



A.M.S.A.

Australian Masters Squash Association

PATRONS

Heather McKay Geoff Hunt

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the AUSTRALIAN MASTERS SQUASH ASSOCIATION
held on Monday, 10th September 2012 at the South Adelaide Squash Centre, 2a
Midera Avenue, Edwardstown. commencing at 6.00 pm

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

- 2.** The meeting opened at 6.35 pm. The President welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Present: Peter Wright (President)
Garry Irwin (Treasurer)
Debbie Sims (Secretary)

Scott Caban (ACT)
Richard Best (NSW)
Richard Weir (NT)
Shirley Dorricott (Qld)
Liam Johnston (SA)
Vic Thomas (WA)
Michelle Rowles (Vic)
Sandra Fogarty (Tas)

Observers: Ron Clayton (WA)
Ed Jennings (WA)
Linda McBrierty (WA)
Ron Smith (ACT)
Shane Thorpe (Vic)
Darren O'Neill (Vic)
Mark Thurkle (Vic)
Kathy Paterson (Qld)
Sarah Haydon (Qld)
Jenny Brown (Tas)
Michelle Griffiths (NT)

Apologies: Heather McKay and Geoff Hunt

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) Minutes of the 31st Annual General Meeting held on 13 September 2012 in Rockhampton, Queensland were circulated with the Agenda papers. It was **resolved** (NSW/VIC) that the Minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record.
- b) Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held 12 February 2012 were noted.
- c) Minutes of the AMSA Committee teleconference held on 24 May 2012 are attached were noted.

4. BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 The President briefed members on the special meeting of AMSA held on 5 September 2012. He said it had been resolved:

- To accept the 4 year rolling budget for expenditure and undertake a review each year to ensure it accurately reflected actual expenditure.
- To increase the affiliation fee to \$4 per member per year and the License Fee to remain set at \$2,500 with a review next year.
- That the AMSA Secretary be issued with a credit card with a limit of \$1,500.
- To establish a working group comprising Ron Smith (ACT) Ron Clayton (WA), Raice Tapp (SA), Helena Morgan (Victoria) to review the Operations Manual as it exists and incorporate changes in readiness for the 2013 Australian Championships. The President said the Operations Manual will be a manual purely for the running of the Championships. President said he, the Secretary and Treasurer should also be part of the sub-committee.
- To establish a sub-committee comprising Ron Smith (ACT), Helena Morgan and Terry Barlow (Vic), Richard Best (NSW) and to review the AMSA Constitution. Terms of reference to be set incorporating the pro bono legal advice and the Australian Sports Commission Guidelines. President said he, the Secretary and Treasurer should also be part of the sub-committee.

It was **resolved** (ACT/WA) that the draft Minutes of the Special Meeting of AMSA as outlined by the President be accepted.

It was also **resolved** (Vic/NSW) that the resolution to establish a sub-committee to review the Operations Manual be accepted.

It was further **resolved** (NSW/ACT) that the resolution to establish a sub-committee to review the AMSA Constitution be accepted.

- 4.2 *Incorporation:* the President reported that Mr Ron Smith (ACT) had agreed to become the Association's Public Officer with incorporation in the ACT. Mr Best said the priority should be to review the Constitution and then look at the issue of Public Officer and hold a special general meeting. It was **resolved** (NSW/WA) in terms of Mr Best's recommendation.
- 4.3 *Succession Planning:* Mr Best said this issue was raised at the AGM in 2011 and should be incorporated into the review of the Constitution.
- 4.4 *Strategic Planning:* Mr Best said a plan had not been done for some time. He said the Association should be trying to encourage more people to play masters. Ms Rowles (Vic) said the host state should provide the other states and territories with information to promote the championships. She said there is a need to get new people interested and create a greater awareness. Mr Thorpe said the website was not being utilized to disseminate information. Mr Johnston suggested sending information out electronically. The President said the type of information to be sent out to centres promoting the Championships should be included in the Manual. Ms Patterson said Queensland sends posters out to all centres, both in the city and regionally, to promote its tournaments with encouraging results of seeing new players emerge.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- 5.1 The President's report for 2011- 12 was noted. Highlights of which are:
- Currently dealing with various issues arising out of the 2011 AGM. Pro bono legal advice was sought on how to deal with the complex issues. It provides a good basis on which to achieve the outcomes the Association is aiming for.
 - 51 Australians competed in the World Masters Squash Championships in Birmingham this year. World champions include: Craig Rowland - Qld (O/40), Michelle Martin - Qld (O/45) and Sue Volzke – WA (O/60). Runners-up were Sarah Nelson – NSW (O/45) and Anne Richards – WA (O/55).
 - The AMSA donated 2 perpetual trophies to the World Masters Squash Championships – the Ron Ansell Perpetual Trophy (MO/70) – won by Adrian Wright (England) and the Heather Mackay Perpetual Trophy (WO/70) – won by Barbara Sanderson (Ireland).

It was **resolved** (ACT/SA) that the President's report be accepted.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

- 6.1 The Treasurer tabled the Profit and Loss and Bank Reconciliation statements as at 30th June 2012. He said the financial statements have not yet been audited due to the departure overseas by the Auditor, Matthew Yu. He advised that he had approached Ron Smith (ACT) who had agreed to audit the accounts as soon as possible following the championships. He said the audited accounts would then be circulated to all states and territories.

The Treasurer said 2011-12 showed a loss of \$3,420 due to the Trans Tasman Test and travel to New Zealand. He said cyclically the Association will make a loss in the year the Trans Tasman Test is held due to the associated costs. In the year where there is no Trans Tasman Test, the Association will make a small profit. He said in 2011, the Association paid accommodation expenses in New Zealand for the Australian Team prior to departure for the convenience of the players. He said the players then reimbursed the Association.

Mr Smith sought guidance in respect of the accounts. He said the accounts should show a profit and loss and a balance whereas the format of the current accounts shows income and expenditure. He said the accounts were not in an acceptable format for auditing. He said they would need to be revised to bring them up to a professional standard. It was suggested that the Treasurer and Mr Smith work together to put the accounts into an acceptable format for the purposes of auditing.

It was **resolved** (SA/NT) that the Treasurer and Mr Smith work together to put the accounts into an approved format and that they be circulated to all states and territories.

7. SQUASH AUSTRALIA DELEGATE'S REPORT

Mr Best noted this was the first time he has been asked to submit a report. He said squash has been withdrawn from the Masters Games in Turin due to an apparent lack of interest. He said the President had forwarded a letter of protest to the organizing committee. He said the 2017 games will be held in Auckland; the 2014 World Masters Squash Championships will be held in Hong Kong. He said because AMSA was not affiliated with Squash Australia they had not been interested in tendering for the 2014 Championships. He recommended that the delegates carefully reconsider the issue of affiliation. He said Squash Australia is not interested in Masters until such time as the AMSA is affiliated. Unless affiliated with the national sporting body Masters will not have an international Masters Games or World Masters Squash in Australia. He said World Masters Squash runs under the World Squash Federation rules which were updated in August 2012, He said the rules require players, who participate in international tournaments, to be affiliated with their national body. He said the new WSF rules for Masters Games have

ruled out those sections on drug testing. Ms Paterson said a lot of players who play in their own fixtures are affiliated with Squash Australia. She said the Queensland state body has been in trouble whereas the Masters' program keeps growing. Mr Best said Squash Australia does not want to be involved in how Masters run their competitions.

8. ELECTION OF AMSA OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2012-13:

The President declared all positions vacant. He said only one nomination for each of the following positions had been received and therefore the candidates were elected unopposed:

8.1	President	Peter Wright (Victoria)
8.2	Vice-President	Scott Caban (ACT)
8.3	Secretary	Debbie Sims (ACT)
8.4	Treasurer	Garry Irwin (NSW)
8.5	Registrar	Ron Clayton (WA)

9. ELECTION OF AMSA COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2012-13

The President declared the following positions vacant.

9.1 Publicity Officer – TBA

9.2 Squash Australia Delegate: There were two nominations for the position of Squash Australia Delegate. Mr Ed Jennings (WA) was appointed Returning Officer. Following a secret ballot Mr Terry Barlow (Victoria) was declared the successful candidate. The President thanked Mr Best for his contribution to the Committee.

9.3 The President said clause 14(1)(b) of the Constitution states:

“(b) 2 *natural persons*, being the Publicity Officer and the Squash Australia delegate respectively, or such other number of natural persons being no more than four (4), each of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Association pursuant to Rule 15.”

He said two nominations have been received for the position of ‘natural person’ – Alison Williams (WA) and Ron Smith (ACT). WA put the motion that Ms Williams and Mr Smith be appointed as a ‘natural person’. Seconded by NSW. Following a show of hands the motion was lost.

10. ELECTION OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR 2012-13

The President declared the following positions vacant. The following members were elected:

Kathy Paterson (Qld)	(Qld)
Michael Brown (Tas)	(Tasmania)
Ron Clayton (WA)	(WA/Qld)
Robert Scott (NSW)	(NSW/ACT)
Ron Smith (ACT)	(ACT/WA)
Terry Barlow (Vic)	(VIC/NT)

11. APPOINTMENT OF AN AUDITOR FOR 2012-13

It was **resolved** (Irwin/Best) that Mr Ron Smith (ACT) be appointed as Auditor for 2012-13.

12. APPOINTMENT OF A PATRON(S) FOR 2012-13

Ms Heather Mckay and Mr Geoff Hunt were appointed Patrons for 2012-13.

13. FINANCE

13.1 Determination of License Fee/Financial Contribution from the Queensland Masters Squash Association to AMSA for the 2013 Australian Championships to be held in Adelaide, South Australia – Minute from the AMSA Secretary dated 30 July 2011 was noted. It was agreed that the licence fee of \$2,500 would remain for 2012-13 and be reviewed for 2013-14.

14. MASTERS SQUASH TOURNAMENTS

a) 2013 AUSTRALIAN MASTERS SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

The ACT President, Scott Caban, presented a PowerPoint presentation to the meeting. He reported that the ACT was well advanced in arrangements for 2013. He said as members are aware, Canberra will be celebrating its centenary. He said the courts and venues have all been booked. Woden (8 courts) and Weston Creek (4 courts) will be the main centres with Dickson (6 courts) used for the overflow as well as the Interstate Team Series. He said the functions will be held at the following venues:

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|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Welcome Function | The Deck, Regatta Point |
| • VIP Function | Telstra Tower |
| • Individuals Dinner Dance | Southern Cross Club |
| • Wrinkly's Revue | Hellenic Club |
| • Interstate Teams Dinner Dance | Australian War Memorial |

Mr Caban said the theme will be 100 years of fashion. He said funding is an issue with major sponsorship difficult to obtain. He said ACT Masters were continuing to get small amounts of sponsorship in the form of cash or in-kind. He said the Committee

will continue to work on sponsorship. Current indications are that ACTMSA will make a loss of around \$14,000.

In addition to the Championships, the ACT will be the host to the Trans Tasman Test Series. He said all three tests will be held at the Woden Squash Courts. He encouraged everyone to make their travel arrangements through James Reis Travel Associates – a major sponsor of ACT Masters Squash. In conclusion he thanked Debbie Carlisle for her work on the PowerPoint presentation.

b) **AMSA TOURNAMENT CALENDAR**

Confirmation of calendar as agreed at 2004 General Meeting:

2013	Australian Capital Territory
2014	New South Wales
2015	Western Australia
2016	Northern Territory
2017	Victoria
2018	Tasmania
2019	Queensland
2020	South Australia
2021	New South Wales
2022	Australian Capital Territory

d) **INTERNATIONAL SQUASH TOURNAMENTS**

2012	03 – 06 Sept Asian Masters Championship M W Lahore, Pakistan
	21-23 NZ Masters
	09 – 13 Oct South American Masters M W Asuncion, Paraguay
	6-13 Oct Norfolk Island Masters
	13-20 Oct Alice Springs Masters Games
	20 October World Squash Day

2013 September – Trans Tasman Test Series – Canberra, ACT

e) **2012 AUSTRALIAN MASTERS SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS, ADELAIDE – SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

Mr Liam Johnston reported that everything had been running smoothly. He said it was unfortunate about the fire on the Thursday prior to the commencement of the Championships where all the players' packs were lost. He said the matter is now in the hands of the police. On a brighter note, he expressed pleasure at the number of teams attending this year and, as a result had to organize extra courts for the team's event. He said SAMS will make a small profit. He noted that a lack of sponsorship was a

problem. He said he would like to see AMSA try and obtain a national sponsor to alleviate the significant pressure placed on the host state or territory. In conclusion he thanked everyone for attending. The President thanked SAMS for hosting a very well-run tournament and excellent functions. Mr Johnston said Raice Tapp was responsible for the functions. This was acknowledged by acclamation.

16: GENERAL BUSINESS

- 16.1 AMSA Life Membership – Eligibility Criteria was noted. It was agreed to refer this matter to the sub-committee established at the Special Meeting of AMSA held on 5 September 2012 to review and finalise.
- 16.2 Oceania Squash Federation Calendar of Events was noted.
- 16.3 World Squash Calendar was noted.
- 16.4 AMSA Office Bearers & Committee Members 2012-13 was noted.
- 16.5 *Affiliation with Squash Australia:* The President reported he had received a letter from Squash Australia dated 10 September 2012 setting out the requirements for affiliation as an Associate Member. He said there are two associate members akin to AMSA, Defence Squash and Deaf Squash. Each organisation conducts its competitions and championships in accordance with its own by-laws. The President said consideration of affiliation will be considered over the next few months to see where AMSA fits. To that end he said the Secretary will canvas the views of all states and territories. He said AMSA will not receive any financial benefit but there are some advantages of coming under the umbrella of Squash Australia. Mr Jennings (WA) expressed concern about the possibility of future fees/costs being imposed on AMSA. Mr Irwin said if that were to occur, then AMSA has the opportunity disaffiliate itself.
- 16.6 *Perpetual Trophy:* Ms Dorricott (Qld) said she was disappointed that there was no WO/80 trophy this year. She said it was made known at Rockhampton that there would be an O/80 participant in 2012. The President acknowledged this and said a trophy for both the WO/80 and Men's O/85 would be available in 2013.
- 16.7 Ms Dorricott sought clarification in respect of Open events where only the winner and runner-up received a trophy when everyone in the O/80s received a trophy. The President said the policy is for 50% of players in an event to receive a trophy. In respect of the O/80s, trophies were given to each player in acknowledgement of their participation. Ms Dorricott then expressed her concern about the draws, in particular the O/35 and O/40 Open where there was only one in each age group and thus they played in a combined event. She

was of the view that players should play in their own age group as it was a national tournament. She also expressed disappointment that no Open events were held outside the South Adelaide squash courts and therefore those playing at the other courts had no opportunity to see any Open events. This was acknowledged and agreed to take on board for 2013 to ensure it did not occur again.

- 16.8 Ms Patterson (Qld) then raised the issue of Swiss draws. It was her view that only a small proportion of players did not like Swiss draws and that was because they didn't understand how they work. She said the aim is to give people more squash. She said at the national championships players should be able to play people of the same age. The President said players have the option to nominate to play in the Open. He said the Swiss draw was discussed at length at the AGM in Rockhampton 2011 where members were unanimously against using a Swiss draw. He said it is not only important for players to have competitive matches but to also get court time which, due to the nature of a Swiss draw, does not happen for the lower grade players. He said the aim of Masters is to cater for all levels of squash, not just the Open players. He said the vast majority of Masters players are Division 2, 3 and 4 players. Mr Irwin said the aim is to make all matches competitive.
- 16.9 *Website:* Mr Johnston reported that SAMS had great difficulty with the website and incurred \$2,500 extra expenditure in setting up a website due to having to get an outside person. He sought consideration of reimbursement from AMSA for this expenditure. Mr Thorpe (Victoria) said there appeared to be mis-communication about the capacity of the person doing to website to understand the program used. Mr Thurkle said there should be a package which goes from state to state and doesn't change. Mr Johnston agreed and said it should be in a format that everyone can understand. In response to Mr Johnston's request for reimbursement, the President said he did not think it was possible for AMSA to do so.

17. STATE REPORTS

- a) Australian Capital Territory's report was noted. Mr Caban reported that ACTMSA was in a sound financial position. The twice weekly masters' competitions continue to attract new players. He said due to the closure of the squash courts in Goulburn (NSW), about 13 players were now travelling to the ACT to play in the Monday night competition. He said the ACT March Tournament was a great success with in excess of 130 participants and he thanked his organising committee for their efforts. On a sad note, he said ACT Masters lost two long time and well respected players, Keith Jones (who was a committee member) and Ken Thompson (who played in the late 80s/early 90s). Scott said a very happy occasion this year was his marriage to Vicki.

- b) New South Wales – NSW's report was noted. Membership has remained reasonably static over the past year; tournament numbers remain constant; NSW Masters continues to be in a stable and sound financial position; long standing member Phil Rowland passed away; Dave Fuller won the Col Mower Trophy and Roy Whitehead the Graham Barry Trophy. The NSW Titles were held at Dural Squash Centre and attracted a strong local field.
- c) Northern Territory – Mr Weir reported that 20 or so players were travelling to Howard Springs to play. He said the new sports centre in Darwin, which will have 12 courts, including doubles courts is due to open within the next week or so.
- d) Queensland's report was noted. The QMSA is in transition with a new President, Vice-President, Secretary and Tournament Director. QMSA is in a sound financial position. Membership is slightly lower than in 2011. A tournament is held every 3-4 weeks.
- e) Tasmania's report was noted. 2011-12 was another successful year for Tasmanian Masters with membership up slightly. Tasmanian Masters is also in a good financial position.
- f) Victoria's report was noted. Members noted that it had been another successful year for Victoria. The VMSA continue to have 4 tournaments a year. The Masters/Juniors tournament is now run by the VMSA – a master and junior team up and play singles and then doubles. Unfortunately pennant over the past year has seen a decline. The Victorian Championships were held in Bendigo in an attempt to attract more entries and proved a success. It attracted more men in the 35-39 and 40-44 age groups. On the down side, female entries continue to be a concern with only 30 participating. The VMSA finances are in good shape due in part to the contributions from members.
- g) Western Australia - Congratulations go to Sue Volkze (gold), and Anne Richards (silver) in their respective finals at the Birmingham England World Masters Championships. Alan Appelbee is the 2012 Recipient of the Recognition of Contribution to WAMS Award. WAMS' financial status remains buoyant. WAMS also donated medals to juniors for the Esperance Tournament.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

SPECIAL RESOLUTION – PURSUANT TO CLAUSE 31 OF THE AMSA CONSTITUTION

- a) Nomination for AMSA Life Membership – Garry Irwin refers. *Mr Irwin left the room and did not participate in the discussion.* The President said the ACT Masters Squash Association had nominated Mr Irwin for AMSA Life Membership in recognition of his contribution to the AMSA

and masters squash. He said Mr Irwin had been a member of the Executive Committee and Treasurer for 17 years. In addition to being Treasurer he had also taken on the role of Manager of the Australian Trans Tasman Test Team on a number of occasions and has been the Interstate Teams Series coordinator since its inception. Added to that he is currently Secretary of the NSW Masters Squash Association and previously held the positions of Treasurer, Registrar and committee member of that Association. He has also participated in 20 Australian Masters Squash Championships, receiving his 20 year medallion in 2011. The President was of the view that Mr Irwin had given outstanding service to Masters and totally committed to masters' squash was a worthy recipient of Life Membership. It was **resolved** (ACT/WA) to confer Life Membership on Garry Irwin.

Mr Irwin said he was honoured and thanked all the member states and territories for their support. He said the players were his inspiration. This was acknowledged by acclamation.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.