

# **WORLD SQUASH FEDERATION LIMITED**

# 53rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

# **SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2023**

# **AGENDA 1**

## FOR COMPANY REGISTERED IN IOM

#### PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
- 2. ATTENDANCE & PROCEDURES
  - **a)** Members represented and number of votes
  - **b)** Observers present
  - **c)** Others present:
    - i. By right
    - **ii.** By invitation
  - **d)** Voting Procedures
  - **e)** Appointment of Scrutineers

Please note that all decisions made during the Agenda for the IOM company that relate to both the IOM and UK company rules, regulations and membership will automatically be applied to the UK company.

- 3. APPLICATIONS FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP
  - a) Austria\*
  - b) Bangladesh\*\*

Applications have been received from the above National Federations.

- \* some documentation and payment pending at the time of the Agenda distribution
- \*\*one document pending at time of Agenda distribution
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on 30 October 2022, hybrid meeting Chennai, India

**Annexure A1** 

5. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2022-2023

Annexure C1

- 6. MOTIONS TO AMEND THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF WSF LIMITED
  - None received
- 7. MOTION TO AMEND THE WSF ANTI-DOPING RULES

**Annexure D1** 

# a) To formally adopt the updated World Squash Anti-Doping Rules as set out in Annexure D1 with effect from 25 November 2023.

Motion: Executive Board at the request of the Anti-Doping Commission

#### Explanation/Rationale

This motion is based on the need to update the WSF Anti-Doping Rules following the WSF Board nomination of Sport Resolutions as the Independent Hearing Panel. Article 8 updated (references to WSF Hearing Panel changed to International Hearing Panel throughout). WADA has reviewed and approved the proposed amendments to the World Squash Anti-Doping Rules. Members must formally adopt the WSF Anti-Doping Rules for our sport to remain compliant.

#### 8. MOTIONS TO AMEND REGULATIONS GOVERNING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

a) Motion to set Qualifying Structure for WSF World Men's and Women's Team Championships as detailed below including setting the maximum number of participating countries in any World Championships to 24

Motion: Malaysia

#### Explanation/Rationale

Background: We recognize the significance of addressing the question regarding the participation of countries in our World Team Championships for both men and women. Presently, our response, typically ranging between 24 and 32 participating countries, is incongruent with our diverse membership of over 85 countries.

Proposal: To promote wider global participation, we advocate for a revised qualifying structure for the WSF World Men's and Women's Team Championships.

A Qualification Event shall be introduced to determine the 24 participating countries. This event will be facilitated through Continental championships, which will serve as the primary qualification route.

Acknowledging the variance in levels of play across Continental championships, we propose distinct quotas for qualifiers from different Continental regions:

Europe : Top 4 Teams

Asia : Top 4 Teams
Africa : Top 4 Teams
Pan America : Top 4 Teams
Oceania : Top 2 Teams

Additionally, we propose the allocation of 6 WSF Wildcards. These wildcards will be granted to the top 16 countries from the previous event who do not secure qualification through the Continental championships. Or any other country that are deserving as decided by the WSF selection panel.

Benefits:

Enhanced Significance of Continental Championships: This new structure immediately elevates the importance of Continental championships, fostering more intense competition within each region.

Enhanced Credibility: In response to the question of the number of countries participating in our World Championships, we can confidently assert a participation of over 70 countries, a number that aligns more closely with our expansive membership.

By implementing this revised qualification structure, we ensure a more equitable representation of nations, and reinforce the global appeal of squash.

## b) Motion to hold WSF International Doubles annually

Motion: Malaysia

#### Explanation/Rationale

Background: The promotion of WSF Doubles since the 1998 Commonwealth Games has encountered challenges in achieving substantial traction. While periodic World Doubles Championships have been organized on the eve of the Commonwealth Games, sustained growth in this format has remained elusive.

Proposal: To invigorate the growth of WSF Doubles and facilitate its broader acceptance, we propose the establishment of an annual World Doubles Championships by WSF.

## **Key Points:**

Transition to Annual Format: Transitioning from sporadic to annual championships will create more opportunities for participation and growth in the WSF Doubles format.

Collaborative Promotion: We believe that with strategic promotion efforts by WSF in conjunction with Continental bodies, the WSF Doubles Championships can progressively garner greater participation and international recognition. Anticipated Benefits:

Sustainable Growth: The shift to an annual schedule increases the visibility and viability of WSF Doubles, potentially attracting more participants over time.

Enhanced Visibility: Regular championships will provide a consistent platform for showcasing the unique and exciting nature of doubles squash to a global audience.

The proposal to organize an annual WSF World Doubles Championships signifies our commitment to fostering the development and popularity of this format on a broader scale. We welcome any further adjustments or additions to these motions.

#### 9. MOTIONS TO AMEND THE ETHICS RULES

Annexure E1

Motion: Executive Board at the request of the Ethics Commission

To update Rules Concerning Conflicts of Interest (Appendix 1) as per the proposal Annexure E1.

#### Explanation/Rationale

To bring clarification on the conditions of a conflict of interest between actual, potential and perceived.

## 10. MOTIONS TO AMEND THE RULES OF SQUASH

**Annexure F1** 

Motions: Executive Board at the request of the Rules Commission

a) Motion to adopt all changes to the rules summarised below and fully detailed in Annexure FI to the Rules of Squash

To update wording of:

Rule 1.1, Rule 3.6.8, Rule 5.11, Rule 8.1, Rule 9.3, 14.1.1, Rule 14.2.1, Rule 14.2.2 (and add note), Rule 14.2.3 (and add note) Rule 14.3.1, Rule 14.3.2, Rule 15.6.4, Rule 15.6.4, Appendix 2.1 (and add definition) and Appendix 6 as detailed in Annexure F1

To make the grammatical changes to:

Rule 3.6.2, Rule 3.6.7, Rule 3.7.7, Rule 15.10.5 and Appendix 2.2 as detailed in Annexure F1

To amend wording of Rule 4.2 Rule 7.3 Rule 8.8.1 Rule 8.9.3 Rule 12.2.2 Rule 14.3.3.1 Rule 14.3.3.2 Rule 14.4 Rule 14.4.1 Rule 14.4.2 Rule 14.4.3.1 Rule 14.4.3.2

To add new Rule 8.11.4

To amalgamate:

Rule 13.4.3 with existing rule 13.4.4 (and if passed, subsequently Rule 13.4.5 to be renumbered 13.4.4)

Appendices 7, 8 and 9 Unify into Appendix 7 – Technical Specifications (and if passed, renumber Appendix 10 to Appendix 8)

## Explanation/Rationale

The Singles Rules have been subject to several revisions and updates over a lengthy period of time under various commissions and as such contain a variety of inconsistencies relating to grammatical, typographical and punctuation usage and also the inconsistent use of certain mandatory words and terminology.

The Commission was accordingly tasked by the WSF Executive Board to tidy up all of these minor revisions where applicable. The Commission furthermore received welcome submissions with suggested improved wording to the recent Blood Injury provisions and requests from the PSA and other sources to amend and or amplify certain specific rules to address perceived omissions or provide more clarity and guidance to officials. The attached schedule and proposed updated version of the Singles Rules accordingly comprises these revisions, corrections, and additions with a tracking of each such change with reference to the particular rule affected and the nature of the amendment and also the consolidation of certain appendices.

#### 11. MOTIONS TO AMEND THE SQUASH57 STANDARD RULES

None received

#### 12. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

a) To update Members on progress made in assigning World Championships in the last year and make Members aware of future available Championships for which WSF is seeking hosts:

### As of 1 September 2023

WSF	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
Men's Team	NEW ZEALAND	AVAILABLE*		AVAILABLE* TBC <sup>(B)</sup>
Women's Team		AVAILABLE		AVAILABLE* TBC <sup>(B)</sup>
Men's & Women's Junior Individual <sup>(A)</sup>	AUSTRALIA	USA	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE (B)
Women's Junior Team	AUSTRALIA	USA*	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE* TBC <sup>(B)</sup>
Men's Junior Team		USA	AVAILABLE* TBC	AVAILABLE (B)
World Cup	INDIA		INDIA*	
World Masters		NETHERLANDS		AVAILABLE (B)
International Doubles			AVAILABLE	
Hardball Doubles	AVAILABLE		AVAILABLE	

**Note:** Tenders are required by 31 December two years ahead of the Championship e.g. for events in 2026, tenders must be submitted by 31 December 2023.

- (A) Played before the Junior Team Championship held concurrently with it.
- (B) Tender closes 31 December 2023.

#### \* Explanation/Rationale

Following recommendation of the Championship Commission, the WSF Executive Board has agreed to test a new format for the 2024 Junior and Senior World Team Championships.

US Squash has proposed to stage the Women's Junior Team Championship in parallel to the Men's Junior Team Championship at the same venue. To help the Member Nation Federations with the additional costs related to the registration of two teams, the host has agreed to subsidise the cost of the accommodation for nations that enter a junior women's team alongside a junior men's team.

Regarding the Senior World Team Championships, the WSF has reviewed the organisation of Championships by other sports and the global trend is to merge all men's and women's competitions for individual sports. Consequently, the WSF has entered into negotiations with a potential host city to support the hosting of a combined Men's and Women's Team Championships in December 2024. The current budget, if approved by the potential host city/region takes into consideration our capacity to subsidise the Member Nations entering both Teams. The following year in 2025, the WSF World Cup, a mixed team event, will occur in the same December period and the WSF World Teams Championships would return in 2026.

An evaluation of these Championships will be undertaken so that the Championship Commission can make a final recommendation on whether these new formats should be maintained in the years to come and make subsequent changes in the WSF Regulations for approval by our Member National Federations.

MAJOR GAMES	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
FISU World University		Johannesburg, South Africa		
Asian Games	Hangzhou, China <sup>(D)</sup>			Aichi/Nagoya JAPAN
African Games		Ghana		
PanAm Games	Santiago, Chile			TBC
Commonwealth Games				TBC
World Games			Chengdu, China	
Gay Games	Hong Kong/ Mexico			

#### 13. GENERAL BUSINESS

a) To receive the Forward Plan of the WSF for 2023/2024 Annexure G1

**b)** To present reports from WSF Continental Presidents:

i.	Africa	Annexure H1
ii.	Asia	Annexure I1
iii.	Europe	Annexure J1
iv.	Oceania	Annexure K1
v.	Pan-America	Annexure L1

#### 14. WSF FINANCE

a) To present the audited accounts for the financial year 2022/2023. Annexure M1

- **b)** To authorise the Board to appoint and fix the remuneration of the auditors.
- c) To present the Budget for the financial year 2022/2023. Annexure N1

## d) MOTION – WSF EXECUTIVE BOARD

That the Membership Fees of the WSF, for the calendar year 2024, shall be increased by 6% at:

Full Member - 6 votes	(1501 courts and over)	£8,025
Full Member - 5 votes	(1001 - 1500 courts)	£5,860
Full Member - 4 votes	(751 - 1000 courts)	£4,786
Full Member - 3 votes	(501 - 750 courts)	£2,627
Full Member - 2 votes	(51 - 500 courts)	£1,491
Full Member - 1 vote	(1 - 50 courts)	£479
Associate Member		£40
Affiliate Member		£657

#### Rationale

After deliberation, the WSF Executive Board have deemed it necessary to adjust the membership fees in order to keep pace with increased operating costs due to the rise in inflation over the two year period. With no price increase in 2022, the Executive Committee is asking the AGM to approve an immediate increase of 6% of the Membership Fees. This is predicted to generate an additional £8900.

## 15. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

To present the WSF Environmental Sustainability Strategy

Annexure 01

(Subject to Clause 154 of WSF Articles of Association – "At all General Meetings only the business notified in the agenda shall be transacted. Amendments must be kept within the terms of the motion and the Chairman of the Meeting shall have the power to refuse any amendment which substantially alters the intention of the motion.")

## 16. FUTURE MEETINGS