

SQUASH NSW LIMITED COMPETITION BY- LAWS

These By-Laws apply to: The Sydney Pennant competitions (ie Autumn and Spring) and any other sanctioned competition or tournament sanctioned by Squash NSW Limited. Note latest amendments are in **red** as at March 2018.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 DEFINITIONS

- 1.1.1. The Board of Directors of Squash NSW Ltd is referred to as 'the Board'.
- 1.1.2. The Competitions Division Committee is referred to as 'the CDC' and comprises the Chairperson, the Pennant Administrator, the District Delegates and the Referees Delegate.
- 1.1.3. The Pennant Administrator is the person who administers the pennant competition and is referred to as 'the Pennant Administrator'.
- 1.1.4. The Disciplinary Tribunal committee is referred to as 'the Tribunal' and comprises the Tribunal Chairman and the Tribunal Commissioner referred to as 'the Commissioner'.
- 1.1.5. Premier League and Sydney Grades competitions are referred to as 'Major Grades'.
- 1.1.6. Districts comprise North, South/East, West and Major Grades, which may be changed at the discretion of the Board. Each District elects a District Delegate and a Grading Committee.
- 1.1.7. The current World Squash Federation Rules of the International Singles Game of Squash are referred to as 'the WSF Rules'.

1.2 POWERS OF THE BOARD

- 1.1.1. The Board may waive, change, modify, remove or add any By-Law.
- 1.1.2. The Board may reject any courts as unsuitable for competition play, and such courts shall not be used for competition play until the Board considers them suitable.
- 1.1.3. The CDC appoints the Major Grade grading committee.
- 1.1.4. The Board shall approve all District Delegate and Grading Committee appointments.

- 1.1.5. The Board may at any time delegate or remove any responsibility as they choose, to or from the Pennant Administrator, Chairperson or the Districts.
- 1.1.6. The Board may at any time remove the Pennant Administrator, CDC, District Delegate or Grading Committee member/s.
- 1.1.7. The Board may reject or remove any registered player or club/s or centre/s from the Pennant Competition.
- 1.1.8. The Board shall appoint the Chairperson of all committees.

1.3 POWERS OF THE CDC

- 1.3.1 Any question regarding these By-Laws shall be decided by the CDC.
- 1.3.2 Any Squash NSW Ltd sanctioned tournament shall be under the control of the CDC.
- 1.3.3 All sanctioned pennant competitions shall be under the control of the CDC.
- 1.3.4 The Pennant Administrator and a District Delegate are responsible for the administration of the District Divisions within the respective districts.
- 1.3.5 The CDC is responsible for the administration of the Major Grades Competition.
- 1.3.6 The CDC, with the approval of the Board may at any time delegate or remove any responsibility as they choose, to or from the District Delegate/s and the District/s grading committee.
- 1.3.7 The CDC, with the approval of the Board, may reject or remove any player or Club/s or Centre/s from the Pennant Competition.
- 1.3.8 All players registered in the pennant competition shall be under the jurisdiction of the CDC from the commencement of the first rubber or from the scheduled starting time - whichever is the earlier

– until 20 minutes after the completion of the final rubber.

- 1.3.9 The CDC has the power to demand from any club or individual any information regarding the circumstances under which any match has been played. Any club or individual not supplying such information, within the time specified by the CDC, may be barred from taking any further part in the competition until such information is supplied, or for such other period as the CDC decides.
- 1.3.10 The CDC has the power to give or take away competition points for any reason.
- 1.3.11 The CDC has the power to order any match to be replayed, either wholly or in part, and to alter or extend the time for playing any match.
- 1.1.12. The CDC has the power to impose penalties for any breach of these By-Laws.
- 1.1.13. The CDC may cite any centre/club or registered player or individual regarding any breach of these By-Laws.
- 1.1.14. In exceptional circumstances and in the interests of fair play and acting in the spirit of the game and not bringing the game into disrepute, the CDC, with the approval of the Board may decide on matters falling outside the scope of these By-Laws.

2.0 COMPLAINTS and APPEALS

2.1 COMPLAINTS OF MISCONDUCT

- 2.1.1 A Disciplinary Code of Procedure (“Code”) has been adopted by the Board which prescribes the procedure that must be followed in respect of any complaint of misconduct against a player.
The procedure for lodging either a Complaint of Misconduct (Form 1); Reply (Form 4) and/or Witness Statement/s (Form 5) is available on the Squash NSW website www.nswsquash.com.au (Sydney Pennant link).
- 2.1.2 A complaint may only be made by a person who was a player, referee or marker involved in the match or was an official of Squash NSW who was a witness to the alleged misconduct. The complainant may stipulate that the complaint is made on behalf of or with the support of a particular team and/or Club.
- 2.1.3 A complaint must be made on the form prescribed by the Code (Form 1 “Complaint of Misconduct”). This form may be downloaded from the Squash NSW website. The form contains notes to assist in the completion of the form.
- 2.1.4 A complaint must be received by the Commissioner within seven (7) days of the date upon which the misconduct is alleged to have occurred or within such further period as may be agreed to by the Commissioner. Complaints of Misconduct shall be forwarded to The Commissioner c/- Squash NSW Limited, PO Box 211, Thornleigh NSW 2120 or email admin@nswsquash.com.au
- 2.1.5 The Code sets out the procedure whereby the player who is the subject of a complaint of misconduct can reply to the allegations made against him.

- 2.1.6 The Commissioner shall determine whether to charge a player with misconduct and refer such charge to the Tribunal for hearing.
- 2.1.7 The Commissioner has the power to require any player or official of a club to attend a hearing of a complaint of misconduct by the Tribunal.
- 2.1.8 The Tribunal may recommend to the CDC that a rubber or match should be replayed, either wholly or in part, or to reallocate points for a rubber or match.
- 2.1.9 A player under suspension is not permitted, subject to By-Law 2.2.4, to play in any competition conducted by or under the auspices of Squash NSW or by any Association affiliated with Squash NSW or in any competition whereby the holder of the competition has agreed to recognize the suspensions imposed by Squash NSW.

2.2 APPEALS AGAINST DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL DECISIONS

- 2.2.1 Any appeal against a decision of the Tribunal to the Appeals Committee must be lodged within seven (7) days of the decision of the Tribunal announcement.
- 2.2.2 The Chairman of the Tribunal shall advise a player of his rights and the procedure that must be followed if the player wishes to lodge an appeal.
- 2.2.3 An appeal must be accompanied by a fee of \$80. If the appeal is upheld, the fee shall be refunded.
- 2.2.4 If an appeal is lodged, a player who has been suspended by the Tribunal may take part in matches until the appeal is heard. Should the appeal not be upheld, the decision of the Tribunal shall be enforced as from the date of the decision of the Appeals Committee.
- 2.2.5 No appeal shall be made against the leniency of the decision of a Tribunal, without the leave of the Board.

2.3 COMPLAINTS ON MATTERS OTHER THAN MISCONDUCT

- 2.3.1 On receipt of a complaint regarding a breach of the By-Laws (other than for By-Law 2) the CDC Chairperson shall decide if the complaint has merit. A sub-committee comprising the Pennant Administrator, Chairperson and one (1) District Delegate shall rule on the complaint. Complaints must be lodged within seven (7) days which the complaint regarding the breach is alleged to have occurred or within such further period as may be agreed to by the CDC Chairperson.

2.4 APPEALS AGAINST CDC AND PENNANT ADMINISTRATOR DECISIONS

- 2.4.1 Unless an appeal is lodged in writing on the prescribed form*, with the Squash NSW Ltd office within seven (7) days from the notification of the decision of the CDC/Pennant Administrator, the decision shall be enforced.
- 2.4.2 Any appeals against a decision of the Pennant Administrator shall be directed to the Chairperson with a fee of \$80. If the appeal is upheld the fee will be refunded. All appeals must

be supported by reasons the decision of the Pennant Administrator was thought to be incorrect. If the Chairperson considers the appeal to have merit, a sub-committee comprising of the Chairperson and two (2) District Delegates will hear the appeal. The Delegate of the District in which the misconduct occurred shall be excluded from the Sub-Committee. Their decision shall be final.

- 2.4.3 Any appeal against a decision of the CDC shall be directed to the Board on the prescribed form* with a fee of \$80. If the appeal is upheld the fee will be refunded. All appeals must be supported by reasons the decision of the CDC was thought to be incorrect. If the Board considers the appeal to have merit, a sub-committee consisting of two (2) Board members will hear the appeal, provided none is the subject of the appeal. Their decision shall be final.

* The prescribed Appeals Form is available on the www.nswsquash.com.au website (Sydney Pennant link).

3.0 PENNANT COMPETITION

All matches shall be played under the WSF Rules.

3.1 ENTRIES

- 3.1.1 A fee as determined by the Board shall be charged for each team and each additional player, and shall be paid to Squash NSW Ltd office at the time of entry. Late payment will result in match points being deducted. Points will not be restored after payment. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Pennant Administrator.
- 3.1.2 Refer Fees and Fine schedule for Team registration fee.
- 3.1.3 No refund of registration fees will be made, except for overpayment.
- 3.1.4 No Club will be accepted for any competition unless it has paid all outstanding fees, fines, (e.g. forfeits, late results) from any previous competition, or any other monies owed to Squash NSW.
- 3.1.5 No Centre/Club/player will be accepted for any competition unless all outstanding fees, fines, (e.g. forfeits, late results) from any previous competition/s, or any other monies owed to Squash NSW.
- 3.1.6 False information submitted by any club or player could result in the disqualification of the player and or club concerned.
- 3.1.7 All clubs shall notify the Pennant Administrator of the night and time of commencement of play for home matches for each of their teams when entries are submitted. The nights and times will be published in the Competition Draw. The commencing time shall not be before 7.00 pm or later than 8.00 pm.
- 3.1.8 Women's and men's teams may only alternate in the Competition Draw if there is an odd number of both women's and men's teams within a club.
- 3.1.9 Each team must have a captain, whose name, contact numbers and email address shall be shown on the entry form. If a team captain withdraws from a team, another captain must be appointed and his/her name, contact numbers and email address must be forwarded to the

Pennant Administrator within seven (7) days of the appointment.

- 3.1.10 The CDC reserves the right to accept or reject any entry from an individual, team, club or centre.

- 3.1.11 Team entries must include every player's name, DOB, contact numbers and email address.

3.2 REGISTRATIONS

- 3.2.1 Only registered players who are financial members of a club which is affiliated with Squash NSW Ltd, are eligible to compete in the pennant competition. A registered player means a player who is financial by paying the annual player registration fee to Squash NSW.

- 3.2.2 The CDC reserves the right to accept or reject any entry from an individual, team or club.

- 3.2.3 Players must obtain a financial clearance from their previous club before registering with another club. A financial clearance requires players to have fully paid all previous pennant entry fees plus any Squash NSW sanctioned tournament fees.

- 3.2.4 No player will be accepted for any competition unless all outstanding fees, fines, (e.g. forfeits, late results) from any previous competition/s, or any other monies owed to Squash NSW have been paid.

- 3.2.5 No unregistered player shall play in any match. If the team plays an unregistered player, **the team will receive no points for that rubber, and will receive no points for any rubber or rubbers played in a lower position.** The points will be awarded to the opposing team. Further penalties may be imposed at the discretion of the CDC.

- 3.2.6 No player shall be eligible to play before the Pennant Administrator in consultation with the District Delegate has accepted his/her nomination.

- 3.2.7 No club shall have any claim upon the services of a player unless that player has indicated in writing that he/she is available for that club.

- 3.2.8 No player, having been nominated to play for any club, shall be allowed to transfer to another club between the date of such nomination and the completion of the competition for which he/she is nominated, unless both the original club and the Pennant Administrator agree.

- 3.2.9 A player may register for more than one Club but only if the Clubs are in different Sydney Districts. (exception: South East District. A player can play South and East but NOT South/East and East or South/East and South)

- 3.2.10 Men players may play in the District Women's competition, but a maximum of 2 men only per women's team per round applies. These men may be registered at any position with the approval of the CDC. Ladies teams must have minimum of 2 ladies playing on the night. (Note: this by-law does not apply to the West and North Districts as they are a mixed competition)

3.3 LATE REGISTRATIONS

- 3.3.1 New players may be registered at any time. All late registrations must be financial player members of Squash NSW before playing. A registration will not be accepted if it makes the

team stronger than the strongest team in the grade, or if the registration would have resulted in the team being promoted to a higher grade at the time of grading.

- 3.3.2 Registrations must be confirmed in writing to the Pennant Administrator and must contain the player's full name (and former name if any), details of past performances, and must state his/her correct order within the team. Failure to do so will result in the new player being deregistered immediately and any points earned by that player will be awarded to the opposing team. The Club Administrator must sign all correspondence.
- 3.3.3 Late player registration must include player name, DOB, contact numbers and email address.
- 3.3.4 The Pennant Administrator in consultation with the District Delegate may accept or reject late registrations, and decide the order of merit of late registrations within a team.
- 3.3.5 If no objection is received from the Pennant Administrator within seven (7) days, the new registration is approved. It is the responsibility of Team Captains/Club Administrators to contact the Pennant Administrator in writing (fax/email) if there is any doubt as to the acceptance of the registration.

3.4 GRADING

- 3.4.1 The CDC has the right to decide the number of grades/divisions, the sections into which the competition shall be divided, and declare the number of rubbers per match for each grade/division. The CDC has the right to decide the grading of each team.
- 3.4.2 No appeal shall be made against the grading of teams, or the competition draw.
- 3.4.3 Clubs must list all members of each team in their order of merit on the entry form (as per the player's Matrix rating as well as considering the form of any new player without a Matrix rating).
- 3.4.4 If two (or more) teams are graded in the same section of a grade/division contrary to the club's requested grading, changes in team personnel may be allowed at the discretion of the Pennant Administrator prior to the commencement of competition.

3.5 REGRADING

- 3.5.1 The CDC and/or Pennant Administrator have the power to accept, alter or reject any requested changes to the order of merit. Refer By-Law 4.1.12 Player Matrix Adjustment Request.

4.0 MATCHES

4.1 COMPETITION PLAY

- 4.1.1 The home club shall be responsible for all court hire.
- 4.1.2 At the beginning of each match, the home team shall provide one new ball as approved by Squash NSW. Should the ball break or otherwise be replaced in accordance with the WSF Rules,

the home team will supply a further new ball as approved by Squash NSW.

- 4.1.3 Unless By-Law 4.5 applies, all rubbers shall be played on the same day/ night and no alteration shall be made to the venues, dates or times set down for matches unless with the previous consent of the Pennant Administrator. If a change is requested, it is the responsibility of both team Captains to contact the Pennant Administrator. Failure to make such contact may result in both teams receiving no points for that match. The CDC may impose a further penalty.
- 4.1.4 All players from the beginning of the season will be placed in Matrix order. Players will then play in order of Matrix each week as shown on result sheets on the night.
If previous week's results are not in by the time the sheets are printed, then players play in the order of Matrix that is on the sheet (refer By-Law 4.9 Results – penalties apply for Results not received correctly). (refer By-Law 4.1.11 Playing in Matrix order).
- 4.1.5 A match shall consist of the number of rubbers declared by the CDC for that division. In each match the No. 1 player from each team will play each other, the No. 2 players will play each other, and so on.
- 4.1.6 A player shall only play in a rubber provided that immediately prior to the commencement of the rubber the player reasonably believes he/she is physically capable of completing the rubber.
- 4.1.7 In all matches other than finals and grand finals, the visiting team shall decide which players shall play the first and third rubbers, and the home team shall decide which players shall play the second and fourth rubbers.
- 4.1.8 When a rubber is in progress and one player leads by 2 games (i.e. 2-1 or 2-0), the appropriate captain (refer By-Law 4.1.7) must advise which number players are to go on next, and the nominated players must be ready to start their rubber as soon as the court is vacant, and if not ready within 10 minutes then By-Law 4.4.7 shall apply.
- 4.1.9 In home and away matches each team shall provide a marker or referee alternately for each rubber. The home team shall provide the referee of the first rubber and the visiting team shall provide the marker. The marker or referee provided by each team shall be a registered member of the team (or a reserve player as provided in By-Law 4.3) unless both captains agree otherwise. The referee assumes control of the match when both players have commenced the warm up.
- 4.1.10 During a match a player shall not receive any electronic assistance from outside the court. Any player doing so shall forfeit the rubber and could also face suspension.
- 4.1.11 If a team has not played in the correct Matrix order of merit, it shall receive no points for all rubbers played out of order. Those points shall be awarded to the opposing team.
- 4.1.12 **PLAYER MATRIX ADJUSTMENT REQUEST:**

The initial rating on the Matrix table is only applied to a player once at the start of their playing life. Consideration may be given to a

player's Matrix adjustment if any of the following conditions apply:

- (i) coming back after a long break, or
- (ii) after injury and causes their current rating to no longer be reflective of their playing ability, or
- (iii) a Junior player commencing Senior Pennant, or
- (iv) depending on results that would qualify the player's adjustment.

Club Administrators are required to complete the Matrix Adjustment Request Form available on the www.nswsquash.com.au website (Sydney Pennant link) and forward to the Pennant Administrator for consideration and processing.

4.2 SCORING

- 4.2.1 Each pennant competition rubber is the best of 5 games, using the Point-A-Rally (PAR) scoring system.
- 4.2.2 Premier Grade teams will use the PAR 11 point scoring system. Sydney 1 and 2 teams will use PAR 15 point scoring system.
- 4.2.3 All District Divisions will use PAR 15 point scoring system. The player who scores 15 points first wins the game except that if the score reaches 14-all, the game continues until one player leads by two points.
- 4.2.4 For tournaments conducted by Squash NSW the PAR 11 point scoring system will apply.
- 4.2.5 For all matches played during the competition the following point system will apply:
6 pts for 3-0 win 2 pts for 2-3 loss
5 pts for 3-1 win 1 pt for 1-3 loss
4 pts for 3-2 win 0 pts for 0-3 loss
Plus an additional 4 points to the winning team.
- 4.2.6 A winning team is the team which **at the end of the declared number of rubbers** has won:
 - (i) the most rubbers. If rubbers are equal;
 - (ii) the most games. If games are equal;
 - (iii) the most points. If points are equal;
 - (iv) the match will be deemed to be drawn.

4.3 DISTRICT DIVISION RESERVES

(refer 4.10.6 for Major Grade Reserves Rule)

- 4.3.1 A district player may not reserve more than seven (7) times in a higher and/or lower grade without penalty. If that player then plays eight (8) or more matches:
 - The team that the reserve played for shall lose such points as the reserve has won for them
 - The opposition shall be awarded such points as were lost to the reserve
 - The results will be entered into the squash Matrix as per normal and the Matrix points shall be won or lost by both players will stand.
- 4.3.1 (a) For a TRIAL period only in the NORTH district a player may reserve as many times as required. HOWEVER they may only reserve in the same team a maximum of four (4) times. If that player then plays five (5) or more matches, the penalties stipulated in 4.3.1 shall apply.
- 4.3.2 In District Divisions a player may play a position higher as well as their own e.g. No. 4 can play at No. 3, No. 3 can play at No 2 and No 2 can play

at No. 1. A higher player cannot play lower (e.g. No. 2 cannot play No. 3 etc.). A player shall only be permitted to play a total of two rubbers in a match. Applies to rounds only and not finals series.

- 4.3.3 District Division Matrix Reserve rule: Teams may get a reserve who has the same Matrix or less from any team from any Club to replace your unavailable player. Reserves must play in Matrix order within the team. (eg. If your No. 1 with a Matrix of 160.38 is out on the night you may find a reserve to replace him with 160.38 or LESS to play at No. 1 or if your No. 3 has a bigger Matrix than your reserve then this player moves up and the reserve plays at No 3. This allows teams to use the Matrix to find the reserve player.
This rule applies to round matches only. (refer By-Law 4.8.5 for semi-final, final and grand final reserve requests)
- 4.3.4 If a registered player has not played four (4) matches or three (3) matches where there is a bye by Round 8 then a reserve cannot replace this player.
- 4.3.5 In-House Matrix Competition registered players with a Matrix ranking who play at a Pennant club can reserve 4 times for their club pennant team/s.

4.4 FORFEITS

- 4.4.1 **Each of the declared number of rubbers in a match** must either be played or forfeited. A player may not concede a rubber except through injury sustained during a rubber or a personal emergency necessitating leaving the venue.
- 4.4.2 After a rubber has commenced, a player must not stop playing in that rubber and play a rubber in any other position. This will be treated as a forfeit for all the rubbers concerned.
- 4.4.3 For all forfeits, the points are awarded to the opposing team and a penalty as decided by the CDC will be determined for each rubber forfeited. If any team gives a full team forfeit, all rubbers, games and points shall be awarded to the opposing team.
- 4.4.4 Where a forfeit occurs, "forfeit" is to be written on the result sheet instead of the name of the player who forfeited, and the opposing player is to be recorded as winning the match. If a player's name is written on the result sheet this is a statement that the player played the match. Any falsification of a result will incur a severe penalty as decided by the CDC. A player claiming a forfeit must be present at the court ready and capable of playing (refer By-Law 4.1.6) otherwise it will be considered that both players have forfeited.
- 4.4.5 Any team with excessive forfeits may be asked by the CDC to justify why that team should not be withdrawn from the competition. Any team withdrawn may be fined by the CDC (in addition to any fines already incurred).
- 4.4.6 Any team withdrawing or being withdrawn from the competition shall create a BYE within that grade. The Committee may readjust points already scored against this team.
- 4.4.7 If play in a match has not commenced within 10 minutes of the specified starting time as stated in the Competition Draw, the team at fault may lose

the nominated rubber. Ten (10) minutes shall be allowed after each rubber for the next rubber to commence. If play does not commence at the end of this time, the defaulting team may lose a further rubber or rubbers as nominated by the opposing team captain. It is the opposing team captain who decides whether to claim a forfeit.

4.4.8 Forfeit(s) before the commencement of a match:

- (i) if before a match commences, a team forfeits a rubber, the team must forfeit at **the lowest position** and the remaining players must move up and play in the correct order;
- (ii) if more than one rubber is forfeited, the team must forfeit at **the lowest position first, the immediately higher position next,** and so on (refer By-Law 4.3.2 to avoid forfeits).

4.4.9 Forfeit(s) after the commencement of a match:

- (i) if after a match has commenced, a team forfeits at **the lowest position** then the team will score no points for that rubber;
- (ii) if after a match has commenced, a team forfeits a rubber or rubbers **at higher positions then the team will score no points for the rubber or rubbers forfeited and in addition will score no points for the rubber played at the lowest position. The penalty forfeit at the lowest position** does not apply if the player or players who have been forfeited subsequently arrive at the courts prepared and capable of playing (refer By-Law 4.1.6) before play in the last rubber has ceased. The forfeit fine will not be imposed. However the forfeited player is not permitted to then play the match.

4.4.10 Forfeits shall result in severe penalties as decided by the CDC. Refer Squash NSW Fees and Fines Schedule. (refer By-Law 4.3.2 to avoid forfeits).

4.5 DELAYED MATCHES

4.5.1 Completed rubbers shall not be replayed and results shall stand (unless By-Law 1.3.11 applies).

4.5.2 If after a rubber has commenced it is necessary to transfer that rubber to a different court on the same day or on a different day, the score shall stand.

4.5.3 In case of a power failure, every effort should be made to complete the match on the night.

4.5.4 Postponed matches ARE NO LONGER PERMITTED.

4.6 MARKING AND REFEREEING

4.6.1 All matches must be marked and refereed in accordance with the WSF Rules of Squash.

4.6.2 Players are not permitted to request a change of referee or marker.

4.6.3 The Referee Chairperson may arrange for a referee to be assessed on any match. Both team captains must be advised beforehand. Club Administrators/Court operators must be advised if a captain cannot be contacted.

4.6.4 Attendance at Rules Presentations:

- One team player attending - 14 bonus points.
- Two or more team players attending - maximum 28 bonus points.

A player competing in two districts will receive bonus points for each team. (referees are welcome but not required to attend – bonus points apply).

4.6.5 If the behaviour of any spectator, official, manager or coach is disruptive to the continuity of play, the Referee shall suspend play until the disruption has ceased. If necessary, play should be suspended until the offending person has left the court area.

4.7 SEMI-FINALS, FINALS AND GRAND FINALS

4.7.1 Any Club which has teams participating in the competition shall make its courts available for any play-off, semi-final, final or grand final at no cost.

4.7.2 Venues, days and times will be decided by the Pennant Administrator. No changes shall be permitted. A fine of \$100 per team shall be imposed, and the match may be declared void.

4.7.3 Referees shall be appointed by the Pennant Administrator. Failure to fulfil refereeing duties shall result in severe penalties as decided by the CDC.

4.7.4 The 3 teams in each division with the greatest number of premiership points at the end of the home and away matches, shall play the finals series. The team finishing first goes directly to the grand final and plays the winner of the final (the teams that finished second and third). If two or more teams are equal on points for third position (or any other position), and it is necessary to decide which of those teams shall play in any final match, the positions of those teams shall be determined by means of a count back by comparing the record of each team in terms of the criteria listed below (the criteria to be applied successively until a decision is reached) so the team with the highest position in the competition shall be the team which, in descending order:

- (i) has won the most matches (a tied match being counted as a half a win);
- (ii) has won the most rubbers;
- (iii) has won the most games;
- (iv) has won the most points;
- (v) has lost the least rubbers;
- (vi) has lost the least games;
- (vii) has lost the least points.

4.7.5 In semi-final, final or grand final matches the team captains shall toss a coin and the team losing the toss shall be deemed to be the home club, and the provisions of By-Law 4.1.7 shall apply regarding the order in which rubbers are played.

4.7.6 Any drawn semi-final, final match must be replayed. The Pennant Administrator will decide the venue. A drawn grand final may be replayed, or joint winners may be declared if both team captains agree.

4.7.7 All rubbers that have commenced must be completed. The player refusing to complete the match will forfeit Matrix points.

4.7.8 Both teams are to provide one new ball, to be used alternatively unless both captains agree to share the cost of a single ball.

4.8 ELIGIBILITY FOR SEMI-FINALS, FINALS AND GRAND FINALS

(Exception Premier League, refer By-Law 4.10.9)

- 4.8.1 Any player wishing to play in the finals must have:
- Been a registered player for the team;
 - In a 6-key draw have played six (6) rounds for the team OR five (5) rounds if there was a bye in that division.
 - In an 8-key draw have played **six (6)** rounds for the team OR **five (5)** rounds if there was a bye in that division.
- Note that playing multiple matches for a team in the same round does NOT count towards eligibility for the finals, nor does playing as a reserve for a different team.
- 4.8.2 To be considered to reserve for a team in the finals a player must:
- Be lower than the lowest registered, qualified player who is playing the finals match for which the reserve is required.
 - Be lower than **the rating of the player who would be playing the lowest rubber if all qualified players in the team were available.**
 - Be a registered, qualified player in the current pennant season OR be a registered player in the Junior Pennant.
 - Not be a registered Major Grades player unless they are also qualified in a District division.
- A player is considered qualified if they meet the criteria set out under 4.8.1.
The Pennant Administrator may apply their discretion if a player does not meet these requirements and the club is unable to find a reserve that meets all the criteria, such as the lowest division in each district.
The guiding principle shall be that the team must not be strengthened by the inclusion of the reserve.
- 4.8.3 A player may not play twice in a finals match, including eligible reserves.
- 4.8.4 If a team **cannot field enough players** who meet the criteria set out in by-law 4.8.1 they may ask the Pennant Administrator for an eligible reserve under by-law 4.8.2 or forfeit such rubbers as cannot be played.
- 4.8.6 All Clubs/Centres and players must be financial members of Squash NSW.
- 4.8.7 All fees owing to Squash NSW must be received no later than the last day of the final round of the competition before that player and team can play in semi-finals, finals or grand finals.
- 4.8.8 Major grade players cannot reserve in District grade finals series. (exception: Women who are registered in District grades may reserve in District grade finals series).
- 4.8.9 Male players and female players who are not registered in a designated Women's division shall have additional requirements if they wish to reserve in a designated Women's division. In addition to the requirements of 4.8.2:
- A male player must be 20 Matrix points lower than the **registered, qualified player at the lowest rubber.**

- A female player must be 10 Matrix points lower than the **registered, qualified player at the lowest rubber.**

4.8.10 Only one (1) forfeit will be counted towards eligibility for finals.

4.9 RESULTS

- 4.9.1 Penalties apply for results not received correctly. Refer Squash NSW Fees and Fines Schedule.
- 4.9.2 Club Administrators must enter the current week's results on www.squashMatrix.com by Saturday 12 noon AND NOT print the next round result sheets before Monday 12 noon.
- 4.9.3 Team captains must notify their Club Administrator if results have not been recorded correctly for the Matrix system to be effective.

4.10 MAJOR GRADES SEMI-FINALS, FINALS AND GRAND FINALS

- 4.10.1 Matches shall commence no earlier than 7.00 pm and no later than 8.00 pm Monday to Friday. The first rubber must be nominated 10 minutes before the scheduled starting time. Postponement of matches is no longer permitted.
- 4.10.2 Premier Grade and Sydney 1 teams will use the PAR 11 point scoring system. Sydney 2 teams will use PAR15 point scoring system.
- 4.10.3 All Captains and player's contacts details including mobile number and email addresses must be submitted with team registration and included in the Matrix system.
- 4.10.4 Interstate players who are financial members of another State or Territory may be registered in the Major Grades, with the permission of the Pennant Administrator.
- 4.10.5 In Premier Grade a player may play in one rubber only in the same match. Sydney 1, 2 & 3 players may play twice in pennant matches. Applies to round matches only not finals series.
- 4.10.6 Reserves for Major Grades may be taken from grades above or below as long as the Matrix rating is equal or below the player they are replacing. Major Grade Players cannot play across teams.
- This rule applies to Round matches only. (refer By-Law 4.10.9 for semi-final, final and grand final Reserve requests). Sydney 1, 2 & 3 Grade players can reserve in district grades. Premier Grade players can reserve in District Grades ONLY IF registered in District Grades during the trial period.
- 4.10.7 To be considered for a Major Grade final a player must adhere to the criteria set out in by-law 4.8.1, except that a Premier Grade player is considered qualified if they have played 5 rounds and have met the other criteria.
- 4.10.8 In Premier League the top two (2) teams with the greatest number of premierships points at the end of the home and away matches, shall play in a grand final. All other teams will have play offs for 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th. In an 8 key draw, the 4 teams with the greatest number of premierships points at the end of the home and away matches shall play in the final series. 1st and 2nd will play in the major semi final and 3rd and 4th will play in the minor semi final. The winner of the major semi final will go to the grand final. The loser of

the major semi-final will play the winner of the minor semi-final in the final.

4.10.9 MAJOR GRADES' SEMI FINAL, FINAL AND GRAND FINAL RESERVE RULE

Any reserves to be considered for a Major Grade final a player must adhere to the criteria set out in by-law 4.8.2, except that a Premier Grade player is considered qualified if they have played 5 rounds and have met the other criteria.

4.10.10 In all Major Grades semi-finals, final and grand final matches the No 1 players shall play the second rubber. The winner of the toss shall decide who plays first and the loser of the toss shall decide who plays third.

5.0 GENERAL

5.1 INJURIES AND BLOOD

5.1.1 All playing equipment and gear are the responsibility of the individual players. An injury resulting from the loss of control of playing equipment shall result in the match being awarded to the injured player (WSF Rule 14.3.3.2).

5.1.2 Where an injury is accidentally both players the injured player is allowed 15 minutes to recover. If the injured player is then unable to continue play, the match shall be awarded to the opponent. The score at the conclusion of the rally in which the injury occurred shall stand.

Note: The time schedule of the competition means until all other rubbers of the match have been completed.

5.1.3 Where there is any visible bleeding a player shall leave the court and shall not resume play until the bleeding is stopped, the wound is covered and any bloodstained clothing has been changed. The bleeding player is allowed reasonable time and is available on the time schedule of the competition. If the injured player is then unable to continue play, the match shall be awarded to the opponent.

Note: The time schedule of the competition means until all other rubbers of the match have been completed.

5.2 CLOTHING

5.2.1 Clothing shall be neat and appropriate to the game of squash. The soles of footwear must not mark the court.

5.3 LICENSED CLUBS

5.3.1 Visiting teams playing at licensed clubs must advise the home team captain 72 hours in advance, of any player who does not conform to licensed club regulations as set out in the Competition Handbook (e.g. age). If a visiting player is refused admittance on the grounds of clothing and/ or age, then that player shall lose the rubber, and points will be awarded to the opposing team.

5.4 PROTECTIVE EYEWEAR

5.4.1 Squash NSW recommends that all players wear approved protective eyewear.

5.4.2 It is compulsory for all players eligible to play in junior events (19 years and under) to wear approved protective eyewear in all Squash NSW Ltd sanctioned events, including tournaments. Failure to do so will result in the player/s being disqualified.

5.4.3 It is compulsory for all players to wear approved protective eyewear in all Squash NSW Ltd sanctioned doubles events, including doubles tournaments. Failure to do so will result in the player/s being disqualified.

5.5 PREGNANCY

5.5.1 A pregnant player may participate in the pennant competition at her own risk. However, Squash NSW recommends the pregnant player seek medical advice before participating in any match. No responsibility shall be accepted by Squash NSW, the venue operator and/or venue owner, the match officials or the opponent, for any pregnancy related injury, which occurs in a match or as a direct result of participation in a match.

5.6 ALCOHOL AND GAMBLING

5.6.1 Squash NSW encourages the responsible service of alcohol to and for all players.

5.6.2 No player is permitted to play or referee a match while intoxicated.

5.7 MEMBER PROTECTION, ILLICIT DRUGS AND SUN SAFETY

5.7.1 Member Protection and Child Protection policies have been developed by Squash NSW and apply to parties referred to in those policies. It also applies to any party that is covered by these By-Laws.

5.7.2 If you have questions about what behaviour is, or is not acceptable, or are concerned that behaviour you are aware of is unacceptable, you may contact the Squash NSW Member Protection Officer appointed from time to time.

5.7.3 The relevant Member and Child Protection policies and details of the Member Protection Officer can be located at: <http://www.nsw.squash.org.au/w/membership/member-protection> or by calling Squash NSW.