

WORLD SQUASH FEDERATION VIRTUAL TOWN HALL SESSIONS

AGENDA

Tuesday 17 November 2020 14:00 GMT

WORLD
SQUASH

AFRICA



FPS
PANAMSQUASH
FEDERACIÓN PANAMERICANA DE SQUASH

Thursday 19 November 2020 07:00 GMT



Oceania
SQUASH

WORLD SQUASH FEDERATION LIMITED

TOWN HALL SESSIONS

TUESDAY 17 November 2020 14:00 GMT

Or

THURSDAY 19 November 2020 07:00 GMT

AGENDA

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME and INTRODUCTION

1. SPECIAL RESOLUTION

To suspend Article 18 of the WSF Memorandum & Articles of Association for the 2020 WSF Annual General Meeting, and hold the AGM in a virtual format. This in accordance with the Membership Poll that resulted in 123 votes for a Virtual Meeting and 6 votes against.

All proceedings at this Virtual Annual General Meeting to be as if the meeting were being held face-to-face and in accordance with Articles 18 to 48 of the World Squash Memorandum & Articles of Association. Lumi, the qualified and independent company appointed, shall manage and verify attendance and register and count votes.

2. AGM Agenda Item 8 - MOTIONS TO AMEND THE RULES OF SQUASH

Motions: Executive Board at the request of the Rules Commission

a) Update sub-clause 14.4 from Rule 14: Illness, Injury & Bleeding as follows

14.4 Blood Injury

A *Blood Injury* is defined as being when bleeding occurs, and the blood flow is sufficient that blood can be transferred from a player to their opponent or the court.

A scrape, graze or nick with no blood flow **does not** constitute a *Blood Injury* and play must continue. Visible blood through a bandage, dressing or covering is **not** considered a *Blood Injury*.

Once a *Blood Injury* occurs, the injured player must leave the court and it is the referee's responsibility to ensure that the injured player returns to the court in the shortest time possible, according to the following rules;

14.4.1 Self-inflicted: where the *Blood Injury* is caused by a player's own action or condition, such as a fall, lunge, dive, crowding, nosebleed or similar, the player is permitted 5 minutes to stem the flow of blood and cover the bleeding. The referee is in charge of starting the timer, which will start from when the injured player's treatment begins. If the injured player is not ready to resume play after 5 minutes has elapsed, the player must concede the game and take the game interval, if available, for further recovery.

If the same *Blood Injury* reoccurs, no further recovery time is permitted, and the injured player must concede the game and take the next game interval, if available, for further recovery.

If the injured player cannot resume play within the permitted time allowed, the referee will award the match to the injured player's opponent.

14.4.2 Contributed: where the *Blood Injury* is caused by both players' actions, the injured player has reasonable time to stem the flow of blood and cover the bleeding. Reasonable time is determined by the referee, who can be assisted by the on-site medical personnel, if available.

If the same *Blood Injury* reoccurs, through no fault of either player or by both players' actions, the injured player shall have further reasonable time to address the *Blood Injury*.

If the same *Blood Injury* reoccurs, due to an action solely by the injured player, the player shall have no further time to address the *Blood Injury* and must concede the game and take the game interval, if available, for further recovery.

If the injured player cannot resume play within the reasonable time or extended periods allowed, the referee will award the match to the injured player's opponent.

14.4.3 Opponent inflicted: where the *Blood Injury* is caused solely by the opponent;

14.4.3.1 Where the *Blood Injury* is solely caused by the opponent's **accidental** action, the injured player has reasonable time to stem the flow of blood and cover the bleeding. Reasonable time is determined by the referee, who can be assisted by the on-site medical personnel, if available. If the injured player cannot resume play in the reasonable time allowed, the referee will award the match to the injured player.

If the same *Blood Injury* reoccurs, through no fault of either player or by both players' actions, the injured player shall have further reasonable time to address the *Blood Injury*. If the blood flow cannot be stopped in a reasonable time the referee will award the match to the injured player.

If the same *Blood Injury* reoccurs, due to an action solely by the injured player, the player shall have no further time to address the *Blood Injury* and must concede the game and take the game interval, if available, for further recovery. If the injured player cannot then resume play within the reasonable time or extended periods allowed, the referee will award the match to the injured player's opponent.

14.4.3.2 Where the *Blood Injury* is caused by the opponent's **deliberate dangerous** play, *Rule 15: Conduct* must be applied, and the referee will award the match to the injured player.

14.4.4 Where there is a stoppage in play, the court must be cleaned, and bloodstained clothing replaced.

Explanation/Rationale

The current version of the Bleeding Rule has proven to be extremely onerous on the players and on all concerned with managing and promoting the game. With even the smallest amount of bleeding there are lengthy delays in play which prevent the game from being continuous and interfere with live coverage of events. The new proposed provisions are intended to provide a more reasonable handling of such blood injuries and to be fairer to the players affected and all concerned with managing and promoting Squash.

3. AGM Agenda Item 9-MOTIONS TO AMEND THE SQUASH 57 STANDARD RULES

- a) **To formally adopt the updated Squash 57 Standard Rules as set out in Annexure C with effect from 1 January 2021.**

Motion: Executive Board at the request of the Squash 57 Commission

Annexure C

4. **AGM Agenda Item 10 - MOTIONS TO AMEND THE WORLD SQUASH CODE OF ETHICS Annexure D**

- a) **To formally adopt the updated World Squash Code of Ethics as set out in Annexure D with effect from 1 January 2021.**

Motion: Executive Board at the request of the Ethics Commission

5. **AGM Agenda Item 11 -MOTIONS TO AMEND THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF WSF LIMITED**

- a) **If Motion 10.a) – to adopt the updated WSF Code of Ethics - is successful, update the Articles of Association as follows:**

Motion: Executive Board at the request of the Ethics Commission

99.5.2 "To **analyse and/or** investigate complaints raised in relation to the non-respect of such ethical principles, including breaches of the WSF Code of Ethics and, if necessary, propose sanctions to the WSF Executive Board."

NEW

99.5.3 "To **provide opinions on ethical matters when requested by the WSF President, Executive Board or any WSF Commission.**"

99.7 "Members of the Ethics Commission shall not take any measure nor exercise any influence in relation to a matter where any conflict of interest or any other conflict exists or is perceived to exist, ~~nor will they be counted towards a quorum for such matters.~~"

100.1 The Ethics & Compliance Officer shall not have held a position within the WSF (elected or Commission) for any period during the thirty-six (36) months prior to his/her appointment. **The Ethics & Compliance Officer should not be a WSF staff member and must be independent from any conflict of interest activity.**"

- b) **Amend Article 11 as follows:**

Motion: Squash Canada

"The WSF shall hold a General Meeting in every calendar year as its Annual General Meeting, at such time and place as may be determined by the Executive Board and shall specify the meeting as such in the notices calling it. Provided that every General Meeting except the first shall be held not more than fifteen (15) months after the holding of the last preceding meeting, and that - so long as the WSF holds its first Annual General Meeting within eighteen (18) months after its incorporation - it need not hold it in the year of its incorporation or in the following year.

A meeting of Members may be held by means of telephone, electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting and that permits all Full Members the ability to vote in a fully automated and secure method. The WSF shall make such secure communication facility available to all Full Members entitled to vote.

Any Full Member entitled to vote at a meeting of Members may participate in the meeting by means of telephone, or an electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting, provided the WSF makes available such communication facilities. A Member participating in this form of meeting shall be deemed to be present at the meeting."

Explanation/Rationale

Given the continued potential of governments, regulators, public health bodies restrictions on travel, the risks to health and safety surrounding Covid-19 and beyond, many members will not always have the right and/or ability to attend meetings of the Members. The ability to offer a hybrid of virtual attendance allows all Members their rights to attend meetings and their right to vote at those meetings.

c) If Motion 11.b) is successful, Amend Articles 18, 23, 25 and 28 as follows

Motion: Squash Canada

18 "No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting, except the adjournment of the meeting, unless a quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to business. Save as herein otherwise provided, fifteen (15) Full Members **personally present in accordance with Article 11** shall constitute a quorum."

23 "A resolution put to the vote of a meeting may, at the discretion of the Chair, be decided on a show of hands (**at a physical meeting, not a virtual/electronic meeting**), a poll or secret ballot, provided that a resolution will not be decided by a poll unless before, or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands, a poll is duly demanded. Subject to the provisions of the Act, a poll may be demanded:

23.1. By the Chair; or

23.2. By at least two (2) Full Members;"

25 "The demand for a poll may, before the poll is taken, be withdrawn but only with the consent of the Chair and a demand so withdrawn shall not be taken to have invalidated the result of a show of hands (**at a physical meeting, not a virtual/electronic meeting**) declared before the demand was made."

28 "A poll demanded at the instigation of a Chair or on a question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith. The demand for a poll shall not prevent the continuance of a meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which the poll was demanded. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result of a show of hands (**at a physical meeting, not a virtual/electronic meeting**) and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made."

d) If Motion 11.b) is successful, Amend Definition "Poll" as follows:

Motion: Squash Canada

"Poll" shall mean a showing of voting cards i.e. not a secret ballot or a show of hands (**at a physical meeting, not a virtual/electronic meeting**);

e) Amend Article 53 as follows:

Motion: Squash Canada

"The Executive Board shall comprise the President and ~~four (4)~~ **five (5)** Vice-Presidents (comprising at least one (1) Vice-President of each gender) who have been elected in accordance with the provisions of 30 to 37 of these Articles and who hold the office of Director of the WSF and any member co-opted pursuant to Article 58 of these Articles."

Explanation/Rationale

The Executive Board of the WSF is tasked with making decisions that affect our sport globally, the membership must be ensured that there are the necessary number of voices and skill sets around the table. By increasing the size of the Executive Board, it will allow for a broader range of skilled and experienced individuals representing the membership as a whole, which will improve the quality of the decisions made by the Executive Board.

f) Amendment to Article 53 [if motion 11e) is passed]

Motion: Squash Canada

"The Executive Board shall comprise the President and five (5) Vice-Presidents (comprising at least ~~one (1)~~ **two (2) Vice-Presidents** of each gender) who have been elected in accordance with the provisions of 30 to 37 of these Articles and who hold the office of Director of the WSF and any member co-opted pursuant to Article 58 of these Articles."

Explanation/Rationale

As the Executive Board of the WSF represents the global squash community there should be gender equality in the thought process making those decisions.

g) New Article 119.7

Motion: Executive Board

"Written confirmation for the relevant Regional Federation that the National Federation applying for WSF Full membership is a fully paid up member in good standing with said Regional Federation."

Subsequent Articles to be renumbered accordingly.

Explanation/Rationale

This will help to alleviate the issue of non-payment of Regional Federation membership fees.

h) New Article 146

Motion: Executive Board

"Should an Affiliated Organisation no longer be recognised by the Regional Federation, from which its National Federation's hail, it shall be suspended until such recognition is regained. If this is not forthcoming within (3) three months, then the Affiliated Organisation shall no longer be considered Affiliated and its one (1) Redeemable Share must be surrendered."

Subsequent Articles to be renumbered accordingly.

Explanation/Rationale

Article 137 requires Regional Federations to "approve" applications for Affiliate Membership. The proposed new Article ensures that an organisation that is no longer endorsed by their Regional Federation cannot retain their WSF Affiliate Member status.

6. AGM Agenda Item 12 - MOTIONS GENERAL

a) The Next Annual General meeting of the WSF may be held in Pakistan.

Motion: Pakistan

b) Pakistan may be included in the Seeding Committee for events conducted under the umbrella of the WSF.

Motion: Pakistan

c) The WSF Executive Board are to establish written terms of reference for an independent Nominating Commission to be considered by the membership at the 2021 AGM.

Motion: Squash Canada

7. AGM Agenda Item 13 -MOTIONS TO AMEND THE WORLD SQUASH ANTI-DOPING RULES

Annexure E

a) To formally adopt the updated World Squash Anti-Doping Rules as set out in Annexure E with effect from 1 January 2021.

Motion: Executive Board at the request of the Anti-Doping Commission

Explanation/Rationale

This motion is based on the World Anti-Doping Agency's request that all International Federations update their Anti-Doping Rules in accordance with the revised World Anti-Doping Code that comes into effect on 1 January 2021. WADA has reviewed and formally approved the proposed the World Squash Anti-Doping Rules.

8. AGM Agenda Item 14 -MOTIONS TO AMEND REGULATIONS GOVERNING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

- a) **To amend the eligibility rules (K1. WSF Championship Regulations) for the WSF World Teams Championships to make provision for non-member national federations, in the host region, to compete in the event with a one-off dispensation granted by the World Squash Federation.**

Motion: Oceania Squash, Squash Australia and Squash New Zealand

Proposed wording:

K1.1 A Non-Member National Federation is eligible to enter a team in the World Men's Team Championships and World Women's Team Championship when the event is being hosted in their region. Dispensation would be granted as a one-off exemption and the relevant entry fee must be paid in full by the due date.

Explanation/Rationale

While seeking dispensation for both Men's and Women's Teams events we are mindful that the World Men's Teams Championship is scheduled to be held in New Zealand, December 2021. Some of our Oceania members are not full members of WSF but they would welcome the opportunity to be part of this prestigious event in 2021. This is really a once in a lifetime opportunity for the players in the Oceania region and a fantastic way of involving our neighbours in one of the most prestigious squash events on the calendar.

With the event being in New Zealand it makes it far easier and certainly more affordable for them to travel here and many have family in New Zealand which helps with accommodation. The WMT2021 Organising Committee is very keen to see an invitation extended to these nations to participate in the event but to do so will require WSF to grant a dispensation for that to happen. At a time when squash is looking for new initiatives, we see this is a huge opportunity for the sport to add value to an already exciting and wonderful product.

The issue for WSF is one of fairness and equity (i.e. letting lower paying members get the full benefits of WSF membership). It is easy to limit this precedent by making it clear it's a one off, and any further entry into world events needs to be as a full member. The benefit for WSF is more teams participating in the world teams event, and possibly some of those non-member teams will be encouraged to become full members after the event.

Longer term it would be a good permanent move to invite any non-full member nations in the host region of the world men's teams event to participate (on a one off basis) e.g. when it is in Asia, an invitation could be extended to Cambodia for example.

From a New Zealand perspective, the entry fee largely covers the accommodation cost. So, its \$\$ in, \$\$ out. As hosts, we could offer two packages for Oceania nations - full, which includes normal accommodation, or a lower cost package without accommodation, or cheaper accommodation. Within the Oceania Region full member nations such as New Zealand and Australia and the Oceania Squash Federation would make a commitment to support those non-members financially so that there would be minimal barriers to participation.

At a time when many sports have been greatly impacted by the COVID pandemic any opportunity to open new doors should be grasped with both hands and we urge WSF to give this remit its full and favourable consideration.

9. AGM Agenda Item 15 -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:

As of 1 September 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Men's Team	-----	NEW ZEALAND	-----	AVAILABLE ^(D)
Women's Team	MALAYSIA ^(C)	-----	EGYPT	-----
Women's World	PSA	PSA	PSA	PSA
Men's World Championship	PSA	PSA	PSA	PSA
Men's & Women's Junior	(C)	EGYPT	AVAILABLE ^(B)	AVAILABLE ^(D)
Women's Junior Team	-----	EGYPT	-----	AVAILABLE ^(D)
Men's Junior Team	(C)	-----	AVAILABLE ^(B)	-----
World Masters	POLAND ^(D)	POLAND	AVAILABLE ^(B)	-----
International Doubles	-----	AUSTRALIA	-----	-----
Hardball Doubles	-----	AVAILABLE	-----	AVAILABLE

Note: Tenders are required by 31 December two years ahead of the Championship e.g. for events in 2022, tenders must be submitted by 31 December 2020.

- (A) Played before the Junior Team Championship held concurrently with it.
 (B) Tender closes 31 December 2020.
 (C) Postponed to 2021 due to Coronavirus.
 (D) Tender closes 31 December 2021.

10. AGM Agenda Item 16 -GENERAL BUSINESS

- a) To receive the Forward Plan of the WSF for 2019/2020. **Annexure F**
- b) To receive reports from WSF Regional Presidents:
- i. Africa **Annexure G**
 - ii. Asia **Annexure H**
 - iii. Europe **Annexure I**
 - iv. Oceania **Annexure J**
 - v. Pan-America **Annexure K**

11. AGM Agenda Item 17 -WSF FINANCE

- a) Adoption of the audited accounts for the financial year 2019/2020. **Annexure L**
- b) To authorise the Officers to appoint and fix the remuneration of the auditors.
- c) To receive the Budget for the financial year 2020/2021. **Annexure M**
- d) **MOTION – WSF EXECUTIVE BOARD**
That the Membership Fees of the WSF, for the calendar year 2021, shall be unchanged at:

Full Member - 6 votes	(1501 courts and over)	£7,210
Full Member - 5 votes	(1001 - 1500 courts)	£5,265
Full Member - 4 votes	(751 - 1000 courts)	£4,300
Full Member - 3 votes	(501 - 750 courts)	£2,360
Full Member - 2 votes	(51 - 500 courts)	£1,340
Full Member - 1 vote	(1 - 50 courts)	£430
Associate Member		£36
Affiliate Member		£590

12. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

(Subject to Clause 154 of WSF Articles of Association – "At all General Meetings only the business notified in the agenda shall be transacted. Amendments must be kept within the terms of the motion and the Chairman of the Meeting shall have the power to refuse any amendment which substantially alters the intention of the motion.")