

SSRL Masters Sub-Group Meeting

6th June 2017 (6:30pm)

MINUTE

In attendance: Allan McKay (SSRL), Alan Marshall (SSRL), Jim Hay (SSRL), Andrew MacBean, Sue Strachan, Moira Arkinson, David Lindsay, David Massey, John Kynoch , Jim Dougal

Apologies: John Rae, Eric Donohoe, Alex Sinclair

Item	Action
<p>Welcome</p> <p>Allan McKay welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the representatives from SSRL and players that play the Masters circuit.</p> <p>The aim of the meeting was to allow discussion between the Masters players and Scottish Squash & Racketball to identify what is working well currently and areas for improvement.</p> <p>Allan reiterated his thanks, which was extended at the Masters Nationals, to Eric Donohoe for the support with the ranking points last season along with Alex Sinclair and Ernie Cowell.</p> <p>Congratulations were expressed to all the Masters Home Internationals teams who represented Scotland on the International stage this season.</p> <p>Allan briefly explained the new structure/staff changes that have come in to place within the organisation over the last couple of months and explained his role would now capture a National Lead role for Competitions in Scotland.</p>	
<p>Tournament Calendar</p> <p>Alan Marshall opened discussions around the tournament calendar and shared the draft dates for competitions which was mirrored from last season. One suggestion that was shared was to drop the regional master's competition within the region that hosts the Masters Nationals.</p> <p>Sue Strachan expressed her concerns around Masters competitions being held the same weekend as junior competitions. This has been highlighted by a number of players who play or keen to play the masters competitions.</p> <p>This opened a larger discussion around the competitions and number of competitions on the masters circuit in one season. Following various suggestions and discussions it was agreed to reduce the Masters circuit to 6 competitions (including the Masters Nationals). This will allow for one in each region (West, East, Central, Tayside & Fife, Grampian &</p>	<p>Allan McKay to draft new competition dates based on this structure.</p>

<p>Highlands & Islands). The region who are awarded the Masters Nationals will not host a regional competition.</p> <p>It was agreed that the 6 competitions would be scheduled on weekends where the junior competitions were not running.</p>	
<p>Scoring</p> <p>Alan Marshall mentioned that there had been some suggestions to change the scoring within the Masters competitions.</p> <p>There was not a great feeling from older age groups and the ladies to play PAR 11 and would rather play PAR 15. Following this discussion, it was agreed to change the scoring system for next year based on the feedback in the meeting. The scoring system that will be used will also align to the Masters Home Internationals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MO35/40/45/50 – PAR 11, 2 clear points at 10-10 ○ MO55/60/65/70/75 – PAR 15, 2 clear points at 14-14 ○ All ladies events – PAR 15, 2 clear points at 14-14 	<p>Allan McKay to communicate changes</p>
<p>SportyHQ</p> <p>David Massey opened the meeting to any questions around SportyHQ and also made clear the importance around the system and the support it has and will continue to provide to SSRL going forward.</p> <p>There was good comments around the online entry and payment for competitions which has made the process easier and involves less communication with the SSRL office.</p> <p>There were questions regarding the points and the difference between some regions. SSRL continues to look into this and it is taking longer than initially expected for points to level out.</p> <p>There was a feeling that the system was potentially inaccessible to players. It was felt that more training on the system may be required and clubs/players should contact their Regional Manager in the first instance.</p> <p>It was also discussed about attaching ranking points to SportyHQ and Andrew MacBean and David Massey are going to work on this and explore further.</p>	<p>Andrew MacBean and David Massey to explore</p>
<p>Ranking Points</p> <p>Allan McKay acknowledged the system in place for the Masters ranking points and how well structured it was. There is a great understanding from players around how it works and there are no plans change this.</p> <p>Allan expressed the difficulty of ranking points been coordinated from SSRL staff due to limited resources and in order for this system to carry on SSRL will seek volunteers from across the Masters circuit.</p>	<p>SSRL to seek volunteers to coordinate this for the Masters circuit.</p>

<p>Masters Home Internationals</p> <p>Jim hay discussed the Masters Home Internationals and some areas where communication needs to be improved to better the organisation of sending teams away.</p> <p>Guidelines for team captains are going to be prepared ahead of next seasons events to allow for a better understanding of what is required from team captains.</p>	<p>Allan McKay to draw up guidelines and share.</p>
<p>AOB</p> <p><u>Pennants</u> The lack of pennants was brought up at the meeting and the feeling of embarrassment from Scottish players by not having the appropriate number for each individual player. Scottish Squash & Racketball explained the difficulty behind pennants and the cost to the organisation. They explained that within the other Home Nations this cost is covered by the individuals within the team rather than the National Governing Body. Jim Hay is potentially meeting the other Home Nations and will discuss this with them also.</p> <p><u>Kit</u> It was raised that the kit ordered by masters didn't come in women sizes. Allan McKay explained that this shouldn't have been the case as the senior women and staff were supplied with female kit. Allan apologised on behalf of Scottish Squash & Racketball for this and will work to solve this problem going forward.</p>	<p>Jim Hay to discuss the situation of pennants with other Home Nations</p> <p>Allan McKay to work closely with supplier for next season.</p>
<p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Avoid junior and masters competitions being run on the same weekend. - Reduce the competitions to 6 for next season and review at the end. Included in the 6 competitions is the Masters Nationals. - Information on the requirements to host Platinum events needs to be available to clubs. - Calendar to be sent out by the end of July. - Change scoring to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o MO35/40/45/50 – PAR 11, 2 clear points at 10-10 o MO55/60/65/70/75 – PAR 15, 2 clear points at 14-14 o All ladies events – PAR 15, 2 clear points at 14-14 - Andrew MacBean to link with David Massey to explore SportyHQ rankings. - Guidelines to be made for captains for MHI. - Review kit and availability of ladies kit. 	