



Project Scope – A Vision for Squash Refereeing in Scotland August 2024

Project Aim

To review the current position of refereeing in Scotland, and to plot a way forward to ensure that squash officiating in Scotland is in a strong and sustainable position to ensure the future of the sport in the years to come.

Introduction

Scottish Squash is the national governing body for the sport in Scotland. We're committed to working with partners to support the growth and development of the game at all levels.

We strive to help the sport grow and work collaboratively with our partners and stakeholders to provide engaging opportunities, from developing grassroots programmes and resources to supporting the development of world-class athletes.

There are over 80 affiliated clubs across Scotland which equates to membership of over 5,000 individuals. We estimate the number of people that engage in squash in Scotland to be significantly larger because of those people that play in 'pay and play' facilities or opt not to have a membership of an affiliated club.

Background to Project

Scottish Squash is committed to the adoption of the World Squash Officiating (WSO) qualification framework to professionalise refereeing and to support with the development of a level of consistency in the refereeing workforce across the world.

Scottish Squash is also keen to develop the refereeing workforce to ensure that the refereeing workforce is representative of the squash player base and wider Scottish society.

In order to achieve these aims, Scotland needs a strategy for the future of officiating, with a plan required to support the training and retention of existing officials while also encouraging more people to try refereeing and find a level of officiating which meets their needs in terms of enjoyment, challenge and ambition.

This project provides an exciting opportunity for Scotland to lead the way as one of the first countries to develop a strategy for the future of officiating in the sport.



TOGETHER FOR SQUASH IN SCOTLAND

Scottish Squash | Oriam, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, EH14 4AS | T: 0131 374 2020 | E: info@scottishsquash.org

Scottish Squash Limited is a private company limited by guarantee | Company Number: SC198965



Project Scope

To ensure Scottish Squash is in a strong and sustainable position and can support the ambitions of current and future referees, the working group will review the requirements for referees at events across Scotland and the existing referee workforce in terms of levels of qualification and demography.

The group will then plot a way forward, by considering questions such as:

1. How can new groups be attracted to try officiating in a way which is representative of Scottish society? What steps are we taking and could we take to engage new referees from underrepresented groups?
2. How can the sport attract new officials to the game?
3. How can we support existing officials with the transition to the WSO qualifications framework?
4. How can we support all officials to find their level of refereeing – whether locally, on the international stage or somewhere in between - through consideration of enjoyment, challenge and individual ambition?
5. What training and support can we offer to support the development of existing and potential referees?

Working Group

To carry out this project Scottish Squash is establishing a working group to support the work and report back and provide recommendations against the project scope.

As a result, we are looking for involvement from individuals with knowledge and experience in any of the areas highlighted below:

- Squash refereeing (Existing officials, volunteer officials, Progression Reffin' cohort)
- Sports refereeing (Individuals with experience of refereeing in any sport)
- Squash players
- Individuals with professional experience in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- Individuals with experience in strategic planning and development

We envision a group size of between 6 and 8, with the final group composition determined by Scottish Squash staff.

Register your interest



TOGETHER FOR SQUASH IN SCOTLAND

Scottish Squash | Oriam, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, EH14 4AS | T: 0131 374 2020 | E: info@scottishsquash.org

Scottish Squash Limited is a private company limited by guarantee | Company Number: SC198965



To register your interest to be considered for involvement within the working group, please complete [this form](#).

Please register your interest by Friday 27th September 2024.

Projected Milestones (To be finalised by group)

Milestone	Date/Timescale
Agree a project scope for the project	November 2024
Look at current position of refereeing in Scotland	November 2024
Agree broad themes for A Vision for Squash Refereeing in Scotland	November 2024
Fact finding period, wider consultations and opportunity to feed in to work on strategy	March 2025
First draft of strategy completed and opened for consultation with sport and relevant partners	April 2025
Revise strategy, confirm and begin to implement actions	September 2025

Further Information

Should you wish to discuss the opportunity or project further, please feel free to contact:

Stuart Monteith, Workforce Development Manager | T: 07522 549 183 | E: stuart.monteith@scottishsquash.org



TOGETHER FOR SQUASH IN SCOTLAND

Scottish Squash | Oriam, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, EH14 4AS | T: 0131 374 2020 | E: info@scottishsquash.org

Scottish Squash Limited is a private company limited by guarantee | Company Number: SC198965