

Blue Gum Squash Club (Inc)



Monthly Committee Meeting

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When 15-06-2023 at 18:00

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

Chairperson Steven JONES

Minute taker Steven JONES

Present Rob BLACKETT , Anthony CAMPBELL (Mens Club Captain), Mike HIPKINS , Steven JONES (President), Frank LUPIS , Louis MEYER , Jonathan RAFOLS

Apologies Brett Hainsworth , Audrey LAZAROO (Ladies Club Captain), Belinda Martella , Brian SEARLES

Minutes

1. Membership

Membership - priorities for 2023 - We finished with 209 members for 2022

1. Aim to keep our current members (185 have renewed / joined for 2023 so far)
2. Try to increase our membership numbers to 225. We will do this by:
 - a. Targeting casual players at the centre and encouraging them to join the club
 - b. Encourage all junior program players to become members of the club
 - c. Advertise to potential local markets - Murdoch University, who else?
 - d. Continue to develop specific programs to encourage more participation - Girls Program, Ladies morning, Free coaching

1.1. Membership - Juniors

We had 50 junior members for 2022.

The junior program is coming to an end for term 2. We have a consistent group of around 25 kids each week, and their skills are beginning to develop.

Mike is running the Thursday afternoon session (4.00-5.00pm) which is a gameplay session. We are exploring how we can create a club development squad in line with Squash WA guidelines, but may look at sharing this with another club, such as Belmont.

If we expand our Junior Program and options, then we are going to need more coaches. Club will support any person who is interested in attending a coaching course and helping out, so contact the committee if you are interested.

2. Bills Received / To Pay

Current balance - \$48,000** @ 16th June 2023.

- All invoices have been paid
- \$40 in outstanding fees to be collected from 2021
- \$400 in outstanding fees to be collected for 2022 (all have been invoiced)
- \$2280 - Squash WA for winter pennants and new registrations

** Includes \$1000 set aside for Girls Program in 2023 & \$1600 Fuel to play and go grant, \$2000 volunteer grant, and \$29,000 for the front wall project.

3. Calendar of Events

Events planned for 2023

- May - Casino Night - POSTPONED
- Aug - Quiz Night - fundraising event at the club - Saturday 5th August
- Sept - Club Champs - 2nd Sept - Doubles, 4th, 5th & 9th Sept - Singles
- Sept - AGM - 9th Sept
- Oct - Awards Night - Saturday 14th
- Dec - Golf Day - 3rd Dec, to be confirmed

Casino Night - refunds have been processed, we will explore whether this is a viable event for the future, either as a club only event, or maybe in conjunction with the Tennis Club.

Question - do we want to organise an event aimed at juniors?

Belinda - advised that she would like to organise a Ladies event, details to be discussed.

3.1. 2023 Awards Night (Oct)

The 2023 Awards Night is on Saturday 14th October 2023, at the East Fremantle Yacht Club.

Time: 6.00pm to 7.00pm - pre-dinner drinks / nibbles, 7.00pm to 11.00pm - awards, presentations, dinner, dance

Mike has contacted the venue and booked this for 2023, invoice for deposit has been received and paid. (\$500)

4. Volunteer Awards

The winner of the Bernice Gryguc Award for "Outstanding Contribution to the Club" for 2022 was JOSIE JONES.

2023 NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN - WHEN YOU SEE A WORTHY PERSON NOMINATE THEM!

Blue Gum Squash Club - **The Bernice Gryguc Award for "Outstanding Contribution to the Club"** nominations are now open for the 2023 award, and will remain open until the 30th September 2023. Any club member can make a nomination to recognise the efforts of another club member throughout the year, the committee will select a winner from the nominations received.

Nominations for 2023 can be made via this link - [CLICK HERE](#)

5. Life Members

We currently have 10 Life Members (plus 2 deceased)

Our Life Members are:

1983 - Trevor Osborne, 1987 - Sandie Davis, 1993 - Jenny Marsh, 1993 - *Helen Collins (dec)*, Lyr Scurry, Anthony Scurry (all from Rossmoyne), 2001 - Christine Cooper, 2002 - Maddy Tushingam, 2003 - *Gaynor Dean (dec)*, 2004 - Ken Tushingam, 2015 - Ric Nicholas 2015 - Jan Ingram

6. Pennant Teams

Autumn season has finished, we had a successful season with the club winning three pennants, and competing in two other grand finals. Congratulations to the winning teams.

Winter season commenced this week, and we have a further two teams entered in the Tuesday pennant competition, bringing our total teams to 16. This is almost half of all the teams playing (40), so Tuesday nights will be busy at the club, and there will be a heap of great squash to watch. Thanks to everyone who is playing and representing the club and supporting Squash WA.

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.

Fees for WA Squash 2023 - Seniors \$70, Juniors \$30 plus \$30 per player per season - min cost for playing pennants is \$150.

2023 Pennant Dates are now available on the WA Squash website, summary below:

Winter - Commenced 12th June - 29th August

Spring - Commences 18th September - 12th December

7. Girls only squash coaching

ON HOLD - THIS NEEDS FUTHER DISCUSSION - NOTHING HAS BEEN ORGANISED AS YET.

We have set aside \$1000 to fund the running of the following program three times during 2023:

PLAN - 2023

- Limit the participants to maximum of 16, over four courts, with three female coaches
- Participants can be teenage girls, their mums, adult women, any females wanting to learn to play squash (check with coaches)
- Aim of the program is to develop skills as social squash players, and link into further development options
- Costs, Courts ($\$20 \times 4 \times 6$) = \$480, Coaches ($\$60 \times 3 \times 6$) = \$1080 = \$1560, Fees, \$10 per week $\times 16$ = \$960 - NET COST \$600 per term
- Will keep on a Thursday afternoon (4.00pm to 5.00pm) to keep consistent with 2022, and other junior coaching
- Advertise via schools in Term 1, aim to start in Term 2
- Tentative Term Dates:
 - a. Term 2 – 18th & 26th May, & 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd June
 - c. Term 3 – 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, & 31st August, & 7th September
 - d. Term 4 – 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th November, & 7th Dec
- Club will continue to seek grant funding to support this initiative as well

8. Grants

September 2022 - Volunteer Grant (via Federal MP) - \$2000 - funding received, needs to be spent by 31 December 2023. Current plan is to update our technology.

1. Upgrade the TV in the clubroom to a Smart TV
2. Relocate the current TV to become a notice board resource over the masters fridge - this will require additional software to be able to feed web pages, and display rolling notices, similar to set up at Vic Park.
3. Purchase a good quality camera, maybe latest GoPro to enable games to be recorded and uploaded to our Facebook page, for coaching purposes, or You Tube channel.

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.

1. Watercooler is currently broken and needs replacing, so these funds may be redirected to this

Potential Grants:

Community (federal) - Louis will contact Sam Lim's office to try and 'find' some funding for the club.

Facilities (state) - Twice a year to support the upgrading of playing surfaces, looking at this for a third of the front wall costs. Next grant round is open, applying for grant to support front wall project via Tennis Club. For 2023 this grant can now be for up to 50% of the cost of the project.

9. Facilities - improvements

The ongoing development of facilities is critical for the future of squash in WA, and as the largest 'users' of the centre, the club is committed to the continual development of our centre for the benefit of members, all squash players, and the wider community. The current focus of the club is to work towards a permanent solution for the front walls in conjunction with other key stakeholders. This and other items are listed below.

Option 1 - Front Walls - aim to upgrade to glass

- CourtTech Australia currently supply and install glass front walls over old plaster walls, the cost per court is \$23,000 +GST
- COURTDesigns HALF SYSTEM Renovation is a permanent solution to reoccurring front wall and side wall problems. COURTDesigns offers renovations for plaster courts and panel courts. *5 year guarantee *Low maintenance, same surface at the professionals *Height adjustable tins. After installation of the 40mm thick COURTDesigns Half System Wall on existing plaster walls, the court dimensions still comply with WSF guidelines
- <http://fitzsquash.com/index.php/courttech1/squash-courts/renovations/>
- 8 courts = \$203,000, DLGSC Funding \$67,500, Balance \$135,500

Option 2 - Front Walls - quote from Lenzo Plasterers

- Initial quote to patch the walls, render, and paint - \$10,000 per court = \$80,000
- Next quote - replace full walls (club remove) - \$18,000 per court = \$144,000
- Next quote - replace full walls (they remove) - \$20,000 per court = \$160,000

Option 3 - Front Walls - quote from Adept Building / Mike Millington

- Initial 'quote' was around \$10,000 per court = \$80,000, using club labour to remove old walls
- Looking at splitting into three sections - 1-2, 3-5, 6-8 - as will need to block off to avoid dust going through the centre
- Mike & Rob to develop a 'spec' for the plaster, court plaster is available from the UK, Mike's plasterer to give a more detailed costing
- NB - This is no longer an option, as Mike unable to commit to the work in the timeframes required

Meeting held (23rd March) with Bill Thomas (BGPTC) & Kane Fasolo. Bill is on the board's capital expenditure committee and was seeking input into the needs of the squash centre. Following is a summary of the discussion:

- Facilities funding is available via DLGSC twice a year, maximum of 30% of total project
- Tennis club access this funding, so looking at what projects to prioritise in the next couple of years
- Front walls were discussed, reason for needing repair, what done in the past, why glass not replaster, costs involved
- City of Melville unlikely to contribute, have not provided any funding to Tennis club for any improvements to date, only loans
- If the club could raise funds to fix one court, that would be seen as favourable. We will look at options to raise funds.
- Will need funding from club, Tennis, Local and/or Federal Government, and possibly private funding to get this project completed
- Look at starting with most damaged courts, and/or doing the upgrades over a few years
- Steven to contact DLGSC to discuss our project, and provide details to Bill

Steven spoke with DLGSC, Mark Toomath (9492-9870), he advised the following:

- Project to upgrade the front walls to glass was within the funding scope
- Need to ensure Tennis Club is on board (as lease holder), letter to that effect or joint application
- Need to contact City of Melville, get their approval to support the work, discuss their priorities, as likely to have several applications at each local Government
- Maximum funding is 30%, so need to have remaining funds allocated to the project, and clearly documented
- Need to talk to WA Squash to ensure this project is on their priority list as well
- Next funding round is in July/Aug, funds need to be spent by 15th June 2023
- Application should highlight the benefits of the upgrade, to community, players, in terms of reduce maintenance costs etc

Further follow up with clubs in Victoria, and Squash Australia has occurred. Professional opinion has been sought on the best avenue to take for 'fixing' the front walls. Further discussion to be held on this issue.

Louis has made contact with Ben Morton's office to seek support for this project and we are

in the process of trying to secure funding via an election commitment, or a future grant round. Further clarity on this will be available following the federal election in May.

21/5/2022 - Following the Liberal loss and Ben Morton losing his seat, our funding for this project has now gone, and we need to start again.

4/8/2022 - Frank has organised a quote from a plasterer as part of our ongoing discussion to fix the walls. Details to be provided in the next week. The issue of the leaking roof is still to be resolved.

6/8/22 - met Ole from Tennis Club, he advised that the council had repaired the roof, and the leak over court 7 should now be resolved. He was checking to see if any further rain had entered, advised that we would monitor this.

12/9/22 - Kane advised that the City of Melville has inspected the roof and have declared that all the leaks have been fixed, and that the downpipes are sufficient for drainage from the roof. Kane will get this in writing so that we have some comeback in the event of any future work being affected by water damage.

12/9/22 - Mike to put together a detailed quote to replace the front wall plaster with a specification plan that will ensure the correct materials are used now and in the future. Club to seek funding via Federal MP, State Grant, and Tennis Club.

14/1/22 - Further quote from Lenzo Plasterers received to replace the whole front walls, rather than patching

17/11/22 - No further action, waiting for quote from Mike Millington (expected by 30th Nov)

19/1/23 - Mike advised that he is waiting for costs of plaster from UK, expects quote to be around \$10,000 per court.

16/2/23 - Steven to follow up with Mike to get a firm quote and timeframes for the work.

16/3/23 - Mike unlikely to be able to do the work, so will proceed with the quotes that we have in place.

19/4/23 - Proposal presented to the Tennis club to upgrade with glass, as the most cost effective option. Courtech are able to complete the work in the timeframes required. Met with Bill (Tennis) and he advised they are supportive of the proposal. Current funding arrangements would be State Govt (third), Tennis (third), and we will speak with Federal member to explore funding options with them. Club can now commence negotiations and start active fundraising with goal in mind.

18/5/23 - Campaign to raise funds for the walls has commenced with \$3000+ raised in the first week, and a further pledge of \$5000 made once we secure grant funding for the project. We are running the campaign for 3 months which will tie in with the grant application process. Grant process opens in June, can now apply for up to 50% of the cost, which is a significant boost to the project. Timelines for the grant application are yet to be released, based on 2022 we should know by November if we have the money.

15/6/23 - Campaign continuing, now have close to \$30,000 in the bank for this project. CRSFF application is due 31 July but will hope to finalise by end of June. Louis is seeking funding from Sam Lim's office and anything we can get from that will be a bonus. Steven spoke with Mark Toomath at DSLGC, project is definitely within scope and supported.

Air Conditioning - Kane put this onto the agenda for the capital expenditure committee. Plan is to place two units at either end of the 'clubroom' area to create a flow into the central space. Options and costs are being explored. Grant application made to try and kick start this project.

Air flow - The club is looking to replace the downstairs door (by the fountain) with a dual door (\$650) that can open and provide a screen door to allow air flow. Replacement door has arrived and will be installed in the near future.

10. Sponsorship & Fundraising

Sponsorship

Currently the club has nine sponsors, and we thank them for their support of the club. Members are encouraged to use our sponsors services when they are able and support these businesses. Current sponsors details can be found on our website, and on display at the centre.

Current sponsors are as follows:

Vince - **Perth Hills Accommodation** - <https://www.perthhillsaccommodation.com.au/> - Renewed for 2023

Phil - **Scott & Associates** - <http://www.scotteng.com.au/> - Renewed for 2023

Hadden - **Slab & Garden City** - <http://www.slabandgardencity.com.au/> - Renewed for 2023

Frank - **2B Chauffeured** - <https://2bchauffeured.com.au/>

Frank - **Frank's Lawnmowing Services**

- <https://www.facebook.com/frankslawnmowingservices/>

Mike - **Adept Building Services** - <https://www.adeptbuilding.net.au/>

Kane - **The Racquet Shop** - <https://racquetshop.com.au/> - Renewed for 2023

Ryan - **Pritchard Francis** - <https://www.pfeng.com.au/> - Renewed for 2023

Dan - **Massage on the Run** - <https://massageontherun.com.au/> - New for 2023

Craig - **Lumen IT** - <https://www.lumenit.com.au/> - New for 2023

Fundraising

iSponsor - This is a FREE fundraising app that turns everyday spending into fundraising dollars. iSponsor have over 900+ brands at your fingertips ready to sponsor your group. I've signed Blue Gum Squash Club up as a recipient of sponsor funds. Anyone can use this app and choose who their sponsorship \$\$ go to. You can register a card and use online or in-store (check first) and we will get a percentage of your purchase. iSponsor Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/isponsoraus/>

Some brands on the app - BWS, Puma, Bonds, Subway, The North Face, Gazman, Lenovo, Foot Locker, Specsavers, Bed Bath n Table.

It's easy to use, and as an example a purchase of two shirts via Gazman results in \$5 for the club. If you are going to spend the money anyway, it is a useful way of also supporting the club. Further details will be emailed out to members shortly.

Container for Change - This scheme, recycling eligible containers for 10c refund, is one of our best fundraising avenues. We are currently generating around \$25 per week through the bins at the centre, and this funds our junior program entirely. You can support this scheme by putting your containers into the bins provided at the centre (caps removed), or donating your containers to the club when you take them to the refund point (just quote our scheme number - C10309447)

Entertainment Books - we have been doing this for a few years now, but now it is all electronic books. You can purchase your entertainment book memberships via this link -

<https://www.entertainment.com.au/orderbooks/83556g> – \$14 from every book sold goes to the club. Books can be purchased any time and are valid for a year from date of activation.

Australian Sports Foundation (ASF) – This organisation allows people to make a Tax deductible donation to sporting clubs. We have two projects listed on the website

- Junior Program equipment - these funds are used to buy equipment for our Junior Program as required
- Refurbishment of Front Walls - these funds are solely for updating our front walls

Tax deductible donations can be made via the ASF website: [ASF WEBSITE](#)

Donations - Any person, or business, can donate directly to the club via cash, or bank transfer. If you would like to make a donation to the club for any of our projects please contact any committee member.

Bunnings BBQ - discussion that this should be an event that the club organises twice a year, and build support from 'donors' to supply the materials to increase profit margins. Frank advised that tentative booking has been made for November.

11. Committee Members

The following committee members were elected for 2022-23:

Steven Jones - President

Louis Meyer - Vice-President

Mike Hipkins - Secretary

Audrey Lazaroo - Ladies Club Capt, Anthony Campbell - Mens Club Capt

Committee - Rob Blackett, Frank Lupis, Brian Searles, Jonathan Rafols, Brett Hainsworth

Belinda Stokes (Nov 22) - Treasurer

Steve Tapley - will continue to manage the website / entertainment books

Discussion - coming to the end of the year for the current committee, so need to think about whether current committee is going to renominate for next year, and what role they could play. Steven suggested that we need to look at specific roles that we need in place to continue to grow the club, and then recruit committee members to fill these roles. This is outside of the traditional roles of a club and will include roles such as - events, membership, sponsorship, marketing and promotion, juniors, masters etc. Steven to develop a list for discussion at the next committee meeting.

End of minutes.