

SquashPEI 2018 AGM

June 20th, 2018

5:30pm

128 Georgetown Road, Stratford PE

In Attendance: Lester Jinks, Ken Sampson, Jo Spencer, Brian Ashby, Thomas Walker, BJ McLean

Minutes

Meeting Called to Order at 5:40pm by Lester Jinks

1. Approval of Agenda for the 2018 AGM.

- Ken Sampson would like to add a discussion about Club Locker to the agenda
- Moved to adopt by Lester Jinks, Brian Ashby seconds.

2. Approval of the 2017 AGM minutes.

- Lester Jinks summarized the 2017 minutes
- Ken Sampson moves to accept, Jo Spencer seconds

3. President's Report: Lester Jinks

- Lester Jinks confirms that all have received his copy of the president's report.
- Lester briefly summarizes his report [some notes taken from report]:
 - a. We have a small executive, only six members. This is a "small-but-mighty" executive - it has been a very busy season but also a successful one. Lester thanks the members of the executive for their dedication to the sport and SquashPEI.
 - b. Lester thanks Andrew Avery who continued to help out with tournament draws despite having moved to Alberta.
 - c. SquashPEI hosted 6 tournaments:
 - i. Rust Remover
 - ii. Aspin Cup
 - iii. UPEI Open
 - iv. Mill River Open
 - v. PEI Open
 - vi. Atlantic Open
 - d. The Atlantic Open included our first 5K Vogue Optical PSA (Professional Squash Association) event. This tournament was championed by John Power and was a huge success. It also represented a big learning experiences for hosting these types of events. Players from 11 countries across 5 continents came to the event. A big thank you to the sponsors, in particular Vogue Optical for their support.

What was learned: Need better software, spread the workload out, and to become familiar with potential cost overrides. As we hope to host another PSA event, we need to be very prepared.

We are delighted to announce that we have just secured a 3-year funding contract to run a PSA event on behalf of the late John Aspin. He is considered the grandfather of squash on PEI. The event will run in late September/early October.

- e. We ran a number of coaching programs this year. 1. beginner, 2. novice and 3. advanced junior coaching programs. There were two sessions of our ~10-week program. These sessions were well attended. This was run through the new software program sportyHQ. We recognize that work needs to be done in ensuring people are properly registered for these clinics.

Proposals going forward are to have better control of registration and collecting payments, and shorter lessons for the beginner group.

A big thank you to the coaches: John Power (head coach), Derek Lawther, BJ MacLean, Zach Stevens, Lester Jinks, Liam Jinks, Emma Jinks, Logan Anderson, and Thomas Cheeseman. We really appreciate your help and dedication.

In addition, Mitch Chaisson hosted the 'Adult Intro to Squash' sessions, a big thank you to him.

- f. SquashPEI took part in World Squash Day on September 30th, 2017. Every province across Canada also hosted events, and we were proud to be part of the national/international event.
- g. During March break, we hosted an 'Intro to Squash' event in two locations: Summerside and Charlottetown. Thank you to Kelly MacWilliams for setting this up. Data Betts and his daughter Reagan ran the event in Summerside, and Nathan Phillips and John Power ran the Charlottetown event. A big thank you to them.
- h. We represented Squash at the Grade 6 multisport program. Andy Gallant championed this and we appreciated his involvement.
- i. League: We had another successful league with 60 players taking part in four 6-week sessions. It remains a great way to integrate players of all levels and thanks again to Ken Sampson and John Power for running the league.
- j. We were able to send an Elite team to the Canadian National Master's Teams event this year, our first time ever. We are pleased with our performance.
- k. SquashPEI unsuccessfully applied for matching funding for a coaching position. This is disappointing as we really could use a full-time coach and administrator as volunteers are often hard to come by. With an administrator, we could be in a better position to secure funding.
- l. SquashPEI had our annual awards banquet at the PEI Brewing Company. Congratulations to all the winners. Special thanks were made to Chris Mills and his fellow PSA refs (Stevin Arsenault, Chris Toleman, and Ray Souchereau) that donated their time to officiate during the PSA event.

- m. We also sent both a men's and a women's Provincial Team to Nationals this year. The event was hosted by the Windsor Squash club in Ontario. We were the top performing Atlantic Province in the men's event. Sorry NS and NB. Womens Team: Emma Jinks, Suzie Fraser and Tara Tischio. Men's Team: Mike Buchanan, Connor Jinks and Liam Jinks. Thank you for your time and amazing squash.
- n. Junior squash on PEI: We have enjoyed a bubble of excellent high performance junior squash on PEI. Significantly Emma Jinks winning the Canadian Jnr open and finalist at Nationals U19. It would be great to have better recruiting programs in place. As is the problem with smaller provinces, the volunteers are stretched thin and cannot afford the time to recruit at the school level. Next year is a 'Canada Games' year. Thank you to our Canada Games coach, John Power and the Manager Shara Cody. It is a lot of work and requires dedication and we really appreciate what you are doing for squash on the Island.
- o. Squash PEI re-sanded the courts at the Spa and UPEI. A much-needed maintenance issue. Thank you, Ken and Benoit Sampson, Jo spencer, Liam Jinks and Mitch Chaisson. (The UPEI courts had varnish on their floors.)
- Brian moves to adopt and Jo seconds.

4. **Treasurer's Report:** Ken Sampson

- Another successful year in terms of budgeting and remaining slightly in the positive.
- Two items were noted as potential issues: having a person responsible for government funding, as well as better collection of coaching fees from players.
- Tournament revenue was 11,000. There was a loss on the PSA event.
- SportyHQ greatly helped with the management of membership and tournament fees. The minor costs were worth it.
- Lester moves to adopt and Brian seconds.

5. **New Season Changes/Comments:** Lester Jinks

- **Tournaments**
 - i. It would be nice to have the Maritime circuit going again, so we should coordinate with the other provinces.
 - ii. There are no atlantics this year, so 5 tournaments on PEI may be the right number.
 - iii. Mill River is largely self-contained so not a lot of input needed generally
 - iv. We need to have a future meeting to set the dates for the four remaining tournaments
- **Jo Spencer:**
 - i. We need more help and volunteers, BJ McLean agrees and added that more advanced notice for of volunteers would be helpful and maybe boost numbers
- **Ken Sampson:**
 - i. Tournament software was buggy at times when it came to draws (will speak about this and new software, Club Locker, in a later meeting)
- **Lester Jinks:**

- i. The official SquashPEI email isn't really used, let's see what Club Locker has to offer in terms of communication

6. New Business: Lester Jinks

- We will need a tournament Referee for the 2023 Canada Games. Chris Mills said he would do it, and SquashPEI endorses his participation.
- There will be a Canada Games legacy fund, what are the potential options for Squash on PEI?
- Lester moves to have Jo Spencer's expenses covered for her attendance at the Squash Canada AGM. All agree.

7. Election of Officers

- **President:**
 - i. Lester Jinks to return for another term.
 - ii. Brian Ashby moves to confirm, all vote in favour.
- **VP Female**
 - i. Jo Spencer to return
- **VP Male**
 - i. Zach Stephens to return (conditional)
- **Secretary**
 - i. Brian Ashby to return
- All three roles voted on and confirmed.
- **Treasurer**
 - i. Ken Sampson to hand role over to Chris McIntyre at financial year-end
 - ii. Ken will coordinate transition
 - iii. Ken to continue to do league/tournaments/memberships with the new software. All vote to confirm Chris as Treasurer, and Ken as tournament chair.
- **Junior Coaching Coordinator**
 - i. Lester asks if BJ McLean would volunteer to coordinate junior coaching. BJ agrees.
- **Technical/Miscellaneous**
 - i. Thomas Walker is nominated to join executive to adopt role as website maintenance and Club Locker. All vote in support.
 - ii. Suzie Fraser has also agreed to be part of executive, but is unable to attend AGM. Her role will be discussed in the future.

8. Membership Fees

- Discussion was had about encouraging more participation in tournaments, particularly from new and junior players. It was agreed that we should charge a reduced membership fee of \$10 for juniors, and keep adults at \$30. This encourages tournament participation. Ken also suggests a lower fee for first-time members – this will be discussed prior to season beginning.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.