



MINUTES OF SNZ BOARD MEETING

Friday March 20, 2015, 12.30pm, Squash New Zealand Office, Auckland.

Present: Tony Johnston, Linda Kenny, Matt Taylor, Steve Dunbar, Jim O'Grady (CE)
Gareth Fleming (conference call)

Apologies: Greg McKeown, Dayne Far

Conflicts of Interest: Steve Dunbar – HTG

Items for Discussion

1. SNZ Strategic Plan 2016 - 2021

A draft version of the 2016-2021 Strategic Plan was tabled at the meeting with general agreement that the 5 strategic outcomes identified at the previous meeting were on the right track and the one page format was easy to understand.

After discussion a number of recommendations / suggestions were put forward for possible inclusion in the plan.

- A. Under priorities for strategic outcome A include a retention strategy
- B. Under goals remove the dates to reflect the plan runs through to 2021. The dates could be included in the operational plan. Possibly include a goal for the men's team - top 8 by 2012? Should juniors be included?
- C. C1 – should "implement" a national facilities strategy be included or is "develop" enough?
- D. "Financially sound" become "commercially successful". More aspirational and commercial success would remove the barriers to achieving other goals in the strategic plan
- D. Add more financial goals
- E. E1.2 – rather than provide good governance ensure that there is a good governance model in place at every level
- E. E.3 – Include a new goal to reflect alignment of strategies and unified delivery

It was noted that the plan did not have a vision statement and that GM would work on developing this for the next meeting. Next steps -

- Up-date the draft plan for the May Board meeting and incorporate a vision statement
- Each Board member to weight the strategic outcomes prior to the May meeting
- Present to the mid-year presidents meeting in June for further feedback and discussion
- Adopt at the November annual general meeting

On behalf of the Board TJ congratulated GM on a great job to date and thanked him for his efforts.

2. Sponsorship Consultancy Proposal

Mike Hall-Taylor from HTG gave a power point presentation on a commercial strategy and plan for SNZ. Mike outlined the properties and process for SNZ to potentially attract a commercial partner. It was agreed the Board would review the proposal and make a decision on how to proceed as soon as possible.

3. National Squash Centre

No further progress had been made with the NSCT. JO and GM would arrange to meet with the trust in the coming weeks. It was agreed that JO and GM would look at developing a strategy for the long term future of the NSC.

4. Ball Sponsorship Proposal

Following the last meeting it was agreed that Tecnifibre balls would be distributed to the districts for testing. From the 6 responses to date it appears that there are few negative comments but most were apprehensive about how well the ball would perform in winter. There was also uncertainty around where the red and blue balls would be used in competition. It was agreed that with this level of uncertainty and the fact that the season was well underway it would be better to defer a decision until further and more comprehensive testing was done in winter.

JO updated the Board on discussions with Dunlop in Australia. An offer had just been received but needed to be evaluated before a decision could be made.

5. WSF AGM Delegate 2015

The Board discussed the various options that might be considered to send a delegate to the WSG agm in 2015. Opinion was divided on whether SNZ should send a delegate and who that might be. It was agreed to defer a decision until the May meeting when all the Board would be in attendance.

6. World Senior Men's Champs 2015

It was agreed that the CE would ask the HPAP to submit their recommendations for sending a team to the 2015 World Men's Teams Championships. In the event a team was not sent the HPAP would be asked to consider contingency plans for the men's high performance programme and submit their recommendations to the Board as soon as possible.

7. World Junior Girls Champs 2015

The CE updated the Board on the latest developments regarding the event in Cairo. With increasing concern from many Western nations about safety and security it was increasingly unlikely the event would take place in Egypt. The NZ Government travel advisory for Egypt was high or extreme and New Zealanders were advised not to travel to Egypt unless it was essential. Parents and players to be advised and updated as information comes to hand.

Items for Decision

1. Purpose

To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held January 23, 2014.

Resolution:

That the minutes of the previous SNZ Board meeting held January 23, 2015 be approved as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Moved: Steve Dunbar / Linda Kenny

Carried

Matters Arising from the Minutes None

2. Purpose

To apply for grant funding.

Resolution:

The SNZ Board agrees to apply for funding to support a range of activities as and when required.

Moved: Matt Taylor / Linda Kenny

Carried

3. Purpose

To confirm the appointment of Gareth Fleming as a co-opted member of the SNZ Board.

Out of Meeting Resolution: 6th March 2015

That The SNZ Board appoint Gareth Fleming to the SNZ Board as a co-opted member. The term of the appointment to be confirmed at the next Board meeting on March 20, 2015.

Moved: Steve Dunbar / Tony Johnston

Carried

Resolution:

That the term of the co-option be until the SNZ annual general meeting in 2016 and that GF be appointed to the commercial sub-committee.

Moved: Tony Johnston / Steve Dunbar

Carried

4. Purpose

To decide whether or not SNZ will make a financial contribution to sending a team to the Youth CWG in Samoa in 2015.

Background

SNZ has not sent a team to the games before because of cost and it is not connected to the HP programme. There was a feeling that it would be good to support the event in the Oceania region and it might provide some a medal prospect for our junior players. NZOC have now indicated the cost will be around \$3k per person (team of 4 + 1 coach) plus possible incidental expenses such as playing gear, internal travel etc. Initially we thought it would be similar to the 2014 games and there would be no cost to the players or coach / manager. There is no budget for this event in this financial year.

Resolution:

Because the event is a non-budget item the SNZ Board does not make a financial contribution to sending a team to the Youth CWG in 2015 unless a compelling reason arises.

Moved: Steve Dunbar / Linda Kenny

Carried

5. Purpose

To receive and adopt the recommendations from the CE Review Committee.

Resolution:

The SNZ Board move "into Committee" to discuss the CE review recommendations.

Moved: Steve Dunbar / Linda Kenny

Carried

Resolution:

The Board acknowledges the Chief Executive's continued leadership of the organisation and development of squash in New Zealand

The SNZ Board receive and adopt the salary recommendations from the CE Review Committee.

Moved: Tony Johnston / Steve Dunbar

Carried

6. Purpose

To approve the financial reports for SNZ and Club Kelburn

Resolution:

The financial reports for SNZ and Club Kelburn to 28/2/2015, having been previously circulated, were accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Tony Johnston / Linda Kenny

Carried

General Business

1. WJG 2017

The CE provided an update on progress with tender bid to host the World Junior Championships in 2017. As at March 20th an organising committee had not been established and there was no confirmation of new venues. As per the previous discussion it was agreed that a formal tender would not proceed until these conditions were confirmed.

2. Sub Committees

It was agreed that the Board sub-committees would determine their own method of operation but each committee would submit a report to the Board prior to the next meeting.

3. Auditors Letter

GM and SD to provide comment on the auditor' letter and prepare a suitable response.

4. SNZ Staffing / Restructure of Roles

JO provided an update on the national office staff. Both Sam and Luke had settled into their roles well and were making good progress. The handover documents from Pennie and Michael had been invaluable in assisting with the transition.

5. HPAP

Paul Wright had put together a proposal for the Regional HP Hubs which had been discussed by members of the HPAP. It had been a challenging task and Paul had done an excellent job to date. It was agreed that the proposal be circulated to districts and implemented as soon as possible while monitoring it closely.

There had been some discussion about the composition and size of the HPA and it was felt a smaller group might be more effective. CE to confirm and advise current members of the change.

6. Buddies Report

TJ felt that the system was not working well and should be reviewed at the next Board meeting. The contact with district presidents was important and should be encouraged and maintained.

7. Bounceback

TJ provided an update on Bounceback, the Crombie Lockwood insurance scheme for squash clubs. He had been in touch with the company with a view to activating Stage 2 where SNZ would become an agent for CL. TJ to provide an update for the next Board meeting.

8. Coachforce / Kiwi Squash – Squash Wellington

Willie Bicknell from Squash Wellington had asked the Board to consider how Coachforce and Kiwi Squash could be delivered more effectively to increase participation numbers in squash. From discussions with other districts he felt they were struggling with how this could be done. Willie had sent an email to each district with his thoughts asking for their response but had received limited feedback to date.

The Board thanked Willie for his contribution and suggestions noting that his concerns were matters that would be addressed under the development of a new strategic plan particularly the issues of alignment and unified delivery. It was agreed that these were important matters that deserved further consideration and would be brought to the mid-year presidents meeting. SD and CE to respond to Willie.

9. Next Meeting

May 8, 2015. Palmerston North.

10. Meeting Closed 5.05pm