

Regular Monthly Meeting. January 19th, 2022 at 7.00pm

Location: Danish Canadian Club: 727 11 Avenue SW Calgary, Alberta T2R 0E3

CLUB /EXECUTIVE	REPRESENTATIVE(S)	Committee	Yes	No
President	Peter Schwartz	Team Selection	X	
Vice President	Rick Spyker	Playoff / Banquet	X	
Treasurer	Mariette Rabacal	Treasurer	X	
Secretary	Anthony Reimert	Playoff / Banquet	X	
Director, Community Relations	Ron Coggan	League Inquiries	X	
Bankers Hall Club (BHC)	PERMANENTLY CLOSED			
Bow Valley Club (BVC)	Darren Thomson / Dean Brown			X
Calgary Winter Club (CWC)	Wes Mah	Sponsorship	X	
LaunchCode	Rick Spyker	Playoff / Banquet	X	
Fifth Avenue Club	Kyle Mitton	Website	X	
Fish Creek Sports Club	No teams 2021/22 Alex Altamirano	Player Eligibility/Reporting		X
South Calgary Squash Club	Peter Schwartz	Team Selection	X	
Glencoe Club	Harvey Huebsch	Rules & Funding		X
Mount Royal University	Tanya Simpson / Keith Wellon	Playoff / Banquet & Rules	X	
SAIT	Sean McInnes	Future Dates / Attendance	X	
Southland Leisure Centre	Ron Coggan	League Inquiries	X	
University of Calgary	Wanda Popadynetz	December Meeting	X	
Western Canadian Place	No teams 2021/22 James Jelinski	Website / Email Blasts		X
West Hillhurst Club	Mark Hartley	Prizes / Rules	X	
Edgemont Athletic	Helen Geodemondt/Vahbiz Bulsara		X	
Edgemont Athletic	Mariette Rabacal	Treasurer	X	
Doubles	Jorge Rabacal	Doubles		X
Eau Claire YMCA	PERMANENTLY CLOSED			X
Squash Alberta	Ken Cross		X	

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January Regular Monthly Meeting:

1. Call to Order of Regular Monthly Meeting (January)

- Call to order of the regular monthly meeting at 7.04pm

2. Approval of Previous Minutes (November Minutes)

- Approval of the November minutes
 - Wes Mah, Calgary Winter Club
 - Sean McInnes, SAIT

3. Reports

a. Officers

- President Peter Schwartz
 - Introduce Anna Plato the new Squash Alberta President
 - Happy New Year to everyone, wishing everyone a great 2022
 - Few challenges with Interclub, but the bulk of people are working through it with good communication and good response from almost all players
- Squash Alberta President Anna Plato
 - Looking to grow the game of Squash and the Squash Alberta Membership
 - Focus is going to be on continuing to grow junior programs and work on Women getting involved in the sport
- Vice President Rick Spyker
 - Nothing to report
 - Things are going well, despite the current circumstances
 - By having the social optional it has kept a lot of teams involved
- Secretary Anthony Reimert
 - Nothing to report
- Treasurer Mariette Rabacal
 - \$24,007
 - Bow Valley Club, West Hillhurst, Fifth Avenue Club and Edgemont Athletic yet to pay team dues
 - Two invoices for sponsorship have been paid
 - In December GoCo Technologies \$113.08 went through the account
 - Mariette has reached out to James Jelinski to determine a solution

- Director, Community Relations Ron Coggan
 - SaSquash – first tournament of the year; they had to cancel the tournament due to Omicron
 - The tournament typically sells out in a couple of hours
 - They had about 55 registered participants
 - Ron polled the entrants and several people dropped out due to Omicron and Injuries
 - Full refunds were provided and some offered to donate entry fee
 - People who still wanted to go to Banff were able to go out and they were still able to use the courts as they were all blocked off for the tournament
 - Al McAuley and Moustafa Khalid were the highest ranked players in the tournament
 - May do a summer SaSquash Tournament
 - Main purpose is to have fundraising for Bow Valley Squash Foundation
 - Money comes from fundraising, cash donations, sponsorship and the auction at the banquet
 - Junior Outreach Squash Program relies on the fundraising of \$10,000 - \$15,000
 - Restarted the program on November 4th
 - Cam Fishenden is the lead coach
 - Targeted the indigenous community for a pipeline of entrants
 - Something new has developed through Community Services in Banff that services Lake Louise, Canmore and Banff. The Community Services team reaches out to Refugees, Temporary Foreign Workers to help them get involved in the community and Junior Outreach Squash has seen a bump in entrants from this.
 - Program continues until the middle of March
 - Each week usually has 1 – 10 people that show up

b. Committees

- Player Eligibility/ Reporting: Alex Altamirano
 - No penalty points have been administered and Alex has been checking Squash Alberta memberships
 - There has been some discretion applied to the Squash Alberta memberships; especially for people that are making efforts to get the membership right after
 - Results getting into Squash Alberta relatively quickly and efficiently
 - Ensure that you rebook your matches scheduled (last two weeks of the season or any that have been cancelled due to COVID)
 - 10% of matches have been postponed or rescheduled (the bulk are with Bow Valley Club)
 - Issues reported around rescheduling matches with Bow Valley
 - Approximately 50% of players have signed the Squash Alberta COVID waiver
- Prizes: Mark Hartley and Jorge Rabacal
 - Mark has been keeping an eye out for good deals on products / clothing
 - Budget will be the same per team (however much fewer teams this year)

- All of the same prizes as previous years
- Rules: Mark Hartley, Keith Wellon and Harvey Huebsch
 - A question arose if a match would be forfeited if the host club was unable to reschedule a match at this time due to court closures at SAIT? Rules committee to take away
 - Rules committee recommended teams use best efforts to complete matches by the end of the season, when team members are comfortable playing safely and clubs are open
 - Only have 2 months left to get your matches in
 - Think outside the box when rescheduling (alternate evenings, other clubs etc.)
 - No forfeits due to unwillingness to play, or inability to secure courts, until Omicron wave passes, and AHS Guidance is relaxed.
 - We'll have to come up with a system for how to manage uncompleted matches before the end of the season, as there will likely be many.
- League Inquiries: Ron Coggan
 - No inquiries as the button has been removed from the Website now
 - In the meantime there is a contact email on the website
- Sponsorship: Wes Mah
 - Racquet Central – Has been billed for the sponsorship
 - Rothenberg Capital Management – Billed for sponsorship
 - Downtown Vision Care has been removed
 - Mighty Oak – they are going to sponsor
 - Harrow – Have changed their name and they have yet to get back to us
 - Wes still exploring some other options for sponsors
 - Men's and Women's Trophy Sponsors – Rothenberg Capital Management sponsors the Men's trophy however we do not have a sponsor for the women's trophy
- Funding: Harvey Huebsch
 - Nothing to report
- Email Blasts: James Jelinski
 - Messaging around week 13, 14 and 15
 - Contact James Jelinski to get an email out
- Website: James Jelinski and Kyle Mitton
 - Contact us button is still under investigation
 - There are a couple of things that need to be cleaned up before we pay them \$2,000.00
 - Live scoring is supposed to show up on the Website – live scoring was to show up on the Website
 - Checking into live scoring when a match has been rescheduled

- **Doubles:** Jorge Rabacal
 - Cannot make the meeting due to the Bow Valley Teams Tournament
 - Quick update on doubles: with the COVID cases and CWC being closed for visitors and (if we still do it) would be a later start which then it starts to fall apart and really doesn't make sense to even have the league.
 - Each club will continue doing their own thing and I'll see if we can schedule friendly matches between clubs instead.
 - Even having trouble getting the doubles Alberta tournaments going.
- **Attendance Report / Future Dates:** Sean McInnes
 - Bow Valley had their first absence
 - Fifth Avenue Club is at 2 absences
- **December Meeting** Wanda Popadynetz
 - Dinner was held at the Danish Canadian Club
 - Everyone who was supposed to show up showed up
- **Squash Alberta** Ken Cross
 - Matches that are scored to 15 do not count towards ClubLocker ratings, rankings are still fine but they do not change the ratings
 - Changing demographics -> older demographics in doubles / younger in singles
 - Finding that we have better turnout with no frills tournaments
 - Squash Alberta One time membership and they get a refund of the one time fee back when they sign up for a full membership within the same year
 - If you have someone that wants to play and it will be a one off
 - Tournament registration -> Events -> second item under events and purchase a one time membership \$30.00 (credit towards full membership in that season)
- **Playoff Banquet Committee** Rick Spyker and Anthony Reimert
 - Edgemont on Saturday April 23, 2022
 - We are going to support a club that may have struggled through the pandemic and they have a new caterer who we will be meeting with
 - Shout out -> in the email blast

4. Other Business Arising:

Any other business?

- Women playing in top Men's divisions where appropriate competition doesn't exist
 - If their own club does not have a ladies 1 team, they can play on the men's team
 - Each club have to send in the request to the rules committee
- Harvey to send message into the Rules Committee to make a decision (Jamie Laird and Jackie Moss)
- Discussions on Rules to fix / adjust:

- Discussion regarding the rules of subbing down when you have played at a higher level
- After a round table discussion the rules committee to take away and look at the wording of the subbing rule and whether or not to make adjustments

5. Round Table/Club Feedback:

All Clubs Current Feedback

- **Bow Valley Athletic Club**
 - Not present
- **Calgary Winter Club**
 - Early January they had a rule for no guests at the club due to the omicron outbreak
 - Guests are now allowed again – team captains to make appropriate connections for their matches
 - Everything else is going well
- **Edgemont Athletic Club**
 - Everything is up and running
 - Thirsty Thursday starting up again soon
- **Fifth Avenue Club**
 - Everything open
- **Glencoe Club**
 - The Glencoe Club is still open and adhering to current AHS Guidelines/Rules. Squash is allowed, but beer drinking by the squash courts isn't. You must go to pub for that.
 - A significant portion of our players are continuing to play. I chatted with a few of them who had COVID recently and were disappointed that it messed up their family's holiday plans. Five of our eight teams have continued to play interclub, regularly. Pickup games are way down. It's pretty easy to get a prime time court these days. Thirsty Thursdays is set to start this week, but will be a bit quieter with no beers at the court.
 - Teams have been rescheduling matches. I have been updating dates and times for our club's matches in SportyHQ.
 - Glencoe provided courts for January 18
 - Men's L1 Winterclub
 - Men's L7 SAIT
- **LaunchCode**
 - Their team has been very creative to cover shortages during COVID
 - They have had good feedback from other teams for their hosting
 - Still keen to grow the number of teams they have playing in interclub

- **Mount Royal University**
 - 15 teams lots of reschedules and exam (30 matches needed to be rescheduled)
 - 40 – 50 matches that will have to be rescheduled
 - Available to host games we can get courts for them - \$20 for the 4 courts
 - They have been leaving the rescheduling between the captains
 - MRU Open & Alberta Open last weekend in February
 - Impact to registration numbers down but we usually see a last minute rush
 - All Squash Alberta Requirements must met and MRU continues to follow the restriction exemption process
- **SAIT**
 - Still closed and no end in sight
 - No indication of opening until at least February 21st
 - Thanks to MRU for court usage while their club is closed
- **South Calgary Squash Club**
 - Still going strong with no major hiccups at the club
 - Have new juniors out for the winter session (40 Juniors)
 - Considering hosting another tournament the second weekend in March
- **Southland Leisure Centre**
 - Moving along, facility is wide open all REP protocols followed
 - Week 13 and those to be rescheduled have been rescheduled
 - Week 14 needs to be done
 - They have an active box league and active drop in
- **University of Calgary**
 - Still masks mandatory, even when you play until the end of February
 - Some people are still practicing with masks
 - Rescheduling matches as required
- **West Hillhurst**
 - Things are going well
 - No major updates at this point

6. Adjournment

- Vahbiz Bulsara, Edgemont Athletic: motion to end the meeting
- Mariette Rabacal, Edgemont Athletic: seconds
- Adjourned at 9.08pm

7. Next Meeting Date:

- Wednesday February 16th, 2022 at 7.00pm at the Danish Canadian Club