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NOVEMBER 2020
2019/2020 ANNUAL REPORT



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PRESIDENT REPORT

In 2016 Squash Australia implemented an ambitious and forward-thinking Strategic Plan, with a six-year timeframe designed to transform the sport. In June 2019 a Squash Conference was held on the Gold Coast. At the Conference, the Members agreed that much had been achieved against the Strategic Plan, however they wanted to be more involved in the next phase of the Strategic Plan and its delivery. Two Working Teams were established and they presented their recommendations at the 2019 Squash Australia Annual General Meeting. I would like to thank all those involved in these Working Teams. Their recommendations helped inform the new 2020-2022 Strategic Plan and in determining the priorities we needed to focus on - Participation, Performance and Profile.

Early in 2020, the Squash Australia staff, State and Territory members and the Squash Australia Board came together to prepare a short-term new Strategic Plan and a Collaborative Action Plan. I am proud of the way our organisation and our people came together to help our sport succeed. We sincerely thank Paul Mead for his generosity of time and expertise, and as a key member of the Strategic Oversight Group which oversees three working teams (Governance, Participation and Profile).

Despite all of this great work, the past year has been difficult with COVID-19 having a huge impact on all of us and our sport. We also had devastating bushfires late 2019 and earlier this year. Many events were cancelled including the World Junior Squash Championships, the Australian Open and the Australia Junior Open. Squash centres closed and we went into lockdown.

I commend the Squash Australia staff and our members on the way they met these challenges and maintained their enthusiasm for squash. The innovative and instructional videos and Instagram photos during lockdown encouraged people to remain active and stay connected. We were able to keep all of our staff due to JobKeeper and by requiring staff to take both annual leave and salary reductions.

In June 2020 we held a series of online refereeing and coaching workshops. They were a great success and I thank the presenters, Cahoot Learning, the Squash Australia staff and the participants.

We had the pleasure of welcoming four new Directors to the Squash Australia Board. Adam Carter and Matt Schmidt joined the Board in 2019 and Alex Dore and Leah Gabriel (nee Stangle) in 2020. I feel their addition to an already strong team helps to ensure the Board is well placed to deal with the challenges ahead. We farewelled Chris Sinclair recently and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Chris for her contribution

to squash over many years and for elevating the need to support our referees and coaches, nationally and internationally.

We also farewelled our CEO Richard Vaughan on 8 October 2020. Since joining Squash Australia mid-2015, Vaughan oversaw the delivery of the Squash competition at the 2018 Commonwealth Games, the opening of the National Squash Centre at Carrara, and Australia hosted two World Doubles Championships. We wish him well in his next endeavour. We recognise the need to appoint a replacement CEO as soon as possible, however the Board has the responsibility to ensure that we appoint the best candidate, which takes time.

Restrained by both COVID-19 and a determination to reduce costs, the Squash Australia Board did not meet face-to-face and instead, held monthly online Board meetings. Regular President's Council, Executive Officers' meeting and Working Team meetings were also held online.

I believe that communication between the Board and the members significantly improved in 2019/20. The Board will continue to make this a priority area for 2020/21, and I will continue to be available to help Members wherever I can.

Thank you to the Squash Australia Board, staff, State and Territory members, Associate Members, volunteers, Sport Australia, the AIS, the Commonwealth Games Association of Australia and our partners for their collective efforts to promote and support our great sport of Squash in Australia.

It is especially appropriate this year for me to finish by wishing you all a safe and healthy 2020/21.

Joanne Brodie

*President
Squash Australia*





CEO REPORT

It's true what they say about adversity bringing out the best in people.

COVID-19 has challenged us like never before, in both our professional and personal worlds.

Over the past few months, I've been heartened by the resilience and adaptability of the squash community as a whole.

It was difficult to see the great momentum of growth on and off the court come to a halt when centres were forced to close. However, the great spirit and camaraderie of the players, coaches, club members and its volunteers right through COVID-19 has been something for all of us at Squash in Australia to be proud of.

Despite the close of the 2019/2020 year seeing a lot less squash than normal, support from the community has been amazing.

I have received numerous letters and emails from stakeholders outlining the great work going on at that difficult time and making it clear they could not wait to get back on the court.

These small gestures mean a lot at difficult times and the Squash Australia team, although reduced in time due to the financial impact of the crisis, has been operating at 110-percent to make sure that everyone in the squash community has been supported.

It is fair to say this was not how we had planned 2019/2020 to end.

Thank you for your great work.

Despite the impact of COVID-19 with hope and optimism I can report the progress made across the Squash Australia strategic pillars.

PARTICIPATION

Squash to be a thriving participation sport for all Australians

Up until COVID-19 participation numbers both through the SportAUS AUSPLAY survey and reported State and Territory Association numbers have been steady.

Thanks to a \$215,000 investment from the SportAUS 'MoveitAUS' grant through the year we have created, piloted and launched a new Participation product with 'Squash Girls Can'. Meredith Hodson managed this project throughout the year which saw the programme rolled out to all Universities across Australia with nearly 2000 participants.

Moving forward we will expand the Community Engagement Coordinator roles to New South Wales, Western Australia and Northern Territory and replace the roles in South Australia and Queensland, so there will be full national coverage. These roles will continue to focus

on the Sporting Schools programme and help roll out Sporty HQ.

SportAUS ASUPLAY survey numbers and State provided membership data 2019



CONSUMER EXPERIENCE

Provide an excellent Consumer Experience

The Consumer Experience was enhanced through the year with the appointment of Russell Weatherburn as the Sporty HQ Support Coordinator and Leanna Davey moving from the position of ACT Community Engagement Coordinator to a full time Consumer Experience Coordinator in January 2020.

Both Russell and Leanna have done an amazing job de-cluttering the SportyHQ support lists and getting the software project back on track.

In agreement with Sporty HQ we have been able to make the software package which includes:

- Court Booking System and built in club management system
- State and centre websites
- Event / league software (fully integrated to the National Ranking system)
- Matrix (National rating system integrated to league and competition matches)
- Integrated secure door system with online bookings
- Member management CRM for States, Clubs and Centres

Free to all affiliated clubs throughout Australia.

FACILITIES

Stop the decline of squash courts by making facilities attractive, enticing, professionally operated and financially sustainable.

The challenges facing the number and quality of courts in Australia continues to be one of our biggest challenges and this has only been amplified by COVID-19. It has been a tough time for the foundations of our sport.

The resilience and entrepreneurial nature of our operators has been at its best in this period with many success stories of redevelopments around the centre.

The National Squash Centre (NSC) at Carrara, Gold Coast has continued to develop with a number of developments in the year:

- New external flooring and seating area
- The addition of the first Interactive court in Australia to the benefit of the local community
- The addition of an automated booking system, door release system which has been made available Nationwide via Sporty HQ
- Securing numerous small grants for the development of the NSC

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Squash will be well administrated and focused and on local delivery through a shared Australian wide vision.

At the end of 2019 we welcomed two new directors Matt Schmidt and Adam Carter, and with the director changes a new President with Joanne Brodie taking on the leadership role.

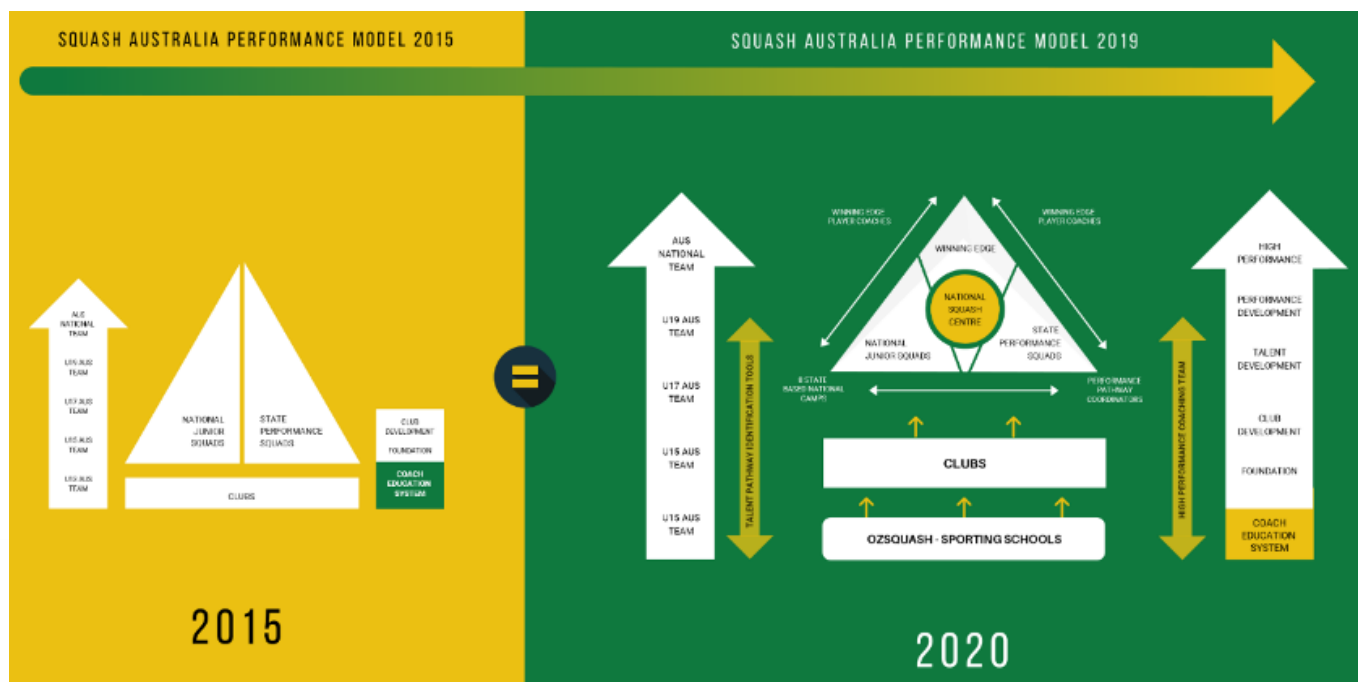
At those elections Dale Robbins, Michelle Martin and former President David Mandel departed. In early 2020 Director Mick Jaroszewicz and Richard Majlinder as Chair of the Accounting Finance and Risk Committee also resigned. A special note to all departing directors and committee members for their excellent work.

As covered in more detail in the financial report despite COVID-19 the year ended with a deficit of \$136,851. This result was due to the impact of COVID-19 and States and Squash Centres were forced to close. SQA did not charge for insurance and squash matrix fees for a period. A number of events were also cancelled throughout Australia including the National Squash Centre at Carrara which affected revenue. SQA grant revenue was down for the financial year however funds have been secured for FY21.

Throughout COVID-19, weekly crisis meetings were held between Squash Australia and the States and Territories to ensure we could support the members as much as possible in this difficult period. These meetings were a positive feature in the strategy to tackle the COVID-19 response allowing for a national approach with flexible delivery.

To further help the member states and territories, we reduced STM membership fees by 50-percent for the 2020 calendar year, with the aim of helping them restart the sport when squash courts were once again allowed to reopen.

We continued to maintain our highest rating in High Performance with the AIS and 100-percent green ASPR ratings.



HIGH PERFORMANCE

Win medals that matter for Australia.

It was another strong year for the high-performance programme with the addition of Stewart Boswell as the programmes Head, a number of support personnel and the first full year of the national squash centre at Carrara on the Gold Coast.

The year started on a high after the eight-medal overhaul at the 2019 World Doubles Championships.

The development of the performance programme continues to gain pace as we look to appoint State Performance Coordinators in the next weeks as we focus on helping states with their pathways and ensuring that future Australian champions are supported.

A special thanks to all the coaches and players involved in the programme, especially Cameron Pilley, Ryan Cuskelly and Rex Hedrick who announced their PSA singles retirements but whom will continue to support Australia through their focus on doubles for the 2020 Commonwealth Games where Australia will once again aim to top the squash medal table.

EDUCATION

Squash personnel will be competent to deliver the sport through a workforce development programme.

In December 2019, we supported the attendance of an Oceania Regional Referee to attend the Men's World Team Championships in the USA as part of their targeted WSF Referee development pathway. Work has also commenced on the creation of the High Performance Course, our highest-level award which will be completed and ready for delivery to start 2021. This complete the strategic redevelopment of the coach education system started in 2016.

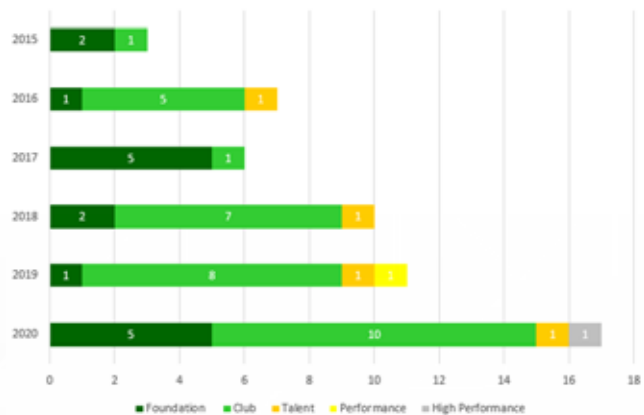
Overall delivery for both coach and referee education has been strong thanks to the online eLearning platform and great work in the STM's.

In December 2019 SqA help fund Jordan Till to the Men's World Team Championships in the USA as part of his targeted WSF Referee development pathway.

Development of the SqA Coach Education system 2016 - 2020



Number of coach education courses delivered



EVENTS

Run world class events for all members.

Events were travelling well until COVID-19.

Jordan Till (Events Coordinator) has continued to grow the domestic numbers involved with our events and we have seen the strategic addition of PSA Satellite events for the up and coming Australian players.

A special thanks to John Stylianou and Bega for once again hosting an excellent Australian Open and we look forward to returning when COVID-19 allows.

The pinnacle of the year was to be the World Junior Championships at the National Squash Centre on the Gold Coast, however after careful consideration this event was cancelled in April as International travel was not going to be possible.

Obviously, a considerable amount of work and planning had been done before this late cancellation and we would like to thank all the volunteers and partners involved for their help and support through this process.

INFLUENCE

Squash Australia will have the network required to influence key decisions in its favour.

Squash continued its strategic influence focus, helped by green ASPR SportAUS ratings.

Sarah Fitzgerald continued as Vice-President of the World Squash Federation (WSF), David Mandel as Chair of the WSF Governance Committee and Director of Commonwealth Games Australia.

Dale Robbins and then Mick Jaroszewicz were Directors in the period for the Oceania Squash Federation.

The Working Groups delivered a wealth of sector and wider industry experience which has benefited the sport.

PROFILE

Squash will enhance its profile through media and new technologies.

Squash has continued to grow through its digital technologies and this has put the sport in a strong position with the impact of COVID-19 as we have been able to grow the sport and help the members digitally.

A great example of this was the 'Street Squash' programme launched to maximise the opportunity provided by COVID-19 to connect online and grow the sport at home.

For World Squash Day in October in 2019 we ran a Squash promotion at Parliament House with various Ministers and Senators in attendance, along with the media.

Squash Australia grew its social media engagement by more than 15-percent during the March-June period of 2020. This is an excellent effort from the digital team during the COVID-19 Pandemic in working to link the Squash community in Australia together.

MOVING FORWARD

Throughout the period there has been continued collaborative discussions with the STMs to find the right structure, communication and decision making process for all in the sport to get behind programs, events and the sport as a whole. An essential part of this has been the empowerment of all stakeholders in the process of establishing structures that everyone is bought in to and contribute.

A State led Working Team produced a report for the AGM at the end of 2019 with recommendations.

As a result of this report three new Working Teams are to be created around Profile, Participation and Governance. These will be Chaired by a SqA board member and have state representation.

The strategic work from these Working Teams will go to the Presidents Council for review and the Squash Australia Board where they will be approved or asked for adjustments.

KEY STRATEGIC AREAS	KRA 1 PARTICIPATION
	KRA 2 CONSUMER EXPERIENCE
	KRA 3 FACILITIES
	KRA 4 LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE
	KRA 5 HIGH-PERFORMANCE
	KRA 6 EDUCATION
	KRA 7 EVENTS
	KRA 8 INFLUENCE
	KRA 9 PROFILE



In line with this there will be a new strategy in place for the end of 2020 which will run for two years to 2022. The nine strategic pillar strategy approved in 2016 will be reduced to three strategic pillars in Profile, Participation and Performance. This is a natural transformation of the strategic pillars and it is broken down below:

HIGHLIGHTS

Again, there have been many highlights over the period of this report, but I have picked out a few outstanding achievements:

- Eight medals; three gold, three silver and two bronze at the World Doubles Championships 2019
- Hosting a successful World Doubles Championships at the National Squash Centre ahead of budget.
- Hosting a first online Coaching and Referee Conference in partnership with Cahoot
- Further development of the National Squash Centre with the first Interactive Court in Australia and 24/7 technology
- Successfully delivered the \$215,000 'Squash Girls Can' project across Australia Universities
- Launched the first Performance Development Coach Education course (BWF Level 3 course)
- Releasing Sporty HQ for free to all affiliated clubs and players in Australia
- Securing an additional \$270,000 for State Pathway investment from the AIS
- Finally, but 100% not last, tackled the COVID-19 Pandemic as successfully as possible!

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to acknowledge the loyal support and generous contribution from the Federal Government through SportAUS and the Australian Institute of Sport. The Minister for Sport, first, Hon Richard Colbeck, the ASportAUS Board under the leadership of John Wylie and CEO's first Simon Kate Palmer and then Rob Dalton, who have provided invaluable advice and support to our organisation over the period. Sincere thanks go to CEO Craig Phillips, and the Board of Management of Commonwealth Games of Australia for their continued support to Squash and our High Performance Programme.

SqA continued to develop a strong relationship with each STA during the 2019/2020 period and collectively we have worked collaboratively on several projects and initiatives that will continue to develop over the coming months and years.

We thank the Presidents, Executive Directors and their support staff of each STA. To our valued sponsors and partners who are outlined throughout this publication, the SqA Board and staff extend our sincerest thanks and appreciation for these partnerships and look forward to continuing to develop these relationships collaboratively into the future.

A special thanks is made to the SqA Board of Directors, staff, national working groups and volunteers for their continued commitment and dedication to the growth and development of the sport and brand of squash in Australia.

IN MEMORIAM

Throughout the past year, Squash communities throughout Australia have lost many loved and respected friends and members and we offer our prayers and thoughts to member of the squash family.

Yours Sincerely, Richard Vaughan
Chief Executive Officer, Squash Australia

FINANCE REPORT 2019 / 2020

Despite the impact of COVID-19 since its onset in March we have continued to deliver strong results, maintain reserves and continue to invest in opportunities for the benefit of the sport.

The Squash Australia Audit, Finance and Risk Committee Chaired by Richard Majlinder oversaw compliance with the organisations strategic budgets, risk compliance and made several recommendations to the Squash Australia Board. Richard resigned in April and we would like to thank him for his great work over the five years where he has overseen real growth in turnover and reserves.

The Board's focus to ensure financial sustainability were early actions to maintain strong reserves and to protect the sport in the wake of COVID-19. A number of tough reductions to core costs were made, including a reduction in time of the Squash Australia operational team from March to June.

These early reductions has set the organisation in a good position moving forward and Squash Australia finished the year in a stable position.

To help tackle the effects of COVID-19, Membership fees were reduced 50% to the Member States and Territories in the period which will help them rebound from the pandemic when the courts are back open.

The National Squash Centre (NSC) continued its positive performance despite its closure from March, due to COVID-19 and finished the year with a \$9,707 loss, \$19,000 ahead of budget and an improvement on FY19 deficit by \$29,640 in its second year of operation.

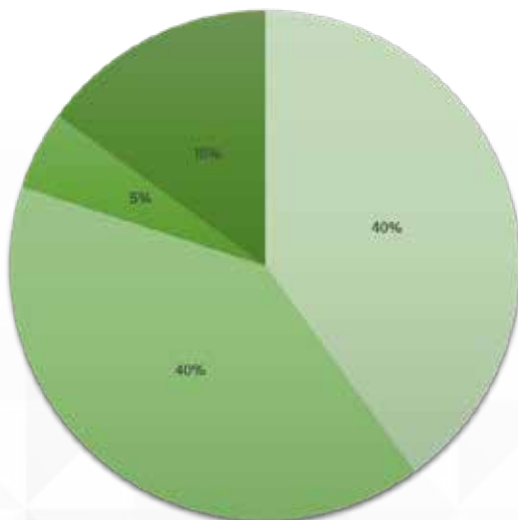
In partnership with SportAUS, Squash Australia has maintained its 100% compliance of the SportAUS Mandatory Governance Principles.

I would like to acknowledge the loyal support and generous contribution from the Federal government through SportAUS and the Australian Institute of Sport. The Minister of Sport, the Hon Richard Colbeck.

Sincere thanks to Commonwealth Games CEO Craig Phillips and the Board of Management for their support towards the High Performance programme.

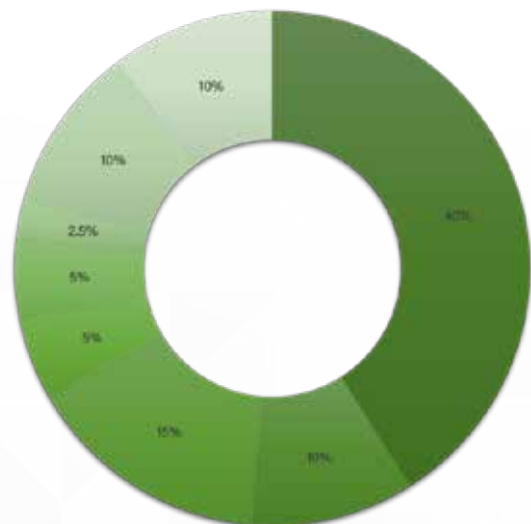
To our valued sponsors and partners who are outlined throughout the annual report, COVID-19 has made us value our relationships more than ever and we look forward to continuing these strong partnerships with Dunlop, Victor, Teuton, Ashaway, Schweppes, iMask, BLK and most notably the City of Gold Coast.

INCOME



■ Sport Australia ■ AIS ■ Membership Fees ■ Corporate

EXPENDITURE



■ High Performance ■ Events
 ■ Participation ■ Consumer Experience
 ■ Facilities ■ Education
 ■ General Administration ■ Profile

FINANCIAL REPORT OVERVIEW

- The consolidated deficit for FY2020 was \$136,851 and for FY2019 was a \$336,290 surplus (significant differences were a decrease in revenue, other income, events administration and events related expenses predominately due to COVID-19).
- Grant revenue was down \$369,668 due to the timing of grants received and proposed and agreed programs. We received \$420,000 before 30 June 2020 for Performance Pathways programs for FY21 and an ASC grant to be expended in FY21 and FY22. SQA has \$420,000 in unexpended grants which will be brought account in FY21 and FY22.
- Due to COVID-19 and States and Squash Centres were forced to close, SQA did not charge for a period for membership fees, insurance and squash matrix income. A number of events were also cancelled throughout Australia including the National Squash Centre at Carrara which affected revenue.
- Employment expenses in the period increased \$157,768 (19%) - the increase is due to the allocation of \$159,322 of wages expense in 2019 to the University project grant which was a one-off grant. It should be noted, with COVID-19 that the Squash Australia Board, made the difficult decision to reduce staff workloads from April-June and encourage staff to reduce leave entitlements.
- Current assets increased \$240,150 (23%) mainly due to grants received in FY20 intended for FY21
- Non-current assets increased \$348,451 (17%) (predominately due to the capitalisation of the National Squash Centre at Carrara lease)
- Liabilities increased by \$575,452 (59%) (predominately due to the capitalisation of the NSC lease)
- Cash in the bank was increased from \$75,049 to \$747,350 (90%) - this increase includes an ASC grant received at the end of June for \$297,000 to be expended in FY21 and FY22. A Performance Pathways workforce grant of \$150,000 received in May 2020 to be spent in FY21, COVID-19 Government incentives received for JobKeeper \$66,000 and cash flow boost \$50,000 and budget savings with tournaments not going ahead such as the World Juniors and Referees conference, rent forgiveness for Carrara and Sports House, prudent expenditure during COVID-19.
- The NSC paid back \$55,400 of the loan in the period and owed \$221,600 at the end of the period. Squash and Racquetball Victoria are due to repay their \$50,000 loan and is currently under review by the Board and a new agreement to be set up with the majority of the loan to be repaid in 2021 which will boost cash reserves.

MEET THE BOARD

JOANNE BRODIE PRESIDENT



Joanne works for Coffs Harbour City Council and previously worked for Qantas Airways for 17-years.

Joanne is an experienced Manager, with expertise in strategic planning, governance, risk management, safety and implementation. She is passionate about sport and wellbeing and has played representative level hockey and netball and participated in sailing, mixed indoor netball, mixed indoor cricket, scuba diving, martial arts and squash.

Joanne is a Director on the Board of The Community Transport Company, the Board of North Coast Local Land Services, a Category Chief Judge for the Australian Institute of Project Management National Awards and a Landcare volunteer.

CHRIS SINCLAIR DIRECTOR



In her teenage years Chris represented NSW in athletics, swimming, diving and netball and was also a National netball umpire. Chris started playing squash in Melbourne, then moved to Townsville and finished playing A grade in Sydney having played the second top grade.

For NSW Squash Chris organised the Sydney Pennant competition when there were >260 women's and >350 men's teams of 5 players just in the north. Chris ran the Sydney Junior Pennant competition for many years and together with Beverley Gould and Ted Barlow, initiated the Australian Junior Championships.

Chris' love has always been refereeing and she was one of a small number of WSF World Referees (and the only female). Chris refereed at many of the top world events including World Championship and Commonwealth Games finals.

Chris has given over 20 years to Community Aid and Meals on Wheels. Chris is a Researcher, Historian and Archivist with 3 university degrees and is currently completing a PhD. Chris is a part-time Lecturer, Mentor, Presenter and Tutor.

Chris was a former President of NSW Squash.

NATHAN TURNBULL DIRECTOR



Nathan has been playing squash at all levels for over 20 years, from worst player at my club to representing Australia at the World University Games.

He is heavily involved in coaching juniors at Sandgate Squash Centre which he is a part owner.

Nathan is also a World Squash Federation Referee and still a very serious squash player.

Although his tournaments these days are far more social than professional it hasn't stopped the desire to win.

Nathan has been involved on more committees and panels in squash than he can count and has always been a passion of mine to move squash forward.

Nathan was a Director of Q Squash Ltd from 2016 - 2018.

LEAH STANGLE DIRECTOR



Leah is a respected director, company secretary and inhouse commercial legal, risk and governance advisor with over 15 years professional experience, most recently advising an ASX200 infrastructure and resources company and practicing predominantly in the commercial, construction and contract areas of law (although being a 'general counsel' she is across broader areas of law as well). With a background in corporate governance accountability Leah brings passion and energy to the commercial, as well as not for profit/for purpose sectors (specifically in relation to women, children and sport). Leah is a director/company secretary for Brisbane Women's Club, Co-Chair of the UN Women Australia Brisbane Committee for International Women's Day and recently appointed director of the Carrara Squash Board and Squash Australia.

Leah holds a Bachelor of Commerce (UQ), Bachelor of Laws Honours (QUT) and Masters of Commercial Law (UofMelb) as well as a Graduate Diploma of Applied Corporate Governance (GIA). She is recognised as a "fellow" of the Governance Institute of Australia and the international Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators.

Leah is an amateur squash player enjoying the social side of the game and would welcome any playing tips!

ADAM CARTER DIRECTOR



Adam is an Accountant and Business Advisor. His previous experience includes the following -

- Pockets of Brilliance Research Institute Ltd (Director)
- Sunshine Coast Racing Pty Ltd (Director and Chairman)
- Queensland Race Product Co Ltd (Company Secretary)
- Queensland Racing Venue Management Company Ltd (Director)
- Rockhampton Racing Pty Ltd (Director and Company Secretary)
- Australian Racing Board, now Racing Australia (Director)
- Racing Queensland Ltd - Company Secretary
- Chairman & Chairman Finance Committee, St Patricks College, Shorncliffe

MATT SCHMIDT DIRECTOR



Matt is currently the Executive Director with ACHPER in South Australia. He has experience with the following -

- South Australian Cricket Association - Game Development
- Squash South Australia
- Uni SA Sport
- Sport SA
- LESNW Lutheran Education South Australia, Northern Territory and WA
- Concordia Old Collegians Cricket Club

Matt is a successful results-oriented leader with extensive experience in education, event delivery, sports management, business development, marketing, and sponsorship.

ALEX DORE DIRECTOR



Alex Dore is a Senior Manager in the management consulting team of PwC Australia with functional experience in strategy, process improvement, and project management. Before PwC, he worked as a Policy Advisor to a NSW Government Minister.

Alex has over a decade of successful governance experience in membership-based, not-for-profit organisations, and has led membership reviews to enhance membership experience and increase retention. He holds a postgraduate law degree and a bachelor qualification in economic theory and public policy from the University of Sydney.

He is passionate about squash, and helping to grow it to be a thriving participant sport in Australia. Last year he played over 90 games, and mostly frequents Warringah Recreation Centre, Bondi Squash Club, and the Castlereagh Fitness Centre.

MEET THE TEAM

RICHARD VAUGHAN CEO



Richard took the helm at Squash Australia in July of 2015, joining from Badminton Ireland whereas Chief Executive Officer he had increased participation numbers, budgets and demonstrated world class success in the performance programmes.

During the past five years at Squash Australia, Richard has led the growth of the organisation doubling budgets, increasing the operational team size from four full-time employees (FTE) to 12 FTE, while increasing membership from just over 10,000 to almost 20,000.

The performance programme continues to win strategic World Championship medals and Australia was joint top on the squash medal table at the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.

In late 2018, the National Squash Centre opened its doors on the Gold Coast hosting the 2019 World Doubles Championships and is home to National Events as well as the Squash Australia High Performance Centre.

Richard is a former Olympic and world number six badminton player who combines a wealth of performance with proven business acumen.

He is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, has an MBA (Marketing) from Leicester University and a Master's in Education from Bath University.

MARK MCLATCHEY HEAD OF GAME DEVELOPMENT



Mark is an experienced Sport Business Manager having worked within the Sports Industry for over 20 years of which 5.5 years were at Sport Australia (previously named the Australia Sports Commission) in roles within the Sport Capability branch and as a Partnership Manager as the liaison between Sport Australia and a number of National Sporting Organisations relating to Participation activities and the Sporting School Program.

Previous to joining the Australia Sports Commission (Now Sport Australia) he was the Game and Market Development Manager of Queensland Cricket for 12 years.

He has also done a number of international contracts within cricket for Malaysia, India and Sri Lankan Cricket Associations on behalf of Queensland Cricket specifically in the coach education area and the development of participation models, structures and processes.

He has completed the AICD Foundations of Directorship course and currently volunteers on the Brisbane Men's Hockey Board. Mark has only played Squash in a recreational capacity but not for many years.

LACHLAN JOHNSTON HIGH PERFORMANCE MANAGER



A competitive junior squash player, Lachlan has come to Squash Australia after over five years with the Queensland Academy of Sport, where he worked as a Performance Scientist. Lachlan spent most of this time with the rowing program, including touring with the Australian Rowing Team and coaching the Queensland Rowing Team.

He brings with him an in-depth knowledge of the Australian sporting system and a passion and commitment to driving the High Performance Program forward.

THOMAS CALVERT* PERFORMANCE PATHWAYS COORDINATOR



Tom has been playing squash for 10 years and trains daily at the National Training Centre. For the last three years he has been coaching the Brisbane vipers and Queensland sharks. Tom has completed a Bachelor degree in Exercise and Movement Science at Queensland University of Technology and is now in the process of completing a Master's Degree in Sports Coaching.

Tom was on the Australian Junior Men's team 2012 and is currently competing on the PSA tour with highest world ranking to date, No.161 and Australian No.8.

Outside on the office Tom enjoys playing other sports including tennis, touch and running.

JORDAN TILL **EVENTS COORDINATOR**



Jordan has been playing squash for more than 18 years and is a qualified Regional level squash Referee as well as Club Development level qualified squash Coach. Jordan completed his Bachelor of Business Management, majoring in Physical Activity from University of Queensland in 2012. He has served on the Brisbane City Squash Committee for 7 years and worked as a Squash Manager at multi-sport facility Club Coops for 5 years.

Main areas of work:

- Deliver well run events that strongly promote the brand of Squash Australia
- Increasing the number of entries across all events
- Ensure participants and officials all enjoy a positive experience

GEORGE CLINTON* **NATIONAL FACILITIES COORDINATOR**



George comes to us having worked with the Brisbane Broncos events team since 2015 and brings a drive and passion for working within the sports industry.

Graduating with a Bachelor of Business (with distinction) from the Queensland University of Technology, George will be focused on increasing facility numbers and funding, devising business plans for different facility types as well as creating state and national facility strategies.

MEREDITH HODSON* **SPORTING SCHOOLS COORDINATOR**



Meredith has completed a Bachelor of Arts Degree at the University of Melbourne and also a short course on Leading in the Digital Age by the Melbourne Business School.

She is passionate about all kinds of sports and is excited to be working in the sports industry. She has played netball, AFL, canoe polo, softball and soccer, and has also pursued athletics throughout high school. Squash is her next sport! She has also coached women's softball and AFL teams.

LEANNA DAVEY **CONSUMER EXPERIENCE COORDINATOR**



Leanna has been an active member within the squash community in ACT since 2006, having participated at a state level as a junior until a knee injury knocked her back, Leanna has gone on to join her club committee, the ACT Junior Committee and has taken on various roles within Squash ACT, her main focus is to see squash continue to grow within the Capital.

Whilst juggling her studies in Forensic Psychology at the University of Canberra, Leanna works at the Woden Squash Centre and helps with tournament organisation and is the currently in charge of Junior Pennant.

Outside of work, Leanna enjoys traveling, spontaneous road trips and reading.

REENA RAJA* **COMMERCIAL COORDINATOR**



Reena joined Squash Australia team as the Executive assistant to the CEO and after proving herself, she was promoted to the Operations Coordinator role. After a year in the organisation, she has taken over the Commercial Coordinator tasks.

Reena has a bachelor's degree in Economics and Business and has a firm understanding of what it takes to deliver quality service with fantastic outcomes.

Reena was new to squash but has really embraced the sport and enjoys physical nature of playing the game. She has a background in Gymnastics and enjoys getting out and about in nature with her daughters. Outside of squash Reena enjoys reading, swimming, rock climbing and snowboarding.

JENNY DUNCALF* **PERFORMANCE PATHWAY COACH**



After finishing a decorated playing career in 2019, Jenny leads the national junior coaching system as Squash Australia's Performance Pathway Coach.

Jenny reached a career-high of World Number 2 and is a triple Commonwealth Games medallist.

Jenny's international experience will be a valuable resource for the athletes and coaches in Squash Australia's junior pathway.

*indicates working part-time

CHRIS YEEND PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR



Chris joined Squash Australia in August 2019 after he and his lovely wife Jess relocated from Victoria to Brisbane for a change of lifestyle.

Chris grew up in the small regional Victorian town of Woodend. He grew up with the local sporting culture by being involved with the local football netball club. He did everything from playing, first aid, runner, run water, operate the scoreboard, be on the committee run its social media and even wrote columns for the local newspaper.

Chris has a degree in a Bachelor of Arts in Professional Writing that helped launch his career into journalism. He was the sports journalist at the Midland Express for more than six years.

After finishing as a sports journalist, he spent several years as the Media, Marketing and Events Manager for AFL Goldfields where he ran numerous websites for more than a dozen competitions, wrote content for weekly records, produced and host numerous weekly videos and built relationships with key media personnel.

Chris has 15 years of community radio experience as a presenter, producer and technician. He also has more than a decade of experience as a play by play caller in community football and more recently in the Queensland AFL.

STEWART BOSWELL NATIONAL COACH



Stewart is one of Australia's most successful players, having won four Commonwealth Games medals and reaching a career-high of World Number 4.

Stewart takes up the position of National Coach after spending seven years leading the Aspire Academy squash program in Qatar. Stewart will use his international coaching and playing experience to help equip our developing players with the ability to compete on the world stage.

SARAH RODER* WELL-BEING AND ENGAGEMENT MANAGER



Sarah is a registered psychologist and has extensive experience in the well-being and engagement area, having held previous roles with Melbourne Victory, Victorian Institute of Sport and Gold Coast Suns.

RUSSELL WEATHERBURN* CONSUMER EXPERIENCE COORDINATOR



Russell started in squash during his school days in the western suburbs of Sydney, playing juniors at Seven Hills Squash Club.

Starting a career in IT, Russell continued to play pennant matches and tournaments and decided to become a referee after other players told him that he didn't know the rules!

Russell is a WSF referee, who has refereed at three Commonwealth Games and numerous World Series and Platinum events.

Heavily involved with ACT squash as a player, coach and referee, Russell is combining his love of squash with his skills in IT to bring a new set of eyes to the membership space.

Russell departed Squash Australia in July 2020.

ROD BANNISTER NATIONAL SQUASH CENTRE MANAGER

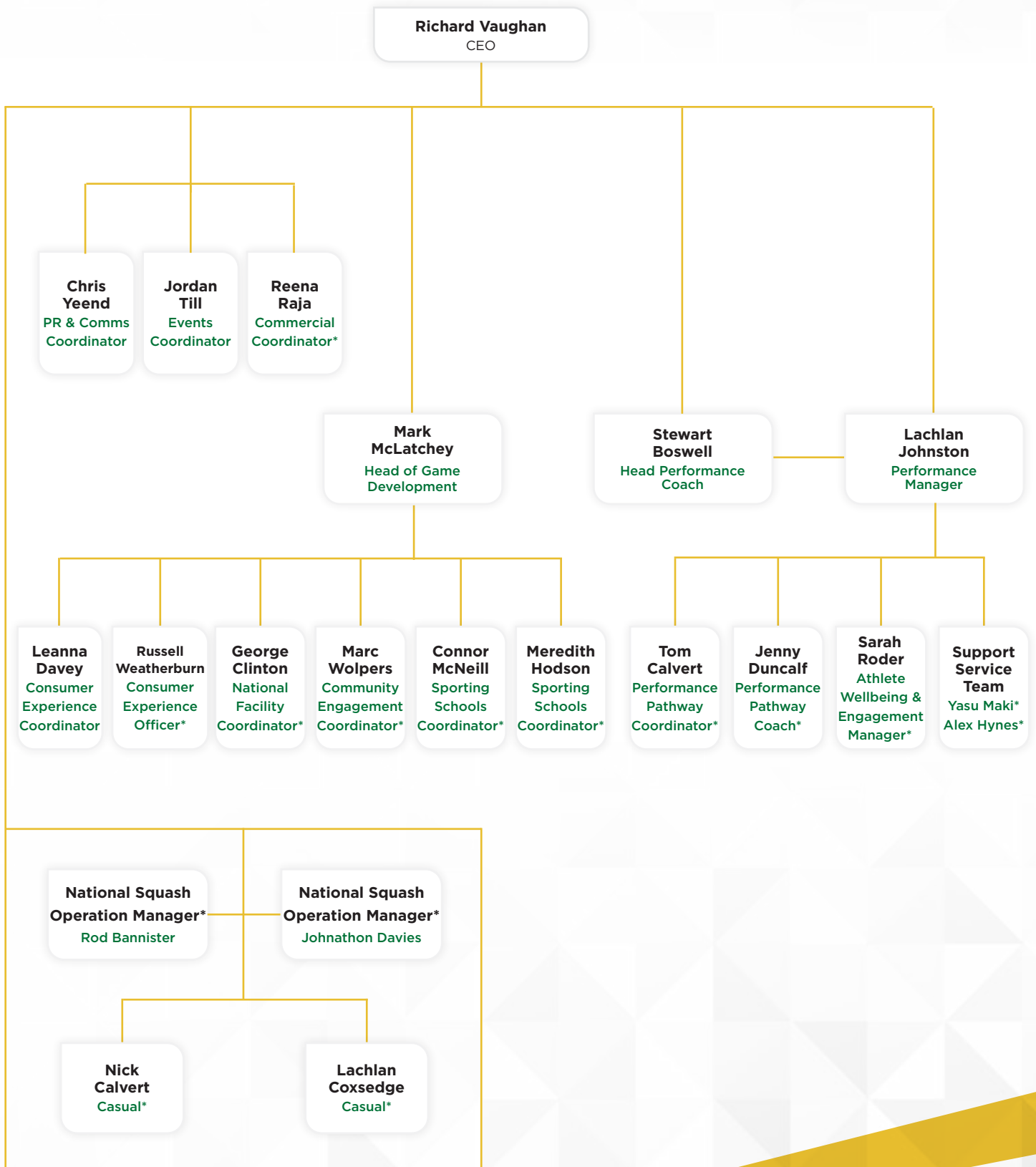


Rod joined the National Squash Centre in August 2019 and has a highly decorated playing and coaching career in squash.

Rod was a stand-out player in New Zealand where he won seven National Titles across Juniors, Seniors and Masters. He also represented New Zealand at National Level. Rod previously coached in New Zealand, Australia, Trinidad, Namibia, Hong Kong and Germany.

He departed his role at Squash Australia in June 2020.

STAFF ORGANISATION CHART



*part-time/casual

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE AUSTRALIAN SPORTS COMMISSION

SPORTAUS

The start of 2020 has been an extraordinarily tough time for Australians, including all of us committed to sport.

The impact of bushfires and the COVID-19 pandemic have been confronting for communities, where we all know sport plays such an important role.

At the Australian Sports Commission (ASC), comprising Sport Australia and the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), our energy is focused on supporting our partners through these times as we continue to advocate the importance of sport to our economy, productivity, health, wellbeing and culture.

We believe whole-heartedly that when we get through this challenging period, sport will play a prominent role in lifting the nation's energy and spirits again.

Times such as these can also make us more appreciative of what we do have and of the success we have achieved.

Success in sport is always hard fought. But it's a fight Australian high-performance sport welcomes as it continues to achieve success.

Last year the wonderful Ash Barty won the French Open and became our first female No1 tennis player since her idol, Evonne Goolagong Cawley, in 1976. Javelin-thrower Kelsey Lee-Barber set personal bests throughout the year and took the title at the IAAF World Championships in Doha. Dylan Alcott added three more Grand Slam quad wheelchair singles trophies to the cabinet and Sailing duo Matt Belcher and Will Ryan claimed the men's 470 World Championship. In the pool, our swimmers won seven gold medals at the FINA World Championships, placing Australia fourth on the medal tally.

This year our inspiring women's cricket team won a fifth World T20 title, drawing a record crowd of 86,174 to the MCG. How fitting that this historical moment fell on International Women's Day. These results are a testament to the tenacity and passion of athletes, coaches, sports staff and sporting organisations, which know we have all the skills and abilities to achieve success.

I am proud too of the service our organisation provides to Australian sport each year, on behalf of the Australian Government.

The ASC, through Sport Australia and the AIS, delivers 25,000 grants a year.

The AIS, funds and prepares our Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games to represent us at the highest level in international competition.

In the past few years, we have enhanced our support to athlete wellbeing and engagement, a move that is essential, especially in the current environment.

Sport Australia invests in sports participation programs, from our national Sporting Schools program for younger children through to the Better Ageing program aimed at Australians aged 65 and over.

So many of these grants fuel aspirations. Our Local Sporting Champions program supports 9,000 children a year to reach for their sporting dreams.

Our Women Leaders in Sport program and the AIS Talent program provide opportunities for women to progress their professional development in all roles across sport.

We continue to work with sports to modernise traditional governance structures in Australian sporting organisations and we continue to encourage environments that are inclusive, diverse, safe and welcoming, making sport the benchmark for a more equitable society.

This was to be the year of the 2020 Olympics and Paralympics in Tokyo. Instead, it has been postponed to 2021, with the Olympic Games to be held from 23 July to 8 August 2021 and the Paralympics from 24 August to 5 September 2021.

We have already witnessed a great deal of positivity from athletes who now need to re-set. I'm confident, as a united sport system, we will do the same.



JOHN WYLIE
Chairman of the
Australian Sports Commission

WSF REPORT

From leading some of the biggest heavyweight fighters in the world to leading a sport in a heavyweight battle of a life-time during the COVID-19 Pandemic, World Squash Federation Chief Executive Officer William Louis-Marie has stood strong and taken on all challenges set before him with great optimism, dedication, and commitment.

The former AIBA Executive Director took on the role of outgoing CEO Andrew Shelley in December 2019 and within several months, joined the world in facing the worst health crisis of our generation.

William showcases the typical persona of a ‘Squashie’ with an undeniable passion for the sport and everything about it. When meeting him for the first time, you can’t help but be captivated by his natural positive energy that radiates clearly and leaves you feeling the same drive that he does for the game, and he gets to live that passion every day.

William has crossed from boxing, a sport that has a rich history of professionalism and growth all across the world. Coming into the role at WSF was a challenge, but it was one that he was prepared to take on and leave his mark to take the sport to great places.

“My role has changed significantly (since COVID-19 hit) because I’m here to serve and understand the impact of COVID on the Squash community and how the World Squash Federation can support the needs of all the members and try to cope with this crisis by providing guidelines and resources and support our commissions,” William says.

“How can we as the WSF, the International body ensures that squash remains a fantastic sport?”

William looks forward to opening his laptop each day to see just how he can serve his stakeholders, the countries around the world that play squash. Every country is dealing with different challenges and obstacles, whether the world is experiencing the COVID-19 Pandemic or otherwise, and there is no solution for a specific problem that suits each country.

He said that WSF is focused on listening to the needs of its countries and looking at solutions that may work for some, and can be adapted slightly to work for another. It highlights the focus on trying to get across what the needs are of each country especially when some countries have far fewer courts than others.

“We need to ensure that in the long-term, squash is not left behind, and we need to think about the smaller countries to ensure that they remain attached to the leaders (of the sport in the world) and benefit from what we’re doing,”

William said that there are 20 squash commissions who are across the state of Squash worldwide, all of whom have invaluable expertise and it’s important to rely on them to provide a clearer indication of where some countries are in comparison to others.

“When we jumped into this crisis, it was important to keep the communication lines open, we (WSF) have to maintain it at every level and understand the needs,” William says.

“We may not be able to meet them, but at least we’re listening to them.”

“We want to ensure that our website and social media channels is a reflection of the diversity of the Squash community all over the world.”

His goal is to see people play the game everywhere, whether it be on indoor courts, outdoor courts, in the park, or around the home. There is a special feeling about picking up a racquet and playing the game and getting that rush that few sports deliver and there is that desire to see that part of the game grow all over the world.

“Our Squash Community is our strongest asset and we are fortunate to have such a core community that is going to love squash no matter what happens. The critical matter for the future is how can we expand this community and access new players, grow our sport globally and showcase its unravelled benefits” William says.

William has a lovely message to share with the Squash Oz Nation.

“I want to thank everyone at Squash Australia for your great support and dedication to our sport. During these challenging times, you have been doing an amazing job and everyone is looking forward to being with you next year as part of the World Doubles and enjoy the wonderful Australian hospitality.”



WILLIAM LOUIS MARIE

Chief Executive Officer
World Squash Federation



COMMONWEALTH GAMES AUSTRALIA PROUDLY INVESTING IN SQUASH AUSTRALIA

Whilst not a Commonwealth Games year, the year in review has been a busy one for Commonwealth Games Australia as we build on the legacies of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Without question though the first half of 2020 have been unprecedented in our times and we recognise the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic has had on sport.

These times, highlighted by the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, have required us all to review and re-write, and then review and re-write again, our plans and activities.

Despite having the benefit of time, the pandemic has impacted the Commonwealth Sport Movement. The 2021 Commonwealth Youth Games were postponed and the calendar of events for 2021/22 dramatically altered. In many sports the Olympics/Paralympics will be followed by a world championships and Commonwealth Games in 2022 and whilst this will deliver an unprecedented opportunity for Australians to cheer for the Green & Gold, it will also provide challenges in what our Birmingham Chef de Mission Petria Thomas has described as a 'bumper year of sport'.

The pandemic has also impacted the Birmingham Games, with the most notable change the decision to not proceed with new accommodation planned for the Games Village. Instead three smaller villages will be used in existing accommodation throughout Birmingham, in addition to the cycling accommodation adjacent to the velodrome at Olympic Park in London. This will result in a different Games experience, but one our Team Executive of Petria, Anna Meares, Sharelle McMahon, Kurt Fearnley and Tim Mahon will creatively overcome.

Despite all this, Commonwealth Games Australia continues to focus on our 'refreshed' Strategic Plan – First Among Equals – as we embrace the future beyond Birmingham 2022 to the 2026 Games. With a strong focus on our dual vision of 'Pursuing Sporting Excellence' and 'Connecting with Communities', the Plan incorporates five strategic priorities: Delivering Team Success; Connecting with Communities; Presenting a Powerful Brand; Leading the Way; and Hosting Great Games.

To help achieve our goal of 'Delivering Team Success' Commonwealth Games Australia has been a significant financial contributor and partner for Squash Australia, delivering \$530,000 to the sport and our players in the lead up to the Gold Coast Games.

On the road to Birmingham 2022 our financial support continues, and we have earmarked \$13m in funding to member sports through programs ranging from youth to the elite and direct athlete support. That is a significant contribution to Australian sport, for which we are proud.

Commonwealth Games Australia invested \$187,000 in 2019 to support Squash Australia's programs including focus camps, doubles tours and national coach support for the attendance at international competitions to allow for specific international competition support.

We look forward to building on the successes of the Gold Coast 2018 campaign and continuing our work with Squash Australia to deliver team success together in Birmingham.

We thank Squash Australia and our players for their continued efforts and support.



CRAIG PHILLIPS
Chief Executive Officer
Commonwealth Games Australia



ROAD TO BIRMINGHAM 2022

THE BIRMINGHAM 2022

Commonwealth Games are less than two years away. The Australian team will be looking to build on their success of the Gold Coast 2018 Games, where Australia finished on top of the squash medal table with two gold medals and one bronze medal.

The squash event will be held at the University of Birmingham, which will act as the main hub for the majority of sports at the Commonwealth Games, placing squash right in the centre of the action.



Australia has the best record in squash of all nations at the Commonwealth Games, having won 11 gold medals since squash first featured on the Commonwealth Games program in Kuala Lumpur in 1998.

The 2021 World Doubles Championships on the Gold Coast are shaping as a key event in the lead up to Birmingham 2022. Australia will be looking to replicate their strong performance on the Gold Coast in 2021 after winning eight medals at the 2019 World Doubles Championships.



Clockwise from top left: 2018 Commonwealth Games gold medallists Donna Lobban and Cameron Pilley in action on the Gold Coast; the University of Birmingham campus which will host squash at Birmingham 2022; Zac Alexander and David Palmer enroute to winning the men's doubles at Gold Coast 2018.

STRATEGIES AND VISIONS

VISION

Education – We will help children in Australia experience Squash through the school curriculum. Our volunteers and staff will work alongside teachers to help children experience and enjoy squash.

Recreational – We will promote squash as a key part of a healthy lifestyle that contributes to a positive work/life balance.

Sporting – We will ensure that everyone with athletic talent reaches their full potential by providing the appropriate pathways, funding and coaching. We will also provide the competition opportunities and programmes to assist Australian players compete with distinction on the world stage.

KEY STRATEGIC AREAS	KRA 1 PARTICIPATION
	KRA 2 CONSUMER EXPERIENCE
	KRA 3 FACILITIES
	KRA 4 LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE
	KRA 5 HIGH-PERFORMANCE
	KRA 6 EDUCATION
	KRA 7 EVENTS
	KRA 8 INFLUENCE
	KRA 9 PROFILE



Participation Growth Underpinned by quality experience .	Increased Profile A positive and dynamic perception of the sport.	Performance Success Winning medals that matter for Australia.	STRATEGIC OUTCOMES	
3 - 5% compound participation growth over four years. Increased commercial sponsorship by 25%.	Win two medals at the 2022 Commonwealth Games and regularly have players in the last eight at the World Junior Championships.			MEASURABLE GOALS
BUILDING A SYSTEM WHICH SUPPORTS SUSTAINABLE PROGRAMMES THAT CAN ACHIEVE THESE GOALS				ENABLERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a collaborative, well organised and friendly sport • Increased funding to the whole of sport • Squash is well promoted • Enhanced use of digital technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strong base of young performance players • Good refereeing and coaching throughout Australia • Ensure volunteers running clubs are well supported • Run a thriving competition structure 			



MISSION

To be an innovative and highly respectable sports organisation, and the most successful racquet sport in Australia by enabling Australian players, coaches and officials of all ages, cultural background and skill level to have the opportunity to excel in squash and in life!

GOALS

- Squash will be a thriving participant sport for all Australians;
- Provide an excellent Consumer Experience;
- Run world class events for all members;
- Stop the decline of Squash courts, by making facilities attractive, enticing, professionally operated and financially sustainable;
- Win medals that matter for Australia;
- Squash personnel will be competent to deliver the sport through a workforce development programme;
- Squash Australia will have the network required to influence key decisions in its favour;
- Squash will enhance its profile, through media and new technologies;
- Squash will be well administered and focused on local delivery through a shared Australia wide vision.

VALUES

- Collaborative – Working together as one for the good of the sport.
- Innovative – Embrace change, be consumer focused and have a growth mindset.
- Inclusive – Include all of society.
- Respectful – To Listen, empathise, and be considerate of everyone.
- Excellence – To strive for the highest standards in everything we do.

	A Shift FROM	A Shift TO
1	Sport rich in history	Sport for tomorrow
2	State centred	Customer centred
3	A focus on individual/group partisan interests	What is best for the whole of the sport for the next 100 years
4	A 100% reliance on government grants and affiliation monies	Self-sufficient with funding available through multiple streams and reliance on government grants below 50% of overall income
5	Symptoms	Strategic Systems Approach
6	Just a Member Protection Policy	Integrity Framework and culture for a safe, friendly and welcoming sport

FACILITIES

As with all the sporting community, squash was heavily shaken in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The facilities space was particularly impacted, with centre's around the country shutting down for at least 8-12 weeks, with some centre's being closed for even longer in worse affected states.

Despite all the negatives associated with the shutdown of centres, this provided an opportunity for a lot of behind the scenes work to occur in the facilities space. Chiefly, the development of a new National Facility Strategy document. This report highlights current squash trends throughout the country, including a state by state member affiliation breakdown as well as custom heat maps for each state. Squash facilities and technologies are showcased, particularly interactive squash, multipurpose facilities, and outdoor squash. The current facility landscape of squash in Australia is also explained through reporting on the 4 centre types (individually owned, not-for-profit, education, and private lifestyle).

As COVID-19 closed facilities around the country for a period of time, this was not going to last forever. As such, another key piece of work in the facilities space was the creation of the 'Squash Australia - COVID-19 Back on Court Concept'. This document provided states and centre's with applicable measures and guidelines on how to reopen and run facilities in a safe and appropriate manner whilst complying with government regulated hygiene and social distancing measures. From this, states then developed their own back on court concepts in correlation with their respective state government COVID-19 restrictions.

With 2020 putting a significant strain on centre owners and operators around the country, I just want to congratulate everyone in the squash community for sticking together and toughing out this period, bring on 2021!



PARTICIPATION REPORTS



SQUASH GIRLS CAN

Squash Girls Can is a program developed by Squash Australia, proudly funded by Sport Australia (Move It AUS grants). The target audience of less active women provided us with an opportunity to expand our offerings in the university sector and test strategies to increase female participation in squash.

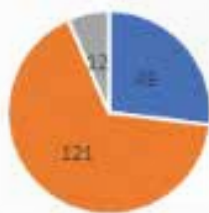
Squash Girls Can has been designed to increase the levels of physical activity by women by introducing an entry-level squash program to university campuses across Australia. The program was piloted at various locations across Australia in 2019, and then set to fully roll out in 2020. We piloted Squash Girls Can at Sydney University, Bond University, University of Canberra, Flinders University, University of Melbourne and the University of Adelaide in 2019.

However, COVID-19 restrictions and lockdowns impacted our ability to run the program in 2020. Universities that we planned to have involved in 2020 include University of NSW, University of South Australia, Flinders University, University of Adelaide, Griffith University, Bond University, Macquarie University, University of Tasmania. Due to COVID-19 our programs either started and did not complete or could not start the program.

Squash Australia partnered with UniSport, following our attendance at the 2019 UniSport conference in Melbourne. UniSport was crucial in our promotion of Squash Girls Can and engaging universities to engage in the program. Secondly to UniSport, the university sport departments have been instrumental in the promotion and support of Squash Girls Can. A by-product of this has also been an increased awareness of what the squash clubs deliver within the university and an increase in collaboration between university sport departments and the squash clubs. On-going support from the respective state and territory associations is also as a result of collaboration within the Squash Girls Can program.

Overall, we saw a high number of participants who were new to squash, take up Squash Girls Can. This is a key indicator of success for Squash Australia, as raising the profile of our sport within the university sector was a key goal.

No. Participants Who Have Played Squash Prior to Squash Girls Can



■ YES: Have played squash ■ NO: Haven't played squash ■ Unsure



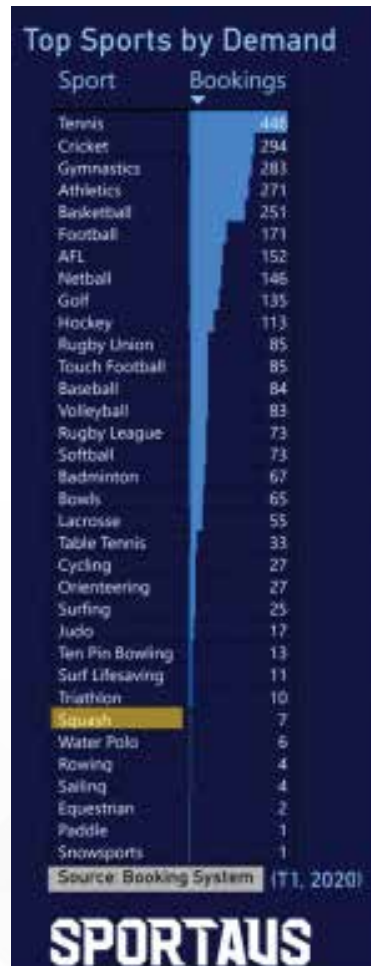
OZSQUASH

The program continues to be of importance to Squash Australia, as we believe in its potential to increase exposure to squash in a fun learning environment and drive centre or club participation. However, the program has performed below our expectations to date, with just 7 schools delivering OzSquash in 2020, which places us in the bottom 10 sports in Sporting Schools nationally.

OzSquash is Squash Australia's national, primary school squash program. OzSquash is specifically designed to teach students fundamental skills through squash; such as hand-eye coordination, striking and other sporting skills essential for squash,

life-long health and wellbeing. Physical Literacy is also a key component of the OzSquash program.

OzSquash can be delivered with a qualified squash coach or a PE teacher. Plus, has the flexibility to be run at a school gymnasium or at a squash court, some programs use both facilities



STRATEGY REPORT PROFILE

Digital Media has never been so important now as it has before due to the COVID-19 Pandemic as a stronger way to connect people and its communities in real time from anywhere around the world.

Squash in Australia has relied heavily on the use of Digital Media to help connect players, and its members with their Centres during a period where no-one can jump on court.

There have been a number of key highlights across the last 12-months that have been crucial to building a stronger connection with Squashies all around Australia.

STREET SQUASH

The concept of playing Squash 'Anywhere, Anytime' was born out of necessity to encourage people in Australia to play Squash.

Videos were produced daily from the first day of the pandemic with a focus on basic drills that could be completed around home and in locations off the court. These were successful and inspired players of all ages and sizes to submit their videos of playing the sport at home.



APRIL 2020

This was the only month throughout the year where not a single ball was hit on a court around Australia.

This was a significant milestone month for the Squash Australia Digital platforms.

Squash Australia produced a total of 38 videos including 24 Street Squash videos that appeared across Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube.

Facebook enjoyed an increase of 12-percent in total engagement from the previous month and a peak

of 40-percent more during the Squash Australia run events period from December to February.

Twitter had an increase of 54-percent of engagement on its previous month and peaked at 27-percent more engagement than the Squash Australia event season. At the time it recorded 44,800 impressions over a 30-day period which was a record for when data had been tallied.

YouTube had a 58-percent increase of viewers and 83-percent increase in watch time from its previous month, March.

Instagram achieved a record level of engagement per post than any previous recorded data.

The data was staggering considering no Squash was played in a Centre.

What was the reason for the increase? Squash Australia produced more original content that included interviews with Squash identities around the country and the world; interviews with Staff members and the boom of Street Squash.

Players from around the country relied on this content to generate a greater sense of normality with the sport during challenging times.

Users tuned in to YouTube to catch up on old matches and past events in record numbers to get their Squash fix.

Photo galleries of previous events were distributed online so that Squash people across Australia could get their regular fix of the sport while being confined to their homes.

April was a landmark example that Digital Media is an invaluable source of connection across the country and Australians made more time to connect with their sport online while waiting to return to the courts.

Squash Australia has continued its growth of sharing and promoting use of match-day event streaming and development of Digital Media strategies to grow the online engagement across players, coaches, referees, fundraisers and centre development.

Overall, there has been a greater increase in Centres and Clubs around Australia using Digital Media to generate video, photo and text content to reach out to and promote their members and a 15-percent increase of new social media pages Australia-wide since April 2020.



GAME SHOW

Squash and Racquetball Victoria changed the way people engaged online with its very own weekly Game Show.

The brain child of Karen Cagliarini, this weekly game show aired on Tuesday nights and invited representatives from Centres across Victoria to participate in an hour of fun and entertainment.

Each show featured a special guest from squash or racquetball who played at the highest level and not only provided a platform for participants to compete against their heroes, but to also take part in a special Question and Answer session following the end of the trivia questions.

Participants contributed a small fee with all proceeds going back to the clubs at the end of the series.

Winners of each week all competed for the honour of being the Game Show Champion in a Grand Final with Squash Australia National Head Coach Stewart Boswell claiming the Championship.

This outstanding initiative enabled players from Centres across the State to engage on a weekly basis, and also provided funds to go back to the Centres.

Special guests were thrilled to be part of the concept and contributing back to the game and their fans in a fun, engaging manner.

Squash and Racquetball Victoria were also instrumental in recognising its volunteers across the State with its highly popular 'People You Should Know' column (Alwyn Langford from Wodonga pictured).

The State has been focused on building and implementing a successful Digital Media plan on the basis that Centres were unable to be open for most of the year.

STATE SOCIAL MEDIA

ACT

Website - act.squash.org.au

Facebook - @ACTSQUASH

Twitter - @SquashACT

NEW SOUTH WALES

Website - nsw.squash.org.au

Facebook - @squashnsw

Instagram - squashnsw

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Website - nt.squash.org.au

Facebook - @squashnt

Twitter - @SquashNT

Instagram - nt_squash

QUEENSLAND

Website - qld.squash.org.au

Facebook - @SquashQueenslandLtd

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Website - sa.squash.org.au

Facebook - @squashsa

Instagram - squashsa

TASMANIA

Website - tas.squash.org.au

Facebook - @SquashTas

Twitter - @TASSquash

VICTORIA

Website - squashvic.com.au

Facebook - @SquashVic

Twitter - @squash_vic

Instagram - squash_racquetball_vic

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Website - wasquash.com.au

Facebook - @wasquash

HIGH PERFORMANCE STRATEGY REPORT

Although the circumstances of 2020 have prevented many Australian athletes from demonstrating their ability on the world stage, there has been no shortage of change and progress in High Performance over the past twelve months.

PLAYER DEVELOPMENTS

National team stalwarts Cameron Pilley and Rex Hedrick closed the chapter on their singles careers following the 2019 Men's World Team Championships in Washington D. C., while fellow team member Ryan Cuskelly followed them into singles retirement after the Tournament of Champions in January. Cuskelly and Pilley have been Australia's leading players for most of the past decade and the pair reached several major World Tour semi finals during their respective careers. Cuskelly and Pilley are also the two-time defending Men's World Doubles Champions and will be looking to make it a three-peat on the Gold Coast in 2021.

A WORLD CLASS HIGH PERFORMANCE COACHING AND SUPPORT TEAM

Former world number four Stewart Boswell commenced his role as Squash Australia's National Coach in January 2020. Boswell commencing the role was the last of a number of significant appointments to Squash Australia's High Performance team in the past twelve months. Former world number two Jenny Duncalf has been working with developing athletes as the Performance Pathway Coach since September 2019 and Athlete Wellbeing and Engagement Manager, Sarah Roder, has provided invaluable support to Winning Edge and categorised athletes since October 2019.

The recruitment of a world class coaching team and support services has given Squash Australia the capability to support emerging, developing and podium-ready athletes in their efforts to achieve success professionally and for Australia at major international events.

PERFORMANCE PATHWAY DEVELOPMENT

Squash Australia will be able to accelerate the development of a clear talent identification system after being awarded a grant from the Australian Institute of Sport to deliver a project in talent identification, which is a key aspect of the High Performance Strategy. The project will draw on the expertise of coaches around Australia to support talented juniors and identify the traits which are predictive of future success. Squash was one of the first sports to be awarded an AIS Performance Pathway Solutions grant, highlighting the positive impact the project will have in improving Squash Australia's Athlete Talent Pathway.



Rex Hedrick watches on with the Australian Ambassador to the U.S.A., The Hon. Joe Hockey, during Australia's tie against Hong Kong at the Men's World Team Championships in Washington D. C.



Cameron Pilley is congratulated by the Australian Ambassador to the U.S.A., The Hon. Joe Hockey, after winning his match against Hong Kong's Max Lee at the Men's World Team Championships in Washington D. C.

SQUASH AUSTRALIA FORMS PARTNERSHIP WITH CAHOOT LEARNING

Squash Australia is thrilled to have formed a partnership with communication company Cahoot in 2020.

Squash Australia and Cahoot worked together recently to coordinate and run successful National Referee and Coaches Conferences. They were run in the evenings over a number of weeks.

A combined 255 people registered for both conferences which is phenomenal considering its inaugural introduction of Cahoot to the Squash Australia community.

Squash Australia Education Coordinator Tom Calvert says that the COVID-19 pandemic provided the perfect platform for Squash Australia and Cahoot to work together.

"After the cancellation of the World Junior Championships and the National Referee and Coaches Conferences in July due to COVID-19, Squash Australia and Cahoot began discussions to deliver both conferences to members in their own homes during the lockdown period," Tom says.

"Using Cahoot for the Conference allowed us to reach a larger and wider audience of coaches and referees across the country."

"This helped us engage coaches and referees, during the lockdown period and allowed them to learn, exchange ideas and develop their coaching and refereeing with like-minded people."

Tom says that coaches and referees found Cahoot useful as it provided a tool to engage in discussions, complete development activities, and ask questions of more experienced and knowledgeable coaches and referees in the sport.

Tom says that there is great potential to use Cahoot for future conferences.

"Cahoot provided large cost-effective benefits for coaches and referees around the country to participate and engage in these events from their homes without having to travel to the other side of the country for numerous days," Tom says.

"This allowed a larger number of coaches and referees to participate, engage, and develop their coaching and refereeing practices who otherwise would not have been able to participate."

Tom says that working closely with Cahoot Learning Co-Founder Anthony Morris was a great experience. Anthony is an avid Squash player and has a strong understanding of the needs and demands of education in the sport.

"Having someone supporting the conferences who not only had an excellent understanding of Squash but also had excellent knowledge of IT and online education, was invaluable in developing the online communities that were developed during the conferences," Tom says.

"Anthony's insights proved invaluable in developing the quality product that was delivered to coaches and referees across the country."



KEY STATS FROM SURVEY CONDUCTED FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCES

STATISTIC	COACHES	REFEREES
Total Registrations	104	151
Registered participants who engaged in Cahoot	57	85
Mean time on Cahoot	21 minutes	26 minutes
Most time spent on Cahoot	7 hours	18 hours

MARTIN AND CALVERT CROWNED 2020 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

The Australian National Championships wrapped up at the National Squash Centre at Carrara on Sunday February 9.

This event combined Men's and Women's PSA players battling for PSA points and Premier, A, B, and C graded events.

The Women's final contested by Amelia Martin and Melissa Martin started out fairly straight forward with Amelia staying in front most of the match. Melissa came out strong in the third game trying to up the pace taking an early lead, but Amelia adjusted and took back control to finish the match in three games claiming the Australian National Championship title for the second time (15 years after the first) 11-7, 11-7, 11-7 (17 min).

In the repeat final from the Gold Coast PSA Satellite event in January, top seed Nicholas Calvert again proved too strong for Solyman Nowrozi claiming the Australian National Championship title for the first time.



DOUBLES CHAMPIONS CROWNED FOR 2020

The finals of the Australian Doubles Open took place at the National Squash Centre at Carrara on Sunday, February 16.

This event combined Men's, Women's and Mixed Open Doubles teams along with graded A and B grade teams.

It was a thrilling day of finals, with all of the main events resulting in all three games being played out.

The most exciting match came from the Men's Open Doubles final where Nathan Turnbull and Brad Freeme took on the young combination of Jacob Ford and Kijan Sultana.

The experience of Turnbull/Freeme was too much for the young stars with an end result of 11-5, 10-11, 11-2 in 28-minutes.

It looked like it was going to be another Australian Title for Amelia Martin when she took to the court with doubles partner Melissa Martin to take on Jenny Duncalf and Rachael Grinham.

The pair came out all guns blazing to take out the first but the combination of Duncalf and Grinham proved to be the better pair on the day resulting in a win of 7-11, 11-2, 11-10 (28 mins).

Jenny Duncalf and Matt Hopkin won the Mixed Open Doubles who defeated Jordan Till and Rachael Grinham in an epic final.



MEN'S PSA

Winner Nicholas Calvert (QLD)
 Runner-up Solyman Nowrozi (QLD)
 3rd place Rohan Toole (NSW)

WOMEN'S PSA

Winner Amelia Martin (VIC)
 Runner-up Melissa Martin (QLD)
 3rd Place Selena Shaikh (VIC)

MEN'S PREMIER GRADE

Winner Jason Van Der Walt (QLD)
 Runner-up Gregory Chan (WA)
 3rd Place Jordan Till (QLD)

MEN'S A GRADE

Winner Matthew Hartley (QLD)
 Runner-up Clay Canty (QLD)
 3rd Place Andre Luca (QLD)

MEN'S B GRADE

Winner Zach Featherstone (QLD)
 Runner-up Adam Bourke (NSW)
 3rd Place Saud Edmonds (QLD)

MEN'S C GRADE

Winner Jake Markwart (QLD)
 Runner-up Jeremy Thorne (QLD)
 3rd Place Callum Bramble (QLD)

WOMEN'S DOUBLES OPEN

Winner Jenny Duncalf
 Rachael Grinham
 Runner-up Amelia Martin
 Melissa Martin
 3rd Place Alex Haydon
 Selena Shaikh

MEN'S DOUBLES OPEN

Winner Brad Freeme
 Nathan Turnbull
 Runner-up Jacob Ford
 Kijan Sultana
 3rd place Tom Calvert
 Nick Calvert

MIXED DOUBLES OPEN

Winner Jenny Duncalf
 Matthew Hopkin
 Runner-up Jordan Till
 Rachael Grinham
 3rd Place Brad Freeme
 Samantha Foyle

A GRADE COMBINED DOUBLES

Winner Clay Canty
 Joshua Rahul Raj
 Runner-up Martin Collins
 Aidan Rowston
 3rd Place Katie Davies
 Miles Till

B GRADE COMBINED DOUBLES

Winner Zac Featherstone
 Aria Bannister
 Runner-up Joel Roshan Raj
 Shona Coxsedge
 3rd Place Michelle Krueger
 Celina Krueger

CARDWELL AND HEDRICK TAKE OUT THE 2019 AST FINALS

The Australian Squash Tour Finals took place at the National Squash Centre at Carrara in the second weekend of December in 2019.

All players were met with soaring temperatures into the 30s and humidity staying above 90-percent across the three-day, best of three match event.

In the Women's Finals, Victorian Sarah Cardwell ousted Queensland duo Jessica Turnbull and Colette Sultana, and South Australian Alex Haydon to finish top of the card and the winner across her three matches.

In the Men's finals, Victorian Rex Hedrick made it a double for the Vics when he outlasted the Queensland trio of Tom Calvert, Jacob Ford and Nicholas Calvert.

DAY ONE

Cardwell started her campaign with a win in the Women's draw against Sultana 11-6, 11-7, 11-5, 11-8.

In the other match, Turnbull was too good for young gun Haydon, winning 11-2, 11-6, 11-7.

In the Men's draw, Hedrick proved too strong for rising young gun Nicholas Calvert 11-6, 11-3, 11-5.

In the match of the weekend, Jacob Ford stole the show against Tom Calvert in a five game marathon 13-11, 11-4, 11-8, 11-5, 13-11.

DAY TWO

In the Women's draw, Turnbull started day two with a 3-0 win over Sultana 12-10, 11-3, 11-8.

Cardwell had a good challenge on her hand against up and comer Haydon winning 11-3, 11-6, 11-8.

In the Men's draw, Nicholas Calvert powered through to a 3-0 win over Ford 11-0, 11-5, 11-3.

Hedrick had a tough time shaking off an injured Tom Calvert to win in four games 11-9, 6-11, 11-4, 11-4.

DAY THREE

Day three started with a hard fought win for Sultana over and ever-improving Haydon 11-9, 7-11, 13-11, 11-3.

In what essentially became the final in the Women's event, Cardwell edged out Turnbull in five-epic games. Turnbull fought hard to come back from 2-0 down but Cardwell produced something special in the decider to win 11-5, 11-8, 11-6, 11-5, 11-7 and take out the title.

In the Men's event, Nicholas was too strong in the battle of the Calvert brothers, taking down Tom in three games 11-8, 11-4, 11-3.

Hedrick sealed the AST Finals win by going through undefeated after a strong performance beating Ford 11-5, 11-3, 11-3.



CALVERT AND TURNBULL SALUTE WINS IN PSA EVENT

The first Gold Coast PSA Satellite at the National Squash Centre at Carrara finished with the finals played for both Men's and Women's events on Sunday, January 19.

The top seeds proved too strong on finals day with Jessica Turnbull and Nicholas Calvert taking out their respective titles in three games.

World Number 68 Jessica Turnbull was out of the blocks very strongly against finals opponent Colette Sultana only dropping one point in the first game, and although Sultana improved as the match went on it wasn't quite enough to match her higher ranked opponent. Turnbull claiming the title 11-1, 11-5, 11-8 in 22-minutes.

It was a slightly different story for Nicholas Calvert in the men's final who had to really fight to eventually take the first game 11-9 against his unseeded opponent Solayman Nowrozi.

The second game started with some long but scrappy rallies and a number of let calls, before Nowrozi started to show some signs of a long, tiring weekend. Despite this, he fought right through to the end but Calvert was too solid winning convincingly in the end 11-9, 11-1, 11-4 in 33-minutes.

AUSTRALIAN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Australian Club Championships was held simultaneously alongside the Australian Squash Tour Finals.

DIVISION ONE

Winners - Daisy Hill Runners-up - Sandgate

DIVISION TWO

Winners - Daisy Hill Runners-up - Australian Defense Force

DIVISION THREE

Winners - Carrara Runners-up - Daisy Hill

NSC REPORT

NATIONAL SQUASH CENTRE UPDATE

The National Squash Centre (NSC) based at Carrara on the Gold Coast has strengthened throughout the period despite the impact of COVID-19 which forced the doors to close in March for three months.

At the end of the period the centre was \$27,000 ahead of the budget for the year, finishing at a \$1,000 deficit and the centre is budgeted to make a profit from 2021 onwards.

Through the year there was an additional \$39,000 in successful grants to aid the centre and these redevelopments saw:

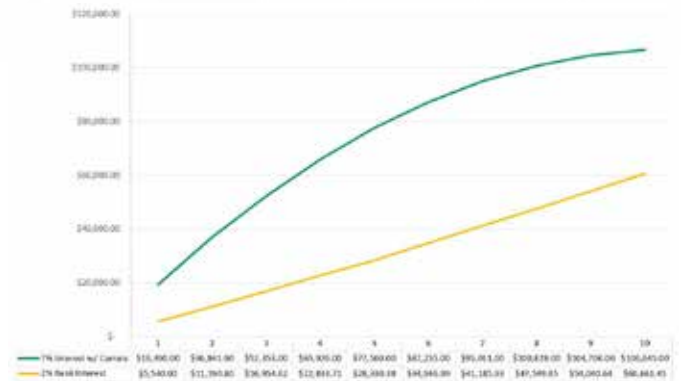
- The launch of the first Interactive Squash Court in Australia
- The Development and implementation of a secure door system so members can book online and get access to the courts via a door code, with the doors automatically self-locking.
- Enhance security through CCTV
- Further enhancement of the look and feel of the centre

Major events at the NSC kicked off with the conclusion of the World Doubles Championships and December there was the National Club Championships followed by a PSA Satellite event. Unfortunately, COVID-19 struck in March which meant the Australian Junior Open, Oceania Junior Championships and eventually the World Junior Championships were all postponed and some later cancelled.

National High-Performance programme is also based at the NSC, and the performance environment has been improved in the period with all court able to be recorded/streamed for match analysis, there are squash ball machines and now the interactive court.

The local Carrara Squash Club has had a disruptive year due to COVID-19 but is looking forward to a strong 2020 / 2021; and has helped with a number of community 'Come and Try' days at the centre.

Rod Bannister the Pro Coach at the centre left at the end of the period due to COVID-19 complications to return back to his native New Zealand and we wish thank him for his work and wish him the best on his return home.



INTRINSIC BENEFITS OF NATIONAL SQUASH CENTRE (NSC)

NATIONAL HIGH-PERFORMANCE (HP) CENTRE

Providing a location to develop a World Class Daily Training Environment the main Critical Success Factor in the HP Strategy

FOUNDATION RATED

There has been an improvement in the Daily Training Environment with the National High Performance Squash Centre, this has been a key factor in increasing our rating to the highest performance category with the AIS

NATIONAL EVENTS

The NSC has provided a home for National events of all levels which has enabled us to grow the number of events we host

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The NSC has enabled to host one World Championships in 2019, with another two planned in 2020 and 2021. These World Championships have enabled:

Australian players to benefit from \$275,000 additional investment from the AIS

- # Provided success stories for the media
- # Local marketing opportunities
- # Motivation for young aspiring squash players



2021 Australian Doubles Open



SQUASH
AUSTRALIA

Feb 13 - 14
NATIONAL SQUASH
CENTRE,
Gold Coast

DUNLOP
SPORT

BLK

Seize the
Light
Craig Baxter

ASHAWAY

VICTOR
the innovative indoor company

AUSTRALIA'S
GOLDCOAST.

Street Squash

Squash Australia launched a Street Squash campaign following the announcement that Centres were forced to close in March 2020 due to COVID-19.

Squash Australia jumped on the front foot by launching the concept that involves being able to play Squash anywhere, anytime!

Within days of launching Street Squash, people from all across the country looked at different ways to play Squash at home, at the beach and at local parks.

Squash Australia produced daily videos showcasing clever and innovative initiatives of how to hit the ball off different surfaces, short skill drills to keep players sharp and alert, and simple locations to hit the ball with family and friends.



Street Squash sparked a nation-wide spread of videos being created of those playing Squash in the park, newly made courts inside and outside the house, trick shots on the farm and areas in the city.

Garages and patios around Australia turned into modified Squash courts as families bonded together to create their own courts using basic materials.

Junior players quickly sharpened their hand-eye coordination skills while having fun and a number of parents reported that their little ones never put their racquets down across the day, such was their growing love for the game.

This innovative concept during the height of the COVID-19 Pandemic saw Squash maintain its solid momentum generated over the past few years with its growth in popularity with players showing new ways to keep a racquet and ball in their hand.



Squash Australia's Winning Edge team contributed a video where all players performed a clever trick shot around home, and it was one of many videos of that kind that were made between clubs across the year.

To help encourage participation and boost engagement, Squash Australia gave away free paddle packs to players around Australia who were looking to further their game around the house, or introduce little ones to the sport.

This sparked an increase in interest from around Australia with more than 70 paddle packs finding new homes shortly after the offer was introduced.

Today, we are seeing more people still playing Squash at home with family and friends in between pennant nights, competitions and weekly hits.

Check out the Street Squash website:
www.street-squash.com

WSF WORLD DOUBLES SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS

1-5 JULY 2021



GOLD COAST - AUSTRALIA

AJC 2019 REPORTS REFERENCE TO UPCOMING EVENTS

Squash Australia was thrilled to host the Australian Junior Championships in September and October 2019 in Devonport, Tasmania.

INDIVIDUALS

A staggering 164 players took to the court for the Individuals event.

Queensland and New South Wales produced the most individual winners with seven between them while South Australian Alex Haydon took home a record-breaking seventh National Title after beating fellow South Australian Remashree Muniandy in the final.

Western Australia's Gregory Chan and ACT's Amber Chen won the MC Hazell awards respectively as the Best and Fairest players across the competition.

Novice

Winner - Isaac Bramich (TAS)
Runner-up - Hunter McConnell (TAS)
3rd Place - Mackenzie Keating (TAS)

Under 11s

Girls

Winner - Sarbani Maitra (QLD)
Runner-up - Maeghan Wang (NSW)

Boys

Winner - Marcus Wang (NSW)
Runner-up - Flynn Bartlett (QLD)
3rd Place - Joel Raj (QLD)

Under 13s

Girls

Winner - Maja Maziuk (NSW)
Runner-up - Isla Harris (WA)
3rd Place - Hannah Slyth (WA)

Boys

Winner - Joshua Raj (QLD)
Runner-up - Aryan Madan (SA)
3rd Place - Darcy Hayes (VIC)

Under 15s

Girls

Winner - Madison Lyon (QLD)
Runner-up - Gabrielle Baines (VIC)
3rd Place - Caitlin Pratt (WA)

Boys

Winner - Andre Lynn (VIC)
Runner-up - Kenneth Lamb (NSW)
3rd Place - Josh Porter (QLD)

Under 17s

Girls

Winner - Katie Davies (QLD)
Runner-up - Maggie Goodman (NSW)
3rd Place - Kurstyn Mather (QLD)

Boys

Winner - Brendan Macdonald (QLD)
Runner-up - Luke Eyles (QLD)
3rd Place - Dylan Classen (WA)

Under 19s

Girls

Winner - Alex Haydon (SA)
Runner-up - Remashree Muniandy (SA)
3rd Place - Kate Winters (SA)

Boys

Winner - Jacob Ford (NSW)
Runner-up - Gregory Chan (WA)
3rd Place - Dylan Molinaro (VIC)

TEAMS

It all came down to the final day of the Teams event in Devonport to determine the 2019 National Junior Champions in the Under 13, 15, 17 and 19 male and female teams.

Queensland edged out Victoria to take home the title.

FINAL STANDINGS

UNDER 13s

1 - Vic (130 pts)
2 - QLD (101)
3 - SA (79)
4 - NSW (64)
5 - ACT (29)
6 - Tas (17)

UNDER 15s

1 - QLD (116 pts)
2 - Vic (117)
3 - NSW (84)
4 - SA (40)
5 - ACT (40)
6 - Tas (23)

UNDER 17s

1 - QLD (136 pts)
2 - Vic (105)
3 - NSW (85)
4 - SA (20)

5 - Tas (23)

6 - ACT (9)

UNDER 19s

1 - QLD (108 pts)
2 - Vic (4, 107)
3 - SA (3, 78)
4 - Tas (2, 57)
5 - ACT (1, 38)
6 - NSW (0, 14)

OVERALL

1 - QLD (461 pts)
2 - Vic (459)
3 - SA (217)
4 - NSW (147)
5 - Tas (120)
6 - ACT (116)
5 - ACT (29)
6 - Tas (17)

UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 2020

Saturday 12 - Tuesday 15

Australian Junior Championships at Australian National Squash Centre - Gold Coast, Queensland

JANUARY 2021

Wednesday 13 - Sunday 17

Gold Coast PSA Satellite at Australian National Squash Centre - Gold Coast

FEBRUARY 2021

Friday 12 - Sunday 14

Australian Doubles Open at Australian National Squash Centre - Gold Coast, Queensland

APRIL 2021

Friday 2 - Monday 5

Australian Junior Open at Devonport Squash Club, Tasmania

JUNE 2021

Thursday 17 - Sunday 20

City Tattersalls Club Australian National Championships at Sydney, New South Wales

Friday 25 - Sunday 27

Oceania Doubles Championships at Australian National Squash Centre - Gold Coast, Queensland

JULY 2021

Thursday 1 - Monday 5

WSF World Doubles Championships at Australian National Squash Centre - Gold Coast, Queensland

OCTOBER 2021

Monday 11 - Friday 15

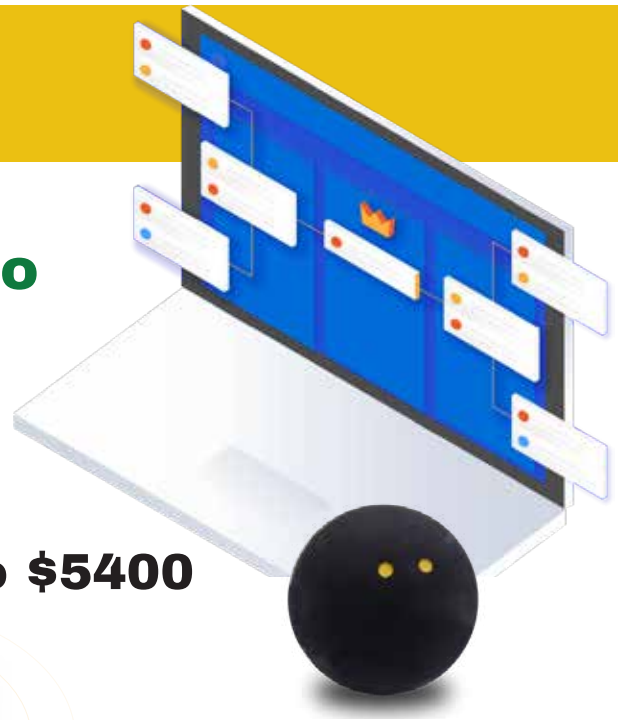
Australian Masters Championships (Individuals) at Adelaide, South Australia

Monday 18 - Friday 22

Australian Masters Championships (Teams) at Adelaide, South Australia

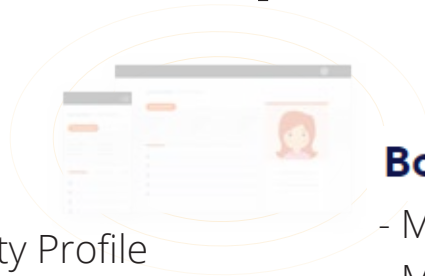


SportyHQ



SportyHQ adds value to your club and eases administration!

Affiliated Clubs Save Up to \$5400



Basic (Free)

- Create your Facility Profile
- View you members

Facility Management Module

- Manage Members
- Create Membership Plans
- Manage Bulk Renewals
- Create Event Registrations

Performance Module

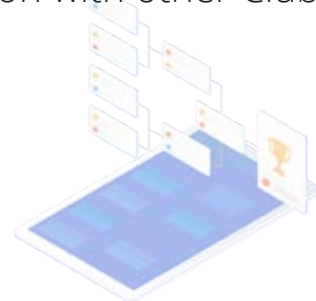
- Create and Manage Leagues
- Create and Manage Tournaments
- Solo/Box League Options
- Create and Manage rankings Lists

Booking Module

- Manage Unlimited Courts
- Manage Online Booking Options
- Manage Online Payments
- Court Booking App for Mobile

Website Module

- Build Club Website
- Use Own Domain Name
- Unlimited Pages
- Integration with other Club Services



WWW.SPORTYHQ.COM



**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL
CE@SQUASH.ORG.AU**



Squash Australia has partnered with SportyHQ to introduce technological innovation aimed to assist clubs, increase participation and continue to grow the sport of Squash in Australia.

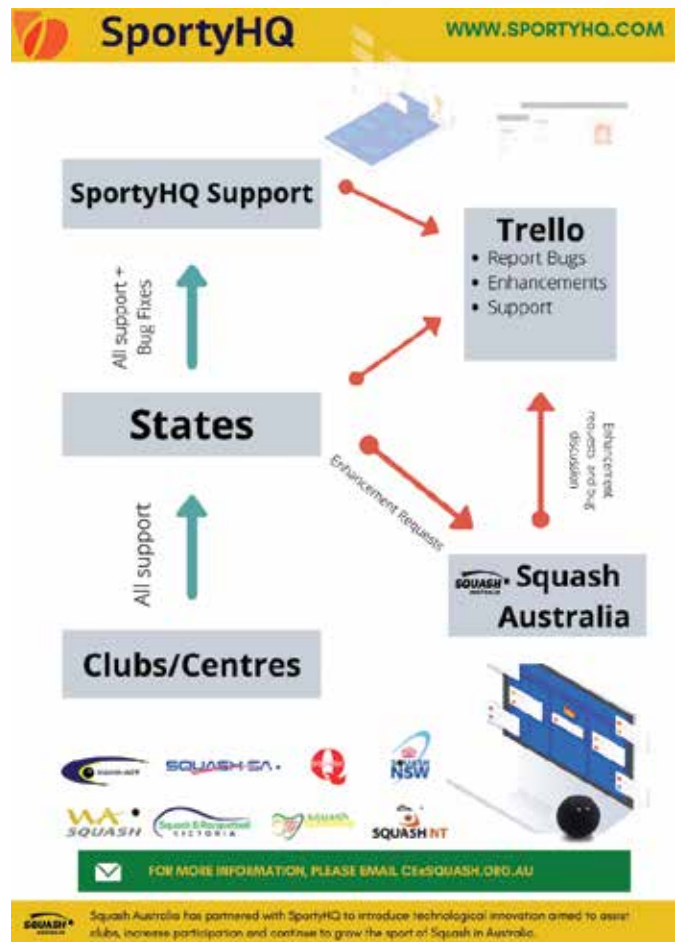
SPORTY HQ PIECE

The 2019 announcement of subsidised SportyHQ usage for all affiliated clubs, saw SportyHQ usage increase rapidly. The Squash Australia team worked to ensure that there was information readily available for both administrators and players on how to use the system along with weekly video demonstrations on different topics.

The increased uptake in SportyHQ usage saw greater communication occur between the Squash Australia team and the States to ensure that information was being provided and that state representatives were equipped to handle any support questions by their clubs.

The beginning of 2020 saw all SportyHQ support requests fall back to Henry/Luke due to the loss of Russell Weatherburn. States were provided the option to arrange a monthly meeting with Luke to discuss any bugs/support issues. This adjustment in SportyHQ support proved how beneficial previously generated resources were.

Throughout the COVID-19 centre shutdown period, the Squash Australia team provided additional training sessions through weekly Q&A sessions. These sessions were dedicated to a particular SportyHQ component (bookings, tournaments, leagues, etc) and sessions were used to provide further support to state representatives that could be further passed onto their clubs/players.



Resources

[SportyHQ Administrator Resource v1.4](#)

[SportyHQ YouTube playlist](#)

[SportyHQ Users Resource v 1.1](#)

[E-Learning Resources for SportyHQ](#)

[SportyHQ Questions and Answers](#)

[Sporty HQ YouTube Channel](#)

BENEFITS OF SPORTYHQ:

- Allows for greater communication between state, club and players.
- Easy to use and effective league, tournament and scheduling processes
- Increased participation in tournaments/leagues
- Effective reporting of participation numbers to assist with grant applications
- Faster payment processes
- Stronger emphasis on user engagement
- One stop shop for all things membership, leagues, bookings and communication.

STATE REPORTS

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

We wish to recognise the incredible work of our Squash ACT volunteers with special mentions to Russell Weatherburn (IT and much more), Doug Lean (Competition Committee), Jo Keogh (Junior Committee) and Ron Smith (Masters Committee).

Leanna Davey who, having made an outstanding and extremely practical contribution to our association and squash across the ACT, took up a position at Squash Australia.

We battle away with the e-newsletter, The Squash Rally which provides well-presented coverage of what's happening in squash to club members, social players and others in the squash community.

Owned by Squash ACT, the Woden Squash Centre introduced an out-of-hours system in 2020 which means players can play during the day when the centre isn't staffed. Major painting work has lifted the centre considerably while other work will see the centre well prepared for the 2021 AJCs in Canberra.

COVID meant Squash ACT took a financial hit but, with loan repayments on hold, ACT Government COVID grant and other local support, JobKeeper and a general tightening, we come out the other end in a reasonably secure position.

Staff savings at the Woden Centre are helping to improve the facility, strengthen our finances and, hopefully, employ a person part-time in 2021 to help promote the sport, work with clubs and build the sport generally.

Finally, James Lloyd was selected to represent Australia in the Trans-Tasman Junior Series. Our Junior Program has produced a number of Australian representatives in recent years and with a number of top 10 nationally-ranked players. It's a credit to the work of all who assist with coaching, managing and supporting our junior players.



NEW SOUTH WALES

In 2019 – 2020, Squash NSW has been focused on defining our strategic priorities to head in new directions that will greatly improve the sport of squash in NSW.

The priority is to collaboratively strengthen and enhance the future and sustainability of our sport. Within this priority, major objectives are increasing participation and re-energising the profile of squash at all levels in NSW to ensure a sustainable squash business model for the entire industry moving forward.

In the back half of 2019, the approach was business as usual. New activity commenced in early 2020 with the appointment of a State Junior Coach with a broader focus on Junior Development than previously.

We have helped many clubs secure a range of funding opportunities throughout the year. Significant effort went into the final phase of a grant application under the Greater Sydney Sport Facilities Fund to upgrade the Thornleigh centre owned by Squash NSW. In July, the NSW Government announced a \$960,000 grant for upgrades. Building works are underway and will continue into 2021.

In June 2019, the NSW Government announced the allocation of significant COVID-19 Recovery funding. This has resulted in 30 NSW clubs receiving Grassroots Sport grants of \$1,000 each and Squash NSW receiving \$252,137 in recovery funding for expenditure over two years.

Squash NSW has a bold vision for the future into 2021 and recently appointed Kristi Maroc to the role of Chief Strategy Officer to provide leadership and vision, with a focus on enhancing the profile of squash in NSW, building sustainability and supporting programs to increase participation and pathways.



NORTHERN TERRITORY

It has been a big year for Squash in Australia and like all States, we felt the impact of COVID-19 when Centres Australia-wide closed in March.

Prior to lockdown, we held our very own weekend Junior camp with 12 juniors enjoying a sleep-over on the courts.

We were lucky enough to be the first State/Territory in Australia to allow athletes back on court when restrictions eased in May.

Its first 'training' session was for players to maintain 1.5 metre social distancing on the courts which took place on May 15.

Lots of training drills were brushed up on and I think there were a few drills that no-one has ever seen before and hopefully never see again.

After three weeks of drills, it was great to be able to resume competitions again following the further easing of restrictions.

Squash NT held an exciting re-opening of the Darwin Squash Centre on June 5 with an exciting night that included an exhibition match between Mithran Selvaratnam and Joseph White. This was the perfect way to launch back into Squash across the region and the match was streamed in partnership with Squash Australia.

Squash NT is doing its best to promote the sport and bring new players, as well as bringing back recently retired players.

In order to grow the game, we started a TV advertising campaign to run for five-months.

National Coach Stewart Boswell made a trip up to the region in October, prior to a very successful PSA Satellite Tournament, the NT Open and NT Junior Championships.



QUEENSLAND

The Queensland board has focused on brand and identity this year and has decided to officially be renamed the organisation from Q Squash to Squash Queensland and over the coming months will introduce the new brand and marketing strategy.

The Queensland board has been strengthening this year with inclusion of David White - Southern Region Director, Bradley Hindle - Brisbane Region Director, Riley Steffen - Central Region Director, Steve Finitsis - Northern Region Director, Colette Sultana and Liz Irving as independent directors.

It has been lucky enough to be able to hold Queensland Junior Individuals Championship at Sandgate Squash Centre, a great event with a good turnout considering, congratulations to Joel Roshan RAJ (Under 11 Boys), Sarbani Maitra (Under 13 Girls), Flynn Bartlett (Under 13 Boys), Joshua Rahul Raj (Under 15 Boys), Sarbani Maitra (Under 15 Girls), Madison Lyon (Under 17 Girls), Kijan Sultana (Under 17 Boys), Madison Lyon (Under 19 Girls) and Gregory Chan (Under 19 Boys) State Champions.

It also hosted the Queensland Open & Doubles events this year at Daisy Hill Squash Club, with one of Queensland biggest participation that it has seen for many years. People were glad to be back on court.

Congratulations to the following winners - Deeptangsu Maitra (D Grade), Shona Coxsedg (C Grade), Clay Canty (B Grade), Gianluca Bushell (A Grade), Riley Steffen (Men's Premier), Matthew Hopkins / Jenny Duncalf (Doubles Open Mixed Event), Brad Hindle / Bryan Lim (Doubles Open Men's Event), Jenny Duncalf / Rachel Grinham (Doubles Open Women's Event), Bryan Lim (Men's Open) and a very special mention for Maddison Lyon (Women's Open) following on from her Under 17 and Under 19 Girls at the Junior Titles.



STATE REPORTS

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

When COVID-19 closed centres on March 23, the Board and staff quickly put in place measures aimed at sustaining Squash SA through the pandemic and to ensure it was well placed to capitalise once the initial restrictions were relaxed.

Pennant competitions resumed in early August with almost the same number of participants and by September were able to return its hospitality business to a profitable level.

Squash SA adjusted its budget to allow for the economic effect of the virus and to plan for a future that has a minimal impact on the way we want to support Squash and Racquetball in South Australia.

Following on from the great result in Port Pirie last year, Port Lincoln constructed three new Squash Courts with moveable wall technology.

Squash SA will support Squash and Racquetball in Port Lincoln by providing coaching and refereeing courses conducted personally by Development Manager, James Rogers, during 2020.

The 24/7 glass court at the Tonsley Innovation Precinct has achieved a significant increase in use since sport resumed in May. It is clear to that the general public want to get on court if we can provide facilities and technologies that support their busy lifestyles.

Matt Schmidt (a formal Squash SA Board member), and Sam Abishara, our President, Cindy Flower a Board Director and Geoff Baynes our CEO are all on the Squash Australia Board's three key working teams. Cindy and Board member, Amy Challans, are also integral to the review of the Squash Australia constitution.

We are also grateful that the Darlington/South Road Upgrade project is nearing completion and this will hopefully will provide the opportunity of embarking on a promotion and marketing programme that will not be interrupted by the construction project.



TASMANIA

Kent Harbutt has been President for just over 12-months now and has been predominantly involved with National affairs rather than State.

A Presidents Council has been created, following the National Forum last year and this group meet every month (via Zoom) assisting the Squash Australia Board with major changes.

The Council has focused on Identifying the priorities, State needs and how it can formulate a Service Level Agreement that works for Squash Tasmania and the National body.

The State have lost mentors such as Max Moorhouse and Chris Doig, and they are a great loss to our sport.

The Performance Pathways program for junior's needs reassessment. The management of this program has been excellent but this year its top juniors are 'aging out' and it needs have to canvas in different ways to grow involvement by juniors.

Leading centre Eastside was under threat of closure and thankfully this has now been secured by the club. Congratulations to all those members involved for their hard work and persistence to achieve this result.

There were a number of Championships hosted in 2019 with the major event being the Tasmanian Open/ Devonport Open June 19-22 and also the hosting of the Australian Junior Championships September 26 to October 4 ,which attracted 220 entries.

Devonport Club was supported by the Devonport City Council who are to be thanked for managing these important events.

At the 2019 National Awards, Tassie was nominated in the first four awards with Jack Hudson, Michael Palfreyman, Jayden Wadd and Devonport Racquetball Club all receiving recognition.

The Australian Squash community made a special presentation for Chris Doig , recognising his outstanding contribution to our sport.



VICTORIA

Following the election of a virtually new Board in March 2019, the appointment of a new General Manager in April, and support from a talented and hardworking staff, the future for S&RV was looking bright.

The aim was reconnecting the membership base and understanding its needs. Russell McLean, Meredith Hodson, Brendan Perry, Donna and Todd Millington, Raj Nanda and Prayansh Desai did this very well.

With the generous support of the State Government and VicHealth, it has been able to develop new participation programs which engage with all age groups.

The Junior State program involved regular and grouped training to enhance the monthly centralised sessions.



Former World Open Champion Cassie Thomas (nee Jackman), took over as Coordinator of the Junior Performance Program, and former Victorian Open Champion Raj Nanda was appointed High-Performance Manager.

In partnership with Dan Kneipp and VicHealth,

S&RV hosted an exhibition match at MSAC between former World Number 1 Ramy Ashour and former world top 10 LJ Anjema. This was played before a crowded house and led to calls for major events to return to Victoria.

There was continuing growth of Victoria's Grand Prix Circuit of events (14 across Squash, Racquetball and World Tour).

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in S&RV focusing on closely connecting with its membership via a range of social media options.

The Game Show was invented by S&RV Board member and co-owner of the Squash Logic Melton Squash Centre (winners) Karen Cagliarini, with her husband Richard.

The initial trial run, followed by 12 enthralling episodes Australia's squash and racquetball champions and identities as special guests, was a resounding success. It will be back in 2021

Sadly, during September this year we lost a Legend of the sport of squash in Australia, Bryan Bird, who worked tirelessly and made an enormous contribution to our sport for 53-years.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Squash continues to grow in WA. With the help of wonderful partner Healthway, WA Squash pays coaches to take the inflatables to schools where hundreds of kids in primary schools experience the game for the first time.

It has paid off with juniors going into centres and parents wanting to re-start their own game. A huge thanks to the coaches who deliver this program.

At the end of 2019, WA sent a junior team to Singapore in place of the Australian Junior Championships. Players performed well and loved being in another country. It is hoped to do it again once players can travel.

Once re-starting from COVID-19, WA Squash was able to hold the running of the WA Open at Mirrabooka Squash Centre.

It was the 70th consecutive WA Men's title held and the 67th Ladies Title. Mike Corren won his ninth Title, equaling the record set by Dean Williams in the 1980s. Amanda Hopps added her first Open title to her long list of achievements.

Sue Hillier visited Dampier /Karratha to coach and promote squash as well as play in the wonderful FeNaCing event.

WA Squash held its 2020 Annual General Meeting via Zoom. This was a great success and will now be incorporated at each AGM to enable country clubs to be there in person, instead of a proxy.

WA Squash inducted two new Life Members in 2019, Ed Jennings and Ray Smith and wish to congratulate Lyn Chandler and Sue Cowell who have been inducted as WA Squash Life Members for 2020.

WA Squash ran a successful WA State Closed tournament and with events lined up in Busselton and in the Metro region and with all pennants and Leagues finishing at the end of November it will certainly be a year to remember.

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**Please see the Squash Australia website for the full Annual Report updates on all States.*

NO.1 BALL

WORLD'S #1 BALL



PRO

Advanced Players

The Pro squash ball has the lowest bounce of all four balls in the range. Suitable for advanced players.

HANGTIME
STANDARD

COMPETITION

Intermediate Players

The Competition squash ball is the same size as the Pro but has a 10% longer hang time. Suitable for intermediate players.

HANGTIME
+10%

PROGRESS

Improver Players

The Progress squash ball is 6% larger and has a 20% longer hang time than the Pro. Suitable for improver players.

HANGTIME
+20%

INTRO

Beginner Players

The Intro squash ball is 12% larger and has a 40% longer hang time than the Pro. Suitable for beginner players.

HANGTIME
+40%



OFFICIAL BALL



OFFICIAL PARTNER