



Squash Australia Memorandum – July

1. 2016 2017 State Funding

I am writing with an update around funding for the next financial year. First, I must apologise as I am around a month late in this communication due to issues out of my control.

The Australian Sports Commission has had some delays in confirming our own funding which has been amplified by the election status.

Another complication has been that several smaller sports of met their targets for increasing their categorisation of participation funding due to increased numbers. These sports have been audited which has caused a delay.

The increase in funding for these sports has taken some of our funding, as we all take funding from the same pot. They have moved above us in the participation rankings e.g. Ten Pin Bowling, Badminton and others.

Due to this Participation funding is still not 100% confirmed, as the increasing sports will take from those sports that stagnate. There is only one pot of money. So we could as a result see a slight reduction in participation.

Next year if we can demonstrate around 2000 more players (from 2015 numbers) we could potentially increase our funding pot by \$250,000, funding we would be more than happy to pass on to State participation activities.

Bringing both Jordan and Anna on board clarifies our intentions to do the best we can to support the State bodies in this area.

However, our 2016 numbers look to be down a further 2000 in one year to around 11,000 in total, which leaves us subject to potential funding reductions as we get close to relegation in terms of funding brackets.

So I would encourage all States to make sure they are declaring all participation numbers to Squash Australia for our mutual gain.

Another piece of bad news is we have received a \$55,000 reduction around High performance from the Australian Sports Commission and around \$200,000 reduction from the Australian Commonwealth Games Association over the next two years.

The Sporting Schools funding has been stopped. The only slightly good news is that these cuts have not been aimed at Squash but have been acted across the entire sport sector as the budgets have been squeezed by the government on sport.

All together that increases the cuts to our HP budget over the past five years to around \$1,500,000, which is a fair amount of money. A consequence of this has been further tightening of our expenditure, doing more with the little we have and increased to look at generating increased commercial income.

The good news for the States is that the change to the affiliation system in December 2015 does mean that the State's overall pay around \$70,000 less in affiliations to Squash Australia, so that's \$70,000 which can go straight to local development of the sport.

We are also able to offer total potential funding support to the State Associations totalling \$134,000 for the 2016 – 2017 financial year across HP, Participation and Events.

These funds from which States benefit come straight from Squash Australia commercially generated funds.

An outline of the general funding parameters are:

- The funding period will be 1 July 2016 – 30 June 2017
- Funding dependent on timely provision of reports – due latest 1st June 2017
- Eligibility dependent on use of CRM system for reporting
- Eligibility will be based on completing a State report card at the end of this period, which will link to the Squash Australia Strategic plan.
- Funding will be released within 30 days of reporting being received with an invoice for the approved amount.
- Squash Australia reserves the right to randomly audit States reports as requested by the Australian Sports Commission
- The State body agrees to engage in a performance meeting in August and November of each year to encourage two-way dialogue on numbers reported and agree KPI's for next year.

The breakdown of these funds is detailed below:

High Performance

Talent Identification Camps (\$8000)

As part of the entry point in to the High performance pathway we would like to encourage State Talent identification camps across Australia with the aim of early talent in the age range of 8-11 years of age being identified.

Working with talented players at a younger age was one of the identified outcomes for the AIS Squash Australia High performance strategy planning sessions in September 2015.

- 8x \$1000 grants
- KPI's
- Registration of 10+ players (8-11)
- Completed profile document as supplied by the SA HP Team
- Squash Australia accredited coach leading the camp

State Coaches Workshop (\$8000)

The goal of the State Coaches Workshops is to provide a National lead in the area of coach development. This has already started with Coaching workshops in Tasmania and South Australia, scheduled for Victoria and NT.

The sessions also provide an important touch point for coaches to understand the benefits of working within the Squash Australia – State structure.

- 8x \$1000

- Squash Australia accredited coach leading the workshop approved by the Squash Australia HP WG
- Completed attendance form with 8+ coaches

Participation

Sporting Schools (up to \$40,000 set aside by Squash Australia).

Despite the expected withdrawal of funding for the Sporting Schools Project, Squash Australia are continuing its support of this initiative given its alignment with the strategic plan and the long term benefits for the sport of squash.

Funding will be subject to performance (see final point, below) and is contingent upon provision of the following by 30 November 2016:

- Contact details for schools and teachers involved with the squash programme, to facilitate national marketing efforts in conjunction with the States;
- Contact details for any Universities in the State with a Squash programme, including contact person; and
- Details of any Teacher Training University departments within the State and contact person, to facilitate pre-teacher training efforts.

Funding will be distributed based on the number of schools participating in the program in each State/Territory during the period 1 July 2016 – 30 June 2017, in the following categories. Programs must be registered with the Sporting School program and use an endorsed provider (teacher/coach) to be eligible within this framework.

<3 Schools	\$0
3 to 10 schools	\$1,000
11 to 20 schools	\$3,000
>20 schools	\$5,000

Affiliation increases – (Up to \$48,000 set aside by Squash Australia)

Additional funding has been set aside to encourage growth in affiliation numbers, which is essential for the sustainability of our sport and a factor upon which our national participation funding from the ASC is based.

Growth of the game is also an important factor for the State/Territory Associations with their own Departments of Sport.

Funding will be subject to growth in categories of full membership and paid affiliations (see final point, below) and is contingent upon:

- Complete data being supplied in the Squash Australia Client Relationship Management System (CRM), with direct online payments; and
- Payments will include any free product squash Australia obtains such as previous use of Dunlop Squash Balls.

Funding will be distributed based on the percentage reported increase in full members and paid affiliates in each State/Territory during the period 1 July 2016 – 30 June 2017, in the following categories.

A decline in reported affiliations or less than 1% increase will result in no funding being released. The increase on affiliations will be on the fully paid affiliation category and benchmarked against 2016 – ‘Pennant urban’ category.

- 1-5% increase- \$1,000
- 6-10% increase- \$3,000
- >10% increase- \$6,000

Events

In events our focus for 2017 onwards is to rebrand the PSA events in Australia under an Australian Squash Tour brand. Squash Australia will be investing in this concept from a marketing viewpoint and providing prize money for the top 3 male and female players.

The Australian Squash Tour branding and prize money will benefit from \$20,000 in funding. In addition to this we will provide funding for events under the following format:

Australian Squash Tour (\$30,000 maximum pot of funds)

- \$5000 support for \$20,000 and above events
 - Max pool of funding is \$30,000 (first come, first serve basis)
 - Events have to have a male and female section
 - Event has to be part of the Australian Squash Tour – successfully deliver event against policies
 - Date of event needs approval from Squash Australia
 - Contracts to be signed by 1st November 2016

The above funding is not inclusive of the support we are offering in regards consultation with State department of sport funding applications or any funding around coach, staff development which we regularly provide.

2. State Funding help and support

The new Participation Strategy has been launched with excellent feedback from all Stakeholders ([please click here for details](#)) as promised in the February Melbourne workshop.

Anna Walker from participation is available to help any State with their Department of Sport funding applications. Anna has a great experience in the sector and can help review already successful funding applications get more from the system. Please do not hesitate contacting here on participation@squash.org.au.

3. Australian Junior Open (AJO) 2017 – 2019

We are happy to announce that Darwin, NT will host the 2017 Australian Junior Open which will be played on 12-15th January. Darwin, NT was also the winner of the 2019 event with exact dates to be confirmed.

Thornleigh and NSW the home of this year’s Australian Junior Championships, will host the 2018 Australian Junior Open in January, with exact dates to be confirmed.

Congratulations to both Squash NT and Squash NSW.

Expressions are welcomed for the 2019 and 2020 Australian Junior Open events.

4. Australian Open 2017

We have received one bid for the 2017 Australian Open, with the deadline tomorrow. We would appreciate any and all interest to be submitted to events@squash.org.au by the 15th July.

5. Australian Closed 2016

We have an open tender for the 2016 Australian Closed Championships. So far we have one expression of interest. We would love to run this national highlight with a partner in 2016 with the option of adding both a doubles event for the first time and graded national championships. Can any and all interest be submitted to events@squash.org.au by 15th July.

6. Awards Evening

The 2016 Awards Evening will take place in Melbourne, at the Mercure Hotel on Albert park following on from the finals of the Australian Open on Friday 12th August (expected 2030 for 2100 dinner). Discount tickets are available per person or per table – [please click here for more information.](#)

Voting is now open, this along with other selection criteria published will be used to determine winners for most of the awards with the exception of the Referee and State awards, which will be recommended by the referee Manager and Events Coordinator based on criteria, for the approval of the Board.

Squash Australia has been in the process of reviewing all organisation regulations as part of the restructure. As part of this the awards categorisation is also under review – Hall of Fame and Service awards criteria. As such we will not be awarding these prestigious categories this year. All nominations will be held on file for next year's consideration under the new regulations. To help achieve this a new Awards and History Working Group is to be established with more information to be published shortly. Any and all interest for the groups will be well received – please communicate this interest to membership@squash.org.au.

7. Squash Australia AGM

The Squash Australia Forum and AGM has been confirmed for the 26th and 27th November in Brisbane. Both the forum and AGM are open to all of the squash community, and we would welcome as many attendees as possible. On Friday 25th November there will be an Executive operational meeting between all States and Squash Australia around strategy activation and other strategic interests.

Please contact Iain at membership@squash.org.au will email more details shortly.

8. AIS Leadership Programme

Squash Australia is delighted to announce the first joint Squash Leadership course aimed at National Junior Coaches and key squash stakeholders within the squash structure. The Leadership course will run over two years and facilitated by Melbourne Business School. Swimming Australia have just completed the inaugural Leadership course, and quote "It has been an amazing success", with Swimming linking their pending Olympic success with the contribution of their coaches in the build

up to the Games. The course will specifically help transition a number of our transition PSA players from their playing careers in to their professional work and coaching careers. Which was a key part of our strategic plan.

Squash Australia would like to make the course available to State Squash employees. SA will cover the cost of the Leadership course, States would be required to cover their employees costs of travel and accommodation. All interest should be expressed to Richard Vaughan (ceo@squash.org.au) by 22nd July. The first course will start residentially at the AIS in Canberra this October.

9. Education

In the education front some information to note on upcoming activities – please can you maximise awareness within the squash community of these opportunities.

- Talent Development course – Melbourne MSAC, August 10-13th (catch the semi-final and finals of the Australian Open). Places still open.
- Squash Australia Coaches Workshop – Melbourne MSAC, August 11th (finals day – Australian Open). Limited places still open.
- A Tutor Trainer course – Q4 please contact education@squash.org.au if you have interest in developing additional State tutors.
- NT Coaches Workshop alongside the World Doubles, please contact education@squash.org.au for more information.