



MEMBERSHIP PROPOSALS

FAQ

WHY IS THE MEMBERSHIP BASED ON TEAMS?

There has been a concern that Scottish Squash is asking for a fee for ALL members, when quite a few local players feel that they gain little from Scottish Squash affiliation.

However, team members do get services, and some are likely to be coached or have been coached; will be refereed, sometimes by a "qualified" referee, etc.

It is equitable that the largest burden of the membership fee should fall on Teams.

WHY £225 PER TEAM?

If the West and others affiliate Scottish Squash income will still only approximate to £50K from membership, where currently it is just over £40K. This still only contributes less than 20% of the running costs of Scottish Squash.

The new fee structure means there may even be slight reductions for some currently affiliated clubs.

The caveat is that there are always some winners and losers in a change of system.

It is possible that in some cases a club may be charged slightly more than they are currently. In those cases, it should be clubs who derive benefits from being affiliated (like hosting competitions, etc.).

WILL SOME EXISTING AFFILIATED CLUBS PAY MORE?

For clubs who will be required to pay more under this scheme, their fees will be "capped" for season 2010/2011.

Subject to a review of the season's actual income, these clubs would be expected to pay the full subscription fee the following year.

It is thought that these circumstances generally apply to clubs that are under recording their team players per team compared with the average club.

WHY STILL ASK FOR A £1 MEMBERSHIP?

Scottish squash wants to encourage all clubs to tell us their membership

All sponsors and sportscotland want to know what our player base is before awarding us monies.

In addition this also gives us a more comprehensive database which Scottish Squash can use to better communicate with players.

The individual membership is now a token amount. There is no benefit now for a club to conceal players.

WHY HAS THE “COURT OWNING” AND “COURT RENTING” AND “NO. OF COURTS” PART DISAPPEARED?

The fee concerning no of courts was done away with when the existing current scheme was put in place a few years ago.

The court renting clubs often feel they have to pay “twice” and the bigger court owning clubs feel they pay disproportionately more.

This gets rid of that as being irrelevant – if you have more teams because your commitment is high, then you pay more – if you don’t the fee is consequently less.

The belief is that the payment now will better reflect access to benefits and use of services.

WHY HAVE THE REGION AFFILIATION FEE?

The Scottish Squash Articles of Association could be clearer are vague on matters of Region affiliation.

In the first instance a proposal is going forward in the Scottish Squash AGM to limit the number of Regions to 6, and that the boundaries of the Regions be those of the 6 Institute of Sports. This is not expected to make any significant change to the existing regions but it should assist in Scottish Squash plans to work closer with the Institutes and in the planned development of Regional squads.

Regions are expected to pay a £50 token fee demonstrating their commitment to Scottish Squash.

Regions will benefit from a formal relationship with Scottish Squash accessing for example participation in the Future Funds employment scheme, the “Cashback” element of the RACKETBALL launch ; and any of the Inter-Regional competitions which are planned.

WHY “UP TO 10” MEMBERS PER TEAM?

Scottish Squash believe that teams will easily affiliate 7 or 8 players in any one team, and they can do that.

However if a club had only 1 team and it affiliated only 7 players, it would still have no votes at the AGM which would be inequitable.

The ability to name 10 players per team allows the club also to access 1 vote at the Scottish Squash AGM.

WHAT IS THE VOTING SYSTEM?

Clubs will access votes based on the “per 10 members” as exists at present.

1 vote for every 10 members of the club, i.e. includes the team players and all the others who do not play for a team. This would include juniors.

However, they must all be registered with Scottish Squash by name, address and email. A club may decide to just pay for say 50 members and one team and give no names etc. In this situation they would get no votes and team players could not access any services etc. They would still be required to pay the team fee.

WHY REMOVE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP?

There is no “Individual member” under this system – except for the individual member living outside the country – so this is a change from the past. (see next FAQ – MEMBERSHIP OF SCOTTISH SQUASH)

This change will prevent players within unaffiliated clubs accessing services.

This will no longer be allowed.

100% club affiliation is the key to the future health of the sport in Scotland.

Strong affiliated clubs are in the interest of all players.

WHAT IS THE REASON FOR THE STATUS “MEMBERSHIP OF SCOTTISH SQUASH” ?

There are some players who play in Scottish Squash tournaments who are not members of Scottish Squash clubs because they live outside Scotland.

In addition there are some Age Group Internationalists who live elsewhere also.

This allows them to become members of Scottish Squash, without any voting rights – but they can still then play for Scotland if selected.

Of course these individuals also have the choice to join an affiliated club

WHAT IS THE “AMNESTY” FOR CLUBS WHICH HAVE BEEN LOYAL IN THE PAST?

It is thought to be inequitable if the West do not affiliate, to penalize those who have supported us through the 10 or so years when West have not affiliated.

Therefore Strathgryffe; Western; David Lloyd (Renfrew); and Newlands plus the Dumfries club and Inverness and a couple of others – would still have access to Scottish Squash benefits if they affiliated – even if their Region did not.

The effect of that would be that an individual player who wanted to play National League squash, or enter tournaments sanctioned by Scottish Squash, would need to be registered at an Affiliated Club.

For instance, if a player moved to the West for a period (Students, etc) then they would join one of the Affiliated Clubs to stay “involved” in competition and possible Scottish team selection.

Members of unaffiliated club would receive no such benefits.

If West do not affiliate, those Academy players who play for Div.1 clubs in the West in their local leagues, will only be able to represent Affiliated Clubs. Players whose major sponsor is Scottish Squash (i.e. Academy Players) will not get Academy funding if they play for unaffiliated clubs

Neither will they be eligible to play for Scotland.

WHY ARE THERE INCENTIVES?

Scottish Squash has looked at the service provision, and also at who is accessing this.

In addition Scottish Squash is aware of the need to have more coaches and referees in the run-up to the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and to service the “launch” of RACKETBALL in Autumn 2010.

It is equitable and in the interests of the Sport to give incentives to clubs who have more members who access the services, or who develop and maintain strong Junior Sections.

For example there will be incentives for

- a) having any Grade 2 (or above) coaches*
- b) any grade 2 (or above) referees,*
- c) junior teams who play in a league or regular competition*

HOW MUCH WOULD A CLUB CONSISTING OF ONLY JUNIOR MEMBERS PAY?

The fee is £10 for every 'competitive' junior and £1 for all juniors in the club.

If there were no 'competitive' juniors then the fee would be £1 for every junior in the club.

A 'COMPETITIVE' JUNIOR PLAYS FOR THE SENIOR TEAM IN AN OPEN LEAGUE, WHAT IS THE CHARGE FOR THE JUNIOR?

If the junior is identified under the team fee (name, address, email) (£225) then there would be no further charge other than £1 under the all members aspect of the scheme.

WHAT IS THE REGISTRATION COST FOR A RACKETBALL PLAYER?

Plans for RACKETBALL are still being developed but the current expectation is there will be a nominal fee collected for every RACKETBALL player registered in Year 1.