



# A.M.S.A.

## Australian Masters Squash Association Inc.

PATRONS  
*Heather McKay Geoff Hunt*

**MINUTES OF THE THIRTY SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
of the AUSTRALIAN MASTERS SQUASH ASSOCIATION  
held on Monday, 11 September 2017 at the North Ballarat Sports Club commencing at 6.16pm

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### 1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES:

The meeting opened at 6.08pm. The President welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### **Present:**

Peter Wright (President)  
Terry Barlow (Vice-President)  
Ron Smith (Treasurer)  
Michelle Rowles (Secretary)  
Garry Irwin (Registrar)

Mark Young (ACT)  
Robert Scott (NSW)  
Greg Thompson (NT)  
Andrew Sosimenko (QLD)  
Louis Morsch (VIC)  
Ross Barnden (TAS)  
John Wood (SA)  
Phil Bradshaw (WA)

Doug Minchin (Squash Australia Delegate)  
Shane Thorpe (Webmaster)

#### **Observers:**

Wendy Beard (NT)  
Richard Best (NSW)  
Veronica Cvetko (VIC)  
Dianne Elliott (NSW)  
Christine Goodman (QLD)  
Cate Hardy (NSW)  
Garry Hulme (TAS)  
Shane Lamprey (NSW)  
Helena Morgan (Vic)  
Darren O'Neill (VIC)  
Paula Smith (NSW)  
Irene Taylor (VIC)  
Annette Wood (SA)

#### **Apologies:**

Heather McKay and Geoff Hunt (Patrons)

## 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- 2.1 Minutes of the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on Monday 12 September 2016, Darwin NT were noted. It was **resolved** (Barlow/Minchin) that the Minutes be approved.
- 2.2 Minutes of the AMSA Executive Committee Meeting held on 19 November 2016 were noted. It was **resolved** (Smith/Irwin) that the Minutes be approved.
- 2.3 Minutes of the AMSA Executive Committee Teleconference held on 27 June 2017 were noted. It was **resolved** (Smith/Irwin) that the Minutes be approved.
- 2.4 Minutes of the AMSA Executive Committee Teleconference held on 18 July 2017 were noted. It was **resolved** (Smith/Irwin) that the Minutes be approved.
- 2.5 Minutes of the AMSA Executive Committee Teleconference held on 22 August 2017 were noted. It was **resolved** (Smith/Irwin) that the Minutes be approved.

## 3. BUSINESS ARISING

Nil to report

## 4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- 4.1 **The President's Report for 2016/17 was noted.**  
It was **resolved** (Bradshaw/Scott) that the President's Report for 2016/17 be approved

## 5. FINANCE

### 5.1 Funding of the Australian Trans Tasman Test Team

Mr Barlow advised that the Australian Trans Tasman Test Team players are currently responsible for funding most of their travel and accommodation expenses, which can leave them significantly out of pocket to represent Masters Squash and their country.

The costs to fund the Australian Trans Tasman Test Team players is approximately \$37,000 over a 4 year period. The current funding provided by the AMSA over the 4 year period is \$16,000. The shortfall is \$21,000

The AMSA Executive have been considering ways to raise the shortfall.

Mr Barlow advised that the New Zealand team is primarily financed through Squash New Zealand. As the players for the Australian Trans Tasman Test Team are selected to represent their country and Masters Squash we are asking you to consider how we can support the Australian Trans Tasman Test Team.

Mr Young advised that ACT does not have any representatives and is not likely to in the foreseeable future. ACT believe there should be some compensation to the players but not fully funded. ACT propose continued subsidy of uniform plus 3 nights' accommodation and a cash contribution say \$150 towards expenses.

Mr Minchin suggested that the increase of the teams entry fee to \$210 to fund the Australian Trans Tasman Test Team was not his preferred option. They are national representatives and believes we need to provide greater financial assistance but perhaps could consider approaching the states and territories each year for an additional \$500 as most states are quite financial and would be able to make this contribution.

Mr Scott raised the matter of government assistance. He felt that we need to keep the costs reasonable for players and that the entry fees should not be increased as the costs to our members continue to rise each year with increased accommodation costs etc. He suggested that we seek funding from government sources and raise awareness through Squash Australia.

Mr Wright advised that no funding is available through Squash Australia.

Mr Thompson said that AMSA has very little income. Audited accounts of the various states should be submitted to the AMSA. Relative to income and bank balance at the time. NT will support the increasing of team fees to fund this exercise

It was **resolved** (Barlow/Young) that the members consider increasing support for the Australian Trans Tasman Test Team through the AMSA and that a sub-committee be established and provide an interim report to the members within 6 months with a final report within the next 12 months.

Carried.

Following the election of Office Bearers (refer item 7), the Australian Trans Tasman Test Team Funding Sub-Committee was established. Members of the Sub-Committee are:

- Terry Barlow
- Phil Bradshaw
- Robert Scott
- John Wood

## **5.2 2016/17 Financial Statements**

The Treasurer reported that the net operating profit for the year was \$5,217.17. The profit is largely attributed to the fact that 2016/17 was a non-Trans Tasman Test year.

It was **resolved** (Smith/Bradshaw) that the 2015-16 Financial statements be accepted.

## **5.3 Budget Proposals for Financial Years 2017/18 to 2020/21**

Mr Smith presented the budget proposals for the financial years 2017/18 to 2020/21

### **Revenue**

The Treasurer said currently there are three sources of revenue: License Fee, Affiliation Fees and the Interstate Team Series fees.

### **Licence Fee**

In respect of the License Fee, the Treasurer said it was resolved at the AGM in 2014 that the License fee be increased by \$500 for the 2014-15 financial year and increased by the CPI each year thereafter. He said the License fee is currently \$3,045.

It was **resolved** (Smith/Sosimenko) that the License Fee for 2017/18 be increased by the CPI (2.1%), which will take it to \$3,150 for the 2018 Australian Masters Squash Championships to be held in Hobart, Tasmania.

### **Affiliation Fees**

The current affiliation fee is \$4 and is based on information supplied by Member State/Territories. It was agreed at the 2016 AGM that this fee will remain at \$4.

The list was to include anyone who plays a sanctioned Masters tournament. This would form the basis for invoicing affiliation fees and appropriate adjustments could be made in one on one discussions with the Treasurer.

It was **resolved** (Smith/Barnden) that the AMSA affiliation fee will remain at \$4 per member for the 2017/18 financial year and all State Treasurers to advise the number of financial members as at 30 June 2017 as well as anyone who plays a sanctioned Masters tournament.

### **Interstate Teams Fees**

Mr Smith advised that players currently pay \$70 for the Individual Championships, which previously only guaranteed 3 matches. Many of the Individual draws are now round robins which means players are now getting 4 or 5 matches. In the teams event, players get 5 matches except in some cases where a division has a bye. The current fee for the teams is \$180 per team (\$60 per player). Mr Smith suggested that the teams fee be increased to \$210 per team (\$70 per player) to bring the cost in line with the Individual Championships fee.

It was **resolved** (Smith/Young) that the Interstate Teams Series Fee be increased to \$210 per team with \$10 being retained by AMSA and \$200 to be paid to the Host State.  
Carried

### **2017/18 Budget**

Mr Smith presented the 2017/18 budget

It was **resolved** (Smith/Thompson) that the budget for 2017/18 be approved.

## **5.4 Appointment of an Auditor for 2017/18**

It was **resolved** (Smith/Barnden) that Mr Nicholas Smith, Chartered Accountant, be appointed as Auditor for 2017/18.

## **6. SQUASH AUSTRALIA DELEGATE'S REPORT**

- 6.1 Mr Minchin provided an update on Squash Australia and advised that Squash Australia do appreciate receiving the numbers from Masters as it improves the funding they can receive.

Prior to the AGM in November there will be an open squash forum on 5 November where Squash Australia will discuss how they would like to see things further develop or change. Everyone is welcome.

It was **resolved** (Minchin/Thompson) that the Squash Australia Delegates Report be accepted.

## 7. **ELECTION OF AMSA OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2016-2018**

The current positions of Vice-President, and Treasurer have completed their 1 and 2 year terms respectively. These positions are declared vacant and available for election.

### 7.1 **Secretary**

There was one nomination received – Michelle Rowles – nominated by VIC  
There being no further nominations, Ms Rowles was elected unopposed.

### 7.2 **Vice-President**

There were 2 nominations received

- Terry Barlow – nominated by Victoria
- Robert Scott – nominated by New South Wales

A ballot was conducted and Mr Barlow was elected.

## 8. **MASTERS SQUASH TOURNAMENTS**

### 8.1 **2018 AUSTRALIAN MASTERS SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS, HOBART TASMANIA**

Mr Barnden and Mr Hulme provided a presentation for the 2018 Australian Masters Squash Championships in Hobart Tasmania in 2018.

Mr Barnden advised that plans are going well and they will be run very similar to 2010. The following was noted:

- Theme – Play with Conviction
- Courts – 8 courts at Eastside. Options for other courts include Kingston and University (currently have building works done and will have alcohol restrictions)
- Website has been created which is essentially a poster site with no functionality. It will include information about functions and accommodation. Currently having discussions with Gerard McNally from NT about the website used in Darwin and Ballarat.
- Accommodation – September is going to be a very busy time in Hobart so please encourage your members to book early.
- Merchandise – will be using Squash.com.au

Mr Wright requested that Tasmania provide the states with a summary of current arrangements and keep them updated as arrangements progress.

### 8.2 **AMSA TOURNAMENT CALENDAR**

The AMSA Tournament Calendar was agreed as follows noting that 2022 will be held in Western Australia and 2023 will be held in Australian Capital Territory

2018	Tasmania
2019	Queensland
2020	South Australia
2021	New South Wales
2022	Western Australia
2023	Australian Capital Territory
2024	Northern Territory
2025	Victoria
2026	Tasmania
2027	Queensland

Mr Wright discussed the option of conducting a tri-nation series in the non-Trans Tasman Test year with countries such as South Africa and in the South East Asian region.

It was noted that the Trans Tasman Test Series is usually held in NSW and Victoria. Other states have expressed an interest in hosting the Trans Tasman Test Series.

Ms Rowles to canvass the option of WA hosting the Trans Tasman Test in 2021. The proposal is to switch WA to 2021 and NSW to 2022 subject to the agreement of NSW.

### 8.3 **INTERNATIONAL SQUASH TOURNAMENTS**

The following international squash tournaments were noted:

#### **2017**

14 October World Squash Day

#### **2018**

5-15 April Commonwealth Games – Gold Coast, Australia

29 July – 4 August WSF World Masters – Charlottesville, USA

3-14 September Australian Masters Squash Championships – Hobart, Tas

8-16 September Asia Pacific Masters Games – Penang, Malaysia

Ms Rowles to advise WSF of our tournament dates to be included in their calendar.

### 8.4 **2016 AUSTRALIAN MASTERS SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS – BALLARAT VIC**

Mr Morsch provided an interim review of the Australian Masters Squash Championships

The tournament has been running very smoothly. Highlights include:

- Fantastic support from the Victorian Government and the Ballarat local governments and business community.
- Great first week with the Individual Championships with 262 entrants.
- Teams week is going very well with 18 divisions playing out of the 2 centres.
- Over 330 attended the Welcome Function at Craigs Hotel
- Individuals Dinner Dance was a great night with 217 in attendance.
- The Theme Night “Blood on the Southern Cross” was well received with 75 attending last week and 162 will attend tomorrow night.
- There will be 335 coming to the Teams Dinner Dance on Friday night.

- The shuttle bus during the day and the booze buses to the functions have been very well received.

Mr Wright congratulated Mr Morsch on the putting on a very well run tournament.

## 9. GENERAL BUSINESS

### 9.1 Australian Masters Squash Championships Scoring System

Mr Wright provided a summary of his paper and opened the discussion to the floor.

Mr Sosimenko advised that the move to PAR scoring is in the right direction.

Mr Scott advised that at the NSW Teams Meeting last night 68% of players preferred HiHo scoring.

Mr Minchin suggested that games would be over a lot quicker on cold courts with PAR scoring.

Ms Morgan advised that with PAR 15, players come off the court with more points as they are rewarded when they win a rally. She does not believe that it makes a big difference to the length of a match.

Mr Thompson suggested that a single dot ball option be available for some of the older players.

Mr Hulme indicated that the rest of the world has gone to PAR scoring.

Ms Wood advised that it was trialed 2 years ago in SA and it has not made any difference to the length of the games – nights finish at the same time.

Mr O'Neill advised that Victoria did a survey on their website and 70% were in favour of PAR scoring.

It is **resolved** (Irwin/Sosimenko) that the Australian Masters Squash Championships scoring be aligned with the International Rules of Squash and move from Hand In/Hand Out (HIHO) scoring to Point a Rally (PAR) scoring from 2018 as follows:

Event	Scoring System
Open Championships for 35/40/45/50/55/60/65 age groups	PAR11
Open Championships for 70/75/80/85 age groups	PAR15
Graded Championships for all age groups	PAR15
Interstate Teams Series	PAR15

Carried

## **9.2 AMSA Sponsorship Agreement – Inform Connections**

Mr Smith advised that the AMSA has entered into a sponsorship agreement with Inform Connection for the provision of uniforms for the Australian Trans Tasman Test Team for this year in Ballarat and the 2019 Test Series in New Zealand.

Inform Connection will also provide and sell at tournaments and/or on their website, AMSA approved replica garments. The AMSA will receive \$5 per garment sold by Inform Connection.

## **9.3 Amendment to the AMSA By Laws**

Mr Smith advised that the By Laws were amended following the 2016 AGM regarding the staggering of the election of the AMSA Office Bearers.

It was recently noted that Attachment 1 had not been updated to reflect this change.

It was **resolved** (Smith/Young) that amended Attachment 1 be approved.

## **9.4 Judith Goadby Memorial Award Selection Protocol**

Mr Smith advised that the current selection protocol does not allow the AMSA Executive and Life Members to vote. However, the AMSA Executive and Life Members are able to vote at an Annual General Meeting or General Meeting (refer Clause 35.1 of the Constitution) and previously were involved in the selection process of the Judith Goadby Memorial Award.

It was **resolved** (Smith/Young) that the Judith Goadby Memorial Award selection protocol be updated as follows:

1. Nominations to be circulated to each state/territory, AMSA Executive and Life Members six (6) weeks prior to the commencement of the Championships.
2. Each State/Territory President (or their nominee), AMSA Executive and Life Members vote for the Judith Goadby Memorial Award using a preferential voting system (1, 2, 3). Note that where a member holds a dual position of AMSA Executive and Life Member, they only have one vote.

## **9.5 AMSA Office Bearers & Committee Members 2016/17**

Noted

## **10. STATE REPORTS**

**10.1 Australian Capital Territory was noted**

**10.2 New South Wales was noted**

**10.3 Northern Territory was noted**

**10.4 Queensland was noted**

**10.5 South Australia was noted**



**10.6 Tasmania was noted**

**10.7 Victoria was noted**

**10.8 Western Australia was noted**

**11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**11.1 Trans Tasman Test Series**

Mr Irwin as Australian Trans Tasman Test Team Manager thanked the AMSA and the VMSA for hosting the Trans Tasman Test Series in Ballarat

**11.2 Peter Wright OAM Award**

The President advised that the award was awarded to Gaye Mitchell this year and was presented to Gaye at the Individuals Dinner Dance last Friday night.

The meeting closed at 9.18pm.

**Addendum**

Ed Jennings received the Judith Goadby Memorial Award this year. It was announced at the Teams Dinner Dance on Friday 15 September 2017.

Special thanks to Irene Taylor for organising the meals for the AGM.