

Minutes Summary

Board Meeting Wednesday 20 June 2007

Present: Bob Dey (Chairman), Pam Gilbert, Tim Marshall, Paul Wright, Kirk Richardson, Trudy Englebretsen (General Manager).

Apologies: June McCabe, Paul Cameron.

Minutes from May 16 2007 Board Meeting accepted as true and correct.

No Matters arising

Discussion re renovating and/or looking at options with SNZ to ensure GM has own office/area.

Disclosure of Interest

None (new)

Squash New Zealand – John Sangster

1. SNZ is currently in a 'rebuilding' phase due to recent staff departures.
2. CEO has been focusing efforts to date on High Performance and getting staff in place to deliver outcomes required by SPARC.
3. CEO has been touring districts to get a 'feel' for what is happening.
4. Game Development Manager will be employed as District liaison.
5. Top Dog presentation at AGM in November has been put on hold due to new CEO and new NZ Statistician.

Strategic Plan Feedback Tabled

I have had a chance to have a look at the plan and we discussed it at our committee meeting last week. It was generally agreed there was some good stuff in there and in many areas continued from the previous plan (facilities, shared services etc.) but has built on it further by rapping round some goals (i.e. one shared service per year for the next 5 years) - a good initiative.

There was however there was a consensus that there were a couple of things which appear to have dropped through the cracks.

In particular:

No mention of our volunteers as in coaches and referees. Both SPARC and RST's acknowledge and promote the development of both of these and feature strongly in their business plans but not in SQAK. It is important that we have alignment to our National body and SPARC and RST's.

The absence of any mention of high performance. Squash has stood apart from many sports and not done the "participation" as the most important thing and winning (at all levels) **is important**. Once again SPARC recognizes this by funding "winning sports" and bases grants (or at least a large portion of the grant) on "medals". Districts should develop players (through inter district comps) to pass players to the national body (a national high performance structure). This is also reflected in SNZ strategic plan and by way of funding to SQAK on performance as well as growth. You can measure growth in Squash against international success with huge growth during the Norman/Devoy period and a further "spike" after Manchester when NZ had considerable success - the two (performance and growth) go hand in hand.

Board Response to Feedback

Volunteers and Coaching is an integral part of the Strategic Plan, volunteers and coaches are included in the Goal: Improve the capability of club people to deliver and under the Action: Provide training and support to club people.

And they are also included in the Goal: Drive Innovative systems for the delivery of Squash. Action: Identify and implement opportunities for shared services that reduce costs to cubs and assist clubs to achieve their goals.

Squash Auckland has deliberately changed direction from Performance to participation.

The approach taken is to focus on building the base of players.

The mandate from Squash NZ to Districts is to focus on growth.

High Performance at District Level is Auckland Representative Squad selection; the Squash New Zealand Investment schedule highlights this.

Feedback from Clubs also highlights the need for a shift in focus to participation/growth via club development.

The Strategic Plan placed on the Squash Auckland website on the 6th June is unanimously accepted by the board as complete.

Meeting closed: 2.00pm.