

# County Squash and Racketball Associations Network (CAN)

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## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS NETWORK (CAN) HELD AT BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY ON SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2018

PRESENT were representatives of the following County Associations – Avon, Berkshire, Cheshire, Cornwall, Derbyshire, Durham and Cleveland, Essex, Kent, Lancashire, Leicestershire, Merseyside, Northamptonshire, Northumbria, Suffolk, Wiltshire and Yorkshire. Also Richard Antcliff (CAN Advisor) and Linda Taylor (England Squash)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from representatives of Bedfordshire, Cumbria, Devon, Middlesex and Worcestershire

MINUTES of the Inaugural meeting of CAN, held on 11 November 2017, had been circulated and were approved as a correct record

### CAN ACTIVITY IN 2017-18

- (a) The Chairman reported that there had been two meetings with staff of England Squash and a Board member, to share information and discuss current matters, and a further meeting with the Chairman and some Board members of ES, as agreed and requested at a CAN meeting. In addition, he had conveyed views from CAN to the Chairman of ES by email, and had sent out a number of updates to CAN
- (b) The Co-ordinator reported that there had been one meeting of the CAN Executive Committee and one meeting of CAN during the year, in addition to the meetings of CAN held on the same day as ES Council. He had emailed CAN with information, including matter from England Squash or the CAN Consultants, on over 50 occasions during the year. In addition, the CAN Website had been maintained by Colin McNestrie

The Co-ordinator wished to place on record his thanks to the Chairman (Alan Batchelor) and the members of the Executive Committee, all of whom had been active and supportive during the year. The election of Officers and a Committee at the Inaugural meeting of CAN in 2017 had contributed significantly to the recognition of CAN as a partner by England Squash, and had also encouraged the majority of the County Associations to support the network. It was noted that all 38 County Associations are included on the CAN mailing list

### CAN AIMS, ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNANCE

Other than some minor drafting amendments included in the document which had been circulated beforehand, the main change proposed was that relating to the Executive Committee, that it should be composed of the members as stated, plus those CAN Consultants not already on the Committee. This would aid consistency relating to policy and practice, especially in relation to Consultants inter-action with ES staff and Working Groups. This was agreed



## CAN CONSULTANTS

It was noted that the Consultants scheme had been welcomed by England Squash and seemed to be working well in practice. While the Terms of Reference for Consultants were confirmed, it was stressed that their main role was to seek views on their particular topic from CAN and to summarise and share them with the appropriate member(s) of ES staff, not to put forward their own views. Consultants were still required for the topics of Refereeing, Growing the Network, Junior Competition, and Senior/Masters Competition

## OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2018-19

It was noted that Mike Blasdale and Paul Main had resigned from the Committee and that Mike Clemson was standing down as Co-ordinator. The following had been nominated for 2018-19 –

Chairman	Alan Batchelor
Co-ordinator	Vacant
Website Manager	Colin McNestrie

### Committee members

Richard Antcliff  
Mike Batte  
Richard Bickers (IT Consultant)  
Mike Broadbent  
Vickie Prow (Affiliation and Membership Consultant)

These were approved. The following CAN Consultants would also be members of the Committee –

Chris Vine (Participation and Coaching)  
Patrick Osborn (Racketball/Squash57)  
Andrew Beeston (Articles of Association)  
Roger Kenyon (Marketing)

Mike Clemson was thanked for his work for CAN over a period of several years

## GENERAL BUSINESS

- (a) It was generally agreed that the Council meeting had been much improved by the reduction in the number of items on the agenda, and the opportunity to discuss them in more detail in groups working in situ. It was hoped that England Squash would provide a summary of the conclusions reached by each group, and any consequent action
- (b) It was noted that the Squash Player magazine is to continue as an independent publication following on ES' decision to produce its own



emagazine in conjunction with the PSA. It was agreed to ask the Editor of the Squash Player magazine, Ian McKenzie, for any proposals he wished to submit concerning any relationship with CAN

- (c) There was a lengthy discussion on the ES Affiliation and Membership system, and the implications for the enhanced rebate for the funding of County Associations, as well as the optional County Levy. In this context, it was noted that a more organic (bottom up) approach to regional activity could result in two or more County Associations agreeing to work together where mutually beneficial, and that this could include the sharing of paid staff

## FUTURE MEETINGS

- (a) It was hoped that ES Council meetings would continue to be held at weekends, recognising that the majority of Council members are represented by volunteers, many of whom work during the week and cannot take time off to attend meetings, or have to use up a days leave for this purpose. It was also recognised, however, that some people have family or other commitments at weekends which make Saturdays difficult for them. It was agreed that the publicising of dates well in advance was of assistance in planning availability. It was agreed that Council members should be able to put forward items for the Council agenda and to speak to them
- (b) It was anticipated that meetings of CAN would continue to take place on the same day as Council meetings, and that there would be one additional meeting of CAN, probably in the early autumn
- (c) It was also anticipated that, while the Executive Committee does most of its work by email, it would have one meeting, probably in the early part of the year

The meeting was then declared closed, with thanks to all present