australia, and all the signs point to it being the start of the re-emergence of squash in our country.

While we don't have any current World Champions, and overseas based players won our Australian Open titles, there are positive signs for our top line players, both at home and abroad.

The Australian Open was an outstanding event, and not only showcased some fantastic talent, but also gave us a chance to bring together State and Territory executives to discuss the future of our sport, and also to conduct a very successful national coaching workshop, the first of its kind in many years.

The weekend was crowned off with the annual Squash Australia Awards, where once again we recognised key player achievements and, most importantly, the achievements of some of our hard working volunteers who give up their time to coach, referee or administrate

The Australian Open week was closely followed by the World Doubles Championships in Darwin, where Australia won four

medals. Squash NT helped put on a great show for the travelling teams and demonstrated why the local government has invested so heavily in developing the local squash centre.

The recent Australian Junior Championships in Sydney was also a great success, with many commenting on the high standards of all teams and how competitive the event was this year.

As many readers would be aware, previously advised funding cuts have now come in to play and our budgets have been drastically reduced. But we have started to increase our commercially generated income, which we hope will drive activities into the future.

And for the first year in many, squash has only had the standard cuts affecting all sports, and has not been individually targeted. The further good news is the Australian Sports Commission has expressed satisfaction where squash is during the past year.

Finally, we appreciate all the positive feedback on the streaming and general social media interaction. Hopefully there will be more to come - keep following www. SquashAustralia.TV.

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Around the Clubs



Esperance Squash Club (WA)

Cnr Harbour Road & Black Street, Esperance Western Australia 6450

The Esperance Squash Club provides a full range of facilities for its members including 8 squash courts, an expansive upstairs viewing area, bar, canteen and outdoor BBQ areas.

In 2017 the club will celebrate its 50th anniversary and management are hoping for a massive 2017 Esperance Squash Open.

In 2016 the Esperance Squash Open had 110 entrants compete over 16 grades for \$7,500 in cash prizes. The event featured 6 Men's Grades, 3 Women's Grades and 7 Junior Graded draws. For the past few years the Esperance Squash Open has been classified as a PSA registered closed circuit event. In 2016 the Men's Open prize pool was \$1,800 and for the women it was \$1,400.

Esperance is also home to Men's, Ladies and Junior pennant competitions as well as social mixed squash and junior skills training sessions each week.



Eastside Squash Club (TAS) 69 Cambridge Road,

Bellerive Tasmania 7018

The Eastside Squash Club is located in the Hobart suburb of Bellerive. The centre holds 8 squash courts including 2 glassback courts with a large viewing area for spectators. Their facilities have been newly renovated and the centre also includes a pro shop with a wide range of squash gear and accessories.

In 1997 Eastside Squash was taken over by the Tasmanian Squash Academy and since has developed many new programs to aid the development of squash in the region.

Eastside Squash run a number of programs including in-house pennant, inter-club pennant, master's pennant, inter-school pennant, adult and junior coaching, social walk-up squash and a hold range of tournaments played throughout the year.

Eastside have a proud history of coaching juniors through primary school and high school squash programs. These programs are run by highly qualified coaches and provide the perfect stepping stone for young kids in Hobart to pursue their development in squash.

Eastside's participation numbers continue to increase and the high standard of facilities, programs and coaching enable the club to be one of the best in Tasmania. Gove Squash Club (NT) Franklyn Street, Nhulunbuy,

Northern Territory 0880

The Gove Squash Club is located in Nhulunbuy, Northern Territory and although it may seem isolated, the club is home to 3 beautifully maintained, airconditioned courts. The club also boasts a gym, shower facilities and a pro shop for all your squash needs.

Gove is managed by a 15-person committee and is a not for profit club which aims to service the needs and requirements of its loyal members.

Gove hosts an open invitation Social Night on Tuesdays which combines Club Members with other squash players from the area for a casual game with free rackets and no bookings required.

The club also runs a 16-week in-house competition during the Wet and Dry Seasons of NT every Thursday night which enables a more competitive environment for those experienced and eager players in the Nhulunbuy region.



Ingle Farm Squash Club constructed a plan, laid the ground work and is starting to see the results.

Starting a Club, or growing an existing Club first requires identifying a target market. Ingle Farm Squash Club identified their main target to be schools.

The next step was to approach schools in the area offering squash lessons. Through this, 7 local schools bringing over 1000 kids have come to Ingle Farm for lessons. Getting the kids to the centre allows for further promotion of Club Programs, after school training, and tournaments by handing out flyers and keeping the kids aware of options available.

Promotion of after school programs was another priority. Ingle Farm has continually offered free school holiday programs to generate initial interest. Advertising this through Council promotional materials and asking schools to include information in their school newsletters has resulted in a larger number of kids trying squash. Collection of contact details at these sessions along with face to face communication with parents has seen enrolment in after school sessions increase - this term 44 kids are enrolled for junior squash!

Ingle Farm Squash Club (with the advice of Squash SA) is now developing the next phase of their plan with a goal to increase participation of juniors and offer competition pathways to keep their interest and skill development into the future.

Nerang Squash Club

43 Station Street, Nerang, Queensland 4211

The Nerang Squash and Fitness Centre was originally built as a 4 Court Centre in the 70's. There were 4 solid backed courts and the entrance was where the back of the building now sits. In the days before the 'pub scene', on a Saturday night, the squash courts were turned into a Disco known as the "Underground Club" and the place

used

to

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hours

Sometime in

two glass backed

courts onto the

existing building,

where the car park

changed to its current

it now appears that you

go down underground

to the Courts. At that time,

the current Bar area was an

location on the street side of the building, so

was. The entrance was

the Eighties, the

then Owners built

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rock

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en suite behind the counter. The current owners purchased the building about 25 years ago and the current tenant took over the Centre in early 2005.

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The Centre has had many great names of the game play there over the years, including Michelle Martin, Sarah Fitzgerald, Danielle Drady, Rachel Grinham in the women and as for the men, Rodney Martin, Brett Martin, Geoff Hunt, Craig Rowland and Zac Alexander to name but a few.

The Centre Hosts an Annual Masters Squash Tournament which is still very popular. The Centre has also been privileged to host the University Games in 2007 and the World Transplant Games in 2009.

Three times, the Centre has hosted the Malanda Games which were the forerunner

to the Jupiters Pan Pacific Masters Games which it is hosting again in 2016.

The Queensland Open came to Nerang in 2015 as part of the Gold City Council's keenness to increase the profile of the sport, leading up to the Commonwealth Games in 2018. Nerang is privileged to be hosting this year's event as well.



McBryde Crescent, Wanniassa, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory 2903

The Vikings Squash Club has operated in the Tuggeranong Valley, Canberra for the last 25 years. Although they are one of the smaller Canberra squash clubs they have consistently performed well thanks to the enthusiasm of a small group of people, modest levels of sponsorship and an emphasis on the development of juniors.

This year the club has enjoyed an increase in numbers of pennant players as well as larger junior training sessions. Their emphasis on the development of junior squash has been a long term commitment that is gradually paying dividends.

Vikings make it a priority to run a junior's tournament each year. This year the Vikings Junior Challenge (VJC) ran for its fifth consecutive year and attracted record entries (just over 50) from a wider set of home locations including several regional NSW communities. The event also received strong sponsorship which was fed back into an attractive prize pool.

The Club is also investing in the training of junior coaches, with the head coach recently undertaking professional development at the Talent Development Course in Melbourne. The results of this investment are clear to see. In 2016, Vikings juniors punched well above their weight both in terms of those juniors selected for representative duties as well as the tournament results achieved. In one case, the club sent an entire Vikings Junior team to represent the ACT.

The Vikings Squash Club is delighted to enjoy the sponsorship of the Tuggeranong Valley Rugby Union, Yowie Squash and Active Leisure Centre. They look forward to 2017 with increased participation rates, higher levels of fitness and more fun for their members.



Willoughby Squash Club is one of the biggest

and best squash clubs in New South Wales. It boasts 10 championship courts including 2 double's courts – the only club in Sydney to offer doubles squash. It also houses one of the biggest pro shops in the country with a wide range of squash rackets, shoes, accessories, gear and restringing services.

The club has regular in-house and external competitions as well as junior training programs, coaching, squad training and is the home of the popular and very successful East Coast Squash Academy. The club also offers a Holiday Camp every school holidays which encourages participation in squash and a large variety of sports for juniors.

Willoughby's coaching programs are led by professional squash player Aaron Frankcomb and the club has been home to squash legend Michelle Martin who works alongside Aaron in junior squash coaching.

In 2016, Willoughby Squash hosted the inaugural Super 7 Exhibition in August which showcased the world's best players in a fast and furious paced event. The exhibition involved Ryan Cuskelly, Aaron Frankcomb, Rachael Grinham, Matt Karwalski, Madeline Perry, Cameron Pilley and Colombian Miguel Angel Rodriguez. The event was hugely popular and successful and was loved by all players who participated and spectators who watched in delight.

> Mulgrave Country Club (VIC) Wellington Rd & Jells Rd, Wheelers Hill, Victroria 3150

The prestigious Mulgrave Country Club is a fantastic venue for squash in the southeastern suburbs of Melbourne.

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The Club is home to four world class airconditioned glass back squash courts that were constructed in 2012. Mulgrave offers junior squash, club circuit squash, Friday morning squash, ladies squash, masters squash and racquetball competitions to its members.

Memberships continue to grow each year and social squash and racquetball continue to be very popular with the locals.

Members are also offered to chance to play in the annual Club Championship, inhouse competitions and can receive quality coaching to improve their skills.

In 2016, Mulgrave was the host venue of the Victorian Open Squash Tournament. The club has also previously hosted the Australian Closed Championships and the Victorian State Finals of pennant competitions.

The quality of squash courts and other facilities at Mulgrave makes it one of the premier recreation facilities in Melbourne and Victoria.





WORLD'S # 1 BALL



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😐 PRO

Advanced Players The Pro squash ball has the lowest bounce of all four balls

in the range. Suitable for advanced players.

HANGTIME

STANDARD

COMPETITION

Intermediate Players The Competition squash ball is the same size as the Pro but has a 10% longer hang time. Suitable for intermediate players.

HANGTIME

+10%

+20%

+40%

PROGRESS . Improver Players

The Progress squash ball is 6% larger and has a 20% longer hang time than the Pro. Suitable for improver players.

HANGTIME

💿 INTRO **Beginner** Players

The Intro squash ball is 12% larger and has a 40% longer hang time than the Pro. Suitable for beginner players.

HANGTIME









WITEC .

DWSA

Squash Australia Board 2016



David Mandel President



Sam Chadwick Director



Michelle Martin Director



Cassandra Heilbronn Director



Doug Minchin Director



Mick Jaroszewicz Director



Dale Robbins Director

Squash Australia Staff 2016



Richard Vaughan Chief Executive Officer



Stewart Carson High Performance Manager



Zac Alexander Education Coordinator



lain McLennan Membership Coordinator



Tara Montgomery Events Coordinator



Jordan Till Participation Coordinator



Zoe Aust Alex Fern Andrew O'Connor Celeste Coughlan

Vacant High Performance Coach



President Report 2016



This is my first report for a full twelve-month period, ending June 2016. As background, I have read the previous Presidents' reports going back to 2002. There are two central themes running through them. Squash in Australia having a unity of purpose, and the capability to deliver. It is against those two themes, that I will compare the performance of Squash Australia in 2015/16.

BOARD: Squash Australia has had the benefit for the last few years of an additional two skills based directors, making a total of seven. Not only has the growth created change, but being volunteers, when personal circumstances change, so unfortunately does participation on the board. So we have had to regretfully [on both sides] farewell Mark Goldstone, Sue Shearer, Craig Meagher, and Liz Seddon. However, when we look at today's board, it has a range and depth of skills and experience, enhanced by diversity of age, sex, and geography that is unequalled in our recent history. They are listed above, and their backgrounds are on the website.

CEO

We 'onboarded' our new CEO Richard Vaughan this year. And yes, it was the first time this century, that the CEO not only came from a racquet sport, but with both a high performance and sports management background. For the initial months, while his wife was back in Wales, we had him 24/7. After the twins were born in November, Richard has still made himself available at all times on email and phone, and welcome his family to Australia after inordinate Visa delays.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Richard took the draft Strategic Plan as it was after nine months' work, and ran focus groups in each state to further develop it before presenting it at last year's AGM. It had nine main areas, which is more than normal – but they cannot be sensibly reduced. It is for the 2016-2022 period, which is longer than normal – but includes the next Commonwealth games but one, as it needs to. It is different to past plans, in that is has clearly identified and measurable goals, that can and will monitored and reported.

FEBRUARY 2016 CONFERENCE

Moving Forward Together or United Not Unitary was the title of the first broad based [3/4 people from each state were invited] national Squash conference to occur for many years. Not only did the attendees approve without dissent the final version of the Strategic Plan, but also agreed a series of outcomes in relation to the organisational review. As is true for all such meetings, the informal conversations around the coffee bar, or the other bar, added significant value for people meeting for the first time.

OFFICE STAFF

One of the outcomes of the Organisational Review was a new structure for the office of Squash Australia. It would make one person clearly responsible and accountable for each area of activity. At this time Ryan Wiegand and Trevor Smith decided to leave the organisation, and we thank each of them publicly for many years of faithful service. A number of the new staff are early in their careers, and new to the sport. This was strategically done to manage the budget, but there is a plan for their training and future development, which has already commenced.

WORKING GROUPS

We have a very large skills set amongst our volunteer base, that is being utilised through the creation of a number of Working Groups. These are carefully structured with a member of staff – to provide support and coordination with the office; a Squash Australia Director, to provide skills and knowledge of the Board's direction; and a number of the most highly skilled volunteers available.

COMMUNICATION

A number of channels of communication have changed over the year. The Presidents Council is now a phone meeting every two months. The Executive Council meet more often, and occasionally face to face. There are a number of monthly updates issued by the CEO via email and u-tube to an ever widening audience, and of course the Working Groups. Additionally, what you do not receive directly you can find on the revamped website.

STATES' STRATEGIC PLANS

All of the States' are reviewing their Strategic Plans in calendar 2016, with the aim of aligning with Squash Australia's plan, to the extent that the State thinks it is appropriate.

A longer report than I planned, and I needed to include all the major elements that have enhanced both the capability to deliver and united delivery across Squash in Australia.

David Mandel President **Squash Australia**

CEO Report 2016



For Squash, as a Commonwealth Games sport the period following a 'Games' year often brings with it a 'reset' of programs and priorities. The past twelve months have been no different to past quadrennial cycles. The organisation has undertaking a review of its activities, commenced a new Strategic Plan and restructured accordingly with six new staff members. In addition, we have launched several new Working Groups focused on the key strategic areas, who bring much needed skills and expertise to assist in fulfilling our vision of growth for Squash in Australia.

Squash Australia receives significant support from the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) and its High Performance agency the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), which the organisation appreciates greatly. High Performance support is structured through a program titled 'Australia's Winning Edge', and Squash remains eligible for funding support through that programme as a Commonwealth Games Sport. The value of funding support is related to the Australian Teams' performances at the Commonwealth Games, and World Championships.

This is the first full twelve-month reporting period for a July to June financial period and as a result, the comparable are the previous six month accounts. Having said that if you take into consideration the shorter period they match up considerably well. Nevertheless, I encourage you to read the full financial report as it contains key information on the sport over the period.

This change now brings us in line with the Australian Sports Commissions reporting timeline, which provides significant reporting efficiencies for the sport.

Junior Squash thrived over the period with the Australian Junior Open in Tasmania having over 230 entrants, and the Australian Junior Championships held in Cairns, Queensland had a bumper entry.

The Australian Open made a welcome return to Melbourne's MSAC in August 2015 as did the Annual Squash Australia awards, which recognised the great work of many of our volunteers.

The behind the scenes work for a sporting organisation is extensive, with a wide range of responsibilities to be covered. These extend from regulatory aspects including corporation law, community (e.g. child protection which is becoming increasingly important moving forward), ethics (e.g. anti-doping); to expectations of the sport's members and participants including education programs, communication, calendar development, membership and participation in international affairs. I extend my thanks and acknowledge the contribution of many fantastic volunteers across a range of committees, tournaments and participation programs that support the sport and delivered this year's great outcomes. while to fellow Squash Australia staff I acknowledge your dedicated work.

To Squash Australia's partners including the Australian Sports Commission, Australian Institute of Sport, the Australian Commonwealth Games Association, your financial and organisational commitment to Squash is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

Board and Director Activity

The Squash Australia Board met on twelve occasions through 2015/16, with nine teleconferences and three 'face to face' meetings, those being in Melbourne (Australian Open), Devonport (AJO) and Brisbane (previous AGM).

Directors attend to representational requirements in accord with board requirements. Directors have also attended meetings with service providers, Member Associations and Squash Australia advisory committees on many other occasions.

Two Board subcommittees operated over the period;

- Audit, Finance & Risk Management Committee and
- Human Resources and Nominations Committee.

Directors Sue Shearer, Mark Goldstone, Marcus Smith and Elizabeth Seddon left the Board over the period. The organisation's best wishes and appreciation is extended to each of them for their contribution to the sport during their time on the Board.

Special recognition needs to be given to a number of full time and temporary staff that left in the period – Trevor Smith, Ryan Weigand, Lisa Camilleri and Craig Simmich, the first two after many years of service.

As we draw a close to the 2015/2016 financial year we are eagerly looking forward to the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games just around the corner.

Yours Sincerely

Richard Vaughan Chief Executive Officer Squash Australia





Australian Government

Australian Sports Commission



Message from the Australian Sports Commission

The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) congratulates our National Sporting Organisations (NSOs) on their achievements this year. In particular, we congratulate all of our athletes who represented Australia in the Rio Olympic and Paralympic Games. You did so with great distinction. The country is proud of your commitment and dedication, and the manner in which you conducted yourself throughout the campaigns.

In the aftermath of the Games, the Board of the ASC has re-committed to the core principles of Australia's Winning Edge, the ASC's ten year plan for high performance sport introduced in 2012. The four key principles are: high aspirations for achievement; evidence-based funding decisions; sports owning their own high performance programs; and a strong emphasis on improved leadership and governance.

We are confident these principles serve the long term interests of sporting sector. We will also use the experience of the last four years to seek to improve implementation of Winning Edge in ways that will benefit the sector.

The ASC is equally committed to increasing community participation in sport, particularly amongst our children and youth. We have been pleased this year to see our flagship participation program Sporting Schools reach over 4,300 schools in partnership with NSOs. Innovations by the ASC this year included the release of our Integrity Guidelines for Directors and Leaders of Sporting Organisations, which provides directors with comprehensive and practical guidance for the first time on anti-doping, sport science and medicine, illicit drugs, match-fixing, child protection and member protection - vital issues for maintaining trust and respect in the sporting sector.

We also staged our inaugural Athlete and Coaches Forum, giving Australia's elite athletes and coaches the opportunity to share their experiences and enhance their leadership capabilities.

And we were delighted to see fruits of our efforts to improve female opportunity in sports, with improved elite and participation opportunities in women's sport, better media exposure, some outstanding new commercial deals, and an increase in female representation at NSO board level from 27 per cent to a 39 per cent across the top 23 NSOs. Looking ahead, ASC priorities include:

- further institutional and governance reform in sport, with an emphasis on increased national integration and alignment
- increased funding for sport, including new non-government sources of funding
- further embedding sport in schools' educational programs
- improved national coordination of sports infrastructure spending, and
- Improved use of data and technology in sports.

Reforms like this are often hard to achieve but have profound long term benefits. The evermore competitive environment in world sport on display in Rio highlights the critical importance of further reform if Australia is to maintain its proud reputation and traditions as a sporting nation.

The ASC thanks all of our sector partners for your effort and contribution to Australian sport. We look forward to continued success and progress together.

John Wylie AM Chair Australian Sports Commission

WORLD SQUASH

WSF

World Squash Federation (WSF) Report

The 45th AGM and Conference of the World Squash Federation was held in Nice from the 4th - 6th of November 2015. In attendance were 64 delegates from member nations, observers and officials. The conference was held on the two days prior to the AGM and covered a range of subjects including a presentation from M Bernard Lapasset, Co-Chair of the Paris 2024 Olympic bid, and his views on how squash needed to position itself should Paris win the hosting rights, a discussion on the AGM motions, a WSF strategic planning session and presentations from the various programme directors of World Squash which included coaching, refereeing, championships, anti-doping and a technical update.

The WSF president, Mr. Ramachandran, reviewed the failed Tokyo 2020 Olympic bid and expressed his disappointment about the Tokyo2020 Organising Committee decision. Several delegates were openly critical of the campaign process and squash's failure, laying the blame squarely on the shoulders of WSF president. In his defence he has poured his heart, soul, time and money into the campaigns developing

close alliances with the IOC and other influential parties. However, his leadership style has come under attack and that may impact on the future of the Olympic bid. The delegates were generally supportive of pursuing a bid for Olympic inclusion but questions remain about how best this should be done.

From the motions submitted to the AGM it was clear that many member nations are dissatisfied with the direction of WSF and the lack of a strategic plan and an effective governance structure. Motions were proposed to change the composition of the governing body, voting entitlement, delegate eligibility and other related matters but after much debate it was agreed to form a working group comprised of representatives of the five regions to develop proposals for constitutional changes. This would need an EGM in June 2016 so that they will be in place for the 2016 AGM. It was agreed the existing Board of the WSF would not participate in the discussions.

The time that was devoted to a strategic planning session at the AGM illustrated that not much had been done to identify the goals, priorities and actions necessary to provide WSF with a clear direction and purpose.

In the coaching area WSF is pursuing the adoption of a worldwide accreditation programme for coaches based on a four-tiered structure. There are benefits with an approach which recognises uniformly accepted standards and gives recognition for prior learning and has the flexibility to include other frameworks which might be based on a modular approach.

Similarly, a lot of work has been done by the referee's committee to develop a strategic plan for the future of refereeing. The key issues, which are similar to those that we face in Australia, are recruitment and retention and a range of initiatives have been developed to attract more people to refereeing including training, development and support programmes.

Apart from the Olympic campaign the other major issue facing WSF is the relationship between itself and PSA. While WSF has been pursuing bids to be included in the Olympics, the professional game has surged ahead leaving WSF struggling to keep up. There have been, and still are, attempts to build a closer working relationship between the two bodies but judging by the openly critical and confrontational stance taken by PSA, and subsequent to the AGM, they appear to be heading in opposite directions.

The World Squash Federation EGM, held on 3rd June in London, was attended by delegates from 43 nations. The working group's deliberations led to eighteen motions being brought forward. They ranged from constitutional revisions such as the number of Vice-Presidents; creating possible new positions; the term of office allowable; setting age limits for board members; national eligibility to attend and vote; together with further possible alignment to the IOC preferred governance statutes for member Federations.

The key motions which passed increased the number of Vice Presidents by one (to four); altered the terms of President and Vice-President from four terms of two years to two terms of four years; instituted a rotation of elections for all positions; set an upper limit of 75 years of age for officers; and eliminated the qualification for President that they should have previously served on the WSF or a Regional Board.

The AGM and EGM delivered a very strong message to WSF that it is time for change and that a clear direction and strong leadership are needed for the future of our sport.

David Mandel

Delegate to WSF AGM







2016 Australian Open Report

Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre was the host venue for the 2016 Australian Open. The tournament, which began with qualifications on the 7th of August, was a men's and women's 15K event. The men played in a 32-draw with two qualifying rounds and the women a 16-draw with one round of qualifying.

Three Australian men made it through qualifiers to join three other Aussies in the main draw. Rex Hedrick was the top Australian seed for the tournament, however, due to an injury sustained at the Victorian Open had to withdraw from the Australian Open. Zac Alexander (8), Rhys Dowling, David Clegg, Nathan Turnbull (Q), Rohan Toole (Q) and Thomas Calvert (WC) all made the main draw for the tournament.

In the women's draw, Donna Urquhart was the highest ranked Australian player, seeded second. Urquhart was joined by Christine Nunn (5), Sarah Cardwell, Tamika Saxby (Q) and Jessica Turnbull (WC) in the main draw.

A tough draw saw Zac Alexander play top seed and returning champion, Paul Coll (NZL) in round two. Unfortunately for the Australian favourite, Alexander went down 3-0 to the Kiwi. Rhys Dowling was the only Australian to advance to the quarter-finals after defeating Ben Grindrod (NZL) 3-1. The international competitors proved too strong for the locals, and it was Englishman Joe Lee (4) who took out Dowling, the last remaining Aussie. At the top half of the draw, Joel Makin, the seventh seed from Wales caused great upset by defeating top seed Paul Coll 3-0. Makin was defeated in the semi-final by the eventual winner, third seed Abdulla Mohd Al Tamimi from Qatar. Al Tamimi won the title by defeating Campbell Grayson, second seed from New Zealand 3-1.

The women's draw had two qualifying

matches to determine the main draw, and it was young-gun Tamika Saxby from Australia that showed her worth and won both her matches 3-1 and 3-0 respectively to claim her position in the main draw. It was a tough first round for the Australian women, with Turnbull losing 0-3 to top seed Dipika Pallikal Karthik (IND), Nunn losing to gualifier Hana Ramadan (EGY) and Cardwell going down 0-3 to Urquhart. Saxby's qualifying position saw her draw a match between Urguhart, where Urguhart ultimately prevailed 3-0. The second seed met with Egyptian, Mayar Hany (8) and lost 3-1 in the semi-final. In the final, top seed Dipika Pallikal Karthik defeated Mayar Hany 3-1 to claim the Australian Open.

The tournament saw strong international competition drawn to Melbourne over the six days. Unfortunately for the Australians, this competition was too strong, with international competitors becoming the new Australian Open champions.











2016 Australian Junior Championships Report

The pinnacle of junior squash in Australia is the Australian Junior Championships; a tournament that brings together the best young athletes Australia has to offer.

Individuals

Over 220 players battled their hearts out and demonstrated their skills during nine epic days of squash at the Thornleigh Squash Centre. The New South Wales based club with nine glass-backed courts was the perfect arena for the AJC. The tournament also introduced Live Streaming, which was a great success and allowed those who weren't at Thornleigh to be able to view some of the great matches played online and for free. All players demonstrated a high level of squash and should all be proud of their efforts and achievements at the AJC.

In the U19 Boys draw, a tough semi-final between third seed Joseph White (NT) and second seed Alex Oswald (SA) played out over 92 minutes and 5 games and eventually saw Oswald claim his position for the final. Top seed Alex Eustace (QLD) defeated fellow Queenslander, Jon van der Kreek (4) 3-1 in the other semi-final. Eustace and Oswald played the final match of the individual tournament, where Eustace ultimately proved too strong. The young Queenslander took home his second national title, a great memento from his last junior tournament.

The top four seeds of the U19 Girls all met in the semi-finals. In another tough 5-game match, top seed Shehana Vithana (NSW) was defeated by 3-4 seed Lauren Aspinall from SA. Aspinall then went onto play second seed Jessica Graham (VIC) in the final after Graham defeated Jessica Osborne, the other 3-4 seed form the Northern Territory 3-1 in 27 minutes. The U19 Girl's final was a tough 40-minute match played out over 5 games. Although Aspinall won the first game, Graham came back strong to take the second, fourth and fifth winning 6-11, 13-11, 3-11, 11-8, 11-3.

In the U17 boys draw, top seed Maaz Khatri (SA) defeated 3-4 seed Jacob Ford (NSW) in a tough and exhausting 39 minute, 4-game match. In the second semi-final, second seed Peter Nuttall (ACT) defeated 9-16 seed Tate Norris, cementing his spot in the final against Khatri. In a close 4-game match, both Khatri and Nuttall showcased their talents, although it was Khatri who prevailed in the end, 11-9, 11-6, 9-11, 14-12.

In the U17 Girls draw, top seed Grace Pattison from Tasmania played under-dog Courtney Mather (QLD) and won 3-0 in 19 minutes. Pattison then went onto play Alex Haydon (SA) in the final, who had previously defeated West Australian, Jade Woods 3-0 in 15 minutes in their semi. In the final, Alex Haydon proved too strong for Pattison winning the match 3-0 in 19 minutes. With this win, Haydon claimed her incredibly impressive fourth consecutive national title.

The U15 Boys draw, one of the biggest of the tournament, saw an impressive run from 5-8 seed Dylan Molinaro (VIC) who defeated 3-4 seed Haani Qureshi (NSW) in the first semi-final. Queenslander Wesley Dyer proved his strength as the number two seed as he defeated Harry Palfreyman a 5-8 seed from Tasmania 3-1. Molinaro played Dyer in the final and in a tough 5-game match, it was Dyer who took out the final three games to claim the win, 5-11, 9-11, 11-8, 11-8, 11-8.

In the U15 Girls draw, where lower seeds dominated their competition, 5-8 seed Jayna Gill (QLD) defeated fellow 5-8 seed Kate Winters (SA) 3-2. On the other side of the draw, Hayley Hankinson 3-4 seed defeated 9-16 seed Katie Davies. Both Queenslanders fought hard over 5 games where eventually Hayley prevailed. Gill made her way through the draw to meet Hankinson in the final and in 17 minutes, Hankinson prevailed 3-0 (11-9, 11-7, 11-6). First and second seed in the under 13 boys draw Gregory Chan (1) and Oscar Curtis (2) delighted Western Australia when they both won their semi-finals. Chan defeated Queensland player Brendan MacDonald in another intense 5-game match. Queenslander Luke Eyles, 5-8 seed had a great tournament but was defeated 3-0 by Curtis in their semi. In the under 13 boys final, the all-Western Australian affair between Gregory Chan and Oscar Curtis was a match that made their home state proud. The top two seeds battled it out for four games. Chan defeated Curtis in 25 minutes, 3-1 and claimed his second national title.

Top seed in the under 13 girls, Erin Classen from WA won her semi-final in 15 minutes against Ariel Lyon, 9-16 seed from Queensland. Ella Burge upset second seed Jemma Besant by defeating her 3-2 in 32 minutes. In the final, Classen proved too strong for Burge and defeated her in 16 minutes 11-1, 11-6, 13-11.

In the under 11 boys draw, the top player from each round-robin face each other in the final. Benjamin Murray (QLD) finished at the top of his group after winning every single game, and match as a result. He was joined in the final by Aryan Madan (SA) who also won every game and match. In the final match, the Queenslander defeated South Australian Aryan Madan 11-1, 11-1, 11-3.

The under 11 girls round-robin played out to seed, where Sienna Butcher and Haylee Besant, both NSW players, ended up playing the final match of the draw against each other which would ultimately decide who finished with the most points. In 4 games, it was Haylee Besant who finished on top with 8 points, 4 wins and 0 losses. (Haylee Besant def. Sienna Butcher 11-2, 10-12, 11-5, 11-4).











Teams

The team component of the tournament was a demonstration of the passion that the players have for the game of squash and for their home State/Territory. The three-day team tournament was packed with chants, cheering, chaos and ultimately, high class squash shared amongst family, coaches and managers, inter-state rivals, and friends.

The seeds for the tournament were:

- 1. Queensland (QLD)
- 2. Western Australia (WA)
- 3. Victoria (VIC)
- 4. New South Wales (NSW)
- 5. South Australia (SA)
- 6. Australian Capital Territory (ACT)
- 7. Tasmania (TAS)

Each age group played two boys matches and two girls matches (players permitting) between the teams, and over four days of tough competition, it was Queensland who made their way to the top of two age groups, and second in two more, to claim the overall win.













Under 13	VIC	ACT	QLD	NSW	SA	WA	TAS
Total Points	96	46	129	117	24	150	20
Ties Won	3	2	5	4	0	6	1

In the under 13's, Western Australia showed the rest of the country what their young-guns have to offer. WA took out first place in the under 13's winning all 6 ties, with Queensland following behind winning 5.

Under 15	VIC	ACT	QLD	NSW	SA	WA	TAS
Total Points	87	50	136	115	58	104	32
Ties Won	3	2	6	5	0	4	1

QLD and NSW were neck and neck in the under 15 age group, however it was Queensland who pulled in front, going through undefeated.

Under 17	VIC	ACT	QLD	NSW	SA	WA	TAS
Total Points	89	67	108	69	38	79	138
Ties Won	4	1	5	2	0	3	6

The underdogs and smallest state represented, Tasmania, dominated their competition in the under 17 age group, winning all 6 of their ties. Queensland came second, winning 5 of their 6 ties.

Under 19	VIC	ACT	QLD	NSW	SA	WA	TAS
Total Points	103	42	156	54	115	96	22
Ties Won	4	1	6	2	5	3	0

Finally, in the under 19's, it was Queensland who once again went through undefeated, with a strong South Australian team not too far behind them.

Overall

With two golds and two silvers, Queensland was crowned the Overall Team Champion for 2016, making it their 13th consecutive team victory.

	VIC	ACT	QLD	NSW	SA	WA	TAS
Total Points U/19	103	42	156	54	115	96	22
Total Points U/17	89	67	108	69	38	79	138
Total Points U/15	87	50	136	115	58	104	32
Total Points U/13	96	46	129	117	24	150	20
	375	205	529	355	235	429	212
Ties Won U/19	4	1	6	2	5	3	0
Ties Won U/17	4	1	5	2	0	3	6
Ties Won U/15	3	2	6	5	0	4	1
Ties Won U/13	3	2	5	4	0	6	1
	14	6	22	13	5	16	8

Big thank you to John Lockton, Toni van der Kreek and Scott Johnston for all the incredible photos.



2016 WSF World Doubles Championships Report

The WSF World Doubles Championships were held over four days in August at the magnificent Darwin Squash Centre. The best players from seven countries; Australia, Colombia, India, Malaysia, New Zealand, Scotland and Wales competed in three events; the Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles.

Australia selected four men; Ryan Cuskelly, David Palmer, Cameron Pilley and Zac Alexander (as an injury replacement for Rex Hedrick) as well as four women; Sarah Cardwell, Rachael Grinham, Christine Nunn and Donna Urquhart to compete at the tournament. The Aussies had two teams in all three of the events.

The tournament began well for the Aussies with only one of the six teams losing a match on the opening day. As the tournament progressed, the competition became stronger and at the conclusion of the group stages Australia had two teams in the Men's Doubles competition make the semi-finals as well as one team each in the Women's and Mixed events. In the Men's Double's semi-finals, Australia's number 1 team of Cuskelly and Pilley were defeated by Scottish pair Clyne and Lobban, however it was better news for Australia's number 2 team of Alexander and Palmer who defeated the New Zealand team of Coll and Grayson to make the final.

In the Women's semi-finals, Australia's remaining pair of Grinham and Urquhart had a tough win over the number 1 seeds from India; Chinappa and Pallikal to progress to the final. However, in the Mixed Doubles semi-finals Australia's team of Palmer and Urquhart lost to the Kiwi pair of Coll and King, meaning that the Mixed Doubles were the only final not to feature an Australian team.

On the last day of the Championships, Australia were primed for success in two of the three events but faced stiff competition in the finals. First up were Australia's women's pairing of Rachael Grinham and Donna Urquhart who faced off against New Zealand's Joelle King and Amanda Landers-Murphy. The Aussies were no match for the Kiwi pair as King and Landers-Murphy comprehensively won in just 20 minutes.

In the Mixed Doubles final, New Zealand's pairing of Paul Coll and Joelle King had a

tough win against the strong Indian team of Saurav Ghosal and Australian Open Champion Dipika Pallikal. The match was won in two games and lasted 34 minutes, giving King and New Zealand their second gold medal for the tournament.

The last event of the Championships was the Men's Doubles final which saw Australia's Zac Alexander and David Palmer go up against Scotland's Alan Clyne and Greg Lobban. The hosts began the contest well matching it with the Scotsmen before David Palmer suffered a back injury and was forced to call for a medical time out. Palmer returned to the action but was clearly hampered and the Scottish pair pounced, closing out the first game and breezing through the second to win the match in just over half an hour and claim the gold medal.

It was a fantastic four days in Darwin and Squash Australia would like to thank everyone involved for a wonderful tournament. Congratulations to all players who participated and special congratulations to the winners from New Zealand and Scotland.

finnual fiwards 2017

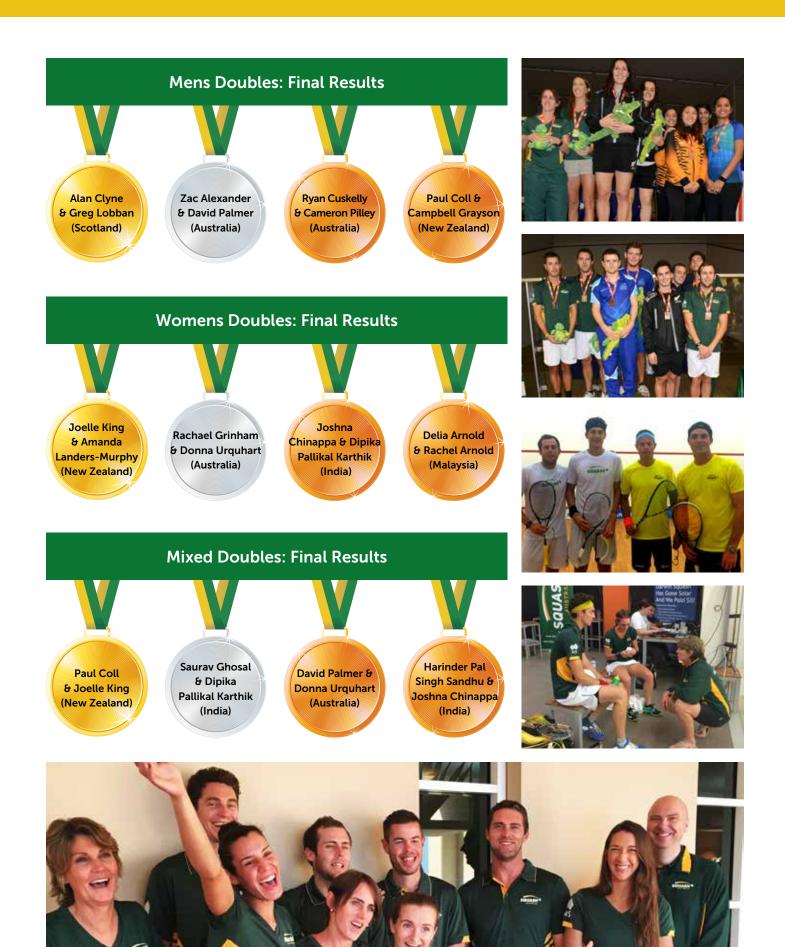
In Conjuction with the flustralian Closed Saturday, March 25th 2017 Mercure Hotel, 166 Woolcock St, Townsville City QLD 4812

EARLY BIRD TICKET PRICES ARE AVAILABLE UNTIL DECEMBER 2, 2016. ADULTS - \$85.95 JUNIORS (19 AND UNDER) - \$44.95

Standard Prices from December 3, 2016. fidults - \$115 / Juniors (19 and under) - \$60



COURTFECH







2016 World Junior Championships Report

The top junior squash players from all over the world came together to compete for the World Junior Championships in Bielsko-Biala, a small city in Poland from the 6th - 11th of August this year.

Australia sent along a squad of 10 players, 6 boys and 4 girls to compete with 4 of the boys selected to stay on to fight for the World Team Championships at the conclusion of the individual title.

Alex Eustace (QLD), Alex Oswald (SA) Joseph White (NT), Will Curtis (WA), Jon Van Der Kreek (QLD) Nicholas Calvert (QLD) made up the boys squad with Alex Haydon (SA), Jess Graham (VIC), Lauren Aspinall (SA) and Grace Pattison (TAS) making up the girls.

The team arrived in Poland after a gruelling 35-hour trip and settled into 4 days of preparation and getting over any jet lag that may have lingered. The vibe amongst the group was great and all players were excited to get started.

All players faced tough draws and from match to match each of our squad seemed to be soaking up the lessons learnt to play better with each round. Some stand out performances were Alex Oswald playing the 3/4 seed from Egypt in the 2nd round, losing in a tough battle 3-1 playing his best squash forcing his opponent to produce some of his best to get through. Alex Eustace made it through to the 3rd round playing strong until going down in a great match against the 5/8 seed from Iran.

Jess graham and Grace Pattison made it through the first round while Alex Haydon and Lauren Aspinall came up against strong first round opponents. Alex lost her first round in a tough 5 games to an Iranian while Lauren put up a fight to save the match at 2-0 down only to lose in 4 games. Each girl improved on every match and really soaked up the experience that will no doubt see them more prepared and ready for next year's World Titles.

The Boys headed into the teams event seeded 11th and judging by the draw we thought we had a good chance to make top 8 if we performed at our best.

In the pool matches we faced the strong teams of France and Guatemala. France proved too strong, winning the first 2 rubbers in 3 games. Alex Eustace played some great squash to take down the French number 1 in 4 games. Next up Guatemala, Will Curtis joined the team as we rested a tired Alex Oswald. Eustace went on first and was surprised by the number 1 going down to give the Guatemalans an early lead at 1-0. Joey White then took the court in a must win match and faced a very inspired younger who shot out to a 2-1 lead and 4-0 in the 4th. Our top 8 campaign was looking in trouble at that point however Joey dug deep and took the pace up to take the match convincingly from that point forward setting Will Curtis up to seal the match and a top 12 finish. Will played smart consistent squash to easily win in 3.

Next up we faced Malaysia who were upset by a spirited South African team. Eustace started our campaign and played a nervous match hanging on to win in a tight 3 games giving Australia the edge. Joseph White again took the court 2nd and had an incredible physical battle with the South African. The boys pushed each other around the court for 5 long games as the momentum swayed back and forth as they punished each other physically. The fifth game saw some intense long rallies that had Joey looking like a big baby giraffe at times, but in a fight that made us all extremely proud Joey took the fifth game putting Australia into the top 8 for the first time in 14 years.

We faced eventual winners Pakistan on the all glass court in the city centre and quickly were shown why they are the World Champions taking us out 3-0 and leaving us to play for 5-8th spot. We drew France again and hoped that we could turn the result around but the French took it up a few notches to defeat us 3-0. The last day rolled around and we were up against our old rivals New Zealand to play for 7th spot.

Alex Eustace took to the court first to play Jamie Oakley. Alex saved some of his best squash for the last day and upset the Kiwi 3-0 moving him all around the court with great intensity. With Oswald and Joey struggling physically we put in the big fella to see if he could produce some of his inspired performances from earlier in the event, however Scotty was too fresh and strong taking the match in 3 which set Will Curtis up again to save the day.

Will Started nervously and the first game swayed back and forth. Towards the end of the game Will steadied up and opened the court up to take the first. Will got stronger and grew in confidence as he made easier work of his opponent to seal the victory and 7th spot for Australia at the World Junior Championships, an effort that we hope will create a ripple effect of success helping Australia move back toward the top 4 in the next few years.

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High Performance Working Group Report

The High Performance Working Group (HPWG) plays a key part in developing ideas, content and process for moving all areas of the newly launched Squash Australia Strategic Plan forward.

The HPWG consists of Michelle Martin (Squash Australia Director), Richard Vaughan (Squash Australia CEO), Geoff Hunt (Multiple World Open and British Open winner, former AIS Head Coach), Anthony Ricketts (British Open winner and former AIS Head Coach), Ray Dorsett (AIS High Performance Manager), Lachlan Johnston (QAS Sports Scientists and squash player) as well as Stewart Carson (SA HP Manager).

The High Performance Working Group (HPWG) is a major resource to the Board and CEO of Squash Australia (SA) to assist in developing and managing the game of squash across Australia. Since its inception the HPWG have helped guide the set-up of the National Training Centre and the services around it. The HPWG has also approved all of the selection criteria for team selection and approves all teams that are selected for major Championships.

The wealth of knowledge that this group brings will help guide Squash Australia's High Performance programme forward to achieve medals on the world stage.

Events Working Group Report

The Events Working Group (EWG) is compiled of six members of the squash community who bring a variety of experience to the table. The EWG members are Fiona Young (VIC), Kaye Reeves (SA), Kay Kendall (QLD), Sarah Douglas (NT), Mick Jaroszewicz (Squash Australia Director), Tara Montgomery (Squash Australia Events Coordinator) and Richard Vaughan (Squash Australia CEO) and David Mandel (Squash Australia President).

2016 saw many changes to the events system at Squash Australia. A bidding document was created and implemented, which allows members to bid to host Squash Australia events over the next 4 years.

So far this year, the following events have been bid on and won by their

respective bidders:

2017 Australian Junior Open Darwin Squash Centre, NT

2018 Australian Junior Open Thornleigh Squash Centre, NSW

2019 Australian Junior Open Darwin Squash Centre, NT – (TBC)

2017 Australian Open Darwin Squash Centre, NT

2017 Australian Closed Kirwan Tenpin & Squash Centre / Dalrymple, Townsville, QLD

2017 Australian Junior Championships VIC – (Venue TBD)

2018 Australian Closed VIC – (Venue TBD) The EWG successfully implemented the reviewed Australian Junior Squash Tour Rankings, which were executed prior to the Australian Junior Championships. The rankings are now an automatic system that is run through the new website.

The addition of the new Squash Australia Website has seen some advances in the events structure. The Australian Junior Championships in September was the first of the national tournaments to use the new software that replaced Tournament Software. The tournament also used the updated national rankings to seed the tournaments, which proved successful in the individual event. The new software is run online and is simple to use. It is hoped that in the future, all events will be using Sporty HQ to run their tournaments.

The EWG increased communication and planning with the states to plan ahead in the tournament calendar. By doing this, Squash Australia are able to plan up to four years in advance on the calendar which will, in turn, increase government and sponsorship opportunities, and it is hoped that preplanning will increase participation numbers and interest in these events.

The Event Staff of Squash Australia ran five successful national events in 2016 which were the Australian Junior Open in March in Devonport, (TAS), the Australian Open in August in Melbourne followed by the Annual Awards Night, the World Doubles Championships in August in Darwin, the Australian Junior Individual Championships and finally the Australian Junior Team Championships in September/October in Sydney.

The EWG have updated events policies and regulations in hope to have better control and structure in events across Australia. The policies also address other aspects of the charter which include national venue standards, IT requirements, risk management planning and overall tournament rules.



SENIOR CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2017

March			
2-5 March	Brisbane City Squash Sandgate MS Open, W5	AST	Brisbane, QLD
4-5 March	ACT Masters	Masters	Woden Squash Centre/Weston Creek, ACT
4-6 March	Busselton Masters Team Tournament	Masters	Busselton, WA
5-6 March	Esperance Open, PSA Closed	AST	Esperance, WA
11-12 March	Pure Blonde Elanora Open. M5	AST	Elanora, NSW
11-13 March	South Australian Open Racquetball	Racquetball	SA
24-26 March	Australian National Closed	AST	Kirwan Tenpin & Squash Centre / Dalrymple, Townsville, QLD
24-26 March	Australia National Graded Championships	AST	Kirwan Tenpin & Squash Centre / Dalrymple, Townsville, QLD
25 March	Squash Australia Annual Awards	Other	Townsville, QLD
April			
22-23 April	Wangaratta Open	Racquetball	YMCA Indoor Recreation Centre, VIC
28-30 April	VMSA Masters	Masters	Dromana, VIC
May			
6-7 May	Geraldton Open & Masters	Masters	Geraldton, WA
11-14 May	NT Open, M10	AST	Darwin Squash Centre, NT
25-27 May	WA Open, M5/W5	AST	Terrace Squash, WA
June		7(31	
2-5 June	City of Kalgoorlie Boulder Golden Open, M5	AST	Kalgoorlie, WA
7-10 June	SA Open, M5/W5	AST	The ARC Campbelltown, SA
10 June	Gladstone Masters	Masters	Gladstone, QLD
17-18 June	Geelong Classic	Racquetball	Leisuretime Centre, VIC
July		Nacquetball	
29-2 July	TAS Open, M5	Other	TAS
8-9 July	Victorian Open Racquetball	Racquetball	Genesis Fitness Centre, VIC
11-16 July	VIC Open, M10/W10	AST	Mulgrave Country Club, VIC
10-12 July	AIS Leadership Course	Other	Canberra, ACT
13-16 July	AIS Camp	Other	Canberra, ACT
21-23 July	VMSA Masters	Masters	Bendigo, VIC
August			
1-5 August	WSF World Doubles Championships	Other	England
12 August	TAS Open Racquetball Championships	Racquetball	TAS
17-20 August	Bendigo International, M5/W5	AST	Bendigo, VIC
24-27 August	Shepparton International, M5/W5	AST	Goulburn Valley Squash Club, VIC
September			
1-3 September	Bega Open, M5	AST	Bega, NSW
4-15 September	Australian Masters	Masters	TBC, VIC
7-10 September	North Coast Open	AST	
			Coffs Harbour, NSW
9-10 September	Ballarat Open	Racquetball	Coffs Harbour, NSW Ballarat Squash & Fitness Centre, VIC
9-10 September 15-17 September	Ballarat Open NSW Open, M5/W5		
		Racquetball	Ballarat Squash & Fitness Centre, VIC
15-17 September		Racquetball	Ballarat Squash & Fitness Centre, VIC
15-17 September October	NSW Open, M5/W5	Racquetball AST	Ballarat Squash & Fitness Centre, VIC Sydney, NSW
15-17 September October 8-9 October	NSW Open, M5/W5 Wavell Masters	Racquetball AST Masters	Ballarat Squash & Fitness Centre, VIC Sydney, NSW Wavell, QLD
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JUNIOR CALENDAR

January

2-6 Jan AJST (Sheffield, England) British Junior Open **12-15 Jan AJST (Darwin, NT) Australian Junior Open, Platinum** 21-22 Jan AJST (Brentwood, WA) Karakal New Year's Bash, Silver

February

12 Feb AJST (VIC) SSL Junior Age, Silver

12 Feb AJST (Laidley, QLD) Laidley Junior, Bronze

18 Feb AJST (Brisbane, QLD) Brisbane Junior, Bronze

18-19 Feb AJST (Cairns, QLD) Cairns Junior, Bronze

19 Feb AJST (Hilton, WA) Hilton Exploder, Bronze

25 Feb AJST (Scottvale Park, QLD) Rockhampton Junior Open, Bronze

26 Feb AJST (South Adelaide Squash Centre, SA) South Adelaide Junior, Silver

March

5 Mar AJST (VIC) GP#2 Junior Age, Silver

4-5 Mar AJST (Hobart, TAS) TAS Junior, Gold

4-6 Mar AJST (Esperance, WA) Esperance Junior, Silver

11-12 Mar AJST (Moura, QLD) Moura Junior Open, Bronze

11-12 Mar AJST (Dapto, NSW) Country Junior Age Championships, Platinum

12 Mar AJST (Brisbane, QLD) Brisbane Junior Selection, Bronze

12 Mar AJST (Toowoomba, QLD) Toowoomba Junior, Bronze

18-19 Mar AJST (Townsville, QLD) Townsville Junior, Bronze

19 Mar AJST (Wangara, WA) Marmion Junior Classic, Bronze

25-26 Mar AJST (Karratha, WA) Karratha Junior Championships, Bronze

25-26 Mar AJST (Ipswich, QLD) Ipswich Junior, Silver

26 Mar AJSTn (Woden Squash Centre, ACT) Anthony Ricketts Challenge, Bronze

April

2 Apr AJST (Squash Logic, VIC) MDSA Junior Age, Silver

14-16 Apr AJST (Auckland, NZ) Oceania Junior Championships, Platinum

18-19 Apr AJST (Auckland, NZ) Trans-Tasman Test Match

21-23 Apr AJST (New Zealand) NZ Junior Open *Dates to be confirmed

23 Apr AJST (Brisbane, QLD) Brisbane Junior, Bronze

23 Apr AJST (The Rex, Tanunda, SA) Barossa Junior, Silver

28-30 Apr AJST (Mirrabooka, WA) HEAD Junior Classic, Silver

29-30 Apr AJST (Mackay, VIC) Mackay Junior, Silver

29 Apr AJST (Scottvale Park, QLD) Central Region Junior Championships, Silver

May

6-7 May AJST (Darwin Squash Centre, NT) NT Junior Championships, Gold

6-7 May AJST (Geraldton, WA) Geraldton Junior Open, Bronze

13-14 May AJST (Brisbane, QLD) Brisbane Junior Open, Silver

20-21 May AJST (Woden Squash Centre, ACT) ACT Junior Open, Gold

20 May AJST (Broome, WA) Kimberly Junior Championships, Bronze

20 May AJST (Katanning, WA) Katanning Junior Championships, Bronze

25-29 May AJST (Rockhampton, QLD) Queensland Schools Championships, Bronze

28 May AJST (Ingle Farm Rec Centre, SA) Ingle Farm Junior, Silver

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SQUASH

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FEVENTS 2017 SQUASH

AUSTRALIA

June

3 Jun AJST (Gladstone, QLD) Gladstone Junior Timed, Bronze

4 Jun AJST (Labrador, QLD) Labrador Junior Open, Bronze

4 Jun AJST (VIC) Metro Junior, Silver

3-5 Jun AJST (Kalgoorlie, WA) Golden Junior Open, Silver

> 10 Jun AJST (Bunbury, WA) **Bunbury Junior**, Bronze

10-11 Jun AJST (The ARC Campbelltown, SA) SA Junior Age Championships, Gold

10 Jun AJST (Exmouth, WA) Exmouth Junior Championships, Bonze

10-11 Jun AJST (Devonport, TAS) TAS Junior Event, Silver

24-25 Jun AJST (MSAC, VIC) VIC Junior State Titles, Gold

25-28 Jun AJST (QLD) QLD Junior Championships (Individuals), Gold

July

30-2 Jul AJST (QLD) QLD Junior Championships (Teams), Gold

1-2 Jul AJST (Mirrabooka, WA) WA Junior Open – Gold

3-4 Jul AJST (Mirrabooka, WA) WA State Junior Teams

7-9 Jul AJST (Thornleigh, NSW) NSW Junior Open, Gold

7-9 Jul AJST (Campbelltown, SA) Campbelltown Junior, Silver

16 Jul AJST (BCS, QLD) Brisbane Junior, Bronze

19-23 Jul AJST (Tauranga, NZ) WSF World Junior **Championships (Individuals)**

24-28 Jul AJST (Tauranga, NZ) **WSF World Junior Championships** (Women's Teams)

August

5 Aug AJST (Brentwood, WA) Squashworld Junior, Bronze

6 Aug AJST (Palm Beach, QLD) Palm Beach Junior Open, Bronze

6 Aug AJST (BCS, QLD) Brisbane Junior Event, Bronze

19 Aug AJST (Narrogin, WA) Narrogin Junior, Bronze

19-20 Aug AJST (Active Leisure Centre, ACT) Vikings Junior Challenge, Silver

20 Aug AJST (Naracoorte Squash Club, SA) Naracoorte Junior Skills, Bronze

27 Aug AJST (BCS, QLD) Brisbane Junior Event, Bronze

September

2 Sep AJST (Terrace, WA) Prince Super Series 1, Bronze

9 Sep AJST (Terrace, WA) Prince Super Series 2, Bronze

10 Sep AJST (Karadinga, SA) Karadinga Junior, Silver

16 Sep AJST (Terrace, WA) Prince Super Series 3, Bronze

October

3 Oct AJST (Maddington/Gos, WA) Maddington/Gos Junior Graded, Bronze

30-8 Oct AJST (Geelong, VIC) *Date and Venue TBC Australian Junior Championships, Platinum

22-23 Oct AJST (Cambridge, WA) Cambridge Junior, Bronze

22 Oct AJST (Warwick, QLD) Warwick Junior, Bronze

29 Oct AJST (BCS, QLD) Brisbane Junior Event, Bronze

November

4 Nov AJST (Gladstone, QLD) Gladstone Junior Open, Bronze

4 Nov AJST (Manjimup, WA) Manjimup Junior, Bronze

12 Nov AJST (Nerang, QLD) Nerang Junior Open, Bronze

> 19 Nov AJST (BCS, QLD) Barrett Property Junior Classic, Bronze

25 Nov AJST (Woden Squash Centre, ACT) Canberra Cup, Bronze

WORLD SQUASH

ASHAWAY

V NICTOR

December

DUNLOP

COURTECH

WE MAKE COURTS.

3 Dec AJST (VIC) Xmas Cup Junior, Silver

6-11 Dec AJST (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia) KL Junior Open *Dates to be confirmed

AIS



PETURN OF THE 2017/USTRALIAN LLOSED

DATE: FRIDAY 24TH - SUNDAY 26TH MARCH, 2017 VENUE: TOWNSVILLE, QLD - VENUE TBC

ΑΝΟ ΙΝΤRODUCING THE Λυσταλία Πληματικό της Εμληριομομικός (Λ, Ε ληριο Εμληριομομικός (Λ, Ε ληριο

24TH - 26TH MARCH, 2017

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Participation Working Group Report

The Participation Working Group has met via both teleconference and face to face meetings since its formation earlier this year with the most recent being held during the Australian Open in Melbourne. The PaWG is tasked with the very important job of ultimately increasing the number of Australians of all ages involved in the great sport of squash.

The PaWG is involved in the development of five participation based programmes for the future which all aim to achieve objectives in line with Squash Australia's Participation Plan which

Ozsquash

which has recently seen an increase in the numbers of schools involved through Sporting Schools, having completed the single most successful term of the programme's history in term 3, 2016.

Cardio Squash

needs to be developed but play a significant role in encouraging participation of certain demographics.

Pop-up Squash

hich Squash & Racquetball Victoria have developed and kindly shared, are in the process of being rolled out nationally.

Social Squash

needs to be developed but play a significant role in encouraging participation of certain demographics. was launched in May, as well as the Participation 4 Year Plan.

In Participation, Squash & Racquetball Victoria President Nicci Rossouw and Paul Vear also from Victoria are joined by Paul Mead from the Northern Territory and Anna Walker who has worked with Squash Australia as a consultant. Squash Australia Director Doug Minchin is the Chair with Participation Coordinator Jordan Till, and Squash Australia's CEO Richard Vaughan and President David Mandel.

THE FIVE PROGRAMMES ARE:

Hits 'n' Giggles

hich Squash & Racquetball Victoria have developed and kindly shared, are in the process of being rolled out nationally.

Coach Education Working Group Report

The Coach Education Working Group is a small but integral cog in the always turning wheel that is the new look Squash Australia. Squash Australia is privileged to have such a wealth of knowledge make up the CEWG.

Squash Australia believes the members listed to the right can help carry out the four-year education goal of "Squash personnel will be valued, trained and competent to deliver the sport."

The CEWG members have convened several times both via teleconference and face to face meetings throughout the year. They have tackled issues such as the transition from face to face accreditation courses to an online e-learning platform which is now available. Improving transparency surrounding coach insurance and the alignment of Squash Australia with WSF with plans for future accredited coaches to be not only recognised as a qualified coach in Australia but around the world.

Focus going forward for the CEWG will be to increase the number of qualified assessors and presenters which will prevent stagnation of coaches at each accredited level also develop and update coaching curriculum to fit under the FTEM coach framework (Foundation, Club Development, Talent Development, Performance and High Performance Coach) Richard Vaughan (Squash Australia CEO)

David Mandel (Squash Australia President)

Michelle Martin (Former World No.1)

James Rogers (South Australia Education Coordinator)

Grant Gough (Tutor Coach Assessor/ Presenter)

Richard Cagliarini (Former Squash Victoria Executive Officer)

Michael Khan (World Squash Federation Education Coordinator)

Zac Alexander (Squash Australia Education Coordinator)



Profile Working Group Report

The Profile Working Group (PWG) is faced with the task of enhancing the profile and image of squash in Australia through media and new technologies.

The PWG consists of Dale Robbins (Squash Australia Director), Tertius Classen (WA Squash Director), Scott Johnson (Squash NSW Director), Ross Solly (Squash Australia Media Consultant), Dave Whan (Squash SA Director) and Iain McLennan (Squash Australia Membership Coordinator) as well as Squash Australia CEO Richard Vaughan and Director Cassandra Heilbronn.

The profile of Squash Australia has been well enhanced in 2016 with the introduction of a brand new website. This new technology has given squash the fresh new image it deserves in this country. The PWG are now aiming to update all State and Territories' websites by the first quarter of 2017.

Another brand new initiative to Squash Australia this year has been live streaming of events on our YouTube channel www.squashaustralia.tv. This new concept is free for everyone and has been highly successful with the Australian Open, WSF World Doubles and the Australian Junior Championships all streamed live this year.

Squash Australia also launched its new E-Shop at www.direct-squash.com.au with the help of the PWG. This online shop features brand new gear from Victor, Ashaway and Dunlop as well as essential squash gear such as coaching manuals, accessories, magazines and much more.

The PWG is also working on a new Communications Plan and a Marketing and Media Plan to improve and maintain communications within the squash community and the various stakeholders we hold valuable to our future.

Facilities Working Group Report

The Facilities Working Group has come up with three key areas of focus in line with the Facilities 4 Year Plan. These key areas will be aiming to make the building of new facilities easier while also helping to improve existing squash facilities around the country.

The first of these and the priority area at the moment is developing a document package to assist with the construction of new facilities. This package will include easily customisable templates for various documents that would be required in the process of taking a new squash facility from just an idea to a physical building in which more Australians can enjoy our sport.

Next is a best practice guide for existing centres to help them to improve their current business structures and increase their chances of being successful and hence remaining in operation. The information which informs this guide will be taken from existing successful centres, and will vary for each facility type including individually owned centres, publicly owned centres, education facilities, and private lifestyle centres. In this area the FWG has also contributed to a recent update of the squash centre database, and carried out a survey of these centres to better understand the needs of centres.

The third area of focus is the development of the Centremark program which will bring centres together and provide benefits back to the collective group of centres such as insurance, national discount schemes, and e-shop discounts etc.

In Facilities, Volunteer of the Year nominee George Deubler (City Houses, NSW), Fred Robins (Stafford Squash Centre owner, QLD), Phil Sinnott (Squash South Australia CEO), and Sue Shearer (Squash NT Chair), are joined by Cameron Dalley from CourtTech as our court builder representative. The Squash Australia Director Mick Jaroszewicz as the Chair and Participation Coordinator Jordan Till are also joined by Squash Australia's CEO Richard Vaughan and President David Mandel.

Commercial Working Group Report

The Commercial Working Group (CWG) focusses on creating opportunities for new revenue streams for Squash Australia and the sport. The CWG also aims to forecast the investment required to generate new income and to develop a stronger commercial focus for the game.

The CWG consists of Larry Malan (QLD), Mark Goldstone (SA), Grant Norman (SA) and Richard Majlinder (QLD) as well as Squash Australia CEO Richard Vaughan and Director Sam Chadwick. All members of the CWG have a strong background in business and commercial activities.

In 2016, the CWG has focussed on developing sponsors for upcoming and annual events such as the Australian Open and Australian Closed Championships. By developing a sponsorship proposal, the CWG aims to reach and generate a high volume of interest for these events. The CWG have also completed and updated a Financial Analysis of the company to ensure that Squash Australia and the sport in general remains sustainable in 2017 and for future years to come.

State Reports 2016



Squash Australian Capital Territory Annual Report

Squash ACT has had a very productive 2016. We held the ACT Open over the April / May weekend and, pleasingly, it was the biggest for the last few years. The inclusion of Doubles has also given players that extra chance to play. With numbers having increased we are looking to improve again in 2017.

Woden Squash Centre, owned by Squash ACT, has made some changes this year. We have court sponsors that include Alucom, Bendigo Bank, The Tradies, ACT Masters and South Canberra Squash Club. Part of our process for this was to promote our Junior Squash. At present, our ACT Junior program is growing, with a huge effort from our long time junior organiser Helen Southwell. We are also very proud to have Anthony Ricketts coaching our ACT Junior squad. Companies taking out court sponsorship can nominate an amount of money to go towards supporting our juniors. This is also supporting our local clubs – Dickson, Valley Vikings, SCSC and Queanbeyan.

Our Premier Grade has been reinvigorated this competition. Twenty 20 Projects and Luton Properties are sponsors, and the format has changed so players have a competitive hit in a more professional atmosphere while still retaining a good social feel.

We have employed a part-time Development Manager to help promote and grow Squash in Canberra. This also includes the Sporting Schools program though we are finding this program a challenge to get into our local schools. One of the issues was we have no 'available' coaches. This year, with help from NSW, Grant Gough came and we held a weekend foundation/club course, to ensure we have more coaches available over time. This was a success and we're looking to do another one next year.

We ran a Survey recently to see what ACT Squash players would like to see happening with the sport in the ACT. From this, we found that we need to investigate changing formats of our nightly pennant, as well as being able to offer more coaching and flexibility for players.

2017 is looking to be a positive year for Squash in Canberra. A few changes and trials see us growing and moving in the right direction.



Squash Northern Territory Annual Report

It has been a very busy year for SNT, with bidding for various tournaments and being successful – so we will see quite a few national tournaments at the Darwin Squash Centre in 2017! As usual our NT Open and NT Junior Open were well attended and a huge thank you to our Centre manager – Sarah Douglas and her staff and Carole Kawaljenko who loves visiting the Territory and being SNT's tournament director.

Our junior programme has received a facelift with the Centre now running and organising this on a Saturday morning. Leslee Reif continues as the Coach and we are seeing more and more juniors attending each Saturday morning.

There has also been changes to our High Performance area, which is now under a different organisational structure which is included in this report. SNT will shortly be advertising for a Development/High Performance Manager who will be a paid employee of SNT and will conduct training sessions and visit the regions. This will be exciting as this should bring us in line with most other sports who have this type of position.

Another exciting initiative will be the Fifty Years of Squash in the NT– a Celebration. Norm Watson agreed to collate and write a book dedicated to celebrating fifty years of squash in the Territory. I have had a sneak peek at what Norm has written, and it will be a fantastic book which commemorates players past and present through-out the Territory squash family. We are hoping that this will be released in 2017 – so keep your eyes peeled for this, who knows, you might be in it!

I am very proud of our hard working committee, which sees Judi Hoare, who is also a Life Member of SNT, stand down, as well as Les Reif. Both of them have given so much of their time voluntarily over nearly 30 years. We must never forget the members who have in the past provided so much, which also gives us a fantastic future moving on.

I look forward to seeing around the Darwin Squash Centre and thank you for your support in 2016.



State Reports 2016

SQUASH SA.

Squash South Australia Annual Report

During the year the Board have continued to work towards achieving the 2014-16 Strategic Plan through quarterly monitoring and evaluating the organisation's Integrated Business Plan. Our skills based Board structure, underpinned by the expert advice received from our sub-committees, has enabled us to address a number of challenges throughout the year.

During the last 12 months we have welcomed new members to the Board – Ross Wait (Senior Youth Programs Manager – Port Adelaide Football Club), Matt Schmidt (Executive Director, Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation), Tom Melingakos (Learning Technologies Consultant, Catholic Education Office) and Matt Naisby (Manager, Tax & Accounting – 360Private Financial Services) Eleni Chrisakis (Solicitor, Batchelor Law and Legal Practice) . These appointments have added considerable knowledge and experience which will prove invaluable over the coming period.

Strategically the Board have been challenged by the Government's decision to extend the South Road Darlington Corridor Upgrade, which will have a significant negative impact on the financial operations of our licensed venue, the Southern. To ensure the Association is well placed in the future, the Board have lobbied extensively with Ministers of Parliament to:

- Address the issue of access to the Southern
- Determine the viability of alternative site options
- Investigate the transfer of the Liquor and Gaming Licence of the Southern
- Progress options to develop a State Squash Facility
- Seek Government compensation

In terms of progressing new facilities, the Board continues to work in partnership with Local and State Government to ensure squash courts are included in the development of future sporting hubs. 2016 saw the opening of the Campbelltown Aquatic Recreation Centre (5 courts, 2 doubles courts) and confirmation of 3 new courts to be built in Port Pirie. The Copper Coast Council, Port Lincoln Council and the City of Playford are each looking to incorporate squash courts in future facility re-developments. The creation of new courts throughout South Australia continues to be a major focus for the Board. We have also continued to work closely with our existing centres by supporting them with our court maintenance program and the Club Development Officer Network which has seen a steady growth in junior participation numbers.

The Board is very excited to launch the '24/7 Squash Space' in early 2017 and have recently finalised an agreement to house the Squash SA Office and Glass Promotional Court at Tonsley Park. The initiative will showcase the sport to the public, in particular tertiary students, and pilot a range of digital technologies such as on-line booking and key card entry system.

The challenge for the Board will be to develop new programs that provide for better access to the sport and respond to diversity, market forces and changing lifestyles. Board planning is underway to develop the next 3 year Strategic Plan - Pillars of Success that Challenge the Status Quo.

In closing, the Board and Finance Committee have been prudent in the financial management of the Association. Despite tougher market conditions for licensed venues in SA, we were able to finish the year with a profit of \$106k, an improvement of \$147k from last year. This was mainly due to significant increases in bar and bistro trading and improved revenue from gaming. Total revenue to the Association continues to improve with \$3.3m in 2016 compared to \$2.85m in 2015 and \$2.58 in 2014. The Association's future financial strategy will focus on building cash reserves to enable future developments.

Much of the success is due to the hard work of the staff at Squash SA and The Southern and the large number of volunteer staff who continue to offer their free time for the ongoing success of squash and racquetball in South Australia.

State Reports 2016



Squash Tasmania Annual Report

Squash in Tasmania has once again kept it's head above water with it's member clubs enjoying a slight increase in their pennant playing numbers and with a new club (Devonport Racquetball) becoming affiliated members.

Squash to Schools has again been our main focus with many Primary Schools in the NW and South being targeted. Though new recruitments have been slow we are still confident that we are planting the seeds for the future.

Our State Junior Pathway Program is moving along in the right direction with a number of exciting training camps held during the year and utilising the services of Zac Alexander who spent a weekend here putting our youngsters through their paces.

Squash Tasmania is proud to have one of it's youngsters (Grace Pattison) to represent Australia again this time at the World Juniors in Poland, who has come back full of beans learning so much.



Squash Tasmania looks forward to a bright 2017 season with a further increase in it's playing members.

Leon Barnett President Squash Tasmania



Squash & Racquetball Victoria Annual Report

Nicci Rossouw was elected President of Squash & Racquetball Victoria (S&RV) for 2016, following Peta Murphy's decision not to renominate (due to Federal Government election commitments) for the position. Nicci has hit the ground running, due in part to succession planning but also a desire to keep the organisation moving ahead, increasing its professionalism and relevance.

The S&RV Board has continued its governance reform program working through the priorities identified in the 2015 Board Performance Evaluation Report. A key recommendation was the review and update of the Risk Management Policy and Plan. Thank you to Appointed Directors Matthew O'Brien and Bruce Whittaker for their valuable input into this exercise.

On the participation front, S&RV received Innovation Challenge funding from Vichealth to develop and implement Australia's first Pop Up Squash Shop. Based on a similar concept trialed in the UK, S&RV delivered its first Pop Up activation over 3 weeks at Eastland Shopping Centre in May-June. It was a highly successful exposure with over 2,800 people engaging with the shop in the trial period. A key component was the significant assistance of volunteers from Mountain District Squash & Racquetball Club, Lilydale Club and Deakin University Sports Management students. A second activation is planned for the 2017 January School Holidays where learnings from the first experience will help modify and improve the project outcomes.

The squash and racquetball graded event circuits in Victoria have been enjoying an injection of new players with numbers up across all events. In conjunction with partner Clubs and sponsors, S&RV again supported a number of professional squash tournaments throughout July-August. Starting with the Bendigo International (M5, W5) and Kooyong International invitational event, followed by the Victorian Open (M10, W10), through to the Shepparton International (M5), S&RV is providing the Australian Squash Tour with a range of events to assist Australian squash players attain world ranking points on home soil as well as showcasing the sport to a wide audience around the state. Special mention should be made of the State Government (Significant Sporting Event Program), Mulgrave Country Club and Kooyong LTC for their support of the Victorian Open as well as Shepparton and Bendigo Councils for their continued enthusiasm and support in bringing quality squash to regional areas.

Squash & Racquetball Victoria wishes to acknowledge the assistance received from member clubs, venues, associations, athletes and volunteers, as well as Sport & Recreation Victoria, Visit Victoria, VicHealth, Squash Australia, Dunlop, Vicsport and our many partners and supporters.

Fiona Young Executive Director





Q Squash Annual Report

It's been another big year for squash in Queensland. Participation numbers around the State have remained steady and new programs continue to surface for juniors and social players. We are proud to be the home State of the National Training Centre at Stafford Squash Club in Brisbane, which is the training base for the country's best young squash players.

Q Squash has had an extremely successful year in refereeing. This year we funded our top 7 referees to attend events all around Australia. The success in this is shown by the addition of 2 regional referees and 1 national referee this year. Queensland is now the leading state in referee development and attendance at major events in Australia.

Queensland players have once again shone on the big stage domestically and around the world. Zac Alexander has already captured five PSA titles this year and was named PSA's Male Player of the Month for August.

Much like our State of Origin team, Queensland's juniors have once again dominated competition at this year's AJC winning the team's event for a 13th straight time in Sydney. Individually our juniors have also had a great year with Alex Eustace winning the OJC, AJO and AJC Under 19 tournaments. Benjamin Murray won the Under 11 AJO and AJC events, Wesley Dyer and Hayley Hankinson won the boys and girls U15 AJO titles respectively and Lakeesha Rarere capped off her amazing junior career with the OJC and AJO titles.

Q Squash is happy to welcome back the Australian Closed next year in Townsville after a three-year absence. In conjunction with the Australian Closed, the Squash Australia Annual Awards Night will also be in Townsville for that weekend and we look forward to seeing as many of you there.

We are getting closer to the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast in April 2018 and the excitement continues to build. 2017 will be a very busy and important year as we gear up for this massive world sporting event.



Western Australia Squash Annual Report

This report relates to the period 1/07/2015 to 30/06/2016 to tie in with the Squash Australia Financial Year of Operation. A motion will be put to the WA Squash Members at our next A.G.M. in March to also convert our operations to a Financial Year.

Centres: During the year, two further Squash Centres (North Beach and Rockingham) were closed.

Pennant Competition: The gradual decline in the number of Pennant teams continued perhaps because new players are more attracted to In-House Competitions as their initial venture into competitive play.

Tournaments: The 2016 City of Perth International / WA Open attracted a total of 129 players. It was pleasing that two Australians (Zak Alexander and Tamika Saxby) became the 2016 Champions. The Event was considered a success; however, the changes of dates of other PSA tournaments had a negative impact on the number of PSA players (particularly females) competing. Coupled with the fact that Squash Australia have decided not to contribute towards US\$10,000 tournaments, this puts doubt against the ongoing viability of the Event.

Juniors: WA had our best ever result at the 2015 Australian Junior Championships, finishing second, only 88 points behind Queensland. WA's Greg Chan took out the Boys Under 13 Individual title to become the first WA junior to win an AJC since Mikayla Maricic won the 2004 Girls 13 Year Age Group in 2004. Greg followed this up by also becoming the 2016 Australian Junior Open Champion.

It was decided to revamp our Junior Programs in 2016 by conducting a series of Camps and Tournaments. We also introduced the 'best Coach available in Australia' (Roger Flynn) to assist with the development of our junior players.

School Programs: Healthway funding has enabled us to expand our School Programs to well in excess of 10,000 students. This enables us to give them some exposure to the game of Squash at an Inflatable Court. Just Squash it or Mini Squash session. The Sporting Schools Program has been slow to roll out in WA and obviously such a onedimensional program does not work in a State as big as WA. It also seems that several of our sessions are within the Sporting Schools Program but funding was not originally obtained for Squash.

The Metropolitan Inter-School Competition continues to grow and, with 53 Teams participating this year, the event had to be changed to a two-day format.

Masters: WA Masters Squash hosted the Australian Masters Squash Championships in September, with the Department of Sport and Lotterywest being the major sponsors. The Tournament was considered a major success with the individual event attracting 260 entries and the team event involving 411 players in 21 Divisions. WA's 2015 Individual Masters Champions were Amanda Hopps (Ladies Over 45), Sue Hillier (Ladies Over 50), Anne Richards (Ladies Over 60), Ray Villarroya (Mens Over 75) and Chas Renner (Mens Over 85). Sue Hillier was selected to represent Australia in the successful Trans-Tasman Team. Sue went through this series undefeated, without dropping a game.

Funding: WA Squash would like to acknowledge the financial assistance and support provided by the Department of Sport and Recreation, Healthway and the City of Perth. Such funding is the cornerstone of the continuing growth and development of Squash in WA.

Board: During the reporting period, Matthew Hansen stepped down as President and was replaced by Stephen Bowen who returned to the Board after a term on the Squash Australia Board.Brent Kerr, Ramtin Cyrus and Linda Towill also resigned during the year. WA Squash would like to express thanks to Brent, Ramtin and Linda for their periods of service. Karen Young and Peter Meintjes were formally accepted as Board Members at the 18th May 2016 Board meeting

Staff. WA Squash is very appreciative of the efforts of Sue Hillier (Metropolitan Development Officer) and Linda McBrierty (Accounts) throughout the year. We were also fortunate to have Mike Cornish return to his Country Development role. He has travelled throughout the State as the key driver of our Country Development Program.



New South Wales Squash Annual Report

2015-2016 has delivered significant achievements as the organisation has worked towards the completion of the Strategic Plan objectives and come to terms with Squash Australia changes to the affiliation fees. NSW Department of Sport and Recreation remains a major financial contributor to our sport in NSW. To maintain this funding, we need to keep growing our player numbers but the new affiliation fee structure Squash Australia has introduced will not help us achieve this. Our affiliated Centres remained at 71 for 2015-16. Meetings will be held with Newcastle Squash Assn and Illawarra Squash Assn to explain the changes.

The Board has worked proactively to improve the coordination, management and conduct of the Sydney Pennant and the Premier League competitions. A review of the Pennant and Premier League was conducted for 2016 and new sponsors found to support this competition. We thank all the sponsors who contributed to some wonderful and fiercely contested matches.

The loss of Centres is a continuing worry to all. The Board is in talks with local area Councils to get squash courts included in any new multi sports centres they may be planning. It is a priority for all States and Territories to stop the decline in facilities. We are not the only State facing this problem.

The appointment of a Coaching Coordinator to promote new and reaccredited coaches has been welcomed by the members. Our coach numbers have increased. NSW has been at the forefront of the Squash in Schools program. Hopefully we can grow the number of schools participating in 2016-17. We have not been so successful in increasing accredited referee numbers but we will keep trying in 2016-17.

2016-17 will require the Board to make some changes to the way we do business with our members if we are to meet the new requirements by Squash Australia.

Dawn Moggach,





SQUASH AUSTRALIA ACCREDITED

WHY SIGN UP FOR CENTRE BENEFITS?

BENEFITS PACKAGE

- National Partner Programme Discounts
- Centre rates on the Squash Australia E-shop
- Further Discounts on Centre Insurance Products
- New Website, New Booking System & New CRM all for a one off payment of \$300

schwei

Centremark Squash Australia

Quality, Inclusive, Professional Squash Australia eLearning

Quality online resources National Partners

Victor - Official Racquet Supplier Ashaway - Official String Court Tech Schweppes

PARTNER BENEFITS WITH



ASHAWAY

australia







Australia Names Strong Squad For World Teams Championships

Two of Australia's most exciting young squash players will join with the country's two most experienced to contest the 2016 WSF Women's World Team Squash Championships in Paris in November.

25-year-old Christine Nunn and 23-yearold Tamika Saxby will join former world number one, Rachael Grinham, and former top 20 player, Donna Urquhart, in the unique teams' competition.

Urquhart and Grinham were members of the Australian team that last won a World Team title, in 2010.

Saxby's selection caps off an outstanding run of form since she returned to Australia in May this year, including four consecutive Australian PSA titles, and has seen her world ranking climb to 53.

"I learnt a great deal overseas especially with squash, training under Roger Flynn was an incredible experience and really taught me a lot about squash and my game," Saxby said.

"I had a two-year stint which was complete by the end of last year and felt like I had used my time there to its fullest. It felt like the right time to come back.

"At the moment I am taking it one step at a time as I've only been back playing since January.

Nunn reached a career high ranking of 36 in July, while 29-year-old Donna Urquhart is currently ranked 21st and will be competing at her fourth World Teams

M5/W5

Championships.

Nunn took the decision to defer her studies this year so she could focus on getting more international experience, with her sights set on representing Australia at major upcoming events.

"This year is all about experience for me," she said.

"I'm looking to learn from each match I play, from watching and being among the best players in the world. I'm looking to improve as a player so that I can represent Australia at the Commonwealth Games in 2018."

Nunn reached the semi-finals of the Nash Cup in Canada in September, but bowed out in the qualifying round of the US Open.

Urquhart has been enjoying a solid 2016, making the semi-finals of the Hong Kong International, the Australian Open and the Greenwich Invitational.

39-year-old Grinham made her World Teams Championship debut in 2002, a successful year for Australia, and followed up with further success as part of the 2004 team.

2016 will be Grinham's sixth World Team Championships.

Her best result in 2016 has been a quarterfinal appearance at the Hong Kong International in May.

Australia has won nine titles in the 37-yearhistory of the World Teams Championships, making it the most successful team in the event.

But it is being closely pursued by England, with seven gold medals and a total of 18 medals overall. Australia has 15 medals in total.

19 nations will compete in this year's World Championships, to be contested from November 28 until December 3, with Eavet likely to <u>be the team to be</u>



Rachael Grinham Birth Place: Toowoomba, QLD Date of Birth: 22 January, 1977 Current Ranking: 22 (October, 2016) Highest Ranking: 1 (Aug, 2004 – Nov, 200 Height: 157 cm Racquet Hand: Right Intereste: Sun sport, theatre



Donna Urquhart

Birth Place: Yamba, NSW Date of Birth: 19 December, 1986 Current Ranking: 21 (October, 2016) Highest Ranking: 13 (May, June, July, Oct, Nov, 2011 Height: 178 cm Racquet Hand: Left Interests: Surfing, singing



Christine Nunn

Birth Place: Canberra, NSW Date of Birth: 4 April, 1991 Current Ranking: 42 (October, 2016) Highest Ranking: 38 (June, 2016) Height: 170 cm Racquet Hand: Right Interests: Beach, BBQ's, family, friends



Tamika Saxby Birth Place: Goulburn, NSW Date of Birth: 18 April, 1983 Current Ranking: 53 (October, 2016) Highest Ranking: 53 (October 2016) Height: 164 cm Racquet Hand: Right Interests: Health and Fitness as a personal traine



Stellar Year for Reigning U13 Champion: Gregory Chan



Western's Australia's Greg Chan was recently crowned champion for the u13 boy's competition at the Australian Junior Championships.

The title continues a stellar year for Chan who won an International Title when he took out the number 1 seed at the Hong Kong Junior Open in August.

The family came to WA in early 2014. Greg is the youngest of 4 children. Later in that same year, Chan won his first major title becoming the U11 Australian Junior Champion and he hasn't looked back.

Chan's coach was full of praise for her young charge "As a coach what stands out the most for me is that Greg has a great temperament on the court whether he wins or loses, he always has a smile, which is rare for someone so young".

"It is obvious Greg enjoys playing the game, he focuses on how he plays and the risks he takes not on the actual outcome. His game is not the usual up and down the wall, which is what makes him stand out".

"He is now playing in our Vic Park inhouse competition against the adults having worked his way to the #1 position in the team. The #2 players are happy that Greg and our other juniors have moved up to the #1 position. It is quite difficult for someone so young to be able to handle winning and losing to adults, he does this so well that his has earned respect from his opponents, a great achievement these days".

"As a coach I am working on Greg's discipline, whilst ensuring he can still play the way he likes. The difficulty as a coach is to make sure that he keeps enjoying the game and doesn't burn out by the time he is 18. Remember he is only 13 years old".

The reigning Australian Open and Closed Champion will soon be requiring a much bigger trophy cabinet soon!

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Pop-Up Squash Initiative Expanding Nationally



Squash Australia are pleased to announce the national expansion of Pop-Up Squash which was developed by Squash & Racquetball Victoria (S&RV) and funded through VicHealth's Innovation Challenge grant.

The Australian-first concept, which ran at the Eastland Shopping Centre for three weeks across May and June, saw an empty retail space within the shopping centre transform into a temporary street squash court.

While the full effects of the Pop-Up Squash concept are yet to be fully felt, the response to the initiative has been an extremely positive one according to S&RV Executive Director Fiona Young.

"It was a really successful exercise in terms of exposing the sport," she said.

"Overall, there were just under 3000 people who came through the court in the three weeks we were at Eastland, and roughly just over half of those people participated in the actual activity and had a go."

While unable to judge the full success of people taking up squash at a local club from just the one Pop-Up activation, Young said the initial signs were promising. "We had about 13% of those people came back for second and third goes at the sport, so it certainly

attracted a lot of interest." she said.

"We do know quite a few people have been redeeming the free vouchers that they got in the giveaway packs, and although not a lot of transition to club activities has taken place to date, local clubs have noticed an increase in casual court hire and lapsed players returning to the game."

The Pop-Up Squash programme is available to all states and clubs across Australia from late 2016 For more information on the Pop-Up Squash programme, go to the Participation section on the Squash Australia website www.squash.org.au



For more info, visit www.elearning.squash.org.au

become a Club Referee online.

Overwhelming response to OzSquash pilot programme at Taylor Range

Giving young people a chance at enjoying a lifetime of squash comes down to providing opportunities to get them moving in a safe and fun environment. If they enjoy learning the basic skills and movement patterns, they gain the confidence and coordination to be able to continue. OzSquash is designed to help young people fall in love with squash.

OzSquash sessions aim to use a 'learning through play' philosophy to develop basic squash-specific skills and concepts as well as other important physical and cognitive skills, via fun games. Many activities within the program are adapted from the 'Playing for Life' approach where the major emphasis is on maximum participation, high levels of activity in a fun, inclusive and safe environment using activities that are easily changed, modified or adapted.

OzSquash has been delivered at schools throughout Australia since 2012 and with a few changes prior to term 3 this year, we have just finished by far our most successful term in the Sporting Schools landscape since the program began.

Squash Australia is looking to expand the use of OzSquash into other areas and we've started this by piloting a new initiative at the Taylor Range Country Club in Brisbane.

TRCC is a well established family-oriented recreational



FOR MORE INFO ON HOW TO GET OZSQUASH AT YOUR CLUB CONTACT: PARTICIPATION@SQUASH.ORG.AU

club with 4 glass back squash courts.

Squash Australia's Participation Coordinator Jordan Till has organised the programme and is very pleased with how it has started.

"They did not have any sort of junior squash at the club so we stepped in to help get it started using our OzSquash programme. We only had a few kids turn up for the first session, but they all really enjoyed it, and since then the response has been completely overwhelming!"

The first session drew modest numbers, by the second week, 25 children were participating, since then the number of children registered has ballooned out to over 50.

"The feedback has been very positive. It really is encouraging to see so many kids interested and so many parents supporting this new initiative", said Till.

If you would like more information about OzSquash and how you can use it to support your existing juniors or to start up a new junior programme at your local club, contact Jordan Till

SQUASH

at participation@squash.org.au or (07) 3367 3200

COACHING WORKSHOP 24-25th March 2017

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For more information contact squashoz@squash.org.au

Balls Up

Squash balls standout as one of the most truly unique components in the worldwide realm of sport.

At room temperature, a squash ball barely bounces but once warmed, whether, through mechanical or physical means, they bounce a lot – over twice as much in their original state. A trait unheard of in other ball sports.

For the average player, failure to get the ball hot will result in a 'dead' bounce and leave you playing a game

that on many occasions rewards 'poor' play (remember that framed drive that died 2 feet from the front wall) instead of rewarding 'good' play.

To that end choosing the correct ball, professional, intermediate or beginner – for your level of play is an important element to consider before stepping onto the court but once sufficiently warmed, the bounce of a ball is just one in a series of vital characteristics.

Speed through the air, rebound height off the front wall, durability, height of bounce off the floor and texture must all come together in a delicate blend of rubber compound to produce a ball that compliments the dynamic demands of the sport - making it neither too easy nor too difficult.



Conclusion

As the go-to ball for players around the world and the unquestioned behemoth in the squash ball arena, it is hard to look past Dunlop as a leader of the pack. With consistent performance that just feels 'right', Dunlop continue to be the ball that all others aspire to be. While some of the competition offer better feel on the front court shots (Eye and Karakal)or easier length hitting (Black Knight), none have yet combined all elements of speed through the air, rebound height off the front wall, durability, height and bounce off the floor and texture to mount a serious challenge to the Dunlop product just yet.

The Different Types of Squash Balls



Professional:

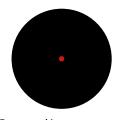
The 2-Dot ball is used in professional competition. It is most suitable for professional, tournament and good club players and requires consistent, sustained hard-hitting play to maintain the correct temperature for optimal performance.



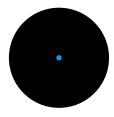
Competition/ Intermediate: Designed for club players or for use on very cool courts, in place of a 2-Dot ball, with

a slightly longer hang time (5-

10% of the 2-Dot).



Progress/ Improver: Perfect for improvers or recreational players with a longer hang time (around 10-20% of a 2-Dot) and sometimes larger in diameter (in the case of Dunlop). Good for players looking to develop their technique as it doesn't require the player to hit the ball as hard to retain bounce.



Intro/ Beginner:

Ideal for beginners the blue-dot ball has a hang-time around 15-40% greater than a pro standard 2-Dot ball to help new players get to grips with the sport's dynamics, the characteristic of the ball and to help keep rallies alive.





While feeling similar to the Dunlop in weight, the Black Knight ball was much faster through the air - requiring much less force to hit the back corners and bouncing with much greater height as a result - giving the striker more time on the shot akin to a Dunlop singleyellow ball. The high speed off the front wall made finding a consistent length more difficult while the logo and colour faded quickest on test.









The most unpredictable ball on test, the Harrow felt wayward at times, delivering greater hang time through the air and a slower speed that meant a much lower bounce off the floor. The most varied in terms of bounce consistency, it was much harder to find a repeating length in play but the variation proved to be an positive training stimulus to keep players on their toes for unsuspected bounces at all times.









Possibly the best named ball -'Eye Balls' feel slightly heavier off the racket face in comparison to the Dunlop and the other balls on test. The weight, along with a little added texture, allows greater purchase on short play - leading to increased feeling of control - but means that an extra punch is needed to find the perfect length drive. The slight weight difference resulted in a lower bounce in the

back corners, meaning a sweetly struck drive

delivered a satisfactory winner.



BUY SOME BALLS FROM THE SQUASH AUSTRALIA E-SHOP Dunlop balls available from DIRECT-SQUASH.COM.AU Members get 10% discount on all purchases when logged in.





2016 Australian Open Racquetball Championships

The 33rd edition of Racquetball's pinnacle event, superbly hosted by the Commercial Club Albury-Squash and Racquetball Section, held at the magnificent Commercial Club Albury and the Wodonga Squash & Racquetball Centre, was a resounding success, securing a massive total of 235 entries, which included 30 junior players and was the highest entry total for twenty two years, who spent two and half days jousting for the sixteen national titles on offer.

Although the KING and QUEEN of Australian Racquetball Cam White and Sarah Fitz-Gerald, once again snared the lion's share of the \$10,000 booty on offer, it was the junior brigade who stole the show capturing seven of the ten singles titles on offer, with the highlight being Wodonga's fifteen year old Alex Baines's stunning victory in the high quality A Grade Championship.

Overall the Wodonga Club featured extremely well, with the Baines family winning three national singles crowns, and the Chu family capturing two national titles, which spearheaded them to the top of the table in the Australian Open Club Team's Challenge with 7,725 points and securing the \$500 first prize, with Christie's Beach finishing in second place on 5,580 points, narrowly ahead of the Commercial Club on 5,460 points.

The inaugural President's Choice Commercial Club Junior Scholarship Award sponsored by Andrew Sobolewski and all of the Grand Prix tournament hosts was won by Alex Baines and he received \$200 to put towards his coaching and training expenses, plus free entry into every Grand Prix racquetball event held in Australia in 2017.

The Heidi Tugend E Grade Championship, now named after one of South Australia's most popular Squash and Racquetball players, who sadly passed away on 11th November 2015 following a tragic accident on court playing her beloved sport of racquetball, was won by thirteen-year-old Nicola Baines.

An event Perpetual Shield in honour of Heidi was presented to Squash South Australia's President Sam Abishara by Australian Racquetball Manager Paul Vear (pictured at left), and will be permanently housed on display at the Squash South Australia offices.

Single Results

Men's Open

The Men's Open attracted a stellar field which included every Open winner for 2016, plus the King; fourteen times national champion Cam White, who many thought was vulnerable and maybe dethroned as he had not competed in a GP tournament for nearly twelve months. A champion has many defining features, and White has three compelling one's; the ability to apply unswerving pressure to his opponents, remarkable concentration, plus the ability to move into overdrive when the heat is on at the 'pointy end' of a game or match.

The Men's Open final was an absolute corker, commencing at a frenetic pace with the flamboyant White exposing his full repertoire of shots, whilst the speed and remarkable returning of South Australian Jason Mudge ensured a long day at the office for the Champion. In the end it was the preciseness of White's short game and his impeccable width and length that proved the difference taking the enthralling match 21/17, 21/8, to capture his fifteenth National title and extend his unbeaten run to a remarkable sixteen years.

In the semi finals, White eventually overpowered another South Aussie Justin Beard, 21/17, 21/16, with Mudge coming back from a game down to outgun third seeded Victorian Steve Andrewartha, 19/21, 21/3, 21/4.

Interestingly, white is entering similar territory to that of the world's greatest ever female squash player, australia's Heather Mckay, who lost just two matches in her first eighteen months of tournament play, then was undefeated for a staggering eighteen years prior to her retirement in 1979. The question begs; is there anyone out there who can stop the Geelong superstar?

Women's Open

Although initially this event looked on paper a one horse affair, the large crowd were well and truly entertained by the rest of the field's endeavours to secure a final's berth against the five times world open squash champion and seven times national racquetball champion Sarah Fitz-Gerald. Second seeded South Australian Corinne Yallup-Cross, eventually ended up with that honour after nailing third seeded Sally White, 21/19, 18/21, 21/10 in their lengthy semi final. Meanwhile, Fitz-Gerald had put paid to New South Wales's fourth seeded Carolyn Takle, 21/11, 21/10 in their semi final, to set up an entertaining final.

From the outset Yallup-Cross clearly showed that in no way was she going to be intimidated by the title holder, displaying remarkable speed and recovery. When the judge finally called a halt to proceedings, Fitz-Gerald utilising her brilliant front court game to great advantage, had claimed another title over the courageous Yallup-Cross, 21/9, 21/8, her 8th national crown, and become the outright Women's Open record holder, surpassing Judy Wright

Singles		
Grade	Winner	Runner-up
Men's Open	Cam White (VIC)	Jason Mudge (SA)
Women's Open	Sarah Fitz-Gerald (VIC)	Corinne Yallup-Cross (SA)
А	Alex Baines (VIC)	Anthony Hain (VIC)
В	Charlie Fatouros (VIC)	Adam Lander (VIC)
С	Daniel Chu (VIC)	Blake Caspersz (VIC)
D	Steve Daniel (SA)	Brandon Morgan (VIC)
E	Nicola Baines (VIC)	Kevin Quick (NSW)
F	Chloe Yallup-Cross (SA)	Joseph Rees (NSW)
Junior Boys	Justin Chu (NSW)	Zach Tamburini (VIC)
Junior Girls	Gabby Baines (VIC)	Ella Brown (NSW)

Doubles		
Grade	Winner	Runner-up
Open	Norman/Beard (SA)	French/Pedersen (VIC)
А	Abishara/Andrew (SA)	Cross/Yallup-Cross (SA)
В	Barclay/Nolan (NSW/VIC)	Iverson/Sutcliffe (NSW)
С	Rowe/Smits (VIC)	Hanckle/Bartlett (NSW)
D	Driver/Daniel (NSW)	Hosie/Morgan (NSW)
E	Yallup-Cross/Yallup-Cross (SA)	Du Plooy/Dunk (NSW)

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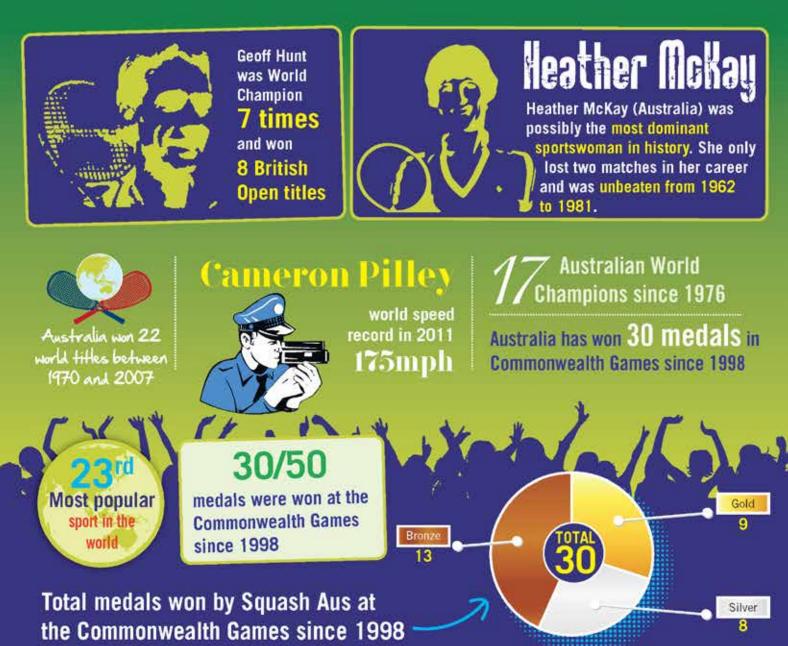
Australia has been the top placed team 6 TIMES



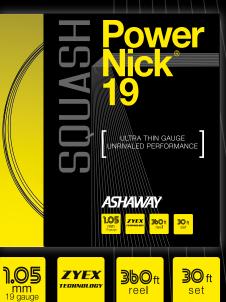
Squash ranked 4th in the medal winning table for Australia at the Commonwealth Games from medals available to win Australia is the most successful squash nation in Commonwealth Games history with nine gold medals, one more than England.



players registered to take part in the World Squash Day Challenge, which demonstrated global support for the sport's 2020 Olympic bid. More than 800 clubs from over 70 nations joined in, with players representing Team Squash and Team 2020



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