



Scottish Squash Board – May 2022

Regional Committee / Director Update Following SSL Board Meeting 9th May 2022

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 a hybrid meeting. He reflected on another busy quarter, some fantastic results for top players and junior players including the European Teams and the World Doubles – with a silver, 2 bronze and 2 fifth places from 5 teams that entered. In addition, the Board noted the parliamentary motion going through Scottish Parliament recognising the success of the event and players.

MEMBERSHIP:

The ‘post-pandemic’ membership data suggested that overall membership had returned more positively than expected to 90% of pre-pandemic levels. A slight increase in female membership levels was noted and this hopefully reflects a lot of the early targeted work in this area and its impact.

FINANCE:

The draft year end accounts were showing a ~£5k surplus as had been targeted at the start of the year. This level was agreed to try to rebuild reserves and leave headroom to repay the COVID recovery fund loan. In an ever changing landscape and year, MA extended his thanks to the Executive Team for coming in on budget. The finance team were also thanked for their diligent work in producing the draft year-end accounts in such a short period of time.



The board was also informed of the commercial success of the World Doubles, with a number of big brands showing an interest in Scottish Squash before, during and following the event.

STAFF / RISK AND COMPLIANCE:

The Board reviewed the top risks, and Maggie confirmed that the new hybrid working arrangement was continuing to be monitored to support the team appropriately.

COMPETITIONS:

The annual awards will return for season 2021-22 and nominations encouraged for:

Junior Player of the Year

Senior Player of the Year

Masters Player of the Year

Coach or Coaching Team of the Year

Referee of the Year

Club of the Year

Services to Squash

PLAYERS AND PERFORMANCE:

Paul highlighted the recent European Team Championship and in particular the performance of the men's team (which included debutants in Alasdair Prott, Fergus Richards & Martin Ross) in securing a third place finish. Despite relegation from division one, the ladies team were also praised for their performance and commitment and there being so many positive signs to support an early return to division one.

Paul also discussed that we had now done all that we could to demonstrate to Team Scotland that the six players identified for the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham are all worthy of a place and this was to be confirmed by end May / start June.

CHAIR ROLE:



The Chair position will be vacated at the AGM this year and a recruitment campaign has commenced encouraging individuals who might be interested to express interest and be alongside the team in the coming months, prior to formal application and the AGM.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is on 15th August 2022, after the Games

FOR REGIONAL COMMITTEES/CLUBS:

If there is anything in this summary that is of particular interest, please contact your Board Rep, Maggie Still (CEO), or Mark Adderley (Chair) – please contact info@scottishsquash.org if you require individual contact details.

Thanks

Mark Adderley (Chair)