

# OCEANIA RULES AND REFEREEING COMMITTEE REPORT July 2012-June 2013

Chris Sinclair. Convenor Rules and Referees Committee

## Committee

Convenor: Chris Sinclair (Australia).

Members: Chris Buckland (New Zealand), Gye Duncan (Norfolk Island), Peter Highsted (New Zealand), John Small (Australia).

### 1.0 Certificates

These continue to be issued to all Regional Referees, and at the completion of the Pacific Games to all new and upgraded Oceania Markers and Referees.

### 2.0 WSF

I have continued my involvement on the WSF Rules Committee and the WSF Referee Review Board and this ensures Oceania receives updated refereeing information.

I will be presenting at the WSF Refereeing Conference in Jordan in October 2013 and will be attending the 2013 WSF Workshop and AGM.

The next Singles Rules will be voted on at the 2013 WSF AGM in October 2013, and will be effective as at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014. I will circulate the final version when approved, together with a list of changes.

Unfortunately the Singles and Doubles Rules will not be completed at the same time to ease publication costs. The Doubles Rules have started to be discussed due to the 2014 CWG, but we have not yet been officially asked by WSF to start work on these. At this stage I expect there will not be any changes from 2010, except for the wider court and lower tin.

Oceania through John Small in particular, contributes to heavily contribute to WSF's CBTA programmes and this gains us further respect from WSF.

### 3.0 WSF Referees

Australia has 3 WSF Referees – Damien Green, Chris Sinclair and Nathan Turnbull. We are hoping to have another Australian referee upgraded from Regional to WSF early in 2014 and one from New Zealand by 2015.

### 4.0 Regional Referees

Australia now has 7 accredited Oceania Regional Referees. Congratulations to Murray Ashcroft (Australia) and Glenn Carson (New Zealand) for attaining this level in 2013.

Oceania has slightly higher CBTA requirements than does WSF for Regional Referee accreditation. We prepare our referees well for progression from Regional to WSF referee.

### 5.0 Workshops

**Australia.** Due to financial restrictions Australia has not had a National Workshop since 2010. I believe one must be held to discuss the new WSF Singles Rules which become effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014.

**New Zealand.** Held a Workshop prior to their Nationals and I presented at that on areas requested by NZ Referees and that was a productive Workshop. I believe they need another Workshop prior to the new Rules.

**Oceania.** I hope a Workshop can be organised prior to the 2013 Oceania Championships. Sandra Tinkler (National Referee, NZ) will be attending. Unfortunately refereeing numbers and playing numbers at this event have decreased due to financial reasons.

## **6.0 National Championships**

**Australia.** Unfortunately this major PSA event was downgraded for financial reasons in 2012. This had a huge impact on refereeing. We now have 3 WSF Referees needing matches and assessments to maintain WSF accreditation, and we need the top standard PSA matches to upgrade our 7 Regional Referees to WSF level. Due to the lower standard event, we were not able to accredit any new referees at WSF level in 2012. No Australian Open was held in 2013.

**New Zealand.** I attended the 2013 NZ Nationals at the invitation of Squash New Zealand. I assessed their National and Regional referees, and was able to pass their Regional referee Glenn Carson on one match at WSF level as a start towards that accreditation level.

**Oceania.** Oceania Championships 2013. To be held after this Report has been submitted. I expect there to be assessments done at this event and hopefully more Oceania Markers and Referees, particularly from Norfolk Island.

## **7.0 Oceania Accredited Officials as at August 2013**

For Referees and Markers accredited in each level in every Oceania country, please see Attachment A

Growth has been recorded since 2004 but slowed over the last 2 years due to budgetary constraints everywhere. I expect numbers will increase in the countries attending the Oceania Championships.

Australia showed slight increase over the last 12 months, mostly at the higher level with 2 more State referees and 1 more Regional referee.

## **8.0 Trans-Tasman Referee Exchange**

2012. Australia invited a NZ National Referee to the Australia Open where he received advice, high-level matches and assessments, and as a result, attained Regional accreditation and is on the way to WSF accreditation.

2013. One Australian Regional Referee attended a PSA 10 event and I attended to assess. One NZ Regional Referee and one Australian Regional Referee achieved valid WSF assessments.

## **9.0 Commonwealth Games, Glasgow 2014.**

Oceania has 4 referees appointed. Australia – Damien Green, Nathan Turnbull and Russell Weatherburn. New Zealand – Glenn Carson. Chris Buckland (NZ) has been appointed as a reserve. I have been appointed as a WSF Assessor.

Those 6, plus Squash Australia National Refereeing Manager John Small, officiated at the International Doubles event held in Darwin in August 2013 in preparation for 2014. This was valuable experience and hopefully there will be other such events.

## **10.0 CBTA Programmes**

Through John Small, Oceania and Australia are well looked after regarding CBTA programmes. In Darwin discussions were once again held to encourage New Zealand to develop a CBTA National Referee programme. I hope this can finally be produced soon. National CBTA is a requirement for progression to Oceania Regional level.

## 11.0 Aims for 2013 – 2014

1. Promote and assist the development of WSF Referees in the Region, with Member Countries to achieve new WSF Referees: Australia – 1.
2. Continue the Oceania Regional Referee Program complying with the OSF and WSF Regional Referee CBTA Programme and promote and assist Member Countries to achieve extra numbers.
3. Promote and assist Member Nations in the development of National Referee Programs complying with the OSF and WSF National Referee CBTA Programme and assist Member Countries to achieve extra numbers.
4. Promote and assist Member Nations in the development of Introductory Referee Programs complying with the WSF Introductory Referee CBTA Programme.
5. Assist OSF Member Countries to develop strategies to encourage interest by local players and officials in gaining experience towards refereeing accreditation and achieve the following extra numbers with marking and refereeing skills:  
All countries (other than Australia and New Zealand) 12.
6. Encourage WSF, Squash Australia and Squash New Zealand to assist OSF in refereeing and assessment development, including funding assistance for sending accredited referees to smaller OSF member countries to assist with refereeing education and development. Sending one referee every 2 years to Oceania Championships is just not enough.
7. Maintain OSF representation on the WSF Referees & Rules Committee and the WSF Referee Review Board.
8. Ensure suitably qualified refereeing presence at OSF events, particularly Oceania Championships, Pacific Games, Pacific Mini Games and Oceania Junior Championships.
9. Keep countries informed of all relevant matters relating to Rules and Refereeing by production of regular Refereeing Newsletters, and holding Clinics as required.

The Refereeing and Rules Committee can assist the Oceania region to further develop both a wider understanding of the rules of Squash and to produce more accredited referees. There is plenty of refereeing assistance available, including educational video material.

My thanks to the Committee who respond promptly and efficiently to all requests for assistance.



Chris Sinclair  
10<sup>th</sup> September 2013

## ATTACHMENT A

### OCEANIA ACCREDITED OFFICIALS

As at August 2013

<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF ACCREDITED OFFICIALS IN EVERY OCEANIA COUNTRY</b>										
Note: ** Doubles Referees are also Singles Referees and are not also added to total numbers										
Accreditation Level	Australia	Cook Islands	Fiji	New Caledonia	New Zealand	Norfolk Island	Papua New Guinea	Samoa	Vanuatu	Total
Marker (Oceania)		7	12	7		2	10	13	4	55
Club (Oceania)		7	4	8		1	6	3		29
Club (Australia)	40									40
District (New Zealand)					15					15
National (Oceania)		1		3		2	1			7
State (Australia)	17									17
National (New Zealand)					15					15
National (Australia)	9									9
Regional (Oceania)	6				1					7
WSF	3									3
Doubles (Australia & NZ)	(9) **				(2)*					(11)
	75	15	16	18	30	5	17	16	4	197

<b>OCEANIA LEVEL ACCREDITATION except Australia and New Zealand</b>			
Progress 2004 – 2013			
	Marker	Club	National
2004	0	+ 1	0
2005	+ 8	+ 8	+ 3
2007	+ 11	+ 14	+ 4
2009	+ 31	+ 5	0
2011	+ 9	+ 2	
	Some Markers have moved to Club Referee		Some Club Referees have moved to National

<b>AUSTRALIA &amp; NEW ZEALAND ANTICIPATED NUMBERS 2013-2016</b>					
Australia	Club	State	National	Regional	WSF
<b>2013</b>	40	17	9	6	3
<b>2014</b>	42	19	11	6	4
<b>2015</b>	44	21	12	7	4
<b>2016</b>	45	23	13	7	4
New Zealand	Club	District	National	Regional	WSF
<b>2013</b>	123	20	16	1	1
<b>2014</b>	130	25	18	1	1
<b>2015</b>	130	30	20	2	1
<b>2016</b>	130	30	20	2	2