

Ref: OSF
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OCEANIA SQUASH FEDERATION

ANNUAL REPORT

It gives me great pleasure to present the first Annual Report of the Federation.

The Inaugural General Meeting was held on 13 May 1992 at Auckland, New Zealand when ten countries confirmed the establishment of the Oceania Squash Federation (OSF) by signing the Regions Constitution. These ten countries - Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Tahiti-French Polynesia, Tonga, Vanuatu and Western Samoa became the Founder Members of the Federation.

Three other countries were unable to attend the meeting but advised of their support and they were American Samoa, Norfolk Island and the Republic of Palau.

The elected officers of the Federation were:

President	Murray Day	-	New Zealand
Vice Presidents	Carol Murray	-	Australia
	David Boyd	-	New Caledonia
	Mike Martin	-	Papua New Guinea
Executive Director	Col Clapper	-	Australia
Oceania Representative to the W.S.F.	Bill Murphy	-	New Zealand

In the press release made following the meeting I mentioned that the main objective of the Federation was to expand this fast growing sport in the Pacific area which was in line with the W.S.F.'s objective "to reach out to all regions in the world with the ultimate goal of the game becoming a participant sport in the Olympics".

On the playing side the first year has been a great success with New Zealand hosting the first Oceania Age Group Championships sponsored by Slazenger for both individuals and teams.

The winners in these inaugural championships were:

Girls Under 19	Leilani Marsh	New Zealand
Girls Under 17	Jade Wilson	New Zealand

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Girls Under 15	Natalie Grinham	Australia
	Teams	New Zealand
Boys Under 19	John White	Australia
Boys Under 17	Damien Mudge	Australia
Boys Under 15	Cameron Perry	Australia
	Teams	Australia

I wish to pay a special tribute to Michelle Alexander, the Tournament Director, and her organising team from the Henderson Club for an extremely well run championship.

The second Oceania Age Group championships are to be held in New Caledonia in May at the time of our A.G.M. and I am sure this will be a great success with even greater entries.

The other O.S.F. sanctioned events for this year are:

South Pacific Cup	at Fiji in August
Masters	at Cook Islands In September

The inaugural year has imposed a busy workload on our Executive Director Col Clapper and our special thanks go to him for his tremendous contribution.

Because of the widespread geographical boundaries of our Federation most communication is in written form. Consequently for our Federation to succeed and hold our own with the other Regional Federations we need to be positive in our approach to administration. Don't leave it to the few officers but contribute by replying to correspondence promptly and advising the Executive Director of any news or events that should be shared within the Region.

Please assist us in meeting our current number one objective which is to increase the membership of our Federation so that we can speak with one voice and be heard and respected in the world of Squash.

M.C. Day
PRESIDENT O.S.F.

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World Squash is now formally established into five Regions - Africa, Asia, Europe, Oceania and Pan America. Asia and Europe have been formed for some time and are well established, Pan America joined forces three years ago. Africa followed our region last year.

In terms of World Squash Federation (WSF) membership, we are the smallest region with three countries - Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea only as full members. Our aim must be therefore to eventually have all our OSF countries as full members of WSF. This will only come about however when we develop the sport sufficiently within our region to enable the smaller countries to grow the confidence and resource to participate in World Squash activities.

This will come in time for we have the potential to produce amongst our new regional member countries some of the most exciting squash talent in the world.

The OSF Age Group Championships will always be the platform to develop this and it is over to all member countries to support this event strongly, especially in the next few years.

In due course we must strive towards the day when players from other than Australia and New Zealand appear in the world rankings, and regularly compete in world teams events. For the meantime let us all strongly promote our regional activities in the knowledge that Oceania is now firmly on the Squash map worldwide.

Bill Murphy

O.S.F. REPRESENTATIVE TO W.S.F.

It is a great privilege to have the opportunity of contributing to this first Annual Report of the OSF. In any organisation, the first twelve months is usually the most difficult. I feel we have weathered this period with reasonable success, and look forward to a very positive and progressive future for the Federation.

The administrative structure that has been put in place for the OSF is based on a simple low cost operation. A number of facilities have been provided free-of-charge to the Federation, and this arrangement is expected to continue in the foreseeable future. I must especially thank my wife Lorel for her assistance and support, especially with the typing and other administrative activities.

Communication is our most difficult challenge and most important aspect if we are to be an effective organisation. Six OSF Newsletters were issued during the year, and these were seen as being the most important means of disseminating information to our members. It also provided the vehicle for including information from the WSF. It is anticipated that this avenue for distributing information to members will increase over the next twelve months. We should also however, look towards the future with better use of available technology for maintaining our communication links.

It has been disappointing that we could not publish an effective OSF "Calendar of Events" during the year. Response from members concerning major activities in their area was generally poor, and made it difficult to develop a meaningful publication. Hopefully, these difficulties will be overcome and the OSF will be in a position to provide a useful publication to the squash community.

The Junior Age Championships appear to be a well established and successful event, and I believe it will grow in stature in future years. We also look forward to our first OSF Masters Championship being held and other major events for the region. An important step now needs to be taken in developing formal rules and regulations for these events.

The Coaching Symposium being held in conjunction with this year's Junior Age Championships and Annual Meeting should be an important aspect in the development of the sport in the Oceania area. It is forums like this where OSF can make a major contribution, and where the members can reap the benefits from having a regional Federation.

A Financial Report has been prepared covering the Federation's operation from its date of creation (i.e. 15 May 1992) to 15 May 1993. The report shows a balance in the account at that date of \$A1957.67, with receipts amounting to \$A2902.20 and expenditure amounting to \$A944.53. A further report will be prepared to cover the period to 30 June, 1993 to comply with constitutional requirements. An Interim Auditor's Report for the twelve months period accompanies the report. A special thanks is extended to Mr. Phil Stewart for auditing the accounts, and to Mr. Michael Davis for his role as co-signatory of the account.

Col Clapper
Executive Director