**Annual General Meeting**

**Monday, 21 October 2024**

**2024 Squash Report – Liz Garvie**

**Opening Statement**

Good evening everyone and thank you for coming.

It’s been a vibrant year for our squash community, with many new faces joining us. The Business House season and Women and Wine events were particularly successful in attracting new members. Of which, as at the end of July 2024, our squash membership stands at 172, which slightly down from 183 this time last year.

As we reflect on this past year, it’s important to acknowledge those who have contributed significantly to our success.

**Outgoing Committee Acknowledgement**

We extend our deep appreciation to the outgoing committee members for their dedication and hard work. Special thanks again, to Susie our wonderful Club Manager for her tireless support and dedication to the club. We also thank all our volunteers who ensure our members, competitors and their families are well served during tournaments and club nights.

**Key Achievements and Events**

The outgoing committee has overseen another year filled with notable accomplishments and memorable events. The highlights being:

1. **Business House Season**:

* During Term 4 and Term 1 we held Business House Competitions, which has drawn in new members to the club.

1. **Electronic Scoring**:

* This year, we achieved a significant milestone by implementing electronic scoring at our club. Thanks to generous funding from Grassroots Trust and our club, we were able to purchase the necessary equipment and software. This advancement has been a fantastic asset, moving us into the 21st century.
* Members have thoroughly enjoyed seeing the scores displayed on TV and using the new devices. This technology has not only enhanced the experience for everyone but also brought a modern touch to our club. We look forward to further optimising this system next year.

**Fitness Sessions and Coaching**:

We have also continued facilitating fitness and training activities, notably,

* Intense fitness and coaching sessions for our B & C graders heading into the interclub seasons.
* The revamped ladies’ night, featuring fitness, coaching, games, and yoga, which has proven to be popular and will continue in a reduced format until the end of this school year.

1. **Women and Wine & Blokes and Beers**:

* This year, we held two Women and Wine and one Blokes and Beers events, welcoming 10 new members to the club who have shown great skills and every more importantly achieved wins on the court.

1. **Club Night Events**:

* Club nights were again successful. We had a fun 6-week team series early in the season, followed by another six-week Calcutta event, which raised $1800 for the club.

1. **Toilet Seat Challenge**:

In addition to our regular club nights, we also participated in the annual Toilet Seat Challenge, hosted by Leamington this year. Cambridge took the Trophy for second time in a row.

1. **Annual Cricket Match**:

* After the inaugural Tennis V Squash Cricket Match was rained off last year, this year’s limited over match was held early February, where we enjoyed sunny weather, great banter and boundary-clearing sixes. The squashies took out the Trophy, however I understand Tennis are already strategising its game plan to take the Trophy next year.

**Tournaments**

This year, the club successfully hosted six tournaments, again special thanks to the efforts of the TC’s and volunteers. The events included:

* Doubles & Singles Tournament in February
* Cambridge Open in July with 96 participants and significant sponsorship generating an additional $3000 for the club.
* Waikato Men’s C Grade Super Champs raised [$XX] for the club
* Women’s 900 Tournament saw great participation from our new female players
* Werder junior one-day tournament with 36 juniors attending from around the Waikato
* Waikato Doubles, where great squash was had by all, featuring social play and creative dress-up.

All-n-all, we have received positive feedback from competitors and look forward to an even more successful 2025 season with the new electronic scoring system in place.

**Interclub Competitions**

Our interclub competitors continue to highlight the depth and resilience of the Cambridge teams. The season showcased the club’s ability to maintain a high standard of play and foster a competitive yet supportive environment for all members.

* The Autumn season saw a notable victory with the Cambridge E men winning division 8, leading into a particularly successful Winter season, with multiple teams reaching the finals and securing top positions.
* The Spring season continued this trend of strong performance, with a high level of participation from both men’s and women’s teams.

**Graded Club Champs**

To end the 2024 season, the Graded Club Champs were held with 60 members participating. The final games and prize giving took place on the same night, resulting in great squash, camaraderie, and celebrations.

**Closing Remarks**

In closing, I would like to extend my gratitude to all of our members for your unwavering support and enthusiasm. Your dedication and passion for our club are truly the driving force behind its success. We look forward to the new journey ahead, planning enhancements to our infrastructure and continuing the competitions, tournaments, and fun family environment we have built over the past year.