

Blue Gum Squash Club (Inc)



Monthly Committee Meeting

Monthly Committee Meeting - online

2nd week of the month

When 13-11-2024 at 19:30

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

Chairperson Steven JONES

Minute taker Steven JONES

Present Brett Hainsworth , Steven JONES (President), Audrey LAZAROO (Ladies Club Captain), Frank LUPIS , Belinda Martella , Louis MEYER , Jonathan RAFOLS , Vincenzo SCAGLIOTTA , Yvette Yvette

Apologies Rob BLACKETT , Anthony CAMPBELL (Mens Club Captain), Josie Jones (Secretary)

Minutes

1. Outstanding items

- Painting - side walls - 4 courts left to paint, this will be arranged by Nick Hipkins & Mike Corren, funds have been transferred to Tennis club to manage future payments.
 - Courts 4 & 7 - scheduled to be painted on 9th & 10th December
 - Courts 1 & 2 - yet to be determined
- Court Doors – Reinstall door closers, only court 1 left to do
- Mens Changerooms - Ventilation issues, club to follow up with Tennis club, as report provided by Phil Scott
 - Mike advised that City of Melville have attended and are looking into this issue
- Develop a process to report concerns
 - Meeting with Tennis club, all matters relating to the centre need to be raised with Mike, who will liaise with the Tennis Club, who will then help to resolve
 - Squash club should report any issues in writing via email to Mike, that way we have a record.
 - Individuals and the club can raise issues with Mike
 - Current issues
 - Lights - several need repairing, council have investigated, and are looking to replace and protect the lights
 - Floor - issue by court 8 has been resolved, was damaged board due to water leakage
- Develop a statement to advise club members of club vs centre responsibility
 - No further progress
- Develop a process for the club to support juniors to participate in state, national and international events
 - No further progress

2. Committee - roles

It was discussed that each committee member should have a role, and report to the committee meeting each month. This will help to spread the workload, share the responsibility.

Steven Jones - President

- Main club contact point
- Support Treasurer
- Grant identification and application
- Play Our Way grant sub-committee
- Co-ordinator - Thursday night in-house
- Advertising - maintenance of digital signage via piSignage
- Liaise with Squash WA, Squashworld Brentwood, Blue Gum Tennis Club, City of Melville
- On Squash WA Masters Squash committee
- Level 1 - Squash Aust coach

Louis Meyer - Vice President

- Create brand, identity guidelines for future use
- Development of club policies and guidelines, ie child safe
- Update website to ensure it is club based and link centred based info to centre website.

- Actively use our social media pages – Facebook / Instagram – possible advertising
- Internal communications and strategic advertising - newsletter
- Liaise with state and federal politicians
- Grant identification and application

Josie Jones - Secretary

- Junior co-ordinator, zone development, club development squad
- Support social media content, especially Instagram
- Level 1 - Squash Aust coach
- Level 1 - WSO Referee

Belinda Martella - Treasurer

- Merchandise options - junior shirts, reprints
- Social functions, couple of times per year
- Play Our Way grant sub-committee

Anthony Campbell / Audrey Lazaroo - Club Captains

- Liaises with members to form pennant teams
- Ensures pennant players are eligible to play, and financial
- Key contact for Squash WA enquiries
- Liaise with Pennant committee, and Club Captains group
- Anthony - on Squash WA pennant committee, Level 1 - Squash Aust coach

Brett Hainsworth - Committee

- Social events - annual evening, club tournament, other

Yvette Clement - Committee

- Membership - aim to increase retention, participation, convert casuals to members, build Squash WA participation
- Liaise with Squashworld Brentwood
- Play Our Way grant sub-committee
- On Squash WA Board, member of Country Week committee

Frank Lupis - Committee

- Fundraising - annual Bunnings BBQ, promotion of other sources of income - containers for change, entertainment books, ISponsor, new sponsors, business directory

Jonathan Rafols / Rob Blackett - Committee

- Maintenance - identification and support to report or maintain the centre facilities
- PROJECT - explore options to make the outdoor balcony area more appealing
- Liaise with Squashworld Brentwood as required
- Juniors - support development through weekend coaching / game play session (if viable)

Vince Scagliotta - Committee

- Happy to take on any role as new to the committee this year

- PROJECT - work with Jonathan to explore options to make the outdoor balcony area more appealing

What we would like to achieve in the next 12 months:

- Improve the changerooms, showers and toilets
- Explore options to paint the carpark wall - mural, public artworks
- Use the Play Our Way program grant to the fullest capacity
- Update the outdoor area, make this more attractive
- Expose our juniors to more interclub options

Tasks

- ✓ PROJECT - explore options to make the outdoor balcony area more appealing
Assignee: Jonathan RAFOLS
Due date: 31-03-2025

3. Calendar of Events

- Oct - Cocktail / Awards Evening - Saturday 19th - 6.00pm start (8 Knots Tavern) - COMPLETED

- Feedback was positive, seemed to be the right mix of casual and being able to mix
- Was difficult to do presentations so need to look at alternatives for that next year
- Feedback received from participants:
 - We could hold something similar at the Manning Bowls Club Challenger Ave Manning. Some people could play some light hearted bowls on the grass lawns, this could increase social interaction with people we don't normally talk to. The drinks are very cheap, pretty much club rates, and there is plenty of parking. There might be a small fee if you want to have the event exclusive. There is a large kitchen if you want to arrange catering or you can even cook for yourself, maybe 2-3 people cook like on Thursday nights? Easy access of Canning Bridge and Freeway and very close to BlueGum!
 - It was a great night and good to see so many people attend. Yes, not being able to hear the speeches was probably the only downside. So maybe next year have a similar event but hire a private room - eg: Left Bank. They have an upstairs area for special events. Thanks for all your work!
 - I thought the venue was a great location, drinks and food...all great! The noise was a problem if you want to do speeches, so if we had a better area at the same pub, it probably would have been fine!

- Dec - Annual Golf Day - Sunday 8th December - contact Mike Hipkins if you want to play

2025 events to be determined

Development of a club calendar, either for members to participate in, or open wider to attract more people to play. Some suggestions discussed:

- Doubles tournament - expand to twice a year
- Host a Come and Try Day - 2 hours, aim to get new people into the centre
- Junior Open Day - attract new juniors to the sport
- One day / half day tournament - short sharp competition, revised scoring, open to all
- Masters / Zones events
- Coaching for new players

4. Grants

October 2022 - Fuel to Play and Go - \$2000 grants available to promote healthy food and drink options, application made. Waiting for meeting with Healthway to final grant. Grant of \$1600 offered to the club, waiting for payment. (SUCCESSFUL). Funds have been received and will be spent over the next 12 months to support the Fuel to Play and Go message. Trying to allocate this funding towards the purchase of the new fridge, Steven submitted request to Healthway, waiting for confirmation this is ok.

GRANT FINALISED - approval received for the fridge purchase.

April 2024 - Play Our Way Program - this is a federal grant through the Dept of Health and Aged Care aimed to promote equitable access, build more suitable facilities, and support grassroots initiatives to engage women and girls in sport and physical activity throughout their lives. There are two focus areas - (1) Facilities - safe, accessible, inclusive and welcoming, and increased useage, \$50,000 to \$1.5 mil, (2) Participation and Equipment - Organisational delivery, quality of programs and support, access, increased involvement across all areas of club development, \$50,000 to \$1 mil. Projects must be completed by 30 June 2027. Applications close 2.00pm (Canberra time) on 29th April 2024.

We have asked for \$250,000 for the change rooms, and \$75,000 for programs. Thanks to Louis for putting this together.

Aug 24 - we have been invited to submit an application in round 2 of the facilities grant. Sep 24 - application submitted.

Oct 24 - we have been successful with our program grant - \$22,500 per year for 3 years, see separate item for discussion

4.1. Play Our Way Grant - Programs and Equipment

The club has been successful in our funding application for programs and equipment to support women and girls to engage in squash, and to encourage them to remain attached in some way. The funding is significant - \$22,500 per year for three years, so we want to use this in the best possible way. Louis had drafted an outline of how this program, named FutureSquash, will operate as a starting point. We will have a sub-committee to manage the grant activities which will include:

- Advertising and promotion of squash, the centre and the club
- Development of management group, gain feedback from players, parents and interested people, focus groups
- Development of materials, websites, baseline data and programs to support the grant
- Introducing Come and Try days, women's/girls competitions, women's / girls only sessions, coaching
- Exploring motivational guest speakers
- Partnering with Squash WA, Fuel to Go and Play, Squashworld Brentwood and local council

Overall aim is to increase the number of women and girls playing squash at our centre, and as club members, provide opportunities for women and girls to participate, and make it easier for women and girls to engage in our sport. We will also be aiming to increase representation at our club and provide opportunities for women and girls to develop further skills in the sport, either via coaching, development pathways, or

officiating.

We are waiting to meet with the funding body to finalise the grant payment and expect this to happen shortly.

Plan for the next 6 months is to:

- Finalise grant arrangements, gather baseline data
- Meet with Mike, agree on future plans
- Update our infrastructure - website, possibly Squashworld website, promotional materials
- Create sub-committee and engage with current women and girls at the club / centre
- Discuss with Squash WA about how best to partner at the State & National level

Louis and Steven to work with Belinda and Yvette in the initial stage of this grant. Other committee members available to support as needed.

13th November - Discussion at this meeting

- Steven presented a draft plan of activities for this financial year (will circulate with minutes)
- Steven has created a brief survey to capture data we currently don't hold, but need to report on (committee approved this be sent to members)
- Louis provided an overview of the changes proposed to our website and will obtain a quote for this to be updated, and some additional branding work. Expected cost - \$2500
- Equipment - club will purchase equipment to run the girls and womens programs, racquets, balls, grips. We will also create some 'starter' packs for purchase - racquet, grip, ball, headband etc in a tie bag. Steven will talk to Mike / Racquet Shop to get the best deal we can
- Participation - do we offer subsidised (or free) membership for all female players in 2025 as part of our strategy. Based on this year's membership the cost would be around \$1800
- Grant money not yet received but will be paid very soon (UPDATE - 23/11 - \$22,500 received)
- There is an acquittal process that we need to follow, so we are going to need to manage this project carefully
- Next step - sub-committee to meet and commence planning

Tasks

- ✓ Organise Play Our Way sub-committee meeting
Assignee: Steven JONES
Due date: 30-11-2024

5. Standing Items (for update)

The following items will be updated at each committee meeting but may not need discussion.

5.1. Membership

Membership - priorities for 2024 - We finished with 203 members for 2023 (209 for 2022)

1. Aim to keep our current members (199 have renewed / joined for 2024 to date)
2. Work with Mike to increase membership numbers.

Current demographics for members (199):

- Juniors (34 - 17%), Seniors (165 - 83%)
- Male (150 - 75%), Female (49 - 25%)
 - Juniors - Male (14 - 41%), Female (20 - 59%)
 - Seniors - Male (136 - 82%), Female (29 - 16%)

Membership for the club expires on 31st December 2024:

- Member special will be offered in December, 13 months for the price of 12. Will hopefully appeal to current active players who aren't currently members.
- Membership fees to remain the same for 2025
- Steven presented a Junior shirt design, discussed that all members could receive a shirt next year to help create an identity with juniors and a presence when competing outside of the club. Cost would be met by the membership fee, which is the current arrangement with vouchers and glasses

5.2. Fundraising

Bunnings BBQ - Thanks to Frank and Jodee for another successful BBQ.

- We made a profit of \$3200 on the day, which is a huge effort.
- Thanks for Belinda Martella for donating the sausages (Simply Magic Dry Cleaners)
- Thanks to Dan Andersson for donating the drinks (Massage on the Run)
- Thanks to everyone who helped out on the day, special mention to Linkin for his efforts (our only junior present!)

5.3. Sponsorship

Sponsorship of the club is an important part of our revenue, and we are fortunate to have a number of long term sponsors supporting the club. Steven presented a draft of a sponsorship package to be sent out to our community for 2025. The aim is to provide members with an opportunity to advertise their business at no cost, and then increase their exposure with the club on sliding monetary scale - websites, newsletter, naming rights, business directory, advertising.

Draft package will be emailed to committee for comment.

Tasks

- Committee to review Sponsorship package
Due date: 30-11-2024
- Sponsorship package to be finalise and emailed
Assignee: Steven JONES
Due date: 07-12-2024

5.4. Merchandise

Current stock available for purchase

- Polo Shirts (\$40) - 1 x Kids 14, 3 x Med, 3 x Large, 1 x X-Large
- T-Shirt (playing) (\$38) - 1 x Large, 1 x 2XLarge
- T-Shirt (casual) (\$25) - 1 x Small, 1 x Med, 2 x Large

5.5. Pennants

Spring season - runs from 17th September to 10th December - draw is on SportyHq - all teams on Tuesday night

- 12 x mixed teams
- 2 x womens teams

NOTE - Spring pennants fees are now due - \$28 per person - paid via Revo - [Click here to pay](#)

If you need a reserve, please contact Anthony Campbell or Steven Jones, as we may have some options available.

Contact the committee if you are interested in being in a team for future pennant seasons, or as a reserve.

Squash WA Fees for 2024-25 (1st July to 30th June)

New Squash WA members are able to join for 2024/25 via our portal - <https://www.revolutionise.com.au/bgsci/rego/start> - and membership will expire 30 June 2025.

Categories of Registration

Compete (\$121.00) - this is for any players competing at a National Level - Squash Australia events

Local (\$110.00) - This is *for any players competing at a State Level - pennants, tournament* etc - most of us fit in this group - Squash WA events

Lifestyle (\$44.00) - This is for club members who would like insurance coverage, can reserve for pennants twice before needing to upgrade

Support (\$22.00) - For those who are in a support role and what to keep connected to Squash WA and Squash Aus

Digital (\$0.00) - Free option for all players at any level to keep in touch with what it is happening

Most of players will fit into the **LOCAL or LIFESTYLE category**. There will be benefits attached to some memberships (Squash TV for Compete and Local), and discounts, which are still to be determined.

5.6. Squash WA - Masters

Squash WA Master committee and WA Masters Squash Association met to discuss the future management of the Masters 'pathway' during. The aim is for both committees to work together to develop, support and deliver a consistent calendar of events for Masters players, and to share expertise and workload to cater for as many players as we can.

Calendar may include - State Age Titles, National Titles, Masters events in most sanctioned tournaments, teams events, 'social' tournaments and challenge evenings to attract new players, Friday night league, social events, social events, club based events, development of zone identity - plus some new initiatives.

The Australian Masters Championships are being held in Perth next year (Mirrabooka), so put these dates in your diary and start preparing. Planning is underway with a joint committee working on the details.

- Individual - 5th - 7th September
- Teams - 9th - 13th September
- Trans-Tasman Tests - 3rd, 4th & 8th September

5.7. Juniors

Junior Program - Monday afternoons - 4.00pm to 5.30pm

- Average of 35 kids each week
- highest number has been 43 this year
- around 60 kids each year come for at least one session
- club development court, beginners (novice) court, 5 courts of general coaching
- we are almost at capacity, more support with coaching would help
- looking to offer another option for juniors to participate - weekend or afternoon session focussed on game play

Representatives:

National - Hannah Slyth

State - Hannah Slyth, Josie Jones, Kayla Clarke, Ella Clarke

Talent Squad - Ashton Clement, Sterling Slyth

Futures Squad - Noah Tan, Miranda Clark, Jasper Tapley, Joyce Tsao

6. Refereeing

Refereeing - What to know more about the rule and how to referee matches?

The World Squash Officiating website has courses for referees and players to help them better understand and apply the rules during competition. It's free to access so check it out!

WSO Website This would be useful for all pennant players to complete!

Squash WA is keen for every club to have a level 1 referee, we currently have Josie qualified to this level. Anyone else who is interested please contact the committee, as we will support you to achieve this.

The club will be promoting the **Level 0** refereeing course for ALL PENNANT players in 2025. Ideally this would be a pre-requisite, but realistically it is about motivating players to be more confident and consistent when having to referee matches as part of the pennant experience. Further details to follow in January 2025. Course can be accessed [HERE](#) if you want to do it now.

The Level 0 course is a free, basic introduction to the rules of squash. Designed for players, coaches, referees, squash enthusiasts, and parents, this course provides an excellent opportunity to learn more about the sport of squash.

7. Lease - Alcohol consumption

Steven & Mike attended a meeting with the Tennis Club in regard to the new lease arrangements.

- Tennis club now have a 21 year lease, this extends to Mike as the licensee
- City of Melville have advised that they will be expecting full compliance of the lease arrangements
- One issue is the consumption of alcohol - clause 5.6(e) of the lease - *"must not sell or dispense alcohol from the Premises or allow alcohol to be sold or dispensed from the Premises without the prior written consent of the Lessor and then only in accordance with the provisions of the Liquor Control Act 1988; and any policy of the City relevant to the sale and/or consumption of alcohol on Council property."*
- The Tennis club are currently seeking consent from the City of Melville for players to BYO alcohol to events, and have been asked to provide an internal policy to the council for approval

The wider issue is whether the club is able to operate our current fridge arrangements (Masters as well), as it is likely that we need to apply for a licence.

- Discussion with Dept of Liquor Licencing - regular opening times probably exclude any exemptions, felt that the Club Restricted Licence (\$1000 application fee, \$325 pa) was probably needed
- Possible exemption - Small Functions, but seems unlikely - need to make further enquiries

End of minutes.

Summary of matters arising are tabled on the following page.

Minutes of Monthly Committee Meeting on 13-11-2024

Summary of Matters Arising

Tasks

Item	Task	Assigned to	Due date
2.	PROJECT - explore options to make the outdoor balcony area more appealing	Jonathan RAFOLS	31-03-2025
4.1	Organise Play Our Way sub-committee meeting	Steven JONES	30-11-2024
5.3	Committee to review Sponsorship package		30-11-2024
5.3	Sponsorship package to be finalise and emailed	Steven JONES	07-12-2024