

**SQUASH AUSTRALIA**  
**Annual General Meeting Minutes**  
Sports House, 150 Caxton Street Milton Queensland.  
9:30am Sunday 16th March 2008.

**1. Opening and Welcome by President**

The President opened the meeting at 9.50am and welcomed all attendees.

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

**Squash Australia Board**

Mr John Holland	President
Ms Sarah Fitz-Gerald	Vice President (Female)
Mr Richard Best	Vice President (Male)
Mr Steve Derbyshire	Director
Mrs Carol Kawaljenko	Director

**Member Association Delegates**

Squash ACT	Vena Murray, Marcus Smith
NSW Squash	Bob Dubois, Carin Clonda
Squash NT	Steve Armitage
Q Squash	John Lee
Squash SA	Phil Sinnott
Squash Tasmania	Chris Doig
Victorian Squash Federation	Ian Kent
WA Squash	Stephen Bowen

**Other Members**

Mr Bob Finch	Life Member
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**Observers**

Vicki Cardwell	Squash Australia Board Member Candidate
Dawn Moggach	National Selector

**Squash Australia Staff**

Mr Gary O'Donnell	Chief Executive Officer
Ms Jenna Van Heerden	Finance and Administration Officer
Mr John Small	National Refereeing Manager
Mr Jeff Wollstein	National Coaching Manager
Mr Andrew Dent	Media Liaison Officer

**Apologies;**

The following were noted;

Margaret Zachariah	Life Member
John Cameron	Life Member
Col Clapper	Life Member
Jeff Hunt	Life Member
Ken Watson	Life Member
Kim Schramm	CEO QSquash

**Voting Entitlements**

As distributed in the meeting handouts.

**3. Minutes of the Previous AGM (Draft circulated 3rd April 2007 and included in the appendices).**

Motion: The minutes were confirmed.

Moved  
Seconded

Steven Bowen  
Richard Best  
Carried

**4. Matters Arising**

Four items were highlighted and all were noted as being completed.

Item 5A: Amendment to the Articles as approved by the members, regarding the creation of a National Selection Panel that is appointed by the Board.

Item 5B: Membership Fees working party be formed to look into the creation of a new affiliation fee structure.

Item 5C: The Squash Australia Board pursue the creation of a 'Foundation Trust'.

Item 7: The 2007 Budget be circulated to the Members.

## **5. Notice of Motion**

a. The formalisation of the Squash Australia Foundation.

Presented by Bob Finch

- The main aim of creating the Foundation is to develop a further method for Squash in Australia to promote the sport by recruiting donations and providing grant/funds to initiatives across the country.
- The accumulated donations will be distributed throughout the Australian Squash community; these donations include but are not limited to money, property, loans etc.
- The constitution was explained as being very similar to most other Australian NSO's or sporting organisations
- The Foundation will be controlled by the Directors of Squash Australia through the Foundation Board.
- Donations will be tax deductible through the ATO and the Foundation will be income tax exempt.
- John Holland explained that there will be no set restrictions on how the money/assets will be distributed to the states etc – this will be done on a case by case basis.
- Discussion was entered into in regards to the benefits of states supporting the SA Foundation and not forming their own in order to wreak all benefits. It was explained that the overall mission of the Foundation was to be the one and only Foundation for Squash in Australia and that a committee and general meeting similar to SAEOG would be conducted annually to ensure that all states were reaping the benefits.
- An audit will be conducted annually on the Foundation and would be separate to the audit on Squash Australia.

Motion: "The Squash Australia Foundation Draft Constitution be approved subject to appropriate vetting by lawyers".

Moved	Steve Derbyshire
Seconded	Bob Dubois
	Carried

## **6. President's Report**

- The President's Report was distributed prior to the meeting in the 2007 Annual Report.
- The President apologised for the typographical error for Grinham being spelt incorrectly.
- Explained the correspondence and contact he had with both Rachael and Natalie Grinham over the past 12 months including having met with Natalie in January 08'. It was at this time that Natalie indicated she would become a Dutch citizen. (She is married to a Dutchman and it has been her base for many years). John and the Board had attempted to resolve matters amicably and in a manner that was balanced for those who have committed to play for Australia and to satisfy the concerns of each of Natalie and Rachael.

Natalie explained to John that she felt that she gained more from Holland than Australia in her playing career and said that she would obtain more benefits for playing for Holland than Australia including increased sponsorship and publicity.

Rachael is still not prepared to play for Australia, given she was not included in a grant application for financial support from the ASC for 2006/07. The requirement of the program was preparedness to play for Australia and at the time Rachael had withdrawn from the 2006 Australian Womens Team based on her view of which athletes had been selected in the 2006 Aust Commonwealth Games Squash team. Her expectation is that she be paid the

possible funding that the ASC may have granted, \$18,000 and she will make herself available. John Holland complimented the handling of the Melissa Martin and Grinham sisters issue at the 06' Commonwealth Games and applauded the way it was handled within the team.

- Paul Vear was officially thanked and farewelled by Squash Australia pending his retirement from the Executive Director role with the Victorian Squash Federation.
- John thanked everyone for their support throughout the year and looked forward to 2008.

Motion: "That the President's Report for 2008 be accepted".

Moved	Marcus Smith
Seconded	Carol Kawaljenko
	Carried

## 7. Financial Report

- Gary O'Donnell reported that Squash Australia traded with a modest surplus of \$12,000.
- It was highlighted that the Auditor had written provisions for \$90,000 for unexpended grants (ASC & ACGA) that will be acquitted by June 08'. Appropriate funds to balance the provision were held at bank. It was explained that both grant programs run on a July-June financial year as different to the calendar year as used by Squash Australia.
- Changes were implemented in 07', to bank account management to improve interest earnings. This was done by opening online higher interest savings account and term deposits and closing cheque based cash management accounts.
- Appropriate reporting will be lodged with ASIC following the AGM.

Motion: "That the audited financial report for 2007 be accepted".

Moved	Stephen Derbyshire
Seconded	Vena Murray
	Carried

## 8. Election of Officers

In accordance with the Squash Australia Articles of Association (paragraph 10.3) the following Office Bearer appointments were open for election at the 2008 AGM:

- a. President
- b. Vice President (Female)
- c. Board Member

Nominations received in accord with the call due 15th February 2008 were advised in the agenda and their nomination forms included in the meeting papers.

Dawn Moggach and Bob Finch were appointed as scrutineers.

- a. President
  - John Holland Nominated by Squash SA

As the single nominee John Holland was elected by acclamation.

- b. Vice President (Female)
  - Sarah Fitz-Gerald Nominated by VSF

As the single nominee Sarah Fitz-Gerald was elected by acclamation.

- c. Board Member
  - Vicki Cardwell Nominated by VSF
  - Steve Derbyshire Nominated by QSquash
  - Marcus Smith Nominated by ACT Squash

Marcus Smith was declared the new Director in the first ballot, gaining over 50% of the available votes. The voting slips were destroyed and scrutineers thanked for their work.

It was noted that the positions of Vice President (Male) and one Director would face election in 2009.

## 9. Appointment of Auditor

Marcus Smith inquired as to how many years Squash Australia had used the same Auditor indicating that it is prudent to change auditors on occasion. CEO indicated that the Auditor had been in place for a number of years.

Motion: Confirmation of Bevan Schafferius to continue as Auditor of Squash Australia.

Moved	Carol Kawaljenko
Seconded	Stephen Bowen
	Carried

## 10. Appointment of Patron

Motion: Confirmation of Chris Dittmar to continue as Patron of Squash Australia

Moved	Bob Dubois
Seconded	Richard Best
	Carried

## 11. Confirmation of 2008 Affiliation Fees

- All states have signed the agreement for Affiliation Fees for 2008
- Carin Clonda brought up the issue that has presented itself with NSW Squash and the Board has noted it down as an issue for discussion. Carin voiced that the Affiliation Fees structure was unfair and would like to see some alternatives that could be implemented. It was suggested by Gary O'Donnell that the best forum for discussion of this matter for this would be at the SAEOG meeting later on in the year for a review of the 2009 Affiliation Fees. The general consensus was that the Board and states were keen to come up with a system that everyone will be happy with.
- It was suggested by Vena Murray that the next SAEOG meeting is dedicated solely to the issue of Affiliation Fees. This was also welcomed by the Board and states.

Motion: The Affiliation Fes for 2008 be approved.

Moved	Vena Murray
Seconded	Stephen Bowen
	Carried

## 12. Other Business (as approved by President)

- Stephen Derbyshire was thanked for his 6 years of service to Squash Australia as a Director and Board Member. He was thanked for his contribution and dedication to the role.
- Col Clapper's awarding of an Order of Australia (AO) was highlighted to the meeting. He was nominated by Squash Australia and was congratulated of his success in obtaining the order.

## 13. Meeting Closure

The President declared the meeting closed at 10.50am. Details of the 2009 Annual General Meeting will be advised to Members in due course.

John Holland  
Chairman



Gary O'Donnell  
CEO