



To all Brisbane Squash Players

You may have become aware that an entity called River City Squash Inc (“RCS”) was incorporated on the 20th February 2009, and it proposes to start a fixtures competition to compete with the Q Squash Northside competition.

From the material RCS has published on the internet and elsewhere, it appears that RCS purports to represent players and others involved in squash on the Northside of the Brisbane River, and to offer them a better representation than is currently provided by Q Squash Limited (“Q Squash”). From this material and feedback we have received from a number of players, it appears that RCS intends commencing an alternative squash competition to that run by Q Squash, commencing in approximately four weeks’ time.

As you know, Q Squash is the recognized State body for squash in Queensland, and the only body recognized as a Queensland affiliate by Squash Australia Inc.

Q Squash is concerned that RCS has not given the players any reasonable opportunity to consider the question of whether or not they should support the RCS competition, rather than remain in the competition organized by the State body, Q Squash. We note that none of the RCS office bearers attended the Q Squash workshop on Saturday and Sunday (28th February and 1st March 2009), despite being advised of the workshop prior to Christmas 2008.

From the limited feedback we have been provided by some players, it is clear they consider:

- (a) They have not been consulted about this new competition;

- (b) They do not agree that there should be a new competition run by a body other than the State body;
- (c) They wish to support the State body, Q Squash.

At least some of the RCS office holders are also members of the Q Squash Subcommittee known as the Brisbane City Squash Committee (“BCS Committee”). The function of the BCS Committee was to oversee the competition on behalf of Q Squash on the northside of Brisbane. If some of the RCS officers are also members of the BCS Committee, it seems clear that they are in an intolerable position of conflict of interest. Before becoming involved with an organization whose apparent objective is to compete commercially with Q Squash, those persons ought to have given notice of their intention to resign from the BCS Committee, and of their intention to join RCS. This they did not do.

It is the view of the Board of Q Squash, and my view as President, that the players’ interests would be best served by continuing in the competition sanctioned by Q Squash. The RCS proposal suffers from a lack of detail, it has emerged without proper consultation with players, and it smacks of a “dog in the manger” approach by a few disgruntled people.

If it is such a good idea, why haven’t the players been consulted in an open forum, where people (including Q Squash) can ask questions of those promoting this alternate competition?

We urge you to advise your centre operator you cannot support something without knowing the detail. Don’t buy a pig in a poke.

Yours faithfully

Steve Derbyshire
PRESIDENT
11 March 2009