

Blue Gum Squash Club (Inc)



Monthly Committee Meeting

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When 12-08-2019 at 03:00

Location: Squashworld Brentwood, 33 Moolyeen Rd, Brentwood WA 6153, Australia

Chairperson Steven JONES

Minute taker Steven JONES

Present Rob BLACKETT , Jeremy CLAUDIUS , Steven JONES (President), Frank LUPIS , Clare Slyth

Apologies Steve TAPLEY

Minutes

1. Bills Received / To Pay

Accounts Paid since last meeting.

- \$1178.00 - Winter pennant team fees
- \$80.00 - Expenses for Family Day food
- \$268.00 - Autumn Day Pennant fees

Expenses expected

- Club Champs - approx \$1000

Current balance - \$11,606.46 @ 12 August

2. Centre Improvement / Plans

Outdoor area - the BBQ has been purchased and has been constructed, it works very well! Rob has enclosed the end patio area, and is currently designing some cupboards to surround the new BBQ. This is progressing well, and plans to complete are well underway.

Court front walls - Kane advised that he will continue to patch the front walls at present, as funds are not available to do a full re-plaster of the walls. Kane looking into the replacement of the tins, changing these to advertising boards. Kane advised that the Masters Squash have been approached for a contribution towards the kitchen and the Tennis Club are also going to contribute.

Focus for the remainder of the year for the committee is the complete the work on the patio area.

3. Calendar of Events

Events planned:

Family Day - This was held Saturday 27th July, and was supported by about 20 member and their children. All involved managed to have a bit of fun, and shared a BBQ afterwards. We may look at running another event in January 2020. Thanks to Mike Millington for coming down and offering some coaching to the kids.

Club Champs - entries are open now, rounds will be played during the week, and finals on Saturday afternoon. There will be a mens & ladies draw, and a doubles draw. The junior competition will be held on Monday afternoons rather than as part of this event due to a clash in the junior tournament calendar.

AGM - this will follow the club champs, and we will finish off with drinks and food.

Squashworld Challenge - Kane suggested a Squashworld challenge between two clubs, or all four clubs. This was supported by the club, and it was suggested that a time towards the middle/end of October may work well. Steven to discuss further with Kane.

Xmas Function - to be decided for early December

4. Membership

We currently have 121 members @ 12th August

Winter fees are now due, invoices have been sent out, fees due by 31st July, the following are still outstanding - Andrew Hveissel, Bryn Donoghue, Greg Mills, Natasha Beattie, Ric Nicholas.

Spring Day League commenced at the end of July, the following fees are now payable - Greg Mills

5. Pennant Teams

Winter Pennants is coming to a close with the final rounds being played this week- we have 11 teams entered this season - 3 Monday night, 6 Tuesday night, 2 Ladies Tuesday night. Four teams are in pennant contention, with all divisions having semi-finals this season.

Spring Pennant season commenced on the week beginning 16th Sept, so we have a short turnaround to get teams in, nominations are due on the 2nd Sept.

6. Website - bluegumsquash.org

We all need to be sending content to Steve Tapley to post in order to keep our website current and relevant. If you have any ideas, suggestions or content, please forward them to Steve.

The website has been useful for new players locating our club, with several enquiries being generated since it has been up and running.

Hosting has been extended until 2022.

7. Newsletter

The June newsletter has been sent out, next one is due in September.

If anyone has any articles or suggestions for future newsletters, please let Steven know.

If anyone would like to take on the creation of the newsletter, again let Steven know.

8. Grants

We have applied for the following grants:

1. Bankwest - \$1000 - for purchase of dishwasher

2. Giving 4 Grassroots - \$4000 for development of junior program, and advertising **(Advised that this was unsuccessful)**

3. Community TAB - \$2000 for development of facilities

4. St John Defib - **(application was successful, Defib machine is located externally for public and club access)**

9. Committee Members

The following committee members were elected for 2018-19:

Steven Jones - President, Irene Petkovich (deceased) - Ladies Club Capt, Jeremy Claudius - Mens Club Capt

Committee - Steve Tapley, Rob Blackett, Frank Lupis, Clare Slyth

Vacant - Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, 1 x committee, Ladies Club Capt

AGM is scheduled for 7th September, all committee members encouraged to continue next year, aim is to recruit a few more members for next year.

10. Sponsorship / Shirts

Blue Gum won 2nd prize in a competition from our shirt supplier, and as a result we have a \$200 credit for our next order. We are going to place one final order for shirts to use this credit, and have a small stock available for purchase.

11. Juniors

Juniors continued this term with numbers being around 15-20 participants. Several juniors have joined the club, and their details have been updated.

We discussed that the pathway for juniors at our club is really via the Wednesday round robin at the moment, and Thursday in-house, before pennants. There may be other opportunities developed along the way, but these are our current staple options.

WA Squash are planning to do a metro promotion of squash through schools in the Brentwood / Hilton corridor in the next 12 months, so we need to plan for how to incorporate more juniors into our club. This is currently being hampered by a lack of staff available to run the school programmes, see discussion about WA Squash for more details.

12. SportyHQ - for pennant players

The Squash Matrix had ceased and all teams / results / rankings are now on SportyHQ.

Contact details for any enquiries or support are: SportyHQ <sportyhq@squash.org.au> This is the Squash Australia contact, and in my experience this has been the most responsive avenue for support.

Who do you contact for any support issues?

Russell Weatherburn – Squash Australia Membership Coordinator
(rweatherburn@squash.org.au)

Leanna Davey – Squash Australia SportyHQ Coordinator (LDavey@squash.org.au).

There is also a shared mailbox where you can send queries, issues and general feedback
SportyHQ@squash.org.au

13. Community Fundraising Box

This initiative is currently on hold, and may commence later in the year.

14. Masters Squash

Centre Improvements - Steven had written to the Masters Committee (President & Treasurer) and asked them to consider a regular contribution to the club to support the ongoing improvements to the centre. It was suggested that \$1000 per year may be appropriate. At this stage no response has been received.

WA State Masters Championships - congratulations to Wesley Emery for winning his age group at the championships

15. WA Squash - forum to discuss fees / budget

Steven attended a forum held by WA Squash to discuss the current financial situation of WA Squash and to get an idea of what the member clubs would support in relation to fees. The forum was attended by around 10 clubs, including 3-4 country clubs.

WA Squash fees need to increase as they haven't changed since 2014. The current fees barely cover the costs of running the association, and fees to Squash Australia. There is also going to be a reduction in Sport & Recreation funding in 2021 which will see \$20,000 removed from the budget. The number of players is reducing and the ongoing costs are increasing.

The immediate issue is to generate enough revenue to keep the association solvent. In order to do this, the registration fees need to increase. Several options were presented and after discussion at the forum the following options were supported by the member clubs.

Option 1 - Metro Snr - \$70, Country Snr - \$50, Junior - \$40 (this is an increase of \$20 per year for all categories)

Option 2 - Metro Snr - \$80, Country Snr - \$50, Junior - \$50 (this would provide a further increase which would provide a bigger buffer)

There will be a discussion paper circulated to clubs, to provide to members, as these options will be voted on at a Special GM in October.

The second part of the meeting was to discuss what services are needed to develop squash in WA, and who is best placed to provide these, ie Squash Australia, WA Squash, the member clubs, or the centre managers. There will be some notes distributed to clubs for further feedback and discussion. The concept of how all people playing squash can contribute to the funding of squash, rather than just those who are WA Squash registered was introduced for us to think about. For Blue Gum this would equate to currently around 80 WA Squash members, out of 120 club members, but out of closer to 150-180 people playing squash at the centre.

End of minutes.