



Minutes from the
2008 Annual General Meeting
Monday, June 2, 2008
Cheers Sports Bar, 6:30PM

1. Approval of Agenda

Agenda was approved as circulated (moved by Michele LeClair, seconded by Alan Hughes).

2. Approval of 2007 AGM Minutes

Approved as is (moved by Cynthia Dunsford, seconded by Alan Hughes).

3. Business Arising from 2007 AGM Minutes

It was reported that all issues under “New Business” from the 2007 AGM have been completed except there is still uncertainty over the use of the Children’s Fitness Tax Credit. The executive will look into whether a “package” of activities can be put together in which a tax receipt can be issued. There are now two VP’s and the by-laws have been correspondingly revised. See President’s Report for other specifics.

4. President’s Report - Derek Lawther

The end of my second (and final) year as president of Squash PEI is fast approaching. Before reflecting on what we have accomplished over this past year, and commenting on what to expect in the coming year, I take this opportunity to thank all those who have volunteered their time and energy in support of Squash PEI. I am particularly indebted to the members of the 2007-08 Executive for their more direct support of me as president: Daniel Lazaratos (VP-Men), Kirstin Lund (VP-Women), Allan Hughes (Treasurer), Michele LeClair (Secretary), and Steven Banks (Past-President).

Much has happened over this past year, but the single, and most central item, was the introduction of our new two-year (2007-09) plan. As many of you know, these two-year plans are a requirement of all provincial sports organizations seeking funding from the provincial government. Our plan calls for the establishment of “forward-thinking” policies and strategies designed to enhance our ability to recruit new people into the sport and to retain those already

involved. This plan will continue to guide our collective energies until its completion in April, 2009. The plan can be found on the "About Us" page of the Squash PEI website.

A number of specific events and initiatives from this past year include:

1. 2007-08 Awards: Scott Gamble (Male Athlete-of-the-Year), Mary Andrews Female Athletes-of-the-Year), and Rhonda MacLean (Steven F. Rogers Award).
2. Policy has been created for the establishment of Senior and Junior Elite Teams (see website)
3. Our Women's team finished 7th at the 2007 Canadian Team Championships (Moncton). The team consisted of Mary Andrews, Tracy McGee, Stephanie Charlton, Cynthia Dunsford, Gordie Lawlor (coach), and Michele LeClair (manager). Also participating as officials were Jill Taylor (Tournament Referee), Bob Aitken, and Shawn Hughes.
4. Launch of our new-look website, including on-line draws, and match times.
5. Purchase of a ball machine (policy regarding its use is available on the website)
6. Adoption of the Black Knight ball as the official ball of Squash PEI events and programs
7. Initiation of a provincial Men's A league (Thanks Lester Jinks!)
8. Nine sanctioned squash tournaments (including the Cash Classic, and in April, the Atlantic Open, and the Atlantic Junior Jester)
9. "Instant Squash" clinics at the UPEI Sports Centre (Derek Lawther), and at the Summerside Wellness facility (Gordon Lawlor), as well as continuation of the junior development program at the Spa Total Fitness Centre (Kenny Power)
10. Three new coaches being trained using the new NCCP coaching Certification Program: Cynthia Dunsford, Courtnay Power, and Derek Lawther
11. The 2011 Canada Games Team officials have been selected: Cynthia Dunsford (Manager), Steven Banks (Coach), Derek Lawther (Assistant Coach)
12. Squash PEI chosen by Squash Canada to host the 2009 Canadian Men's Team Championships
13. Participation in the 2007 PEI Sports Fair
14. The 2008 Atlantic Junior Jester and 2008 Atlantic open were held in Charlottetown, April 3-6.

Looking to the future there are a number of the events and activities which can be anticipated over the next year.

1. An orientation meeting for the athletes (and parents) wishing to try out for the 2011 Canada Games Team will be held in the spring/summer of 2008. Details will be communicated by the team officials soon.
2. The 2009 Canadian Men's Team Championships, hosted by Squash PEI in Charlottetown.

There will of course be the usual activities (e.g. tournaments, etc.), and I am sure there will be lots of others not yet anticipated.

Once again, thank you all for your continued support of Squash PEI.....see you around the courts!

Derek Lawther

5. Vice-President's Reports - Daniel Lazaratos, Kirstin Lund

Both Daniel and Kirstin indicated that they will re-offer as VP's for 2008-09. For Daniel and Kirstin, this was a learning year, and both will become more integrated in the associations operations in the new year.

6. Treasurer's Report - Allan Hughes

Allan presented the 2007-2008 Year End Financial Statement. It was approved as presented (moved by Cynthia Dunsford, seconded by Derek Lawther). Allan stated that due to time constraints from other commitments, he will be stepping down as Treasurer.

7. Committee Reports

7.1 Tournaments - Michele LeClair

The 2007-08 season was a success with 9 sanctioned tournaments, plus hosting the Atlantic Open and the Junior Jester (Junior Atlantics).

A tentative schedule for the 2008-09 tournament season was presented. The schedule will be finalized later in the summer. A tournament organizer software package was piloted during the 2007-08 season. Positive feedback was received, particularly with the posting of the draws, and match times on the web. It was recommended (Lawther) that Squash PEI purchase a commercial package to replace the piloted package (which was freeware with no technical support). The proposal was agreed to, and the executive has been mandated to do this ASAP.

It was recommended (Lawther) that Squash PEI adopt the new Squash Canada score sheet.

7.2 Membership and Rankings - Derek Lawther

The final number of members in good standing at the end of the 2007-08 season is 109. Members need to be reminded that annual membership runs from Sept 1 to Aug 31 as stated on the membership forms. It was agreed that this reminder will be emailed to all members each year. A motion was passed raising the rates to \$20 (adult), and \$15 (Junior/Student), effective for the 2008-09 membership year. An option to fill out membership form, and pay dues on-line will be investigated and implemented if possible.

It was suggested (Lazaratos) that the ranking system be reviewed by the committee since such a review has not been done in a long time.

7.3 Coaching and Junior Development - Kenny Power

Junior development at the Spa Total Fitness is progressing well with a number of new juniors this past year. The new ball machine has been used routinely, but will need to be serviced before the 2008-09 season.

There are three new NCCP coaches in training (Derek Lawther, Cynthia Dunsford, and Courtney Power).

7.4 Officiating - Bob Aitken

No officiating clinics were offered in the 2007-08 season. Concern was raised about the overall poor quality of officiating during sanctioned events. A commitment was made to ensure a clinic is given during the 2008-09 season.

Three of our officials (Bob Aitken, Jill Taylor, Shawn Hughes) participated at the 2008 Canadian Women's Team Championship in Moncton. Jill Taylor was the Tournament Referee.

7.5 Publicity and Website - Derek Lawther

Renovations to the website were completed during the 2007-08 year. The general feedback was very positive. A more comprehensive effort on publicity is needed.

7.6 Newsletter - Jeremy Stiles

A year-end newsletter will be published during the summer of 2008. It was agreed that this will be the last newsletter since the news bulletins added to the new-look website make the newsletter redundant. However, it was agreed that there should be a semi-annual "Presidents Report" published on the website and emailed to the membership.

8. 2011 Canada Games - Derek Lawther and Cynthia Dunsford

The 2011 Canada Games Team officials have been selected: Cynthia Dunsford (Manager), Steven Banks (Coach), Derek Lawther (Assistant Coach). Cynthia and Derek are currently working through the NCCP certification process to meet the Canada Games requirements. Both should be certified to the minimum games requirements within a year. Details for the eligibility requirements for the Canada Games Squash Practice Team will be made public prior to the 2008-09 tournament season. Eligibility requirements will include tournament participation, and a skills assessment. Age-eligible juniors in our database who meet the minimum requirements will be officially placed on the practice team which will be formed at the end of the 2008-09 season.

9. Consideration of Amendments to Bylaws

9.1 Members-At-Large

Motion (submitted by Derek Lawther):

That the bylaws be rewritten at the discretion of the Executive to reflect the addition of

Members-At-Large.

Rational:

The Duties of the Members-At Large would primarily be to act as Chairs of Standing Committees. This would ensure proper voting representation for these important committees during meetings and internal communications of the Executive.

Motion Approved. The executive will amend the bylaws to reflect the new executive positions, and their terms of reference.

10. Election of 2008-2009 Officers

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| 10.1 President - | vacant |
| 10.2 Vice-President (Men) - | Daniel Lazaratos |
| 10.3 Vice-President (Women) - | Kirstin Lund |
| 10.4 Treasurer - | vacant |
| 10.5 Secretary - | vacant |

Note: Derek Lawther assumes the role of Past-President

The executive will actively recruit members for the vacant positions.

11. Report on 2008-09 Committee Membership

Tournament committee: Cynthia Dunsford
Coaching and Junior Development committee: Derek Lawther
Officiating Committee: Jill Taylor, Shawn Hughes
Membership and Rankings committee: Dan Lazaratos
Newsletter Committee: discontinued
Publicity and Website committee: vacant

Standing committee composition will be finalized at a later date.

12. New Business

12.1 2009 Squash Canada AGM

Derek Lawther will be attending the 2008 Squash Canada AGM in Ottawa (June 20–22). With the approval of the Executive, he has submitted a letter of intent indicating Squash PEI's interest in hosting the 2009 Squash Canada AGM. Derek will present the proposal at the 2008 Squash Canada AGM and will report back the result of the vote.

12.2 2009 Canadian Men's Team Championship

A reminder that Squash PEI will be hosting the 2009 Canadian Men's Team Championship, Jan, 2009. Organizational efforts will begin during the summer of 2008, including recruitment of volunteers and soliciting for funding/sponsorship.

12.3 Inter-Club League

Daniel Lazaratos indicated that he will organize an inter-club league to begin operations in the 2008-09 season.

12.4 AOB

There was no other business.

13. Adjournment