



# Squash Facility Development Guidelines



# SQUASH FACILITY DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

In addition to meeting the identified minimum court specifications, there are a number of design considerations that should be considered when either upgrading an existing squash facility, or building a new squash facility.

## Facility purpose

Prior to the development of a new facility for squash, the purpose of the facility and how it will be used should be understood. Early consideration of these factors will maximise the investment made to ensure that the facility is in the right place.

## Site location

When looking at potential locations for building new squash facilities, it is important that they are not considered solely from the sporting point of view, but also as a basic element in wider urban and social planning.

This includes:

- Location of other squash facilities
- Proximity to potential participants
- High visibility of the facilities
- Ongoing public access
- Ease of access

Considering these aspects during the initial planning stage will not only maximise the use of the facilities, but ensure the potential social benefits are achieved as well.

## Building requirements

It is recommended to have a building with a clear height of at least 5.7m. If the courts are designated for leisure use only (no official tournament use), a lower height may be acceptable.

The other factors to consider are the walls of the building. An empty building with favourably placed columns that allows for lots of free space is ideal for placing courts. This provides more flexibility in terms of court positioning, the number of courts and other amenities such as changing rooms, pro-shop, café, etc. The more flexibility there is, the better the optimisation of pathways inside.

## Courts orientation

A north-facing orientation is preferred to maximise natural lighting.

## Environmental choices

Several initiatives can be used to promote better, more sustainable and healthier facilities:

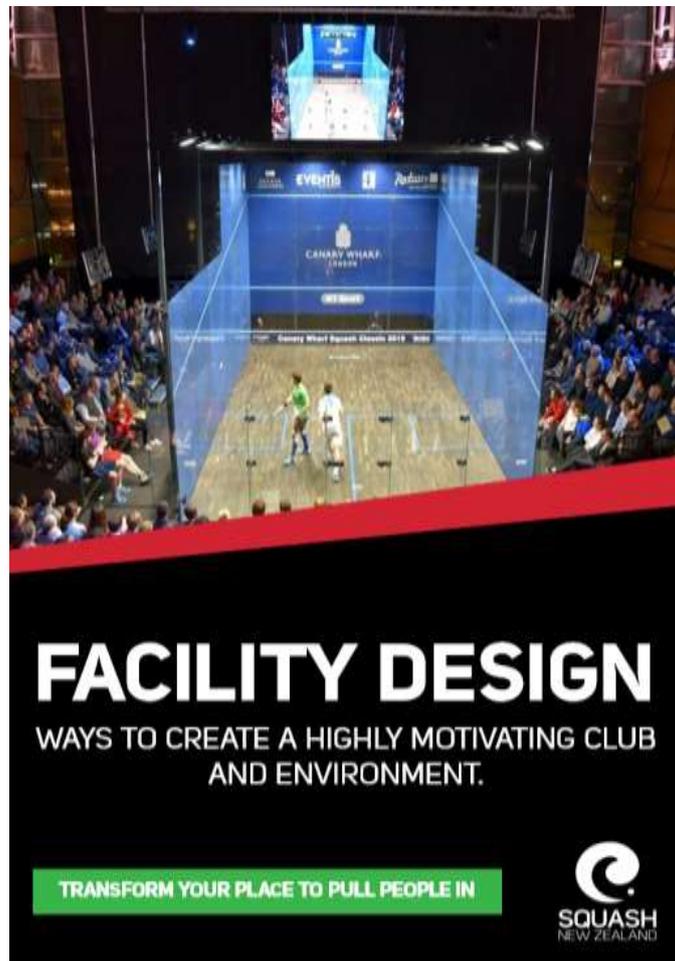
- Utilise recycling stations to reuse rubbish, compost organic matter and dispose of light bulbs.
- Choose environmentally friendly cleaning products.
- Use energy-efficient products.
- Fit efficient air conditioning and heating systems, including double glazing.
- Install solar panels to heat water.
- Reduce paper through online marketing.
- Underlay flooring from recycled products.
- Place plants throughout the facility to give fresh air.
- Provide members with access to information on public transport options.

For more: <http://www.environmentalchoice.org.nz/>

## Facility design

There are 5 key areas of the facility that can be made to look aesthetically pleasing and provide a stimulating place to be. Squash New Zealand have developed a basic facility design guide that contains ideas for creating a welcoming facility.

For more: [http://www.nzsquash.co.nz/news/index.cfm?content\\_id=2343](http://www.nzsquash.co.nz/news/index.cfm?content_id=2343)



## Courts design

Court size and internal dimensions of the playing areas are derived from the World Squash Federation's court markings 2012 for both standard and doubles courts.

A standard squash court's internal dimensions are:

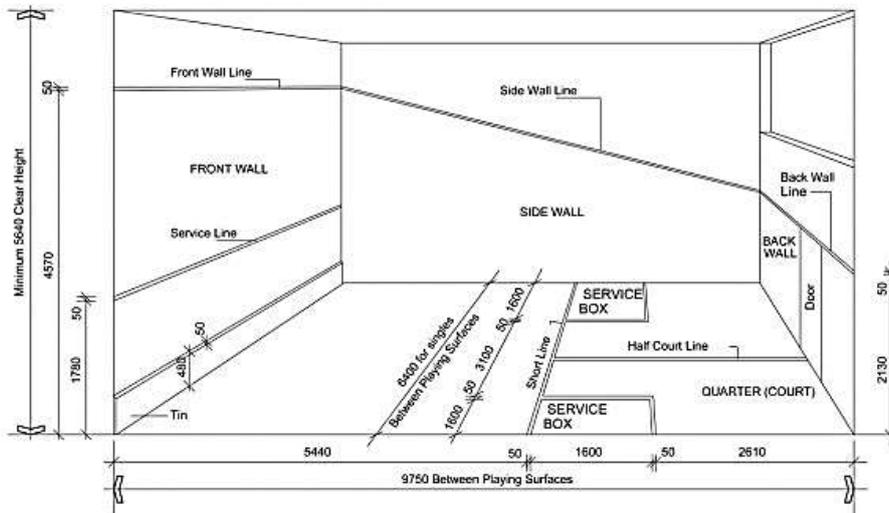
- Length: 9750mm +/- 10mm
- Width: 6400mm +/- 10mm
- Diagonals: 11665mm +/- 25mm

The total floor area is 62.4m<sup>2</sup>.

WSF 2012 court markings

All court markings should be 50mm wide and contrast colour to adjoining surfaces (often red). All wall markings should be the same colour and all floor lines should be 50mm wide and should be done on clean and unsealed boards.

GENERAL CONFIGURATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SINGLES COURT



NEAR SIDE WALL OMITTED FOR CLARITY

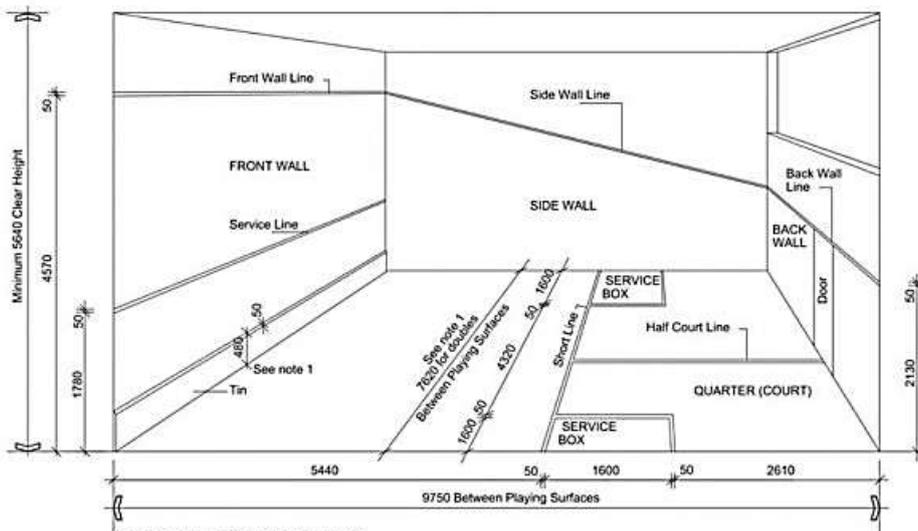
DIAGONALS FOR SINGLES 11665  
**Dimensions of Singles Squash Court**  
 Also applicable for Racketball



**Diagram 1**  
 December 2012



GENERAL CONFIGURATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DOUBLES COURT



NEAR SIDE WALL OMITTED FOR CLARITY

**Dimensions of Doubles Squash Court**

**NOTE 1**  
**International Competition Width.** For WSF recognised World and Regional events and Commonwealth Games, the width of the court between playing surfaces may be expanded from 7620mm to 8420mm and from July 2012 the height above the floor to the top of the tin shall be 330mm.



**Diagram 2**  
 September 2014



The detailed specifications for squash courts can be found on the World Squash Federation website.

For more: <http://www.worldsquash.org/>

# TECHNICAL INFORMATION

With thanks to Squash England, the following provides some extra guidance on the construction and maintenance requirements for squash courts. Squash New Zealand recommends that a specialist consultant or contractor be used to determine the most appropriate solution for each facility.

## The floor

Both maple and beech are equally recommended. Strips should be of a consistently light colour, laid the length of the court and secret nailed to semi-sprung battens at 300mm centres for maple and 411mm for beech. The floor is sanded by running the machine along the length of the court. The floor surface should be left unsealed with a slight 'nap' to provide shoe traction for players. To comply with the World Squash Federation requirements for a singles court, a finished floor should be level within +/- 10mm in the length and width and on the diagonals.

Joints between boards should be flush to within 0.25mm and any open joint shall not be more than 2mm wide. Edge boards should not be nailed, but screwed to the battens using brass screws and cups and countersunk to 1mm below the floor surface. The nick should be 6-9mm wide and the edge strips should stop that distance from the side wall. The nick is an aid to airflow and should not be filled with any material.

If a glass-back is in place, the floor should be supported along the full width and up against the glass wall to ensure there is no nick to cause the ball to deflect.

A squash court should not be allowed to become damp for any length of time as the moisture content in the air will eventually enter the boards and produce buckled or cupped strips.

## Wall construction

The inner skin of the cavity wall should consist of equal clay bricks 21N/mm<sup>2</sup> or dense aggregate concrete blocks minimum 7N/mm<sup>2</sup>. It is usual to use 210mm brickwork or 200mm concrete block work in cement lime mortar. Flint lime, sand lime and calcium silicate bricks and lightweight aggregate block work should be avoided. Joints to be left flush.

Walls should be constructed of the same materials throughout. Avoid constructional steel or concrete columns in the same finished plane as this will lead to cracking of the playing surface materials. Court walls should be vertical to within 5mm in a height of 2m and straight to within +/- 15mm in the length of any wall.

## Wall insulation

If the courts are to be heated, the addition of insulation clipped to the cavity face of the inner skin should be considered. Insulation inhibits the passage of energy either as heat loss in the winter, or heat gain in the summer. This produces a stabilising influence on the inner face, thereby slowing any sudden change in wall temperature, one of the conditions that most often leads to condensation.

Products suitable for introduction into an existing wall construction are generally blown, injected or, in some cases, poured into the cavity. The main problem likely to be encountered will be due to mortar droppings on the wall ties, and perhaps other materials bridging the cavity. Choice of materials includes:

- Urea-Formaldehyde (UF) Foam - The foam is injected into the cavity, usually through holes in the outer leaf, where it subsequently hardens and dries.
- Rock Fibre - Fibres coated with a water repellent are blown into the cavity where they form a water repellent mat.
- Polyurethane Granules - These are irregularly shaped granules usually between 5mm and 20mm in size.
- Expanded Polystyrene Beads - These are white spheres with a diameter between 2mm and 7mm. They are extremely free running and require few filling holes.
- Glass Fibre - An alternative to rock fibre that is installed by a similar method.
- Polyurethane (Foamed) in New Walls - Two liquid components are mixed and injected into the cavity where they foam and rise to fill the space.
- Concrete Wall Panels - The external walls are insulated using rigid insulating slabs fixed to the outer face, then covered with a mesh fabric and waterproof rendering coats.

The introduction of a cavity fill material can provide a ready collection point for moisture which is unlikely to dry out, and therefore, damp will migrate to the inner cavity wall leaf. Should this happen, the only remedy is to cut out the defective areas from the outside, remove obstructions and complete the filling. In this instance, the use of non-setting materials such as fibres or beads can be an advantage since the completion of the filling does not rely upon the chemical bonding of new material to old.

#### Playing wall surfaces

Normal plasters are not suitable for squash courts. The most common wall surfaces are cement, plaster, wood or glass. There are also a number of pre-fabricated wall panel systems available that can be used to form a squash court.

Cement, plaster and panel courts have a lower purchase price but their playing surfaces are quickly compromised due to plaster having to be consistently patched or panels with unfinished joints warping out of shape.

Pre-fabricated walls without visible joints and gaps are more sophisticated in their production and while they come at a higher initial price, their maintenance costs are lower over the lifespan of the courts. The same applies to glass.

#### The door

For traditional brick built squash courts the standard wooden solid core door should be fitted to comply with building regulations.

#### Glass-backs

The introduction of glass-backs is one of the major reasons for the increasing popularity of the game as it provides the opportunity for many more spectators to view the play compared with the traditional upstairs viewing gallery. Where a glass-back door is to be installed, the supporting channels should be set into the side walls. Fins should be supported on metal angles bolted into the concrete floor slab which should be thickened to allow for the bolts. The door should be positioned on the centre line, or middle third, of the back wall. The door and frame should be set flush with the playing surface, with a solid core and hung on concealed hinges in a SOSS pattern.

The following ironmongery is normally used for the door:

- Concealed hinges (SOSS pattern)
- Flush fitting ring handle court side
- Mortice latch with lever handle on outer face
- Check action closer
- Spy glass viewer

#### Performance requirements

- Glass must be toughened to at least 12mm and comply with the relevant New Zealand standards.
- Door hinges should be positioned so that there is no undue deflection under impact of a player.
- The latch must close easily and remain latched and not bounce open when under impact.
- The door should deflect slightly under impact from players but should not form a finger trap between the side of the door and the side panels.
- The gaps between the panels and door should be 2mm maximum.
- Glass doors should be cleaned using a spirit based cleaner suitable for glass.

Safety note: glass is not indestructible and does shatter occasionally, even following installation and after many years of usage. Squash New Zealand recommends that glass doors be inspected at least once a year by a qualified person, and all fixings checked and tightened up if required.

#### Ceiling

The ceiling of the court should preferably be flush with no projecting beams. The ceiling and / or underside of the roof, if exposed, should be painted a light colour. This should be not less than 5.64m above the finished floor level.

## Lighting

Natural lighting is not acceptable for the playing area. The court should be lit by artificial light. The minimum standard is 300 lux / 1m above floor over full court area (1000mm above the floor). The recommended standard is 500 lux.

LED lamps have proven to be satisfactory and give an even spread of light over the complete floor area. The initial cost may be higher than conventional fittings but reduce running costs and have a longer life.

Light fittings should be able to withstand ball impact and free of stroboscopic effects. Fittings facing the front wall should be angled and have open ends to enable light to spread to the side walls. Fittings along the length of the court should be fixed parallel to the side walls. All types of fittings require regular cleaning to remove a build-up of dust and dirt. Checking and changing tubes should also be carried out on a regular basis.

Blinds or curtains should be used to prevent sunlight causing bright spots or areas on the court walls or floors.

## Heating

The position of heating will depend on the site and location of the court. The recommended temperature range is 15°C +/- 5°C for all areas. The only part of the playing area of the court which may be used as a location for any heating or ventilation equipment shall be the tin on the front wall, provided there are no projections into the court.

## Ventilation

Air bricks should be provided at low level on the front wall of the court. This allows air into the court through holes corresponding to the air bricks formed in the tin, the out of court area and at the base of the front wall. A mechanical extractor fan should be located at the rear of the court to provide at least four air changes per hour.

## Viewing gallery

Where a solid back wall is used, a viewing gallery over the access corridor should be provided for spectators and referees.

## Building consent and compliance

When developing a new facility, or upgrading an existing one, consideration should be given to local plan requirements.

For more: <https://www.building.govt.nz/>

Under the Building Act, the only on-going obligations the owner of an existing building must meet are those of the compliance schedule and building warrant of fitness regime. The exception would be if Council elected to invoke its powers under section 124 deeming the building dangerous, earthquake-prone or insanitary and requiring action taken.

For more: <https://www.building.govt.nz/managing-buildings/managing-your-bwof/#jumpto-building-owner-obligations>

If an owner elects to alter an existing building or change the building's use, then the provisions of sections 112 and 115 respectively apply. Essentially all new building work undertaken in association with the alteration or change of use must comply with the Building Code and the existing building must be upgraded (to as nearly as is reasonably practicable) in respect of nominated Building Code issues and be no worse in respect of all others.

For more: <http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2004/0072/latest/DLM306036.html>

## Cleaning and maintenance

From flooring to lighting and ventilation to insulation, the maintenance of squash facilities can be expensive if necessary repairs are not dealt with promptly. Squash New Zealand have created a basic guide on the cleaning of squash courts.

For more: [http://www.nzsquash.co.nz/for-clubs/index-of-resources.cfm?content\\_id=2572](http://www.nzsquash.co.nz/for-clubs/index-of-resources.cfm?content_id=2572)

# CONDENSATION

Few things spoil a game of squash more than condensation. Sweating walls make it difficult to play the ball successfully and if the floor is affected, players can lose their footing and injuries are highly likely. Condensation issues often arise in certain weather conditions and heightened when crowds gather. There is a common principle underlying all condensation problems. Warm air can contain more water vapour than cool air, with the vapour content becoming so great that vapour turns to water droplets such as cloud, fog or dew when in contact with a cold surface. The limit at which this happens is known as the 'dew point'.

## Basic cures

To overcome condensation problems in a squash court it is essential to prevent condensation taking place when warm moisture bearing air comes into contact with walls or floors which are at or below the dew-point for that particular air mass. This can be achieved by the following:

### Temperature

Ensure that the walls and floor of the court are kept at a temperature above the critical dew-point. Gas or electric radiant heaters provide the correct form of heating to ensure this happens. Courts within centrally heated and / or air conditioned buildings are never likely to suffer from condensation because the fabric of the walls serves as a storage heater and are never in danger of cooling off to dew-point level.

### Insulation

Ensuring walls are insulated can reduce the rate at which internal playing walls cool down during a cold spell. Background heating may prevent the walls becoming excessively cold during severe weather. It is when moist warm air flow follows a cold spell that condensation risks increase.

### Air changes

Ventilation of courts and spectator areas is essential. This rate of air change will be determined by the building size and type and often achieved by use of a fan placed at high level in the wall behind or in the roof above the viewing gallery or the back third of the court which will draw the air across the court from the ventilation inlet holes in the 'tin'. Grass or other vegetation near the external ventilation holes should be cut as if wet, moisture will be drawn into the court.

### Vents

If high level vents have been installed on the playing wall, it may be necessary to seal these. This will ensure that the air is drawn across the court from low to high level. Additional ventilation for the viewing gallery area should be installed relative to the volume of the gallery. Extractor fans, when fitted with a speed controller, will enable the fans to be run at low speed when the courts are not in use and manual control to a higher speed when they are in use. Fans should be allowed to run on for 20 minutes after the court has been used.

### Over-heating

Where courts become excessively hot it may be necessary to install a larger fan. A speed controller will be required to reduce the extract rate in colder weather.

### Mould growth

If there are any signs of mould growth inside the court, this may be the result of a water leakage through the outside structure. If mould appears internally, and if a leak in the structure can be discounted, then these growths are usually the result of high humidity which may be caused by poor ventilation. Mould growth is best dealt with by brushing down to remove the loose mould growth and then treating with a proprietary mould inhibitor fungicide or a diluted solution of household bleach, containing chloride. The surface should then be washed down with clear water and left to dry thoroughly.

## Moisture diagnosis chart

The following moisture diagnosis chart provides some of the most common causes and effects of moisture and squash courts and suggests possible cures.

# MOISTURE DIAGNOSIS CHART

Symptoms	Causes	Contributory Factors	Cures	Action Required
A film of water appears on the playing wall surfaces when the court is in use of cold days	Condensation (Sweating)	Moisture in the air from players Cold walls as a result of poor insulation	Heat the walls (particularly on cold days) Improve the insulation Remove the moisture from the air in the court	Install background heating Install cavity fill or external insulation Install extract ventilation to run continuously whilst courts are open for use.
A film of water appears on the playing wall surfaces when the court is in use of warm days following cold days	Condensation (Sweating)	Moisture in the air from players Cold walls as a result of poor insulation	Remove the moisture from the air in the court Heat the walls, particularly on warm days	Install extract ventilation to run continuously whilst courts are open for use Install background heating
A film of water appears on the playing wall surfaces whether used or not, particularly on cold days	Condensation (Sweating)	Moisture laden air coming from another part of the building Cold walls Additional moisture put into the air by players	Make sure that moisture laden air from elsewhere does not enter the court Remove the moisture from the air in the court Heat the walls, particularly on warm days	Provide separate ventilation systems for the court and other areas Arrange for a ventilated area between courts and other areas Install extract ventilation to run continuously whilst courts are open for use Install background heating
Drips of water appear on the floor at a limited number of points, and only on cold days whether or not the court is in use	Condensation	Moisture laden air coming into contact with cold surfaces Poorly insulated roof with cold spots (e.g. steel beams or pipes)	Remove moisture with an extractor fan Stop moisture laden air from coming into contact with cold surfaces Improve insulation locally or generally	Install extract ventilation Install a continuous vapour barrier on the warm side of insulation in the ceiling structure or underside of the roof Install cavity fill or external insulation
Bloom appears on the floor, and the floor becomes slippery when the court is in use	Condensation	Moisture in the air from players Cold floor	Remove moisture from the air in the court Provide heating Sand the floor	Install extract ventilation Install background heating Sand floor in direction of grain to leave a nap on the surface, do not seal

Symptoms	Causes	Contributory Factors	Cures	Action Required
Drips of moisture appear all over the floor when the court is in use	Perspiration (from players)	If court become slippery, floor is too heavily sealed	Sand floor	Install extract ventilation Install background heating Sand floor in direction of grain to leave a nap on the surface, do not seal
Drips of water appear at specific points on the floor during or after rain, whether or not the court is in use	Roof leak(s)	Cracked glazing Inadequate sealing of joints between materials Broken tiles or slates Cracked roof finish	Locate and repair leaks	Seek professional advice
Water runs down the walls from the top during or after rain, whether or not the court is in use  Isolated patches of damp appear on external walls after rain, particularly on walls facing the prevailing wind. Fungus or mould growth may appear, particularly in corners	Roof or wall head leak(s)  Rain penetration	Broken or misplaced copings Choked gutters Porous brickwork or faulting pointing Cavity bridged or no cavity Broken or split external cladding	Inspect and locate leaks  Check gutters and rainwater pipes  Inspect	Seek professional advice  Clean gutters and rainwater pipes
The lower parts of walls feel damp persistently and a more or less horizontal tide mark appears. Floors may be damp and / or rotten. Fungus or mould growth may appear	Rising damp	Breakdown of damp course No damp course Soil bridging the damp course on the external face	Install new damp course  Inspect and lower the ground level externally	Seek professional advice
Cupped or delayed flooring  Excessive movement in the floor  Floor expands	Rising damp	Breakdown of the damp proof membrane in or on the over site concrete  Leak from faulty plumbing or drainage  Local external flooding  Breakdown of floor suspension system	Install new damp proof membrane  Locate and repair leaks  Check watercourses and storm water drains  Lift floor and replace suspension system	Seek professional advice

# SQUASH COURT INNOVATIONS

There have been a wide range of squash court innovations been used with varying degrees of success over the years. Some examples and the locations in which they have been used are shown below:

Inflatable Courts



Micro (Portable and Rigid) Courts



Portable Glass Courts



Outdoor Public (Glass) Courts



Moveable Side Walls



Interactive Courts



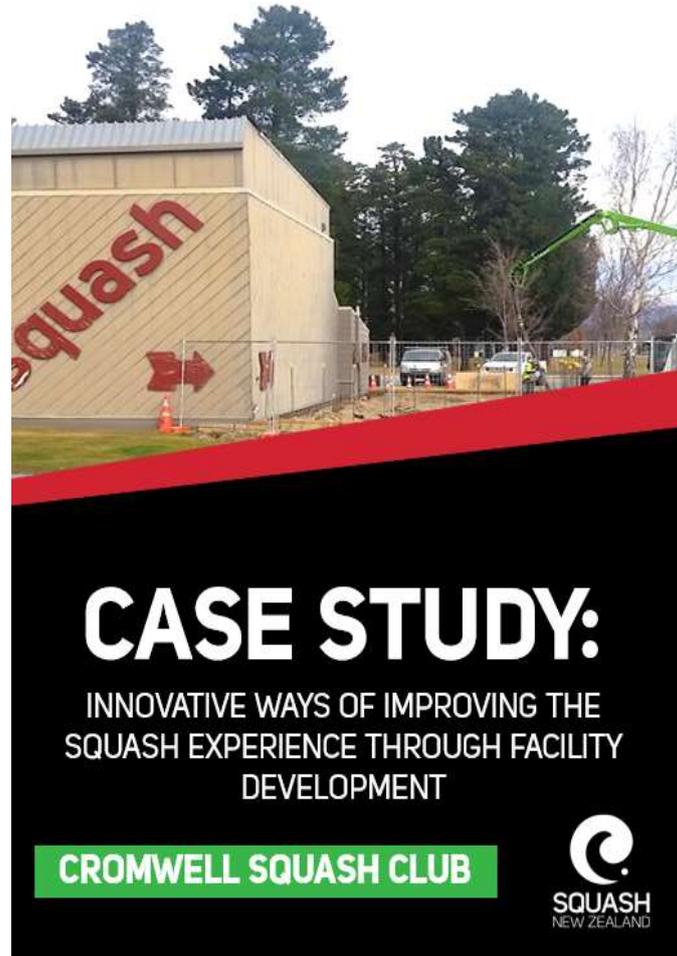
Visual content is projected onto cinema-sized screens (the front wall of the court) and the content synchronises with sound and squash activities.

For more: <http://interactivesquash.com/6-powerful-asb-squashcourt-innovations-revolutionised-sport/>

# CASE STUDIES

## Cromwell Squash Club – Improved facilities (additional courts)

Established in the 1970's, the Cromwell Squash Club has recently seen growth in community participation and sporting profile. Back in 2009, a group of club volunteers initiated a \$400,000 project to build a third glass-back court and provide new changing areas and an upgraded kitchen. The project was completed in 2015 and the impact was immediate.



Club membership for the past 5 years is shown below.

Year	TOTAL	Senior Men	Senior Women	Junior Boys	Junior Girls
2016	102	58	35	8	1
2015	84	54	26	3	1
2014	74	45	18	8	3
2013	77	44	23	6	4
2012	78	40	25	7	6
2011	70	33	25	6	6

To complete the upgrade the club worked closely with three local schools, the RST, TAs, community funders and local businesses. Work was completed in time to successfully host the 2015 D-Grade SuperChamps finals.

This case study highlights the benefit of working cooperatively and in collaboration with TAs, RSTs and local community organisations. It also shows the impact that welcoming facilities can have on participation.

For more: [http://www.nzsquash.co.nz/content/Club\\_Support/Case\\_Studies/Cromwell%20Squash%20Club%20-%20Facility.pdf](http://www.nzsquash.co.nz/content/Club_Support/Case_Studies/Cromwell%20Squash%20Club%20-%20Facility.pdf)

## Mount Maunganui Squash Club – Improved facilities condition

Wanting to provide a facility that all of the club members could be proud of, the Mount Maunganui Squash Club decided to upgrade their existing facility. Using WSF specifications, coupled with energy-efficient products and materials, the club completed their upgrade project in 2015 after collaborating with a number of businesses, funders and organisations.



As a result of upgrading their existing facility, the Mount Maunganui Squash Club now provides a Regional-level facility to run larger events, plus support the Devoy Squash and Fitness Centre to run major events where court capacity is exceeded.

### Upgrade overview

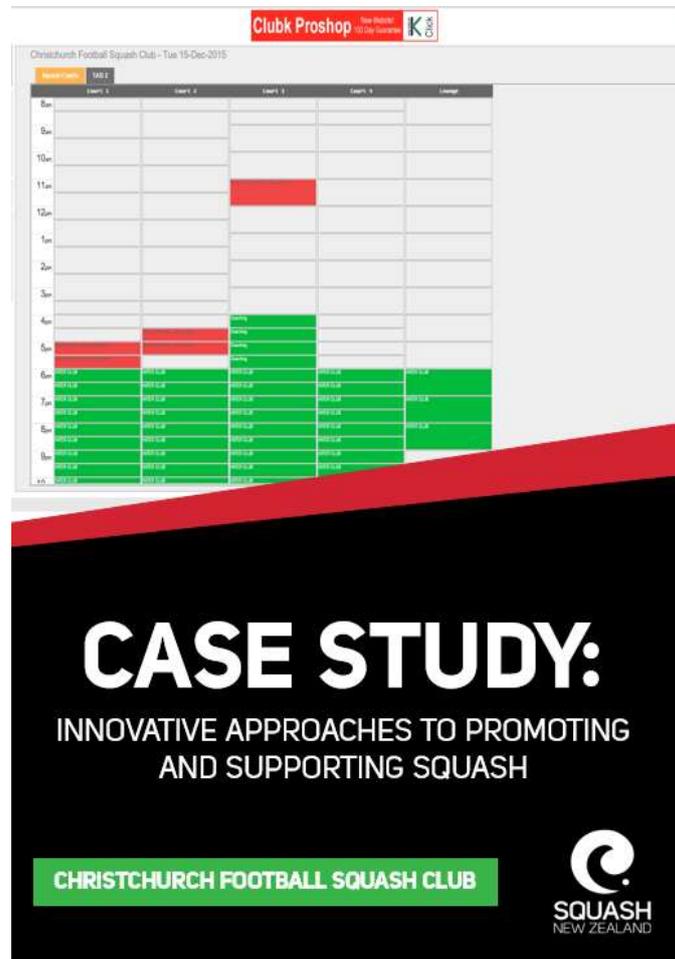
- LED lighting installed on all courts
- Sound attenuating ceiling tiles on all courts
- Roof insulation on all courts
- Air conditioning on all courts
- Extraction fans on court 1 and between courts 2 and 3
- PV system (solar panels)
- New glass-back doors on courts 2 and 3
- New mixers in both men's and women's showers
- Cladding on the exterior
- Paint and wallpapering of squash lounge
- New bench between courts 2 and 3
- New net between courts 2 and 3
- Haze stickers on the glass walls and doors

This case study highlights the impact that modern facilities has on improving facility condition in order to boost asset rationalisation.

For more:

[http://www.nzsquash.co.nz/content/Club\\_Support/Case\\_Studies/Mount%20Maunganui%20Squash%20Club%20-%20Facility%20Upgrade.pdf](http://www.nzsquash.co.nz/content/Club_Support/Case_Studies/Mount%20Maunganui%20Squash%20Club%20-%20Facility%20Upgrade.pdf)

Christchurch Football Squash Club – Improved court utilisation and accessibility  
Opened in the 1970's, the Christchurch Football Squash Club is a four court facility located in St Albans, Christchurch. The club is part of a co-operative sports area with a separate club rooms. The squash club pays the rugby club for the rental of the land and they own their own building.



With the shift towards a pay to play consumer model, the Christchurch Football Squash Club implemented the iSquash Pay2Play system to provide members and the public with access to a court booking and payment system.

This case study highlights the impact that modern facilities has on improving existing facility accessibility and court utilisation.

For more:

[http://www.nzsquash.co.nz/content/Club\\_Support/Case\\_Studies/Christchurch%20Football%20Squash%20Club%20-%20Communications%20%26%20Technology.pdf](http://www.nzsquash.co.nz/content/Club_Support/Case_Studies/Christchurch%20Football%20Squash%20Club%20-%20Communications%20%26%20Technology.pdf)

## Tauranga Squash Club – New facility construction

Since commencing operation in 1967, the Tauranga Squash Club has become a squash success story. With a current total membership capped at 600, the club has significantly grown its participation levels and sporting profile after building a new facility, known as the Devoy Squash & Fitness Centre (opened in 2012).

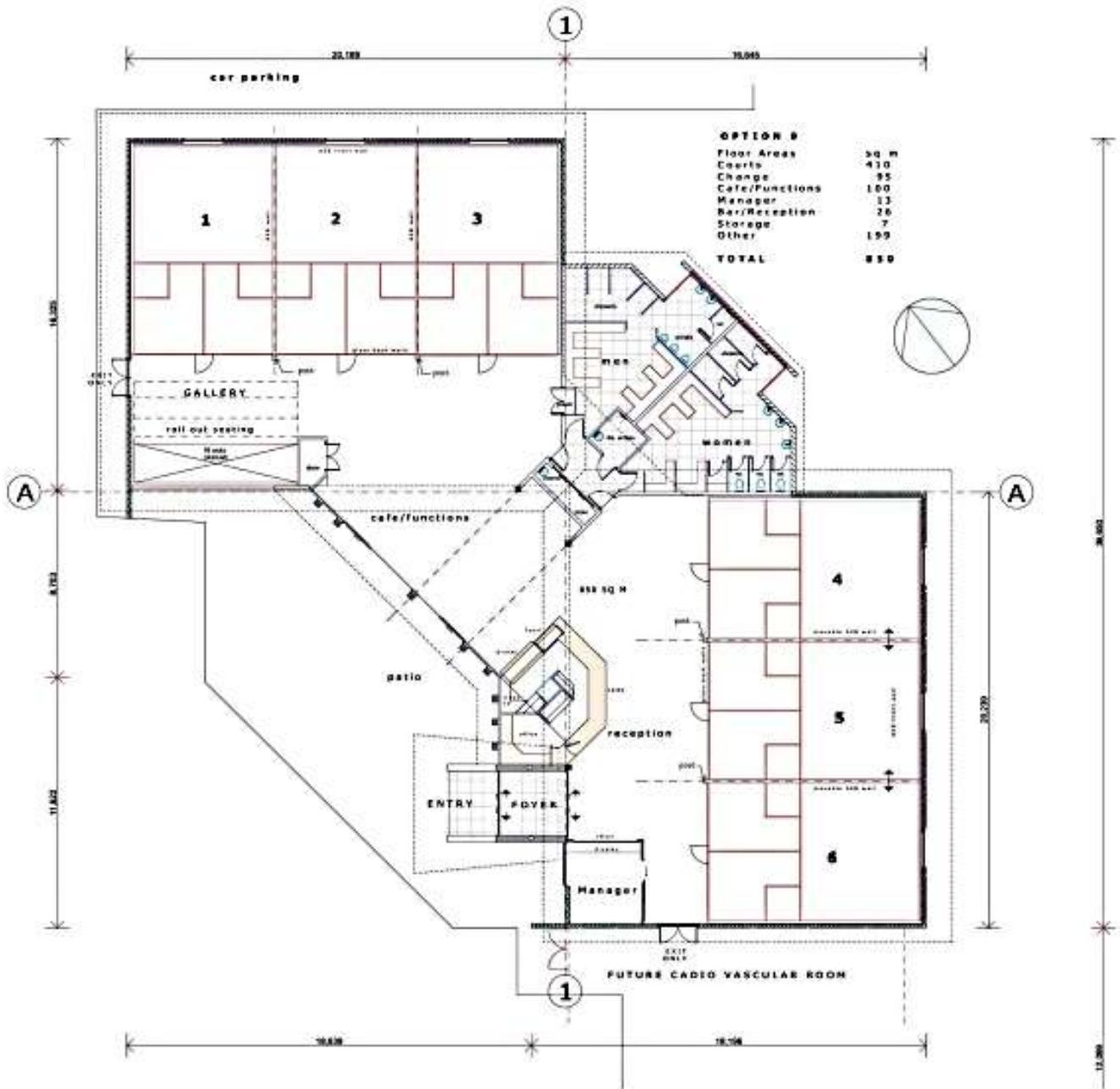


After many years of planning and fundraising, the \$1.8m project was funded by the sale of existing land and buildings along with community grant funding. The land was provided at no charge by partners Tauranga Boys College in return for court access. The relationship extends beyond real estate and squash is now an integral part of the college curriculum.

The building is architecturally designed on a single level allowing for a very interactive and dynamic atmosphere for both members and guests. Natural lighting is a strong feature along with contemporary furniture and fixings.

### Facility overview

- Purpose-built squash complex incorporating a gym
- 6 x glass-back courts with ASB walls and fully sprung floors
- Ability to move the internal walls on 3 courts to create 2 full-sized doubles courts)
- Dedicated exhibition court and re-locatable gallery seating allowing up to 250 spectators
- Shared gym facilities (with Tauranga Boys College) adjacent to squash facilities
- On-site fully equipped pro-shop stocking squash equipment
- 150m<sup>2</sup> fully enclosed deck leading through large sliding doors into social area
- Central office, bar and café area can be managed by one person
- Members have electronic tag access to playing facilities
- Court access managed by online booking system through any device



Membership in the old facility was 220 and quickly grew once the new facility was opened. Currently the Tauranga Squash Club are operating at the benchmark of one court per 100 members and has had to introduce a waiting list policy.

This case study highlights the impact that modern facilities has on participation and sporting profile within the community.

For more: [http://www.nzsquash.co.nz/content/Club\\_Support/Case\\_Studies/Tauranga%20Squash%20Club%20-%20Facility.pdf](http://www.nzsquash.co.nz/content/Club_Support/Case_Studies/Tauranga%20Squash%20Club%20-%20Facility.pdf)

## SquashGym Palmerston North – becoming ‘green’

With 8 glass-back squash courts, a gym, pro-shop, office, bar and lounge, and changing rooms, SquashGym Palmerston North is one of the country’s biggest squash clubs that is committed to providing a healthy environment for members and guests of the facility.



With the increased worldwide emphasis on sustainability and ‘green’ practices, the SquashGym Palmerston North decided to install a number of potted plants to cleanse indoor air and create a more visually appealing environment.

This case study highlights the impact that the use of vegetation inside facilities has on improving the quality of facilities and leading to healthier and happier members.

For more:

[http://www.squashnz.co.nz/content/Club\\_Support/Case\\_Studies/SquashGym%20Palmerston%20North%20-%20Pot%20Plants.pdf](http://www.squashnz.co.nz/content/Club_Support/Case_Studies/SquashGym%20Palmerston%20North%20-%20Pot%20Plants.pdf)

## FURTHER INFORMATION

Below are some other guidelines to assist with planning for facilities development.

### Sport New Zealand

Sport New Zealand have created a Sport and Recreation Facility Development Guide to provide a standardised, step-by-step process for the planning, design, procurement, construction and operation of community sport and recreation facilities.

For more: <http://www.sportnz.org.nz/assets/Uploads/attachments/managing-sport/facilities/201606-SportNZ-FacilitiesGuide-FullVersion.pdf>

### Barrier Free New Zealand

There are several instances where both physical and social barriers exist preventing access. All courts should be designed to ensure inclusive access for all potential users. Barrier Free New Zealand have developed an accessibility design guide and checklist to help you make your facility more welcoming.

For more: <http://www.sportnz.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Accessibility-Design-Guide-and-Checklist.pdf>

## SQUASH PRODUCTS AND PROVIDERS

Below are links to some products and providers for squash facilities.

### International companies and products

A list of internationally accredited companies and products can be found on the World Squash Federation website.

For more: <http://www.worldsquash.org/>

### Court paint

Resene Squash court coating is a two pack waterborne epoxy especially developed for coating squash court walls to give a durable, tough coating with excellent resistance to abrasion.

For more: [http://www.resene.co.nz/squash\\_court/court.html](http://www.resene.co.nz/squash_court/court.html)

### Court tape

Squash New Zealand sells 33m rolls of court marking tape – Scotch 471 Red Vinyl Tape 50m.

For more: [http://www.nzsquash.co.nz/content/SNZ\\_Court%20Tape.pdf](http://www.nzsquash.co.nz/content/SNZ_Court%20Tape.pdf)

# APPENDIX 1:

## SPORT NEW ZEALAND ADVICE FOR ENGAGING WITH TERRITORIAL AUTHORITIES

Councils are major providers of sports and recreation facilities – without them much of what happens in our sector wouldn't be possible. You can influence planning for community sport and recreation by submitting to your council's upcoming Long Term Plans (LTP). These plans are reviewed every three years and these offer important opportunities for sport and recreation organisations to make submissions on what your council plans to do for your community over the next 10 years. After considering submissions, final LTPs are adopted by the full councils at the start of the financial year (1 July). If you don't make your views known, then you are likely to miss out and councils will presume you support their plans.

### Making effective submissions

- Ensure your submission is about an issue to the council is responsible for.
- State what your topic is and where it fits into the LTP.
- If your submission relates directly to a particular point in the draft LTP, state the page and quote the comment.
- Provide evidence that is quantified and verifiable.
- Outline the benefits to your city or district (e.g. participation and hosting events).
- Show that you have given consideration to alternative options (e.g. partnering, multi-use).
- Give evidence of your organisation's capability and financial sustainability.
- Make sure you emphasise how your idea will benefit the wider community.
- Say if you are in support of, or in opposition to, a particular issue and why. It is important to support the good things that the council does, or is planning to do, so that they keep on with it.
- Tell the council what decision you want them to make.
- Use headings and bullet points – it makes your points clearer.
- Be clear about how you think the service should be paid for – do you want rates or fees to go up? Or could funding be diverted from other council activities? Consider how other people may feel about these projects losing funding. Remember, the process is about choices.
- If you have a good idea about how your project can be funded through a different funding agency or achieved without funding, state it.
- Indicate if you want to speak at a LTP submission hearing – you will have much greater impact if you do.
- You may wish to let the council know if you would like your submission to be considered at the same time as others who you know will be making similar points.
- While numbers count in politics, it's persuasion that influences decisions. Is your submission just your own opinion or is it something that is valued by your whole club or community? Workshop your ideas with others, outline why they're important, and be positive and succinct.
- Well-prepared and widely-supported public submissions do make a difference.



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