

## Squash Wales Masters Home Internationals

### Team Captain's Appointment, Responsibilities & Guidelines



- **Team Captain Appointment**
  - There is no greater honour in terms of sporting achievement than to be appointed Captain of your Country and from the Masters Wales team captains will, where possible, be appointed by the Squash Wales Masters committee.
  - The Masters Committee will normally select captains who they believe best meet the following criteria:
    - Is of sufficiently high playing standard to merit a place in the final squad.
    - Has already represented Wales at either senior level or at a prior Masters Home Internationals.
    - Possesses the appropriate personal attributes to represent Wales on the International Stage.
    - Possesses the organisational ability to manage the team.
- **Team Captain Appointment Communication**
  - Team captain will be invited by the Masters Committee and once accepted will be communicated via the Squash Wales and/or Masters website shortly after acceptance.
  - Following their appointment, the team captain will be required to communicate the following to their age group database:
    - Invite and encourage their players to enter all Wales Masters tournaments especially, the Wales Masters Open and the Wales Masters Closed.
    - Explain the process for selection to the Wales team.
    - Share the dates and location of the home International matches with an approximate cost for each individual player.
    - Ask for each player to indicate their availability for the Home International matches.
- **Team Selection**
  - The team captain is responsible for selecting the international team which will typically be comprised of a minimum of the 5 strongest players available (some age categories and female teams may be comprised of lower numbers), and preferably with a squad of one or two additional players to cover for injuries and allow players to be rested as three international matches are required to be played within 24 hours. The team will include the automatic selection of the two finalists in the Wales Masters Closed tournament and the captain is responsible for selecting the remaining team members. Where there are close calls in selection captains are encouraged to arrange play-offs and are also encouraged to give preference to those players who supported and played in Wales Masters Tournaments during the year. Captains should also ensure that they have a reserve list of players who are willing to play, sometimes at short notice to cover player withdrawals.
  - After the captain has made their selection, the captain must submit the team nominations, no later than six weeks before their Home International weekend, to the Squash Wales Masters Committee for their final with reasons to explain the selection

of their team. The team nominations should be submitted by email to the Squash Wales at [lynne.davies@squash.wales](mailto:lynne.davies@squash.wales)

- The aim is to finalise a team selection as soon as possible before the international weekend so all players can come to the event as well prepared as possible, and to ensure that there is sufficient time to make appropriate travel arrangements. The captain has full authority to select replacement players in the event of any late withdrawals.
- **Team Shirts**
  - The captain needs to ensure that each player has the appropriate Wales representational shirt for 2 or 3 matches from the Squash Wales official supplier, Nick Johns at [Nick@MyCompanyPromotions.com](mailto:Nick@MyCompanyPromotions.com).
  - The cost of the kit will be borne by the individual players although captains are free to arrange sponsorship to cover this and other costs should they wish. Sponsors names however cannot be displayed on the kit without prior approval of Squash Wales.
- **Team Travel Arrangements**
  - The captain will communicate the travel arrangements and accommodation at the host venue in liaison with Lynne Davies at Squash Wales and Lynne can be contacted at [Lynne.Davies@squash.wales](mailto:Lynne.Davies@squash.wales)
  - The host country usually produces a 'Home International Handbook' for each event which will be made available on the Squash Wales website and the Captain will email each player to let them know when this becomes available.
- **Team Mementos for International Matches**
  - It is a long-standing tradition that players selected for each international match exchange a memento with their opponent prior to the match.
  - The captain will organise the purchase of mementos for the team players plus one reserve in the opposing team.
  - The Squash Masters committee can advise on the suitability of appropriate mementos which typically cost each team member around £15-£20 in total for the weekend.
- **Team Responsibilities on the Home International Weekend**
  - The team captain will be required to finalise the playing order of the squad prior to the start of the international weekend.
  - The captain will then be required to attend a 'captain's meeting' usually at 4pm on the Friday at the start of the international weekend to discuss the court location and order of the matches and any other health and safety and 'housekeeping' issues at the host venue.
  - The team captain will also need to ensure that the team squad is changed into the Wales team strip and available for a team photograph prior to the first match start.
  - If possible, the team captain is also expected to provide photos and team result information for tweets during the event to Mike Workman at 07971 052567.
  - Prior to each individual international match, the captain will be required to complete a form to indicate the playing order of the players nominated for each particular match.
  - During the individual matches, the captain will be expected to provide individual encouragement and support to the team between games.

- **Post-Home International Responsibilities**

- The captain will be required to provide a report of each international match describing the match result and performance and the report will be posted on the Squash Wales website as soon as possible after the end of the international weekend and no later than 2 weeks after the end of the international weekend. The report should be sent to Lynne Davies at [lynne.davies@squash.wales](mailto:lynne.davies@squash.wales)
- The Captain should also be aware that the Squash Wales annually host a Squash Wales Presentation Dinner each July during which individual players who have represented Wales at different age groups will receive a certificate and they may choose to be presented with a Wales Cap which will, however, need to be purchased by the individual player. Captains should encourage their team members to attend.