



*Minutes from the*  
**2009 Annual General Meeting**  
**Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
**Hils Sports Bar, 6:30 PM**

**1. Call to Order**

Verification of Role Call:

Lester Jinks	– President
Kirsten Lund	– VP Women
Daniel Lazaratos	– VP Men
Ken Hopkins	– Treasurer
Derek Lawther	– Past President

Lay Persons in Attendance:

Michele LeClair  
Cynthia Dunsford

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Agenda was approved as circulated (moved by Michelle LeClair, seconded by Derek Lawther)

**3. Business Arising from 2009 AGM Minutes**

3.1 Member at Large

The minutes from the previous AGM denote the creation of a Member-at-Large position on the Executive committee. This position was not implemented due to the President recruiting campaign that was run over the course of the summer. The by-laws will be modified this summer by Derek Lawther so that the position can be implemented over the course of the 2009/2010 Squash PEI calendar year.

3.2 Squash Canada AGM

Squash PEI will be hosting the Squash Canada AGM in June 2009, specifically June 11th and 12. Derek Lawther is responsible for the overall organization of the AGM with Michelle LeClair responsible for organizing the golf activity. Normally a mixer would be organized, the information for its date and location will be provided at a later date.



#### **4. President's Report - Lester Jinks**

##### **Presidents Report, May 2009:**

Having completed my first year as president I would like to thank my very special committee members for their kindness and dedication. Derek Lawther my predecessor has been a superb role model and continues to be so dedicated to squash. Thanks to my wonderful Secretary Jillian Westcott and her hard work and lovely smile. To Ken our trusty treasurer who never missed a meeting. Thanks man.

To Dan Lazaratos, who, during his tenure also succeeded in bringing a beautiful daughter, Emma, into the world, thanks. Thanks also to Kirsten Lund our vice president for your help (especially with the DIVA) and keeping me on my toes.

When I started there were a few things I really hoped for:

1. I want to squash portrayed as the 'cool' game that it is.
2. I wanted to tie it in with a worthy cause...heartbeat.
3. I wanted there to be a suitable platform to thank and acknowledge those that had done so much for the sport.

I am very satisfied with the year.

We hosted the Men's National Teams event. This was a wonderful success due to the combined effort of a very capable committee: Thank you very much. The committee included: Kenny Power, Michele LeClair, Rhonda MacLean, Shawn Hughes, Jillian Westcott, Derek Lawther, Nicole Blanchard, Greg McQuaid, Jeremy Stiles, Ken Hopkins and Chris Mills. Do you know the budget for the event was over \$10 000 and we did not loose a cent in the process. Thanks Derek for having the confidence to submit the application to host this event.

It must also be noted that we entered 2 teams in this event and placed 7th overall. Well done boys. The team included: Scott Gamble, Mike Buchanan, Peter Webb, Travis Murphy, Stevin Arsenault, Chris Mills and moi.

Thanks to the clubs. In particular the Spa (Blair Hansen) and UPEI (Janice Robertson) for the many tournaments we hosted at your venues. We appreciate your kindness and cooperation.

We are pleased to be able to host the many squash tournaments. These include: Rust remover, Aspin Cup, The Handicap fun event, Mill River, PEI Open, Vogue Optical Junior Fund Raiser, PEI Open. I feel the Squash Tournaments were all excellent.



I am particularly excited about the number of juniors we have. Special thanks goes to Kenny Power and Danny Grant at the Spa and Derek Lawther and Cynthia Dunsford at UPEI for this dedication and work they put in the junior program. You guys are so appreciated.

At the recent Junior Jester Tournament in Halifax, the PEI Juniors were a dominant force in both numbers and results. Thank you to the juniors' we are very proud of you.

Squash is flourishing on the Island. I am so pleased we had a spectacular 96 participants in our last Island event.

I would like to say the 'Squash Ball' was a thoroughly enjoyable event. We raised close to \$3,000 dollars through ticket sales and the silent auction to donate to heartbeat. Thanks to our superb MC, Cam Beck and to all of you for your support. At the Ball we were so pleased to present a number of awards: Steve Rogers Award (positive attitude to fellow players) went to Jillian Westcott. Proper thing. Certificate of Merit's we handed out for outstanding contribution to squash. The recipients were: Gordon Lawlor, Kenny Power, Derek Lawther and Michele LeClair.

Congratulations it was such a pleasure giving you your awards.

The top male and female athletes' went to Mary Andrews and Mike Buchannan respectively. Well done, you deserve it. To the top junior athletes: Ryann Jinks and Greg McQuaid, congratulations and keep it up.

The 'Heart and Soul' awards (for juniors who have dedicated themselves to improving their game) went to: Josh Perry and Brandon Higginbotham. Great.

During this season we adopted the new 'point a rally' scoring system was adopted. It has its drawbacks, but it has been a godsend to organizers.

We also reduced the number of T-shirts for tournaments (reducing the entry cost) and opted for a quality 'dry fit' shirt. I think they are cool!

We purchased the new tournament software, which has been successfully utilized. Thanks Derek. In fact, through Derek the software was used to run the Atlantic Open tournament in Moncton.

During the summer the Canada Games coach Derek Lawther and the Manager Cynthia Dunsford will start working with the juniors to ready them for the Games in 2011. We wish you well and thank you for your commitment.



During this next term I would like to make some adjustments:

1. The Diva will be held at an earlier point in time. It is an excellent tournament and is a great segway to get woman players comfortable with tournament play.
2. The web site will be updated as it plays an important function within squash members.
3. We will be actively promoting squash to the media giving it a higher profile.
4. It would be great to have the squash ball again and continue to with a similar format.
5. The ranking system will be automatically calculated within our tournament software making it less labour intensive.

Again we fortunate to be involved in such a great sport with such a neat group of squash enthusiasts. Thanks again for your support.

Lastly this year would not have been possible without the support from my family.

Thanks Dawn, Ry, Con, Em and Liam.

Respectively submitted by Lester Jinks

## **5. Vice-President's Reports - Daniel Lazaratos, Kirstin Lund**

Daniel indicated that he would re-offer for the VP Men's position for the 2009-2010 calendar year. Kirstin announced that she would not be returning to the executive committee for the 2009-2010 calendar year.

## **6. Treasurer's Report - Ken Hopkins**

Ken presented the 2008-2009 Year End Financial Statements. Some items of note regarding the financial statement presented:

Some disbursement items are not shown in the financials as the figures have not yet been reported.

Squash Ball will not be posted until a final tally of all numbers have been reported.

Once final figures for all outstanding items have been provided, the financials will be updated and posted to the web site.

Once the discussion ended, the 2008-2009 Year End Financial Statement was approved as presented (moved by Michele LeClair, seconded by Cynthia Dunsford).



## 7. Committee Reports

### 7.1 Tournament Committee – Various

The 2008-2009 season was a success with a total of seven tournaments in all, six sanctioned and one fun tournament. This season marked an across the board decrease tournament entry fees, which, was well received by the entire membership.

The tournament committee is responsible for ensuring that everything is in order during the course of an event. When a tournament is wholly owned by Squash PEI, then the responsibility includes the site management. For tournaments that are not owned by Squash PEI, a \$4 sanction fee is charged as part of the sign-up fee to the tournament organizers in order to cover the cost of 1) On-Line registration, 2) Draw, 3) Squash Balls, and 4) Squash PEI Tournament Kit.

The following is a list of the current tournaments and their respective owners:

Squash PEI Owned: PEI Open, DIVA Open, Rust Remover, Crazy Eight's, Jr. Fundraiser  
Site/Org. Owned: Aspin Cup, Mill River

The committee would like recommend the following changes to the event calendar for the 2009-2010 season:

- UPEI Open: Move to November 27-30, 2009
- ASPIN Cup: Move to November 5-7, 2009
- DIVA Open: Move to October 23-24, 2009
- Mill River: Move to January 25-31, 2009 OR February 4-7, 2010. (Michele to confirm)
- Crazy Eight's: Move to February 25-27, 2010 OR March 4-5, 2010

A Suggestion was made to make the Crazy Eight's tournament the Junior Fundraiser; this will be discussed and decided upon at a later date.

Michele LeClair also committed to get back to the Executive Committee regarding the dates for both UPEI Open and Mill River Open.

### 7.2 Membership and Rankings - Daniel Lazaratos

The membership numbers for the season stayed fairly consistent with the previous year. The final rankings for the 2008-2009 squash season will be submitted for posting on the web site by Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009.



Daniel Lazaratos has also committed to investigate the use of a real-time ranking system to track player rankings in the province. The ideal system would integrate with the current tournament draw software that is being used.

### 7.3 Coaching and Junior Development - Derek Lawther, Cynthia Dunsford, Scott Gamble, Kenny Power

The main focus of the junior development program is to promote squash and help kids between the ages of 9-15 years of age develop a passion for the sport. The program is currently being run in three locations across the island:

UPEI: Derek Lawther, Cynthia Dunsford  
SPA: Kenny Powers  
Mill River: Scott Gamble

Derek Lawther is responsible for maintaining the coaching information for PEI coaches. Derek mentioned that he will be obtaining his Level 2 NCCP certification over the course of the summer. He also mentioned that he would like to encourage others to certify in order that there would be at least one Level 1 certified coach at each of the Island's squash facilities.

A motion is brought forward and passed unanimously for Squash PEI to provide Derek Lawther with the necessary support to explore avenues in which to further grow coaching on the Island (moved by Michele LeClair, seconded by Daniel Lazaratos).

### 7.4 2011 Canada Games - Derek Lawther and Cynthia Dunsford

Currently, Canada Games requires that a representing team have 1) a coach certified at Level 3, and 2) a Team Manager that must be certified at least to Level 1. The PEI team will have the necessary certified individuals by the time the games role around.

The official kick-off for the Canada Games squash program is set for May 23rd, 2009. The training teams will practice at UPEI and the program will be open to all PEI squash juniors. A package will be provided to all participants by Derek Lawther during the initial session, this package will be available on the web site for review by the members prior to the session.

The first Canada Games training session will be comprised of the following activities:

- Information session for parents and candidates
- Assessment Camps information
- Expected Training regimen
- Mini Tournament



7.5 Officiating - Vacant

No report was tendered.

7.6 Publicity and Website - Vacant

No report was tendered.

## **8. Consideration of Amendments to Bylaws**

No amendments to the current by-laws were presented during the AGM for consideration by the membership.

## **9. Election of 2009-2010 Officers**

- 9.1 President - Lester Jinks
- 9.2 Vice-President (Men) - Daniel Lazaratos
- 9.3 Vice-President (Women) - vacant
- 9.4 Treasurer - Cam Beck
- 9.5 Secretary - vacant

Note 1: Derek Lawther continues in his role of Past-President.

Note 2: If Shara Cody & Ryan Knockwood are agreeable, it is agreed by the membership that they will be elected to the roles of VP Women & Secretary by acclamation.

The executive will continue to actively recruit for the vacant positions on the Executive Committee.

## **10. Report on 2009-2010 Committee Membership**

- Tournament Committee: Lester Jinks, Kirtin Lund, Michele LeClair, Cynthia Dunsford
- Coaching and Junior Development: Derek Lawther, Cynthia Dunsford
- Officiating Committee: vacant
- Membership and Rankings Committee: Daniel Lazaratos
- Publicity and Website Committee: vacant

Standing committee composition will be finalized at a later date.



## **11. New Business**

### **11.1 Black Knight**

The contract with Black Knight has an effective duration of three years from date signed. This means that it is in force for the following Squash PEI calendar years: 2006-2007, 2007-2008, and 2008-2009.

The contract allows Squash PEI a 40% discount on retail discount meaning that Black Knight owes Squash PEI some money. Michele LeClair will follow through with Black Knight on behalf of Squash PEI.

### **11.2 Atlantics Reimbursement**

Lester Jinks is leery of allowing Squash PEI to fully subsidizing travel costs for participants that that travelled to the Atlantics tournament. Squash PEI had applied and received provincial grants to help support PEI teams' participation in the Atlantics, the breakdown was as follows:

- Elite Seniors training
- Elite Juniors training

A total of \$200 was allocated for each elite team to be used to offset travel costs and registration fees. As there were no elite teams that were sent to the Atlantics from PEI, there exists an unused amount of money that could be used to help pay for the folks that did attend.

The executive will differ this discussion to a later date in order to 1) review the minutes from a previous meeting on this subject as well as to 2) properly evaluate the impact on the finances.

## **12. Adjournment**

The 2008-2009 AGM was adjourned (moved by Daniel Lazaratos, seconded by Cynthia Dunsford).