PRESIDENT’S WELCOME

The President welcomed delegates to the 48th WSF Annual General Meeting and reported that it had been an honour for him to be elected as WSF President in Hong Kong in 2016 and reminded delegates what he had hoped to achieve and commented that, despite some obstacles, good progress has been made in many the last two years.

He reiterated that building a strong and collaborative relationship with PSA had been a priority and the Memorandum of Understanding illustrates how far we have come. He paid tribute to the PSA Board for their desire to make this work. The WSF is now partnering PSA in a number of areas, which had been reported at the WSF Conference the previous day.

The most important collaboration is the Olympic Bid which, with receipt of the letter of 24 October from the Paris2024 Organising Committee, has accelerated. He further commented that, when he had been elected, Paris had not won the right to host the 2024 Olympic Games. In September 2017 when the IOC decision was made, the Bid Management Group in conjunction with Weber Shandwick started to work through all the steps to make this as comprehensive and strategic a bid as possible; the latest had been the Youth Olympic Games. Here he paid tribute to the support of so many National Federations and their players but also to Pablo Serna for all his work to ensure that the event had been successfully showcased. With the help of Regional and National Federations and all others that have an interest in the Bid being successful, the Bid Management Group will continue to do the fullest and best possible job.

Another area of co-operation is World Squash Officiating, where WSF is working together with PSA to move the refereeing structure forward, which is so important.

There has been a great deal of other work going on – as had been reported at the WSF Conference the previous day – and for this the President extended his thanks to members of the Board, the WSF Office and many of the Members in the room for their support. He again thanked the delegates for attending and asked the Chief Executive – Andrew Shelley – to manage the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from the Member Nations of: Luxembourg, Mauritius, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and Qatar. Personal apologies were received from Jim O’Grady (President Oceania Squash Federation); Heather Deayton (Former WSF Vice-President).

Attendees were asked to stand and take a moment to reflect on the recent passing of Abdul Wahab Aziz, Dr Samiha Aboumagd and Graham Prior, all squash family members that will be sorely missed.

2. ATTENDANCE & PROCEDURES

a) Members Represented

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>- Mohamed Ahmed</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>- Lolly Gillen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>- David Mandel</td>
<td>Cayman Islands</td>
<td>- Ibrahim Mohamed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>- S. Abdelwahael</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>- Huaxun Song</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahrain</td>
<td>- Ehab Ali Hafez</td>
<td>Chinese Taipei</td>
<td>- Ching-Hui Hsu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbados</td>
<td>- Alison Smith-Padmore</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>- Sergio Becerra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>- Anne Smith</td>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>- Mostafa Samir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bermuda</td>
<td>- Amr Khaled Khalifa</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>- Assem Khalifa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>- Carlos Paiva</td>
<td>El Salvador</td>
<td>- Ibrahim Metwally</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
England - Eamonn O'Rourke
France - Jean-Denis Barbet
Germany - Steve Mann
Guatemala - Cindy Toscano
Hong Kong - Emily Mak
India - Debendranath Sarangi
Iran - M. Gharehziaeddini
Iraq - Ali Al-Bawi
Ireland - Rosie Barry
Italy - Khaled Elagroudy
Jamaica - Douglas Beckford
Kuwait - Walid Khalaf Al-Samai
Macau - Luis Mac Peng Iu
Malaysia - Gerard Monteiro
Mexico - Noor Alatar
Monaco - Ebram Hany

New Zealand - Jamie Tong
Nigeria - Boye Oyerinde
Norway - Otto Kalvo
Paraguay - Elena Elsaayed
Peru - Mohamed Elkeiy
Poland - Waldemar Paturej
Saudi Arabia - Sherif Elabdewahab
Scotland - Keir Worth
South Africa - Steve Doeg
Sweden - Thomas Troedsson
Switzerland - Volker Bernardi
Tahiti - Ahmed Hassen
USA - Marshall Pagon
Wales - Richard Bennett

b) Observers Present
Australia - Richard Vaughan
Kuwait - Fayez A. Al-Mutairi
USA - Kevin Klipstein
- Peter Lasusa

c) Others Present
By Right
Jacques Fontaine - WSF President
Sarah Fitz-Gerald - WSF Vice-President
Gar Holohan - WSF Vice-President
Huang Ying How - WSF Vice-President
Pablo Serna - WSF Vice-President
Hany Hamouda - President – Squash Federation of Africa
David Mui - President – Asian Squash Federation
Zena Wooldridge - President – European Squash Federation

By Invitation
Andrew Shelley - WSF Chief Executive
Lorraine Harding - WSF Operations Manager
Tommy Berden - PSA Chief Commercial Officer
Chris Herridge - Chair, WSF Courts & Equipment Commission
Tom Oldroyd - Chair Designate, WSF Courts & Equipment Commission

d) Voting Procedures
The Chief Executive explained the voting procedures and reported that 46 Member Nation were represented at the meeting, with a total of 118 votes. He further advised that changes to the Articles of Association required 89 votes (at least 75% of the total votes) whereas general motions only required 60 votes (in excess of 50% of the votes) for them to pass. He reminded that a country must be present to vote and that voting would be by show of hands, or by a show of voting numbers or secret ballot if requested.

e) Appointment of Scrutineers
Chris Herridge and Tom Oldroyd (both of England) were accepted unanimously as the official Scrutineers.

3. APPLICATIONS FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP
a) Uganda
The Chief Executive explained that, although the National Federation had paid the necessary fees, they had not provided all the documentation required by the Articles. He suggested that provisional approval be granted subject to the proviso that the missing documentation is provided by 31 December 2018.

Proposed by Africa, Seconded by Canada
Application Accepted Unanimously (subject to the above proviso)
4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 3 December 2017 were approved without comment.  
**Proposed by South Africa, Seconded by Jamaica**  
**Approved Unanimously**

5. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2017-2018
The Chief Executive went through the Report on a page by page basis; no comments were made by the delegates.  
**Proposed by Africa, Seconded by Brazil**  
**Accepted Unanimously**

6. MOTIONS TO AMEND THE RULES OF SQUASH
   a) Time period allowed for the warm up as per Rule 4  
      The Warm Up to be changed in 4.1 to 4 minutes with half time to be called at 2 minutes.
   b) Amend the heading of Rule 8.11 to read:  
      "Freedom to strike the ball to any part of the front wall" and so leaving out the word "entire". And also removing such word from clause 8.1.4 which would then read "the freedom to strike the ball to any part of the front wall".
   c) The inclusion of a new sub-clause to Rule 8.9 Racket Swing as follows:  
      "8.9.3 Where there has been no actual contact and the swing has been held by the striker for fear of hitting the opponent, the provisions of 8.6 apply."  
      **Proposed by Wales, Seconded by Ireland**  
      **Motion Passed Unanimously**

7. MOTIONS TO AMEND THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF WSF LIMITED
   a) Preamble  
      Motion: Executive Board  
      Add the following text to the end of the section:

      "The WSF is committed to 'safe sport' and will develop, implement and monitor policies to promote an environment where squash volunteers, employees, participants, spectators and elite athletes are respected, and are safe from abuse, exploitation, harassment, harm, intimidation, neglect and violence - regardless of age, ability or disability, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation or socio-economic background."  
      **Proposed by Barbados, Seconded by Canada**  
      **Motion Passed Unanimously**

8. MOTIONS GENERAL
None submitted.

9. MOTIONS TO AMEND THE WORLD SQUASH ANTI-DOPING RULES
   a) To formally adopt the updated World Squash Anti-Doping Rules as set out in Annexure C to the Agenda with effect from 1 January 2019.  
      Motion: Executive Board at the request of the Anti-Doping Commission  
      **Proposed by Germany, Seconded by Jamaica**  
      **Motion Passed Unanimously**

Europe extended a vote of thanks to Anti-Doping Commission Chair Anne Smith who, with the support of the Programme Manager, had drafted the update to the Rules, which had involved a considerable amount of work.
10. MOTIONS TO CREATE & AMEND REGULATIONS GOVERNING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

a) Amend WSF Championship Regulation K4 (eligibility) as follows:
Motion: Executive Board

Current wording:

K4  Notwithstanding the above, a player is ineligible to represent a country if he has represented another country in the three years preceding the Start Date in a recognised International Squash Team or Individual Championship (i.e. WSF World Championship, Regional Team or Individual Championship, official Match between MNFs in any age group).

Additional proposed clause:

“A player who is under 17 years of age on the final day of an event may subsequently exercise a different qualification reducing the gap of three years to one year in the requirements of K2 and K4.

A player may only make one change using the reduced time period, and thereafter would be required to conform to the three year period in respect of exercising an eligibility.

In all cases of eligibility based upon residence, it is not permitted to do so based upon residence in respect of education when studying in another country, even if there is an intention to remain in the country afterwards i.e. the time period shall commence after the final day of the study period.”

Sweden suggested that the proposed additional clause be amended to players who are under 18 years of age, as it protects a child’s rights and allows them to decide for themselves what country they want to represent. The revision was debated and, having ascertained by vote that there was consensus to make the change, delegates voted to allow the following amendment to the first paragraph of the motion:

“A player who is under 17 18 years of age on the final day of an event may subsequently exercise a different qualification reducing the gap of three years to one year in the requirements of K2 and K4.”

Proposed by Sweden, Seconded by India
To amend the motion to U18 Carried by Majority
Amended Motion passed by majority 82 in favour, 36 against

11. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

a) To update Members on progress made in assigning World Championships in the last year and receive expressions of interest to host future events:

The Chief Executive drew the delegates’ attention to the available World Championships and reiterated the deadline for tendering. He thanked those Nations that had already applied for and been awarded events and clarified that, although it is understood that the Hardball Doubles Championships rotates between Canada and USA biennially, confirmation that they are going ahead has yet to be provided.

USA expressed an interest in the World Junior Championships in 2021.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Team</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>VACANT (C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Team</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>MALAYSIA</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s World Championship</td>
<td>PSA</td>
<td>PSA</td>
<td>PSA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s World Championship</td>
<td>PSA</td>
<td>PSA</td>
<td>PSA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s &amp; Women’s Junior</td>
<td>MALAYSIA</td>
<td>AUSTRALIA</td>
<td>VACANT (B)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12. GENERAL BUSINESS

a) To receive the Forward Plan of the WSF for 2018/2010
   Receipt proposed by Canada, Seconded by New Zealand
   Received Unanimously

b) To receive reports from WSF Regional Federations
   The Reports had been circulated prior to the meeting and were duly received, with the following additional comments:

   **Asian Squash Federation (ASF)**
   The ASF President reported on the successful conclusion of the Asian Games where he had met with Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, President of the Olympic Council of Asia and his Secretary General, where he had taken the opportunity to highlight the WSF’s Olympic Bid campaign.

   He advised that significant progress had been made on the issue of the IOC’s suspension of the Kuwaiti Sports Council, which has allowed the suspension of the Kuwait Squash Federation to be provisionally lifted by both the Asian and World Squash Federations; the member was welcomed back by acclamation.

   He further reported that squash being included on the programme of the Asian Games has been guaranteed and that an additional three medal events have been added (men’s, women’s and mixed doubles); for this he extended his thanks to Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, the President of the Association National Olympic Committees and Chair of the Olympic Solidarity Commission and so very influential.

   Thomas Bach, the IOC President had been invited to present the medals at the Team event at the Asian Games but unfortunately he had had to leave before the end, as the matches had gone on too long. However, Mr. Bach had appeared impressed watching his first live squash match and had been presented with a gift of a crystal court by ASF.

   The ASF President reaffirmed Hong Kong and Asian Squash’s commitment to getting squash included on the programme of the Olympic Games, their support had started when Susie Simcock was WSF President and carried through all subsequent Presidencies. He reminded that in the previous campaign Hong Kong Squash had been the venue for the IOC’s inspection visit and that they had contributed $50,000 to the campaign (only exceeded by US Squash). He advised that he had been honoured to receive a Life Outstanding Achievement award at the Hong Kong AGM, that he would continue to support the WSF and advised that Hong Kong Squash would be donating £20,000 towards this Olympic campaign; their generosity was acknowledged by acclamation.

   In conclusion, the ASF President suggested that if there were harmony between all countries, with everyone working together, squash should achieve its goal.

   The Chief Executive thanked ASF and Mr. Mui for his personal support over many years.

   **Pan-American Squash Federation (FPS)**
   Speaking on behalf of the FPS President who had been unable to attend because of a family illness, Jamaica apologised for Pan-America not submitting a written report - they had only just held their AGM – and advised that this would be distributed via email shortly. He also reported that the Regional Federation is fully supportive of the Olympic Bid.
13. **WSF FINANCE**

a) **Motion for continued support of World Squash Federation Limited.**
National Federations and Member Organisations agree to continue to provide sufficient financial support to enable the organisation to continue to meet its debts as they fall due for a period not less than 12 months from 27 October 2018.

Motion: Executive Board at the request of the Auditors Wilkins Kennedy

**Explanation/Rationale**
At the 2017 AGM, the Chair of the Governance & Audit Commission explained the Annual Accounts. He pointed out that the WSF had negative shareholders’ funds – which means they owe more money than they have – of £35,328. However, there was a positive Working Capital of £3,050, which meant there was no immediate cash-flow issue. This cash was and is being provided primarily by the Member Nations paying their Annual Subscriptions in the December/January period, which is the middle of the accounting year. Thereby they are ‘lending’ the Federation half a year’s membership each year. Similarly, the Member Nations prepay tournament Registration fees by up to two years in advance, thereby ‘lending’ the Federation the money.

This year the position is not as good. The negative shareholders’ funds have increased because of this year’s loss to £45,238, and the Working Capital is now a negative £10,528.

The Auditors have concluded, that for the company to continue to operate, the National Federations will need to continue paying their annual memberships at the start of the calendar year, and their tournament registration fees when their tender is accepted. They have asked for this motion to be included in the AGM agenda, for the Member Nations to confirm that they will continue to support the WSF in this manner.

Proposed by Australia, Seconded by Germany
Motion Passed by Majority, with three Abstentions

b) **Adoption of the audited accounts for the financial year 2017/2018**
Europe reported that they will be contributing £25,000 towards production of the World Squash Officiating platform, which would be budget relieving for the WSF. This is separate to any Olympic Bid contribution they will make but is something that is required going forward, as it will be of benefit to Regional and National Federations and will eventually provide the WSF with an additional income stream.

Barbados queried whether there is a conflict of interest for Wilkins Kennedy to be both the WSF Accountants and Auditors; the Chair of the Governance & Audit Commission clarified that the accounts are prepared internally albeit Wilkins Kennedy process the Payroll. It was also clarified that grant income is reported in the Accounts and the Budget in Pounds, whereas in the Executive Report it is reported in US Dollars, the currency it is received in.

Proposed by Canada, Seconded by Australia
Adopted Unanimously

b) **Adoption of the audited accounts for the financial year 2017/2018**

Proposed by Canada, Seconded by Australia
Adopted Unanimously

**Adoption of the audited accounts for the financial year 2017/2018**

Proposed by Canada, Seconded by Australia
Adopted Unanimously

**To authorise the Officers to appoint and fix remuneration of the auditors**
Delegates were advised the recommendation of the Governance & Audit Commission to re-appoint Wilkins Kennedy.

India were advised that, as far as is known, Wilkins Kennedy do not intend to increase their fees. Wales suggested that consideration be given to retendering for new Auditors, something that is considered good corporate practice every few years. The Chair of the Governance & Audit Commission advised that, although using the same company, the ownership of the practice has changed since last year but he agreed to give the matter due consideration.

Proposed by Jamaica, Seconded by Australia
Authorised Unanimously
d) To receive the Budget for the financial year 2018/2019

The Chair of the Governance & Audit Commission advised delegates that the Executive Board has decided that the Olympic Bid will be reported on a total project basis in the accounts from now on, giving a clearer understanding of income/expenditure and what the WSF and PSA is each responsible for.

It was clarified for Sweden that the budgeted Professional Fees of £25,580 included legal fees and Isle of Man Management fees as well as the Audit fees.

Saudi Arabia requested that a “sales” section be included in future budgets; this to be given due consideration. *Proposed by Australia, Seconded by New Zealand Received by Majority*

e) Motion – WSF EXECUTIVE BOARD

That the Membership Fees of the WSF for the calendar year 2019 shall be unchanged at:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>Voting Power</th>
<th>Court Range</th>
<th>Membership Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Member - 6 votes</td>
<td>6 votes</td>
<td>(1501 courts and over)</td>
<td>£7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Member - 5 votes</td>
<td>5 votes</td>
<td>(1001 - 1500 courts)</td>
<td>£5,115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Member - 4 votes</td>
<td>4 votes</td>
<td>(751 - 1000 courts)</td>
<td>£4,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Member - 3 votes</td>
<td>3 votes</td>
<td>(501 - 750 courts)</td>
<td>£2,295</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full Member - 2 votes</td>
<td>2 votes</td>
<td>(51 - 500 courts)</td>
<td>£1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Member - 1 vote</td>
<td>1 vote</td>
<td>(1 - 50 courts)</td>
<td>£415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Member</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>£35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affiliate Member</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>£560</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sweden suggested that the Membership Fee should be increased by 10% for 2019 to ensure that there is a budget surplus and to allow the WSF to progress all its objectives and build up a capital reserve, to at least six months operating costs.

The Chief Executive advised that the Board had felt it would be inappropriate to raise fees, while asking National Federations to provide Olympic Bid Support. He further stated that, although the increase would be welcomed, in his opinion this changed the intention of the original motion, which is not permitted in accordance with the WSF Articles of Association.

The delegates discussed and considered ways that a motion to increase fees might be permitted. These included removing the motion altogether (only a proposed increase in fees requires AGM approval), postponing the increase until the following year, incremental increases and/or a special resolution (requiring 75% of the votes to be approved). There being no obvious consensus of opinion, delegates were asked to vote on whether the motion should be changed.

Discussion moved on before the vote was declared and the Chair, who has the power to refuse any amendment which substantially alters the intention of the motion, thanked Sweden for the proposal but felt that, as there was uncertainty on the permissibility of the change, an increase should be left until the following year. *Proposed by Nigeria, Seconded by Barbados Motion for Membership Fees to be unchanged; Carried Unanimously*

14. ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WSF LIMITED

a) VICE-PRESIDENTS (in alphabetical order)

Nominated by Australia  Sarah Fitz-Gerald (Oceania)
Nominated by Ireland    Gar Holohan (Europe)
Nominated by USA        Peter Lasusa (Pan-America)

The Chief Executive reminded delegates that the 2016 AGM had decided that the third and fourth elected Vice-Presidents term would be for just two years, to stagger when Directors came up for re-election, so that the Board would not all change at the same time, as they had that year.
He confirmed that Masoud Soleimani had withdrawn his candidacy and, being as there was only one female candidate - at least one being required constitutionally – declared Sarah Fitz-Gerald re-elected by acclamation.

The re-elected Vice-President thanked delegates for their support and said that it would be an honour continue to serve her sport for the next four years, which she will continue to do with passion, integrity and unity. She also hoped the Bid campaign would be successful.

The remaining two candidates made their presentations to the delegates and the members voted. [Because of the sudden death of a close friend Gar Holohan had to leave prior to the result being announced.] Lasusa 82 votes; Holohan 36 votes

The nominee from USA, Peter Lasusa was declared elected for a term of four years.

The President extended congratulations to Peter Lasusa and thanks to Gar Holohan for his commitment over the previous two years.

15. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS
None.

16. FUTURE MEETINGS
The Chief Executive advised that expressions of interest have been received for 2019 but that a host has yet to be finalised.

There being no further business, the President closed the meeting by stating that he hoped next year squash will be in the second stage of its Olympic campaign and that he was sure the WSF would receive all the support necessary to achieve that. He thanked delegates for their contribution and wished them a safe journey home.

The meeting closed at 13.09.