

OTTAWA AND DISTRICT SQUASH ASSOCIATION
MINUTES of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD SEPTEMBER 29, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M. at
The RA Centre Ottawa
2451 Riverside Dr, Ottawa, ON

Present:

Name / ODSA Position / Home Club

Voting attendees:

Mikola Czich / President / NDHQ Club Rep / NDHQ-RA-CASC
Lars Roberts / Secretary / Club Rep / Cascades
Steve Gobel / Treasurer / RA Club Rep / RA
Denis Theriault / Sptq Club Rep / ODSA CUP Coord / Sporthèque
Steve Oakey / Web Master / Rankings Coordinator / RA
Heather Wallace / GL Club rep / Goodlife
Steve Wallace / Junior Committee Rep / RA
Maxym Leclair / Squash Outaouais
Steve White / Club Rep / Barrhaven
Charles Emond / Club Rep / Nepean
Mike Che / Club Rep / U of O
Lesley Kelly / Women's league and Club Rep / Osgoode

Non-voting attendees:

Cathie Wood / Women's League Coordinator Nominee
Steve Wren / Sporthèque
Brian Eldridge / Co Rankings Coordinator
Stephanie Bazin / RA

Roll Call

The President called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM and voting delegates were identified. The President declared the meeting open with quorum.

Agenda

The agenda was accepted as drafted. Additional items, as required, would be discussed at the end of the meeting as items from the floor.

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President's Comments

The President opened the meeting with some short comments on the state of squash in the National Capital Region. General sense is that it's in good shape.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was given by Steve Gobel. He provided an overview of the state of the ODSA account. He reported that the ODSA continues to be in sound financial health, with a standard of 6 months operating costs available if needed. Our main revenue stream continues to be city league, and women's league. Once again this year we have committed to support the Junior program, this sponsorship is the largest contribution and use of our ODSA funds.

Steve Gobel raised 3 questions for discussion;

1. Should the annual sponsorship fee on the ODSA web site be increased?
2. What period should sponsorships be valid?
3. Is there a preference for which financial period the ODSA reports on (fiscal year or calendar year)?

A brief discussion ensued. It was decided by unanimous vote that the sponsorship fee should remain \$100 per year, and the year should be whatever the squash fiscal year is. The financial reporting should be done using the ODSA fiscal year.

PORTFOLIO REPORTS

Open City League

The following comments and discussion were made WRT Open City League for the upcoming season:

Team declarations have been called for submission due date; October 1.

ODSA will continue to use PAR 15 scoring for City league. (except for Div.1)

A few clubs have yet to declare how many teams they will be submitting. But the numbers look solid and we will likely run a Division 7 this year.

Running of The Open CL will remain a three man effort. Mikola Czich will remain the lead coordinator with Steve Oakey and Brian Eldridge running the web based schedule and standings.

1 up 1 down system to continue. First session included.

\$150 per team league fee

Start date; October 12, 2016 (As per normal, the first Wed after Cdn Thanksgiving)

Maxym Leclair tabled an idea of creating an elite league of 32 players. Discussion ensued. There appeared to be interest from Steve Wren, Steve Oakey and Brian Eldridge to discuss the idea further and potentially get something off the ground in the new year. A committee of the above mentioned individuals was struck to develop the idea and bring it back to the board for more discussion at a later date.

Women's City League

The previous Women's League Coordinator, Lesley Kelly, will be replaced by Cathie Wood. A report on the state of the league follows.

Approximately 40 full time players participating in the weekly (Thursday) league at the RA. Heather Wallace reported that she also has 40 ladies playing in the Goodlife weekly league. Some discussion ensued on how to potentially merge the two or at the least have them cross pollinate from time to time. No specific promises were made at this time. Lesley Kelly indicated that getting court time at other clubs continued to be an issue for the ladies league.

ODSA CUP

Denis Theriault offered to run the Adrian Dudzicki ODSA Cup again for the upcoming season. He was thanked by the board for his efforts last year. It was suggested by some board members that they would like to see the tournament start earlier. Denis hopes to get it off the ground before December 2016. Some comments from last year's tournament included:

Online payment system worked for him

The numbers were low last year (50) and the ideal number would be closer to 70.

Oliver to sponsor

The Cup finals to be held on the ODSA Closing Social and Awards Night

\$10 per player will continue to be the tourney fee

Juniors and women were not well-represented

"A" players were the toughest to recruit and play matches in a timely manner

Juniors

On the ODSA junior front, it was reported that:

A new category would be added (Novice) to the Grand Prix circuit

Goodlife will be hosting (November 20, 2016) a Silver event

Juniors are looking for sponsorship for a trip to Toronto as part of an exchange with a team there. The Jesters are putting up money to assist with this event.

Junior program will continue to seek ODSA sponsorship for various activities and programs in the ODSA.

Each club reported briefly on the extent of their club's junior program.

ODSA Website/RANKENSTEIN

Steve Oakey and Brian Eldridge will continue on as co-ranking-coordinators. Jim Kenwood had provided Steve with 6 local squash profiles to be added to the site.

Allen Ford was engaged to create a new look ODSA logo. A version of the new design was passed around and a discussion ensued on whether the ODSA was willing to pay \$650 for it. A motion to move forward with the design was carried. At the end of the meeting during other business discussion, Charles Emond asked if it was possible to create a design that was bilingual. No formal decision was made on to redesign the brand, but a healthy discussion ensued to be continued at a later date.

Rankings

Stephan Lussier continues to update the RANKENSTEIN APP which currently boasts approximately 500 players.

Steve Gobel requested that birth dates be required information within profiles to help with filters.

Steve Oakey and Brian Eldridge were working on including districts like Kingston to Rankenstein.

They have been approached by other cities and countries asking to have their clubs included within Rankenstein

Officiating;

Norm Brie has stepped down from his position as Coordinator.

No rules clinic has been scheduled this year

Mikola Czich provided an explanation of what that position entails

Steve White offered to take on the role, rules clinic date to be organized with Penny Glover and proposed soon

2016-2017 ODSA Executive

The proposed slate for the ODSA Executive Committee was presented to those attending the AGM as per the table below:

Position	Name / Club
President	Mikola Czich / NDHQ-RA-Cascades
Treasurer	Steve Gobel / RA
Secretary	Lars Roberts / Cascades
Open City League / Coordinator	Mikola Czich / NDHQ-RA-Cascades
Open City League / Scheduler	Steve Oakey & Brian Eldridge / RA
Junior Coordinator	Ralph Shillington / ORL
Women's City League	Cathie Wood / RA
Officiating Co-ordinator	Steve White / BARR
Web Master	Steve Oakey / RA
ODSA Cup	Denis Theriault / Sporthèque
Rankings Co-ordinator	Steve Oakey / RA
Tournament Co-ordinator	Mikola Czich / NDHQ-RA-Cascades
Public Relations Coordinator	empty
Member at Large	none

The above slate, to serve as the 2016-2017 ODSA Executive Committee, was unanimously supported by the AGM attendees.

The previous board was thanked for all their hard work over the previous year.

Other Business:

2016-2017 tentative tourney schedule will be posted on the ODSA web site shortly, the upcoming tourneys over the next month are:

Sporthèque Halloween special October 21-23, 2016

Goodlife QV PSA + Amateur Open 10-13 November 2015

Info available at the AGM indicated that no open tourney was planned for the OAC this season. (Secretarial note: OAC has since indicated that they will host a Feb.2017 OAC Open.)

Three questions were submitted in advance of the AGM to be raised as part of the other business portion of the meeting.

1. What discussion points were raised with/by Squash ON during informal meetings with ODSA President Mikola Czich this year:
 - Mikola advised the attendees of this meeting that he spoke with Jan Lardner and Jamie Nicholls about the general on-goings of the ODSA.
 - They discussed SQ ON's efforts to modernize their efforts to bring squash players in the province into an all-inclusive ranking system as well as developing a pay per player option to join SQ ON.

2. Are there plans to increase the number of qualified referees in the ODSA area? And is there any hope of getting the two universities to support squash both locally and nationally?
 - Max spoke with Jan and Jamie (SQ ON) about getting funding for the universities
 - Mikola advised that he has attempted to discuss squash with the university sports coordinators, but has had little success

3. It is noted that the current board has been sitting for over 7 years. Was there any plan for succession planning?
 - Lesley Kelly suggested that the board send out a request for interested participants well in advance of the AGM (April).
 - Mikola noted that finding volunteers to sit on the board was always a priority and that while there may not have been any turnover in the executive; the ODSA board has many volunteers in several of the other positions that have changed hands over the same time frame. To date there has not been a challenge for the executive positions.

Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2130 hrs. An invite for a refreshment in the RA Fieldhouse, on the tab of the ODSA, was made by Mikola Czich as the meeting was closing.

original signed by

Drafted By: Lars Roberts/ ODSA Secretary

original signed by

Reviewed By: Mikola Czich / ODSA President