

FREE STATE SQUASH ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF A GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 19 January 2026

OUDSTUDENTE CLUB – 17.15

VENUE: OUD STUDENTE

1.	WELCOME	Chairman appreciated and welcomed all to the meeting.	Chairman
2	PRESENT	Attendance: Riaan van Straten (Chairman) Willem Beukes (Vice Chairman, Oud Greys) Pierre Venter (Treasurer, Tempe) Zelna Delport (Secretary) Keith Deutschmann (Marking and Refereeing) Margo Morgan (Development)	Secretary
3.	APOLOGIES	Rocky le Roux Calvin Deutschmann Johan Smit Barend van der Merwe Clint Gouws	Secretary
4.	FINALISATION OF AGENDA	As meeting proceeds.	Chairman
5. 5.1	MINUTES Confirmation of Minutes	Confirmation of Minutes	Secretary
6	Matters Arising Budget Safeguarding Junior squash AGM and prize giving Winter and summer league starting times Regional Coach	- Allocation of development and junior squash monies Honorarium and AGM budget - No safeguarding officer at the moment - Bloem Open and age groups - AGM and prize giving to be split - Winter league has to start at 18:00 Summer league try and start at 17:30 - Coaches should be increased to three	Margo Pierre Margo Pierre Riaan Pierre
7.	CORRESPONDENCE	- Whatsapp community to be used for all official correspondence - Link will be sent out – players can join at own discretion - Margo will contact parents via her website - Polls will be made to involve general players in decision making - Calender to be added on community page – pin it - Pierre will make a QR code for joining whatsapp community. He will also make A4 posters to put up at all courts - Keith will send out a new list with all the club representatives	Pierre Keith Margo
8.	CALENDAR	- Refer to Squash SA and SportyHQ website - To be added on Whatsapp community group	All Reps

9.	FINANCE	• Riaan, Pierre, Willem and Zelna all opt to waive honorarium fees for the first year or until bank balance in positive at least • Margo feels honorarium fees should stay as there is a lot of work involved especially for Barend and Calvin • Pierre wants budget to grow – honorarium fees make up 40% • Margo warns that a non-profit should not show a profit • Pierre suggests we use profit to get schools involved without their own squash courts like Oranje, Jim Fouche and Sentraal • Margo - Martie du Plessis development only worked while receiving funds, collapsed after funding stopped • Pierre – schools without courts the kids don't get exposure to squash and sport will never grow there. We need to try and get more courts built at those schools • Riaan enquires as to how many school kids play squash, but there are no definite numbers at this time • Margo – squash is an expensive sport, coach fees and maintenance of courts and equipment needed • Pierre suggests going to see head masters and to set up a contract to build new courts and utilize them efficiently • Riaan wants to know if there is a job description for every honorarium. Keith will send the list and descriptions.	Riaan Margo Pierre Keith Willem
10	WINTER LEAGUE	Prize giving of winter league to be combined with summer league opening ceremony AGM to be held separately if needed Date of prize giving to be moved if possible League scores need to be given in on time Ask players if function should be formal or informal	Margo Pierre Riaan
11	SUMMER LEAGUE	• Will resume on 22 January 2026 • Should try to change starting time of games to 17:30 • Impossible to finish before 20:00 which is too late	Margo Pierre Riaan
12	MASTERS	• N/A	
13	SQUASH 57	• N/A	Rudo
14	JUNIOR SQUASH Bloem Open	Squash SA wants all players playing in any tournament to be registered on SportyHQ. Some kids will only play this tournament SportyHQ fees are then wasted. Bloem Open not on calendar as yet – date will be 27 February – 1 March 2026. Bloem Open used to rank Free State players on the ladder and gave opportunity to players from rest of South Africa to play in a big tournament. Also used to select the Free State teams. If SportyHQ is not used players will not receive any rankings. Could try to host it as an independent tournament with our own online entries and results page. Pierre will phone Jennifer and enquire as how they can accommodate our tournament and maybe exclude SportyHQ. Run tournament as non-accredited on the calendar if possible Margo and Riaan to send out communication to parents regarding age groups and Bloem Open. Squash events webpage to be used for communication	Margo Pierre Riaan Keith
15	REGIONAL COACH	Margo wants Calvin to receive full honorarium fees as he spends 6 weeks working at squad training for juniors and seniors and accompanies them on tournaments. Keith – FSSI gives free coaching Pierre wants to know why only on coach is being used as there are three coaches in Bloemfontein earning a living from coaching. Margo – Calvin is being used solely as he is the only level 2	Margo Pierre Riaan Keith Willem

		coach. He used to send kids to the other two coaches when kids were too many, but that didn't work. He didn't have adequate control over all the kids when split between them. Pierre – the three coaches don't get along, no communication Margo and Keith – the coach needs to set a good example on and off the court and also when he, himself, is playing or refereeing a game Riaan – it's difficult for coaches to attend meetings as time falls in their peak training times Willem – if criteria stay that coach has to be level 2 Calvin will have to stay, needs to be reviewed Riaan – we should approach the other two coaches and find out if they want to become involved in helping and coaching.	
16	DEVELOPMENT SQUASH	Margo – last years budget went to Martie du Plessis, should allocate better this year. Squash SA doesn't give enough time to implement development projects. Budget amount should not be used on one project, but rather split up. Pierre – rather use funds to sponsor coaching sessions for promising squash players. Candidates to be chosen by coaches Will help less fortunate players and generate coach income Margo – ask coaches and school teachers how we should best allocate the funds to best promote development Pierre – up the development budget to R17500 for now, make a poll on development group to ask for ideas on how to spend	Pierre Margo
17	OTHER TOURNAMENTS		
17.1	Jarvis 2027	• Pierre was approached by Jennifer to host Jarvis Tournament in 2027 • Everyone agreed it is premature and more research has to be done if it will be worthwhile financially	Pierre
18	LOTTO FUNDING	Has to be a NPO to get funding Pierre see if registration as a NPO is possible and Ben Kotze for guidance with LOTTO funding	Chairman Treasurer
19	SQUASH SA	Advertised a job as Junior Squash Development Coordinator	Keith
20	FS ACADEMY OF SPORT	• N/A	Treasurer
21	FS SPORT CONFEDERATION	• N/A	Chairman
22	FREE STATE SQUASH FEDERATION	• N/A	Chairman
23	SASCOC	• N/A	Chairman
24	GENERAL AGM	Catering budget to be reviewed	Pierre

	Safeguarding Officer	Free State does not have a safeguarding officer as of yet. SquashSA requires that we have one Is a very big responsibility that no one wants to take it on as there will be no protection if something does go wrong Ask SquashSa to appoint one for the Free State Adapt our own policies with rules for kids and parents	
25	MEETING DATES 2026	Next meeting 9 March 2026	Secretary
26	NEXT MEETING	GENERAL MEETING OLD STUDENTE CLUB 17H15	Secretary

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