



MINUTES OF THE 2020 SQUASH ONTARIO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
Held on August 19, 2020, 2:40 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting

Robert Mansbridge, President of Squash Ontario, acted as Chair of the meeting and called the meeting to order. Lynsey Yates, Squash Ontario staff, acted as Secretary of the meeting.

The Chair stated that proper notice of the meeting was given to the members of Squash Ontario and that quorum was present either by the person or an authorized delegate. The Secretary noted that 32 member clubs were present exceeding the quorum of 22. The 32 member clubs represented 125 individual votes.

Upon motion duly proposed (Eric Baldwin, Badminton & Racquet Club), seconded (Louis Cyr, Kingston Garrison Squash Club), and unanimously carried, it was

**Resolved that:**

**The reading of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Members of Squash Ontario held on 14 June 2019 at the Richmond Hill Golf Club are waived and the minutes approved.**

Board of Directors Report

The following was presented by Robert Mansbridge, Squash Ontario President.

I would like to thank all of you who have made the time to attend this year's annual general meeting in these extraordinary times. As you all know the challenges our squash community face today mean job and club status are threatened, while our sport sits on the sidelines waiting for better times. But it is heart-warming to see the extraordinary actions of so many of our community to help get us ready for what we know will be a gradual steady recovery to a better place. So thanks to those in attendance, and for all your support.

Let me recognize the contribution of Bruce Marrison at this time, as he moved on to Squash Canada in 2019, after helping steer Squash Ontario to new heights over the six years he was a member of the board. I am particularly jealous of his speech at last year's AGM as President when he was able to describe so much momentum and success for 2018-2019.

But for Covid-19 I would be telling you of even more glowing results for 2019-2020 as every aspect of Squash in Ontario was on the rise. We were on our way to another record season for participation and revenue generation when disaster struck.

The positives we did achieve will set the bar for us to measure our success going forward.

Junior participation continued forward momentum with a small growth, while adults jumped up by 8% with thanks in particular to a surging women's demographic. University squash had another banner season with the solidification of the Jesters University League and addition of Women's teams from Ottawa, Concordia and York and men's teams from Concordia providing a gender equitable 12 men's



and 12 women's team for the first time and a critical platform for a total of 320 student athletes. This a good moment to recognize the contribution of staff member Waseem Mansoor, as this is what kept him so busy. Thank you Waseem.

And perhaps most importantly was the launch of operation OFSAA (Ontario Federation of Schools Athletic Association), led by staff member Alison Le Ber which welcomed 10 new high school teams from all regions in the province including Ottawa, Sudbury and Sarnia. We see High School and University squash as the future of our sport and will continue to devote resources in order to ensure the long-term growth of our game. We thank Alison for her vision and passion to move the needle on this critical platform.

In addition to the ongoing support from the Ontario Government, we have many to thank for their financial support. Fund raising continued to grow to new heights and with thanks to our Platinum (Equity Builders, Jesters of Ontario, Slight Music, Travel Edge, YDC Pro) and Gold (Forthlane Partners, Harrow, Mortgage Company of Canada, Toronto Center for Medical Imaging) corporate partners as well as dozens of silver partners and individual donors, we could not have achieved this level of growth. Such support is essential to drive our programs, as well as achieve coach and player excellence. And obviously the need will be even greater as we work to reboot programs post Covid-19.

As we work our way through the pandemic, the financial and employment strains will be challenging. You will hear more of the financial impact shortly, but I point out the flexibility and talent of our core Squash Ontario team of Jamie, Lauren and Lynsey. They quickly adjusted to work at home, continued to support our member clubs and were able to take advantage of government programs that will help us weather the storm. In addition, I would like to recognize our world class COVID-19 Task Force of leading medical, legal and facility management professionals who were assembled and will be critical in our road to recovery over the coming months.

Our Voting Members supported Motion 3 at last year's annual general meeting. In case you cannot remember this was a motion to move our Financial Year to have May as our last fiscal month. This allows a more efficient approach to our accounting, but SO this year must present both a stub period (April and May 2019) as well as a full year to our members.

We knew this would result in a one-time negative impact, so our complete financial picture contains both this impact as well as the pandemic impact. Had we known this in advance, we would not have chosen this. The 2020-2021 season obviously will be similarly impacted until club and competitive activity returns.

Dealing with the aftermath of this pandemic will present new opportunities to better our sport in Ontario and we are thrilled to welcome 3 new individuals to our board of directors that will take this challenge head on. The change will be positive, but we regret saying goodbye to a good friend and loyal board member Nicole Garon in the process, who was a key contributor over the past 6 years of dramatic growth for our organization. You will hear more from me later on her incredible stewardship of our game. Thanks also to our other members of the board of directors for this year who have so wisely helped steer the team. Thanks Dan Van Moorsel, and Gord Campbell.

In Closing, Squash Ontario looks forward to supporting our clubs, professionals and volunteers throughout the coming period and to provide leadership in an uncertain time. We are a resilient group



and a strong, innovative, collaborative community. The road to recovery and return to play is in front of us, and we join with you all in reaching the moment when we enjoy competition, gaining skills and having fun through the wonderful game of squash.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Mansbridge".

Robert Mansbridge,

Squash Ontario President

#### Director of Finance Report

The following was presented by Gordon Campbell, Squash Ontario Director of Finance

It seems trite to say that we are living in unprecedented times, but that is the reality. Like many organizations, Squash Ontario has been, and still is, suffering the effects.

If you recall, 2 AGMs ago, we approved changing Squash Ontario's year-end from March 31<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup> in order to better reflect the season's activities in our annual financial reports. That change in year-end became effective in 2019. As a result, Squash Ontario was required to produce financial statements for a two month period, ending May 31, 2019 to bridge the 14 month gap between March 31, 2019 and May 31, 2020. This report will attempt to take you through the 14 months activity to May 31, 2020.

Our auditors have prepared a separate report to account for the two month period of April 1<sup>st</sup> – May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019. This is typically a significant period of loss for the organization as events and other revenue sources wind down by April 15<sup>th</sup> and expenses from March's events are accounted for. We had budgeted for a loss for this period and that was realized at approximately \$62,000.

Our first budget for the year ending May 31, 2020, assumed normal times, which meant the expectation of a surplus for the year. Fiscal 2020 began strongly and continued that way into March 2020 with tournament revenues and sponsorship contributions leading us well on our way towards record revenue and our budgeted surplus of \$20,000.

As we know so well, the world changed in mid-March and the global pandemic became a reality.

We are proud that Jamie and our staff quickly took action to limit our financial losses, cutting expenses and managing risk while navigating the short term impacts of postponing/cancelling events and related sponsorship and memberships effects.



It should be noted that the Ontario Squash Community as usual stepped up to support our sport with over 60 individuals donating event entry fees to the organization and others making contributions on both a volunteer and donation basis.

However, with the Pandemic hitting us in the March 15<sup>th</sup> – April 30<sup>th</sup> period, 14 junior and senior events were cancelled resulting in significant financial impact. Our original budget of a surplus of \$26,000 has been turned into a loss of \$28,000 for the year ending May 31, 2020. While this is a significant hit to Squash Ontario's operations, the balance sheet is strong enough to sustain the impact of the loss in 2020.

We have since turned our attention to the season ahead.

We are pleased to report that we have been able to take advantage of several government programs including wage subsidy and rent relief in order to keep our full time staff employed. We also took advantage of a government sponsored zero interest loan for \$40,000. We have budgeted various scenarios for Fiscal 2021 that all focus on cost cutting and limiting the damage until a full recovery from COVID-19 is possible.

We are optimistic, particularly over the past few weeks in Ontario that the economy will continue a slow and steady re-opening. We are hoping for a return to normalcy on the squash courts by January 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gordon Campbell".

Gordon Campbell

Squash Ontario Director, Finance

There were no questions on the Finance Report.

Upon motion duly proposed (Eric Baldwin, Badminton & Racquet Club), and seconded (Scott Arnold, Toronto Racquet Club), and unanimously carried, it was

**Resolved that:**

**The financial statements for the fiscal year ending 31 May 2020 are approved.**

Appointment of Auditors

Upon motion duly proposed (Eric Baldwin, Badminton & Racquet Club), seconded (Andrew Thompson, Toronto Lawm & Tennis Club), and unanimously carried, it was



**Resolved that:**

**Chaggares & Bonhomme are hereby appointed as auditors of Squash Ontario to hold office until a successor is appointed at a remuneration to be fixed by the Directors, the Directors being authorized to fix such remuneration.**

Increase in Director Members

The Chair proposed an increase of Director Members on the Squash Ontario Board of Directors from 6 to 7 members. If the motion is carried, a special election for the 7<sup>th</sup> member of the Board of Directors will take place on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. Robert advised this increase would support a broader regional and demographic representation of the squash community on the Board.

Upon motion duly proposed (Eric Baldwin, Badminton & Racquet Club), seconded (Robin Clarke, Toronto Cricket Skating & Curling Club), and unanimously carried, it was

**Resolved that:**

**The Board of Directors of Squash Ontario will increase to 7 members.**

Slate of Nominees for the Squash Ontario Board of Directors

The Chair presented the slate of nominees for the 2020-2022 Squash Ontario Board of Directors.

Three (3) director members will serve for two years, beginning 19 August 2020 through August 2022. Directors Robert Mansbridge, Gordon Campbell, and Dan Van Moorsel will continue to serve their 2019-2021 term.

Brian Arlin, Leah Desbarres and Vinit Kudva were nominated to for a position on the Board of Directors for the 2020-2022 term.

Upon motion duly proposed (Matt Easingwood, The Club at White Oaks), seconded (Eric Baldwin, Badminton & Racquet Club), and unanimously carried, it was

**Resolved that:**

**Brian Arlin, Leah Desbarres and Vinit Kudva are elected to the Squash Ontario Board of Directors for the 2020-2022 term.**

Other Business

There was no other business.



Adjournment

Upon motion duly proposed (Mark Porter, Toronto Lawn & Tennis Club), seconded (Tyler Hamilton, Cambridge Club), and unanimously carried, it was

**Resolved that:**

**The 2020 Annual and General Meeting of Members be adjourned.**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Mansbridge".

Robert Mansbridge, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynsey Yates".

Lynsey Yates, Secretary

On this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August 2020