

To the Houston Squash Community,

“Giving back to the game that has given me so much”

That was my reason for getting involved with the Houston Squash Racquets Association many years ago. The organization was formed over 35 years ago to promote the game, here in town, and I have just been following in the footsteps of some very big shoes the last 6 years.

We are extremely lucky to have some very dedicated Pros that bring in the best in our game for exciting tournaments, exhibitions, and events that showcase how tough to play this game is at the highest level. They also are doing so much with the juniors around town it makes my heart happy to see that. All roads lead to junior development to keep the game alive and healthy. I am constantly amazed to see the dedication of you parents that come out and support not only your own child but all the others that participate in events here and elsewhere. Also a shout out to the area Clubs that give those programs court time, some good pizza and refreshments (what kid doesn't like that!), and the allowance of any other thing that comes along with running squash happenings.

The HSRA has been lucky to partner with Sponsors that have given prizes, medical support, their residences for event parties, and participation in fund raisers. I have been very lucky to have some great support in our board of directors that any leader needs to follow through on any agenda. I could not have done so much without them. Our league has consistently been climbing in numbers and that is all about organization which is no mean feat. Thank you to the past, and present, League Commissioners.

To have the only Urban Squash program in a Public School in the US is something we can all be proud of and we should all spread the word and support. Visionary Alistair Barnes was like a junk yard dog (in a good way 😊) with what he had in mind for a program to introduce the game to all. The current board, and administration, is an impressive group of leaders. Mission Squash has the energy, planning, and staying power to be the best in the country at what they do.

Currently there are junior team tournaments between 4 schools and clubs in town. There are junior team events between Houston our friends in Dallas. We have gone from bronze Junior Tournaments to Silver Tournaments thanks to some dedicated volunteers and pros. The rest of 2017 and 2018 has some impressive events on the calendar and the HSRA will be there to support them in any way that we are able.

The future looks bright with a new administration taking over the HSRA in 2018. I only hope that you support them. They have some good things in store for the future. Please give us your feedback via the attached survey do either come to the annual meeting or vote by mail/proxy. Being a member of US Squash comes with privileges and this is your chance to exercise one.

The game of squash has given me so much, how much has it given you?

Cheers,

John F Leavy

President—Houston Squash Racquets Association

HSRA 2017 Year End Summary

Background

The HSRA was created as a non-profit Corporation in November 1993 with the purpose as noted in Articles of Incorporation as follows:

- To foster, promote and advance the cause of squash and sportsmanship within the jurisdictional area consisting of the Houston Metropolitan Area;
- To organize and control athletic competition among the members within the jurisdictional area consisting of the Houston Metropolitan Area in the game of squash;
- To represent the interest of members in relation to the US Squash in its territorial subsidiary organizations

Board and Officers

Current

John Leavy (President)
Andy Hubbard (Secretary)
Mustaffa Abbas
Juan Caro
John DiFillipo

Proposed Changes

John Leavy retiring end 2017
Stu McGeoch standing for election as HSRA President
Andy Hubbard term as Director temporarily extended by Board and continuing as Secretary until replacement elected
Special Members Meeting to be held by end March for election of replacement Director(s)

Highlights

- 226 members, including 87 juniors (end Oct)
- Last 12 months financials (as at end October)
 - Income \$10.5k (including \$8.3k membership dues)
 - Expenditure \$ 7.0k
 - Assets \$ 19.1k
- HSRA plan to continue operation as a 501c(4) non-profit Corporation

Review

2017 Priorities

- Ongoing operation of HSRA leagues and related social activities
- Continued co-operation and support to junior development including Mission Squash
- Help pros/clubs deliver enjoyable and profitable tournaments, including new HSRA Top 32
- Further improvements to member communication
- Responsible and transparent governance consistent with HSRA Board Code of Conduct

2017 Accomplishments

- 4 seasons completed
- 7-10 Boxes per season / 70 players avg
- 4 social events
- End of season prizes trialed.
- Launched Houston Junior Team League
- Increased HSRA junior membership
- Successful relaunch of HSRA Top 32 tournament
- Weekly Newsletter
- Annual / monthly meetings held and minutes / accounts published
- Spending within income
- Nomination approved by Board for replacement HSRA President