

FREE STATE SQUASH ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF A GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 11 MAY 2026

VENUE: VIRTUAL

1.	WELCOME	Chairman appreciated and welcomed all to the meeting. Chairman proposed possibly moving future meetings to a different evening to accommodate Zelna Delpont's Winter League commitments.	Chairman
2	PRESENT	Attendance: Riaan van Straaten (Chairman), Margo Morgan (Secretary), Pierre Venter (Treasurer), Barend van der Merwe, Willem Beukes.	Secretary
3.	APOLOGIES	Johan Smit, Calvin Deutschmann, Rocky le Roux Tremayne McDonald, Zelna Delpont	Secretary
4.	FINALISATION OF AGENDA	Points to be discussed added in matters arising Chairman noted the meeting needed to conclude by 19:45; no additional pressing matters were raised.	Chairman
5. 5.1	MINUTES Confirmation of Minutes	Previous minutes were sent out on whatsapp executive group Matters concluded: Two corrections to the previous minutes were noted: (15) squad-training start to read "second week in May"; (16) wording "Saints kids" to be amended to "St Andrew's learners". Minutes confirmed subject to these corrections.	Chairman
6	Matters Arising	Do the new committee have access to bank account yet? Bank account: Treasurer following up with Lawrence on documents and signatories; this is the highest priority and is expected to be resolved asap. Summer League expenses: clubs are paid R50 per night plus R500 for the function; Ramblers has followed up. Barend to calculate the amount due per club (esp. Ramblers and St Andrew's) and circulate for attachment to these minutes. Coaching: Chairman held a preliminary discussion with Tremayne McDonald (willing to assist, preferring the girls' squads) while Calvin continues with the boys if we decide to split coaching responsibilities for future squash training sessions. Any structural changes to apply from next year only if agreed.	Barend Riaan
7.	CORRESPONDENCE	No new correspondence to report. SA AGM will be held in JHB on 6 th June 2026.	Riaan
8.	CALENDAR	Growthpoint – starting 19 June 2026 Junior IPT – end of June 2026 Masters Nationals – 12-16 June 2026 Growth Point entries close 31 May 2026.	All Reps
9.	FINANCE	Treasurer circulated a draft budget outline on WhatsApp based on previous statements; income and expenditure remain consistent, with a projected surplus of approximately R68 000 for the year (largely due to reduced honorariums). Treasurer to update the outline with actual figures (e.g. FS Closed fees, development costs) and circulate a revised version.	Treasurer
10	WINTER LEAGUE	Most scores are up to date and captured on time. Players are encouraged to log results via the SportyHQ app; team managers may capture results directly. Anie still submits via Excel – Barend to follow up. Teachers / team contacts (e.g. Nikki Papin) to be given capturing access. Barend to inform clubs of any players not yet registered on SportyHQ.	Barend
11	SUMMER LEAGUE	Nothing further to report;	

12	MASTERS	Masters IP ongoing. Masters Nationals 12–16 June 2026. Nothing further to report.	
13	SQUASH 57	Squash 57 Nationals upcoming (open individual entry). Free State is not entering a team, though individual members may participate.	
14	JUNIOR SQUASH	Junior Inter-Provincial (IPT) – availability survey completed. Girls: only two U11 players available (to join the invitation side); U13, U15, U17 and U19 each have just enough for one A-section team. Several top players (e.g. Isa Johnson, Dalia Rust) are unavailable due to cost, travel or other commitments. The U19 girls are short one player (4 of 5) – Secretary to contact three non-respondents; an incomplete team will still be entered to preserve Vivian's World Junior eligibility, failing which matches will be forfeited. Boys: U13 weakened (players ranked 1, 3, 7 and 12). U15 is the only section with two teams, but the B-team must play in the A-section as only three provinces entered B-teams; Ryan Johnson withdrew as a result. Logistics: high volume of late transfers after the 10 May deposit deadline; uniform supplier changed, requiring shirt sizes to be reconfirmed with families within 24 hours; still short 3–4 team managers; transport unresolved (U19s likely to fly). Ladders close 15 May 2026, after which there are no challenges out of teams (U15 players may challenge within their teams until month-end).	Margo
15	REGIONAL COACH	Squad training started 2 May 2026. Chairman researching how other regions run regional coaching and has had preliminary discussions; Tremayne McDonald is willing to assist (preferring the girls' squads) with Calvin continuing the boys – any changes to apply from next year only, in line with the constitution and job descriptions. Senior squad training remains difficult to coordinate; Chairman to approach Keith and gauge squad interest, prioritising younger players. Nothing significant to report this month.	Calvin
16	DEVELOPMENT SQUASH		
17	OTHER TOURNAMENTS	Free State Closed – ran well, with a good mix of junior and senior players and strong junior results; thanks to Pierre, Barend and the organising committee. Refereeing / marking standards remain an ongoing concern (markers sometimes absent). Refereeing and marking to be made a condition of entry; experienced referees (e.g. Keith) to handle high-contention matches; a short compulsory pre-tournament briefing to be considered. Friday-night scheduling (matches 20 minutes apart) caused some delays but was defended as necessary to use court time efficiently. Growth Point – starts 19 June 2026; entries close 31 May 2026; Riaan and Barend likely the event administrators (to confirm); Secretary to locate the event-requirements pamphlet. Jarvis – squad of 11 (10 returning; Neil out, Johan in); accommodation booked, entry fees due end of month; clothing costs minimised by reusing kit; budget healthy. Newsletter to report junior results and call for sponsorships (Raubex expected to continue). Two-week challenge window for selection; FS Closed compulsory; final team confirmed by month-end.	Pierre / Riaan
18	LOTTO FUNDING	Paused.	Riaan Pierre
19	SQUASH SA	Riaan – communicating as needed with them Vivian selected for the World Juniors squad and has requested assistance. The Squash SA fee is R80 000 per player (R40 000 deposit + R40 000 balance), covering accommodation and meals. Committee discussed funding philosophy (focusing support on players in their senior playing years). Secretary proposed R5 000 (precedent: R5 000 to Dean and Quibbus for last year's Malaysia / Singapore tour); Chairman suggested closer to R8 000. Decision deferred to next meeting and will be put to vote.	Riaan

20	FS ACADEMY OF SPORT	Chairman in discussions with Erica at the Free State Sports Academy; committee list and contact details submitted. The facility is better suited to professional than student players; opportunity to be monitored and players allowed to approach directly.	Riaan
21	FS SPORT CONFEDERATION	Pierre – is busy applying, deadline is 30 June 2026 Documentation being gathered; the outstanding item is the bank confirmation letter (requires external assistance). Finance requests kept to a minimum by self-funding FS Closed fees and claiming reimbursement.	Pierre
22	FREE STATE SQUASH FEDERATION	Nothing to report at present	Riaan
23	SASCOC	Nothing to report at present	Riaan
24	GENERAL	Nothing to report at present	Riaan
25	MEETING DATES 2026	AGM to be scheduled and announced in good time – likely October / early November 2026, subject to the constitutional requirement on production of financial statements. Chairman to propose possible AGM dates.	Secretary
26	NEXT MEETING	GENERAL MEETING 09 JUNE 2026 (TUESDAY) VIRTUAL 17H15	Secretary