

# SQUASH AUSTRALIA ANNUAL REPORT 2015







# Winning partnership

## Proudly supporting Squash Australia

The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) invests in sport at all levels in Australia. We work with Squash Australia to ensure Australian squash players excel in the international sporting arena whilst increasing participation in squash.

Squash Australia is one of many national sporting organisations partnering with us to develop sport in Australia.





**Australian Junior Open 2015**  
Sam Ejtemai U19 Boys Winner & Lakeesha Rarere U19 Girls Winner



**Australian Junior Open 2015**  
Australian Junior Open 2015 Trophies

**Photographs Kindly Supplied by:**  
Scott Johnson (NSW Squash) – Australian Junior Open 2015.

# 2015 Squash Australia Annual Report

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## Contents

Squash Australia Board	3	Australian Junior Open Report	12
Squash Australia Staff	4	Australian Junior Open Gallery	13
Squash Australia Limited Information	5	Squash ACT Report	14
President Report	6-7	NSW Squash Report	14-15
Chief Executive Officer Report	7-8	Squash NT Report	15
Message from the Australian Sports Commission	8-9	Q Squash Report	15
National Development Manager Report	9-10	Squash SA Report	16
National Refereeing Manager Report	10	Squash Tasmania Report	17
Media Liaison Officer Report	10-11	Squash & Racquetball Victoria Report	17
Junior Talent Development Report	11-12	WA Squash Report	18
		Squash Australia Organisational Chart	19



Australian Junior Open 2015  
Crowd



## Squash Australia Board



### President

Mr David Mandel  
(From March 2015)

### Director

(Until March 2015)



### President

Mr Stephen Bowen  
(Until March 2015)



### Director

Mr Mark Goldstone



### Director

Ms Sue Shearer  
(From March 2015)



### Director

Mr Michael Jaroszewicz  
(From March 2015)



### Director

Mrs Vicki Cardwell  
(Until March 2015)



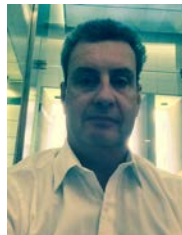
### Director

Mr John Lee  
(Until March 2015)



### Appointed Director

Ms Michelle Martin  
(From March 2015)



### Appointed Director

Mr Craig Meagher  
(From March 2015)  
(Until May 2015)

## Squash Australia Staff



### **Chief Executive Officer**

Mr Gary O'Donnell



### **Finance and Administration Officer**

Mr Ryan Wiegand



### **National Development Manager**

Mr Trevor Smith



### **Performance Pathway Officer**

Miss Lisa Camilleri



### **National Talent Development Coach**

Mr Rodney Eyles  
(Until April 2015)



### **National Referee Manager**

Mr John Small



### **Project Officer**

Mr Craig Simmich  
(From April 2015)



### **Media Liaison Officer**

Mr Ross Solly

## Squash Australia Limited

Office 9, Sports House, 150 Caxton Street, Milton, QLD, 4064  
ABN 73 072 625 935

<b>Founded 1934</b>	Founding Member of International Squash Rackets Federation (1976) now World Squash Federation (WSF)
<b>Auditor</b>	Integrated Audit Service Pty Ltd
<b>Members</b>	NSW Squash Ltd Q Squash Ltd ACT Squash Rackets Association Inc Squash NT Incorporated Squash Rackets Association of South Australia Inc Tasmanian Squash Racquets Association Inc Victorian Squash Federation Inc Squash Rackets Association of WA Inc
<b>Associate Members</b>	Australian Masters Squash Association Australian Deaf Squash Association Australian Defence Squash Association Professional Squash Coaches Association of Australia
<b>Executive Officers Council</b>	Gary O'Donnell (Squash Australia), Garry Somerville (NSW Squash), Kay Kendall (Q Squash), Courtenay Bugden (Squash ACT), Sarah Douglas, (Squash NT), Phil Sinnott (Squash SA), Leon Barnett (Squash Tasmania), Fiona Young (Squash & Racquetball Victoria), Don Huffer (WA Squash)
<b>Squash Development Council</b>	Trevor Smith (Chairperson Squash Australia), Kaye Reeves (Squash Australia), Peter Saxby (NSW Squash), Ros Preston (Q Squash), Courtenay Bugden (Squash ACT), Jarrod Ashcroft (Squash NT), James Rogers (Squash SA), Max Moorhouse (Squash Tasmania), Richard Cagliarini (Squash & Racquetball Victoria), Sue Hillier (WA Squash)
<b>Rules and Refereeing Committee</b>	John Small (Chairperson), Chris Sinclair, Damien Green
<b>National Selection Committee</b>	Kaye Reeves (Chairperson), Dawn Moggach (from April 2015), Richard Cagliarini, Leon Barnett, Grant Fraser (Until April 2015), Scott Chamings & Ryan Wiegand (Secretary)



## President's Report



This report is for the short period January to June 2015. The reason being that as an efficiency measure, Squash Australia determined to change its year end to June 30<sup>th</sup> to align with the ASC and a number of the states. In the circumstances I will make the report equally short, and focus on the most important issues that are current for this period, and challenges for the subsequent ones.

**BOARD.** The Board as elected in March 2015, and the subsequent resignations, have resulted in a 100% changeover in the makeup of the Board in less than twelve months. The new Board has chosen to operate in a 'collegiate style' rather than the preceding competitive environment, utilizing its skills and experience for the maximum benefit of Squash in Australia. The Board is now trying to apply the same collegiate style to working with the States and Territories, and the Associate Members of Squash Australia Ltd.

In addition to the new Board members, the Audit, Finance and Risk Committee has a new external chairman – Richard Majlinder – a Brisbane based partner of PriceWaterhouse Coopers. He has brought new rigor to the work of this committee, building on the previous foundations, to provide more transparent and effective financial reporting and control.

While the Board has thanked them personally, I need to publicly thank past Presidents John Lee and Stephen Bowen for their numerous contributions over many years on the Board of Squash Australia, and the shorter periods contribution at this level from Vicki Cardwell and Craig Meagher.

**CEO REVIEW.** Gary O'Donnell, Squash Australia's CEO for over eight years, decided during this period to resign, but remain in the role until his replacement arrived. He remarked that when he initially took the job, he had only expected to be in the role for about seven years, and it turned out to be one more. The organisation is very different today from when he first started, the most visible change being the absence of the AIS Squash program. On behalf of all past and present Directors and Presidents, I thank him publicly for his many contributions to the Sport over his tenure.

After a worldwide search by the Board, they selected and appointed Richard Vaughan to the role of CEO of Squash Australia, and he commenced in early July 2015. I welcome him to the role, and look forward to recognising his successes in leading Squash Australia in the forthcoming years.

**GOVERNANCE REVIEW.** The Governance Review that was completed at the end of 2012 has fourteen

recommendations, half of which required Constitutional change. Those that have broad agreement have been implemented and the balance are conflicted. As agreement is reached on other changes from time to time, they will be implemented.

Work has now commenced on the second major area, and that is the Strategic Plan for Squash in Australia. Three broad areas of Performance, Participation and Profile have been identified with significant input from the States & Territories. There are up to twelve sets of ten year and three goals within those areas that were created in the workshops at the March AGM. The next stages will be to review those goals through additional consultation, and subsequently develop action plans, and agree primary responsibility to deliver them, between the States and the National body. This should be a foundation for more constructive working relationships between the members and Squash Australia.

**PERFORMANCE.** The High Performance Review Committee was established late in 2014. It was and is an overdue initiative within Squash to address the changing needs of this technical sport. Ken Watson and his committee decided to stop at the end of Stage 1, and he is in the process of writing up what they completed. Stage 2, which will be the broad consultative part of the process, will be facilitated by the AIS later in 2015. The outcomes of Stage 1 & 2 will inform the design of the High Performance Program of the future. We will measure and report on its successes, which will need to be increasing the numbers of players in the pathway at each age group, and increasing the performance levels of the best. This is a challenging task given from where we are starting, and the reduced funding levels from the ASC.

**PARTICIPATION.** The successful OzSquash program provided the opportunity to access additional ASC funding for Sporting Schools. The challenge is to ensure that the students' progress from School programs to junior player programs in the clubs and Centre's. This model needs to be further developed to achieve successful outcomes within other age groups, thereby increasing the overall participation in the sport. The good news is that this area now has more emphasis and resources from the ASC. The challenge is that we have to earn it through increased numbers of full financial members of the sport, and broader based participation.

To retain and grow the funding from the ASC for these programs and the new participation funding program Play.Sport.Australia, and to facilitate their success, player registration systems like PlaySquash that was launched within the period, need to be fully implemented and integrated with player results software – Matrix, so that credible demographic data can be produced, and



productive promotion programs and value can be provided to the affiliated players, eventually through a single portal.

**PROFILE.** We have developed the outline of a story with which to market the game of squash, the main elements of which are:

- ✓ According to Forbes magazine in the USA it is the best participant sport in the world.
- ✓ It should be the sport of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, because it can be played in an hour, at a local court, indoors – being weather independent, only requiring one other player, and without sophisticated equipment.
- ✓ Perfect for the time poor X & Y generations.

Pathways for this message have been created based on general media, utilising the highest profile Australian

## Chief Executive Officer Report



For 227 years now, Welshmen have been coming to Australia, making a new home on this side of the world. They haven't all come willingly, of course. At least, not the first of us - the four Welshmen and two women who arrived with the original fleet of convicts to Botany Bay, back in 1788. I however, am

more a convert than a convict. I am an immigrant, yes - and I come from the sport of badminton, not squash. But, like those first settlers, I am committed, totally, to this new appointment, and I am delighted to be joining you as Squash Australia's new Chief Executive Officer.

I share Squash Australia's vision of squash as a sport for all. We want to win medals at the World and Commonwealth level, but we also want to increase participation at all levels of the game, while increasing understanding and recognition amongst the general public. There is no reason, why a great sporting nation such as Australia should not be producing great squash players. We have done it before and can do it again. Australia had an excellent medal haul at the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games, and I hope to build on that success, and make Squash Australia - again - a leading force in Australian sport. To the players here, the coaches, administrators, volunteers - and supporters - I want you to know that I understand your needs. I've been there. I have been ranked in the World Top Ten, competed at multiple Olympic Games and won world class medals. I will work tirelessly to bring that success to Squash Australia.

With a change in the 'financial period' for Squash Australia from calendar to the fiscal year, a shortened reporting period of six months January – June 2015 is required for the organisation and so consistent with that change, this report will be 'briefer' than past editions, nevertheless I encourage you to read the full report as it contains key information on the sport over the period.

players, and focused around events. The next steps are to establish the social media pathways to existing local club and social players.

**NEW OPPORTUNITIES.** Yet one more time, Squash is named in the short list to be included in the Olympic Games – this time in Tokyo 2020. Some clarity will emerge at the end of September 2015, and if successful, will be a significant boost for the game worldwide in general, and in Australia in particular. Here it would have an effect on the profile, funding and therefore participation in the game. With or without this boost, achieving these very goals is the responsibility of Squash Australia going forward.

**David Mandel**  
President  
Squash Australia

For Squash, as a Commonwealth Games sport the period following a 'Games' year often brings with it a 'reset' of programs and priorities, this six months has been no different to past quadrennial cycles. The organisation has undertaken a review of its High Performance activity, commenced a process to produce a new Strategic Plan and searched for a replacement Chief Executive.

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, which as a Commonwealth Games sport Squash remains eligible for funding support. We have however disappointingly received a funding reduction in this area. The ASC has been considering for some time restructuring its support for what was previously titled Development but now is Participation and announced in May its program will be called Play.Sport.Australia. The levels of funding will be categorised based on participation and registered players. With both Play.Sport.Australia and the Sporting Schools program coming into operation from the ASC, this area will be fast-paced and challenging over 2015 and into 2016.

Junior Squash thrived over the period with the Australian Junior Open in Sydney having over 250 entrants, the National Talent Squad tour to New Zealand for the Trans-Tasman & Oceania Championships and the Australian Junior Squash Tour held in all states and territories and a likelihood of 100 events being registered for 2015.

The Australian Squash Tour for 2015 commenced with the Australia Day Challenge in Ipswich and rolled through Darwin, Perth then Adelaide and by the time 2015 concludes all States & Territories will have hosted World Tour registered events. The Australian Open makes a welcome return to Melbourne's MSAC in August 2015

# 2015 Squash Australia Annual Report

with Squash & Racquetball Victoria hosting on behalf of Squash Australia.

Behind the scenes work for a sporting organisation is extensive, with a wide range of responsibilities to be covered from regulatory aspects including corporation law, community (e.g. child protection), 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 these 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, you're financial and organisational commitment to Squash is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

## Board and Director Activity

The Squash Australia Board met on seven occasions through 2015, with three teleconferences and four 'face to face' meetings, those being in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane (twice).

Directors attend to representational requirements in accord with their role, the record of attendance is provided in the table below. Additionally, Directors have also attended meetings with service providers, Member Associations and Squash Australia advisory committees.

Name	Meetings held while		Term if not whole
		attended	

	Director		period
Stephen Patrick Bowen	2	2	To 22 <sup>nd</sup> March
Vicki Cardwell	2	2	To 22 <sup>nd</sup> March
Mark Goldstone	7	5	
John William Lee	3	3	To 22 <sup>nd</sup> March
David Seymour Mandel	7	7	
Michelle Susan Martin	7	6	
Craig Meagher	6	3	To 18 <sup>th</sup> May
Sue Shearer	5	2	From 22 <sup>nd</sup> March

Two Board subcommittees operated over the period;

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

Directors Vicki Cardwell, Stephen Bowen John Lee and Craig Meagher left the Board over the period, the organisation's best wishes and appreciation is extended to each of them for their preparedness to contribute to the sport.

As a Commonwealth Games sport, Squash Australia recommended to the Australian Commonwealth Games Association its nominee to the ACGA's Board of Management, as a result David Mandel has taken up that position on Squash Australia's behalf.

Former CEO Gary O'Donnell left the organisation in late June and I would like to thank him for all his work for Squash Australia.

**Richard Vaughan**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Squash Australia

## Message from the Australian Sports Commission



The past year has seen considerable success and progress for Australian sport on the world stage, for the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) and our elite sport partners and athletes.

The Government's 2014–15 investment of nearly \$120 million continues to be refined to ensure funding is aligned to sports with the greatest potential to contribute to Australia's Winning Edge 2012–2022 targets and maximise our chances at success.

Since Winning Edge was launched, the AIS re-allocated \$20 million of high performance funding among sports and boosted direct athlete funding (dAIS) by \$3.6 million or 40 per cent.

The Sports Tally 2015 — the annual report card for Australian sports — revealed promising signs as we gear

up for the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games, while highlighting some of the challenges presented by our performance at the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games.

In March the Commission launched Play.Sport.Australia. — our plan to help NSOs build participation in sport and make sure all Australians enjoy its benefits. Sports have the opportunity to attract more than 4.5 million Australians into their communities. It's important that we work together to ensure that more Australians, particularly young Australians, participate in sport more often and that we have strong organisations that deliver the products and opportunities Australians want.

Some highlights in 2014-15 included:

- Personal excellence — The most significant athlete wellbeing program in AIS history, incorporating myAISPlaybook — a new high performance athlete learning and development platform.

- AIS Sports Draft — Athletes selected in this fast-tracked development came together at the AIS to share their journeys as they transition to Olympic or Commonwealth Games sports.
- AIS Centre for Performance Coaching and Leadership — More than 45 coaches graduated from the centre, providing development and mentoring for our brightest coaches and administrators.

As our attention starts to focus on Rio and the major events leading up to the Games, I look forward to the ASC teaming up with your organisation to help put our athletes in the best possible position and enhance our chances of success.

**John Wylie AM**

Chair

Australian Sport Commission

## National Development Manager Report



2015 continues to allow key project areas to develop further. Squash Australia's participation area has continued to ensure Australians are exposed to the sport through driving participation initiatives. These key projects areas of OzSquash mostly through the ASC's (Australian Sports Commission) new Sporting Schools Program, the Coach Accreditation Development Framework and the Australian Junior Squash Tour (AJST) have enabled Squash to again be recognized by the ASC as a Priority Sport in the Participation Sector of Australian Sport.

Changes in the ASC and the ceasing of the Active After School Care (AASC) have provided challenges and necessary adjustments to plans, processes and administration of participation within the sport throughout the year, however, the outcome has remained the same – "to increase participation".

In the first half of 2015 Squash received support of \$80,000 towards the capability of Sporting Schools Program delivery. Plans have been developed and are currently in the process of roll-out to accommodate the coordination for delivery of the OzSquash program amongst the Sporting Schools environment. This is expected to see the initiation of several new roles in the sport, supported by National and State/Territory collective engagements. An additional \$50,000 was also received towards increasing the overall support of the OzSquash program to over \$150,000 since its introduction.

In early June, Squash Australia was categorized under the ASC's new National Sporting Organisation Participation Investment as part of the new Play.Sport.Australia participation game plan. As part of this plan it was announced that Squash Australia would receive \$268,400 for the 2015-16 period towards Participation for the sport.

This should be considered a major win for the sport. Now participation engagement can be better served, raising it from the previous amount of \$118,400 per year.

Also in early June, the ASC announced further opportunity for National Participation Grants amongst sports. I'm pleased to report that Squash Australia has also been successful in the application process for a project aimed at online training in the Workforce Development area, securing a grant of \$75,000 for a project to benefit not only the traditional workforce areas of Coach and Referee Education but also in the areas of Club Development training and Competitions delivery to benefit Facilities and their engagements. Central to the success of Squash Australia's engagement has been our strategic approach towards Sporting Schools and the OzSquash programs.

### SDC (Squash Development Council)

The SDC have met on four occasions in 2015 by teleconference operating under a Terms of Reference as approved by the Squash Australia Board. Each meeting was chaired by the National Development Manager. Outcomes of these meetings are available via the Squash Australia website. The Scheduled meeting in April was cancelled by the NDM. Attendance of SDC meetings are indicated in the table below:

State / Territory	Representative	Attendance(s)	Absentee
<b>Squash Australia</b>	Trevor Smith (NDM)	4	0
<b>ACT</b>	Courtenay Bugden	2	2
<b>NSW</b>	Peter Saxby	4	0
<b>NT</b>	Jarrod Ashcroft	0	4
<b>QLD</b>	Ros Preston	3	1
<b>SA</b>	James Rogers	4	0
<b>TAS</b>	Max Moorhouse	4	0
<b>VIC</b>	Richard Cagliarini	3	1
<b>WA</b>	Sue Hillier	3	1
<b>WA</b>	Attended by other representative	1	n/a
<b>Squash Australia</b>	Kaye Reeves (ex-officio)	4	0

I wish to acknowledge Sue Hillier and her contributions to the SDC over that last few years, as she leaves her employment and associated SDC engagements, we wish



# 2015 Squash Australia Annual Report

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her all the very best in her future endeavours. Thanks Sue.

Finally again, I look forward to 2015-16 and the challenges in the Participation sector of the sport, with OzSquash continuing to develop, the roll-out of Sporting Schools and its alignment to the sport through

## National Refereeing Manager Report



The first half of 2015 has been a period of consolidation for Refereeing. Few tournaments have been held on the Australian Squash Tour. However, two excellent prospects emerged at the Australia Day Challenge and both have the potential to become Regional Referees or more if their progress continues as it has started.

In the quieter period before the Victorian and Australian Opens in July/August, the Rules and Refereeing Committee has been busy:

- In preparation for re-registration under the NOAS, revising our training and assessment to better match current interpretations and make better use of information from assessments. These innovations lead the world in training referees;
- Preparing for a Refereeing Workshop for National referees and above to advise the new approach and reinforce current interpretations; and
- Developing an online course to train Club and State referees and coaches for accreditation and players in the rules and their application. Easy access to such resources will also lead to more people improving their understanding of Squash. We are indebted to Squash and Racquetball Victoria for obtaining the Victorian Government grant making this development possible.

OzSquash; continued engagement in the AJST and the other areas of participation in the sport.

**Trevor Smith**  
National Development Manager  
Squash Australia

The States and Territories continue support refereeing at their State Opens with nearly all costs covered, including bringing in referees from elsewhere where local numbers were short. Some States also continue to take the longer term view, and used visiting referees to run player and referee training. More is needed to achieve refereeing self-sufficiency in all states and National Refereeing will continue to support these programs.

Refereeing priorities for 2015-16 are expected to include: provision of referees to State and Australian Opens; assistance for WSF, Regional and National referees and assessors to maintain and improve their accreditation; assistance for State referees to achieve National accreditation; initial preparations for Gold Coast 2018; assisting the High Performance area by ensuring pathway athletes are playing the game to take advantage of current interpretations; and encouraging and supporting State associations to improve their local refereeing.

I wish to thank Chris Sinclair and Damien Green for their continued hard and innovative work on the Rules & Refereeing Committee, and all those who committed voluntary time during the year. Support has again been provided from the top by Presidents John Lee and David Mandel, CEO Gary O'Donnell, and Finance & Administration Officer Ryan Wiegand has continued his very good work.

**John Small**  
National Refereeing Manager  
Squash Australia

## Media Liaison Officer Report



The highlight of the past 12 months from a media perspective was undoubtedly the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games, where we won two gold medals and one bronze medal, all in doubles competitions.

However while we did receive some good publicity off the back of these results, unfortunately it was overshadowed by events off the court, where selection challenges and infighting managed to whet the appetite of a scandal-hungry media.

It was disappointing for Squash Australia, given that the Commonwealth Games is the best opportunity we have to showcase our sport and our talent. It brought to the surface tensions that need to be addressed in the future, especially with the next Commonwealth Games being held on the Gold Coast in 2018.

Post-Glasgow there was some media interest about doubles squash, and its future in Australia.

Away from Glasgow our top players struggled to make a dent at international events, and as a result we struggled to attract media interest.

We did expand our coverage of local events, although we still have some way to go. This year I will be encouraging local clubs and federations to build up their relationship with the local media, and also to provide better on-the-ground coverage (especially with quality photographs).

We attracted good media coverage for our women's team competing at the World Team's Championships in Canada, and also had a great example of how effective our coverage can be when you have players willing to make an effort.

I sense we are about to turn a significant corner in terms of media coverage and media opportunity.

The return of the Australian Open, and the recent signing of SEN Radio as a media partner, gives Squash Australia a great opportunity to get its brand out there.

We have a wonderful opportunity to identify a local player to be the face of our squash campaign for Gold Coast 2018, and we should also look to capitalise on the campaign to have squash included in the 2020 Olympics.

We will also use the Australian Open as a chance to engage our players.

At present we get very little from them in terms of interaction with fans and the media.

It would be good to get the players to start regular blogs, telling us what they are up to, how they feel about their form, preparation etc.

At the very least this should be in the form of a word blog. It would also be great if they could start posting video blogs and pics. I will be able to help the players out so the task is not too time-consuming.

One of the areas where we have made big inroads this past year has been in social media, but there is still a lot of work to be done.

The sport pages of the newspapers and the sport segments on tv and radio news bulletins are devoting less and less time and space to non-mainstream sports, but in 2015 most people are now turning to social media and the internet to get their sports news and results.

This should be a main focus of our media campaign for the next 12 months – working on innovative ways of attracting more likes on our Facebook page, more follows on Twitter, and more engagement on Instagram.

**Ross Solly**  
Media Liaison Officer  
Squash Australia

## Junior Talent Development Report



### Trans-Tasman Test Match and Oceania Junior Championships

The Australian Team travelled to New Zealand this year as the events were held in Squash City Invercargill. The Trans-Tasman Test Match was played on April 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> and the Oceania Junior Championships took place from April 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>.

The team had great success from Lakeesha Rarere and Solayman Nowrozi and Sam Ejtemai in the under 19 events in the Oceania Junior Championships.

The Test Match was very challenging but the determination and effort the Australian Team showed was something of which Squash Australia, players and parents can be most proud of.

The 18 players contested 36 matches in the 2 days of the Trans-Tasman Test. Sam Ejtemai and Solayman Nowrozi (boys U19) winning on both days, Hayley Hankinson (girls U13) securing Australia's first win of the tour on day 1, Rachel Gibson (girls U19) contributing to the 4 wins on day 1, while Laura Maloney (girls U13), Will Curtis (boys U17) and Lakeesha Rarere (girls U19) won 3 of the 5 matches on day 2.

Overall, 7 players won 9 of the 36 test matches for Australia.

The Australian Team continued to apply themselves in the Oceania Junior Championships which followed the test matches and achieved a much better overall result, contesting 57 matches, winning 35.

The highlight for Australia was Lakeesha and Solayman winning the under 19's events.

### 2015 NextGEN AUSComGames Squad Program

Squash Australia was successful in gaining valuable financial assistance from the Australian Commonwealth Games Association (ACGA) for seven promising junior athletes through the NextGEN AUSComGames Squad program.

The aim for the NextGEN AUSComGames Squad is:

- To assist junior athletes to gain international competition experience in order for them to understand the conditions and environment which they will face as senior players;

# 2015 Squash Australia Annual Report

- To assist the junior athletes who have potential to be selected in future Australian Commonwealth games teams. Following the criteria set by the NextGEN AUSComGames Squad, Squash Australia awarded the 2015 Australian Junior Commonwealth games Squad program funding to:

Lakeesha Rarere - QLD  
Samantha Calvert - QLD  
Solayman Nowrozi - QLD  
Victoria Leow - VIC  
Sam Ejtemai - VIC  
Rachael Gibson - NSW  
Lauren Aspinall - SA

## World Junior Championships

The World Junior Squash Championships will take place in Eindhoven, Netherlands with the individual Championships being played from 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> of July and the Teams event from the 31<sup>st</sup> of July to the 4<sup>th</sup> of August. The team will travel together on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July after participating in a 2 day pre camp in Brisbane.

The World Junior Women's Team consisted of the following members in 2015:

Lakeesha Rarere (QLD), Samantha Calvert (QLD), Victoria Leow (VIC), Rachael Gibson (QLD) and Lauren Aspinall (SA) as the reserve. Vicki Cardwell – Head Coach and Robyn Prentice - Manager / Assistant Coach.

Lauren Aspinall, Sam Ejtemai and Solayman Nowrozi will be traveling with the team to compete in the Individual Championships.

## Final Surge Training Diaries

A modernised approach to keep track of our National Talent Development Athletes training schedules. A solution has been put in place in the form of an online training Diary called "FinalSurge.com". This now gives our National Talent Development Athletes the ability to log their training diaries daily. It is user friendly, easy utilised giving the athletes the ability to log their training sessions as soon as they have completed their session via their smart phones.

This now allows us to provide relevant input towards training schedules, and to monitor the athlete daily to make sure training volumes are adequate.

## Lisa Camilleri

Performance Pathway Coordinator  
Squash Australia

## Australian Junior Open Report

The 2015 Australian Junior Open was held this year at Willoughby Squash Centre in Sydney and was not only one of the best attended events for a long time with 250 players involved from 5 countries, but also the most pleasant to be involved with. Everyone was accepting of the changes that needed to occur when 3 Pakistani players had to withdraw with visa issues, then later on when New Zealand players had flights to catch. Players, Coaches and parents regularly checked the website to keep up with the changes that occurred.

It was wonderful to have our Asian friends back participating after a long absence and they were also helpful with suggestions to make this event larger in the future.

Willoughby Squash Centre staff were very welcoming and friendly and couldn't do enough to make sure the tournament was successful.

Prior to the finals commencing the Australian players selected in the Trans-Tasman team were presented with shirts, and this was an exciting time for them, especially the younger ones.

I would like to thank Melissa Prentice, Gary Irwin and Trevor Smith for their hard work in preparation and delivery of the event.

*The following players were crowned Australian Junior Open Champions for 2015:*

Age	Girls Winner	Girls Runner Up	Girls 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
U19	Lakeesha Rarere (QLD)	Abbie Palmer (NZ)	Victoria Leow (VIC)
U17	Teh En (MAS)	Michelle Stanley (MAS)	Alexandria Aloysius (MAS)
U15	Ruby Turnbull (NZ)	Pascale Louka (WA)	Alex Haydon (SA)
U13	Shasmithaa N (MAS)	Sze Yu Lee (NSW)	Sujithra Kunasekaran (MAS)
U11	Natalie Sayes (NZ)	Ashlyn Barclay (QLD)	Maggie Goodman (NSW)

Age	Boys Winner	Boys Runner Up	Boys 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
U19	Sam Ejtemai (VIC)	Solayman Nowrozi (QLD)	Alex Eustace (QLD)
U17	William Curtis (WA)	Rafa Yam (NZ)	Eugene Heng (MAS)
U15	Muhammad Harris Ramlee (MAS)	Jacob Ford (NSW)	Trey Mackenzie (WA)
U13	Ethan Eyles (QLD)	Elijah Thomas (NZ)	Kobe Fleming (NZ)
U11	Edward Thng Boon Hwi (SIN)	Oscar Curtis (WA)	Dylan Classen (WA)

## Kaye Reeves

Tournament Director



## Australian Junior Open Gallery



**Above:** Australian Junior Open 2015 – Junior Player from Willoughby Squash Centre



**Above:** Australian Junior Open 2015 – Oscar Curtis



**Above:** Australian Junior Open 2015 – Lakeesha Rarere



**Above:** Australian Junior Open 2015 – Friendship!



**Above:** Australian Junior Open 2015 – U19 Winners, Alex Eustace, Solayman Nowrozi & Sam Ejtemai



**Above:** Australian Junior Open 2015 – Kiara Rogers

# 2015 Squash Australia Annual Report

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## Squash ACT Report



Squash ACT has achieved a lot in the period leading on from the last Squash Australia Annual General Meeting.

We have:

- Seen our juniors win 10 out of the 13 Green Shields. This is due to the significant work that has been done by the coaching squad led by Anthony Ricketts.
- A continued resurgence of the Division 10 and 11 Pennant competitions. Over 90% of players have returned in our lower two grades due to the competition makeup which sees all these players receive coaching, referee training, games relevant to their skill level and importantly all remain in contention for the finals right up to the last round.
- Social bookings continue to increase as well as pennant teams numbers.
- A Growing the Sport program is underway which saw all Presidents, Squash Australia's Trevor Smith and the Australian Sports Commission work together to identify the key elements needed to grow sport in the ACT. This program will see a number of initiatives roll out over the coming 18 months all aimed at Growing the Sport.
- The ACT Open was run in May attracting 89 people.

## NSW Squash Report



2014-2015 has been a year of consolidation for NSW Squash, building on the good things that happened in the previous 12 months.

Early in 2015 our office was moved into new premises at Sydney Olympic Park with more modern amenities and our hard working CEO has his own office, all this courtesy from Sport NSW.

Our participation numbers have increased over the past 12 months. This is due to a few factors, one being the insistence that all participants in our programs must be members of NSW Squash. In the past this has not been insisted on.

Our junior programs have gone from strength to strength through the hard work being done by our Development Manager Peter Saxby. Peter, also a Board Member does all this in a voluntary capacity for which we all thank him very much. Peter travels 6 hours to Board meetings and then 6 hours back. (Yes, we do occasionally get him on the phone!)

- In 2016 it is hoped that the ACT Open will include four events in one. The ACT Racketball Open, ACT Doubles Open, ACT Open and hopefully a PSA event. This will occur from 6-8 May 2015. It is hoped that an ACT Government grant will assist with the PSA event.

- A new constitution was voted in by all Clubs and agreed to by the ACT Government. This provides significant improvements and allows for a modern Board to move ahead and grow as required. A great outcome for Squash in the ACT.

- The Next Generation squash courts opened in July 2015 and include six glass back courts. It is hoped that the club will grow and eventually provide more competition teams.

- A reply from the ACT Government has been received relating to the Facilities Plan. This has not provided the good news we had hoped for suffice to say further discussions will occur with the ACT Government.

- Squash ACT is also introducing a number of IT enhancements including online booking tools specifically tailored to squash. This will allow specific marketing to be undertaken and ensure that where bookings are made payments are received.

### Robert McComas

President  
Squash ACT

Our junior tournaments have been spread more evenly over all NSW regions.

We have conducted coaching sessions in many Centres, with the longest trip undertaken by our Assistant Junior Team Coach Scott Butcher, to Leeton. This was very well received by the very enthusiastic junior players.

The new Sporting Schools program will be rolled out across NSW in the next 12 months and we have some very enthusiastic people waiting to begin this exciting program.

Our Saturday morning junior pennant in Sydney now has over 200 players participating.

These players mainly come from local private schools in the North Western area of Sydney but we are gradually encouraging other Clubs to join like Willoughby and Elanora. Thank you to all the teachers/coordinators/parents for driving the players around each Saturday morning.

The loss of Centres is a continuing worry to all. The Board is in talks with a few local area Councils to get

squash courts included in any new multi sports centres they may be planning.

Our affiliated Centres remained at 72 for 2014-15. We have introduced a 'discounted' package for Clubs to include their in-house competitions on to the matrix. This has meant some 700 players added to the matrix.

The re-accreditation of our coaches has begun under the stewardship of Peter Saxby and Grant Gough. Hopefully we can meet the expectations of Squash Australia during this next 12 months in getting our coaches up to date.

### Squash NT Report



2015 saw Squash NT continue to increase the profile of the sport across the Territory. Remoteness of these specific regions is a logistical challenge. I would like to thank our committee and regional representatives for their dedication to squash development by managing to 'decrease the vast distances' between centres.

The May NT Open was a successful event and drew some great players to our world class Darwin Facility. The \$US10k prize pool (from \$US 5K) in both the PSA & WSA Tournaments enticed some higher profile athletes to the event.

The NT Junior Championships were also held in May and it was great to have Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs represented at the event as well as a team from WA. This year saw the addition of an open Under 21's event at the NT Junior Championships. Squash NT hope this event keeps those players just out of juniors involved in

### Q Squash Report



As is usual the first half of the year was slow with all the regions busily conducting their qualifying tournaments which culminates in the staging of the Annual Queensland Junior Squash Championships and Teams Event. The 2015 event this year was hosted by Brisbane Region who won the Regional Teams Event.

Squash in Queensland has and is continuing through a transitioning stage with specific areas of junior and adult grass root recruitment along with further development of coaches and referees. Many thanks to Nathan Turnbull for his efforts in recruiting, training and assessing 6 new referees in Queensland. For those interested in refereeing please contact QSquash at [qsquash@live.com](mailto:qsquash@live.com) for further information. The four Regional Bodies are continuing to work very hard in conjunction with the centre/club operators together we

No sporting organisation can exist without its volunteers. To all involved, the Board says thank you for all the time and effort you give to the sport.

We also acknowledge the support from Squash Australia.

To my fellow Board members, thank you for your support and help. We are very much a working board and you all have done your part extremely well.

**Dawn Moggach**  
President  
NSW Squash

competition and squash as they go through a number of lifestyle changes after finishing school.

Our Underpinning and High Performance Program and Plans (LTAD and Athletic Development based) are continuing to be implemented. Squash NT is engaged in the Tier 2 Coach Scholarship Program at the NTIS which benefits coaches and the squads. Two SNT development players achieved national rankings in their respective age groups. Thanks to our coaches, players and parents for their commitment to the program.

On behalf of Squash NT I would like to say Thank You to all our Committee members, both past and present, our centre staff, coaches, officials, parents and members for a wonderful year and we look forward to another productive year ahead as we work towards a number of exciting events.

**Les Reif**  
Acting Chairperson  
Squash NT

support all Queenslanders to join in and participate in squash through:

- Beginner, school and junior club programs
- Pennant, in-house and social competitions
- Tournaments & social squash days
- Participation in high performance activities

QSquash is also further developing the state's Performance Pathway and is hoping to commence training camps during the latter half of 2015 and start the state Under-pinning Program in 2015. QSquash also look forward to hosting the AJC in Cairns and the Q Open at Nerang on the Gold Coast in the coming months.

QSquash Board would like to thank Queensland Sport and Recreation, Squash Australia and ASC for their continued support of the sport.

**Roslyn Preston**  
President  
Q Squash Ltd



## Squash SA Report



Some of the key achievements over the past 6 months have included:

### Best Practice Governance

- SRASAs Executive Board is underpinned by three new skills based committees Squash and Racquetball, the Southern, and Finance and Risk
- The governance model has continued to work effectively with each Committee focussed on delivering 12 month Business Plans that align with the Board's 21 Point Strategic Plan
- The Board's 'Champions Program' has seen Board Directors working collaboratively with stakeholders and staff on projects within their specialist areas to achieve growth and innovation
- The Associations Operating profits for the period 2014/15 exceed the previous financial year, however an unforeseen significant land tax bill has impacted on this. (The Association has challenged the land tax assessment with the State Government).

### Better Places to participate and perform

- Partnership with Campbelltown Council to establish 5 new squash courts within a multi-use sporting hub (expected completion 2016)
- Negotiations with metropolitan and regional local government authorities to secure squash court development within sporting hub precincts and Master Plans (five future developments)
- Progression of the strategy to establish a nine court National Standard Training Centre of Excellence/State Facility to be co-located with the Associations Licensed Club Facility (The Southern Bar Gaming Bistro)

### Build a capable and sustainable industry maintaining member satisfaction

- Engagement with members and stakeholders through the 'Just for Clubs' e-newsletter and player e-newsletter
- Launch of President's Luncheon program as a forum to discuss strategy and initiatives between SRASA and Clubs
- Launch of Squash Smart Phone App (social media)
- 20 Year Gala Celebration to mark the anniversary of the purchase of our licensed venue attracted 185 guests, past and present players, and legends
- A Club Development Officers network delivering a hybrid model of programs with sustainable

Clubs/Facilities has resulted in overall participation growth

### Achieve sporting excellence and increase grass roots participation

- Four South Australian junior athletes selected in Trans-Tasman Test Series
- The first junior female athlete to be selected in Australian Junior Women's Team for World Junior Championship
- Two junior female athletes selected in Australia's Youth Commonwealth Games Squash Team
- Alexandra Haydon awarded 2014 South Australian Sports Star of the Year
- 2015 South Australian Open was won by New Zealand's Evan Williams from James Huang (Taiwan) in the Men's Final and Liu Tsz-Ling (Hong Kong) from Australia's Sarah Cardwell in the Women's Final
- Australian Racquetball Championships held in the Barossa. Men's Open won by Cam White (Vic) from Justin Beard (SA). Women's Open won by Sarah Fitz-Gerald (VIC) from Stephanie Wighton (SA)

Squash SA Board and staff have continued to work collaboratively with Squash Australia and have actively contributed to:

- Squash Australia's Winning Edge funding submission and presentation to the Australian Sports Commission
- Squash Australia High Performance Review Committee
- Squash Australia Executive Officers Group and Squash Development Council meetings
- Squash SAs past President (and Board Member) has continued his role a Director on the Squash Australia Board
- Squash SAs President has attended the Squash Australia President's Council and Annual Conference

The focus for Squash SA in the coming 12 months will be:

- Progress infrastructure developments including new courts at sporting hubs and a National Standard Training Centre of Excellence
- Develop new programs that provide for better access to the sport and respond to diversity, market forces and changing lifestyles
- Introduce mechanisms to capture more data on player participation trends (particularly social)

**Phil Sinnott**  
General Manager  
Squash SA

## Squash Tasmania Report



Squash in Tasmania is going through some changes with senior numbers on the decline however the junior numbers are increasing due to our Clubs presenting squash to Primary and High Schools.

Our goal this year is to have an intake of 30 young players joining our Clubs.

Our Accredited coaching staff has increased giving us more active coaches in our Centres.

This year has again been huge with the successful running of the 2015 City of Devonport Open attracting good numbers from overseas, and we are now planning

for next year where we will host the Australian Junior Open in Devonport.

Our Performance Pathway program is progressing well and the results are showing with our young charges punching above their weight in many major junior tournaments.

Squash Tasmania's goal for 2016 is to continue to strive to increase the junior numbers and look at ways of bringing growth to the senior ranks.

**Leon Barnett**  
President  
Squash Tasmania

## Squash & Racquetball Victoria Report



success." Henry Ford

"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is

The formal inclusion of racquetball into the squash trading name and logo has gone through seamlessly in 2014 /2015. The Squash & Racquetball Victoria (S&RV) Board recognised the growth of racquetball as a complementary activity to squash and adopted the new branding to support and unite the sports, an action that is bearing fruit through the closer alignment of both communities.

Squash and Racquetball Victoria has undergone significant governance reforms since 2012. Changes have occurred to the membership structure as well as the Board election and composition processes including the development of an induction program for new Board members. To embed and strengthen this new structure, S&RV worked closely with Vicsport earlier this year, to undergo and establish an annual evaluation procedure for the Board. The process undertaken was documented for future use by S&RV and will assist the continued growth and development of the Board.

Squash & Racquetball Victoria re-introduced an annual Awards Dinner earlier this year which was extremely successful with over 100 people enjoying the evening's hospitality. A new category - the Legend status - was created to recognise those Hall of Fame members who, following Hall of Fame induction, have continued to distinguish themselves at the highest level offering inspiration and an example to others in the Victorian squash and racquetball community.

Inaugural Legends – Geoff Hunt, Sarah Fitz-Gerald, Judith FitzGerald, Lindsay Pattenden and Paul Vear  
Hall of Fame inductees – Cameron White, Peter Wright, Judy Wright

Life Members – Elaine Broadway, John Broadway, Penry Green, Denise Hill, Jim Lambert, John Link.

At this point in the year S&RV is reaching the final stages of preparation for a month long feast of professional squash. Starting with the Kooyong International invitational event, followed by the Victorian Open (M15, W15), Australian Open (M25, W25), Shepparton International (M5) through to the inaugural Bendigo International (M5, W5), 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 Shepparton and Bendigo Councils for their enthusiasm and support in bringing quality squash to regional areas.

Squash & Racquetball Victoria wishes to acknowledge the support received from member clubs, venues, associations, athletes and volunteers, as well as the valuable assistance and contributions from the Department of Transport, Planning & Local Infrastructure (Sport & Recreation Victoria), VicHealth, Squash Australia, Dunlop, Vicsport and our many partners and supporters.

**Fiona Young**  
Executive Officer  
Squash & Racquetball Victoria

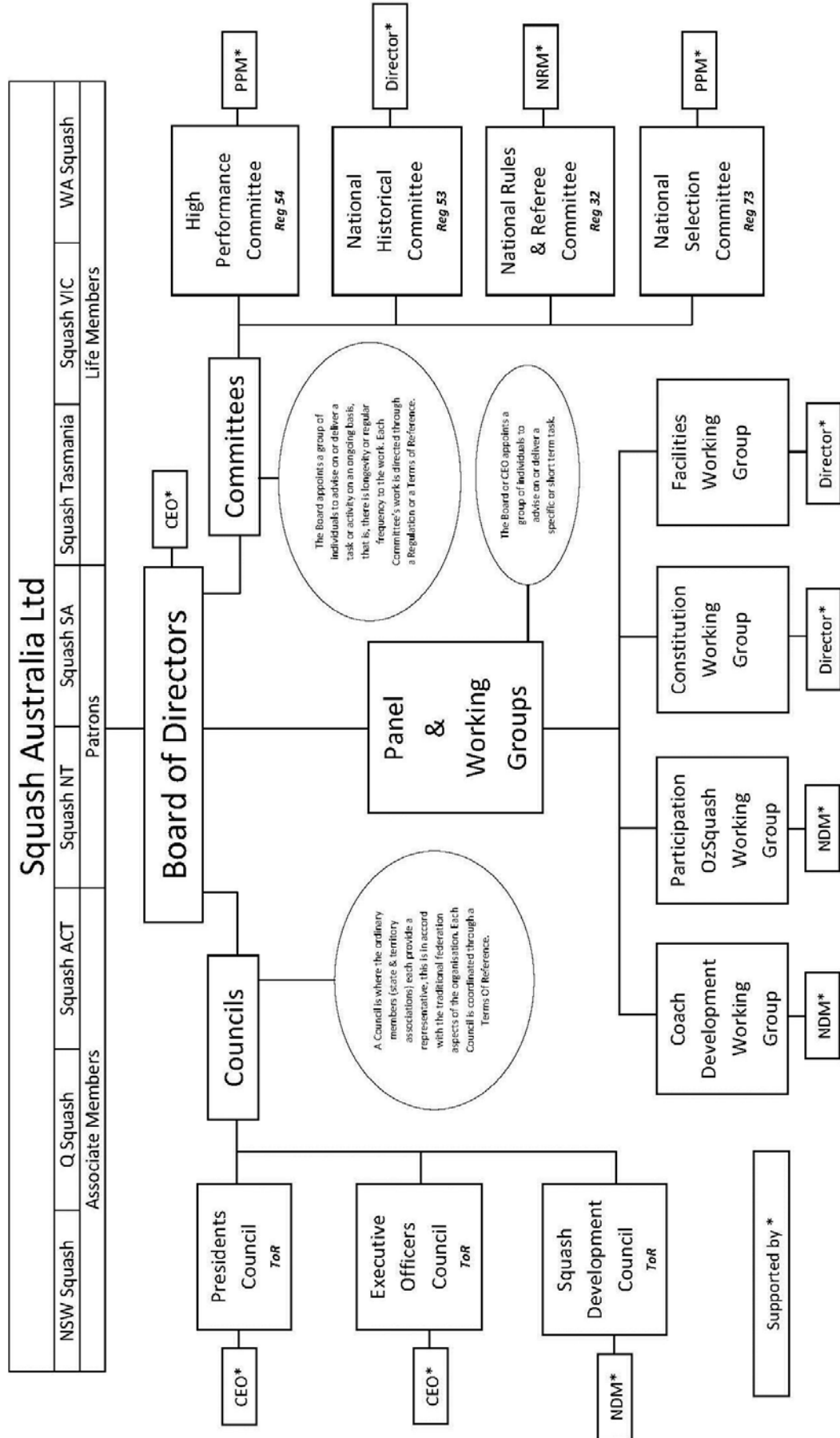
### WA Squash Report



WA Squash did not submit a report for the January – June 2015 period.



SQUASH AUSTRALIA ORGANISATIONAL CHART



*Squash Australia would like to thank our sponsors and partners  
for their generous support throughout 2015*



# MARSH



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