



# DARWIN SQUASH ASSOCIATION

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### BY-LAWS

*Effective as of 28 July 2009*

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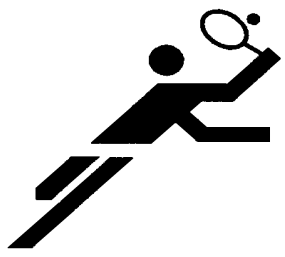
# DARWIN SQUASH ASSOCIATION

PO Box 481  
NIGHTCLIFF NT 0814

Telephone (08) 8948 4889  
Facsimile (08) 8948 5144

## **DEFINITION OF BY-LAWS AND PENNANT COMMITTEE**

1. The following By-Laws shall apply to and govern all Pennant Squash in Darwin.
2. The Pennant Committee shall consist of at least three (3) members, one of whom shall act as the Chairperson.
3. The Pennant Committee solely shall interpret, administer and enforce these By-Laws.
4. The Pennant Committee may at any time delegate all or any of its powers or duties under these By-Laws to the President or nominee.
5. As soon as possible after each Annual General Meeting of the Darwin Squash Association Inc. (hereinafter called "DSA") the Executive shall nominate the members of the Pennant Committee who shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting of the DSA.
6. Executive under these By-Laws shall mean the Executive elected at each Annual General Meeting of the DSA.
7. The President under these By-Laws shall mean the President who is from time to time appointed as the President by the Representatives of an Annual General Meeting of the DSA or by the Executive (whichever is the case) under the Constitution of the DSA.
8. The Pennant Committee is appointed by the Executive Committee of the DSA to adjudicate any complaints arising from any form of Squash competition / tournament endorsed by the DSA. Examples include but are not limited to Eg:
  - a. Junior Tournaments / Events
  - b. Junior League
  - c. Pennant Competition
  - d. Open and Graded Tournaments



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## **1. INTERPRETATION OF BY-LAWS**

The Pennant Committee shall be responsible for the interpretation of the By-Laws.

## **2. PENALTIES FOR BREACHES OF BY-LAWS**

The DSA shall have the power to impose penalties or Fines (see Clause 11) for the breach of any of these By-Laws by any of the following forms:-disqualification, suspension, fine, the awarding of any rubber or match, and/or the deduction of points already scored, to any members, team or associate.

## **3. PROCEDURE FOR PROTESTS ALLEGING BREACHES OF BY-LAWS**

Protests alleging breaches of these By-Laws must be lodged in writing with the Pennant Committee Chairperson of the DSA within (7) days of the occurrence of the alleged breach.

## **4. PROCEDURE FOR APPEALS AGAINST DECISIONS**

Any appeal against an interpretation or decision by the Pennant Committee under these By-Laws must be lodged to the Secretary of the DSA within seven (7) days from the notification of such decision.

## **5. CAPTAINS**

Captains are responsible for accurately completing the result form at the match venue.

## **6. REGISTRATION OF NEW PLAYERS**

Players must be registered with the DSA Pennant Committee Chairperson prior to the match being played. This is done by completing the official registration form. If there is any doubt about the eligibility or position that the player is to be registered, then a phone call must be made to the Pennant Committee Chairperson. Failure to observe the above procedure may mean that the player is not registered for subsequent matches, and if played, points will be deducted for an "unregistered player".

If no Registration form is available, the name & address must be emailed or faxed to the DSA Centre.

## **7. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**

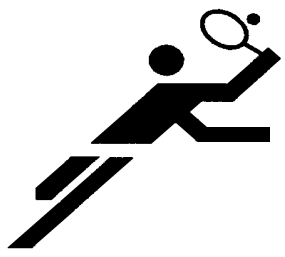
(a) To be eligible to play in a pennant competition, each nominated player must be a bona-fide member of the DSA.

(b) No player shall be nominated for two competitions that play on the same day.

(c) No player will be permitted to play with more than one team in the same round or Grade of Pennant Competition unless special permission is received from the Pennant Committee.

(d) No fixture entry will be accepted by the DSA from any player listed as unfinancial or suspended. If an unfinancial/suspended person plays, the penalty is the loss of all points for that player plus 2 match points.

(e) To be eligible to play in finals refer to By-Law 10.



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## 8. COURT DEMEANOUR

It is all players' responsibility to ensure that they display good court demeanour at all times. Persistent indiscretions including racquet and verbal abuse may incur a penalty (Clause 2).

## 9. FORFEITS

If a team wishes to forfeit a rubber, the remaining players must play in the correct order of merit (viz 1, 2, 3 & forfeit at 4). No points will be scored by the team forfeiting, and the opposing team will be considered to have won the rubber.

## 10. ELIGIBILITY FOR FINALS

To qualify to play in any Finals match a player must have played in at least four (4) matches and be a financial member of the DSA. A player must play in his nominated team in the Finals match unless special permission is gained from the Pennant Committee to play in another team. All players must comply with any other requirement as designated by the Pennant Committee. The Pennant Committee may vary these requirements in exceptional circumstances.

Players who have been added since the start of the season and have completed the above requirements, may be vetoed from the finals, if their inclusion is deemed to strengthen the team beyond the grade.

## 11. FINES

The following fines will be incurred:

- (a) Non-attendance of markers & referees at final - \$80 per person
- (b) Bringing the game into disrepute - \$100

All fines are payable to the Darwin Squash Association.

## 12. PLAYER REPORT

Any complaints or reports about a player must be made to the Pennant Committee Chairperson for that Competition (c/- P.O. Box 481, Nightcliff, 0814) within seven (7) days, or emailed to the Pennant Chairperson.

## 13. POWER TO DEMAND INFORMATION

The Pennant Committee shall have the power to demand from any member information regarding the circumstances under which any match has been played or respecting any matters relating thereto.

## 14. ALTERATION TO ORDER OF MERIT

(a) The Pennant Committee has the right to alter the order of merit of any member at any time. No alteration to order of merit will be permitted without the permission of the Pennant Committee.

(b) If a member considers that the order of merit needs adjusting, details of the proposed adjustment and the request to alter the order of merit of the team must be submitted in writing to the Pennant Chairperson from the Secretary of the Club before the last match of the first half of the Pennant season or by the date nominated by the Pennant Committee.



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In considering alterations to the order of merit, members should note that only in exceptional circumstances will a player who has achieved more wins than losses playing in a particular position in the team in matches during the first-half Pennant Season, be permitted to play in the lower position during the second-half of the season.

All approved alterations remain effective until the completion of the competition including the finals.

(c) Teams may justifiably regrade their players TWICE only in the FIRST FOUR MATCHES of the competition by notification to the Pennant Committee on the back of the official score sheet. Any further changes of order MUST HAVE PRIOR APPROVAL of the Pennant Committee. No changes can be made for the last three (3) matches before the finals or for the finals.

## **15. DUTIES OF HOME TEAMS**

The home (or first named) team shall provide supper.

## **16. PENNANT MATCH PROCEDURE**

(a) Captains must advise their opposing Captains the composition of their teams before the commencement of any match.

(b) All nominated players should be present at the commencement time unless agreed by the captains prior to the match.

(c) Each rubber shall be scored in the form designated for that competition and played to the rules of Squash Racquets and by these By-Laws.

(d) The playing order of the rubbers in all grades shall be decided by the toss of a coin. The Captain winning the toss shall nominate the first rubber to be played and thereafter Captains alternate choice of subsequent rubbers. Subsequent rubbers must be nominated before the commencement of a game that could win the current rubber.

## **17. DISPUTE OVER PLAYER ORDER**

In the event of any dispute over the playing order of a team, the match shall be played under protest, and the Pennant Committee shall determine the matter on receipt of a protest submitted according to these By-Laws.

## **18. STARTING TIME, VENUE OF MATCH, BALL, MARKERS & REFEREES**

(a) All matches shall commence at the time approved by the Pennant Committee. If play is not commenced within ten (10) minutes of the time laid down, the team offended against may claim the rubber by default (Clause 9). Ten minutes shall be allowed after each rubber for the subsequent rubber to commence. If the rubber is not commenced within ten (10) minutes, the team offended against may claim the rubber also. However, if a rubber is played after the expiration of the ten (10) minutes of grace, the team offended against must advise the team at fault of its intention to claim that rubber prior to the playing thereof, otherwise the result of the playing of the rubber shall stand. If both teams default in entirety, the match shall be cancelled.

(b) DSA will provide the new balls for each competition match.

(c) Each team will provide a marker and referee for each rubber and alternate duties and persons between rubbers.



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## **19. VARIATION IN PLACE AND DATE OF PLAY**

No alteration shall be made in the places and date of matches set down unless the consent has been received from the Pennant Committee. Should a match not be played as so arranged, then the team in default shall deem to have been defeated, provided that the question as to which team is in default is not to be decided by the Pennant Committee.

## **20. POWER TO ORDER REPLAY OR ALTER TIME OF MATCH**

The Pennant Committee or Pennant Tribunal shall have the power to order any match to be replayed, either wholly or in part, and to alter the time for playing any match.

## **21. SUBSTITUTE PLAYER IN SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

Where a match has commenced and a nominated team member as per By-Law 16 is unable to commence his rubber, due to sudden illness, accidental disablement, or any good and sufficient reason, a substitute player may take his place, provided that:-

- (a) the opposing Captain agrees.
- (b) proposed substitute is eligible under these By-Laws.

NOTE: If no substitute player is approved a forfeit shall be awarded.

## **22. MATCH AND INDIVIDUAL WALKOVERS**

- (a) If any team receives a match walkover from any other team, it shall be awarded all rubbers, games and points.
- (b) In the event of a default occurring after the commencement of any match, the team not defaulting shall be awarded all unfinished rubbers, games and points.
- (c) In the event of a walkover of an individual rubber being given in a match which has already commenced, the teams not defaulting shall also be awarded all rubbers, games and points competed for by the players at lower positions in the two teams. The Pennant Committee may waive this ruling if the circumstances causing the walkover are deemed to be of extreme or sound nature.

## **23. PREGNANT PLAYERS**

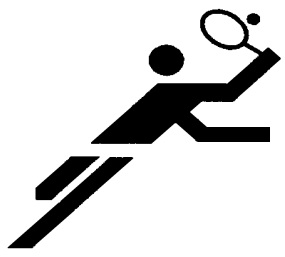
Pregnant women should seek medical advice about the risks associated with playing while pregnant, and then make their own informed decision as to whether to participate.

## **24. DRAWN SEMI FINAL**

In the event of two teams drawing their Semi Final match, the teams will arrange to replay the match before the scheduled Grand Final. The entire match does not have to be played on the one night or at one venue. If a mutual time cannot be arranged, the team finishing higher on the ladder will play the Grand Final.

## **25. DRAWN GRAND FINAL MATCHES**

In the event of two teams drawing their Grand Final match, a count back will ensue to include all matches played between those two (2) teams and the winner determined on matches, rubbers and points. If the teams are still equal then each team will be declared the Winner of that grade and will receive equal trophies.



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## 26. COURT FEES

Court fees are paid up front. Fees not paid by any individual or team, the Captain of that team will be held responsible and payments must be paid by return mail or EFTPOS at the DSA Centre.

All substitute players are required to pay court fees.

## 27. APPEAL AGAINST POINT ALLOCATION

This must be done within seven (7) days of the results being published otherwise adjustments may not necessarily be applied.

## 28. UNFINISHED MATCHES

(a) Unfinished matches due to power failure or the like are to be completed before the start of the next scheduled match. They will continue with the score as that existed when play was terminated.

(b) Unfinished matches due to injuries shall be decided according to Squash Australia ASRA Rule No. 16.4 - the referee should record his ruling on the reverse of the score sheet.

### **Rule 16-4**

For an opponent-inflicted injury (Rule 16-1-3) the referee shall apply an appropriate Rule 17 penalty, except that if the injured player requires time to recover the referee shall award the match to the injured player.

### **Rule 16-1-3**

Opponent-inflicted - where the injury was caused by the opponent's dangerous play, or by a deliberate or dangerous action.

**Rule 17** refers to conduct warnings, conduct strokes, conduct games and conduct matches. If the referee calls a conduct warning during a rally then a let shall be played.

## 29. CHAMPIONSHIP / TOURNAMENT RULES

(a) To be eligible to win a DSA closed tournament a player must be a financial competition player in the current pennant season.

(b) Any player is eligible to compete in and win an open tournament.

## 30. FINALS

(a) No final's matches whatsoever are to be played at any time or venue other than that advertised.

(b) The position of teams will be decided by the total of match points gained for each match during the season. In the event of these points being equal, a count-back will take place on matches won, rubbers, games and points, in that order, until a decision is reached.

(c) Play-off for grand finals will be as follows: Six team grades:

Semi-final - Team 2 vs Team 3

Grand Final - Team 1 vs Preliminary Final winner.



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Seven or eight team grades:

1st preliminary final - Team 1 vs Team 2 2nd preliminary final - Team 3 vs Team 4

Semi-final - Winner of 3 & 4 vs Loser of 1 & 2

Grand final - Winner of Preliminary Final vs Winner of Semi-final.

(d) If a player is involved in the finals as a reserve, so that he/she is required to play in two (2) finals on the same night, the player must play either the 1st or 2nd rubber in the lower grade before competing in the higher grade.

(e) Forfeits may not be claimed due to the late arrival of the reserve due to his/her commitment in his/her own grade final.

(f) To be eligible to play in the finals of any grade, a player must have played at least four (4) times during the competition in an equal or lower grade. In the lowest grade of the competition exemption to this rule may be considered by the Pennant committee in extenuating circumstances.

(g) The DSA will pay all court hire fees and ball fees for all teams involved in the Grand Finals.

(h) The losing teams of the Semi-final matches are required to referee and score Grand Final matches. Failure to do so may incur a penalty from the Pennant Committee (Clause 11).

## 31. CHALLENGE RULE

A player who thinks that they have been graded incorrectly may apply to the Pennant Committee to challenge a player graded one position higher.

If the Pennant Committee agrees, the challenger must then inform the player and agreeing to a mutually acceptable time, organise and pay for the court, organise a referee and marker within seven(7) days of the Pennant Committee agreeing to the challenge.

The challenge will consist of one match under match conditions.

If the challenge is successful then the players will swap positions, if the challenge is unsuccessful no further challenges can be made by the challenging player.

If the challenged player declines the challenge, then the challenge will be deemed successful, unless sufficient reason is provided to the Pennant Committee.

## 32. TEAM ETIQUETE

As a member of a team it is your duty to support your team members throughout the night.

As a courtesy to other teams you are required to be punctual and remain until the completion of ALL matches. If you are required to play your match and you only have a grace period of 10 minutes before your match is forfeited. **This rule will be enforced.**

ALL team members are required to SHARE scoring and refereeing duties, this includes ALL Juniors.