

Oxfordshire Squash and Racketball Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Monday, July 20th, 2026

Present:

Jim Reay, Brian Bell, Steve Dance, Geoff Walton, David Quinn, Martin Packman, Jason Varrie

Apologies:

Steve Kuester, Michael Beck, Michelle Knight, Helen Knowles

Matters Arising:

1. Hithercroft Open is scheduled for September 11th and 12th.
2. The recent Doubles Tournament at Hithercroft Squash Club attracted 16 players. It was extremely competitive and a very enjoyable experience. It is hoped that this recent addition to the annual OSRA Tournament Calendar will become permanent. The pre Xmas Doubles event at Abingdon S/C is scheduled for December. On October 3rd there will be a Junior competition/Family Day at Henley S/C jointly funded by Henley and Hithercroft. JV is happy to get involved in both the administration and the T Shirt provision.
3. A Marker's Course has been booked for October 4th at Abingdon S/C. It will cost around £200 and there will be a £10 attendance charge.
4. Steve Dance has initiated an OSRA Crowd-funding exercise. The target is £2000 and the presence/visibility should last for 12 weeks commencing in August.

Accounts:

BB presented the latest set of quarterly accounts. On the whole OSRA looks to be reasonably financially stable and balanced over the last 12 months.

A couple of proposals were agreed though:

1. The Committee will ask the AGM to increase the League entry fee from £50 to £55 from Winter 2 2027.
2. To not pay travel and accommodation expenses for ICC Masters away games and to only pay court and ball fees for ICC home fixtures (Junior, Senior or Masters).

League Secretary Report:

Summer 2026 is progressing well apart from Brackley 1 being withdrawn due to their failure to honour fixtures. Division Two which was problematic last year is much more competitive this.

Entry has been opened to Winter 1

County Coach Report:

Junior Season finished until September. Top age groups are thin on the ground but more encouraging numbers lower down.

The Junior County Closed is pencilled in for the end of September probably at Nuffield.

The idea was mooted for Summer Camps and JV will find out if there is any enthusiasm from the local coaches. These are popular in other counties.

AGM Agenda:

Ideas were forwarded for this and it was decided:

- follow a similar format to 2026
- Invite the CEO of ES
- Breakout sessions to cover the OSRA annual event diary; Preparation locally for LA 2028;
- Crowd Funding item (SD)

The committee will meet pre AGM (30 minutes beforehand) to get their ducks in a row!

Next Meeting Date:

October 2026 – BB to send out date options

Any Other Business:

A suggestion was made to selectively use a single yellow dot. It was not felt prudent to progress this topic at this stage.

GW is our ES rep and he updated the Committee on the governing body's activities which did not appear to be of great significance. They are looking to improve diversity but this is not a new initiative and what is proposed appears a little rushed

and confusing. It was also felt that the change in membership to leaving the onus on the individual was entirely misguided and has left ES with fewer people signed up! Women's Week upcoming has been advertised to the clubs and on the website and it is pleasing to note that in addition to Helen Knowles's ladies nights, Andrew Wilson has started up Women only training sessions at Chipping Norton. JV was asked to look at staging a Racketball County Closed/Open in the 1st Quarter of 2027.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.