

Wilts Squash Report Sep 2024

Wiltshire Squash continues to operate well but it is still a challenging environment and we have not yet returned to pre-COVID levels of participation across all areas of activity. We were able to run both Winter and Summer leagues although team numbers were reduced. A full report on the leagues will be provided by the League Sec outlining the issues, outcomes, results from the last season and plans for the current season. We are trying to encourage more teams from more clubs to participate and are looking at innovate ways of achieving this.

The announcement that Squash will finally be an Olympic sport in 2028 has generated a lot of welcome publicity. As a result we were invited on to local Wiltshire radio to discuss squash in Wiltshire and John Watkins gave a great interview promoting squash across the county.

County Competitions have again been run at a number of different age groups and entrant numbers have increased and they were all successful and competitive events. We also want to participate in Inter- County and National Competitions to increase the profile of Wilts Squash nationally. Our priority is to recover participation numbers for teams, individuals and competitions across all age groups, juniors and women. We are also looking to encourage racketball numbers too.

In particular I would like to recognise:

- Age group champs
- National champs progress
- Squash and racketball

I would like to pass on my thanks to Dean and Jon Watkins in particular and the Wessex Club for their tremendous support in organising and hosting the various County competitions.

A separate update has been provided on Junior squash participation and our efforts to improve access and participation in this key area which remains challenging. I am looking forward to working with Josh as he takes over and together we can build on previous efforts and strive to promote junior squash across the county.

We are also considering future coaching options to ensure a development and improvement pathway exists for all levels of squash participation across the County. Coaching update and proposals will also be considered and options explored. We will continue to review future options on the funding models for hosting visiting teams after some issues have been raised on the various options currently available and we will be looking at how these options are being received throughout the forthcoming Winter and Summer seasons.

The cost of team entries will also be reviewed for the coming season.

ES membership models for clubs and individuals have been reviewed nationally and this has now been formally adopted so we will be monitoring these developments and the potential impact this may have on different club models within the County and we will communicate the latest ES directives on these issues with Clubs.

Committee Membership

Josh has volunteered to take over junior squash from Neil. As a result All Ctee posts remain filled and I am grateful for the current Ctee for all their support and efforts over the last year which has been another challenging period. I recognise that time and effort is still a key issue with volunteers on the Ctee balancing their many various commitments. There is an ES governance review underway too and we are currently considering the impact of these proposed changes and any transitional considerations that may be required.

We are looking at options for updating the Website, hosting environment, Communications, Sporty HQ integration, costs, matches, results, fixtures and matches. We are also reviewing our Media and Comms strategy and any data and governance challenges. The future strategy and constitution needs to be reviewed and updated to reflect current challenges.

CIO Governance

We are continuing to meet our mandatory requirements for governance and accountability as a CIO. There is also an ES transition plan for all Counties to achieve CIO status so we have already achieved that aim which is a good position to be in.

Finances

There is a separate report from Treasurer which details our accounts for the FY. We remain financially stable and healthy but need a long term sustainable plan for growth across the County. We received a healthy contribution from SRF after those funds were distributed to individual counties. Funding priorities and opportunities now need to be identified. We have the money but now need to be able to spend it effectively to promote Squash participation across the County.

England Squash

As Chair, I represent Wilts on ES meetings and forums. There are a number of governance proposals and timescales which have been distributed for comment. The Southern Regional Forum, which acted as an intermediary between the national ES level and County levels, has now been formally dissolved and the funds distributed down to individual counties. The SRF remains as an informal association of county chairs for advice and support purposes. CIO transition has been a key topic.

The ES AGM will take place in Nov and I will attend and represent Wilts Squash.

Summary

The last few years have been a very challenging time and we are now working with ES to support bounce back activities to try and recover levels of participation that have dropped significantly in recent years. We have an experienced Ctee with funding available and a core number of teams and players across the County. We now need to use this strong base to build a strategy to support growth in participation and improve quality across all age groups and locations across the full breadth of what is a large geographical County area.

The inclusion of Squash as an Olympic sport provides a fantastic opportunity to reignite interest at all levels and we will work with ES to use this time to promote new initiatives and programmes to build on the increased profile that Squash will hopefully now attract.

Chair Wilts Squash
Nick Hartley

Wiltshire Squash Accounts Summary – 2023/24

The following commentary relates to the Wiltshire Squash accounts for the 2023/24 financial year. The accounts have been prepared using the receipts and payments template prescribed by the Charity Commission and are shown at appendix 1.

Wiltshire Squash recorded a loss of £4,772 on income of £1,179 for the 2023/24 financial year. The loss is a reversal of the previous year's gain of £9,746 and largely relates to the timing of grant receipts in 2022/23 and the subsequent partial spending of that receipt in 2023/24.

Income decreased from £11,696 to £1,179 which is more in line with on-going underlying activity. When comparing year on year, if you adjust the 2022/23 income for grants (£10,500), it can be seen the underlying income remains flat (£1,196 last year compared to £1,179 this year).

Our main regular sources of income remained tournament fees (£731) and league fees (£275) along with the England Squash rebate of £173.

Expenses of £5,951 were incurred. The major expenditure item was a grant to Wessex Squash Club (£3,848) approved by the Committee in May 2023 to improve the facilities at the club. Other expenditure included court and trophy fees for tournaments (£563), admin (£600) as we continue with Sporty HQ membership and intercounty entry fees and expenses (£718) as we entered more intercounty events including racquetball. The remaining expenditure (£222) related to funding squash coaching qualifications.

Wiltshire squash had a balance of £18,832 at the year-end. The plan for 2024-25 continues to be for league fees and the England squash rebate to generate receipts to enable intercounty competition with tournaments largely breaking even. This leaves funds to invest in squash development opportunities whether that be bringing people back to the game, investing in facilities or investing in coaching opportunities to develop new squash players.

A summary of income/expenditure is shown overleaf. The committee is asked to authorise the accounts for submission to the Charity Commission.

Ben Taylor
Wilts Squash Treasurer

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
England Squash rebate	173	-	173	98
League Fees	275	-	275	125
Events	731	-	731	973
Coaching	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	-	-	10,500
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,179	-	1,179	11,696
A3 Payments				
Inter county	718	-	718	255
Events	563	-	563	1,053
Admin	600	-	600	600
Coaching	222	-	222	42
Grants	3,848	-	3,848	-
Total payments	5,951	-	5,951	1,950
Net of receipts/(payments)	(4,772)	-	(4,772)	9,746
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	23,604	-	23,604	13,858
Cash funds this year end	18,832	-	18,832	23,604

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestrict ed funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Senior Treasurer account	16,520	-
	Wiltshire Juniors account	2,312	-
	<i>Total cash funds</i>	23,604	-



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Wiltshire Squash

No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

4/1/2023

To

3/31/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
England Squash rebate	173	-	-	173	98
League Fees	275	-	-	275	125
Events	731	-	-	731	973
Coaching	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	-	-	-	10,500
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,179	-	-	1,179	11,696
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,179	-	-	1,179	11,696
A3 Payments					
Inter county	718	-	-	718	255
Events	563	-	-	563	1,053
Admin	600	-	-	600	600
Coaching	222	-	-	222	42
Grants	3,848	-	-	3,848	-
Development Officer	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	5,951	-	-	5,951	1,950
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	5,951	-	-	5,951	1,950
Net of receipts/(payments)	4,772	-	-	4,772	9,746
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	23,604	-	-	23,604	13,858
Cash funds this year end	18,832	-	-	18,832	23,604

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Senior Treasurer account	16,520	-	-
	PayPal Account	-	-	-
	Junior Bank account	2,312	-	-
	Total cash funds	18,832	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	