

Squash Queensland Policy
QUEENSLAND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS
Version 2.0 Effective 1/7/20

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SECTION 1: Definitions

Games: Are components of a match. All matches conducted in these Championships shall be the best of five (5) games.

Matches: Shall be contested between two opposing players. See Games.

Official: Generally, the Tournament Officials are deemed to be:

- Tournament Director and Tournament Control Personnel
- Centre Operator,

From 2007 all Tournament Officials will be listed in the Program. All Tournament Officials are required to provide Squash QLD Squash with a copy of their Positive Notice "BLUE CARD"

Players: The competitors who compete in the Championships.

Positive Notice "BLUE CARD": A blue card is issued by the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian. The Commission conducts the Working with Children Check to determine whether a person is eligible for a blue card. If a person is considered eligible they are issued with a positive notice letter and a blue card.

What is the Working with Children Check?

When a person applies for a blue card the Commission conducts a Working with Children Check. This is a detailed national check of a person's criminal history, including any charges or convictions. Also considered is:

- disciplinary information held by certain professional organisations
- police investigation information (into allegations of serious child-related sexual offences, even if no charges were laid because the child was unwilling or unable to proceed).

PSA: Professional Squash Association for MEN and WOMEN.

Regional Advisory Committee: Each Region has a representative on the Regional Advisory Committee. The Chairperson of the RAC is the CEO of Squash Queensland. The purpose of the RAC is to discuss any issue affecting the Regions. If the Regions vote 3-1 to change a particular guideline the change is made accordingly. If the vote is 2-2 then the guideline remains as per the last version.

Rules of the International Game of Squash: The rules as approved and adopted by the World Squash Federation (WSF).

Squash Australia: Squash Australia Ltd, a company limited by guarantee, is the National controlling body for squash.

Squash Queensland: Squash Queensland Ltd, a company limited by guarantee, is the State body responsible for the overall progression of squash in Queensland.

Tournament Control: The personnel responsible for administering the draw: scheduling, assignment of referees and markers, recording of results, creation of score sheets, etc. Includes the Tournament Director and any paid personnel or volunteers.

Tournament Director: Squash Queensland will appoint the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director will be responsible for control of all match play during the championships.

WSF: The World Squash Federation - the world governing body for the sport of squash.

SECTION 2: GENERAL

1. OWNERSHIP, RIGHTS & OBLIGATIONS

2. The **Queensland Open Championships** are owned and controlled by Squash Queensland.
3. Squash Queensland reserves the right to change these guidelines to achieve desired outcomes.
4. Squash Queensland reserves the right to conduct the event or appoint a person or company to present the Queensland Open Championships (referred to in these Guidelines as the "Championships" or "Q Open") on its behalf in accordance with these Guidelines.

2.0 LOCATION

- 2.1 The Championships shall be held annually.
- 2.2 Location of the Championships shall be in accordance with the outcome of a region rotation, and following that a tender process. The contract will be for 1 year.
- 2.3 Location of the Championships shall rotate between each of the 4 regions in Queensland. If a region is allocated a Q Open, they have the first right to refusal to host the championships that year. If they accept then the host region and Squash Queensland will pick an appropriate venue together with the host region. If the region refuses, then Squash Queensland must tender out the event to all squash centres in Queensland.

3.0 DURATION, DATES & TIMES

- 3.1 The Championships shall be held on **an agreed date between the host region and Squash Queensland**. If more than 16 players enter the Open Division the Tournament Director must allocate spots in the Division to PSA players by ranking priority according to PSA rules. A 32 may be used if the Open event is not a PSA event, at the discretion of the Tournament Director. Certain matches may also be played on the Thursday and Friday for the PSA events and on the Friday night for the other events.
- 3.2 It is *recommended* that where possible matches are scheduled between the hours of 8.30am and 6.00pm each day.
- 3.3 Other requirements provided by PSA must be followed at all times, for PSA events.

4.0 PLAYING RULES

- 4.1 All matches shall be played under the 'Rules of the International Game of Squash Rackets' as prescribed by the WSF.
- 4.2 All matches contested shall be the best of five (5) games.
- 4.3 PSA playing rules must also be observed wherever possible. The final decision will be at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

5.0 ELIGIBILITY & EVENT GUIDE

- 5.1 For a player to be eligible to compete in the Q Open, he/she must be a full financial member of Squash Queensland.
- 5.2 A competitor not covered under Clause 5.1 above shall be classified as an interstate or overseas competitor. Acceptance of their entry shall be conditional on the competitor being a financial member of their State Association or a WSF member country.
- 5.3 A player who is under suspension by their State Association at the time of the commencement of the championships shall be ineligible to compete.
- 5.4 It is at Squash Queensland's discretion whether to make the Open events PSA events. In the case where the Open events are not PSA events, Squash Queensland may choose to award prize money anyway at their own discretion.
- 5.5 If prize money is obtained through the host region or centre, then Squash Queensland and the host region/centre must collaborate and decide together on the most appropriate distribution of the prize money.

6.0 PLAYER RISK

- 6.1 Players enter the championships at their own risk. Neither Squash Queensland, nor the venue owner will accept any responsibility for injury arising from participation in these Championships.
- 6.2 If a player ceases to play due to illness or injury, they may re-enter the Competition at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- 6.3 Protective eye wear which satisfies standards specified by Squash Australia is compulsory for all junior players competing. A junior player is defined as one who is still eligible for the 19YAG and below. They are to be worn for the total duration of all practice and matches.

Junior Players must wear their eyewear at all times whilst on court. They must also wear their eye wear in an appropriate manner. Placing their eye

wear on their heads during the warm up is not appropriate ... it must be protecting their eyes.

Referees should not permit a match to commence or continue without both players correctly wearing such eyewear.

If a player is required to wear prescription glasses instead of protective eye wear, they must obtain a certificate from a relevant medical authority stating that the glasses are safe for use on a squash court and that will offer suitable protection to the eye in case of accident eg being hit directly by a squash racquet.

7.0 SQUASH QUEENSLAND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 7.1 Squash Queensland will give the first right of refusal to the host region (according to a regional rotation system). Then will undertake a Tender Process to establish the overall best facility to conduct the championships together with the host region. If the region refuses to host the tournament that year, then the tender process is open to all centres in QLD. Ideally, the final decision should be announced 12 months in advance of the next championship. However, the announcement must be made at least 8 months prior to the event.
- 7.2 The official championship logo, Squash Queensland logo and any other major sponsorship logos are to be present on all promotional or official material produced in association with the event. This includes and is not limited to entry forms, posters, souvenir shirts, programs, draws, score sheets, etc. Event sponsors for the year may also be included accordingly.
- 7.3 Squash Queensland will prepare all Posters and Entry Forms.
- 7.4 All entries are to be submitted to Squash Queensland. Squash Queensland will verify membership status. Squash Queensland will then produce the necessary draws and distribute on the Squash Queensland website not less than five (5) days before the commencement of the championships.
- 7.5 The following information is to be made available on the Squash Queensland website:

At least four (4) months prior

- Court facilities to be utilised for the championships
- Accommodation facilities for competitors and officials
- Maps

At least three (2) months prior

- Approximate charges proposed for entry fees, attendance at functions, accommodation, etc
- Practice facilities
- Function facilities

- Organisational details
 - Any other information considered relevant.
- 7.6 Practice courts and balls should be available to all players from the first day of the event and apportioned according to the number of players wanting use of the facilities. Courts should only be booked in one-hour time slots. The cost of the practice courts and balls is to be the responsibility of the Host Region.
- 7.7 PSA players will be able to book practice courts from the few days prior to the start of the PSA event. The cost of the practice courts and balls is to be the responsibility of Squash Queensland.
- 7.8 Squash Queensland must make every effort to have state/national referees at the event. On all occasions in which referees are unable to be provided players must mark and /or referee the match following their own or as directed by the Tournament Director.
- 7.9 Squash Queensland and the venue operator shall diligently service all championship sponsors. In the case of sponsors obtained by Squash Queensland, venue operator shall provide recognition, exposure and other benefits for the sponsors as required by Squash Queensland.
- 7.10 Any matters concerning the championships not provided for in these guidelines shall be referred to Squash Queensland.

8.0 PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES

- 8.1 Players shall be responsible for their accommodation and transportation to and from the venue of the championships. They shall also be responsible for any other miscellaneous costs during the course of the championships and meet any costs that may occur in this regard.
- 8.2 PSA Players must be accounted for and taken care of according to the requirements of PSA.

9.0 FUNCTION/PRESENTATION PROTOCOL

9.1 Presentation Function:

- To be conducted following the last match of the Championship.
- Present individual trophies and/or prize money commencing with lowest grade.
- Photos should be taken of all winners being presented and all prize recipients for each grade.
- Involve sponsors or special guests to speak and present trophies/awards.

10.0 THE DRAW

- 10.1 Squash Queensland has the right to approach any player and adjust the category that the player has entered in if it is not deemed to be the appropriate one. Squash Queensland also has the right to combine events if there are not enough entries. This all must be done prior to the publishing of the draws.
- 10.2 Squash Queensland shall prepare the draw for each event to be conducted at the championships.
- 10.3 Squash Queensland must use appropriate seedings, player rating or appropriate level gauge to seed the participants.
- 10.4 PSA event draws are done by PSA.
- 10.5 The final draw, together with first match times are to be posted on the Squash Queensland website at least three (3) days prior to the event.
- 10.6 If a top seed withdraws after the draws are published, Squash Queensland will have to amend the draw accordingly and fairly and make every effort to maintain as many of the arranged times and matches as possible.

11.0 BALLS TO BE USED

- 11.1 The Championship Ball will be the Dunlop Double Yellow as supplied by Squash Queensland.

12.0 FINANCE

- 12.1 **Squash Queensland** shall have responsibility for all financial transactions including the banking of entry fees and paying all expenses including trophies, court hire, printing, etc.
- 12.2 Squash Queensland will appoint the Tournament Director. All reasonable costs associated with the engagement of a Tournament Director are to be paid out of the income collected by Squash Queensland for the Championships.
- 12.3 Any increases to the entry fees over the previous year must be decided and approved by Squash Queensland.

13.0 MERCHANDISE

- 13.1 Squash Queensland shall be permitted to sell any of its merchandise and resources at the championships.
- 13.2 Squash Queensland will work with the host region/centre to meet the needs of any event sponsors where possible.

14.0 COMPETITION FORMAT & TIME FRAMES - SINGLES

14.1 The Tournament Director must make every effort to allow sufficient rest for players between matches. PSA events must follow PSA rules on minimum rest time between matches.

- 14.2
- 4 players Round Robin
 - 5 Players Round Robin (one round of matches are to be played on Friday Night).
 - 6 Players Two Pools of 3.
 - 7 Players One Pool of 4 players and One Pool of 3 players (one round of matches are to be played on the Friday Night for the Pool of 4 players).
 - 8 Players Monrad Draw
 - 16 Players Monrad Draw
 - 32 Players Monrad Draw

If 3 or less players nominate for a grade, the Tournament Director may search for an appropriate local player to play at this level. This person will be deemed a late entry. The Tournament Director may also cancel the grade completely, or combine it with another grade if this is deemed sensible.

NB: The maximum draw size will be 16 for PSA events. For non PSA events it is at the Tournament Director's discretion what the maximum draw size should be (ideally capped at 32 players).

1 player in excess of 16 – the lowest seeded non PSA player is to be placed in the Premier Division.

2 players in excess of 16 – 4 players are to compete for 2 places in the main draw. 2 positions must be reserved in the Premier Grade for the players who don't qualify. This can only be done if allowed by PSA rules.

The Tournament Director has full discretion where entries exceed 18 players for the open. A 32 monrad draw (5 rounds) can be utilised with Round 1 to be played on the Friday.

Preference must always be given to PSA members for PSA events.

15.0 COMPETITION FORMAT & TIME FRAMES - DOUBLES

15.1 If the Q Open is held at a centre with a doubles court, the host region must discuss with Squash Queensland and may have the option of hosting a doubles event alongside the championships.

- 15.2 Players can only play in a maximum of 2 events (1 doubles & 1 singles or 2 doubles) to facilitate the organisation of matches with enough rest over the tournament period.
- 15.3 The Tournament Director must make every effort to allow sufficient rest for players between matches.
- 15.4 Draws must be made in accordance with singles draw protocols and rankings must also be in accordance with appropriate level and system rating of the players.
- 15.5 It is up to Squash Queensland and the host region/centre whether to award prize money to the winners.
- 15.6 The event must be played in accordance with the WSF rules of Squash Doubles.

16.0 REFEREES & MARKERS

- 16.1 The Tournament Referee may appoint a suitably qualified and experienced referee and a marker to any match at the Championships, if available. If not available, the players are to officiate.
- 16.2 Whenever an official referee or marker is not available, the duties of referee and marker should go to players who played previously on the court (if appropriate grade).
- 16.3 Where a conduct game or match is awarded the referee must advise the Tournament Director OR Tournament Referee of the details.

SECTION 3: Q OPEN

17.0 EVENTS TO BE CONDUCTED

17.1 The following events for men and women shall be conducted – Men's Open, Women's Open, Premier (optional), A, B, C, D, E (novice).

18.0 ENTRY FORMS

18.1 Entries to compete in the Q Open must be forwarded by Squash Queensland to all member centres, not less than two (2) months prior to the commencement of the championships. This can also be done electronically.

18.2 Where appropriate, Q Squash shall arrange for the distribution of entry forms to Associations and players located outside Queensland. Players will pay and enter through the squash system in use by Squash Queensland at the time.

18.3 Entries will close at least fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement date of the championships. Each entry shall be accompanied by an entry fee.

19.0 MONRAD DRAW SYSTEM

19.1 The Individual Competition will utilise a modified Monrad Draw System. Players continue to play each day striving to finish in the highest possible position.

Each round of matches will be scheduled to be played on the following days:

Day 1 - Round 1 & Round 2 (for large Draws)
Day 2 - Semi-Finals (if not played on Day 1)
Day 3 - Finals

20.0 SEEDING AND DRAWS

20.1 Squash Queensland shall be responsible for preparing the draw. The Tournament Director shall be responsible for administering the draw for each event after the final draw has been completed by Squash Queensland.

20.2 Where ever possible, all draws shall utilise a Monrad Draw System in which players compete for all finishing positions.

Losing players in various rounds of the Monrad Draw continue to play through to the final round.

20.3 A minimum of 3 matches will be guaranteed.

20.4 Should a seeded player withdraw from an event prior to 6.00pm on the day immediately before the first match of the event is scheduled for play, the

Tournament Director shall redraw the event and fill the vacancy by moving the players in accordance with the method originally used to establish the draw.

- 20.5 The draw for all events shall stand as at 6.00pm on the day immediately before the first match of the tournament.

21.0 TROPHIES & AWARDS

- 21.1 The winner, runner up and third place in each Individual event, shall receive a trophy, medallion or prize;

- 21.2 If the Open events are PSA events, then prize money is awarded. If the Open events are not PSA events, Squash Queensland can choose to award prize money.