



**Minutes of the Board Meeting
Tuesday 4th May 2010, 5.30p.m.
Squash Auckland, Sport Auckland House, Alexandra Park**

IN ATTENDANCE

Tim Marshall (Chair), Dave Fraser, Tanya Laurence, Andrew Eade, Paul Brown
Adrian Dale (GM)
Jim O'Grady (CEO, Squash NZ) for part of the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

Pam Gilbert

Moved that the apology is accepted.

TM/DF and carried.

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Board resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held March 23rd 2010.

TM/DF and carried.

3. MATTERS ARISING

None

4. CORRESPONDENCE

A letter of complaint (player to player) was circulated to the Board. The matter had been closed but the wider issue of an appropriate judiciary process was discussed.

Action: The GM will recommend a suitable judicial process at the June meeting.

5. SNZ UPDATE

Jim O'Grady updated the Board on progress of 'Towards2020', the affiliation review and a proposed SNZ development structure for 2011 onwards.

IT Platform

SNZ have brought the administering of the IT platform 'in-house' to improve the process of handling issues.

Approximately 8,000 players had registered to date. Most were members but there were a surprisingly high number of leisure users. Some clubs were starting to use the system as their club database.

The various stages will be rolled out over the next few months, finishing with the competition management stage.

SNZ are finalising some security issues prior to the tournament stage being implemented. This will allow players to register and pay for tournaments through the IT Platform.

Squash Auckland was keen to be able to communicate with its members through this system. SNZ believed this could be possible but will check on the privacy issues.

Action: The GM will investigate using the new IT Platform to communicate with Auckland members.

Action: In order to try and increase its usage rate, SA will continue to communicate to players on how to either 'register' or 'log-in' to the system.

Affiliation Review

The affiliation review panel was currently working through options on how to improve upon the current SEM model. This was proving a challenging process. There is a feeling that the current system was being treated as a 'tax' and that it was in clubs interest to keep their numbers as low as possible to avoid payments. There were some checks and balances in place, but these were not full proof.

Other options were discussed by the Board. These included

- A lower 'base rate' payment plus a levy on competitions. This had the advantage of giving players value for money by delivering squash via a more user pays basis.
- Club size. Clubs of various sizes to pay a fee based on certain criteria.
- Via court numbers
- Improving upon the current system.

The affiliation panel will report to the presidents once they have finalised their recommendations.

2011 Development Structure

Coaching Framework

SNZ outlined the new coaching framework that has been devised by Dave Clark, National Coaching Director. There is the possibility of obtaining funding towards a Squash Auckland 'coach force' officer, whose role would be to coach the coaches across the Auckland region. This position would require a financial contribution from all parties concerned including SA.

Action: Investigation into the costs of a coach force officer and the accompanying application process in time for discussion at the June Board meeting.

Club Development

A proposal was outlined for 2011 that sees regional development managers working locally but employed by SNZ. The Board had concerns and sought assurance that the proposed structure would be deliverable from a financial perspective; would deliver a better service for clubs than a regionally employed development manager and that the positions could be managed effectively from a central location. Alternatives to the SNZ proposal were voiced.

Action: The GM will follow up the discussions with SNZ.

National Squash Centre Trust update

The Chairman updated the Board on the events of the previous NSCT meeting. The trustees have asked the Board to consider a change to the deed which would allow the end of year accounts to be reviewed by an independent accountant rather than audited. The reason for the request was that the cost of the audit

seemed large in proportion to the turnover of the business. The SA Board sought further reassurance as to the scope of the independent accountant's work.

Further, the Board discussed the performance of the NSCT in reaching its goals of promoting the game of Squash in the wider Auckland area as it was keen to ensure that the facility was being used to its full capacity.

Action: Andrew Eade will look at the trust deed and the Board will look at the options of engaging with the NSCT.

The NSCT will be an Agenda item in June.

6. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The Board resolved to apply to Pub Charity for \$12,000 for accommodation and travel costs for the Auckland representative teams.

TM/DF and carried.

The Board resolved to accept the general manager's report.

6. FINANCE

The March and April accounts were circulated.

The forecasted end of year position was on track with budget.

There is a possible loss of income from SNZ, due to two Auckland clubs not having settled long term SEM debts with SNZ. SNZ are withholding SEM payments to SA relating to these clubs.

Action: The General Manager will seek clarification from SNZ, setting out the reasons why SA believes it is entitled to this income.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

The Chairman indicated to the Board that TE was likely to return to her role from parental leave back in early November as agreed, although legally she has until 21 days prior to her return date to finalise her decision.

The General Manager's appraisal is in process and due to be finalised prior to next meeting.

Amy Ellison has been put forward as a candidate for the Board. The Board discussed the process of appointment.

Action: Tim Marshall will meet with Amy to discuss the role and will report back to the Board.

The use of PAR for all grades at the Auckland Open and Graded Championship was discussed.

Action: The General Manager will meet with Aileen Buscke to consider the option of using PAR for all grades at the tournament.

Meeting closed 8.00 pm.