

OCEANIA SQUASH FEDERATION

Minutes of 2017 General Meeting
held on Thursday, 21st September 2017
at the Phenix Sports Complex, Punaauia, Tahiti

1. **Meeting Opened** at 1.15pm by OSF President, Mr Jim O'Grady.
Jim welcomed the delegates to Tahiti and thanked Tahiti for hosting the meeting.
2. **Attendance -**
Officers
President Jim O'Grady
Executive Officer Carol Kawaljenko
Vice Presidents Dale Robbins & David Navarre
Delegates
Australia Dale Robbins
New Caledonia Alexis Daveluy
Samoa Ivan Chewlit
Tahiti Patrick Morelle
New Zealand Jim O'Grady
Observers
Samoa Chad Rankin
Tahiti Charles Daxboeck
3. **Apologies** - Murray Day (OSF Life Member)
4. **Minutes of the Previous General Meeting**
 - a. The minutes of 2016 General Meeting held on 19th November 2016 in Auckland were accepted as written. *Moved : Carol Kawaljenko, Seconded : Patrick Morelle*
 - b. Matters Arising – there were no matters arising from minutes.
5. **President's Report** – Tabled
Jim acknowledged that OSF needs to focus on assisting Member Nations with programs to meet their specific needs. The Oceania Juniors is a great opportunity for younger players to experience competition and play for success. The host country needs to ensure that the OJC in a venue that is easy to travel to and has accommodation nearby.
Moved : Jim O'Grady; Seconded Ivan Chewlit.
6. **Financial Report**
 - a. Financial Report & Audited Statements (tabled)
OSF is very healthy financially and needs to expend some of the accumulated funds to develop appropriate programs to meet Member needs, especially those that find it difficult to get government funding for programs.

Fiji are in arrears for 2016 & 2017 (\$1,200) and have proposed they will pay of the unpaid fees by instalment. To date we have not received any monies. Fiji are aware that they would not be able to compete in future Pacific Games until they are fully financial.
Moved: Carol Kawaljenko, Seconded Jim O'Grady that financial report be accepted.
 - b. Confirmation of 2018 Membership Fees
Moved Dale Robbins, seconded David Navarre that the current level of Membership Fees be maintained for 2017/18.

- c. Approval of 2017/18 Budget
Moved Jim O'Grady, seconded Ivan Chewlit that the proposed 2017/18 Budget be accepted, subject to possible changes from outcomes of discussions relating to development programs.
- d. Appointment of Auditor for 2017/18
Moved Carol Kawaljenko, Seconded Ivan Chewlit that the current Auditor (Bribie Accounting) be retained for the 2017/18 audit.

7. **Member's Reports**

- a. Australia (tabled)
Have been working closely with State Member Associations to enhance programs and improve statistical knowledge of squash players in Australia. This along with improved governance has resulted in additional funding from the Australian Sports Commission. Squash Australia have successfully bid for the relocation of the C'wealth Games Courts legacy equipment to Carrara Sports Precinct on the Gold Coast. SA will own and operate the world class facility that will be a lasting benefit for squash and the wider community.
- b. Samoa (tabled)
After several years without courts we are now secure having signed a lease for the new facility with the Samoa Sports Facility Authority. It is now important to build the squash back up again. To enable us to do this effectively we need a full time coach in Samoa. Keen to look at either getting a coach to come to Samoa for an extended time, or have a coach visit to do a coaching course to accredit locals. We would appreciate some development assistance from OSF.
- c. New Caledonia
We have been very busy in the past year. We have launched a new website. Officially there are 600 players in NC. Facilities are 12 singles and 1 doubles court. Juniors numbers are growing with 60 at Olympic & 40 at Dumbea. 6 juniors competed in OJC in NZ this year – a fantastic competition for kids. Numbers continue to grow in our international tournaments. Major problem is the New Cal economy being down and funding is hard to get.
- d. Tahiti
Very proud to host Oceania Championships. The Phenix Club is only squash facility and we would like to build more. Securing land to build a new facility is scarce. With French Military leaving there is some land that may be available to build sporting facilities outside Papeete. Need to work closely with Government. Future aspirations are to host a WSF World Championships but would need assistance from OSF.
- e. New Zealand (Tabled)
2017 has been dominated by International Events in NZ – Oceania Junior Championships, World Masters Games, 5 PSA Events, World Junior Individuals & Junior Women's Teams. NZ players competed at the World Doubles in Manchester taking out the gold in the Womens & Mixed doubles and bronze in the Mens Event. The NZ Coachforce Programme designed to upskill regional coaches has been very successful with 1505 coaches trained to date – 386 in 2017.

8. **General Reports** – None submitted

9. **Confirmation of Voting Entitlements**

Full members shall have 1 vote each for election of Officers.

10. **Motions** - None Submitted

11. **Election of Officers**

Executive Officer

At the close of nominations only 1 written nomination was received from Carol Kawaljenko. There being no other nominations Carol was duly elected to the position of Executive Officer for a further period of 2 years (2018 & 2019).

Vice President – No written nominations were received by the close of nominations. In accordance with OSF Constitution (Para.5.5.6) the President called for nominations from the floor. Carol Kawaljenko nominated David Navarre. David accepted the nomination and there being no other nominations from the floor David was duly elected to the position for a further period of 2 years (2018 & 2019).

12. **Other Business**

a. Oceania Championships

i. **Oceania Junior Championships** (annual event)

2018 Championships will be hosted by Australia at Redcliffe, Brisbane from 11th to 14th January. Member Countries expressed their disappointment that the Championships were scheduled at peak holiday time and very difficult for families.

In 2013 Aus & NZ were given alternate year hosting rights until 2018. After discussion with Members present it was agreed that Aus & NZ will continue to take turns in hosting the Championships for a further 4 years.
OSF to review current Regulation for hosting the Championships.

ii. **Oceania Closed Championships** (every 2 years)

This event is held every 2 years either in conjunction with the Pacific Games or as a standalone event. As Samoa has recently been awarded the 2019 Pacific Games the Championships will be held in conjunction with Samoa Pacific Games. Executive Officer to work with Samoa Squash to facilitate the Championships.

There will be no squash in the 2021 Mini Games or 2023 Pacific Games so a host country needs to be sourced. Expressions of Interest for the 2021 Championships to be sent to Member Nations with closing date of 31 March 2018.
(New Caledonia have indicated they may be interested if funding can be sourced.)

iii. **Oceania Masters Championships** (every 2 years)

The last official Oceania Masters was held in 2014 in conjunction with the Alice Springs Masters Games in Australia. OSF is keen for this event to be held again. Norfolk Island hold an annual Masters Tournament and have hosted the Oceania Masters several times. Cook Islands have also hosted in conjunction with the Cook Islands Open. Members Nations to be asked to submit expressions of interest for 2018.

iv. **Perpetual Trophies**

OSF have perpetual trophies for Championship events, however they are now very old and in disrepair. Exec Officer to explore options to replace existing trophies. Suggestion - flat shields and past records transferred on to these. They can be freighted easier and should have less damage over time

b. Development Projects

Member Countries present were asked to provide information on how best OSF could provide support to their countries.

Samoa – do not have qualified coach. Need coach to help players. Could OSF fund coach.

Tahiti – coach is important. Could OSF provide funding for full-time coach.

OSF does not have finances to fund full-time coaches. OSF Officers to development a program for Coach Education whereby a coach goes to country and trains coaches and also provides player coaching whilst there.

c. Future Meetings

NZ is the most appropriate venue for General Meetings as most Member Countries have direct flights to Auckland. Next Oceania General Meeting to be held in Auckland in October 2018 on a date to be decided.

d. Future Officer Holders

The President noted that at some point he would be standing down and Member Nations needed to have someone in mind to take his place. Australia or NZ have held this position for some time and it would be pleasing to have a nominee from a smaller Member Country.

e. Pacific Games

With Tonga relinquishing the hosting rights for the 2019 Games and Samoa successfully bidding to host, squash is now back in the 2019 Pacific Games. Games will run from 8th to 20th July 2019. Squash events will include Teams (Male & Female), Singles (Male & Female) and Doubles (Male, Female & Mixed).

The Pacific Games Charter requires squash to have at least 6 PGA Member Countries participating in squash or it may be cut from the Games. OSF Members within PG Member Countries include Cook Islands, Fiji, New Caledonia, Norfolk Island, PNG, Samoa, Tahiti and Vanuatu. It is very important that OSF Member Countries speak with their Olympic Committee to have them include squash in their participating sports.

In the 2015 PNG Pacific Games OSF allowed a player from Tokelau to compete. OSF needs to be proactive and allow smaller non-member countries without squash courts to enter participants. There are many players from smaller islands playing squash in other countries. Samoa indicated they have 2 players from Tokelau and 1 from Cook Islands living in Samoa who would be keen to participate. OSF to further investigate whether they may be able to represent their respective countries.

Pacific Games Council Executive Officer has advised that there is no scope for Australia & NZ to compete in the Samoa Games. The PG Council Assembly in 2016 agreed to 8 invites for Aus/NZ but as squash was not included in the Tonga proposal they would not have the opportunity to play in Samoa.

f. New Caledonia expressed their thanks to OSF & Tahiti is preparing the 2017 Oceania Championships and is looking forward to seeing everyone again in Samoa.

g. Samoa expressed their thanks to Tahiti for hosting these Championships and are looking forward to greeting everyone in 2019.

13. President declared the meeting closed at 3.20pm.