

OTTAWA AND DISTRICT SQUASH ASSOCIATION

Executive Meeting Minutes

Held at Boston Pizza, 1640 Carling Ave, Ottawa

July 18, 2019 – 7:00pm

Present:

Mikola Czich, President / CASC, RA
Lars Roberts, Vice President / CASC
Luz Osorio, Secretary / Carl, OAC
Ralph Shillington, ODSA Jrs / ORL
Steve Oakey, Rankings Coordinator / RA
Mark Chatterley, Junior Coach / WSQ
Assad Khan / RA
Tom Scholberg / OAC
Charles Emond / Nep
Vinit Kudva / UOtt

Opening Remarks

1. The meeting started with opening remarks from Mikola. He thanked all the attendees for their time and recognized the work done by the volunteers on the board, as well as the club reps.

Ottawa Squasher of the Year

2. There were 3 nominees remaining on the ballot for Ottawa Squasher of the Year for 2019. They were David Guest, Felix Scholberg and Vincent Taylor. Mikola distributed nomination write-ups for all 3 candidates as well as ballots for a secret ballot. Meeting members were given a chance to re-read nomination submissions and raise any questions or comments. With questions and comments limited, meeting members were asked to vote.
3. With an open reading of the ballots **Dave Guest** (with a solid majority of votes) was declared **Ottawa's Squasher of the Year for 2019**.

Squash Ontario AGM Feedback Report

4. Mikola and Ralph gave a verbal recap of the Squash Ontario AGM to which they attended in June 2019. Mikola said the meeting was of good value and the opportunity was used to catch up with Squash Ontario officials and improve relationships with them. Mikola noted that the relationship was cold a number of years ago but has been getting increasingly better. Mikola would like to initiate a change in the Squash Ontario constitution so that in addition to Ontario Squash Clubs, organized regions would have a single vote at SQ ON AGMs. He liaised with

the Kingston regional rep to solicit support for this idea. Sq ON Exec Director had no problems with having organized regions given a vote at Sq ON AGMs, but he noted that a small amendment to the Sq ON constitution / by-laws would be needed.

5. Tom asked why we did not provide an ODSA regional recap for the Squash Ontario AGM as other regions had done so. Mikola indicated that it was a deliberate decision not to. If and when organized regions are given a vote in the AGM forum he would be eager to provide an ODSA regional recap.

Junior Committee Report

6. Ralph presented a preliminary junior committee report titled Financial Update. The report presented shows a balance of \$825.06 as of July 17, 2019.
7. Ralph indicated that a full report will be presented at the AGM.
8. Ralph talked about a new funding formula that is being discussed within the committee. It constitutes one-to-one matching from Squash Ontario for each amount raised. However, there will be conflict between Ottawa and Gatineau juniors as Squash Ontario would want their contribution amounts used for Ontario juniors. The committee plans to meet with Squash Quebec to try to set up a similar arrangement.
9. In addition and to mitigate conflict of interest or bias perceptions, the junior committee will establish a player sponsorship formula which will detail the funding program and outline all conditions and requirements. The document will be ready at the beginning of the season and available to everyone via the ODSA website.
10. Currently there are only 3 members sitting on the board of the junior committee. The committee is willing to have more volunteers and has advertised this. Tom suggested having a junior sitting on the board to which Ralph and Mark indicated they were interested in supporting.
11. The junior committee will try to collaborate with Kingston to have a Squash Ontario Junior Bronze at Queens University next season.
12. Vinit mentioned that there will be two university tournaments in the city next season. He invites juniors to attend as spectators to get a feel for university squash. Ralph and Mark agreed it was a good idea. Vinit will share details when the date approaches.
13. Charles highlighted and thanked the junior committee for all their efforts and recent initiatives/programs which are helping grow and improve junior squash in the region.

Goodlife Squash Shift to Wallace Squash

- 14.** Mikola and Mark gave an update on the recent changes at Goodlife Queensview. Goodlife ended all squash programs in Ontario. However, Heather Wallace was able to strike a deal with Goodlife Queensview and for an initial 1 year contract. She will be running the “Wallace Squash” club out of the Goodlife Queensview courts. It is an independent program and has no connection with Goodlife other than use of its courts.
- 15.** Mark indicated that the program will likely resemble the previous Goodlife club in terms of schedule, lessons, and tournaments, etc. The Wallace Squash Club will participate in ODSA events including City League as Goodlife Queensview had in the past.

ODSA AGM for 2019

- 16.** The ODSA AGM date/time was set for Sept 24th at 7:00pm.
- 17.** Vinit asked if it would be possible to open a conference bridge for people who could not attend. It was discussed and agreed that Luz would set up a bridge for listening purposes only. Luz indicated that this would be a relatively simple process and it would be done at no cost to ODSA.
- 18.** Mikola indicated that the RA was a preferred location due to room sizes and layouts. He would look to book the AGM at the RA.
- 19.** Luz raised concern that no detailed financial update has been provided since the start of the season. She requested that a full financial report be provided 30 days before the AGM. Mikola indicated that he would work with the treasurer and others to get an annual financial update completed and distributed as early as possible before the upcoming AGM.

OAC Organized Inter Club Tourney

- 20.** Tom brought up an initiative from Stephen Neal (OAC). He would like to run an interclub tournament at the end of the season. The tournament would be in a team format and each club would have autonomy on how the teams are formed. Charles mentioned that the teams should have set requirements in order to make them inclusive off all levels, gender and age categories. Tom said he would pass the feedback along to Stephen.
- 21.** Attendees generally supporting the concept but highlighted that ODSA’s only role in the tournament would be to add to the schedule, advise of local conflicting dates and ODSA advertising. Logistics, funding, resources, etc, would be the responsibility of OAC.

Comments and Complaints for ODSA Jr Committee

22. The attendees discussed comments that Luz has heard regarding the junior committee. Ralph and Mark indicated that Junior committee questions/concerns/complaints should be raised with the Junior Committee, not as ODSA exec agenda items. It was advised that a junior committee email has been setup and all concerns, comments and complaints should be directed there. The email is **juniors@odsa.ca**.

Junior Prix Schedule 2019/20

23. Tom advises that the OAC would like to continue hosting two junior prix events next season. He asks the junior committee to be added in the schedule. Ralph and Mark noted the request. Recent history had The OAC never hosting two junior prix events in one season, however, it was duly noted that the OAC would like to host two events this upcoming season. The Junior Committee will draft a schedule and circulate it around to all the club reps prior to the start of the season and invite all of the clubs to host with a plan to distribute the tournaments as evenly as possible and otherwise to award them based on which club volunteers first.

24. The junior prix schedule will be posted at the beginning of the season.

Recent End of Season Awards

25. Regarding Mikola's institution of a new award at the Season Ending Social in April 2019. Mikola read out a statement in which he explained the history of awards at the season ending social and his rationale for creating the award. He recognizes it was not proper form to not provide advance notice for the award and apologized to Steve Oakey, Greg Archi and Luz Osorio for the surprise presentation at the end of the night. Steve and Luz accept Mikola's apology. Mikola confirmed and clarified that the award plaque was funded by him, not ODSA.

26. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 PM.

minutes drafted by

Luz Osorio, ODSA Secretary

minutes vetted and signed by

Mikola Czich / ODSA President