
**WORLD
SQUASH**

WSF

**SQUASH BALL
WSF APPROVAL
PROGRAMME**

2020/2021

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WORLD SQUASH FEDERATION

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WSF BALL APPROVAL

(a) **WHAT IS WSF APPROVAL**

Manufacturers of Squash balls are invited apply to the WSF to have their products Approved as meeting World Squash Federation Specifications. **For balls, All WSF Approved ones will have the opportunity to carry the Federation's Approval logo on packaging, the balls, promotional materials, advertising and every other medium of communication with customers.**

(b) **WHY APPROVAL?**

For manufacturers: Approval of balls enables the manufacturer to give customers an assurance of quality and standard which comes from an independent authority, known and respected throughout the world. It reassures the online or store retailer that he is stocking products which meet the laws of the game, **and adds to promotional and sales opportunities.**

Products bearing the WSF Approval mark have an immediate advantage over their competitors. Other balls may be perfectly good quality and meet specification; but, can they easily prove it?

Products which bear the WSF Approval mark can be used in Squash at all levels, from social and club play right through to the World Championships.

For distributors, wholesalers and retailers: All those involved commercially in selling Squash equipment need to be assured that the product they are handling meets the specifications and standards set for the sport. They may not be experts in the rules and regulations covering the products, but can rely on the fact that they are **endorsed as meeting the required specifications.**

For players: Those buying and using balls need to be sure that they are approved for play. The simplest and most effective way of giving them this assurance is through the WSF mark on the product itself. **This mark will be especially compelling for club players.**

For the sport: The Approval Programme is a means by which the WSF supports the development of playing equipment to ensure that the needs of the sport are served in the best possible way.

The WSF actively encourages all its Members Federations to support those products which are WSF Approved.

(c) **APPROVAL CRITERIA**

Manufacturers of balls must provide samples of their products for Approval and sign an undertaking that the samples are representatives of their total production.

The WSF will carry out full checks to ensure that these products fully comply with the relevant specifications and standards and may, additionally, require manufacturers to produce evidence that they carry appropriate product liability insurance, advise the WSF of any changes to the products as they occur and be prepared for the interest of the WSF to be noted on the policy above and give details of guarantees or other consumer protection benefits.

The WSF reserves the right to Approve, or not Approve any products at its sole discretion.

(d) **GRANTING APPROVAL**

On application to the WSF, manufacturers will be given full details of the procedure necessary to obtain Ball Approval. This will certainly involve undertakings to:

- i. Arrange for the testing of the products at nil cost to the WSF, usually through an independent testing authority or by a specialist recommended by the WSF.
- ii. Not use the results of any such testing or offers of Approval without payment of the appropriate fees.

Approval will be granted on an annual basis on payment of the appropriate fee. These are currently:

Balls* GB£1,030 per year

* Designation of a ball range shall be at the discretion of WSF, but ordinarily all speeds of ball must be separately tested that they meet the specification, but will be covered by a single range payment.

Note: For applications granted during a year the fee will be reduced pro-rata for the number of months remaining down to a minimum of 50% of the applicable fee. Reductions are only applicable when full payment for the following year is made at the same time.

(e) **BENEFITS OF APPROVAL**

All Approved products, packaging, promotional materials and advertising may carry the phrase "WSF Approved and Certified" or "Approved and Certified by the World Squash Federation". The WSF Approval logo may also be used in conjunction with the wording, but not separately from it unless specifically authorised in writing by the WSF.

A full list of WSF Approved companies and their products is maintained, published on the WSF website, in materials e.g. Directory and WSF Instant Update and notified to the SPIN database of registered players and coaches.

(f) **APPLICATIONS & FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Applications should be made using Appendix B.

SQUASH BALL SPECIFICATIONS

1. A STANDARD DOUBLE YELLOW DOT (Competition) BALL

The following specification is the standard for a double yellow dot (Competition) ball to be used under the Rules of Squash.

Diameter	(millimetres)	40.0 + or - 0.5
Weight	(grams)	24.0 + or - 1.0
Stiffness	(N/mm) @ 23 degrees C.	3.2 + or - 0.4
Seam Strength	(N/mm)	6.0 minimum
Rebound Resilience	- from 254 centimetres	
@ 23 degrees C.	12% minimum	
@ 45 degrees C.	25% - 30%	

2. A STANDARD SINGLE YELLOW DOT (Club) BALL

The following specification is the standard for a single yellow dot (Club) ball to be used under the Rules of Squash.

Diameter	(millimetres)	40.0 + or - 0.5
Weight	(grams)	24.0 + or - 1.0
Stiffness	(N/mm) @ 23 degrees C.	3.2 + or - 0.4
Seam Strength	(N/mm)	6.0 minimum
Rebound Resilience	- from 254 centimetres	
@ 23 degrees C.	15% minimum	
@ 45 degrees C.	30% - 35%	

NOTES

- The full procedure for testing balls to the above specifications is available from the WSF. The WSF will arrange for testing of balls under standard procedures if requested.
- No specifications are set for faster or slower speeds of ball, which may be used by players of greater or lesser ability or in court conditions which are hotter or colder than those used to determine the Club and Competition specifications. Where faster speeds of ball are produced they may vary from the diameter and weight in the above specifications. It is recommended that balls bear a permanent colour code or marking to indicate their speed or category of usage. It is also recommended that balls for beginners and improvers conform generally to the rebound resilience figures below.

Beginner	Rebound resilience @ 23 degrees C	not less than 17%
	Rebound resilience @ 45 degrees C	36% to 38%
Improver	Rebound resilience @ 23 degrees C	not less than 15%
	Rebound resilience @ 45 degrees C	33% to 36%

Specifications for balls currently fulfilling these requirements can be obtained from the WSF on request.

The speed of balls may also be indicated as follows:

Super slow -	Yellow Dot (Single or Double)
Slow -	White Dot or Green Dot
Medium -	Red Dot
Fast -	Blue Dot

- Balls which are used at World Championships or at similar standards of play must meet the above specifications for the Standard Double Dot (Competition) ball. Additional subjective testing may be carried out by the WSF with players of the identified standard to determine the suitability of the nominated ball for Championship usage.
- Yellow dot balls of a larger diameter than 40.0mm specified above, but which otherwise meet the specification, may be authorised for use in tournaments by the official organising body.



APPENDIX B

WSF SQUASH BALL APPROVAL PROGRAMME

APPLICATION 2020/2021

Company Name:

Company name to appear on logo:

Contact name:

Company Position:

Email address:

Tel No.:

I wish to apply for WSF Approval for the period ending 31 December 2021.

Upon receipt, arrangements will be made for testing

Fees for one year are GB£1,030.

An invoice will be sent upon receipt of this form.

Signed:

Date:

Please return this completed form to:

Carol Hackett

Operations Coordinator

Mail: WSF, 25 Russell Street, Hastings, United Kingdom, TN34 1QU, UK

E-mail: admin@worldsquash.org