
(h) MJ_2014-2015

College Squash Association


Coaches' Book



## Index

The purpose of the College Squash Association Coaches' Book is to organize match results and to provide information about rules and regulations governing intercollegiate squash.

These rules govern all collegiate play. All CSA coaches are expected to follow the CSA rules, and failure to do so should be reported to the CSA's Executive Committees.









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## Executive Committees

The College Squash Association is governed by the women's and men's Executive Committees.
If a CSA member would like to submit an issue for review by the Executive Committees, below is the process that should be followed:

1. The CSA member should e-mail the Executive Administrator with the recommendation or grievance. All proposals should be fully developed and should include at least the following pieces of information: the name and positions of the individual(s) submitting the proposal; the association the proposal would affect; the philosophy and rationale behind the proposal; a description of possible outcomes, including both positives and negatives; estimates of potential costs; and any additional pertinent information. The Executive Administrator will distribute the e-mail to the appropriate members of the designated Executive Committee(s).

For full consideration, major proposals should be submitted after March 10th and before November 1st; that is, during the offseason. Due to in season demands, it is typically more challenging to fully vet and prepare major proposals for vote at the annual meetings during the November - February timeframe.

Please note that minor proposals, ethics issues, or match play concerns may be submitted at any time. For match play concerns, the Executive Committees should be contacted within forty-eight (48) hours so that the matter may be addressed properly, and if needed, team rankings may be adjusted. If warranted, time exceptions will be considered.
2. The Executive Committee(s) will review the matter presented. If needed, subcommittees will be organized to review and issue recommendations. If a substantial change is recommended, the issue will be discussed and possibly voted on at the MCSA and/or the WCSA Annual Meeting.
3. Within three (3-4) weeks of submittal, the Executive Committee(s) will formally respond to the submitter with a status update or resolution. For in season ethics issues and match play concerns, the Executive Committees will respond in a timely manner.

## 2014 - 2015 Women's Executive Committee Members:

- President: Wendy Lawrence (Coach, George Washington University)
- Vice President: Hansi Wiens (Coach, Dartmouth College)
- Sergeant at Arms: Wendy Bartlett (Coach, Trinity College)
- Secretary: Niki Clement (Coach, Haverford College)
- Treasurer: Gail Ramsay (Coach, Princeton University)
- At-Large: Wendy Berry (Coach, Wellesley College)
- Awards Chair: Ted Childs (Coach, Connecticut College)
- Rankings Chair: Erin Robson (Coach, Mount Holyoke College)
- Ranking Appeal Committee: Niki Clement (Coach, Haverford College), Jamie King (Coach, Hamilton College), and Pam Saunders (Coach, Yale University)


## 2014-2015 Men's Executive Committee Members:

- President/Treasurer: Martin Heath (Coach, University of Rochester)
- Vice President: Tomas Fortson (Coach, Bowdoin College)
- Secretary: Gavin Jones (Coach, Franklin \& Marshall College)
- Tournament Chair: Jacques Swanepoel (Coach, Columbia University)
- Rules and Regulations Chair: Tomas Fortson (Coach, Bowdoin College)
- At-Large: John White (Coach, Drexel University)
- At-Large: Sean Wilkinson (Coach, Princeton University)
- Sponsorship Chair: David Talbott (Coach, Yale University)
- President Emeritus: Paul Assaiante (Coach, Trinity College)
- Ranking Chair: Chris Abplanalp (Coach, St. Lawrence University)
- Ranking Appeal Committee: Pat Cosquer (Coach, Bates College), Tomas Fortson (Coach, Bowdoin College), Gavin Jones (Coach, Franklin \& Marshall College)


## SUMMARY OF RULE CHANGES FOR THE 2014-2015 SEASON

Over the summer, the College Squash Association's rules were reviewed by the men's and women's Executive Committees. A number of changes were enacted that should strengthen the College Squash Association. Below is a summary of these changes. More information can be found in this book and/or at CollegeSquashAssociation.com.

These rules are effective for the 2014 - 2015 season. Coaches and Team Contacts need to be familiar with these rule updates.

## Awards Criteria (M):

- Added requirement for top-10 ladder position for Scholar Athlete and Academic Achievement status


## Awards Criteria (W):

- Added requirement for top-10 ladder position for Scholar Athlete and Academic Achievement status
- For Hall of Fame, changed "Players must be fifteen years beyond graduation to be considered" to "Players must be ten years beyond graduation to be considered"


## Men's Bylaws:

- Updated Article V. The Officers and Duties
- Updated Article VI. Committees


## National Championship Eligibility:

- Regarding Team Championships, added "Unless a petition for an exemption is made to the Tournament Director, teams must submit and bring at least 9 players to Team Championships."


## Ranking Rules:

- Added a Preseason Ranking section: "CSA varsity coaches will vote on the top-25 positions for the preseason ranking positions. The Ranking Chair and the Executive Administrator will determine the remaining positions in the rankings."


## COLLEGE SQUASH ASSOCIATION RULES

The College Squash Association has rules and guidelines regarding eligibility, ethics, eyewear, and match play that apply to all member teams and players.

In general, the CSA follows the World Squash Federation rules of squash.

The Men's College Squash Association (MCSA) and the Women's College Squash Association (WCSA) each have separate bylaws that cover the purpose, structure, and governance of their organizations. The MCSA and the WCSA also have separate guidelines for end-of-the-season awards.

Please note that the most up-to-date rules may be found on the CSA website (collegesquashassociation.com/rules/).

For the following rules, please refer the CSA website:

- All-Americans
- Men's Awards
- Men's Bylaws
- National Championship Eligibility
- Women's Awards
- Women's Bylaws


## ELIGIBILITY RULES

Eligibility for intercollegiate squash competition shall be determined by each College Squash Association member institution in accordance with NCAA rules.

These rules are complex, and they are different for each NCAA Division.

Any questions about eligibility should be referred to an institution's NCAA compliance staff member for a ruling.

What follows is a brief overview of NCAA eligibility rules:

- NCAA Division I: First year graduate students may be eligible if they have one of their 4 years of eligibility remaining and if they are within the 5 -year window beginning the day they enrolled in college. Ivy League rules are more restrictive and are similar to NCAA Division III rules.
- NCAA Division III: First year graduate students are only eligible if they are enrolled for a graduate degree at the same institution they attended as an undergraduate, have a year of eligibility remaining, and fall within the 5 -year window.

Individuals should check their NCAA Division Manuals and speak to their NCAA compliance staff members to clarify any eligibility questions they may have about their teams.

Club and Emerging programs may not have graduate students participate in college squash competition.

## ETHICS GUIDELINES

Ethics cannot be legislated. If a coach or player decides to cheat, they cannot be stopped, no matter what rules are in place. Rules can at best limit the damage; they can never cure the problem.

The only truly effective deterrent to poor behavior and cheating is the existence of unilateral ethics (an honor code of squash) accepted by all participants, coaches, and players alike, and a strong commitment by all to honor these ethics and educate anyone who does not understand or abide by them.

Squash is a sport that demands a strong ethical commitment to correct behavior before winning and losing become a consideration. Squash coaches and players belong to a group that is small enough to effectively monitor its own behaviors, but only if each and every individual takes their ethical responsibilities seriously and speaks up about potential deviations from these responsibilities by others.

An ethical squash coach upholds the highest standards of the game of squash in their own play, teaches these standards to their players, holds their players responsible to these standards, and alerts other coaches when any player appears to be falling short of these standards. These playing and coaching standards are as follows:

1. The safety of all participants is more important than anything else. Coaches must demand that players wear protective eyewear on the court at all times.
2. Adherence to the rules and ethics of squash is essential for fair play. Coaches should teach players the rules of squash.

Coaches should also teach - and players should learn and follow - the ethics of squash:

1. Always put opponents' safety first, above all else, and never swing at a ball if there is any chance of hitting an opponent with either racquet or ball.
2. Treat opponents with respect, on and off the court.
3. Be courteous to opposing teams and coaches, on and off the court.
4. Respect officials, on and off the court, and accept refereeing decisions without undue arguing or distress.
5. Call double hits, downs, not ups, faults, out balls and strokes against oneself (whether or not there is a referee).
6. Allow opponents full and clear access to every ball.
7. Make every effort to play every ball and only call lets when it is absolutely necessary.
8. Allow opponents ample room to swing for every shot.
9. Make an effort to become a competent referee and marker.
10. Do not compromise the ethics of squash, regardless of an opponent's behavior.

Perhaps the most difficult part of ethical play is \#10, as it is where players' ethics are truly tested.

Most players have little difficulty upholding ethical behavior when they are playing another conscientious player, or when they are winning or losing a match by a wide margin. The true test of ethical play is how an athlete behaves when playing a close match against an opponent who cheats, behaves poorly, or ignores the ethics of squash - or does all three. If a player can remain faithful to ethical principles of play under these conditions, they are truly a good sport. And it is only by remaining faithful to the ethics of squash under fire that a player has a chance to educate their opponent about ethics and influence their behavior in a positive way.

By accepting the ethics of squash and remaining true to them under competitive fire, a player affirms the importance of the integrity of the game and its rules and ethics. If they play fairly and their opponent does not, the opponent may claim to be a winner by virtue of the score, but the player will know they were not playing by the same rules and ethics, and therefore they succeeded where their opponent did not - in playing the game correctly.

If the great majority of players accept the ethics of squash, the few who flout the rules and ethics will stand out that much more obviously, allowing peer pressure and coaches to demand appropriate changes in behavior.

## Ethics Procedures

Upon observing any breakdown of squash ethics by an opposing player, a coach should immediately alert the opposing coach to the problem and then both coaches should watch the match until they can come to an agreement on whether or not there is a problem and how to best address that problem. Squash coaches must agree in advance to honor other coaches' observations and to work together to educate all players in the interest of ethical squash.

To avoid interfering in intercollegiate matches that are in progress, coaches should limit any comments about rules or players', markers', or referees' behavior to the 90 -second periods between games or after a match, allowing for a reasonable element of human error in executing the rules of squash. However, exceptions must be made in cases of extreme danger or extremely unethical behavior. In cases involving players' behavior, coaches should take immediate action to correct serious flaws and to educate their own players on how to play correctly. If a coach's player insists on repeating a problematic behavior, the coach should remove the player from the court and default the match. In regards to marking and refereeing, coaches should only intervene if both coaches are in agreement (after watching the situation together) that the marker and referee are showing bias or are unable to control the match.

If coaches disagree about the nature of an ethical issue, the coach who feels there is a problem should notify the opposing coach that they will bring the problem to the Executive Committee/Ethics Committee. All coaches should note that every effort must be made at the time to resolve the issue to the satisfaction of both coaches. Taking an ethical issue to the Executive Committee/Ethics Committee is a last resort and
signifies a breakdown of the trust that must exist between intercollegiate coaches and players.

In the case of dual match line-ups, opposing coaches should have an opportunity to question a line-up change until a satisfactory explanation is offered. If a coach is not forthcoming or their explanation is not satisfactory, the disputing coach must verbally notify the opposing coach that they are protesting the line-up and the match. This should be done prior to the beginning of the match, and then the protesting coach must email or fax their protest, with all the particulars, to both the opposing coach and the Executive Committee/Ethics Committee (see Executive Committee) within 24 hours of the time of the match. The opposing coach should respond to the coach who has lodged the protest and the Ethics Chair by email. The Ethics Committee will then meet and render a decision within 5 days, and that decision will be communicated to the entire membership.

All coaches and team members should agree that recruiting must be $100 \%$ positive. A coach should never say anything negative about another coach or team.

The Executive Committee/Ethics Committee should act with all speed to address any issue brought to it, communicating the issue and the result to the entire membership, if warranted, as soon as possible.

## EYEWEAR RULES

In accordance with the rules of squash adopted by the College Squash Association, collegiate players are required to wear approved eyewear in any practice, warm-up, or competition (singles or doubles). This mandatory requirement applies to any dual match, individual tournament, or team tournament where players are representing their respective institutions or playing in an approved U.S. Squash event. It also applies to any participants representing the U.S. in international collegiate competition.

The College Squash Association follows U.S. SQUASH's policy on Protective Eyewear, including U.S. SQUASH's list of Approved Eyewear.

DISCLAIMER: The College Squash Association does not test or certify eyewear. It is an individual's responsibility to ensure that their eyewear meets or exceeds the standards of U.S. SQUASH's Protective Eyewear policy.

RULES: Approved eyewear must be worn for the entirety of a match, from the beginning of the warm-up until the match's conclusion. Standard eyeglasses may not be worn in lieu of approved eyewear, even if the eyeglasses have plastic lenses. In the event of a player not having approved eyewear for their match, the rules for a self-inflicted injury apply. In the event that a player's eyewear breaks during a match, the injury rule may be required to determine the result. This would only be needed in the case of prescription glasses that cannot be immediately replaced. In the event of a player not having approved eyewear and a suitable replacement not being found, the player must forfeit the match.

COACHES: It is up to each institution's coach to make sure that each member of their team has approved eyewear before the start of each season as well as suitable replacement pairs for the duration of the season.

## LETS/STROKES

Ruling on lets and strokes can be one of the most challenging parts of the referee's responsibilities. The World Squash Federation describes the rules regarding lets and strokes in great detail, and players should be familiar with these rules. The flow chart (see Appendix) summarizes how a referee should decide on lets and strokes. The College Squash Association recommends that a copy of this chart be provided on the clipboard with the score sheet for each match.

Note: When the striker is asking for a let, the striker should stop their swing and not hit the ball. It is bad form to ask in the first instance for a stroke because the request for a let implies a request for the stroke. Players are encouraged to offer the stroke if they know a stroke is warranted.

## Best Effort Let and Fishing for Strokes

College coaches and players should be particularly aware of two rules: the "best effort let" and "fishing for strokes."

Best Effort Let: The rules of squash indicate that a player must have demonstrated a "best effort" to attempt to play a ball in the case of interference by the other player. It is a stated refereeing policy at the World Squash Federation, Professional Squash Association (PSA), and Women's International Squash Players Association (WISPA) levels to strongly enforce this rule, awarding a "no let" in cases where the player made no effort to play the ball.

The College Squash Association also strongly recommends that in all intercollegiate matches, "no let" be called when, in the judgment of the referee, the opponent has not made their best effort to reach the ball. In other words, a player who is too tired to play the ball, doesn't bother to make an attempt, or is out of position and uses a minor interference as a strategy to recover from a self-imposed disadvantage should not be rewarded for this tactic.

Fishing for Strokes: There has been a disturbing trend in everywhere from junior- to professional-level squash for players to play to create stroke positions rather than playing to take points to winning conclusions.

The rules of squash indicate that a stroke should only be awarded when the offending player makes no best effort to get out of the way or if a winning shot would have be playable without interference. The College Squash Association would like players and coaches to focus on the ethics of this situation. Players should not be maneuvering to create marginal stroke situations. They should be playing to win points through skill, tactics, and conditioning.

Strokes and lets should only be awarded when clearly indicated by the rules and the situation.

## MARKING/REFEREEING

In intercollegiate matches, players act as markers and referees. It is important for coaches to know the rules and to ensure that their players also know the rules and learn how to officiate and score matches. The World Squash Federation rules describe marking and refereeing in depth. What follows is a summary of some of the key elements of marking and refereeing, as they apply to intercollegiate squash.

## General Guidelines

Selection of markers and referees: For team competitions, players from the home team (or, at neutral sites, from the team designated in advance as the home team) will referee the evennumbered matches and mark the odd-numbered matches. Players from the visiting team will mark the even-numbered matches and referee the odd-numbered matches. For more information, see Match Play Rules.

Location: The correct location for the referee and marker is at the center of the back wall, as close to that wall as possible, above the out line on the back wall and preferably with seating.

Focus: The referee and marker may not talk to people while the match is being played, in between points, or during the $90-$ second interval between games. Their attention should be completely focused on the match that is underway.

Cheering: The marker and the referee may not cheer or show favoritism while officiating and should attempt to be without actual or apparent bias. They should not applaud or verbally encourage the players.

Clarity: Markers and referees should make their calls loudly and clearly so that players and spectators can understand them easily.

Interference from coaches/spectators: Coaches, parents, and other spectators should not interfere with or comment verbally in any way about or to the referee or marker. If a coach feels that there is a problem with the refereeing or marking, they need to address the problem with the opposing coach, at which point both coaches will observe the match and discuss the issue at hand. For more information, see Ethics Guidelines.

## The Referee's Role

The referee is responsible for:

- Timing the pre-match warm-up and 90 -second breaks between games
- Ruling on all requests for lets and strokes
- Overseeing the marker's calls and overturning them as necessary
- Making calls for which the marker is responsible if the marker fails to do so or makes an incorrect call

The referee makes the following calls:

- "Half-time" (after $21 / 2$ minutes of warm-up when players switch sides)
- "Time" (when warm-up ends and the optional 90second break prior to play begins)
- " 15 seconds" (said loudly when 15 seconds remains in the 90 -second break before or between games)
- "Yes let," "no let," or "stroke to ____" (in response to requests for lets)
- "Out," "not up," "down," or "fault" (when marker has failed to make an obvious call, or if the referee is positive the marker's call was incorrect)
- "Conduct warning to $\qquad$ " (see section 17 of the World Squash Federation rules for guidelines regarding misconduct on court)
- "Conduct stroke to $\qquad$ $"$
- "Conduct game to $\qquad$
- "Conduct match to


## The Marker's Role

The marker is responsible for:

- Announcing the score
- Keeping a written account of the score
- Repeating all decisions by the referee
- Announcing the service side (only when asked)

The marker makes the following calls:

- "Best of 5 games, love all" (to begin play in the first game)
- "Fault" (service out of court)
- "Foot fault"
- "Hand out" (change of server)
- "Out" (ball goes out of court)
- "Down" (ball hits the tin or the floor before reaching the front wall)
- "Not up" (double bounce, double hit, or carry)
- "10-all; a player must win by two points" (when the score is $10-10$ )
- "Game ball" (said each time except match-ball)
- "Match ball" (said every time it applies)
- "Yes let," "no let," "stroke to __" (the marker repeats the referee's decisions for the players and spectators)


## Match Introduction

The officiating player from the home team should introduce the match before it starts. The recommended format for the introduction is as follows:

| Playing on court - in the number |
| :--- |
| representing |
| [visiting | position

team] is
[Marking/refereeing] this match is $\qquad$ [other officiating player's name] from $\qquad$ [visiting team].

I am $\qquad$ [officiating player's name] from [home team] and I will be the [referee/marker].
[name of serving player] from [name of serving
[player's school] to serve.

Players ready. Love all.

## Illness and Injuries

Markers and referees should be familiar with the World Squash Federation rules regarding injuries. The chart (see Appendix) outlines the proper actions markers and referees should take in cases of illness or injury. The College Squash Association recommends that a copy of this chart be provided on the clipboard with the score sheet for each match.

Example of Opponent Inflicted: Due to an unruly swing player "A" bloodies the nose of player "B" (big follow-through, legally too big - Referee's judgment call). After a timeout to stem blood flow, player "B" comes back on court and attempts to continue play, but bleeding restarts.

A fair outcome of the example above is that the match is awarded to injured player " $B$ " since player "A's" illegal swing prevented " $B$ " from completing the match.

## Level of Enforcement

Below are the levels of enforcement required of a Referee at match venues in response to On-Court Conduct violations:

- Warning
- Stroke awarded to opponent (called a conduct stroke)
- Game awarded to opponent (called a conduct game)
- Match warded to opponent (called a conduct match)


## ON-COURT CONDUCT

Ethical and sportsmanship-like conduct must be observed at all times. Inappropriate on-court conduct is subject to the Levels of Enforcement penalty system.

Inappropriate conduct includes but is not limited to the following:

Verbal or physical abuse of an official or player: On a Marker's call, players are permitted to say "let please," "I appeal," and on rare occasions politely ask for an explanation. If a call is appealed, the players should wait for the Referee's decision, which is final and cannot be appealed. The Referee may or may not feel it is necessary to respond to every request for an explanation, but may do so when needed, provided it is handled quickly and politely.

A player is not permitted to scream at their opponent. In addition, a player may not talk to his or her opponent in a negative or disrespectful manner.

Racquet or Equipment Abuse: A player may not exhibit racquet and/or equipment abuse at any point during warm-ups, the games, between games, or at the conclusion of the match. Equipment must remain in control of a player at all times. A player is not permitted to throw, drop, toss, or intentionally hit a wall with his or her racquet or other equipment.

Visible or audible obscenity or profanity: A player is not permitted to make obscene gestures or speak in profane language during a match, including warm-ups and between games.

Time Wasting: A player is not permitted to waste time between points or between games.

Play is continuous and, if necessary, the Referee will enforce the Levels of Enforcement if a player is taking too much time between points and/or between games. Time wasting activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The Server bounces the ball more than 3 or 4 times before the serve (even if it is a "ritual")
- Not directly returning to the service area after a ball is retrieved between points
- Walking around between points
- Repeatedly stopping to clean eyewear
- Fixing hair
- Untying and retying sneakers
- Frequent arguments with the referee

There are many forms of time wasting and it is the referee's job to recognize them and stop them quickly.

## MATCH PLAY RULES

All players must be in compliance with the requirements of the College Squash Association (CSA), the NCAA, and their league (Ivy League, NESCAC, Seven Sisters, etc.). Questions or complaints about eligibility should be directed by an institution's compliance officer to the opposing institution's compliance officer and copied to the opposing coach. For more information, see the Eligibility Rules.

Competition Period: Formal CSA sanctioned regular season matches may only occur from October 15th through the Sunday prior to the National Team Championship (late February). The majority of each varsity team's regular season matches must be played in January and February of each season.

## Match Procedures

Both men's and women's teams play by the World Squash Federation rules and guidelines. The same basic match procedures apply whether teams are competing in dual matches, round robin competitions, or tournaments.

1. Team warm-ups: Coaches must mutually agree upon arrangements for team warm-ups in advance. Available facilities and the type of event will influence warm-up arrangements, but ideally in dual-match play the visiting team should have access to the match courts beginning 45 minutes before match time for their 30 -minute warm up. The home team (or, in neutral sites, the team designated in advance as the home team by a racquet spin) may warm up prior to the visiting team on the match courts or on additional non-match courts.
2. Exchange of line-ups: Coaches must exchange lineups simultaneously at least one hour before match time. Exchanging line-ups before the match gives coaches time to review the line-ups, make inquiries about them, and state any protests before the match begins.
3. Introductions: Before the match begins, both teams should gather on one court for introductions. The teams should line up opposite each other along the side walls of the court. Each team should line up in ladder order, starting at the front wall with the number one player, followed by the number two player, and so on, in descending order of play. Captains may stand with coaches at the front wall.
4. Order of play: If five courts are being used for the match, the even-numbered matches $(2,4,6,8$, and 10$)$ will play first. The odd-numbered matches ( $1,3,5,7$, and 9) will play in the second shift. If three courts are being used for the match, matches 3,6 , and 9 will play first, followed by matches 2,5 , and 8 , and then by matches 1,4 , and 7 . The number 10 exhibition match will take place on the first court to become available after the scoring matches have finished.
5. Pre-match warm-up: The purpose of the warm-up is to bring the ball to playing temperature; the players should be ready to play before stepping on court. The warm-up should last no longer than 5 minutes. The referee should keep track of the time; call "half-time" at $21 / 2$ minutes, indicating that the players should switch sides; and call "time" at 5 minutes. During the warm-up, each player should hit no more than two shots to themselves before hitting the ball to their opponent.
6. Time between matches: If five courts are being used for the match, there will be up to a 15 -minute break after the completion of the first match. The secondshift players will agree in advance as to when the 15 minutes of preparation time is complete and when they are due on court. The second-shift referee will time the five-minute match warm-up along with their other referee duties. If three courts are being used for the match, the players should be ready to begin their warm-up on court within three minutes of the completion of the previous match on that court.
7. The 90 -second break: A player may have at most 90 seconds of break time between games and between the warm-up and the start of the match. The 90 -second break is when players are coached. During this time either player may hit the ball. Other than these $90-$ second periods play is continuous. The referee should keep time and call " 15 seconds" when only 15 seconds remain in the break.
8. Marking and refereeing: The marker and referee for each match will be players from the respective teams. Players from the home team (or, in neutral sites, the team designated in advance as the home team) will referee for the even-numbered matches and mark for the odd-numbered matches. Players from the visiting team will mark for the even-numbered matches and referee for the odd-numbered matches. For more information, see Marking/Refereeing.
9. Coaching: Only official college or university coaches and teammates may coach a player in intercollegiate match play. Coaching may take place before a match begins and during the 90 -second intervals between games. A coach may not speak to, or reprimand, an opposing player during the course of play or during the 90 -second breaks, nor may they do so after a match. Additionally, coaches may not interfere or comment verbally in any way with the referee or marker. If a coach feels that there is a problem with on-court behavior, refereeing, or marking, they need to address the problem with the opposing coach, at which point both coaches will observe the match. For more information, see Ethics Guidelines.
10. Reporting Results: The home team must report match results to US Squash within the specified time period of the conclusion of the match or penalties will be incurred. When two teams are playing at a neutral site,
the winning team is responsible for submitting the results to US Squash. For more information, see Penalties/Fines. For more information, see Ranking Rules.
11. Delays: In the case of an unavoidable delay of a match (if, for example, the previous match runs long), the head coaches must meet prior to the original match start time and agree on a new start time. If yet another adjustment is required, the coaches will meet again and readjust the start time.

Note: Host coaches are responsible for notifying visiting coaches of the dual match format that will be used at least three days in advance of a match.

If men and women's teams are both competing and if sufficient courts are available, they may play simultaneously. Consideration should be given to dual head coaches pending a situation where they may have to coach six to ten players at the same time (such as when both men's and women's teams are playing simultaneously). Fair play in situations like these should be recognized, and both coaches should agree prior to the match whether they can reasonably coach both women's and men's matches simultaneously.

## Team Line-Ups

Team line-ups must be based on order of merit, with the best player at number one, the second-best player at number two, and so on. The most accepted and traditional method of establishing an order of merit is the challenge ladder system. If a player wins a challenge match, they move up the ladder; if they lose, they move down. Other possible methods would be using US Squash rankings or tournament results. Coaches must be sure that whatever systems they use are logical and consistent throughout the season and throughout the ladder, and acceptable to their teams and to other coaches.

Illness and Injury: A player should not lose their place on a team ladder simply because they have been ill or injured for any length of time. However, the longer a player is unable to practice and play matches with their team, the more likely it is that their capabilities would diminish while the capabilities of their peers would improve. Therefore, a player returning to the line-up after an extended absence ( 2 weeks or more) should either be re-inserted at their old position or offered a challenge against the player who was in the position immediately below them when the absence began. Should the returning player lose this challenge, they should be allowed to play at least one more challenge down prior to their participation in their first team match.

There must be a competition-based rationale for a returning player's spot in the line-up. The longer a player has been out, the more compelling the need for downward challenges to reestablish the order of merit.

Changes to Line-ups: A line-up cannot change in terms of order of merit on consecutive days of competition. A line-up can, however, be adjusted when a player or players are added or
removed from it. When a player is added to or removed from a line-up, all other players are moved accordingly in the established order of merit. For example, if the number 4 player on a team is injured and has to be removed from the line-up, the number 5 player would move up to the number 4 position, the original number 6 player would move up to the number 5 position, and so on.

Challenges to Line-ups: Each coach is obligated to provide opposing coaches with match line-ups in a timely fashion for review and inquiries. An opposing coach can challenge a player's ladder position based on their match and challenge record that season. A coach must have available upon request an up-to-date printout of all team matches played (or access to the CSA website/US Squash Ranking Software) and a list of challenge results available for the opposing coach to inspect before each match.

## Location of Matches

Unless agreed upon by both teams, a match must be played in the United States.

## Control of Home

It is the responsibility of the home coach to control the venue (crowd control and proper playing conditions of the facility, i.e., clean courts, lighting, etc.) to provide for a fair and competitive match. This includes preventing the verbal or physical abuse of players, markers, referees, visiting team members, spectators, and coaches. Examples of inappropriate crowd behavior include banging on walls during and between points, disruptive talking and cheering during points, or delaying play between points with prolonged cheering. The visiting coach should bring any infractions to the attention of the home coach, and the home coach must address the crowd between points as soon as possible. (Spectators may be asked to leave the facility if inappropriate behavior continues, and Public Safety/Campus Police may be contacted if necessary.) If the home coach can not correct inappropriate crowd behavior, they should use the conduct warning procedure and begin penalizing their own players starting with "Conduct Warning," moving next to "Conduct Stroke" and so on to "Game and then Match," if necessary.

## PENALTIES/FINES

## Dues and Entry Fees

Each year, dues and entry fees must be submitted to the College Squash Association (CSA) treasurer by December 1st. If the fees are late, then the following penalties will be assessed:

- After December 8th: $\$ 25$ fine
- After December 15th: $\$ 50$ fine
- After December 31st: $\$ 100$ fine and a notification will be sent to the member institution's administrative department.

If dues, entry fees, or fines are not paid in full by the time the draws are being created for the National Team Championships, then the delinquent institution will be ineligible to participate in the tournament. In addition, the delinquent institution will be removed from CSA team rankings and its players will be removed from individual rankings.

## Ethics or Rule Violation Process

Reporting a Potential Violation: For a description of conduct and procedure violations, please refer to the other sections of the CSA rules, such as the Ethics Guidelines and the Match Play Rules.

Evaluation of a Potential Violation: The MCSA and/or WCSA Executive Committees or the Regulatory/Ethics Subcommittee will examine the potential violation. Coaches involved in the alleged violation or the reporting of the alleged violation will not be permitted to evaluate or access a penalty on behalf of the CSA. The evaluation and penalty assessment process (if warranted) will be completed within five days of receipt.

Penalties: If the MCSA and/or WCSA Executive Committees or the Regulatory/Ethics Subcommittee determine the situation to be a violation of CSA rules or guidelines, the following penalties may be assessed:

- A letter of caution to the coach that explains the violation. This is reserved for a minor offense;
- A letter of caution to the Athletic Department of the violating institution;
- Forfeiture of an individual player's match;
- Forfeiture of team's match;
- Monetary fine; and
- Suspension of membership, which may prevent participation in the Men's National Team Championships, Women's National Team Championships (Howe Cup), and/or the intercollegiate individual tournament.

If warranted, the MCSA and/or WCSA Executive Committees and/or the Regulatory/Ethics Subcommittee reserve the right to assess alternative penalties. The President of the MCSA or WCSA must approve the alternative penalty. If the President of the MCSA or WCSA is involved in the alleged violation or reporting the alleged violation, the Vice President of the appropriate Executive Committee is responsible for approving
the alternative penalty. If the violation involves both MCSA and WCSA teams, then both Executive Committee Presidents must approve the alternative penalty.

Appeals: Penalties may be appealed to the Executive Committee through an email request. Appeals must be made within 24 hours of receipt of the MCSA's and/or WCSA's penalty decision.

## Ranking Penalties

If results of matches are not submitted within the specified time period, the following penalties will be assessed:

- First Offense: A letter of caution (or email) will be sent to the coach;
- Second Offense: For one ranking cycle or until the team has updated the US Squash database, the team will be removed from the rankings and the team will be delisted from the CSA website. For varsity teams, the school's athletic director will also be notified;
- Third (or Additional) Offense: The team may be suspended from the National Team Championships, fined, and/or will forfeit any grant money

In addition, if player names are not filled in on the match result listings in the US Squash database (i.e. "Not on Roster"), the penalties listed above will also be applied.

## RANKING RULES

Ranking teams and individual players is one of the most challenging tasks of the College Squash Association (CSA). While the CSA makes every attempt to rank teams and players fairly and accurately, unique situations like ties inevitably arise that complicate the ranking process.

In recent years, the CSA has relied on computer software to assist in ranking players, but it has ranked teams manually. The CSA uses the following criteria when evaluating teams and players:

- Head-to-head competition
- In situations where teams or players split two or more matches, the most recent winner should receive the higher rank. For example, if "A" and "B" play three times during the season, and " A " wins the first two matches but " B " wins the third, most recent match, " B " should receive the higher rank.
- Results of competition against common opponents
- Strength of schedule
- Number of appearances
- If teams or individuals are of similar rank, the team or individual that has played the most matches should be ranked higher. For example, "A" and "B" are considered of similar rank; however, "A" has played 10 matches and "B" has played 20 matches. "B" should receive the higher rank.
- Teams must compete against a variety of opponents to be ranked at the end of the regular season.

Occasionally, there are three or more teams or players that tie in the rankings. Below is an example of a CSA tie-breaking scenario:

- "A" defeated "B" 6-3
- "B" defeated "C" 5-4
- "C" defeated "A" 5-4

In the situation above, the individual matches won are used to break the tie: 1. "A" $(6+4=10)$; 2. "C" $(4+5=9)$; and 3. "B" $(5+3=8)$.

Below is another example of a tiebreaking scenario:

- "A" defeated "B" 5-4
- "B" defeated "C" 5-4
- "C" defeated "A" 5-4

In this situation, all three teams remain tied with 9 wins. The CSA will examine the records of common opponents in an attempt to break the tie. It may also examine the rankings throughout the season to assist in breaking the tie. In tiebreaking situations, if requested, the Ranking Committee must provide to coaches the rationale used.

If two teams are tied entering team championships, the two teams should be placed in brackets where they will face each other in a particular round of the event. On some occasions, however, it is not possible to place teams in brackets where they will face each other, as in situations where one team would enter a higher draw and the other team would enter a lower draw when the tie is broken. In this scenario, all of the criteria and tiebreaking scenarios mentioned above will be scrutinized and additional factors, such as points won against common opponents, will be reviewed to determine the higher seed.

## VARSITY PROXIMITY MATCHES

Each season, a varsity team should play the two varsity teams above them and the two varsity teams below them in final team rankings of the prior season (referred to as "Proximity Matches"). Proximity Matches should be played during the regular season and should not be played during conference championships or post-season play.

For example, if a varsity team is ranked 10th in the final ranking of the season, the closest varsity teams ahead of them were ranked 7 th and 9 th, and the closest varsity teams below them were ranked 11th and 12th, the next season they should play those four teams.

If a varsity team does not have two opponents on either side of the rankings, they should play four varsity opponents in immediate proximity in the final team rankings of the prior season. For example, the top-ranked varsity team should play the 2 nd, 3 rd, 4 th, and 5 th ranked teams, while the 2 nd ranked team should play the 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th ranked teams.

If matches are cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances (weather, national emergency, etc.) every effort needs to be made reschedule the match. The affected teams should contact the Executive Administrator with the date of the rescheduled match within 48 hours of the cancellation.

A varsity team that is unable to play its Proximity Matches may be unable to justify appeals of their ranking position due to insufficient match data.

Club teams should strive to abide by this rule.

## ELIGIBLE/RECOGNIZED TEAMS

One team per school is eligible for CSA membership and ranking. If a school has both a varsity and a club team, only the varsity squad is the officially recognized team and may represent the school in CSA sanctioned events. The club team may play exhibition matches against CSA member teams; however, the results will not count as a CSA recognized match and the match will not count towards the CSA member schools' match minimum for entry into the Men's National Team Championships or the Women's National Team Championships. The match will not count for rankings.

In addition, teams may only be composed of players from the same school. A team composed of players from multiple schools is ineligible to compete in official CSA matches.

## MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS PER TEAM

For a regular season match to officially count for ranking purposes, each team must have at least seven players. Except for Emerging Teams, matches with less than seven players per team will not count towards the required number of matches for entry into the National Team Championships.

## PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

The CSA will publish rankings throughout the season (MidNovember through March):

- Women's team rankings will be published every week during the season;
- Men's team rankings will be published every week during the season; and
- Men's and Women's individual rankings will be published on a periodic basis.

The publication schedule may be adjusted, if needed, throughout the season.

## PRESEASON RANKINGS

CSA varsity coaches will vote on the top- 25 positions for the preseason ranking positions. The Ranking Chair and the Executive Administrator will determine the remaining positions in the rankings.

## SEASON-ENDING RANKINGS

The results of the National Team Championships will determine the final team rankings of the season. Failure to compete in the National Team Championships will result in a team's removal from the final team rankings of the season.

## TEAM RANKING BY DIVISION

The CSA is made up of varsity teams from schools belonging to different NCAA divisions. Several times per season, the CSA will publish a subset of rankings based on NCAA divisions.

## APPEALS

Each week during the season, the Ranking Chair and the Executive Administrator will draft the preliminary rankings. These preliminary rankings will be distributed to coaches for review and possible appeal. Appeals are typically due the day after distribution. If a coach wishes to appeal their team's ranking, he or she will submit an appeal. In the appeal, a coach
must include match results to justify modification to the proposed ranking.

The MCSA and WCSA each have a three-person Ranking Appeal Committee. The Ranking Appeal Committees do not include the Ranking Chair and the Executive Administrator.

The Executive Administrator collects the weekly appeals.

For invalid appeals ("No Contest" appeals), the Executive Administrator or delegate may dismiss such appeals after notifying the Ranking Chair and the Ranking Appeal Committee. Invalid appeals do not require review by the Ranking Appeal Committee. Examples of invalid appeals include appeals related to the following circumstances:

- Unreported match results
- Match results that were reported late
- Appeals that do not include match results
- Teams that did not submit the preseason questionnaire (preseason rankings only)
- Teams that did not participate in the previous season's team championships and have not played a match in the current season

For valid appeals, the Executive Administrator or delegate will pass the appeal to the respective Ranking Appeal Committee. If warranted, the Executive Administrator or delegate will notify other teams (not the appealing team) that are potentially affected by the appeal to see if they would like to submit information to the Ranking Appeal Committee.

The Ranking Appeal Committee will discuss by phone call or email the appeal and the resulting decision will stand.

In the event that a member of the Ranking Appeal Committee's team is involved in the appeal, he or she will not be permitted to participate in the meeting or vote on the outcome of the appeal. In this circumstance, there is the potential for a tie in the Ranking Appeal Committee vote. If there is a tie vote, the original ranking order will be upheld.

Prior to publication of the team rankings, the Executive Administrator or delegate will notify the affected parties of the Ranking Appeal Committee's decision and provide a brief rationale from the Ranking Appeal Committee. This notification is informational and does not open the matter to further appeal.

Standard team ranking timeline:

- Monday: Team Rankings are drafted and sent out to coaches for appeal
- Tuesday: Appeals are due. The Executive Administrator or delegate filters invalid appeals and sends all other appeals to the Ranking Appeal Committee. The Executive Administrator or delegate also notifies affected teams and asks that they submit
information for consideration to the Ranking Appeal Committee.
- Wednesday: If warranted, the Ranking Appeal Committee meets to discuss and rule on appeals.
- Thursday - Friday: In the event of an adjustment of the ranking order, revised team rankings are published

At times during the season, the timeline of the weekly process may vary.

## COACHES' OBLIGATIONS

The home team is responsible for submitting the results of matches to US Squash's Ranking System no later than 24 hours after the match. For matches or tournament/round robin events at a neutral site, the winning team is responsible for submitting the scores to US Squash's Ranking System within 48 hours of the conclusion of the match. Tournament/round robin organizers are strongly encouraged to have a computer available for CSA coaches to enter results at their events.

Failure to submit scores within the allotted time period will result in penalties.

Coaches are strongly encouraged to have their teams play as competitive a schedule as possible to help improve the accuracy of the rankings.

## SPORTSMANSHIP STATEMENT

The College Squash Association follows and requires all players, coaches, and spectators to abide by the model NCAA Sportsmanship Statement.

The College Squash Association will promote and expect good sportsmanship by student-athletes, coaches, staff and spectators. We request your cooperation by supporting the participants and officials in a positive manner. Cheer for your team, not against opponents. Profanity, racist or sexist comments or other intimidating actions directed at officials, student-athletes, coaches or team representatives are not acceptable and are grounds for removal from the site of competition. Also, consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

## CLUB PROGRAM GUIDE

The CSA welcomes any and all new college squash programs and encourages their growth and development. The ultimate goal is for each program to be a self-sufficient collegerecognized varsity program that plays a full season of matches including participation in the end of season CSA National Team Championships. The CSA supports programs with grants as well as mentoring help by established coaches. The normal path for program development is as follows:

Emerging Teams: Colleges are encouraged to start new squash programs. Newly formed teams are invited to compete in the CSA National Team Championships in the five-person Emerging Teams Division (see Championship Rules). The CSA may waive or reduce dues and entry fees. Emerging teams are encouraged to continue to develop their programs and work towards gaining recognition as an official club program at their college or university.

Nine-Player Club Teams: Club programs may enter the nineplayer divisions of the National Team Championships if they meet the requirements for selection to the tournament (see Championship Rules). Club programs must pay the CSA's annual dues and Team Championship fee each season by the specified deadline.

Matches: To be eligible for the National Team Championships, club programs must play the required minimum number of team matches (see Championship Rules). In addition, each season they must play a certain number of matches between January 1st and February 10th (see Championship Rules).

Player Eligibility: Eligibility rules are extremely complex and schools with varsity programs have compliance personnel that review player eligibility cases. In accordance with the CSA's Eligibility rules, club and emerging programs may not have graduate players on their rosters.

Budget: A college squash program for emerging and club teams needs to develop a realistic and sustainable budget to support the program.

To fund practice time, match play, coaching, travel expenses, and the CSA's annual dues and championship fees, most club programs should budget at least $\$ 5,000$.

Grants: Emerging and club programs may apply for a grant from the CSA grant fund by filling out the application. Grants are awarded based on an evaluation of a team's needs and can range from $\$ 150-\$ 850$. Grants can only be received two times over a five-year time span. To request a grant from the CSA, please use the CSA Grant Application.

Mentoring Program: Both club and emerging programs are invited to take part in the CSA Mentoring Program where an established coach is paired with a club team to provide mentoring as needed by the club at no charge. The CSA will try to match all club teams that request help with a mentor. It is up to the club team to contact and develop a relationship with the mentor coach.

Equipment: The CSA can help with equipment expenses through their corporate relationships. Harrow Sports is the official racquet sponsor for the CSA, and teams can buy racquets, bags, and team uniforms at greatly reduced prices. Dunlop balls are also available for purchase at reduced prices. Other equipment vendors also offer excellent pricing for college programs that all member teams can utilize.

Voting rights: Non-varsity programs do not have voting rights in the MCSA or WCSA.

Responsibilities: All teams that play intercollegiate matches are expected to follow all of the rules of the CSA as detailed on the CSA website.

Please contact the club program director or our Executive Administrator with questions.

## INTERFERENCE



## BLEEDING, ILLNESS, DISABILITY or INJURY.

| Incident | Referee action | Recovery time | Decision | Rule |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bleeding | Stop play. Allow time to staunch bleeding. cover wound or change clothing. Allow play to continue, once bleeding stopped. | Referee discretion | Allot time | 16.1 |
| Bleeding recurrence | Stop play. Award game and allow 90 second interval between games. | None | Award game to opponent. | 16.1.1 |
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| Bleeding unstoppable | If after 90 second interval between games bleeding continues Referee awards the match. | None | Award match to opponent. | 16.1.1 |
| Illness or disability | Require the player to play on, concede the game, taking the 90 second interval between games, or concede the match | None directly | Player decides | 16.2 |
| Injury | Confirm injury is genuine. Decide category of injury, announcing this to players. |  | Decide category | 16.3 |
| Either: <br> Self-inflicted | Allow initial recovery time. | 3 minutes | Allow time | 16.3.3.1 |
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|  | If additional recovery time is required, award that game to the opponent and allow 90 second interval. | 90 sec | Award game | 16.3.3.1 |
| Or: <br> Contributed | Allow recovery time. | One hour | Allot time | 16.3.3.2 |
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|  | If additional time is required, consider tournament schedule. | Referee discretion | Allot time | 16.3.3.2 |
| Or: <br> Opponent inflicted | Apply Rule 17. If player unable to continue award the injured player the match. | None | Rule 17 <br> penalty, award match | 16.3.3.3 |

## FAQ ABOUT MATCH PLAY PROCEDURES

## 1. I have an injured player who is unable to play. May I list him or her in my line-up to move my remaining players down in the ladder?

No. Coaches shall list players in the line-up only if they are able to play. Including players in the line-up who are unable to play violates the CSA's Match Play Rules and the Ethics Guidelines.
2. May I adjust my line-up to create the best possible match-ups against the opposing team's line-up?

No. Players must play in order of ability. The line-up shall always be based on order of ability. "Matching up" is prohibited. Team line-ups must be based on order of merit, with the best player at number one, the second-best player at number two, and so on.

In addition, a player who has established a winning record at a position and whose results show that he or she clearly is stronger than the players below him or her may not be moved down the line-up. The line-up must stay in order of ability. If a player clearly is stronger than the player immediately above him or her, then the player must be moved up a position.

## 3. May I alter my line-up for disciplinary or injury reasons?

No. A player may not be moved up or down the line-up for disciplinary reasons. If warranted, a coach may decide not to include this player in the line-up; however, altering the disciplined player's position in the line-up is not allowed.

If a player is injured for a short period of time, your line-up may not be adjusted to include this player at a lower or higher position. For additional information concerning short and long-term injury, please refer to the CSA's Match Play Rules.

## 4. May I change my line-up in back-to-back dual matches?

A line-up cannot change in terms of order of merit on consecutive days of competition. A line-up can, however, be adjusted when a player or players are added or removed from it. When a player is added to or removed from a line-up, all other players are moved accordingly in the established order of merit. Please refer to the CSA's Match Play Rules for additional details.
5. My team has less than nine players. How would I prepare my line-up?

A team appearing with an insufficient number of players shall default matches at the bottom of the line-up. For example, if a team has eight players, they would default the match at the number nine position. For a regular season match to officially count for ranking purposes, each team must have at least seven players.

## 6. I would like to file a protest of the match. How would I do so?

All coaches should note that every effort must be made at the time to resolve the issue to the satisfaction of both coaches. Taking an ethical issue to the Executive Committee/Ethics Committee is a last resort and signifies a breakdown of the trust that must exist between intercollegiate coaches and players. Please refer to the CSA's Ethics Guidelines.


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Location:

Date:

Winning Team: $\qquad$

Final Score:

RESULT SHEET
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Location: $\qquad$

Date:

Winning Team: $\qquad$

Final Score: $\qquad$

Copy this blank form for recording individual matches.


TEAM A:

Player A Name: $\qquad$
$\qquad$ Ladder \#: $\qquad$

Final results (circle winner's name and write game scores here):
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# 2015 Championships 

## Women's National Team Championships

February 13 -15, 2015
Boston, MA
Primary Host: Harvard University
Men's National Team Championships
February 20 - 22, 2015
Hartford, CT
Primary Host: Trinity College
Individual Championships
February 27 - March 1, 2015 Princeton, NJ
Primary Host: Princeton University

## Partners


mtbello.com

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## Revere

Weight Strung 150g
Balance 380mm
*Ashaway String:
Supernick XL @ 28lbs


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Balance 380mm
*Ashaway String: Supernick XL Micro @ 28lbs


Weight Strung 140g
Balance 380mm
*Ashaway String:
Supernick XL Micro @ 28lbs

