

Minutes from the 2010 Annual General Meeting

May 19th, 2010

Hil's Sports Bar, 6:30pm

1. Call to Order

Verification of Role Call:

Lester Jinks – President

Dan Lazaratos – VP Men

Shara Cody – VP Women & Secretary

Cam Beck – treasurer

Ryan Knockwood – Media Relations

Lay Persons in Attendance:

John Power

Nathalie Lefrancois

2. Approval of Agenda

Agenda was approved as circulated (moved by Dan Lazaratos, seconded by Cam Beck)

3. Approval of 2009 AGM Minutes

2009 AGM minutes were approved as circulated (moved by Shara Cody, seconded by Cam Beck)

4. Business Arising from 2009 AGM Minutes

4.1 Member at Large

Creation of a member-at-large position on the executive committee was discussed at the 2009 AGM but not implemented as clarification of the purpose and role of this position are needed for the current executive committee to review.

5. President's Report – Lester Jinks

Presidents Report, May 2010

Looking back on the season, I must thank those wonderful dedicated members of my committee: Cam Beck, Shara Cody, Ryan Knockwood, Derek Lawther and Daniel Lazaratos for which I give credit for a successful year. Thank you for your dedication and commitment.

During this year we saw a steady increase in the number of participants in tournaments. We had a great group of new players that have become active tournament participants. Welcome aboard!

Our juniors continue to perform well. We had 8 PEI representatives at the Canadian Junior Open in Montreal. The most ever! We had really strong junior competitors at tournaments on and off the Island with outstanding results.

We have been working behind the scenes on a new ranking system, which we look forward implementing at the start of the next season.

We invested in good quality tournament dry fit shirts. These have proved very popular with local players and players from our sister provinces.

With the next season being a 'Canada Games' season we very much appreciate of the work our Coach Derek and their manager Cynthia Dunsford have already done with our juniors. Thanks to the hard work our juniors have put into the CG trials period. Congrats to the players that made the cut. I am optimistic this next year will be a great year.

I am still excited about the number of juniors we have. Special thanks 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 are so very much appreciated.

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 excited about the prospect of having our UPEI squash court repaired this spring.

We are pleased to have been able to host the many squash tournaments. These include: Rust remover, Diva, Aspin Cup, UPEI Open, Crazy Eights, Mill River, Junior fund Raiser and PEI Open.

We also made it policy to provide better value at the tournaments. You will now be able to enjoy some early morning Java and snacks. (A welcome treat for those early morning games.) We have improved our tournament meal package and, for the first time, used alternate venues for our Island tournaments socials.

Last season we had our first 'Squash Ball'. This year we hosted our second annual 'Squash Ball' held at the lovely Belvedere Country Club. It, again, was a thoroughly enjoyable event. It serves as a wonderful end of year platform to acknowledge those who have made valuable contributions to squash. It also serves as an opportunity to encourage our juniors whom we are very proud of.

We raised approximately \$1500 (through the silent auction) which will be donated to the 'Mikinduri Children of Hope' charity.

At the Ball we were so pleased to present a number of awards: The 'Steve Rogers' Award, (positive attitude to fellow players) went to Shara Cody- Proud of you Shara. Our first "Squash Player of the decade" award went to Gordon Lawlor. Still going strong!

The top male and female athletes' went to Mary Andrews and Lester Jinks respectively. To the top junior athletes: Ryann Jinks and Nicholas Trainor, congratulations and keep it up. Most improved Junior: Samantha Lawther and Quincy Beck. The 'Heart and Soul' awards (for Juniors who have dedicated themselves to improving their game) went to: Angus McInnis and Chaucer Fraser. Well done. Congratulations. It was such a pleasure giving you your awards.

We are excited as our region is gearing up for a great season. Work is in progress to establish an Atlantic Cup Teams event.

My wish list for the next season will be as follows:

1. See at least 1, (preferably 2) referee courses.
2. Implement the new ranking system.
3. That our very young CG squash team have a rewarding experience.
3. That we can establish regional events to expand squash in our area.

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

6. Vice Presidents' Report

Dan Lazaratos will be volunteering in the men's VP position for the 2010/2011 season and Shara Cody will be offering for the women's VP position.

7. Treasurer's Report- Cam Beck

- Tournament registrations do not properly reflect membership fees as many people missed paying membership fees. Next season, the committee intends to make a firm system for collecting membership dues at the beginning of the season.

- Funds raised from the "Junior Fundraiser Tournament" need to be contributed back to junior development in the community. Cam Beck suggested trying to get more juniors who don't regularly go to off island tournaments to attend by subsidizing their registration in order to strengthen their relationship with the core junior group.

- Lester Jinks thanked Cam Beck for putting up with the logistical nightmare of finances, especially for the PEI Open.

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Tournament Committee – various

During the 2009-2010 season, a total of seven tournaments were held on PEI. Six of these tournaments were sanctioned and one, the Crazy Eights tournament, was a "for fun" tournament. All of the tournaments were a success.

Kelly MacWilliams has volunteered to run the Diva tournament for the 2010-2011 season. Lester will ask Kelly to serve on the executive committee as the secretary for the 2010-2011 season (Kelly confirmed her intent to serve as secretary at a later date and will be added to the official executive committee beginning in June 2010).

Lester Jinks suggested increasing the SquashPEI sanction fee from \$4 to \$5 beginning September 2010 – moved by Cam Beck, seconded by Dan Lazaratos.

The executive committee needs to draft a contract describing how tournaments will be run, particularly for those tournaments not “owned” by Squash PEI (Aspin Cup, UPEI Open, MillRiver) – report?

8.2 Membership and Rankings Committee – Dan Lazaratos

Membership & Rankings

For the calendar 2009-2010 year, Squash PEI accounted for a total of 126 registered members in its organization. There are 79 men and 48 women registered, and 16 of the total number comprise our junior player contingent (13 boys, 3 girls).

One of the challenges encountered by the Membership and Ranking committee during the course of the year was the inability to maintain accurate membership information. This was primarily due to missing a number of registered (?) member forms. It is worth noting that the current membership database contains data entered from completed membership forms in our possession as well as tournament results information.

My recommendation to avoid this issue in the future is to proceed as follows:

1. Use the Tournament software as the primary vehicle to capture membership registration,
 - a. Phone-in registrants to be provided a membership form with their tournament kit,
 - b. Membership form(s) must be filled-in and signed prior to playing first match,
 - c. TC to provide completed membership forms to the M&R committee.
2. After each tournament, draw master to provide an export of the registration information to the M&R committee,
3. M&R committee to update membership list based on information provided.

For the current year, it was decided to split the rankings out based on gender.

Automated Ranking System

After reviewing the Quick-Draws system it is my recommendation that we proceed with the implementation of this system for the next Squash PEI calendar year. The reasons for this recommendation are as follows:

1. Provides members with a wealth of data regarding their personal statistics,
 - a. Matches -- Wins/Loses
 - b. Matches – Opponents
 - c. Standing
2. Ranking points are assigned based on:
 - a. Ranking of Opponent
 - b. # of Games Won/Lost
3. Rankings are easily updated
 - a. Tournament software results can be imported into system.
4. It's Inexpensive
 - a. \$1 per registered Squash PEI member on a yearly basis
 - b. \$126 based on our current membership.

- Committee agreed that details regarding what a Squash PEI annual membership includes should be provided/advertised to players. The committee intends to make cards or handouts and possibly a portion of the website to describe the membership details which will include: insurance information (ask Derek Lawther for details), ranking system participation and maintenance, reduced fees when playing in off island tournaments (as a regional provincial squash membership is required to play in most tournaments).

8.3 Coaching and Junior Development – Derek Lawther and Cynthia Dunsford

- Lester reported that Danny and Kenny Power continue to do great work with kids at the Spa and that Derek Lawther is concentrating on the Canada Games PEI Squash team kids. Lester pointed out that the committee needs to ensure that kids not participating at Canada Games or in the training do not feel left out.

- Committee agreed that more time and effort from the committee's actions and plans should go towards junior development
- Junior round robin at the spa on Wednesday's needs to be advertised (ladies' night at the spa needs advertising and participation as well- more effort into advertising these leagues next season)

8.4 Officiating Committee – Vacant

Volunteers are needed to form an officiating committee and someone with a high enough certification to watch and sign books for those attempting to obtain officiating signatures.

- Lester suggested asking Chris Mills to run a referee clinic

8.5 Publicity and Website

Thank you to Ken Hopkins for beginning to create a new website. Some information remains to be transferred over from the old website onto the new website. The committee will look into hiring someone to finish the website.

9. Consideration of Amendments to Bylaws

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

10. Election of 2010-2011 Officers

- 10.1 President – Lester Jinks
- 10.2 Vice President (Men) – Dan Lazaratos
- 10.3 Vice President (Women) – Shara Cody
- 10.4 Treasurer – Cam Beck
- 10.5 Promotion and Marketing – Ryan Knockwood

10.6 Secretary – vacant

Note 1: Lester Jinks offered to remain president of Squash PEI for the 2010-2011 season – this was accepted by all members.

Note 2: if Kelly MacWilliam agrees to serve as secretary, the committee accepts her offer to serve.

Note 3: Ryan Knockwood asked the committee if it would be necessary for him to step down from the committee due to his post 2009-2010 season establishment as the PEI representative for Harrow Canada. In order to ensure there is no conflict of interest in the committee, Ryan as the Harrow rep and Shara Cody as his wife, will abstain from all voting regarding corporate contracts.