



Doubles Officiating Newsletter May 2021

I hope everyone continues to be safe and well during this uncertain and unusual time with the COVID19 outbreak. As more vaccinations are done, there is hope for a 2021-2022 season. The 2020-2021 season did not happen with no tournaments, leagues, or recreational play. Despite this, from an officiating perspective, there was much that was accomplished. This newsletter is to review the past season and to keep certified doubles squash officials “in the loop” with respect to doubles officiating.

In the 2020-2021 season, the Squash Canada Doubles Squash Officiating Committee (SCDOC) reviewed and dealt with the following items:

1. On Squash Canada website there is a section on doubles officiating – [Click Here](#). There are several items on the doubles officiating site that are useful reference materials for NEs, NRs and Provincial Refs. Items include: Doubles Squash Officiating Administration Manual, Quality Control Program, Assessment Form, Scoresheets, Referee tips, Line of Thinking, List of NEs and NRs and the “turning rule”. Tony Swift provided an article on “Fair Play” that is an excellent reminder for us to be good sports. It is also on the website. The Doubles Rules are already on the SC website under “Rules of the Game”. Squash Canada keeps the site up to date.
2. Cathy Tuckwell and Tim Mallory updated the Doubles Squash Officiating Administration Manual. Approved by SCDOC.
3. Cathy Tuckwell and Bart Sambrook updated Tournament Referee Responsibilities for Canadian Championships. Approved by SCDOC.
4. Cathy Tuckwell reviewed the concussion protocol for doubles and recommendations were approved by SCDOC.
5. Jorge Rabacal and Robert Dube updated the doubles clinic PowerPoint presentation.
6. Three clinic exam questions were reworded.
7. A US/Canada sub committee was established in early 2020 to review and update doubles rules if necessary. After a lengthy review, there are some amendments proposed and have been passed by Squash Canada. US Squash review is in progress and once approved will go to World Squash Federation (WSF) for final approval (a formality). More detail will be provided on the amendments once approved by the WSF.
8. A new North American Hardball Doubles Committee is being formed between Canada and the US. There have been two conference calls and currently, there is a draft Terms of Reference being reviewed. This committee will consist of Squash Canada and US



Squash doubles and officiating committee members. The purpose for the committee would be the following:

- a. North American tournament schedule
- b. Rankings
- c. Officiating and rules
- d. Grassroots development

In September 2020, the SCDOC was approached by Tara Mullins, Project Lead for the Female Engagement and Gender Equity Program to host a virtual doubles clinic for females. The SCDOC unanimously approved. There were two clinics held in December with over 20 attendees including women from the United States. By all accounts, the clinics were well received. I want to thank Tara Mullins (Facilitator), Stephanie Edmison (Moderator) and Mariette Rabacal (Presenter) for making the clinics a success. Also, thanks to Jorge Rabacal for his technical support.

SCDOC supports providing virtual clinics in the future and is working on a technical toolkit and best practices to assist National Examiners in giving the virtual clinics.

I would like to thank the members of the Squash Canada Doubles Officiating Committee for their dedication to ensuring doubles officiating in Canada continues to make significant progress. Committee members this season: Jorge Rabacal (Calgary), Mariette Rabacal (Calgary), Greg Desaulniers (Vancouver), Peter Reimer (Winnipeg), Bart Sambrook (Montreal), Robert Dube (Toronto), Mark Warren (Toronto), Tim Mallory (Toronto), Cathy Tuckwell (Toronto), Chris Deratnay (Toronto) and SCDOC Chair Brian Covernton (Vancouver).

Representing Squash Canada on the Committee was Geoffrey Johnson (Squash Canada Programs Manager) and Carol Stewart (Squash Canada Board representative) – thank to you both.

The success experienced by doubles officiating would not be possible without the time and effort put in by all those involved in the Squash Canada Doubles Officiating Program. We hope for your continuing support in the coming seasons.

I am now stepping away from the committee as my term is up. It has been a pleasure and an honour to serve on this committee since its inception back in 2003.

Good luck in the future.

Sincerely,

Brian C Covernton, Chair
Squash Canada Doubles Officiating Committee