

Blue Gum Squash Club (Inc)



Monthly Committee Meeting

Monthly Committee Meeting - online only

When 08-11-2023 at 19:30

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

Chairperson Steven JONES

Minute taker Steven JONES

Present Mike HIPKINS , Steven JONES (President), Audrey LAZAROO (Ladies Club Captain) , Frank LUPIS , Belinda Martella , Louis MEYER , Jonathan RAFOLS

Apologies Rob BLACKETT , Anthony CAMPBELL (Mens Club Captain), Brett Hainsworth

Minutes

1. 2023-24 Committee Meetings

Following the meeting with Mike Corren, the committee meetings will continue to be held more every third meeting in person at the club, and Mike to be invited to attend.

2023 Meeting dates - 13th Dec (online)

2024 Meeting dates - 10th Jan (club), 14th Feb (online), 13th Mar (online), 10th Apr (club), 8th May (online), 12th Jun (online), 10th Jul (club), 14th Aug (online). AGM in Sept.

2. Meeting with Mike Corren

The committee met with Mike to discuss his plans for the future, and how the club and Mike could work together to continue to improve the facilities, promote and grow squash, build participation at the centre, membership of the club, and involvement in Squash WA events.

The meeting was productive and it was agreed that Mike would be invited to attend a committee meeting each quarter so that we could continue to develop our relationship but could meet as and when throughout the year.

A summary of the discussion was as follows:

- Mike's plan for the business in the next 2 months
- Aim is to grow participation in squash, how do we get more people into the centre (keys to success) how do we convert more people to join the club, how do we get more people involved in Squash WA events (pennants & tournaments)
- Facilities - what needs to happen to make our facility the best it can be, needs to be welcoming and attractive to players, needs to be visible, needs to be well maintained, contemporary, friendly, clean, tidy and inviting.
- What are the priorities of the club / Mike / Squash WA - need to come up with a list and act on it for next 12 months
- Club - we want to be Blue Gum Squash Club, not a copy of another club. We need to develop our identity, and build our club profile around this. What do we have to offer that others don't? What would people choose to join our club?
- Stakeholders - the club is the biggest stakeholder for the centre, but we also need to include Squash WA, Blue Gum Park Tennis Club, City of Melville, State and Federal Member of Parliament, who else?
- Missing - some form of centre based competition for new players. Wednesday night round has almost ceased, so can something be developed in its place. Juniors - some schedule for junior members to come and play for a nominal fee, say \$5 per person for an hour - couple of time slots a week, during off peak times, maybe Saturday morning before the Thursday afternoon after school.

Tasks

- ✓ Mike & Committee to develop a list of priorities for next 12 months
Due date: 24-11-2023

3. **Committee Members**

The following committee members were elected for 2023-24:

Steven Jones - President

Louis Meyer - Vice-President

Mike Hipkins - Secretary

Vacant - Treasurer

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

Committee - Rob Blackett, Frank Lupis, Jonathan Rafols, Brett Hainsworth, Belinda Martella

Steve Tapley - will continue to manage the website

Discussion around roles that the committee needed to fulfil in order to keep the club running, all committee members should have a role. Steven to circulate a list of roles and some role descriptions for discussion.

Roles needed at the club - President, Secretary, Treasurer, Club Captain x 2, Media/publicity/sponsors/newsletter, Govt liaison/grants, social events, merchandise, maintenance/repairs, junior co-ordinator, membership.

Committee to allocate roles for next 12 months.

4. **Membership**

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

1. Aim to keep our current members (199 have renewed / joined for 2023 so far) - we will offer member special during December (13 months for the price of 12), this usually attracts a couple people.

Club membership runs out at the end of December so we will be encouraging all existing members to renew for 2024, and then work with Mike to increase membership numbers.

4.1. Membership - Juniors

We currently have 21 juniors members, down from 50 junior members for 2022.

The junior program has an average of 25 juniors each week, and we recently held our Junior Championships, with 24 juniors competing across three divisions. Some excellent match to see the development of our junior players.

This term we are running a beginners court, two courts for Club Development players (aiming their skills up for WA talent squad selection), and five courts of general coaching. This appears to be going well, and we will review at the end of term.

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

We've had some recent interest in new kids joining the program, and we do receive referrals from Squash WA from kids who have attended a school clinic and receive free vouchers if they complete the survey. These referrals often don't result in kids attending, so we need to look at following up directly.

Tasks

- ✓ Junior referrals - collate for follows
Assignee: Steven JONES
Due date: 24-11-2023

5. Bills Received / To Pay

Current balance - \$46,204.48** @ 10th November 2023.

- All invoices have been paid

- \$420 in outstanding fees to be collected for 2023 (all have been invoiced)

** Includes \$1000 set aside for Girls Program in 2023, \$1600 Fuel to play and go grant, \$29 grant, and \$35,217 for front walls

6. Calendar of Events

Events planned for 2023

- Dec - Golf Day - 26th Nov, we have 9 teams confirmed, room for 10th team. Mike to send out

Events for 2024 - to be discussed

7. Volunteer Awards

The winner of the Bernice Gryguc Award for "Outstanding Contribution to the Club" for YVETTE CLEMENT.

Yvette has now been nominated for the Squash WA volunteer of the year, due to be announce December 2023.

2024 NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN - WHEN YOU SEE A WORTHY PERSON NOMINATE TH

Blue Gum Squash Club - **The Bernice Gryguc Award for "Outstanding Contribution to the** nominations are now open for the 2024 award, and will remain open until the 30th September club member can make a nomination to recognise the efforts of another club member through year, the committee will select a winner from the nominations received.

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

8. 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)*, Lyn Anthony Scurry (all from Rossmoyne), 2001 - Christine Cooper, 2002 - Maddy Tushingham, 2004 - *Dean (dec)*, 2004 - Ken Tushingham, 2015 - Ric Nicholas 2015 - Jan Ingram

9. Pennants

Spring season is over halfway through, and we have several teams doing well, and expecting to in finals.

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

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

Club Captain's Forum - 25th October 2023 - Audrey attended and advised the following:

Main points:

1. There was a lot of emphasis on communicating effectively with our players and with WA Squ resolving all player issues (I want to play with so and so, I don't want to play in Divi xx) as much possible before sending nominations to WA Squash.
2. WA Squash is staffed by volunteers mainly (I almost pointed out that BG Squash Club is too)
3. We should try to recruit more players for pennants and league as it benefits all
4. Next year we are moving to Revo which requires players to sign up online and make payment time. Club captains said to expect some push back / teething problems as players may want to see who their team mates are before committing.
5. Expect Captain forums to be held 3 times a year
6. Focus was on junior player development and coaching development and now can look at re-development

7. I pointed out that there was no communication from WA Squash with regards to the Ladies night pennants having a shorter season – so this came as a surprise to all players. Squash pen committee apologised for the oversight because they were rushed.

8. I asked if they faced any issues with BG and they said no, they were very happy with us

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 W](#)

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

Transition from SportyHQ to MySquashAus has commenced, all current registered players have their profile on the new system. System will come live for registrations from 24th August, and all competitions by the end of the year. At this stage we are looking at this only managing the play competing in WA Squash competitions, but it can cater for casual and in-house players as well.

All current players registered with Squash WA are covered until 30 June 2024. Fees for future r will increase next year, and will be collected directly by Squash WA, via a link provided by the c Further information will be provided early next year, but the fee structure is going to be as foll 10th November):

Squash WA Registration Fees to 30 June 2024									
All amounts below Incl GST									
	Metro				Country				
	SQA Fee	SWA Fee	Club	Total Rego Fee	SQA Fee	SWA Fee	Club	Total	
Compete Adult	\$49.50	\$71.50		\$121.00	\$49.50	\$49.50			:
Compete Jnr	\$38.50	\$27.50		\$66.00	\$38.50	\$27.50			:
Local Adult	\$27.50	\$82.50		\$110.00	\$27.50	\$60.50			:
Local Jnr	\$16.50	\$38.50		\$55.00	\$16.50	\$38.50			:
Lifestyle Adult	\$11.00	\$33.00		\$44.00	\$11.00	\$44.00			:
Lifestyle Jnr	\$11.00	\$11.00		\$22.00	\$11.00	\$22.00			:
Social Adult	\$11.00	\$11.00		\$22.00	\$11.00	\$11.00			:
Social Jnr	\$11.00	\$5.50		\$16.50	\$11.00	\$5.50			:
Support	\$11.00	\$11.00		\$22.00	\$11.00	\$11.00			:
Digital	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			:

Compete - this is for any players competing at a National Level

Local - This is for any players competing at a State Level - pennants, tournament etc - most of this group

Lifestyle - This is for club members who would like insurance coverage, can reserve for penna before needing to upgrade

Social - Probably not a category that would be used, aimed at non-competition players

Support - For those who are in a support role and what to keep connected to Squash WA and Aus

Digital - Free option for all players at any level to keep in touch with what it happening

Most of players will fit into the LOCAL or LIFESTYLE category, fees are increased from \$70 / \$40 to \$44. There will be benefits attached to some memberships (Squash TV for Compete and Local) discounts, which are still to be determined.

10. Squash WA - Masters

Steven met with Squash WA in relation to Masters squash being managed by Squash WA in the present WA Masters Squash (WAMS) manages most of the Masters squash in WA. WAMS originally started as a sub-committee of WA Squash and incorporated about three years ago into its own. At the recent Squash WA AGM, WAMS requested to become affiliated with Squash WA, however the member clubs weren't supportive of this occurring, as it creates a precedent for other groups to be separate, and the ultimate aim is for squash in WA to be united in its approach.

Masters squash is the biggest demographic of players. BGSC has 119 registered players with Squash WA. 97 (80%) of those are aged 35+, which qualifies for Masters, so it is vital that these players have a particular focus on their needs and participation.

Squash WA has put together a Masters committee and is applying to manage the 2025 Australian Championships in Perth. Ideally this will be done in conjunction with WAMS, and further discussions will be held in this regard.

Further information about Masters competitions for 2024 will be advised soon. Masters categories will be included in all major Squash WA events, are already included in many country tournaments there will continue to be Masters only tournaments held locally.

11. Girls only squash coaching

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

12. Grants

September 2022 - Volunteer Grant (via Federal MP) - \$5000 - to update technology, coaching f advised that \$2000 has been allocated to the club for coaching equipment - looking at spendin Smart TV / GoPro to allow us to live stream games, access coaching videos and websites etc. M should be available in June 2023. (SUCCESSFUL)

1. Smart TV - to replace the current TV (Purchased - \$1513 - August 23)
2. Old TV - convert this to a noticeboard, and place above 'masters' fridge area (purchased Signage equipment - \$158.56)
3. Coaching - paid for Club Development course - Stephen Newman (\$299)
4. Balance - \$29.44

October 2022 - Fuel to Play and Go - \$2000 grants available to promote healthy food and drink application made. Waiting for meeting with Healthway to final grant. Grant of \$1600 offered to waiting for payment. (SUCCESSFUL). Funds have been received and will be spent over the next months to support the Fuel to Play and Go message. Had to replace the Water Cooler so these be allocated to this.

July 2023 - Facilities (state) - Twice a year to support the upgrading of playing surfaces, looking a third of the front wall costs. For 2023 this grant can now be for up to 50% of the cost of the p Application made via the Tennis Club for \$110,000. We should know the outcome of this grant end of November at the latest.

August 2022 - Volunteer grant - new round coming up - new fridge, tables, benches, bag stora application made for \$5000 (Aug 23). Advised by Sam Lim we have been 'approved' for \$3000, finalise the grant application with the Federal department this month. Funds won't be available 2024, to be spent in the next financial year.

Potential Grants:

Community (federal) - Louis will contact Sam Lim's office to try and 'find' some funding for the Lim's office contacted to arrange a meeting to discuss the following:

- Infrastructure Grant - paint walls, bathroom facilities, air con - discussion with Sam Lim : letter detailing our needs has been provided, waiting to hear back from his office.

13. Facilities - improvements

The ongoing development of facilities is critical for the future of squash in WA, and as the large of the centre, the club is committed to the continual development of our centre for the benefit members, all squash players, and the wider community. The current focus of the club is to wor a permanent solution for the front walls in conjunction with other key stakeholders. This and c 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, t per court is \$23,000 +GST
- COURTDesigns HALF SYSTEM Renovation is a permanent solution to reoccurring front wa wall problems. COURTDesigns offers renovations for plaster courts and panel courts. * guarantee *Low maintenance, same surface at the professionals *Height adjustable t

installation of the 40mm thick COURTEdesigns Half System Wall on existing plaster walls, dimensions still comply with WSF guidelines

- <http://fitsquash.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 plaster
- Looking at splitting into three sections - 1-2, 3-5, 6-8 - as will need to block off to avoid d through the centre
- Mike & Rob to develop a 'spec' for the plaster, court plaster is available from the UK, Mike plasterer to give a more detailed costing
- NB - This is no longer an option, as Mike unable to commit to the work in the timeframe

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 replaster, costs involved
- City of Melville unlikely to contribute, have not provided any funding to Tennis club for a number of years, 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, likely to have several applications at each local Government
- Maximum funding is 30%, so need to have remaining funds allocated to the project, and well 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 in the future.

Louis has made contact with Ben Morton's office to seek support for this project and we are in process of trying to secure funding via an election commitment, or a future grant round. Further 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 is 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 issue with court 7 should now be resolved. He was checking to see if any further rain had entered, and we would monitor this.

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

12/9/22 - Mike to put together a detailed quote to replace the front wall plaster with a specific type that will ensure the correct materials are used now and in the future. Club to seek funding via 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.

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 advised they are supportive of the proposal. Current funding arrangements would be State Grant, Tennis (third), and we will speak with Federal member to explore funding options with them. 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 month. A further pledge of \$5000 made once we secure grant funding for the project. We are running a campaign for 3 months which will tie in with the grant application process. Grant process operators can now apply for up to 50% of the cost, which is a significant boost to the project. Timelines for grant application are yet to be released, based on 2022 we should know by November if we have the money.

20/7/23 - Grant application has been made, goes to DLGSC next, then onto peak bodies. We are the only squash application in this round. Decision expected around November. Working with (tennis) to see if we need building approval, but this won't impact application process.

8/11/23 - Met with City of Melville, they require us to apply for a building permit. Phil Scott is going to provide the engineering drawings for the application, we will need to get these certified for a few hundred dollars, and City of Melville will pay for the application fees for the permit, including construction levy. This probably isn't necessary but shouldn't hold up the process. We are aiming to finalise our process by the end of November.

10/11/23 - Chris from Courtech is going to be in Perth in the next month or so, he will contact us at a time to view the courts, and discuss the work we want done.

Air Conditioning - Kane put this onto the agenda for the capital expenditure committee. Plan two units at either end of the 'clubroom' area to create a flow into the central space. Options 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 that can open and provide a screen door to allow air flow. Replacement door has arrived and is installed in the near future.

14. Sponsorship and Fundraising

Sponsorship

Currently the club has nine sponsors, and we thank them for their support of the club. Members encouraged to use our sponsors services when they are able and support these businesses. Club 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

Belinda - **Simply Magic Drycleaners** - NEW for 2024

Business Directory - this has been finalised and sent out to all members, past members, display at the centre, and Steve will add to our website. This is an opportunity to thank our existing sponsors also included recent donors. We can also use this to try and attract new advertising, smaller ad

Fundraising

iSponsor - This is a FREE fundraising app that turns everyday spending into fundraising dollars. There are over 900+ brands at your fingertips ready to sponsor your group. I've signed Blue Gum Spices up as a recipient of sponsor funds. Anyone can use this app and choose who their sponsorship goes 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 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. As members 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 fundraising avenues. We are currently generating around \$25 per week through the bins at the

and this funds our junior program entirely. You can support this scheme by putting your containers in the bins provided at the centre (caps removed), or donating your containers to the club when you return 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. 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

- 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 transfer. If you would like to make a donation to the club for any of our projects contact any committee member.

End of minutes.

Summary of matters arising are tabled on the following page.

Minutes of Monthly Committee Meeting on 08-11-2023

Summary of Matters Arising

Tasks

Item	Task	Assigned to	Due date
2.	Mike & Committee to develop a list of priorities for next 12 months		24-11-2023
4.1	Junior referrals - collate for follows	Steven JONES	24-11-2023