

**OCEANIA SQUASH FEDERATION**  
**“OSF”**

**MINUTES OF THE THIRD GENERAL MEETING OF THE OCEANIA SQUASH FEDERATION (OSF) HELD IN APIA, WESTERN SAMOA ON 25 OCTOBER 1995 COMMENCING 2.00 P.M.**

1. The Chair, Murray Day, declared the meeting open and welcomed all representatives in attendance. He outlined briefly the Federation's broad objectives since its inception and the rate of success in these areas. The proceedings for the meeting were also outlined.
2. **Attendees**  
 The Attendance Roll was circulated and the following attendees were recorded:  
 Murray Day - President  
 Graham Corderoy - Vice President  
 Colin Clapper - Executive Director  
 Etuale Sefo - President, Western Samoa  
 Ray E. Dole - President, American Samoa  
 Rajendra P. Chandhry - President, Fiji  
 Murray Withers - New Zealand  
 Bob Stirrup - New Caledonia  
 Erich Ulberg - Western Samoa  
 Robert Skews - Cook Islands  
 Kora Ben - Cook Islands
3. **Apologies** : The following apologies were recorded -  
 Bill Murphy - Vice President  
 Grant Scoones - New Zealand  
 Gary Robertson - Norfolk Island  
 Bernard Idoux - New Caledonia  
 David Boyd - New Caledonia
4. **Minutes of Previous General Meeting** :  
 It was moved G. Corderoy, and Seconded C. Clapper that the Minutes of the 2nd General Meeting of the Federation held in Noumea, New Caledonia on 25 May, 1993, as previously distributed, be adopted with the following amendment:  
  
 Item 33 Election of Officers. After the last dot point "Moved Australia, Seconded Vanuatu that Bill Murphy be elected to a position of Vice President of OSF" add the words "Carried unanimously". Motion Carried unanimously.  
  
 It was resolved that all business arising from the Minutes to be considered would be covered during the course of the meeting.
5. **Consideration of Outcomes of Special Meeting** :  
 It was resolved that the outcomes of a Special Meeting of the Federation held in Mackay, Australia on 7 July 1994 in conjunction with the Oceania Junior Championships be noted and accepted.
6. **Officers Report** :  
 Murray Day presented a report to the meeting on behalf of the Officers. Specific reference was made to the following matters contained in the report:
  - Results of Oceania Championship events were difficult to collate, and a better system is required for the maintenance of this information in future;
  - Consideration needs to be given to a realignment of the Oceania region to include Pacific Ocean fringe countries such as Japan, Taiwan, Philippines and Indonesia. This would add greater strength to the region and increase the level of participation in Oceania events;

- Singapore players participated in the Oceania Juniors in Mackay by invitation, and were well received;
- The World Squash Federation needs the support of all member countries in its push for Olympic participation. Oceania countries are encouraged to provide all necessary support to achieve this objective;
- Response to correspondence is a major problem for the Federation. Member countries were requested to address the issue and provide support for and responses to correspondence issued by the Federation;
- The South Pacific Cup is a key element of the sport in the Oceania region; and
- There is a priority need for the fostering of refereeing and coaching development in the region.

Moved Robert Skews, Seconded Graham Corderoy that the Officers Report be received and adopted. Carried unanimously.

7. **Statement of Financial Accounts :**

It was Moved M. Withers, Seconded R., Skews that the Statement of Receipts and Payments for the Period 15 May 1992 to 30 June 1995 together with the Auditor's Report, duly signed by the Federation Auditor, P.G. Stewart, be received and adopted. Carried unanimously.

Issues Arising:

i) Moved M. Withers, Seconded G. Corderoy that the Federation's currency, including membership subscriptions, be in accordance with the currency of the country in which the Federation's registered office is located.

ii) Moved G. Corderoy, Seconded R. Chandhry that all reasonable expenses incurred by the President in attending to Federation activities be met by the Federation. (Previous policy was to cover reasonable expenses only of the Executive Director and make a contribution to the President to offset part expenses). Expenses incurred in attending the Apia meeting to be covered by this motion. Carried unanimously.

iii) Noted that the financial period covered by the Statement of Receipts and Payments does not align to the calendar year period stipulated in the Constitution. The meeting resolved that this was acceptable and that the Constitution should be altered to comply with a 1 July to 30 June of the following year period.

8. **Report on Current Financial Position :** C. Clapper reported that the financial position of the Federation was as per the Statement of Receipts and Payments as at 30 June 1995 except for expenses currently being incurred by the Federation in relation to the South Pacific Cup and General Meeting in Apia.

9. **Committee Reports:** No Committee Reports were available for tabling at the meeting. R. Skews advised that Cook Islands has received correspondence on coaching from Butch Gifford and C. Clapper reported that Chas Evans has provided information and been active in the refereeing area but generally the Committee structure as originally envisaged was not functioning effectively. Agreed that the Officers review the structure of the Committees (Coaching, Development, Refereeing, Major Games and Technical) in addition to their Convenors with a view to reassessing their roles and responsibilities and the suitability of appointments thereto.

10. **Report from Regional Vice President to WSF :** No written report was available. M. Day advised the meeting he would be attending the forthcoming World Squash Federation Meeting in Cyprus and would be prepared to convey the outcomes of the Oceania Meeting at the Cyprus meeting. Endorsed.

11. **OSF Championship Reports:**

i) Junior Age

- A report on the previous Junior Age Championships had been distributed to all members. The report was endorsed. It was noted that Singapore participated in the Championships.
- The next and Fourth OSF Junior Age Championships is scheduled to take place in 1996 in Hamilton, New Zealand. The New Zealand view is that they would not be keen to host the event unless a minimum of six teams (i.e. countries) participated.
- R. Skews advised that Cook Islands would not be in a position to send Juniors to New Zealand next year as their Junior development programme was in the early stages of implementation and their current juniors were too young and not at an appropriate standard to compete in the event. E. Sefo advised that the position was similar in Western Samoa.
- Resolved that -
  - a. The Officers confirm with New Zealand their position regarding six competing teams in each event as a condition of hosting the championships;
  - b. The Championships be held on a bi-annual basis in the intervening year to that of the South Pacific Cup; and
  - c. The Officers call for nominations from member countries to host the event in 1998.

ii) Masters

- A report on the First OSF Masters in New Zealand had been distributed to members.
- A report on the Second OSF Masters in Norfolk Island was tabled at the meeting. Both reports were endorsed.
- M. Day reported that Nelson, New Zealand was hosting the New Zealand Masters in 1996 and would be keen to link the Oceania Masters with that event through Oceania naming rights being provided. Moved G. Corderoy, Seconded E. Sefo that the offer be accepted for the 1996 Oceania Masters.
- Agreed that the 1997 Oceania Masters to be held in either Cook Islands, Western Samoa or Norfolk Island. Venue to be resolved when other Oceania Championship commitments have been finalised.

iii) South Pacific Cup -

- A brief verbal report was provided by E. Sefo on the 1995 South Pacific Cup in progress. No significant difficulties had occurred.
- R. Skews advised that Cook Islands was nominating to host the South Pacific Cup in 1997. Nomination endorsed unanimously.
- Agreed that the Cup format should be similar to that of Western Samoa, in that an Open Championship would coincide with the Cup events. The most likely period for the South Pacific Cup would be the second half of October, 1997.
- Resolved that -
  - a. - draft rules be prepared for the South Pacific Cup and circulated for comment and adoption prior to the next South Pacific Cup;
  - b. - consideration be given to changing the name to "Oceania Cup or Championships";
  - c. - teams revert to four playing members and not three as exists at present;
  - d. - it be noted the event commenced in 1980 and is held on a bi-annual basis, coinciding with the South Pacific Games every fourth year when Squash is a participant sport in the Games;
  - e. - approaches be made to Vanuatu (Vicki Hillman) and Papua New Guinea for return of the individual perpetual trophies; and
  - f. - consideration be given to incorporating Plate events in the individual championships.

iv) Oceania Open -

- The option of taking the naming rights of an Oceania Open to coincide with a major event being staged by a member country was understood to have taken place with the Fiji Open in December 1994. However, R. Chandhry advised Fiji did not use the naming rights option.
- No member country had taken up the offer in 1995.
- Resolved that -
  - a. - The concept of offering the naming rights for the Oceania Men's and Women's Open to member countries to use in conjunction with a major event be endorsed; and
  - b. - Member countries be invited to take up the offer in 1996.

v) Oceania Cup -

- Advised that the Oceania Cup concept emerged at the initial Federation meeting and was intended to accommodate all members (including Australia and New Zealand) and be held in the intervening years between the South Pacific Cup and South Pacific Games. However, the event has not taken place and the concept is considered too ambitious at this stage.

It was agreed that prime focus for Championships for the region is on the South Pacific Cup and South Pacific Games.

12. **Report on South Pacific Games:**

- C. Clapper reported on the Federation's efforts to have squash included in the 1995 South Pacific Games in Tahiti. However, this was to no avail despite strong representation and efforts by member countries. The reasons for not being successful in the bid were considered and noted.
- C. Clapper outlined briefly the development programme for Guam, targeting the 1999 South Pacific Games which will be hosted by that country. The programme was endorsed.

13. **Presentation of OSF Budget:**

C. Clapper outlined a budget covering the period 1 July 1995 to 30 June 1996, as follows:

<u>Receipts</u>	<u>\$A</u>		
Membership Dues 1995	2,500		
Membership Dues 1996	2,600		
Bank Interest	100	Total	5,200
<u>Payments</u>			
WSF Member Affiliations	180		
Travel Expenses -			
• 1995 AGM & SP Cup	2,400		
• Aust/NZ Meeting, Sydney	520		
• 1996 Junior Age	500		
Postage, Telephone,			
Stationery	1,600	Total	5,200

This budget does not provide for any development programmes (e.g. Guam for the South Pacific Games and American Samoa or capital expenditure e.g. filing cabinet). Also, it includes receipt for two years of membership dues collection in the one year period. A projected budget for 1996/97 reflected a potential substantial deficit during that period. Moved E. Sefo, Seconded R. Skews that membership dues for 1996 be set as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>No. Courts</u>	<u>Membership</u>
		<u>Dues (\$A)</u>
A	1-9	150
B	10-19	220
C	20-99	300
D	100-999	700
E	1,000 +	1,300
Affiliate		75

Motion Carried with one abstention (Australia).

**14. Elevation of Norfolk Island to Full Membership Status:**

The meeting endorsed the elevation of Norfolk Island to Full Membership status and welcomed Norfolk Island to their new position in the Federation.

**15. Report on OSF Workshop:**

Many of the issues discussed at the Federation Workshop held on 24 October 1995 have been addressed in this General Meeting. The Workshop re-affirmed the Federation's key focus on re-establishing squash into the South Pacific Games in Guam in 1999 and to bring Guam into the Federation. Other key issues addressed in the Workshop were as follows:

i) Squash in the Olympics - The WSF is working extremely hard to have squash included in the Olympic Games. There is still a possibility of its inclusion in the Sydney Olympics in year 2000. The WSF is asking all member countries to lobby at every opportunity through their local Olympic representatives;

ii) Squash in the Commonwealth Games - Squash will be a participant sport at the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur in 1998 and in Manchester in 2002. Men's and Women's Singles and Doubles, and Mixed Doubles events will be held. All eligible Oceania member countries are encouraged to consider participating. R. Skews reported that there may be a qualification requirement for some countries to be eligible to compete in the Games - this being based on final placings in next year's South Pacific Cup;

iii) Refereeing Standards - The standard of refereeing in the Oceania region should be improved, and a plan implemented to address the issue;

iv) National Championships - All member countries were requested to forward a copy of the results of their national championships to the Federation.

**16. General Business:**

The following General Business was transacted -

i) A request was made for the Australian and New Zealand Associations to forward a copy of their Squash Calendar to other Oceania Member countries. This will assist players from other countries.

ii) C. Clapper advised that Vanuatu were unfinancial with the Federation for 1994 and 1995. Vicki Hillman had advised that the Vanuatu Association was not functioning and there was little interest in the sport at present in Vanuatu. It was resolved that the Officers encourage Vanuatu to continue its participation in Oceania Squash, including affiliate membership status if necessary.

iii) R. Dole advised that American Samoa was seeking to join the Federation as an Affiliate Member. The meeting endorsed the proposal by R. Dole.

**17. Election of Officers:**

All Officer positions of the Federation were declared vacant and the Chair called for nominations for the position of President.

- C. Clapper was nominated by M. Day and Seconded by G. Corderoy. As there were no further nominations C. Clapper was duly elected to the position of President.
- One formal nomination had been received from New Zealand for the position of one of four Vice President positions, that of Grant Scoones. There being no further nominations, G. Scoones was duly elected.
- R. Stirrup was nominated by M. Day and Seconded by E. Sefo for a Vice President position. There being no further nomination R. Stirrup was duly elected.
- P. Trenorden was nominated by G. Corderoy and Seconded by M. Withers for a Vice President position. There being no further nomination, P. Trenorden was duly elected.
- The Chair called for nominations for the female Vice President position, but no nominations were forthcoming. Resolved that the matter of filling the position be left with the Officers.
- The Chair called for nominations for the Executive Director position, but no nominations were forthcoming. Moved M. Day, Seconded G. Corderoy that C. Clapper be appointed to fill the dual role of President and Executive Director of the Federation. Carried unanimously.

At the conclusion of the election of Officers, the outgoing Chair, M. Day, vacated the Chair and the newly elected Chair, C. Clapper took the Chair.

C. Clapper expressed his appreciation for the effort and support given by Murray Day during his period of office as the first President of Oceania Squash. C. Clapper also paid a special tribute to outgoing Vice President, Bill Murphy for his role in the development of the Oceania Federation. This was acknowledged and supported by all representatives at the meeting.

#### 18. **Strategic Program for the Federation:**

C. Clapper outlined to the meeting a proposed strategic programme for the Federation over the next four year period.

Key elements of the programme to include -

i) Appointment of Australia/New Zealand player (or players) to tour other member countries to conduct Coaching and Rules/Referees development courses and seminars:

- Host countries to provide accommodation and internal expenses and make all internal arrangements;
- OSF to provide airfares and coordinate external arrangements
- Resource material to be obtained from WSF, Australia and New Zealand;
- Timing to be agreed between all parties involved;
- Amount of time in each country to be negotiated.

ii) Re-establish and strengthen the game in Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea and Tahiti:

- Assist, if possible, with their administration;
- Sound contact to be established;
- Membership fees to be resolved.

iii) Development of game in new areas:

a. Guam -

- Focus on 1999 South Pacific Games;
- Potential for U.S. investment through U.S. Services;
- Administration & Coaching programmes etc. to be established;
- Courts requirements to be established.

b. American Samoa -

- Courts requirements to be established;
- Possible U.S. investment;
- Assistance to be provided by Western Samoa in the interim.

iv) Greater participation in Oceania Championships:

- Improved organisation;

- Wider promotion;
- Roles to be finalised.

v) Greater participation in World Events:

- Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur in 1998 (can we have a flagship country);
- South Pacific Games in 1999;
- Olympics in Sydney?

vi) Incorporation of Association:

- See if we can link with WSF incorporation.

19. **Proposed Changes to the Constitution:**

C. Clapper advised the meeting there were a number of proposed changes to the Constitution of the Federation. These would be detailed and forwarded to members for their comments prior to the next Federation meeting. Proposed changes include requirements requested by the Auditor and an expansion of the Vice President positions.

20. Next Meeting:

It was agreed that the next General Meeting of the Federation should take place in Rarotonga, Cook Islands and coincide with the next South Pacific Cup.

There being no further business to transact, the Chair thanked all representatives for their attendance and contribution to the Meeting.

The Meeting was declared closed at 4.50 p.m.