

SRASA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MEETING: Board Meeting Wednesday 3 September 2012

LOCATION: 6pm, Squash SA, 440 Goodwood Road, Cumberland Park

1 ATTENDANCE

1.1 Present:

S. Abishara (SAb)	M. Goldstone (MG) (Chair)	L. Franzi (LF)
C. Johnstone (CJ)	P. Teale (PT)	A. Ryan (AR)

Ex Officio:

P. Sinnott (PS) - General Manager

1.2 Apologies: G. DeVizio (GD) A. Proctor (AP)

1.3 Guests: Will Gray (apology)
Patrick Stevens (observer) Played squash since 4½ years of age in Zimbabwe, level 1 accredited coach, junior and private squash coach at Karadinga and Turramurra. His aim on the Board would be to broaden exposure of sport at junior level.

2. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 29 July 2012 were confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Sam Abishara Seconded: Lynton Franzi Carried.

3. ITEMS ON AGENDA (Reports Circulated Electronically Prior to Meeting)

3.1 Pennant Registrar

The Board noted the Pennant Registrar's report. PS to coordinate a meeting between the Senior Coordination Committee and Pennant Committee to discuss solutions for Premier League squash and provide recommendations to the Board.

3.2 2012/13 Budget Paper

PS spoke to the 2012/13 Budget Briefing Paper circulated prior to the Board and Financial and Audit Advisory Committee. PS highlighted the major variations for Squash SA and Racquets SA.

Board discussed at length the paying down loans vs resource allocation to Squash SA operations. PT noted that during a recent lunch at Racquets SA there was a full dining room and 24 gaming machines in use which may not have been the case without the new car park.

PS advised the Board the 2010-2013 Strategic Plan was written based upon higher resource allocation to squash operations (staffing and projects) and therefore needs to be revisited. The Board suggested the next Strategic Plan should reflect a 5 – 10 year horizon with specific benchmarks/outcomes identified in 3 year timeframes. Board suggested to hold a 'Where we are at now' Board workshop to re-evaluate our future strategic directions, and to discuss innovative concepts that would challenge the current paradigm of pennant and increase participation in new program formats.

Budgets and cashflow were reviewed by Financial Committee.

PT explained further the Racquets SA Summary table and Balance Sheet, explaining the option of renegotiating loan terms to a longer term (with redraw facility) to free up cashflow. He also spoke on why Non current liabilities should be moved to current liabilities.

Board agreed to move non-current liabilities Commercial Bill and ANZ Loan to current liabilities.

Moved: Cheryl Johnstone

Seconded: Alex Ryan

Carried.

Recommendations

3.2.1 The Board accepts the 2012/2013 First Quarter Budgets for Squash SA and Racquets SA.

3.2.2 The Board notes the Finance and Audit Advisory Committees recommendation to investigate and restructure the ANZ Commercial Bill and ANZ loan with a fixed rate, long term loan.

Moved: Alex Ryan

Seconded: Sam Abishara

Carried.

The Board ratified and noted the minutes of Finance and Audit Committee Meeting held on 17 August 2012.

4. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

4.1 General Overview Report

4.1.1 OHS Report

No accidents or incidents to be reported.

PS reported on the electrical fire that occurred at South Adelaide Squash Centre in the early hours of Friday 31st August 2012.

4.1.2 General Report

PS presented the General Managers Report noting:

STRATEGY

- The GM, Operations Coordinator, Grant Norman, and Metro Development Officers, James Rogers and Andrew Edwards, met to discuss a restructure of the Pathway programs (grass roots participation). This current model is based on the Junior Club Programs driving junior participation and underpinning the State Development Squads. The group met separately with the AIS Head Coach, Byron Davis, to discuss the Performance Pathways funding model.

- Both program areas are complex and rely heavily on competing priorities such as time, cost, club support, facility infrastructure and coaching resources. Further discussion is required before series of options can be presented to the Board. The Squash SA Pathways (participation) and Performance Pathways Briefing Paper will be tabled with the Board for consideration in the coming months with a view of introducing the strategy in January 2013.
- The 2012/2013 Racquets SA Operating Budget and 2012/2013 Squash SA Operating Budgets were tabled and discussed at the Finance and Audit Committee meeting held on Friday 17 August, 2012. The budget recommendations have been made within the framework of an overall strategy, as detailed in the Board Briefing Paper circulated to the Board (2012/2013 Operating Budgets).

FACILITIES

- The GM has worked with Lynton Franzi (Chair, Facilities Committee), Philip Teale (Chair, Finance Committee) and Mark Goldstone, to prepare a draft Brief for the Racquets SA Study. Rod Shearing (Squash SA Auditor), has provided comment and advice to the Draft Brief. Rod was previously employed by the Office for Liquor and Gambling Commission in the area of Licence applications. The Draft Brief, including the Auditors comments was circulated to the Board. This item is listed on the Agenda for Board discussion.
- The GM has investigated ORS funding opportunities to offset the cost of the Racquets Study. The Study could be funded under ORS CRSFP or Planning Studies Grants; however the next call for application has not yet been determined.
- The GM has commenced evaluating the Squash SA tenancy at 440 Goodwood Road, which expires on 31 January 2013. The General Manager has met with Tennis SA to investigate possible office space. Tennis SA will present a costing and timeframe for further consideration by the Board.

SERVICES

- Concerns have been raised regarding the State Team Selection Criteria revolving around training requirements Vs State Ranking. The incident has been tabled with the Board by a concerned Squash Player, for Board discussion.
- A separate complaint was lodged regarding the non-selection of Alex Oswald. The Junior Coordination Advisory Committee and GM have investigated the concern, and the non-selection of Alex stands, in accordance with the existing policy.
- Earlier in the year, a Policy review was initiated by Board Member, Con Psaromatis, benchmarking our policy against other sporting groups. The Junior Coordination Advisory Committee has committed to review the State Team Selection Policy after the 2012 AJC. The concerned parties have been encouraged to provide input to the policy review.

STAFFING

- The GM conducted 5x Staff Reviews. The professional development plans for each staff member has been updated and a training plan is in place for the next 12 months.
- The GM is holding off recruiting a replacement for the Member Services position, pending the 2012/2013 Budget endorsement. This would see the position responsibilities around Member Communications (0.2 FTE) and Online registration and I.T. (0.2FTE).

COMMUNICATION

- The GM has commenced a review of Squash SA communication strategies and has initiated meetings with communication and web / social media marketing company Honey Web. A communication strategy will be presented to the Board next month following Budget approval and input by the Marketing Advisory Committee.

GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- The President and GM will be meeting with Life Members prior to the AGM to discuss any immediate concerns and to provide Life Members with a general update on the past 6 months. The GM will be meeting with Stakeholders in the lead in to the AGM to seek feedback and provide a general overview of the past 6 months.
- The Following Board Members are due for election at the 2012 AGM – George DeVizio, Philip Teale, Sam Abishara, Alex Ryan.

INFORMATION THAT IS WORTH SHARING

- The 2013 National Tournament Calendar dates have been accepted and confirmed by Squash Australia. Barossa Open 6 June to 9 June, 2013 and SA Open 11 June to 16 June, 2013.
- The National Wine Centre (Hickinbotham Hall) has been booked for 15 June 2013 and will be the venue for the 2013 Squash Gala Dinner. A deposit has been paid to secure the booking.

RECENT GLORIOUS SUCCESS

- Mike Corren was accepted into the AIS.
- Squash SAs sponsorship has seen recent media exposure of Corren and Squash SA in the Adelaide Advertiser / Adelaide Now and Eastern Courier Newspaper. Five radio interviews, recognising Squash SA support, have been conducted over the past month.

5. FINANCE (Reports Circulated Electronically)

5.1 Bank Statement and Cash Flow Position (PT)

PT tabled the Cash Flow forecast for the month of September defining cash in bank and major outgoings. The Board noted the Cash Flow to 30 September 2012.

5.2 EOY Financial Summary Report (PT)

As above.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 State Senior Team and State Senior Rankings

The Board ratified and noted the State Senior Team as recommended by the Senior Coordination Committee.

PS informed the Board that to date only Victoria has entered the National Teams Event. The Board enquired if Squash SA has sent out Barossa Valley information to States to help encourage them to participate, PS advised that the problem may be a monetary and cash flow issue for the interstate State Associations. PS clarified the National Teams Event is a Squash Australia tournament, hosted by Squash SA once the teams have registered with Squash Australia.

PS discussed the possibility of changing the event to a 'State of Origin', South Australia v Victoria, incorporating racquetball.

7. POLICY

No policies to note.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

In

8.1 D. Giles

8.2 G. Oswald

Out

J. Beard

M. Corren

D. Giles

G. Oswald

PS to follow up with Con Psaromatis and Grant Norman regarding benchmarking our State Selection Policy with other sports. After the AJC, the State Junior Team Selection Criteria Policy will be reviewed. PS has confirmed with G Oswald the Policy will be reviewed following the AJC and has invited input from G Oswald and D Giles.

9. SQUASH AUSTRALIA

Squash Australia Governance Review (M. Goldstone)

M Goldstone reported Squash Australia Governance Review is under instruction.

Squash Australia Australian Open (CJ/AR)

CJ attended the Australian Open and will forward her notes to the Board for information. Glass court set up in stadium, with great viewing and a lot of spectators. Tournaments downgraded, International 70, WSA 50. The Men's draw didn't have all the top ranked players. Women had most of Top 15 in attendance. CJ noted there was not a lot of promotion around Canberra promoting the Event. Tournament players were active in signing merchandise. CJ spoke to some of the female players regarding women participation, grassroots to elite, in squash. The general consensus is that female squash participation in America/Canada/Europe squash is flourishing – bars/café, multi sport centres. Players spoke of the difference in courts between Australia and the rest of the world. Players rely on Government sponsorship, and outside sponsorships/endorsements to help afford to get on the Circuit. Top players go to 'Gold Tournaments', \$s and entry points, or to tournaments with the most perks.

CJ plans to engage the top female players by facebook for further feedback.

10. NEW BUSINESS

MG reported on the General Manager's review and performance bonus outcome.
Need to determine KPI's for the current financial year. The Board to email suggestions to Mark Goldstone.

Sport SA Awards Night

The Board discussed nominating the General Manager for the Sport SA Administrator of the Year Award, based on key Squash SA achievements of introducing player online registration system, the Barossa facility, member satisfaction survey results, improvement to current facilities (FEG) and grassroots development models. Submissions are due by the end of September. The nomination will help build Squash SA's public profile.

Senior Coordination Committee

The Board approved the appointment of Ross Hewitt and Barry Hewitt to the Senior Coordination Committee.

11. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS (IN CAMERA)

Racquets SA Review Brief

Discussions regarding the Racquets SA Review Brief were held in camera.

12. BOARD DIARY

AGM Monday, 17 September, 2012 (PT and LF apology)

Board Meeting 29 October 2012 – Reschedule Board meetings to the 4th Monday of each month.

13. CLOSE MEETING

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.