

CUMBRIA SQUASH & RACKETBALL 2013/2014 SEASON

ACTIVITY & DEVELOPMENT PLAN

END OF SEASON REPORT

Area	What	Who	When	Progress on this
Coaching	Hold a Qualified Coach Development Workshop	Tom/Paul	First half of the season	Complete – with Paul Carter as tutor. 8 CSR coaches attended. Good feedback from coaches
	Hold 5 junior County Squad coaching days following the newly re-calibrated squash `year` which begins in January 2014 – 2 sessions per day	Paul – helped by selected support coaches	Throughout the season	Completed as scheduled but take-up lower than anticipated/hoped for. Achieved as planned
	Consider a re-structure of the Development Squad coaching sessions and re-introduce as appropriate	Junior Group	Throughout the season	Clubs are already actively involved with the target group of players, making them reluctant to engage with the new initiative. No progress made here
	Mentor junior inter county teams on 4 occasions	Paul	Throughout the season - by negotiation with the Junior Group	Paul mentored more than the minimum requirement during the course of the season Achieved as planned
Marking and Refereeing	Hold a M&R Awareness workshop for County League Players	Tom	First half of season	Not held – no interest from players
	Hold a M&R Awareness Workshop for our junior county squad players – as a direct follow up to last season's session	Tom & David & Paul	Second half of season	Not held -no interest from Juniors

Area	What	Who	When	Progress on this
Racketball	Work in three areas of Cumbria (Penrith, Carlisle and Workington) to develop a programme of events to promote racketball (ideally to new participants to squash and racketball)	Guy working with local clubs, ESR and other local contacts	Planning in autumn 2013, with delivery of the programme between January and April 201	<p>We have tested this in two areas of Cumbria – Workington and Penrith, and we did a considerable amount of advertising and marketing for each. At Workington we organised sessions during the day, hoping to attract people at lunchtime to the leisure centre. This failed – and we didn’t get any takers. But at Penrith we ran sessions in the evenings (helped by club members) and attracted both existing members and some new people to play racketball. There is now a regular racketball session at the club every Wednesday night – attracting on average 6 people a week.</p> <p>We plan to do something at Carlisle over the winter of 2014/15</p>
	Report back on progress and develop plans for the future	Guy and committee	April to June	Ongoing as part of the above work
Juniors	Enter : Boys U11(festival) U13, U15 & U17 Girls U11 (festival), U13, u15, u19, teams in the Inter County Championship – and meet all commitments (this will involve the recruitment of new team managers to make it possible)	Junior group activity - delegated to John Crichton	As per ESR Inter County programme	<p>Teams were entered as per plan and all stage 1 fixtures, in the main inter-county competition, were completed. Paucity of numbers meant that we withdrew our U11G team from the festival before the competition took place. On the negative side, 2 teams were withdrawn at stage 2. We could not raise enough parental support to allow the U17B to travel, whilst a dearth of U19G precipitated their removal from the competition. Both of these withdrawals were influenced by player unavailability caused by ESR’s failure to recognise that stage 2 dates scheduled for the Easter holidays in Cumbrian schools need to be avoided. On the positive side, this was the 4th season in a row when one of our teams has contested a trophy final. In 2014 both of our U15 teams won their respective trophy finals.</p>
	Hold County Closed Championships at all boys and girls age groups	David	28 & 29 September 2013	Completed – good event

Area	What	Who	When	Progress on this
	Develop a late season inter-club competition – format to be determined by junior group	David and junior group	Second half of season	Not undertaken primarily due to lack of organisational capacity
	Ensure that new website is fully utilised as the preferred means of communication with the county's junior players and regularly updated	David and junior group through Jonny Irving	Throughout season	Thanks to the efforts of JI and the other members of the IT development group, the website is now fully operational. It is now recognised as the primary forum for publication of junior activities within the county. Evidence suggests that junior players are more likely to communicate through Facebook
	Predicated, but not dependent, on the Grassroots Development fund bid to ESR, the following initiatives will be prioritised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased participation of U11/U13 junior players Involve 3 'sleeper' clubs in this initiative (detail can be found in the plan submitted to ESR)	Junior group	Starts in January 2014	Progress has been made in terms of the engagement of Cumbria's clubs, although we are still in the earliest stages of the project. Both Kendal and Dalton have expressed interest and it is anticipated that they, alongside existing junior active clubs, will be supported to increase the participation of U11 juniors.
	Operate within budget constraints set by CS Executive Committee	Junior group but delegated to Ian Lowrey	Throughout season	This has proven to be the most formidable of challenges for the junior group. The budget allocated for junior activities, in particular that related to inter-county activity, proved to be inadequate. Success in the inter-county competition comes at an unsustainable cost under current available revenue streams

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Support	Review Angela`s information on club support that she provided last season	Tom	Second half of season	<p>One major project is being addressed by this initiative. Barry Taylor – Director of Community Sport at Netherhall Community Sports Centre, Maryport – has the idea to develop a squash complex at the centre. He contacted Tom asking if he would get support for it from CSR. This of course was given and Tom contacted Angela who also gave the support of ESR.</p> <p>Progress to date is that Barry is actively working with his centre management team and potential financial partners to progress the work and try to get approval for the project. To help him with this work, on 29 April 2014 Angela, accompanied by her colleague John Carney - ESR Facilities Manager – met with Barry and Netherhall School Head Teacher at the centre to detail what technical and other support is being offered by ESR. Unfortunately Tom was unable to attend. Angela reported that the meeting was a success and she and John were impressed by Barry`s plans and enthusiasm and the interest of all Netherhall people that were involved. The ball is now in Barry`s court to further develop the project. We & ESR will work with him as appropriate.</p>
	Investigate inter club forum for clubs to share information – implement if positive findings	Chris	End of season	No progress
Senior & Adult Age Group Inter County	Enter Senior Men, Over 45 Men, & Over 60 Men – and meet all commitments	Chris	As per ESR Inter County programme	Complete – all commitments met Over 60 team won the National Final
County Leagues	Effectively manage a Premier and 1 st Division Men`s League	Chris	Throughout the season	Completed
	Introduce an alternative to the Women`s County League to ensure continuity of a women`s team competition	Chris & Clubs	First half of the season	No interest from women players

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	Update the County League Rules	Chris	Before the Leagues Start	Not done. Will be completed for the start of 2014/2015 County League.
County closed Championships – Senior & Adult Age Groups	<p>Hold the following events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Men`s Senior (in last season`s modified graded format) Women`s Senior Men`s Over 35 (in a graded format for the first time) Men`s Over 45 Men`s Over 55 Men`s Over 40 Men`s Over 50 Men`s Over 60 Men`s Over 70 (Not planned but added at the last minute) 	Tom/Ronnie & Paul	<p>As per ESR programme – second half of season – 25 & 26 Jan 2014</p> <p>1st half of season – on 7 & 8 December 2013</p> <p>2nd half of season 22 & 23 February 2014</p>	<p>Men`s & Women`s Senior held as planned</p> <p>Over 35 not held – lack of support from players – could not achieve even the 8 player minimum level</p> <p>Over 45 & 55 held but struggled to get people to play – even at the 8 player minimum level</p> <p>Over 40, 50, 60, 70 – not held - lack of support from players for each one – nowhere near 8 player minimum level (4 for Over 70)</p>
Marketing , Publicity, Communications & Website	Apply for grants to support CSR for 2014/15 season. Also, seek additional sponsorship for the organisation	Guy	By end of 2013/2014 Season	Not done for seniors, but grant received for Junior GDF activity (see below)
	Identify our responsibilities under the Data Protection Act and design processes to ensure we comply	Guy	Second Half of Season	We started doing this – but have paused. It has become clear that we need to do a considerable amount of work on our governance more generally – on insurance, child protection and so on. Data Protection will be one element of our work to improve this – which we will carry out in the autumn of 2014.
	Continue the development of the new website	Jonny, Guy	Ongoing	Good progress made – ongoing. Working now to introduce historical information e.g. competition results

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Financial	Comprehensively review 2012/2013 accounts/budget performance against the requirements the 2-year income/expenditure programme developed in 2011/2012 season and make changes as required to achieve our financial objectives	Chris and Exec & Junior Committees	First half of the season	Completed early season and no changes were required at the time. But, due to unexpected high expenditure afterwards re Inter County we decided that we need to think again if we expect to finance similar high levels of activity in future seasons – work has started on this. Refer above to CJS report “Operate within budget”
	Continually look for other `expenditure reduction` & `Income increase` initiatives	Chris and Exec & Junior Committees	Throughout the season	Will be addressed by the new comprehensive financial review
	Agree a project to take advantage of the ESR Grass Roots Development Fund and submit an application	David & Junior Committee	November 2013 to meet the timeline for applications	The project has been selected – the application has been submitted and accepted – and we have received the £1500 grant. Refer to the minutes of the 17 October 2013 & 27 February 2014 Executive Committee meetings for details. Refer to the report on junior development work (above) re increasing participation of U11 & U13 junior players and the involvement of 3 sleeper clubs to get information on the current status of the project
England Squash & Racketball	Continue to maintain a good working relationship with the NW Region Manager – Angela – and support her development initiatives for the Region, where appropriate and practical to do so.	Tom & all others involved with ESR	Throughout the season	Level of contact has been lower this season for mainly ESR reasons but it has been carried out in the normal satisfactory way.
	Support ESR initiative to introduce a new Northern Counties Forum – including Angela and NW & NE Region Counties	Tom	Ongoing	No feedback from ESR for this initiative.