

MINUTES OF 2014 GENERAL MEETING

held Saturday, 8th November at Sports House, Milton, Queensland

1. **Meeting Opened at 10:03am**
 Neven Barbour (President OSF) made his apologies for not being physically present at the meeting and would be attending the meeting via teleconference. Neven opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present. Neven duly delegated the chairing of the meeting to Jim O'Grady, OSF Vice President.
2. **Confirmation of Attendance and Apologies**
Present
 Neven Barbour (President) – via Teleconference
 Carol Kawaljenko (Executive Officer)
 Jim O'Grady (Vice President and Squash NZ Delegate)
 Eric Nosmos (Lique Caledonienne de Squash Delegate)
 Vicki Cardwell (Squash Australia Delegate)
 David Navarre (New Caledonia)
 Dick Best (OSF Masters Committee)
 Chris Sinclair (OSF Refereeing Convenor)
Apologies
 Murray Day (Life Member)
 Butch Gifford (Life Member)
 Col Clapper (Life Member)
 Ravi Singh (President, Squash Fiji)
 Brett Baudinet (President, Cook Islands)
 Lance Miller (President, Norfolk Island)
 Norman Wetzell (President, Samoa)
 Edmond Pereira (President, Papua New Guinea)
3. **Confirmation of Meeting Proceeding without Quorum**
 Paragraph 6.2.1 of the OSF Constitution states that a quorum is half the financial Full Members (ie 4) and if this not met that if 3 Full Members are present and eligible to vote, they can agree to proceed with the meeting. There being 3 eligible Member Countries represented (New Zealand, New Caledonia & Australia) a motion to proceed with the Meeting was moved Vicki Cardwell and seconded by Eric Nosmos. Motion carried.
4. **Minutes of the Previous General Meeting** – 9th November 2013 – were accepted as a true and correct record of the proceedings.
 Moved : Chris Sinclair, seconded Carol Kawaljenko.
5. **Matters Arising from the Previous General Meeting**

6a	2014 Masters Championships	Awarded to Alice Springs Squash and held in conjunction with Alice Springs Masters Games in October 2014. Awaiting final report.
	2015 Oceania Junior C'ships	To be hosted by Squash NZ

6. Voting Entitlements

The voting entitlements as set out in Paragraph 6.2.3 of the Constitution were noted, ie Full Members have 1 vote each, except for those matters concerning the Constitution and Membership Fees. These are allocated as per categories set out in the Constitution.

New Zealand advised that they held the proxy for Fiji as per their President's email of 29th October.

7. Motions

a. Membership – Federation de Tahitienne de Squash (Tahitian Squash Federation)

Tahiti were awarded provisional membership during 2014. The provision for OSF Membership requires confirmation at a General Meeting to elevate them to Full Member status.

A Motion to accept the Tahitian Squash Federation as a Full Member of the Oceania Squash Federation with free-of-charge membership for 2015 and thereafter ongoing Membership as per current Membership structure was moved Vicki Cardwell and seconded Eric Nosmos. Motion carried.

Formal Letter to be sent to Federation de Tahitienne de Squash.

b. Constitutional Changes

The OSF Officers tabled 18 Motions to amend Version 5 of the OSF Constitution dated 14th October 2012. The amendments were distributed to all Members for consideration as per the requirements set out in the Constitution. The Executive Officer advised that there were no queries or comments in regards to this matter by Members not present at the meeting.

The Meeting Chair asked those present if they wished to discuss the motions separately or accept without discussion. It was agreed that there were several motions that needed further discussion or clarification.

Motion 6 – Officers (Paragraph 5.1) – change to the term of Officers. Currently an Officer can only hold a specific position for 2 terms (4 years) and then would need to stand down from that position and if he/she wished to continue on the Board would need to re-nominate for an alternative position. There has been difficulty in filling the vacant Vice President position and the Officers recommended that there be no restriction to holding a specific position, but have recommended a maximum term. After discussion it was agreed to leave the motion as written.

Motion 12 – Proxy Voting (Paragraphs 6.2.10 & 6.2.11).

Amendment 6.3.3. Moved Eric Nosmos, seconded Vicki Cardwell that the 5 day requirement to confirm proxies be deleted so that confirmation in writing be required prior to the General Meeting but with no restriction to timing.

Paragraph 6.2.10 (Amendment 6.3.3) – Discussion on amending so that any person can hold a proxy rather than a Full Member Country Delegate and changing Amendment 6.3.1 to reflect this. Amendment 6.3.3 is the interpretation of the current paragraph 6.2.10 which implies that only a representative of a Full member can hold a proxy vote for another Full Member. There was concern there were not enough Members present and

this paragraph needed further discussion with all Members.
Agreed that the new Sub Section - Proxy Voting – be implemented with changes – deletion of Amendment 6.3.1 and implementing agreed change to Amendment 6.3.3 as above.

Moved : Eric Nosmos, seconded Jim O’Grady.

Australia requested that their abstention be recorded.

Officers to discuss Proxy Voting with Members and any agreed changes to be tabled at the 2015 General Meeting.

8. President’s Report –

The OSF President’s report was tabled. No further discussion.

9. Member’s Reports

a. Australia (Tabled)

Ms Cardwell advised a points system will be implemented for the Australia Junior Tour which may be used to assist National Selectors in their deliberations.

b. Cook Islands (Tabled)

c. New Caledonia (Tabled)

Have formed a close relationship with Tahiti and conducted referee and coaching sessions in Tahiti with the assistance of the French Federation. Will be meeting with North Province Officials shortly to discuss possible squash facility in the North Province.

d. New Zealand (Tabled)

e. Norfolk Island (Tabled)

f. Papua New Guinea (Tabled)

10. Financial Report

a. 2013/14 Financial Accounts

Financial records were audited by Noelene Lake of Bribie Accounting Services. Vanuatu was the only Member Country not financial as at EOY. A profit of \$4,477 generated in the year was mainly attributed to funds from the WSF SPIN program and bank interest. The Federation is financially stable and planning to conduct development programs in the coming year.

Moved Eric Nosmos, seconded Vicki Cardwell that the Audited Statement be accepted. Carried.

b. Current Financial Status – current bank balance of \$41,349.

c. Confirmation of 2015 Member Affiliation

Executive Officer recommended that the Member Affiliation fees be retained at the same level as 2014, ie:

Australia	5,000
Cook Islands	400
Fiji	600
New Zealand	3,500
New Caledonia	650
Norfolk Island	400
Papua New Guinea	650
Samoa	600
Vanuatu	400
	\$12,200

Moved Eric Nosmos, seconded Vicki Cardwell. Motion Carried.

- d. Proposed Budget for 2013/2104
Chris Sinclair (Referee Convenor) requested increase of funding for Referee Development. A proposal to be lodged for consideration. Noted that budgeted expenditure for website could be considerably less but left in as a contingency.
- e. Appointment of Accountant
Moved Carol Kawaljenko, seconded Eric Nosmos that Bribie Accounting Services be appointed for the 2015 Financial Year. Carried.

****Meeting Adjournment** - 11.15am on the arrival of Andrew Minogue, Executive Director of Pacific Games Council.

****Meeting Reconvened** – 1.10pm

11. Standing Committee Reports

- a. Rules & Refereeing (Tabled)
- b. Competitions (Tabled)

12. Election of Officers

Nominations for candidates for President (2 year term), Vice President (2 year term) and Vice President (1 year term) closed on 9th October 2014.

Three nominations were received by the closing date – 1 x President, 2 x Vice President (2 year term).

- a. President – 2 year appointment
One nomination was received for Neven Barbour, nominated by New Zealand. There being no other nominations Neven was duly elected as per the OSF Constitution paragraph 5.5.7.

- b. Vice President – 2 year appointment
The following nominations were received:

<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Nominated By</i>
Jim O’Grady	Squash NZ
Vicki Cardwell	Squash Australia

It was determined there were 7 eligible votes - 4 countries (3 present + 1 proxy) plus 3 Officer votes. Jim O’Grady held 1 x NZ, 1 x Fiji, 1 x Officer plus emailed vote by N Barbour therefore already had majority votes. It was agreed that a ballot was not required.

Jim O’Grady was duly elected to the position of Vice President for a 2 year term.

- c. Vice President – 1 year appointment
The Vice President position vacant at the closure of the 2013 General Meeting had not been filled. Vicki Cardwell, being the unsuccessful nominee for the 2 year position, was invited by the Meeting to accept the 1 year appointment. Vicki was duly appointed for a 1 year term.

13. Other Business

- a. 2015 Oceania Junior Championships
Squash NZ to host at Squash City in Invercargill from 17th to 19th April. Facilities are superb and confident on their ability to conduct a well run

tournament. Will be utilizing same Tournament Software as Australia to allow online nominations etc.

b. 2015 Pacific Games/Oceania Championships

During the meeting adjournment Andrew Minogue briefed the meeting on the current status of the 2015 PNG Pacific Games. Have an experienced Management group and most facilities on track. Some concerns with moveable walls in the squash centre but this should be rectified in the near future. Hopefully handover will be by end of May 2015.

Appointments to date – Carol Kawaljenko (International Technical Delegate), Martin Pala (Competitions Manager) and Derek Hunter (Tournament Director).

To help squash with future events, and possibly becoming a core sport, OSF to contact Tahiti and Cook Islands to try to have squash included in their country's sports nomination for the 2015 Games.

Oceania Championships will be run in conjunction with the PG with trophies awarded at an Squash Awards Nights after the completion of the PG competition.

c. 2015 Oceania Masters Championships

No host has been appointed to date. Member Countries to be invited to lodge expressions of interest (EOI).

Dick Best queried the possibility of coordinated Masters Events so that there are minimal clashes between Australia, New Zealand, Oceania & World Masters. To be investigated.

d. 2017 Oceania Championships

Squash has not been included in the sports listing for the 2017 Pacific Mini Games in Vanuatu. Member Countries to be invited to lodge expressions of interest to host the Championships.

e. 2015 Commonwealth Youth Games - Samoa

Grant Smith from NZ has been appointed Tournament Director. He is working closely with Samoa Squash, WSF and the Commonwealth Games Federation. There is some concern regarding availability of facilities which is being addressed.

14. **Meeting Closure** : 1.43pm

DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Over the past 4 years the aim of the Federation was to accumulate funds to enable effective development projects to be conducted within the Region.

A Coach Education Program scheduled to be held in PNG in September did not go ahead due to competing commitments. Permission was sought from and consequently approved to utilize the funds for a similar program in Fiji. This will be conducted from 8th to 15th December in 3 separate locations – Lautoka, Suva & Savusavu. Marc Forster has been appointed to run the program including coaching/training sessions for junior, senior and national representative players. There will be a target group of 8-9 potential coaches. At the completion of the program it will be evaluated as to its viability and success with the view of conducting similar programs tailored to Member needs within the Oceania Region.

Referee Development is essential. Further to the General Meeting discussions the Oceania Refereeing Convenor has been asked to write a proposal for referee development in the smaller Island Member Countries for consideration by the Officers.

Junior Development – The Executive Officer has had some discussion with Squash Australia regarding the utilization of the OzSquash program in Fiji. This will be dependent on Squash Fiji's interest and capacity to conduct Oz Squash programs.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Discussion ensued as to the viability and future of Standing Committees – what is their function, who should be on them etc.

Chris Sinclair advised that she was comfortable with how the Rules & Refereeing Committee currently works.

Coaching & Development Committee has been inactive for some time.

Competitions Committee concentrates on Oceania Championships and Pacific Games. Further discussion required.

COMMUNICATION

Communication is an important aspect of the Federation especially when Members are spread across such a large area geographically. Still having problems getting responses from some Members.

There has been an increase in viewers of the website since its redevelopment.

Squash NZ continues to administer the website. Members are encouraged to provide any photos, information about events happening in their country and items of interest for uploading to the site.

OCEANIA GENERAL MEETING ATTENDANCE

The option of video conferencing or skype for general meetings to be explored.

To give more members the opportunity to discuss issues it was suggested that the Federation consider reverting back to holding a meeting during the Pacific Games and/or Oceania Championships. It was noted that Team Officials are concentrating on players during this time but a short meeting to discuss one or two specific items may be of value.