

## Minutes of the 2020 Oceania Squash Federation Annual General Meeting

Held at 11:00 am on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020  
(Electronic Zoom Meeting)

### 1. WELCOME

Meeting was opened by the OSF President, Mr Jim O'Grady at 11:00am

It was confirmed that the quorum requirements of not less than half of Members present had been met with 7 Member Countries represented at the commencement of the meeting.

Jim outlined House Rules for the meeting and explained voting procedures.

It was noted that the OSF Constitution states that any Member with Membership Fees in arrears is not entitled to vote at the meeting. Samoa, Tahiti and Vanuatu's Membership Fees are currently in arrears and therefore not eligible to vote at this meeting.

### 2. ATTENDANCE

Oceania Board	Jim O'Grady (President) Dinesh Parmeshwar (Vice President) Carol Kawaljenko (Executive Officer)
Australia	Jo Brodie (President) Adam Carter (Interim CEO & Board Member)
Cook Islands	Anita Boaza (Secretary)
Fiji	Blair Macaskill (President) <i>**Joined meeting at 12.15pm</i>
New Caledonia	Gilles Rouvray (Treasurer)
New Zealand	Martin Dowson (CEO)
Papua New Guinea	Lady Anna Ballinger Togolo (President)
Samoa	Ivan Chewlit (President) Andrew Ah Liki (Club Captain)
Tahiti	Charles Daxboek (Vice President)
Vanuatu	Yannick Jacobe (President)

Each country official present at the time was asked to introduce themselves.

### 3. APOLOGIES

Oceania Vice President                      Mr Mick Jaroszewicz

*There being no further apologies Jim O'Grady (President) moved that Mick's apology be accepted. Seconded by Anna Togolo (PNG).*

### 4. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

A review of the OSF Constitution (Version 6) had been undertaken during 2020 with extensive changes made throughout the document. Member Countries were given the opportunity to make comments and suggestions of any proposed changes. The final draft was distributed with Meeting Papers.

#### 4.1. Adoption of New Constitution

There being no further discussion or changes requested the following motion was put to the meeting.

*Jim O'Grady (President) moved that the Oceania Squash Federation Constitution (Version 6 dated 8 November 2014) be rescinded and a new Oceania Squash Federation Constitution (Version 7, dated 29 November 2020) be adopted. The motion was seconded by Anita Boaza (Cook Islands). Motion was carried.*

## 5. 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### 5.1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM

*Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting were distributed via email.*

#### 5.1.1. Confirmation of Minutes

*Moved Jim O'Grady (President), seconded Gilles Rouvray (New Caledonia) that the minutes of the 2019 General Meeting held on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2019 be accepted as written. Motion Carried.*

#### 5.1.2. Matters arising from 2019 Minutes

Item 7 – Vacant Vice President Position

Expressions of Interest were called and Mr Mick Jaroszewicz (Australia) was appointed to the position until the 2020 AGM.

### 5.2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr O'Grady briefly summarized his report which had been distributed to attendees prior to the meeting.

Covid has had a major impact across the Region with many international and local competitions postponed or cancelled. Any planned development programs for OSF were also cancelled. Great to see the majority of our Members have been able to resume squash activities and hopefully we will all be able to get back to normal in 2021

*Jim O'Grady moved that his report be accepted. Motion was seconded by Martin Dowson (NZ). Motion carried.*

### 5.3. FINANCIAL REPORT

#### 5.3.1. Financial Statements

The Executive Officer briefly summarized the income and expenditure for the 2019/20 Financial Year.

- Major income streams are Membership Fees & WSF Spin Registrations.
- Expenditure was at a minimum due to the pandemic with the Federation unable to undertake programs and events planned for 2020.

Tahiti advised that they sent a bank order to pay the Membership Fees on 16 March. Due to changes in the banking regulations in Tahiti they are unable to check online to explain why the funds were not transferred. They will further investigate and advise.

*Moved Jim O'Grady (President), seconded Anna Togolo (PNG) that the 2019/20 audited financials be accepted as prepared. Motion carried.*

#### 5.3.2. 2020 Membership Fees

As many members have not been able to conduct normal squash activities for some time the Board are recommending that 2020/21 Membership Fees be waived. Any Member who was in arrears as at 30 June 2020 to pay any outstanding amounts.

*Moved Jim O'Grady (President), seconded Carol Kawaljenko (Executive Officer) that due to the worldwide pandemic reducing the Federation's capability to deliver programs and events planned for 2020, that all Membership Fees due for the 2021 Financial Year be waived. Any outstanding 2019/2020 Membership Fees will be due and payable by those Member Countries who are currently in arrears. Motion carried.*

5.3.3. **2020/21 Budget Approval**

The proposed budget reflects normal activities with the exception of the payment of Membership Fees. Although still uncertain about travel restrictions the budget was allocated as if we would be back to normal business for 2021.

*Moved Jim O'Grady (President), seconded Martin Dowson (NZ) that the proposed 2020/21 Budget be accepted. Motion carried.*

5.3.4. **Appointment of Auditor for 2020/21**

The current auditor is efficient and close to the OSF Office and it is preferable that we maintain the same auditor.

*Moved Carol Kawaljenko (Executive Officer), seconded Adam Cater (Australia) that Bribie Accounting Services Pty Ltd be appointed as the Federation's Auditor for the current financial year. Motion carried.*

5.4. **MEMBER REPORTS**

A copy of all Member Reports received prior to the meeting were emailed with Meeting Papers. Those present at the meeting were invited to speak to their report.

5.4.1. **Australia**

The past year has had a huge impact on squash in Australia. Jo Brodie has recently been re-elected as President of Squash Australia for a further 12 months. Adam Carter (SA Board Member) has taken on the Interim CEO position until recruitment of a new CEO is finalized, hopefully before Christmas. 6 months waiver of fees was given to Members and insurance extended. Strategic Plan revised and simplified. Many regular events had to be cancelled and WSF cancelled the World Juniors which was to be held in June in Australia. We are looking forward to a more 'normal' 2021.

5.4.2. **Cook Islands**

Membership stands at around 40 with around half of these active on a regular basis. The new President, Tutu Inamata, was unable to link in to today's meeting due to other commitments. The player membership fee was reduced this year which has attracted more local players. After taking part in a program through Tereora School several high school students have enquired to join. Club President ran a 12-session program teaching them the basics of squash. The annual Cook Islands Open was cancelled. Committee keen to work with OSF in developing our sport and especially encouraging juniors to learn the game.

5.4.3. **Fiji**

Covid-19 forced the shutdown of squash facilities for several months and the cancellation of 2 international events. A number of local tournaments were held during the year. The Business House League in Suva has been very popular, attracting 170 participants over a 3-month period. McDonalds Fiji sponsored the Junior Development programs enabling successful programs to be conducted in 4 different locations. Keen to host the Oceania Closed Championships in 2021.

5.4.4. **New Caledonia**

NC has 3 centres with close to 500 players including 100 juniors and 100+ female players. Only shut down for a couple of weeks so player interest still strong. The BCI Tournament will be held in early December with 80 nominations. Dumbea Squash Centre has a vacancy for a coach/manager. No interest in NC so extending job opportunity to Australia & New Zealand to find a suitable applicant. New Caledonia willing to work with any interested parties to minimize any government restrictions. Squash Balls have arrived and OSF thanked for their support.

5.4.5. **New Zealand**

The pandemic has caused disruptions to scheduling of events, high performance and general operations. CEO Jamie Tong resigned and replaced by Martin Dowson in October. SNZ released a new coaching framework with both online and practical modules. Martin keen to share information and resources across the Region and encouraged Member Countries to contact him if SNZ may be able to assist.

5.4.6. **Papua New Guinea**

All planned National and Provincial tournaments had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. Participation levels have dropped drastically in all centres and we will need to rebuild. The Federation has been able to have only 1 executive meeting this year. We will be focusing on reviewing our Constitution and hope to hold our AGM in June 2021. Our focus will be on junior development and fundraising over the next 12 months. Our squash balls have arrived.

5.4.7. **Samoa**

2020 has been a good year as Samoa has had no Covid cases to date. We do have restrictions but reasonably minor compared to other countries. We were able to hold our usual tournaments and business house competition. Main focus will be improvement of facilities, implementing a junior program and getting more senior players active in promoting our sport. Looking forward to 2021.

5.4.8. **Tahiti**

Currently have 110 registered members. A French Coach is living in Tahiti but has been unable to operate due to shut down of sporting facilities due to the pandemic. We have been shut down since March with a brief respite of 3 weeks when we held a fun tournament to maintain interest. Hopefully next year will be back to normal and we can hold our annual International Tournament. With Tahiti vying for 2027 Pacific Games we have had initial meetings with the Olympic Committee to build a new Racquets Centre for squash and tennis, rather than having to rely on Phoenix facility exclusively. Interested in sending juniors to participate in NZ tournaments to gain experience. Keen to access any funding available to assist.

5.4.9. **Vanuatu**

Thank you to OSF for their regular correspondence, the communication is appreciated. Without normal tourism the economy has been greatly affected and resumption of squash has been slow. There are not many players but trying to increase so no formal competitions have been held in 2020. With a keen squash player/coach from New Caledonia residing in Vanuatu for the next 12 months it is hoped we can improve our numbers.

5.5. **ELECTIONS**

The President vacated the chair and passed the Election process over to the Vice President, Dinesh Parmeshwar.

The President (Jim O'Grady) and Vice President (Mick Jaroszewicz) completed their term of office and nominations to fill these positions for a 2-year team were invited. The incumbents were invited to re-nominate if they so wished.

5.5.1. **President**

At the closing date for nominations only one nomination for President was received from New Zealand nominating Jim O'Grady.

*Moved Dinesh Parmeshwar, seconded Adam Carter that there being only one candidate for the position of President, that Mr Jim O'Grady be duly elected to the position until the 2022 Annual General meeting. Motion carried.*

### 5.5.2. **Vice President**

As there was no nomination for the vacant Vice President's position received by the closing date for nominations, Members are invited to nominate a person to the position from the table. No nominations were forthcoming. Anna Togolo (PNG) volunteered to take on the position.

*Moved Carol Kawaljenko (Executive Officer), seconded Jo Brodie (Australia) that Anna Togolo be elected to the position of Vice President until the 2022 Annual General Meeting. Motion carried.*

**\*\*With the election process completed Jim O'Grady resumed chairmanship of the meeting.**

## 5.6. **TOURNAMENTS**

### 5.6.1. **Oceania Closed Championships** (held every 2 years)

**2021** - Event to be hosted by Fiji, pending travel restrictions. All Member Countries will be eligible with Australia & New Zealand players needing to meet specific eligibility criteria. Similar to what we used in Tahiti in 2017.

**2023** - Expressions of Interest will be invited next year. More information to be sent to members.

### 5.6.2. **Oceania Junior Championships** (annual event)

**2020** – this event which was to be hosted by Australia was cancelled.

**2021** – to be hosted by NZ alongside the World Mens Teams Championships in Tauranga in December. Dates to be confirmed.

Since 2014 the hosting of these Championships has been rotated between New Zealand and Australia. Members had no objection to this arrangement to continue.

*Jim O'Grady moved that the hosting rights for the Oceania Junior Championships continue to rotate between Australia and New Zealand for another 4 years. Seconded Adam Carter. Motion carried.*

(2022 – Australia; 2023 – New Zealand; 2024 – Australia; 2025 – New Zealand)

### 5.6.3. **Oceania Masters Championships** (held every 2 years – alternate to Closed)

**2020** - event in New Caledonia was cancelled due to the pandemic.

**2022** - scheduled to be held in Australia, but need to confirm.

### 5.6.4. **Oceania Open** (annual event where possible)

This event was reinstated in 2019 but with the onset of Covid-19 the scheduled 2020 event in Fiji was cancelled.

**2021** – hosted by Australia (need to confirm)

**2022** – hosted by New Caledonia (need to confirm).

### 5.6.5. **Oceania Doubles Championships**

New on the Oceania calendar the inaugural event is scheduled to be held on the Gold Coast on 25-27 June, just prior to the World Doubles Championships.

OSF to review if this event will continue as regular annual or biannual championship at the completion of the 2021 event.

### 5.6.6. **Tournament Host Calendar**

Oceania Tournament Calendar is uploaded to the Oceania website. Any amendments and inclusion of dates will be uploaded as they come to hand. Members are encouraged to visit the website for this information.

## 5.7. DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

### 5.7.1. Coaching

OSF's vision is to have at least one (1) accredited squash coach in each of the smaller Member Countries, more if possible.

Members need to consider what their needs are, e.g.

- ◆ are there people willing to undertake a coach accreditation program?
- ◆ would coaching skills be beneficial when trying to encourage more players?
- ◆ could a visiting coach assist in getting a schools' program running?
- ◆ would it help your current players gain more knowledge?

Members are to consider their needs and advise OSF where we can help.

### 5.7.2. Refereeing

OSF is currently offering an opportunity to Member Countries a free online Club Referee Course in conjunction with Squash Australia. Several countries have already taken up the offer. New log-on information will be sent out shortly.

WSF are launching an online Referee Course Program in January. As we have not received any information regarding the cost of the program we are unable to confirm that we can offer the same package as we have with the Australian program. More information will be provided once we know all the details.

### 5.7.3. Junior Development Grant

In 2020 we introduced a Junior Development Grant to assist players from the smaller Member Countries to participate in the Oceania Junior Championships. This did not come to fruition due to the cancelling of the event.

With the possibility of an Oceania travel bubble within the next 6 months, small grants will be available to send players to compete in either Australian or New Zealand junior events. Once travel restrictions have been eased Member Countries should contact OSF to find out more information.

## 5.8. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

### 5.8.1. Oceania Website

All sections of the Oceania Website have been updated and members are asked to visit and review the content. Members encouraged to send items for upload, such as upcoming events, entry forms, results, newspaper coverage of squash etc.

## 5.9. GENERAL BUSINESS

### 5.9.1. World Squash AGM

As the WSF AGM is not until next weekend we are unable to discuss any contents. The major item of interest is a combined submission from Australia & New Zealand to allow non-members to compete in World Championships. This covers smaller countries/territories who although a territory/country in their own right are considered part of their National Body (e.g. New Caledonia) and are currently unable to compete under their own banner. Further information on the outcome of the meeting discussions will be forwarded after the completion of the meeting.

### 5.9.2. Other General Business

Carol Kawaljenko (Executive Officer) asked Member Countries present if they would be keen to hold more regular Zoom meetings with the OSF Board rather than restricting communication to emails. Members were asked to consider and advise.

## 5.10. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business the President wished all the OSF Members all the best for 2021 and hoped that the challenges faced over the past year will ease and we can once again come together across the Region, and formally closed the meeting at 12.30pm.