COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION

Chairperson: Michael Collins
PSA Representative: Lee Drew
Member: Srikanth Seshradi
NEED FOR FURTHER MEMBERSHIP

HOW MANY?
- One / Two more from other respective regions?

WHATS NEEDED?
- Thorough knowledge and understanding of the Rules
- Command of the English language
FUNCTIONS AND TASKS OF THE COMMISSION

- Ensure that the Singles and Doubles Rules remain current and in-line with the evolving nature of Squash as it is played, experienced and interpreted by those playing the game.
- Receive submissions from interested parties around the World regarding proposals to amend the Rules.
- Consider and debate these submissions and if they have merit workshop the most appropriate wording for the rule change.
- Assist with queries regarding the correct interpretation of the Rules.
- Attend to the questions as submitted on the WSF website under the sections FAQs.
RECENT ADOPTED CHANGES

• Adopted with effect from January 2019 were relatively minor changes that dealt with the time period allowed for the Warm Up and clarified certain front wall and swing interferences issues.
When the Bleeding Rules were introduced the prevention of HIV and blood infection was of paramount importance.

- Extremely thorough and exhaustive measures to deal with bleeding and the possible transference of the HIV virus.
- Over time this has led to almost farcical levels of treatment and prevention of rebleeding and the delays in play that this inevitably brings with it.
- With the increase in live coverage of matches these delays have become more obvious and unacceptable to broadcasters, sponsors and promoters.
- However it is not a simple matter to resolve as the possibility of infection from blood transference remains a real possibility and the WSF/PSA need to be protected from any legal liability.

Comparative studies have accordingly been conducted with other sports which have the issue of bleeding. Rugby, Hockey, Boxing and MMA where bleeding is a regular feature.

- Whilst the final solution and wording has not been established by the Commission the concept of Consent is likely to be introduced into the amended provisions.
- This will require players to provide their Consent to the possibility of bleeding during a match and the transference of blood and the waiver of any claim against the WSF/PSA or the appointed officials (referees).
FAQ WEBSITE

• The FAQs website was discontinued by Bravenet approximately a year ago and a new fresh site is in the process of being designed and populated with categories of typical questions and answers.

• I would like to acknowledge and thank Steve Cubbins and Barry Faguy for their input and assistance with this ongoing project. We hope to have it live and running again early in the new year.
CHALLENGE OF ENSURING SAFETY AND THE PREVENTION OF INJURY

• Professional Player Skills versus that of the Common Squash Player
  The PSA has in recent times successfully ensured that there are fewer decisions and especially Lets such that play is far more continuous with less interruptions.
  This has been achieved by a stricter interpretation by the PSA referees as to what constitutes interference. Professional players are required to play the ball with less sight of the ball and tighter lines to the front wall and through fairly significant interference. This makes for a better product and overall production for the viewers worldwide and so better for promoters and sponsors.
  HOWEVER the millions of squash enthusiasts listening to the commentary regarding decisions made during a match can and are becoming confused by decisions which do not appear to be in line with the WSF Rules that they read and play to.

• Lesser players cannot be expected to play through the same levels of interference or with less view of the ball and front wall, or to move as well to ensure they take the correct line to the ball.

• The Rules are essentially written for the many millions of ordinary squash players and not for the few hundred professional players.
• A proposal is that we include an Annexure or Guide in the Rules that explains the stricter requirements and interpretation for the Professional Player. This discussion is ongoing.
ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED

- Changing in the method of scoring
- Removing the service line
- Removing footfaults
- Removing "Let Please". This motion has been circulated by the WSF and the Rules Commission awaits the outcome to workshop and prepare the necessary amendments should this be required.