

Central Squash Committee meeting Sunday 21st September, 10.30am at SquashGym, Palmerston North

Meeting opened 10.45am

Present: Grant Smith, Kaye Elliott, Mike Jack, Kelly Faint Marilyn Dolan, Jason Fletcher, Rob Brownrigg, Andrea Herbert and Pauline Slovak (minute taker).

Apologies: Sally Stantiall, John Laurenson, Alastair White, Sylvia Penny and Rod Bannister.

Previous Minutes: Ran through action list.

Matters arising: Ran through action list. SquashGym has been spoken too and should be updating their payments. Funding has been low this year we need to have a planning meeting after the AGM and make a plan for the year. Super Champs all done thanks Marilyn, next year we need to make sure J graders are aware they can play in F grade. Prince series needs to be sorted for next year. Prince will not be sponsoring the senior series. We will get no pink bags next year for the juniors, as most don't want them. MacDougall's are happy with interclub competition sponsorship and the players liked the shirts. We just need to keep supporting and thanking our sponsors such as Inspire who won Sports Partner of the year last night at Sport Manawatu awards.

Moved by: Grant Smith, Seconded by Kelly Faint, and Carried

Correspondence inwards & outwards

Marilyn asked about towel account and it was explained it was from Senior Nats and the people involved have actually paid for it. Grant spoke about bringing awards forward and having AGM separate so that we can participate in the SNZ awards. This needs to be considered for next year as this year is already locked in. Having the awards dinner and AGM together was a real success last year with 76 attending the AGM. Marilyn said it was the most she has ever seen at an AGM. Grant said it costs us very little to supply the free meal for what it achieves, getting a good quorum and discussion at AGM and shows many that Central are doing a lot around the district.

John Laurenson said Waimarino (Raetihi) want to re-affiliate. Hunterville leisure players to be counted on the grading list and that has been rectified. Central Secondary Schools to go on grading list, Pauline will be doing this over the next few weeks.

Pauline moved that inwards is approved and outwards is noted, Grant Smith seconded. Carried

President's Report – Grant Smith

Juniors Rainbow Challenge has been played here at SPN recently, thank you to Kelly and Andrea who really had to drive that. There have been comments from Wellington who are interested in combining it with the Senior Rep fixture but we are all against it and it would turn it into a two-day event and really add cost to it with accommodation being involved. All agreed it should stay separate. Kelly said it would be hard for the ones who have to travel from further north. What they are trying to do is set up a role model situation between their seniors and juniors, which is understandable. Grant will talk to Willie about it. Senior Nationals at North Shore with our women's team winning Centrals first title Senior Team's Title. Grant said it was great to be there and the district looked great with everyone in their gear, supporters present. We looked professional and part of a team and it showed on the scoreboard. We have started to get some of the secondary school kids on the grading list we held the Manawatu Secondary Schools competition here recently now we need to make it wider and get Tararua, Dannevirke and Feilding involved. Taranaki are simmering away and we just need to get them organised. The numbers will be huge if we get it right. Squash Auckland have 800 on their grading list and Canterbury have around 300 Grant thinks we should be able to get numbers around that as well. It's all about capturing the numbers to begin with.

Numbers from SNZ show club member numbers are stable or up slightly. We need to encourage Waitara get into the sports hub that's going in there. Possibly the problem is not having someone to drive it. They have plenty of funding available and just need some enthusiasm. Tararua has had some developments recently and Hunterville are doing well. KP numbers are growing and that clubs is doing great. Its all really positive and I think the district is in a really good space at the moment.

Administration Report – Pauline Slovak

Office has been busy with all the rep teams coming and going we have the Juniors all sorted now.

Spoke about Champion of Champions, which is coming up with 67 entries and 15 clubs involved. Not many entries from Taranaki. Marilyn said it's an event that has to go from zone to zone and next year it has to be in Taranaki. Pauline advised that this year a few have opted to host it unlike last year. Grant said we don't need to keep it Central and that he would like to see KP have a crack at it. The problem with Taranaki and CoC is that it is put onto the individual players instead of the club taking charge and entering a full team. It's a bit disappointing because we really want the clubs to take charge. It can go to the extremities as long as the clubs support it and getting a team there. Grant said we need to make a few comments about it at the AGM and really try and get the clubs involved.

AGM and Awards info has gone out. We are covered for our main roles but if you have someone really keen please encourage them to join the committee.

We need to look at Referees it has fallen a way a little even at the National level. Grant advised that he is going to say at the National level they really need to look it and start again. Discussed a few people that are interested in refereeing from our district.

Coaching report – Jason Fletcher

Have done a few modules here and in Taranki 7 participated, small nix in Tararua we had 6 attend so a bit of take up there. Next year we will play around and change the structure a wee bit with the modules. The Zone Squads have all been on hold a bit lately, Taranaki have junior interclub at moment every Sunday for 6 Sundays. The Manawatu Squad has had trouble with court availability at SquashGym like today they should be training but can't because of Masters event being on. Wanganui one has died and we will need to try and restart it again. Schools we are hoping to get 16 – 18 schools in Southern Taranaki with roughly about 1000 kids participating. Kaye has piloted a couple of Kiwi Squash Programmes in New Plymouth. Key thing in Taranaki is we have met with Ross Fulton from Sport Taranaki and they are interested in the return on investment so to speak so numbers of kids through vs. money invested so the more numbers the better. We need to try and get someone into the Secondary schools in Taranaki/New Plymouth area. Grant commented the key thing is getting people on the ground to actually do it. In terms of facilitators up there we have Pete at Startford and Kaye doing the primary kids in New Plymouth but we will need somebody for the secondary schools. Locally we have 4 schools that have taken on programmes here in Palmerston and in Feilding and Sally Stantiall has taken on these programmes.

In the future we will need to be looking at kids safe policies like police vetting the coaches. Grant said to let National association lead it and we will follow quickly.

Discussed having a disputes committee for the district that is separate from committee and we need to make sure we have all our policies clearly documented and available on the website.

1st of April there are new health and safety policies coming into affect which could affect many clubs.

Policies need to be tightened up and put in place to cover many things.

At planning meeting we need to go through all the policies from picking teams, selection of coaches or taking kids away. Get them all written down and stored.

Finance Report – Rob Brownrigg

Bank Balances as at 21st September 2014

Cheque account \$8,383.44 Cr

Term Deposits \$17,657.35 Cr

\$36,412.04 Cr (Friends of CS deposit) Interest has not been added so these are higher than stated.

List of Ages Payables and Receivables attached and received by all.

Payables - SNZ rebranding paid. All the other payables are pretty standard stuff.

Receivables - Older ones have been chased up earlier this month. SquashGym should be sorted soon. Danny Foster is incorrect and will be deleted.

Mike asked about Rodney Bannister paying his player contribution, Rod needs to pay something as he pulled out late.

Pauline to send Rob list of Juniors to be invoiced \$100 each.

Grant said we have spent a lot this year but we have been doing a lot and we should still come in on the positive side. Talked about Champion of Champions and what we are covering. Grant said we do what we can it's making people realise we are not here to make money but to push things along and make the district better. Pauline commented that supporting Champion of Champions, Super Champs and Interclub etc is great because these are events for the club players who make up most of our membership. Grant would like to get more money in next year so we can do even more. Inspire Players series, Grant to get players fees in on finals nite.

We will make sure we get everything to the reviewer earlier this year so it's not a panic like last year to get the accounts for the annual report.

Rob Brownrigg Moved accounts be paid, seconded by Marilyn Dolan, Carried

High Performance Report – Kent Darlington (read out by Grant Smith and received by all)

Named our National squad that represented Central. After putting a couple of players on notice at the Central Open, we had a tough call to make with Emily Nash, as we felt she wasn't as fit as she should have been & the selectors decided to take Rebecca Clifford who was below her but training the house down. This has now sent out a very strong message that we are being very serious with our whole HP programme. If we are getting funding from the district & players have to step up to the

mark as it's not just a free trip here & there now. I will be stressing this point again at our 1st camp next year to set the tone going forward & will clear up any grey areas with a HP booklet so it's down in black & white.

We beat Wellington for the newly presented "Wairarapa Cup" 18 matches to 6 at the start of August. Grant Smith, Central & myself have donated a cup, which will be updated with all the results from over the years between the 2 districts.

Our national's team trained hard leading up to the event at the end of August. Kashif had the squad training & playing a number of days in a row to simulate 5 days of competition that they would be facing at Nationals. Jackie Tapp did well in Taihape training on her own & keeping Kashif & I informed via Facebook group reports. This is something we will tap into for next year as they are all on it & reporting back with what the player has done that day for training certainly will get everyone in the squad doing their bit as they see first-hand what the other squad members are doing.

Nationals! A PROUD MOMENT TO BE CENTRAL! **Women's team:** Becky Barnett, Danielle Fourie, Jackie Tapp, Kaitlyn Watts, Rebecca Clifford **Men's team:** Kashif Shuja, Ben Calvert, Jason van der Walt, Stephen Bennett, Brandon Keenan

A great 5 days to be away with our Central team & the best team environment since I have been involved in over the last 3 yrs. Credit goes out to all our players who put their bodies on the line for 5 days in a row of competition where 8 out of the 10 played their maximum number of games (7 to 8 matches!). This was a testament to all the hard yards the players had done with Kashif prior to going away and we actually had 9 of our players playing finals on the last day of individuals! Seven of those won their matches. Kashif finished 4th in the Men's Open, Danielle 5th, Becky 6th & Kaitlyn 17th (Plate) in the Women's Open. Kaitlyn was unreal as she knocked over four A graders after being seeded 28th. Jason & Rebecca were runner ups in Div 1 & Brandon Plate winner in Div 1.

As you know the teams event was **fantastic** with the women winning the title for the 1st time in the history of the event (42 yrs it's been going). They were seeded 3rd & knocked over Canterbury the 2nd seeds in the semi eventually 3/1 with Jackie Tapp coming back from 8-3 down in the 5th set to clinch it. In the Final they beat the top seeds Auckland 3/1 with Kaitlyn getting the team of to a great start by beating her 5th A grader, this actually put her to A grade & join other top NZ players to do this at the age of 13! Danielle then put the team 2 matches up winning easy & Becky signed the deal of by beating one of NZ's top juniors 3/1. Jackie lost the dead rubber against a NZ masters rep 3/1.

The men's team to also stood up big time, guys came off the court & dropped to the ground toast, but had dug deep for themselves, the team & to show everyone that Central meant business. After being seeded 7th (last) and losing 1st round, they beat Eastern the 6th seeds, then Waikato the 5th seeds in the plate final 155 to 151 on points. And so the party started!

Not seriously though, as I said in my speech that when I took this role over I wanted to be there when the team got a title & it was a fantastic feeling standing up there with the team getting the cup. A huge thanks on behalf of myself, Kashif & Grant Watts for the Central board to continue to back our HP programme. If we are keen to continue moving forward & make our District stand tall with more titles in the future and I feel the heart of it comes back to the programme & hard yards we are doing back here. With Kashifs expertise's and knowledge as a five-time New Zealand champion and to have him training the player's daily it has been the backbone to this win - we just can't get anybody with his calibre so I feel we are very lucky as a district. Also Grant Watts, the women's coach does a massive job with the team behind the scenes and on game day for me. With both of these guys on board it makes my job flaming easy. So hopefully we can bring more titles home in the future!

So now it's into planning for next year & we are really starting to grow our base of HP players. There is a bunch of B graders & those knocking on the door in the district that we will be targeting. With the success that we have already had the aim is to get our HP group really pushing each other along & this in itself will create success for our district in the future.

Also Kent would like it brought to SNZ attention how unhappy the team and management were with the running of the prize giving dinner and the poor behavior on display at Senior Nationals. Grant will speak to SNZ about this and express our views on it.

Juniors Report – Kelly Faint and Andrea Herbert

Received by all. The last couple of months have been extremely busy time for our juniors. We have had Luke Jones represent New Zealand in Namibia. Corbin Faint, Courtney Trail and Gina Bailey represent New Zealand in the Trans-Tasman Secondary school event in Brisbane. They all played well and represented Central well.

The Wellington vs Central challenge was held on the 14 September. Another well run challenge with some great squash being played. This year we did a Champion of Champion format where we had the two strongest players for each grade. It was extremely pleasing to keep the trophy once again in Central with a massive win of 29-11. It was great to have players from all over the district. There were certainly a couple of kids we will be watching with interest for our National team next year.

I had a discussion with the Wellington Junior Convenor to arrange a date for next year. I was not happy with her idea of combining the senior and junior Challenge together and run it over two/three days. I expressed my concerns with the cost and that we have junior players playing for the senior team and her reply was "Well they will have to choose". I said that she

will need to come back to me with the proposed format that she and Willy are working on and I will take it to our committee and discuss it with Kent.

The Junior National team were named, Boys Team: Luke Jones, Brandon Keenan, Corbin Faint, Blake Koolen, & Cameron Foster, Girls Team: Kaitlyn Watts, Emily Nash, Courtney Trail, Gina Bailey & Ansley Koolen. I received an email from Craig Nash this week that Emily Nash will not be staying with the team for the individuals. I received feedback from Grant Watts and Kashif Shuja regarding this and they both feel it is not the ideal scenario but we have no choice but to accept this. We are all concerned that future players can opt out of traveling and staying as a team in years to come.

We should have the draws for Nationals next week. We have a few central contenders for making finals this year in the individual event, Annaleise Faint – u13, Courtney Trail – u15, Luke Jones – u19. Kaitlyn has decided to play in the under 19 to ensure she plays the girls that are in contention for the Junior World team next year, I'm sure she will do extremely well.

Andrea and I, along with many parents are concerned with the schedule the junior players are expected to maintain throughout the season. With commitments to New Zealand Squads, Central Squads, Interclub Series and High Performance squads we need to ensure that we map out at the beginning of the year so they aren't burnt out by the time we need them to be peaking for Junior Nationals.

Planning to take place so the kids know what's expected and can map their year similar to HP squad, should have a plan for the year right from the start.

Grant said it's good to have that generic plan for the whole team but each player also needs a personalised plan as well.

Masters – Mike Jack

Mike said getting people to play has been difficult, it's like they are waiting for a phone call. Grant said we need to grow it a bit, at least we are having a Central Masters now where we didn't have it for a few years. Hopefully this will push along enthusiasm for rep team. Mike said it is Mickayla Kerr is a welcome addition to the district. It was a shame that Kashif is injured. Grant said the team is not a total disaster we are here and playing. The girls are keen but the men are harder. Mike said SquashGym has a big masters base and next year SNZ is going to try a 60+ division. Mike said we need to try and get some older ones interested as they can always play down where the young ones are left fighting for the 1 position.

Mike said it's easier when we travel away, the last 10 days have been frustrating. He is happy to do it again next year. Grant commented it's a pity there was not even any Eastern players here.

Taranaki Zone - Sylvia

Nothing from Taranaki as Sylvia has been unwell. IC has finished. They have a great group of juniors up there and they are going really well. There are more and more promising juniors appearing in Taranaki so hopefully we will see this grow over the next few years.

Eltham are running interclub 2014/15 but we never hear anything about it.

MWR Zone – Marilyn Dolan Report received by all.

Inter Club divisions are getting bigger but with fewer divisions.

Masters starting soon.

Playoffs were only small with few divisions. Only 4 match ups this year and there used to be 10 – 15. The District Interclub Playoffs were again held in Hawera on the 23rd August, again no sight of that mountain.... The results were as follows.

Ladies: Kawaroa Park Divas beat the Rangitikei ladies by 36 points. The matches went to 2 all and it came down to the last matchup. Great games played by all.

Men's Div. 1 Okato Defenders beat Wanganui #1 by 3 matches to 1. These matches were very entertaining and most were very close.

Men's Div. 2 Kawaroa Park Devils won this division by default, as the MWR zone winners were unable to get a team together at such short notice.

Men's Div. 3 River City #2 beat the Patea guys 3 matches to 1. Even though the score doesn't say it, there were some great matchups.

A special thanks to Adele Peters for opening up and being bar and food lady for the morning and Mike Cresswell in the afternoon. Again great hospitality from the Hawera club.

Marilyn suggested change to IC rules about Premier IC players not being able to play interclub so take Taranaki zone and make it both zones. Pauline to make changes and it will be brought out at AGM.

General Business

Michael Pittams from SNZ joined meeting, Grant advised we would try and come into the fold to work with them for 2015. Grant said we would bring awards judging forward but still having our awards dinner with our AGM where the awards are presented.

Discussed the calendar we will have a look once everything's entered and can then shuffle. 3 clubs to not have events on the calendar are Eltham, Hunterville and Ohakea. Once all club events are entered by 1st October the calendar will be available for the clubs to look at and suggest any changes to their dates.

Grant spoke about Secondary Schools going on the grading list. Hawera High School kids need to be transferred to Central Sec School, M Pittams to transfer them once he know who they are as they are currently on the Canterbury grading list. AGM to be done, reports asked for and due towards end of next month.

Senior Prince series needs to be ramped up next year again but will be called something else as will require a new sponsor. Junior Prince series will remain as it is but with no pink bags as is very popular and going well. Kelly asked if players from other districts could enter it, Marilyn advised yes as she always invites Wellington players to attend. Grant said yes the more the merrier its all growing the game.

Ohakea will be getting their court reinforced not replaced.

Levin is going ahead with new signage.

Referees – Rod Bannister has indicated he wants to go forward and Mike is helping guide him through it. There are a few people interested and Mike is happy to help guide them. Mike said you don't have to be a good player to be a good referee. Pauline bought up Coach Force forms and Grant said we would need help from Fletch to fill it in.

Two Masters trophies, we may need to invoice KP and SPN for the cost of them.

Meeting closed 12:27pm

Next meeting Saturday December 6th AGM and Awards Dinner.

Minutes certified as true and correct

Signed _____ Date _____

Action List

21.9.14	Policies to be developed and put in place.	Committee	Before start of 2015 season
21.9.14	Senior Prince series needs to be reviewed and redeveloped with new sponsor	Committee	Before start of 2015 season
21.9.14	List to be sent to Rob of Junior reps to pay player contribution	Pauline	Completed
21.9.14	Follow up players series players for their fees	Grant	Before end of financial year
21.9.14	Get accounts to reviewers	Rob	Asap after end of Financial year
21.9.14	Reports due for Annual Report Booklet	Committee	By 31 st October
21.9.14	Plan for Juniors and HP squad to be made up for Pauline to publish.	Kent/Kelly Kashif/Andrea	Before start of 2015 season
21.9.14	Meeting to be set up with Ann Brouwers, Grant and Pauline for awards.	Pauline/Grant	After 6 th November once all nominations are in.