



A.M.S.A.

Australian Masters Squash Association

PATRONS

Heather McKay Geoff Hunt

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the AUSTRALIAN MASTERS SQUASH ASSOCIATION
held on Monday, 9th September 2013 at the Woden Squash Courts, Launceston
Street, Woden commencing at 6.00 pm

AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

- 2.** The meeting opened at 6.00 pm. The President welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Present: Peter Wright (President)
Debbie Sims (Secretary)

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

Observers: Robert Scott (NSW)
Terry Barlow (Vic)
Ron Smith (ACT)
Darren O'Neill (Vic)
Sarah Haydon (Qld)
Jenny Brown (Tas)
Michelle Griffiths (NT)
Ron Clayton (WA)
Helena Morgan (Vic)
Don Barnes (NSW)
Sue Barnes (NSW)
Dave Fuller (NSW)
Raice Tapp
Linda McBrierty (WA)
Ed Jennings (WA)
Ron Smith (ACT)
Jason Davies (NSW)
Bill Linton (NSW)
Doug Minchin (WA)

Lorna Harmer SA

Apologies: Liam Johnson (SA), Garry Irwin (AMSA) Heather McKay and Geoff Hunt (Patrons)

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) Minutes of the 32nd Annual General Meeting held on Monday 12th September 2012, Adelaide, South Australia were noted. It was **resolved** (Weir/Barlow) that the Minutes be accepted.
- b) Minutes of the special meeting of AMSA held on Wednesday, 5 September 2012 were noted.
- c) Minutes of the Teleconference meeting held 12 June 2013 were noted.

4. BUSINESS ARISING

- 3.1 Affiliation with Squash Australia – The President reported that he had been advised by Squash Australia that AMSA had not been dis-affiliated and thus remains current. Notification to be circulated to the States/territories.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- 4.1 The President's report for 2012-13 was noted. The President highlighted the following:
 - Australia had a very convincing 3 - 0 win over New Zealand in the Trans Tasman Test Series. He congratulated all the Australian representatives on their selection and success during the test series.
 - We learnt of the passing of Jack Wass, a former President of South Australian Masters Squash and recipient of the Judith Goadby Award in 2001. Jack was a stalwart of Masters squash and it was under his stewardship that SA Masters were able to secure their own squash centre.

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

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

- 5.1 The President reported that the Treasurer had been taken ill and was unable to present his report. The Auditor, Ron Smith (ACT) reported that the accounts for 2012 had finally been audited in April. He said there are a number of outstanding matters to follow up from 2012. He said the financial statements for 2013 had not been forthcoming. The

President said he would arrange for Mr Irwin to hand everything over to Ron for the purposes of conducting an audit which will then be circulated to the states/territories. In response to questions about outstanding matters, Ron said there were a number of outstanding affiliation fees from the states/territories. It was the view of Mr Best that a number of items relating to the Trans Tasman Test were not in accordance with the decision of the AGM in 1991. He cited clothing for those travelling to Birmingham for the World Masters Squash as not an approved expenditure item. He also noted that 20-25% of those who travelled to Birmingham were not members of this Association. Ms Morgan supported the view that anyone who is not representing Australia should not be provided with clothing.

6. SQUASH AUSTRALIA DELEGATE'S REPORT

Mr Barlow said he attended the AGM for Squash Australia. He said the 2014 World Masters Squash Championships will be held in Hong Kong and entries are expected to open in November this year.

7. ELECTION OF AMSA OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2013-14:

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:

- 7.1 President – Peter Wright (Victoria)
- 7.2 Vice-President – Richard Best (NSW)
- 7.3 Secretary – Debbie Sims (ACT)
- 7.4 Treasurer – Ron Smith (ACT)
- 7.5 Registrar – Ron Clayton (WA)

8. ELECTION OF AMSA COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2013-14

Only one nomination for one of the following positions was received and therefore the candidate was elected unopposed:

- 8.1 Publicity Officer - TBA
- 8.2 Squash Australia Delegate – Terry Barlow (Victoria)

9. ELECTION OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR 2013-14

Mr Barlow questioned the value in nominating for the Selection Committee for 2014, being a non-test series year and recommended leaving the current selectors in place and call for nominations in the year leading up to the test thus making it a two year term. This was agreed to. Mr Minchin supported having 5 selectors to give a better representation from the states.

10. APPOINTMENT OF AN AUDITOR FOR 2013-14

Mr Smith recommended using the Auditor used to audit the ACT Masters Squash Financial Statements. This was agreed to.

11. APPOINTMENT OF A PATRON(S) FOR 2013-14

The President said Geoff Hunt and Heather McKay had indicated their willingness to continue as patrons. This was agreed to.

12. FINANCE

12.1 Determination of License Fee/Financial Contribution from the NSW Masters Squash Association to AMSA for the 2014 Australian Championships to be held in Bathurst, NSW – Minute from the AMSA Secretary dated 25 July 2013 was noted. It was agreed that the License Fee remain at \$2,500 for 2014.

13. MASTERS SQUASH TOURNAMENTS

a) 2014 AUSTRALIAN MASTERS SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS, NEW SOUTH WALES

Mr Bill Linton (NSW) went through the powerpoint presentation. The main features were:

- Courts will be used at Bathurst (Panthers) (5 including the glass court), Orange (6), Blaney (3) and Wallerawang.
- Individuals will be held 1-5 September
- Interstate teams series will be held 8-12 September
- Bathurst is 3.5 hours' drive from Sydney airport
- Social functions will be held at the Panthers Leagues Club
- Welcome Function will be held at the Mt Panorama Motor Museum on 31 August 2014 – 6-8 pm
- A range of hotels, restaurants and accommodation is available in Bathurst
- 2 rail services per day through Country Link
- Daily regional flights from Sydney
- Range of sponsorship including IGA, Bathurst Panthers, Bathurst Glass, Spencer Fuller, Brian Larkam
- Tournament Director will be Tanya Bailey
- Treasurer is Don Barnes
- Accommodation is Sue Barnes

In response to a question about extra facilities and socializing areas, Mr Davies said there will be drinks and bar service at all the centres.

A copy of the presentation to be circulated to all states/territories for information.

b) **AMSA TOURNAMENT CALENDAR**

Confirmation of calendar as agreed at 2004 General Meeting:

| | |
|------|------------------------------|
| 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 |
| 2023 | Western Australia |

d) **INTERNATIONAL SQUASH TOURNAMENTS**

| | |
|------|--|
| 2013 | 6-8 September – European Individual Masters Championships – Prague, Czech Republic |
| 2013 | 30 August/1 & 7 September – Trans Tasman Test Series – Canberra, ACT |

Mr Barlow reported that Tom Slattery had won a bronze medal at the World Masters Games in Turin. Brian Cook won Gold.

e) **2013 AUSTRALIAN MASTERS SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS, CANBERRA - ACT**

Mr Caban reported that the Championships had been running smoothly. A lot of assistance had been received from volunteers and he expressed his appreciation and thanks to all those who have helped out.

16: **GENERAL BUSINESS**

- 16.1 Operations Manual – It was noted that a sub-committee, chaired by Ron Smith (ACT) had been formed to look at and revise the Manual. Ms Morgan questioned why the sub-committee had not received a final copy prior to circulation. Mr Smith responded that final comments had been received and it was signed off at the AMSA Teleconference on 12 June 2013 for circulation to the States/territories. Mr Barlow agreed that the draft should have been sent to the sub-committee prior to circulation to the states/territories.

Mr Smith said there were some changes he would like to make to the Manual as a result of running the 2013 Championships. Mr Minchin said the Manual was a live document which should incorporate any amendments/changes from the current championships.

It was **resolved** (Best/Barlow) that the sub-committee look at the Operations Manual and take in any changes from the current championships and make recommendations for approval by the states/territories.

- 16.2 AMSA Constitution and By laws – it was noted that a sub-committee had been established to look at the current AMSA Constitution. A draft Constitution and By-laws had been circulated to the membership prior to the AGM. Mr Best said the draft Constitution and Bi-laws do not comply with ACT laws. He said that NSW was unhappy that a Committee of three had approved the draft Constitution and By-laws. It was his view that the Constitution should be approved by 50% of the membership plus one. He was also his view that items which are in the By-laws should be in the Constitution. He said items which had been put in the By-laws should be done so by special resolution of 75% of the membership. Mr Best did not provide any reasons why the draft Constitution or By-laws did not meet the requirements of the ACT legislation or cite sections of the legislation that the draft Constitution allegedly breached.

Mr Smith said he Chaired the sub-committee to look at the Constitution and By-laws. He said the draft was circulated to the other members of the Committee and only Victoria provided any feedback. He said at no time during the process did NSW provide any input, despite being invited to do so.

It was moved (Caban/Rowles) that the draft Constitution and By-laws be accepted. Following a show of hands the motion was lost. 2 for and 2 against with 4 people abstaining.

NSW undertook to provide comments to Mr Smith.

It was also agreed to seek legal advice on whether or not the draft Constitution and By-laws meets the requirements under the ACT legislation.

- 16.3 Eligibility Criteria – Trans Tasman Test was noted. It was noted that the criteria had been made less ambiguous. The purpose is to reward the current Australian champions.
- 16.4 Aub Amos Memorabilia – email from QMSA dated 1 August 2013 – Ms Dorricott reported that Aub's wife had passed away last year and the family had uncovered some memorabilia which may be of interest to AMSA, including Australian blazers. Mr Barlow said he would check with Squash Australia to see if it could house the memorabilia.
- 16.5 AMSA Office Bearers & Committee Members 2013-14 was noted.

17. STATE REPORTS

- a) Australian Capital Territory – Mr Caban reported that masters' numbers were strong. He said the Association is in a healthy financial position. He said ACT Masters had managed to secure sponsorship for its March tournament and also the Championships. During the course of the year ACT Masters had lost another of its long time members in Brian Hill.

He said a memorial award had been established in recognition of the contribution to ACT Masters of Keith Jones who had passed away the previous year. The inaugural winner of that award was Lyn Dunmore, a long term member of the Committee.

- b) New South Wales – Mr Best reported that Garry Irwin, a long serving member of the Committee, had stepped down from the position of Secretary last year. Jason Davies has now taken on that role. He said Robert Scott also stepped down as Vice-President. He thanked both members for the significant contribution to NSW masters.

Mr Best said a regular number attend the various NSW masters tournaments and also thanked ACT players for their support at the tournaments. He said there was a strong field of players at the NSW Masters State titles held at Dural. The November Dapto tournament raised funds for Camp Quality. On a sad note, Brian Leyland had passed away.

He said last year a number of members were trained in first aid and the Association purchased a defibrillator machine. The Association continues in a sound financial position; member numbers remain constant. He thanked Dunlop for being a major sponsor.

- c) Northern Territory – Mr Weir reported that there are 60 members who play regularly and 30 who come and go. He said a new sports centre has been open in Darwin with 12 glass back courts and 6 with movable walls to accommodate doubles. There will be an inaugural teams and masters championships being held on the long week end next year.

- d) Queensland – Ms Dorricott reported that Qld Masters is expanding their tournament calendar by holding one in NSW. They are also looking at going up north. Again on a sad note, she said Ernie Robbins passed away this year. She said the State titles were held at Acacia Ridge.

- e) South Australia – The local pennant competition continues to attract good numbers with 10 Divisions playing across Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings.

Jason Mudge, will again represent SA in the Trans Tasman Test Series and know that he will do SA and Australia proud.

On a rather sad note, SA Masters saw the passing of a couple of long standing members this year, John Chapman was the Auditor of SAMS for many years and was an active player on a Friday. Another passing was the legendary Jack Wass; he had been involved in Squash in South Australia for so many years that his accomplishments would fill many pages.

- f) Tasmania – Di Kingston reported that the state championships were very successful with participants from Victoria and New Zealand. The Association's financial position is sound. She said the Committee is working well and money is being channeled into the juniors.
- g) Victoria – Ms Rowles reported that the VMSA launched its new website and work is continuing to be done on it. Hoping to have Member's login and entry on-line. Helena Morgan (Tournament Director) runs 4 tournaments a year, including a Masters/Juniors tournament. She said there are 2 pennants per year. She said there is a decline in numbers due to the ageing of members. Currently running a survey asking views about different formats. She said the Judith Goadby Award was last year awarded to Steve Walton.
- h) Western Australia – Mr Thomas reported that the Association is in a sound position. He said there is a sub-committee in place for the 2015 Australian Masters Championships.

18. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- a) AMSA Website – Mr Davies (NSW) suggested that the list of Australian Champions should include the winners from all divisions, not just the Open events as all winners are Australian champions. He undertook to update the list for inclusion on the AMSA website.

The President reported that 90% of the work has been done on the AMSA website to allow states/territories hosting the Australian Championships to run the titles. He said it will contain the framework for running the championships, e.g., entry forms, payment facilities, merchandise etc.

- b) With the passing of a number of long time members, Mr Minchin asked whether AMSA could officially acknowledge these players/members in some way. Suggestions included acknowledging them at the Interstate Teams Dinner Dance; establish a page on the AMSA website for past players/members.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.40 pm.