

## 44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting Minutes 18<sup>th</sup> October 2014 Sheraton Philadelphia – University City Hotel Philadelphia, United States of America

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### 1. PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

The President opened the meeting with a minute of silence for Hashim Khan, Mike Greenwood and other friends of the World Squash family that had passed away during the previous year.

The President confirmed to delegates that following the unsuccessful 2020 bid financial prudence had enabled increased committee activity, as had been promised at the 2013 AGM. Functionality had been improved by way of Championships, Coaching & Development and refereeing initiatives. He also advised the Board's intention to update and improve the structure of WSF Committees and to encourage younger people into membership on those Committees.

The President also updated delegates on meetings he had held during the past year – at his own expense - with the IOC President, IOC Members and the IOC Sports Director (who had been very impressed with the presentation and athleticism of squash in Glasgow). He reiterated that the IOC are currently reviewing the Sports Programme – considering new sports and the feasibility of reducing events, while retaining the number of athletes at 10,500 - for the 2020 Olympic Games; the Executive Board is to announce its recommendations on 8 December. He also acknowledged the success of the Commonwealth and Asian Games and extended thanks to Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, President of the Association of National Olympic Committees, for his support.

The President specifically thanked his Vice-Presidents, Regional Vice-Presidents and the Office for their support, time and tireless efforts in its support of him and the WSF.

#### a) AGM Programme

The President formally welcomed delegates to the meeting and apprised the Members of the AGM Programme.

#### b) Voting Procedures

The Chief Executive explained the voting procedures to Members and advised which motions required 50% (Vice-President Elections and General) and which 75% (Constitutional and Rule Changes) of the total votes. He also advised the members their right to request a poll or secret ballot.

#### c) Appointment of Scrutineers

The Meeting appointed outgoing WSF Vice-President Heather Deayton and Operations Manager Lorraine Harding as scrutineers.

### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from the following Member Nations:  
Scotland, Iran and Venezuela

Personal apologies were received from:

Tunku Imran (Patron), Murray Day (Past President), Marco Antonio Rosales (Regional Vice-President Pan-America), Neven Barbour (Regional Vice-President Oceania) and Joyce Buckley (Past Vice-President)

### 3. ATTENDANCE

#### a) MEMBERS REPRESENTED

Argentina	- Linda MacPhail	India	- Cyrus Poncha
Australia	- Stephen Bowen	Italy	- Davide Babini
Austria	- Steve Mann	Jamaica	- Douglas Beckford
Bahrain	- Hisham Alabbasi	Kuwait	- Amir Wagih
Barbados	- Craig Archer	Malaysia	- Major Maniam
Belgium	- Serge Maggi	Mexico	- Federico Serna
British Virgin Islands	- Ken Stillman	Netherlands	- Marcel Borst
Canada	- Lolly Gillen	New Zealand	- Gerard DeCourcy
Chinese Taipei	- Wen Jui Wang	Nigeria	- Udokang Ita Etim
Colombia	- Pablo Felipe Serna	Norway	- Reidun Ribesen
Czech Republic	- Pavel Sladeczek	Pakistan	- Syed Razi Nawab
Denmark	- K Sripathi	Poland	- Omar El Borolossy
Egypt	- Assem Khalifa	Qatar	- Talal Al-Mawlawi
El Salvador	- Valentin Quan Miranda	Saudi Arabia	- Ziad Al-Turki
England	- Zena Wooldridge	South Africa	- Steve Doeg
Finland	- Ken Watson	Spain	- Chris Herridge
France	- Jacques Fontaine	Sweden	- Thomas Troedsson
Germany	- Wolfgang Bauriedel	Switzerland	- Martin Wren
Guatemala	- Roberto Hernandez	USA	- Peter Lasusa
Hong Kong, China	- Karl Mak	Zimbabwe	- Hany Hamouda

#### b) OBSERVERS PRESENT

Anti-Doping Director	- Anne Smith
Canada	- Danny Da Costa
Chinese Taipei	- Jen Shan Wu

#### c) OTHERS PRESENT

##### i. By Right

N. Ramachandran	- WSF President
Heather Deayton	- WSF Vice-President
Mohamed El-Menshawey	- WSF Vice-President
Hugo Hannes	- WSF Vice-President
David Mui	- WSF Regional Vice-President - Asia

WSF Regional Vice-Presidents of Africa and Europe were also in attendance representing Zimbabwe and England respectively and Acting Regional Vice-President of Pan-America representing British Virgin Islands.

##### ii. By Invitation

Andrew Shelley	- WSF Chief Executive
Lorraine Harding	- WSF Operations Manager

The total number of votes represented at the meeting by Full Members (40) was 115.

### 4. APPLICATIONS FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP

The President confirmed that a correctly submitted application had been received from Papua New Guinea and proposed their acceptance as a Full Member of the WSF.

**Motion: Carried Unanimously**

As the new Members were not present the plaque recognising their membership would be sent after the meeting.

**Action: WSF Office**

### 5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 43<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Without further comment, approval was proposed by England and seconded by South Africa.

**Motion: Carried Unanimously**

6. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 43<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
None.

7. **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2013-2014**

Without comment, approval was proposed by Germany and seconded by Zimbabwe.

**Motion: Carried Unanimously**

8. **MOTIONS TO AMEND THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF WSF LIMITED**

None submitted.

9. **MOTIONS TO AMEND REGULATIONS GOVERNING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

None submitted.

10. **MOTIONS TO AMEND THE RULES OF INTERNATIONAL DOUBLES SQUASH**

a) **To amend the WSF Rules of International Doubles Squash as set out in Annexure C to the Agenda with effect from 1 January 2015.**

Motion: Executive Board

Having been detailed at the WSF Conference the previous day, Sweden seconded the motion.

**Motion: Carried Unanimously**

11. **MOTIONS TO AMEND THE RULES OF SQUASH**

a) **To amend the WSF Rules of Squash as set out in Annexure D to the Agenda with effect from 1 January 2015.**

Motion: Executive Board

Having been reviewed at the WSF Conference the previous day, South Africa seconded the motion.

**Motion: Carried Unanimously**

12. **WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The Chief Executive updated the schedule that had been included in the Agenda, as follows:

	<b><u>2014</u></b>	<b><u>2015</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2018</u></b>
Men's Team	-----	KUWAIT	-----	VACANT	-----
Women's Team	CANADA	-----	FRANCE <sup>(A)</sup>	-----	VACANT
Women's Championships	VENUE TBC	WSA	WSA	WSA	WSA
Men's Championships	QATAR	PSA	PSA	PSA	PSA
Men's & Women's Junior Individual <sup>(C)</sup>	NAMIBIA	EGYPT <sup>(A)</sup>	VACANT	VACANT	VACANT
Women's Junior Team	-----	VACANT	-----	VACANT	-----
Men's Junior Team	NAMIBIA	-----	VACANT	-----	VACANT
World Masters	HONG KONG	-----	S. AFRICA <sup>(B)</sup>	-----	VACANT
World Cup	CANCELLED	VACANT	-----	VACANT	-----
International Doubles		-----	VACANT	-----	VACANT

**Note:** Tenders required by 31 December two years ahead of event e.g. for 2017 events by 31 December 2014.

<sup>(A)</sup> Tender accepted subject to inspection of proposed venue and Accommodation

<sup>(B)</sup> Subject to government approval and inspection of proposed venues

<sup>(C)</sup> Played before the Junior Team Championship held concurrently with it

Saudi Arabia reiterated that the Men's and Women's Championships had been renamed and were incorrectly titled World Open in the table on the Agenda.

### 13. GENERAL BUSINESS

#### a) To receive the Forward Plan of the WSF for 2014/2015

The President went through the Plan outlining activities where the WSF is doing well – WADA compliance etc. - and where improvement is needed.

England recommended the requirement for female WSF Referees to be added as a goal to the Forward Plan, which was agreed. Receipt was proposed by Zimbabwe and seconded by British Virgin Islands.  
**Received unanimously**

#### b) To receive reports from WSF Regional Vice Presidents

The Reports had been circulated prior to the meeting and were duly received with the following additional comments:

**Africa:** The Regional Vice-President highlighted that the World Junior Championships had been held successfully in Namibia and thanked the WSF for the funding from SPIN.

**Asia:** The Regional Vice President commented on the success of the Asian Games and the growth of squash in general in the region and also stated that during the Asian Games he had met the President of the Olympic Council of Asia as well as the Tokyo Olympic Games Organising Committee to further strengthen the relationship Squash had with the Olympic family.

**Europe:** The Regional Vice-President highlighted the success of the ESF Junior Circuit and advised the launch of a Masters Circuit initially comprising six events. Specific thanks were extended to all the volunteers, Chairs and Directors of Committees for their support.

**Oceania:** New Zealand spoke to the report on behalf of the Regional Vice-President. He welcomed the new President of Squash Australia to his first AGM and advised that Tahiti had become members of OSF during the period. He extended thanks to Chris Sinclair who had resigned as the Oceania Refereeing Co-ordinator where she had greatly improved officiating over the many years in that role. He also thanked WSF for holding its Ambassador Programme in Papua New Guinea, which had resulted in them becoming full Members of the WSF.

**Pan-America:** The Vice-President of the Regional spoke to the report on behalf of the Regional Vice-President. He advised a very successful FPS Championships in Mexico, that the region now has 26 athletes in the top 100 and has a great ambassador in Diego Elias the new World Junior Champion. He also extended thanks to US Squash for hosting an excellent WSF Conference and AGM.

The President thanked the Regional Federations and their representatives for their reports.

### 14. WSF FINANCE

#### a) Adoption of the audited accounts for the financial year 2013/2014

#### b) To authorise the Officers to appoint and fix remuneration of the auditors

#### c) To receive the Budget for the financial year 2014/2015

#### d) Motion – WSF Executive

That the Membership Fees of the WSF for the calendar year 2015 shall be unchanged:

Full Member - 6 votes	(1501 and over)	£6,250
Full Member - 5 votes	(1001 - 1500 courts)	£4,570
Full Member - 4 votes	(751 - 1000 courts)	£3,730
Full Member - 3 votes	(501 - 750 courts)	£2,050
Full Member - 2 votes	(51 - 500 courts)	£1,160
Full Member - 1 vote	(1 - 50 courts)	£370
Associate Member		£30

The President advised that its improved financial situation will allow the WSF to continue with its increased Committee activities. He also suggested that, as no financial questions had been received by the deadline of 3 October, the four points be taken en-bloc, which was agreed. Acceptance of Motions 14a, 14b, 14c and 14d was proposed by the Executive Board and seconded by the Netherlands. **Motions: Carried Unanimously**

## 15. ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF WSF LIMITED

At this point the President thanked Heather Deayton - the out-going WSF Vice President – who had served on the WSF Executive Board for the past eight years. He stated that Mrs Deayton had been very effective and a fantastic asset for squash in Hong Kong, Asia and the World. He advised that she had been asked to stay on the Executive Board but had declined and that decision has been respected. He wished her all the best for the future and presented her with an award recognising her valued contribution to squash. In response Mrs Deayton thanked the delegates for the standing ovation, stated her pride at being part of the World Squash Family and her certainty that squash will be included on the programme of the 2020 Olympic Games.

### a) VICE-PRESIDENTS (in alphabetical order)

Each Nominee was given the opportunity to speak although, as there had been a recent death in her family, USA spoke on behalf of Jeanne Blasberg.

Nominated by Kuwait Withdrew prior to the meeting with apologies	HUSSAIN ABDULLAH AL-MAQSSEED	(Asia)
Nominated by USA	JEANNE BLASBERG	(Pan-America)
Nominated by New Zealand	GERARD DECOURCY	(Oceania)
Nominated by Egypt	<b>MOHAMED EL MENSRAWY</b>	(Africa) <b><u>Elected By Majority</u></b>
Nominated by Belgium	<b>HUGO HANNES</b>	(Europe) <b><u>Elected By Majority</u></b>
Nominated by Guatemala	<b>LINDA MACPHAIL</b>	(Pan-America) <b><u>Elected By Majority</u></b>
Nominated by Ireland Withdrew prior to the meeting with apologies	MADLINE PERRY	(Europe)
Nominated by Canada	ANNE SMITH	(Pan-America)

## 16. MOTIONS GENERAL

### a) To amend the WSF Code of Conduct 2014

Motion: Executive Board

#### **Amend Article 4. WSF Championships – Entry Offences as follows:**

##### “A. Late Withdrawal

Withdrawal by a player *or Team* without notice or acceptable reason after the closing date for entries *or before the end of their playing commitments in a Championship* may lead to a fine up to £500 GBP and may result in the player *or team* being found to have engaged in “Aggravated Behaviour” as defined in Article 7D). If a medical reason is given, this must be supported by an official medical certificate.”

## **Amend Article 5. WSF Championships: On-Site Offences**

"A. Non-appearance

If a player *or Team* enters a Championship and fails to withdraw or fails to inform the WSF Office or the championship organisers of his/*their* withdrawal, he/*they* may be fined up to £1,000 GBP. A second and any subsequent offences in any 12 month period may be regarded as aggravated behaviour as defined in Article 7D."

Adoption was seconded by Germany without comment.

**Adoption: Approved Unanimously**

## **b) To formally adopt the updated World Squash Anti-Doping Rules as set out in Annexure U with effect from 1 January 2015**

Motion: Executive Board

Adoption was seconded by Pakistan.

**Authorisation: Approved Unanimously**

## **17. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

None.

## **18. FUTURE MEETINGS**

The President announced that the next meeting will be held in France and that members will be notified dates and details in January 2015.

The President presented US Squash with a plaque and thanked them for hosting an excellent Conference and Annual General Meeting.

There being no further business, the President thanked the delegates for their contribution and participation and closed the Meeting closed at 11:25.