



Scottish Squash Board – May 2020

Regional Committee / Director Update Following SSL Board Meeting 5/5/2020

PURPOSE:

This is a note to the Board Directors and for sharing with key contacts / Regional Committee Members aimed at keeping the squash community in Scotland up to date with key issues being discussed at National level. It is meant to be both ‘standalone’ and a ‘prompt’ to SSL Board members to provide a briefing for the Regional Committees and mentions those issues which are considered disclosable. (e.g. excludes for example discipline, selection, personnel issues)

INTRODUCTIONS:

Mark opened the meeting welcoming the Board to the first completely virtual meeting by Zoom, and thanked everyone for their commitment and support at this difficult time, and particularly Kevin Ferguson (**sportscotland**) for his and their continued support for the sport. The Board acknowledged the challenges for the sport across Scotland, and also the great sense of community spirit that exists between players, coaches, volunteers and officials.

BOARD STRUCTURE AND COMMITTEES:

Two Board Directors are still required, one ‘represent’ Tayside and Fife and the other Grampian in the absence of Paul Charlton. Representatives, or existing members with an interest in the Commercial, Finance and HR Committee and the Clubs Advisory Group were particularly welcome.

CLUBS/COVID-19:

sportscotland confirmed their support for the sport across Scotland at this difficult time, and were keen to support the SGB and clubs in their challenges. A survey by Scottish Squash had identified where help was needed and the following has been done to support the governing body, its staff, the sport, clubs, players and coaches across Scotland:

The wellbeing of staff, players and the sport was made the highest priority, and they have been individually supported;



- Contingency plan was invoked to support working from home for all staff;
- Most work progresses well, in some way, although court-based activity has ceased, and some activity is taking longer to complete;
- All staff are being supported practically and emotionally through their line manager and regular contacts provided using technology;
- Regular team, and senior team meetings are continuing to support each other;

Getting ready for a recovery is the second major priority and involves support for clubs, players and coaches;

- All players are being supported through our team and the SIS, using what facilities they have;
- All clubs and coaches have been surveyed to see what their issues are and what support they need;
- The development team continue to work with their local contacts to support the sport across Scotland;
- A club support forum has been set up where representatives from squash clubs across Scotland can come together to share learning and best practice during the challenging times created by the current pandemic;
- PE lessons have been recorded for schools, and clubs to use and this seems to have gone down well;
- A webinar focussed on financial implications and support for coaches and players has been held, and the recording available, this again received good feedback.
- A Board sub-group has been set up to agree how to interpret advice from UK and Scottish Government and look at how best to advise the sport

Support for the governing body continues;

- **sportscotland** have confirmed ongoing investment (for 6 months and this message has been conveyed to all staff);
- The financial implications are being monitored regularly, and are forecast to be about breakeven at present;
- SSA and **sportscotland** are providing an excellent network for collaboration, sharing best practice and advice;



COMPETITIONS:

There was a lot of uncertainty about when dates could be confirmed, and while planning had commenced, being flexible and able to respond quickly was key.

COACHING:

The National Coach continues to meet with and support coaches across Scotland.

PLAYERS AND PERFORMANCE:

The National Coach discussed some highlights from the Performance Report, including the recent performances of Greg Lobban (now WR 22), and the inclusion of doubles in the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

GOVERNANCE

The Commercial, Finance and HR Committee reported that there may be some impact on finances from COVID-19, but with the **sportscotland** support confirmed, the negative impact would be limited.

The Risk and Compliance Committee reported on the risk register and the arrangements during Maggie's maternity leave which were going well.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is on 11th August.

FOR REGIONAL COMMITTEES/CLUBS:

If there is anything in this summary that is of particular interest, please contact your Board Rep, Club Development Officer, or Mark Adderley (Chair) - all contact details on the website.

Some useful information is available at:

Lockdown toolkit available on the Scottish Squash website

<https://www.scottishsquash.org/the-lockdown-toolkit/>

General **sportscotland** support

[here](#)

Support grants available from the Scottish Government:

<https://sportscotland.org.uk/covid-19/support-for-clubs-and-community-sport-organisations/managing-your-club-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic/>



Specifically the Third Sector Resilience Fund information:

<https://scvo.org/support/coronavirus/funding/scottish-government/third-sector-resilience-fund>

Please also feel free to provide feedback on the usefulness of this summary.

Thanks

Mark Adderley

(Chair)