

Squash Canterbury Newsletter 2020

03-05-2020



This week's newsletter includes:

- Squash Canterbury Board Report
- Squash Canterbury Financial Update
- National Events - Update
- Canterbury District Events - Update
- Christchurch Autumn Interclub – Update
- Squash Canterbury Interclub Survey - Results
- Junior Report

Squash Canterbury Board Report

A message from the Squash Canterbury Board to all members to remind you to stay safe during these times and if possible, to support your local squash club. Volunteers will be a driver in keeping clubs alive in these financially challenging times.

To go with this Squash Canterbury are looking for nominations for people to join the Squash Canterbury Board. This is an opportunity open for anyone in the Canterbury region who wishes to see change and help take squash in Canterbury further forward than it was prior to the COVID 19 crisis. N.B. each board member has areas of focus and your position can be tailored more to suit your interests. Nominations will be discussed and voted on during the AGM which will occur shortly (date to be confirmed) via zoom.

The current Squash Board is:

Shelly Drummond (Chair)
Paul Monk
Helen Curd-McCullough
Joe Williams

We would like to take this opportunity to also thank Jason Merritt for this contribution on the board. Jason recently resigned to take up a role at Sport Canterbury.

Update on Alert Level 3 - from Sport New Zealand - Friday 24 April

What does level 3 mean for Play, Sport and Active Recreation?
Please find guidelines attached, as issued today by Sport NZ.

<https://sportnz.cwp.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Play-Active-Recreation-and-Sport-at-Alert-Levels-4-4.pdf>

What the COVID-19 Alert Levels mean for our clubs

A breakdown of the requirements being imposed by Squash New Zealand on our clubs under each Level.

<https://squashnz.co.nz/for-clubs/covid-19.cfm>

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Financial Update

Like everyone we have had to take a close look at the impact of the Covid-19 situation on our finances with the shutdown of clubs, suspension of competition and cancellation of district and national events. We also built into our planning a reduction in levies to assist clubs recover from the shutdown. You will hear more about this in the near future once there is a clearer picture when clubs can begin to open and competition can start up.

The good news is that with the reduction in revenue (levies and funding), we will also be making savings in costs (e.g. rep teams) and we have delayed the appointment of the new administrator. The result is that we are planning for a breakeven result at the end of the year.

This means we will not need to touch our reserves just to keep running and we can then make some of these available to help the sport recover post Covid-19. What this look like, we do not know yet, but will be working with Squash NZ and district clubs to develop a plan that provides support for clubs.

David Hawes

National Events

Due to the impacts of covid-19; including funding being frozen, travel restrictions and players unable to currently take the court, it is with regret that **New Zealand Senior Teams, due to be held at Hutt City, Wellington on the 28th-30th August have been officially cancelled for 2020.**

The call has also been made to **postpone New Zealand Senior Individual Championships on the 26th – 28th June, due to be held at North Shore Squash Club.** We aim to hold this event from August onwards and an update will be provided on this following further government announcements – travel will play a major factor in this decision as well as player training time.

The **Cousins Shield** and **Mitchell Cup** competition will unfortunately not take place in 2020.

These decisions did not come lightly, but the decision was made for reasons stated above, and the safety of our squash community.

Canterbury District Events

Based on the current information we have it is likely that all scheduled tournaments until the end of June are likely not occur due to the Covid-19 restrictions. We will keep you informed in the following weeks as more information comes to hand.

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The Tournament Road Show is cancelled, clubs can reschedule tournaments if they wish but at this stage the tournament road show will not be coming back until 2021.

The Canterbury Open & Canterbury Age Groups Tournament have both been cancelled for 2020. No Decision has yet been made regarding Canterbury Masters.

All Canterbury representative Squash for 2020 has been cancelled.

School Sport New Zealand have suspended their Secondary School Competition until Term 3, the full article can be found below.

<http://www.nzsssc.co.nz/newsarticle/89720?enewsid=21122>

Primary School Sport have postponed their competition with a tentative start date being June 2nd however this may still change.



Christchurch Autumn Interclub

Squash Canterbury have made the decision to cancel the Christchurch Autumn Interclub competition which was to run from Monday 4th of May until Tuesday the 30th of June.



We hope to run a winter competition and will keep updated with when this might be happening and any format changes that are necessary to ensure player safety.

Squash Canterbury Interclub

Survey Results

The summary of the Christchurch Interclub Survey results:

170 responses, people rated interclub on average at 3.68/5 which shows we have some improving to better the interclub experience. Of those, 73 were woman and 96 men, evenly spread throughout the grades. In general people preferred the 4 person teams and the single yellow dot ball and for interclub to run for 8-10 weeks. These results are yet to be properly sieved through but there are some trends emerging which will better distinguish which players want what.

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A vertical graphic with three stacked colored boxes: green at the top with the text 'TRY IT.', blue in the middle with 'PLAY IT.', and red at the bottom with 'LOVE IT.' in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

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Squash Canterbury Junior Development

As a parent of three junior players I do understand some of the challenges facing both families and their children with the cancellation of sport. I am looking forward to getting as many of our programmes back up and running as soon as it is safe to do so and reconnecting with you all court side.

Sport New Zealand has a good article for Parents – supporting young people's disappointment at postponements and cancellations I was keen to share with you.

<https://balanceisbetter.org.nz/parents-supporting-young-peoples-disappointment-at-postponement-and-cancellations/>

I always enjoy celebrating the success of our developing players so wanted to share some **good news**, highlighting some junior players who did well in our Summer interclub competition

The Anderson & Hill Junior Summer interclub competition attracted 46 Junior players, playing across 4 divisions.

Arihia O'Driscoll from Christchurch Football has earned our Girl Most improved player award working hard to get an increase of 120 points from the start of the competition. **Sofia Strange** and **Erika Stewart** both from Christchurch Squash Club also made strong improvement.

Our boys MIP award is shared between **Ziad Abdelmaksoud** of Burnside Squash Club, and **Benjamin Robb** of Christchurch Squash club both increasing their points by 140 points. Significant improvement was also made by **Rupert Jones** of Hoon Hay Squash Club, **Lewis Stewart, Ashton Cameron & Dylan Dopleach** from Christchurch Squash Club, and a new player to Canterbury **Fabian Cron** from Mt Pleasant Squash Club.

Please feel free to use this time as we take a break from the sport we love, to contact me if you have any suggestions on how we can improve what we offer junior players in Canterbury. There is a lot we can do for both new and developing players for squash and if you have any ideas or you would like to be more involved in this we would love to hear from you.

Lastly I have been listening to a great Song which I thought you might enjoy.

"Squash is my Addiction" by Simon Kilshaw be warned it does have a rather catchy tune!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=cFC_ZrGDSc8

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