



Newcastle Squash Rackets Association

**ANNUAL REPORT
&
FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

For the Year Ended 31ST DECEMBER 2017

**Agenda for Newcastle Squash Rackets Association Annual General Meeting to be held on
Tuesday 26th June 2018 at
Cardiff Squash Courts (Macquarie Rd & Ada St, Cardiff NSW 2285)
commencing at
7.30pm**

AGENDA

1. Apologies: Nil
2. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting held on 27th June 2017
3. Business arising from previous minutes
4. Election of the following Office Bearers for 2018

Position	Nominations
President	Trish Medioli
Patron	
VP Admin	
VP Promotions	Jeremy Ryan
Treasurer	Sally Moody
Chairperson Women's Pennants	Tanya Bailey
Chairperson Men's Pennants	Paul Faulkner
Junior Chairperson	Phil Jenkinson
Women's Pennants Committee	Marie Milek Marg Turner
Men's Pennants Committee	David Sherwood Jeff Gorton
Promotions Committee	Wal Gray Tony Elloy Marie Payne

5. Consideration of motions
6. Appointment of Auditor
7. General Business

2017 - 2018 Newcastle Squash Rackets Association.

Patron: John Carroll

President: Trish Mediola

Vice President Administration: Todd Noon

Treasurer: Sally Moody

Committees:

Women's Pennants Committee: Tanya Bailey (Chairperson)
Marie Milek
Marg Turner

Men's Pennants Committee: Paul Faulkner (Chairperson)
David Sherwood
Joe Ghattas
Jeff Gorton

Vice President Promotions: Jeremy Ryan

Promotions Committee: Wal Gray
Tony Elloy
Chris Jenkinson
Marie Payne

Junior Chairperson: Melody Francis

Registrar: Position Vacant

Auditors: Graeme Pritchard Accounts

Newcastle Squash Rackets Association
Annual General Meeting Minutes
27th June 2017

1. Call to order
Trish Medioli called the meeting to order at 7.32pm
2. Register

Delegates		Visitors	Apologies
Dragan Mijatovic	Hit'n'Dip	Jeremy Ryan	Helen Campbell
Wal Gray	Cardiff	Melody Francis	Pat Wilkinson
Joe Ghattas	Wyong	Sally Moody	Chris Corling
David Sherwood	University	Trish Medioli	Lynn Philpott
Tony Elloy	Cardiff	Tim Dann	Tanya Bailey
Neil Ross	Medowie	John Carroll	Paul Faulkner
Sharon Bamback	Hit'n'Dip		Todd Noon
Donna Mallon	Dora Creek		Kay Linsley
Ken Melvey	Dora Creek		Frank Benaquista
			Les Kiskapati

3. Approval of minutes from last meeting- carried. Approved: Dave Sherwood Seconded: Joe Ghattas 4.
4. Business arising from previous minutes – nil.
5. Life Membership badge from previous year's appointment presented to John Carroll.
6. Elections of the following Office Bearers for 2017
 - a. President – Trish Medioli
 - b. Patron – John Carroll
 - c. VP Admin – Todd Noon
 - d. VP Promotions – Jeremy Ryan
 - e. Treasurer – Sally Moody
 - f. Chairperson Women's Pennants – Tanya Bailey
 - g. Chairperson Men's Pennants – Paul Faulkner
 - h. Junior Chairperson – Melody Francis
 - i. Women's Pennants Committee – Marie Milek & Marg Turner
 - j. Men's Pennants Committee – Dave Sherwood & Joe Ghattas
 - k. Promotions Committee – Wal Gray, Tony Elloy, Marie Payne, Chris Jenkinson
7. Consideration of motions
 - a. Motion 1: The NSRA pennant comp is a weekday comp and the Grand Finals should be on a weekday evening as too many players have work, family commitments and other sport on the weekend. TM discussed reasons why GF went to Saturday - Council initially advised not enough courts for GF by Cardiff and this will become a problem again in the new year. Discussed feedback from players, court owners, positive feedback from trial Autumn weekend grand finals and survey of players, etc. Discussed short term and long term options, including GF being on a Sunday instead or a presentation night. Was generally agreed that the constitution currently allows for grades to move if they cannot make the Saturday with due notice etc etc but the feedback on this from the teams that moved this season was that when there were only 2 teams playing their GF there wasn't the same atmosphere that was on the Saturday or a Wednesday when everyone played. If we move all teams to various week nights we will not be giving the atmosphere of an 'event' to any of the players and lose the ability to use these occasions to promote the sport. Obviously each season the calendar will need to be consulted to try and avoid most known events from being an issue. Overall there didn't seem to be less referees than are usually there on a weeknight. Motion voted on - 1 for, remainder against– Motion denied.
 - b. Motion 2: The one season trial of 'Play to recording system (Matrix) ranking order' with automatic re-ordering of teams approved at last AGM be adopted as a

permanent playing condition. Feedback discussed that there were overwhelmingly positive responses to this in player surveys. Motion – carried unanimously.

- c. Motion 3: Reserves policy trialled in the Autumn 2017 comp to support 'playing to Matrix ranking order be retained.' Motion – carried unanimously.
 - d. Motion 4: To move towards a more cost effective and environmentally friendly option for running the association, including making online forms available and primarily providing Pennants booklets in digital, rather than paper copies to all clubs and players. Motion – carried unanimously.
 - e. Motion 5: To run a trial over the next season to have players, or a subset of players in selected grades enter their own scores online. Motion – carried unanimously.
8. Appointment of Auditor Graeme Pritchard of Nelson St Wallsend the previous auditor was proposed – motion carried.
 9. General Business Reserve rules – discussion of feedback from players about issues, and stricter rules around GF's may not be appropriate and creates undue confusion to be fully looked at before next AGM. Discussed matrix adjustments during season. Constitutional changes should be made so that a motion may be adjusted and voted on during the AGM rather than being voted out on wording, semantics or a need for compromise which cannot be currently catered for.

Meeting Closed: 8:39pm

Minutes taken by Melody Francis

PRESIDENTS' REPORT

FOR THE 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This year has been a busy and productive one for Newcastle Squash. It has been the first full 12 month term for many of the association position holders after the relatively short term experienced previously. This continuity for the association has seen many long and short term plans start to gain momentum.

The Promotions committee have had another extremely busy year. They have been out into the community to promote the sport which has had positive results. It has been extremely helpful to understand the attitude that the local community has towards squash and take steps to remind everyone about the sports' existence. This area has once again been highlighted as a major priority for the association.

The Pennants competition has been run incredibly smoothly through the continued efforts of the chair people and committee members. We have recognised and moved to rectify the duty of care gap in the administration of the competition by reimplementing player registration, with a more formalised approach. Refereeing has been highlighted as an area for future investigation.

It is with great sadness that we say a hopefully temporary farewell to Melody Francis as the Junior Chairperson. During her time on the council we have seen an inaugural Junior pennants competition trialed, and Newcastle Squash run a coaching course to move towards more effective junior programs. This is a huge area for development and along with general promotion of the sport is one of the major priorities for our continued efforts.

Financials have been actively monitored by the treasurer which led to the need for tighter controls on the registrar system for administration. The result has been that the job is currently being performed by the committee while we audit the exact needs and efficiency of the process. In future we hope to move to a fixed fee contract for this position.

The proactive endeavours of the current council have highlighted the need from more support from the squash community. Where current players have been able to give some of their time we have been able to run promotional activities and events. When the burden falls to only a few we find ourselves burning out those volunteers. We need everyone's help to get the sport back into the public eye and keep it going. For those amazing people beyond the council and committee members who gave their time this year you have our thanks and appreciation. Nothing can happen without this support!

Trish Mediolli
President.

VICE PRESIDENT ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The last 12 months have been really exciting in Newcastle Squash - it's been busy, challenging and enjoyable.

Over the last 12 months the council have worked hard to grow the sport and we always look forward to hearing member's feedback as to how we're doing, or how we can do better.

One of the key roles of the council is to grow the sport and make sure we're sustainable. Everyone has contributed to this, but Melody Francis and Trish Medioli in particular deserve a huge congratulations.

Melody, the outgoing Junior's Chairperson, has worked with our clubs to establish a Junior Pennants competition. This requires a really big effort from everyone involved but is so important to ensure the survival of our sport.

Trish, the NSRA President, has been a big driver in reviewing some of our biggest expenditures, particularly how the registrar position can best serve the NSRA given developments in technology. This is crucial to ensuring our sustainability and has required additional workload to take on some of the registrar duties.

I've been a member of the council for 18 months however won't be renominating. I've hugely enjoyed being part of the council, there is a great team atmosphere and we all want the same thing – to grow the sport.

I would encourage anyone who has a passion for our sport and wants to improve and grow it to nominate for the council.

Todd Noon
VP Admin

TREASURER'S
REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

The 2017 year was another positive one in terms of keeping the Newcastle Squash Rackets Association in a surplus.

A necessary increase on promotions expenditure has occurred this year and it shows in the increase of income for sponsorship/fundraising. 2017 also has seen an increase to the registration fees however player numbers are what will dictate whether the Association can financially support itself and for this year numbers haven't significantly increased.

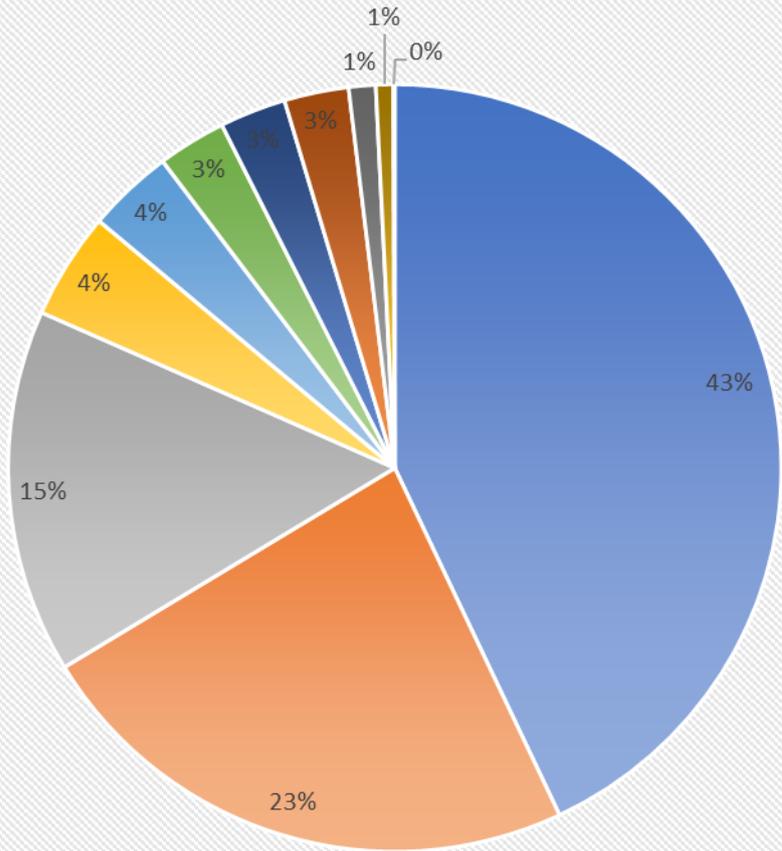
Registrar costs have increased this year and the amount only reflects costs up to September. Going forward the association is looking into ways to better utilise the registrar's expertise and possibly change the structure of the fees.

Although we have had a surplus now for the last couple of years we still need to be mindful that player numbers haven't increased and since September there has not be any cost for a registrar.

Sally Moody
Treasurer

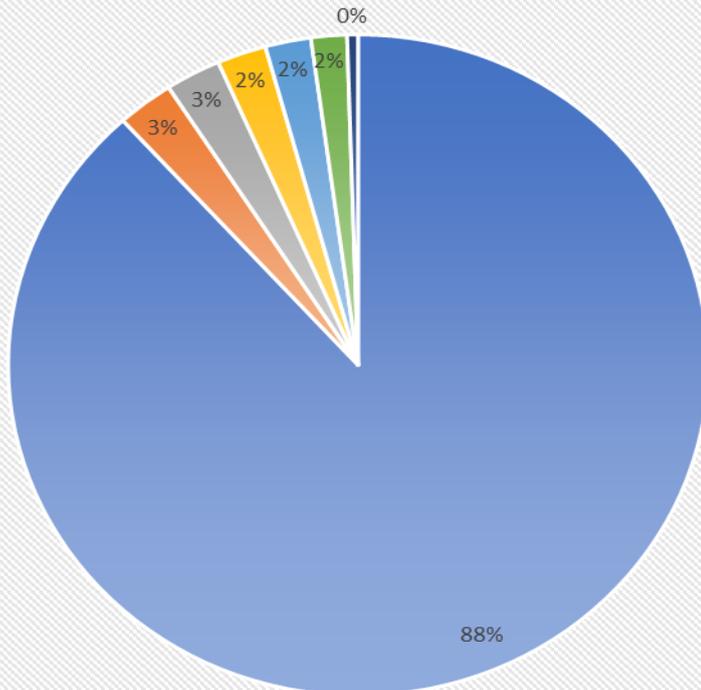
- Contractor's Fee
- Trophies
- Promotions
- Competition Software Costs
- Squash Open Expenses
- Accountancy
- Stationery and printing
- Junior Pennants Court Hire
- Website/Software
- Dues and subscriptions
- Bank charges

Expenses



- Registration Fees
- Junior Pennants
- Squash Open BBQ
- Pennants Sponsorship
- Stubby Holders
- Fundraising
- Junior Sponsoring

Income



VICE PRESIDENT PROMOTION'S REPORT

2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

There's been a lot achieved in the last 12 months - but first and foremost, I want to thank EVERY VOLUNTEER who has contributed to the sport in the region. Whether it is cooking a BBQ, helping at one of our blow up court displays or offering their time in some capacity towards squash - YOU are the ones who will make our sport better, so thanks for your efforts.

In the last 12 months

- We have held as many as 8 blow up court displays across the Hunter and Central Coast, with tens of thousands of people seeing our sport and plenty of people giving it a go
- Sponsorship of around \$3000 in cash and products for the Newcastle Pennants Season
- Over 7000 website views at www.newcastlesquash.com.au
- Media coverage of the Lake Macquarie Open and Pennants Grand Finals
- Bigger crowds to Grand Final Day with a shift to Saturday (including kids and families - not just players)

There is more we wish to do, but this is a good base to work from, and as always, if you have ideas on where we can focus or want to get involved, please get in touch with us at newcastlenssquash@gmail.com

Finally, I want to thank the Promotions Committee of Wal Gray, Tony Elloy, Chris Jenkinson and Marie Payne for their work behind the scenes and support. Their ideas and enthusiasm have proved invaluable, and I am glad to see they have nominated to stay on board for the coming year!

Jeremy Ryan

Vice President Promotions

JUNIOR CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

I would like to start off by thanking the committee for another enthusiastic and productive term. It has been great to work with such a team of go-getters. I will be stepping down at the conclusion of this term. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as Junior Chairperson and I am very excited with the introduction of Junior Pennants to the NSRA.

Junior pennants numbers have steadied and is now being run out of Raymond Terrace Squash. A big thank you to Phil Jenkinson for your continued support and efforts in promoting and growing junior squash in the region. The Active Kids Rebate can be used to cover the fees for participation in Junior pennants. It has been great to see that utilised quite well so far. If there are any juniors interested in taking it up, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Phil at Raymond Terrace, he goes above and beyond to make sure each junior slots in at a level that they are comfortable with.

I look forward to seeing the competition continue to gain momentum. I look forward to continuing working with the Association in the future just in a different capacity and I will be continuing on as a sponsor for a long time yet!

Melody Francis
Junior Chairperson

WOMEN'S PENNANTS COMMITTEE

REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

2018 Competition saw Ladies A1 grade going back onto the matrix system. The system they were using had a handicap system which the Matrix was unable to handle so their handicaps were worked out and adjusted in rounds 5, 10 and 15 which was becoming time consuming and led to some players thinking the rankings were being manipulated.

Going back onto the Matrix allowed them to see their Matrix changing and therefore their handicap was appropriate. This seems to be working well and we will continue to monitor this.

The Ladies A1 Grade also saw some new players coming from the Ladies Social Competition held at Cardiff on a Tuesday night.

I and my fellow pennants committee and players welcome them and hope they enjoy their new experience.

Ladies AO Grade seems to be going along steady.

I would like to thank my Pennants committee Marg Turner and Marie Milek for their help and support as my role as Chair Person Women's Pennants.

I would also like to thank Trish for her guidance.

Keep on Squashing

Tanya Bailey
Chairperson Women's Pennants

MEN'S PENNANTS COMMITTEE

REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

Another year down, with the ups and downs that come with it. The times are constantly changing, but I feel that we are making steps to progress in the right direction.

Thanks to my Committee members: David, Joe and Jeff, for their input and support over the year. Thanks also to the Council members, meetings have always felt productive and constructive, with us not always agreeing with each other, but working together as a whole to achieve the right outcome in the end.

One downer this year has been a few complaints, some formal, some informal over issues of etiquette. Between teams arriving late with no notice given, to players harassing referees, to other behavioural issues. Please remember that we all play the sport for fun, and your behaviour towards others can have impacts on their enjoyment. The last thing we want to see is people deciding that the sport is no longer for them as they don't enjoy their night.

On a less serious note, I wish all teams competing in the finals (albeit they've already happened by the time of the meeting) the very best of luck. And, as always, if ever you have a question about a ruling, or anything squash-related, feel free to drop an email or a phone call and I will do my best to get back to you as soon as possible with an answer.

Paul Faulkner

Chairperson Men's Pennants Committee

MOTIONS LIST

1. Increase nightly fees by \$1 to \$13 per night. Moved by Cardiff Squash. Seconded by Wyong.
2. That the minimum number of council meetings per year be decreased from 10 to 8.
3. That clause 12.4 *No motion may be considered at any general meeting unless due notice has been given. Amendments to motions shall not be allowed at the meeting. The quorum for a general meeting shall be two thirds of delegates.* Shall be changed to *No motion may be considered at any general meeting unless due notice has been given. Amendments to motions can be made at a general meeting if they are proposed and seconded from the floor. The amended motion can be then voted on under normal motion consideration. The quorum for a general meeting shall be two thirds of delegates.*
4. Change to By Laws 2C *i. Teams shall consist of a minimum of four players and a maximum of six players except that clubs may submit up to three extra players (max 7 players) in the lowest graded team in the club after final grading.ii. Teams in the top grade of the both men's and women's competitions shall have a minimum of three (3) registered players.* Shall be removed and replaced with *Teams shall consist of a minimum number of players equal to the number of lines played per night and a maximum of 6 players per team. An extra maximum player is allowable in the lowest grade per competition.*
5. Change to By Laws 2E *The pennants committees shall allocate sharing arrangements between teams playing at the same centre with the same night and time. Sharing of courts between men's and women's teams shall not be permitted, except where there is an odd number of men's teams and an odd number of women's teams entered for a squash centre, in which case one men's team may share with one women's team.* Will become *The pennants committees shall allocate sharing arrangements between teams playing at the same centre with the same night and time.*