



Scottish Squash Limited (SSL) Board – February 2024

Regional Committee / Director update following SSL Board Meeting 12th
February 2024

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, extending a welcome to Susan Menzies as the new **sportscotland** Partnership Manager for the governing body/squash.

Business & Governance

Finance & Commercial Sub Committee

A thank you was extended to all those who had come on board to sponsor/donate towards the Men's World Team Championship in New Zealand in December 2023. The Scottish team produced a strong performance to finish in 8th place and congratulations were expressed to all of the squad.

The SSL 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.

Risk and Compliance Sub Committee

Developing a more robust succession plan for the recruitment of key SSL Board roles remains a priority.

A new online training/refresher module to support local club child wellbeing and protection officers has been developed and is currently being 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 engaged with the other Home Nations and sports councils to work together on an investment application to UK Sport with a view to securing investment for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic cycle.

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



TOGETHER FOR SQUASH IN SCOTLAND

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level and to facilitate inter regional conversations and the sharing of best practice continues to established.

Club membership remained more or less the same across the last quarter with 87 member clubs. There are still a few clubs who haven't submitted their up to date club membership details/renewals and everyone is encouraged to positively support their club to complete and submit their annual membership return.

SSL are aware of a number of challenges relating to specific local authority based squash clubs and are working to connect national and local partners where appropriate. Member clubs are encouraged to keep SSL abreast of any local challenges or positive news stories as early as possible and via your regular/direct link to the SSL team.

[Why not try something new?](#) The new H//T SQUASH ACT/VATOR programme was launched recently and aims to support the growth of a 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 and launched to support players on the national pathway. The PPP consists of three squads. A newly formed Development Squad and an Under 23 Academy feature revised criteria and structure, replacing and revamping elements of the former Junior Excellence Programme. These two squads 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, with 13 players for the 2023-24 season, supports athletes who are either training as full time professional players or those who are aspiring to become full time in the near future.

A popular and successful Scottish Junior Open took place in December 2023 and thanks were extended to the event title sponsor, [JC Lindsay](#), for their continued support of the event. In amongst a notably strong international entry were a number of excellent Scottish performances, with Robyn McAlpine finishing as runner-up in the girls under 19 and Kyle Penman securing the boys' under 19 title.

Congratulations was extended to the Men's National team who [secured an 8th place finish](#) at the World Team Championships in New Zealand in December.

Looking ahead..

2023-24 Representative Season

Thank you to all the players who have supported the recent series of junior and masters national championships and well done to all the newly crowned national champions. Following the conclusion of the national championships series, please stay tuned for announcements of the teams to represent Scotland across the forthcoming representative events.



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www.scottishsquash.org

In case you missed it..

Check out the March squash in Scotland newsletter and update and sign up to receive the news direct to your email via the links below:

- March update: <https://www.scottishsquash.org/check-out-our-march-update/>
 - Newsletter sign-up: <https://www.scottishsquash.org/newsletter-sign-up/>
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Next Meeting: The next SSL Board meeting is on 13th May, 2024.

For Regional Committees/Clubs

If there is anything in this summary that is of particular interest, please contact your Regional Director/Nominee – please contact info@scottishsquash.org if you require individual contact details.

Thanks

Paul Macari (Chair)



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