

DRAFT V2

MINUTES

OTTAWA AND DISTRICT SQUASH ASSOCIATION (ODSA)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD 27 AUGUST 2007, 7:00 P.M.

AT THE RA CENTRE, 2451 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, OTTAWA, ON K1H 7X7

Present:

Neil Tubb, ODSA President, In the Chair
Morteza Doroudian, ODSA Vice-President & Treasurer / OAC Representative
Penny Glover, ODSA Secretary
Janice Lardner, ODSA Junior Committee Representative
Paulette Cogliati, ODSA Women's City League Coordinator
Mikola Czich, ODSA Special Projects Coordinator
Tracey Lyall, RA Representative
Heather Wallace, Goodlife Queensview Representative
Paul Hough, Canadian Club Representative
Gabriel Thibault, Ottawa University Representative
Craig Landry, NDHQ Representative
Susan Carbone RA
Dan Madge, RA
Andrew Gebhardt, RA
Cliff Hayes, Cdn Club
Sonia Hunaiti, OAC

Apologies for Absence:

Brian Eldridge, ODSA Men's City League Coordinator & Webmaster
Eric Johnston, ODSA Rankings Coordinator
Lori O'Brien, ODSA Junior Committee Lead

1. Roll Call

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and voting delegates were identified as noted by representatives above. Current Executive members have one vote each and an additional vote if also a club representative. The Chair declared the meeting in quorum. The agenda was approved.

2. Minutes of 2006 Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 5 June 2006 had been circulated prior to the meeting and were approved on a motion by Tracy Lyall, seconded by Morteza Doroudian. There were no matters arising.

3. President's Report

Neil Tubb provided an oral summary of the past year's activity. He expressed appreciation for the work of Morteza Dorodian in relation to administering the Association's finances. He noted that Brian Eldridge had started the very popular ODSA Cup which he planned to continue in the new season. He also mentioned the support given to our juniors as a result mainly of the support from City League contributions.

4. Treasurer's Report

Morteza Dorodian noted that the role of the Treasurer had changed since the Junior Committee were now administering their own budget. Morteza provided a written report to the meeting which showed that the Association had run at a small loss of \$458.43, as planned. The Association had \$2342.75 on hand as of August 27, 2007. He noted that increased Open League fees had provided additional revenue. Neil Tubb referred to the decision made several years ago and confirmed at last year's AGM to aim at reducing the monies carried by the Association by making a bigger contribution to programs, especially juniors.

On a motion by Paul Hough, seconded by Craig Landry the Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously

5. Report on 2007 Squash Ontario AGM

Morteza Dorodian also reported on the Squash Ontario (SO) AGM which he attended on behalf of the Association on June 2, 2007 at Niagara-on-the-Lake, as Neil Tubb had been unable to attend.

He noted that a large concern by SO was the delivery on promises by Squash Canada to the provinces. SO planned to raise the matter at the Squash Canada AGM. Their intention is to set a plan to measure Squash Canada performance. Penny Glover mentioned that subsequent discussions had taken place between Squash Ontario and Squash Canada prior to the meeting and a better understanding had been arrived at. Morteza mentioned that he also attended the meeting of Regional Presidents and found that all regions had common problems. He noted that Squash Ontario is still pushing regions to have all players in leagues required to be individual members of Squash Ontario. He noted that other regional websites were not as comprehensive as the ODSA site and he had suggested standardization of an approach to regional sites. Squash Ontario had indicated that it felt it was better to let regions run their own websites as they did not have the resources to be involved. Janice Lardner felt it was preferable we run our own site.

Other issues discussed were junior clinics, aging population, and the retention of professionals. Niagara region appeared to have the most successful league with entry fees at \$300 per team. Janice Lardner mentioned that this league is very active, socially involved and with many juniors playing at their level irrespective of age. Everyone is concerned to increase junior numbers and involvement for the future of the game.

6. Portfolio Reports

Men's City League

Brian Eldridge sent his apologies for absence but it was noted that the league had run very well last year and Dan Madge would be the new coordinator for 07-08.

Women's City League

Outgoing coordinator, Paulette Cogliati invited Susan Carbone, last year's league treasurer and the proposed coordinator for next, to provide a report. Susan noted that the Women's City League had a very successful year with 40 women per session involved plus 15 regular spares. There had been lots of new players at the 3-4 levels with some younger players coming in. Camaraderie and socialization were positive aspects. The league was looking to continue to bring in younger players. Susan expressed the league's appreciation of the ball allocation. Organization was already underway for the new season and a mini-executive in place.

Rankings

Mikola Czich reported for Eric Johntson that the ranking system had gone well as all men's city league results were entered. However, it would be better if tournament results were also posted. Women's league results are not being entered and Susan Carbone agreed to raise this issue.

Junior Development

In Lori O'Brien's absence abroad, Janice Lardner presented Lori's written report. She outlined the committee's mandate, noting in particular that the committee had agreed it was not its role to run junior tournament/events but rather to provide support to the individual clubs and coaches to do so. She thanked Glenn Brown for creating and maintaining the ODSA junior website which was linked to the ODSA site. She noted that the committee had raised \$400 from the sale of Christmas wreaths last year and this initiative would be done again this year. She offered the committee's commendation to the area's junior coaches, Johnny Wilson, Heather Wallace and Ron Hughes. She noted that John Wilson was awarded the Coach of the Year Award by Squash Ontario and Heather Wallace will be inducted into the Ontario Squash Hall of Fame in September. The Association offered their congratulations.

Detailed activities were outlined in the report as well as the plans for next year. Janice also present the Junior Development Committee's Profit and Loss and Balance Sheet for the year with comparison sheet for the previous year and noted that the current balance was \$1,874.33. She indicated a special thanks to the Ruskin family who had donated all their meal allowances.

A discussion took place on the new format of 'home and away' Squash Ontario wanted for next season. Heather Wallace explained the "Grand Prix" approach for junior in Ottawa to give them more experience towards silver events.

Officiating

Penny Glover reported on last year's activities, which were only rules clinics. It was intended to conduct an Officiating Clinic in the new season.

Web Development

There was no official report but Brian Eldridge was congratulated on his running of the website.

7. 2007/08 Executive

The proposed Executive for the 2007/08 season had been circulated. At that time no-one had been nominated for Vice-President & Treasurer. Since that time, Gabriel Thibault had agreed to stand for this position. There were no further nominations from the floor for any positions so the following were presented and elected:

President:	Mikola Czich
Treasure / Vice-President:	Gabriel Thibault
Secretary	Penny Glover
Open City League Coordinator	Dan Madge
Women's City League Coordinator	Susan Carbone
Junior Coordinator	Lori O'Brien
Rankings Coordinator	Eric Johnston
Officiating Coordinator	Penny Glover

8. Other Business

Rust Remover Tournament

Mikola Czich indicated he was organizing this. It was agreed to bring forward the date to September 28-30.

Masters Encouragement

Cliff Hayes outlined efforts that he and others were making to encourage a lifelong experience of squash. Paul Hough provided everyone with a copy of their poster for a "Freedom 55 Squash League" for both men and women. Cliff indicated that they had difficulty in finding a time slot. It was suggested that they also talk to Vincent Taylor who is active in masters squash.

Junior Encouragement

Mikola noted that the Association had sponsored a hole at the annual Squash Ontario golf tournament in Toronto. The event was Squash Ontario's major money-raising effort for juniors.

What was being done at the schools level was raised. Janice responded that it is difficult to get schools directly involved in programs, as there are no budgets for such activities. Nevertheless, the Jr committee promoted the game in high schools and had sent out notices last year indicating the Association would sponsor 4 players to go to the Ontario High Schools tournament.

Inter-Region Friendly Exchanges (A, B & C levels)

Mikola indicated that he would be promoting friendly playing exchanges with Montreal and COSA in the coming season.

Appreciation

On behalf of the Association, Penny Glover expressed deep thanks to Neil Tubb, Morteza Doroudian and Brian Eldridge for the hard work and dedication during their time in office. Morteza had been handling the Association's finances quietly and efficiently for many, many years and they had all made a tremendous contribution to the ongoing success of organized squash in Ottawa.

8. Adjournment

On a motion by Paulette Cogliati, seconded by Penny Glover, the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

Prepared by:

Penny Glover
Secretary ODSA

Reviewed by:

Mikola S Czich
President ODSA