



Scottish Squash Limited (SSL) Board – November 2023

Regional Committee / Director update following SSL Board Meeting 13th
November 2023

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 appeals).

Introductions

The Chair, Paul Macari, welcomed everyone to the meeting, the first since the 2023 SSL AGM and therefore extended a warm welcome to Alan Pearson (Director, West Nominee) and Frank MacCulloch (Director, Highlands & Islands Nominee) who have joined the Board of Directors.

The recruitment for the vacant Non-Executive Director (Performance Pathway) is now underway and full details of this voluntary role can be viewed [here](#).

The Scottish Squash Annual Awards recently took place in Glasgow University Union as an in-person event for the first time in a number of years. Congratulations to all of the award winners and nominees on the evening. You can read more [here](#).

Governance

Finance & Commercial Sub Committee

Finance

It was noted that the Springfield Scottish Squash Open (SSSO) performed strongly, with thanks expressed to the BlueFloat Energy | Renantis Partnership and Team Scotland, who joined title sponsor, The Springfield Group, as official partners for the 2023 event.

In addition to the SSSO and some other areas performing ahead of budget, it was confirmed that further investment had been secured to ensure that SSL were in a position to send the [national men's team to the 2023 World Team Championship](#) in New Zealand in December.

Commercial

The Commercial Working Group have [finalised a new commercial structure to support the growth of squash in Scotland](#). There are various [partnership opportunities](#) aligned to three key strands: elite performance; events; and community development.



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The success of the SSSO, from a commercial perspective, was noted and a full review of the 2023 Springfield Scottish Squash Open has been made available.

Risk and Compliance Sub Committee

Developing a more robust succession plan for the recruitment of key Board roles remains a priority. A new online training/refresher module to support local club child wellbeing and protection officers has been developed and will shortly be rolled out across squash in Scotland.

Strategy (inc. club development & performance pathway)

In light of the [inclusion of squash in the Olympics from LA2028](#), SSL are engaging with the other Home Nations and sports councils to scope out an optimal approach for a British context, to support and capitalise on the Olympic movement.

A new Regional Association Working Group, bringing together the six regional associations on a quarterly basis, to improve the flow of communication from Board/national to region/club/local level and to facilitate inter regional conversations and the sharing of best practice continues to be established.

Club membership remained static across the last quarter with 86 member clubs. Club membership renewals were issued in Q2 and everyone is encouraged to positively support their club to complete and submit their annual membership return.

The annual collection of equality monitoring data across the sport and its membership has commenced. Help us to identify underrepresented groups and inequalities by completing and sharing the 2023 Equality Monitoring Survey. Your input will contribute towards squash being inclusive and accessible to all.

➤ Take the survey | <https://bit.ly/3u0tfdO>

A new H//T SQUASH ACT/VATOR programme has now been launched aiming at growing the workforce across Scotland capable of delivering H//T SQUASH in local communities. Further details can be found [here](#).

A rebranded Performance Pathway Programme (PPP) has been established to support players on the national pathway. The PPP consists of three squads. The newly formed Development Squad and the Under 23 Academy feature revised criteria and structure, replacing and revamping elements of the former Junior Excellence Programme. These two squads will aim to support young players to develop all areas of their game and to assist the transition from the junior to senior game. An Elite Performance Squad, which has welcomed 13 players for the 2023-24 season, will support athletes who are either training as full time professional players or those who are aspiring to become full time in the near future.



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A successful trip to the British Junior Championships had been facilitated by SSL, with a number of coaches from regions across Scotland attending and supporting a squad of 17 travelling players. In amongst some strong performances was the notable achievement of Thomas Myers who won the BU13 age group. Well done, Thomas!

Looking ahead..

JC Lindsay Scottish Junior Open 2023

The JC Lindsay Scottish Junior Open will return in 2023, being held from 28th-30th December at Edinburgh Sports Club and Oriam, Heriot-Watt University.

- Interested in volunteering | [click here for more information here](#)

Next Meeting: The next meeting is on 12th February, 2024.

For Regional Committees/Clubs

If there is anything in this summary that is of particular interest, please contact your Regional Director/Nominee, Maggie Still (Chief Executive), or Paul Macari (Chair) – please contact info@scottishsquash.org if you require individual contact details.

Thanks

Paul Macari (Chair)



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