

ENGLAND SQUASH MASTERS

Record of the General Meeting of players held at 6.30 pm on Friday 15 May 2015 at the Hull University Sports centre during the Open Masters Championships

The ESM Terms of Reference require this meeting to be held every two years and to fulfil the functions of an AGM

The meeting was chaired by Martin Pearse and attended by Stuart Hardy (Vice-Chairman), Mike Clemson (Secretary), Steve McLoughlin (Treasurer), Peter Alexander (Committee member) and approximately 20 players. No apologies were received

The record of the players meeting held on 28 September 2013 was approved as correct, and there were no matters arising

Dates and venues for Regional tournaments for 2015-16 are still being finalised, and will be available on the website. A venue has to be found to replace Colets. Winchester or Southgate are under consideration. A Bristol venue for a Regional was deemed unsuitable because of the lack of assured car parking facilities

It was agreed that entrants from the same county should, wherever possible, be placed in different sections of the draw

It was agreed that the host club should be asked to make available a Physiotherapist on the Friday evening and Saturday of each regional tournament, with ESM contributing £250 towards the cost. This was subject to further discussion by the Committee

A proposal to hold a non points carrying event which could offer opportunities for men and women from different age groups to play each other, was not carried

A plea from a player for more entrants in the older mens age groups was noted, also the need for more older women to make possible the selection of an England Over 60s womens team

The website was not up to date because of Brian Brock's other commitments. It was agreed that it would be helpful to have one or two other people who could input to the website. It was noted that the website is being revamped

The Home Internationals programme would be reviewed next year, which could result in changes to the four year cycle of host countries. Fresh venues would also be considered

Re selection for England teams, it was agreed that players would qualify for the older age group immediately on attaining the relevant birthday, and carry upward their points accrued during the season. If they do not achieve an automatic top four place by virtue of accrued points, and are not selected in the final two places for the age group in which they started the season, they can be selected for the England team in the higher age group, especially if they have played for England in the previous two

seasons. To qualify, they still need to have played in at least two events during the season – either a regional, the Nationals or the Open. Squad selection will be discussed/agreed between the higher age group Captain and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. This was proposed by Jon Glidden and seconded by Glen Ragou.

All players in their final age group year will have their birthdates and eligibility to play in a higher age group published on the website at the beginning of the season

For the sixth place in any England squad, Age group Captains can select anyone who has played in only one qualifying event

It was agreed that players selected for the first time should have their kit provided, details to be discussed by the Committee

Other International matches were under consideration, with possibilities in Europe and America. It was noted that the next World Masters Championships would be held in Johannesburg in 2016, and entrants were urged to go early to acclimatise

The Treasurer reported that ESM had a healthy bank balance of circa £5k, and that this increased from surpluses generated by the increasing number of entries for regional tournaments. The Committee would welcome any suggestions of using this money for the benefit of Masters registered players

The Chairman reported that he had met with the Chief Executive of England Squash and Racketball to discuss the future relationship between ESR and ESM

All current members of the Committee were willing to stand for re-election, and it was reported that Bev Mackay was willing to rejoin the Committee. Its membership for 2015-16 therefore comprises –

Chairman	Martin Pearse
Vice-Chairman	Stuart Hardy
Treasurer	Steve McLoughlin
Secretary	Mike Clemson
Home Internationals	Dave Hardern
Women	Helen Gould
	Beverley Mackay
Promotion/Sponsorship	Robert Smith
Trophies and Prizes	Peter Alexander
ESR representative	Chris Nutley

The Chairman thanked all the members of the Committee for their contribution and support throughout the year

The meeting was then declared closed, and presentations of Players of the Year were made to Glen Ragou, Jill Campion and Stuart Hardy