



## OCEANIA SQUASH FEDERATION

### REGIONAL REPORT TO WORLD SQUASH FEDERATION

The Oceania Squash Federation comprises 10 member countries with Australia and New Zealand being the largest both in terms of playing numbers and facilities. The geography of the region imposes some big challenges for the smaller member countries internally and externally, which is not helped by a lack of funding and facilities. However the national associations continue to do an outstanding job of promoting squash and encouraging participation wherever possible. Throughout the region there are 750 + squash venues with more than 30,000 registered members competing in regular competition and an estimated 100,000 plus who say they participate on a casual basis at least once a year. Squash in the Oceania region is run largely by volunteers and while Squash Australia and Squash New Zealand do employ full time staff most clubs rely heavily on volunteer committees to run the sport.

One of the major highlights to date for 2018 was the Commonwealth Games held on the Gold Coast in Australia. There were 106 athletes participating in the squash events and it was fantastic to see representatives from Papua New Guinea and Fiji competing alongside the other Commonwealth nations. Australia, England and New Zealand dominated the medal table in what was a hugely successful games. The use of the MovieWorld studios for the squash, boxing and table tennis was a masterstroke and should be a benchmark for future major sporting events. Congratulations to Kay Kendall and her organising committee - they did an outstanding job.

In September 2017 the Oceania Championships were held in Tahiti at the Phenix Sports Complex in Punaauia. Australia and New Zealand competed in the event for the first time. As first time entrants it was a little hard to judge the required standard for these two countries but fortunately the level of competition ended up being well balanced. The Tahitian Squash Federation did an outstanding job of organising the event with the assistance of Carol Kawaljenko, the OSF executive officer. The AGM of the OSF was held at the same time with representatives from Samoa, Tahiti, New Caledonia, Australia and New Zealand.

Earlier in the year, January 11 - 18, the Oceania Junior Squash Championships were held at the Redcliffe Squash Centre in Queensland, Australia. The bulk of the athletes came from Australia and New Zealand but it was pleasing to see competitors from Singapore, Malaysia, PNG and Fiji. The event rotates each year between Australia and New Zealand and continues to grow in strength and numbers. Following the OJC the Trans Tasman Test Series was held between Australia and New Zealand with New Zealand emerging as the victors. After an absence of a few years the event was revived in 2014 has been held each year since then with great success.

Between June 25 - 30 OSF organised and funded a coaching programme in Samoa. Paul Hornsby, a New Zealand coach, traveled to Samoa and conducted a programme consisting of 6 x 2.5/3 hours sessions over the 5 days with 8 local coaches participating. Although Paul is not a WSF tutor the course was based on the WSF Level 1 content which Paul had used when he was a coach in the UK. (report attached). The feedback was very positive and it is hoped that

a follow up course might be run later in the year. OSF is grateful for the support provide by Samoa Squash to assist with the delivery of the programme.

OSF would like to acknowledge the support of Dunlop by way of the squash ball allocation to the region. The member countries are appreciative of the ongoing support from Dunlop.

The OSF Annual General Meeting is scheduled to be held on October 13th in Auckland, New Zealand. David Navarre, who has been a vice president, is stepping down from the role as he is moving back to France. A new VP will be required. The other OSF office holders have indicated that they are happy to carry on.

While new facilities continue to be a major challenge for the smaller member countries it is encouraging to see new courts being built and refurbishment programmes underway in Australia and New Zealand. A legacy from squash at the CWG is that the courts are now part of the Carrara Sports Complex on the Gold Coast. This is a great outcome for the sport and from hosting the CWG. A new 6 court facility will open later in 2018 in Wellington and work is about to commence on a new 8 court facility in Christchurch. This is great news for both regions and Squash New Zealand.

Both Australia and New Zealand are ending teams to compete in the 2018 FISU University Squash Championships in Birmingham and also sending ambassadors to the Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires.

In July 2019 the Pacific Games will be held in Samoa. In preparation for the event it is intended to run an educational programme for technical officials so they can be accredited either prior to or during the games. OSF will, with assistance from Squash Australia, conduct an online referees exam and follow that up with face to face training in Samoa with the goal of accrediting a number of local technical officials.

On a sadder note, OSF wishes to acknowledges the passing of Mousie (Elisapeta) Skews, a long serving and much loved squash administrator, manager and player from the Cook Islands.

#### **Final Results for the Oceania Championships 2017:**

Mens Team Event : 1st - New Caledonia; 2nd - Tahiti; 3rd - Samoa

Womens Team Event : 1st - New Caledonia; 2nd - Australia; 3rd - Tahiti

Mens Individual Champion : Winner - Brad Freeme (Aus); Runner Up - Nicholas Massenet (NCL); 3rd Place - Yann Lancrenon (NCL)

Womens Individual Champion : Winner - Christine Deneufbourg (NCL); Runner Up - Christelle Nagle (NCL); 3rd Place - Sylvaine Durand (NCL)

Phillip Cridge Memorial Award for Sportsmanship : Yann Lancrenon (NCL)

#### **Final Results for the Oceania Junior Championships 2018:**

##### **Under 11 Girls**

Final

Maja Maziuk [1] (AU) bt Kayce Hoani-Vincent [3] (AU) 11-9, 11-3, 11-3

3/4 Playoff

Joanne Joseph [5] (AU) bt Tara Davies [2] (AU) 9-11, 11-3, 11-8, 11-7

##### **Under 11 Boys**

Round Robin

1. Matthew Growcott [1] (NZ)

2. Zane Wolpers [3] (AU)

3. Michael Lawrence [4] (AU)

4. Nickolai Wolpers [5] (AU)

### **Under 13 Girls**

Final

Ella Lash [3] (NZ) bt Sophie Hodges (NZ) 7-11, 8-11, 13-11, 12-10, 11-7 (41m)

3/4 Playoff

Madison Lyon [2] (AU) bt Swetha Sivakumar [4] (SG) 11-7, 4-11, 11-6, 13-11

### **Under 13 Boys**

Final

Tom Marshall [2] bt Freddie Jameson [5] (NZ) 13-11, 5-11, 11-9, 11-5 (31m)

3/4 Playoff

Noah Thomas [1] (NZ) bt Euven Liaw (MY) 11-8, 12-10, 11-6 (26m)

### **Under 15 Girls**

Final

Natalie Sayes [3] (NZ) bt Jena Gregory [4] (NZ) 11-8, 11-7, 11-4 (17m)

3/4 Playoff

Katie Davies [1] (AU) bt Ella Burge [2] (AU) 11-5, 11-7, 11-6 (20m)

### **Under 15 Boys**

Final

Gregory Chan [1] (AU) bt Brendan MacDonald [3] (AU) 10-12, 8-11, 11-1, 16-14, 11-5 (50m)

3/4 Playoff

Riley-Jack Vette-Blomquist (NZ) bt Oscar Curtis (AU) [2] 11-6, 11-7, 11-7 (24m)

### **Under 17 Girls**

Final

Winona-Jo Joyce [3] (NZ) bt Mackenzie Sleep [1] (AU) 11-6, 11-8, 9-11, 11-4 (26m)

3/4 Playoff

Georgia Robcke [4] (NZ) bt Hayley Hankinson [2] (AU) 6-11, 9-11, 11-7, 11-8, 11-7 (37m)

### **Under 17 Boys**

Final

Kerwin The [3] (MY) bt Elijah Thomas [8] (NZ) 12-10, 9-11, 11-5, 11-9

3/4 Playoff

Dylan Molinaro (AU) bt Wesley Dyer [5] (AU) 9-11, 11-4, 11-6, 11-9 (37m)

### **Under 19 Girls**

Final

Anika Jackson [2] (NZ) bt Alex Haydon [1] (AUS) 3-11, 11-8, 11-6, 6-11, 11-8 (37m)

3/4 Playoff

Courtney Trail [6] (NZ) bt Zoe Dykzeul [5] (NZ) 11-9, 7-11, 11-3, 8-11, 11-5 (43m)

### **Under 19 Boys**

Final

Lwamba Chileshe [1] (NZ) bt Eugene Heng [4] (AU) 13-11, 12-10, 11-6 (39m)

3/4 Playoff

Nicholas Calvert [2] (AU) bt Lachlan Coxedge [3] (AU) (Walkerover)

**Samoa Coach Development Visit 25-30 June 2018**

The above development initiative was put in place by Oceania Squash Federation as an opportunity for squash enthusiasts in Samoa to learn and develop the necessary skills to potentially become qualified coaches in the future with the vision of growing the game both with current players and at grassroots level in Samoa.

There were 8 coaches in attendance for the duration of the course. The content was delivered across six 2 ½ -3 hours sessions on consecutive days. Each session had its own theme that built on the topics covered the previous day. These were as follows:

#### Day 1- “Setting the Scene”

- Introduction and outline of the week ahead
- Defining the Role of the Coach
- Teaching the correct Grip
- Forehand and Backhand Swing Analysis & Fault Diagnosis

#### Day 2- “The Art of Coaching”

- Session Planning
- Introducing, Demonstrating and Explaining session themes
- Understanding and using PDA (Perception, Decision, Action)
- Logical Feeding Progressions
- Example Session- the Drive

#### Day 3- “Teaching the Basic Shots”

- Understanding Learning Styles
- Importance of Coach Presence and Delivery Styles
- Practical Application of Days 1, 2 & 3 to plan and deliver sessions on:
  - Boast
  - Drop
  - Lob
  - Volley

#### Day 4- “Working with Groups”

- Additional Considerations when Working with Groups
- The Warm Up & Warm Down
- Routine Ideas & Progressions for pairs, 3’s & 4’s
- Using Conditioned Games

- Teaching the Serve & Return

#### Day 5- “Tactics & Movement”

- Understanding “Tactical Awareness”
  - Visualisation tools
  - Further Conditioned Games
- Basic Movement Requirements
  - Efficiency
  - Balance
  - Explosiveness

#### Day 6- “Recap, Revisit & Reinforce”

- A look back at what was covered in days 1-5
- General Q & A with reinforcements of key points throughout
- Rally Building Flowchart
- Further Movement Session
- Fun games to enhance learning

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