



## **U.S. SQUASH Scholastic Squash Program (SSP)**

Squash in schools has seen tremendous growth in the last several years, evidenced in part by significantly more teams entering the U.S. Middle School Team Championships in each of the last three years, as well as the U.S. High School Team Championships drawing over 1000 individual participants in 2010.

SSP is the U.S. SQUASH program which supports the development of middle and high school squash in the United States. SSP provides the basic resources and tools required by middle and high school programs to manage and support themselves, and links the local league to the national squash community.

### How the Program Works

Schools able to form a league of four teams or more of seven players each (five players in the case of Middle School teams) may apply for U.S. SQUASH sanctioning, and become part of SSP. The application includes a League Setup Form which defines the specifications for the league, as well as a requirement for details on league structure (management structure, who act as administrators, number of teams, how the schedules are developed, number of matches per team, etc.).

U.S. SQUASH then reviews, approves and sanctions, and sets the league up in the U.S. SQUASH system. League administrators are trained on how to schedule the league in the software, and team coaches and managers are trained on how to enter results.

### Benefits

Summary: SSP provides use of powerful online tools for league management, as well as league team rankings, regional and national scholastic rankings for all players, discounts on national team championships, and a possible exposure in the national junior tournament rankings.

- U.S. SQUASH provides use of an online league management system for scheduling the season, reporting of results, and communications. Players,

parents, and fans can track team and individual results through the league pages and individual player profiles.

- Teams may take advantage of U.S. SQUASH ladder software to track team challenge matches or other competition.
- U.S. SQUASH provides a ranking system for team rankings.
- Unlike during the 2009-2010 Season, team matches will not count towards a player's junior tournament rating and ranking. Instead, all team matches will be calculated towards a player's Junior Scholastic Rating and Ranking. Individual Scholastic Rankings will be able to be viewed either by league or nationally.
- If an end-of-season individual championship is held for league players, the sanctioning fee is waived by U.S. SQUASH and the results count (1) towards a player's Scholastic Rating and Ranking, and (2) as a tournament towards their Junior Tournament Ranking. For the Junior Tournament Ranking, point values will be assigned to the individual championship tournaments based on the overall strength of the tournament. Please see the 2010-2011 Junior Guide for more information on Junior Scholastic Ratings and Rankings.
- The Team fee is fully deducted from the entry fee of the U.S. High School or Middle School Championships if that team enters either event.

#### Other Benefits

- New programs may qualify for a Harrow "starter kit" discount program, in which team players may purchase a full kit of a racquet, sneakers, and eye-guards at a deep discount.
- U.S. SQUASH offers financial grants to new school programs. Applications are available on the U.S. SQUASH website or by contacting Dent Wilkens at [dent.wilkins@ussquash.com](mailto:dent.wilkins@ussquash.com).

#### Requirements

1. Each league must have a minimum of four teams.
2. Each team must play at least six matches. So in the case of a four team league, each team needs to play the other twice in a season.
3. All players must be current members of U.S. SQUASH. League Administrators may work with U.S. SQUASH to set up all players as members of the association, or players may sign up for membership individually.

4. League managers and coaches must input the competition schedule and all results related to the league play into the U.S. SQUASH system in a timely manner.

## Fees

### Team Fee

- \$120 per team\* (per gender if school has boys and girls teams)

*\* U.S. SQUASH SSP teams receive a \$120 discount off the registration fee for U.S. Middle and High School Team Championships, eliminating any incremental cost for the school.*

### Facility Fee

- All home facilities of the teams in the league must be current U.S. SQUASH Member Clubs.
- The U.S. SQUASH member club fee is \$45/court per facility (maximum of \$225 per facility to be a member facility). If the facility is already a member club, this fee does not need to be paid again by the league or school.

### Membership Fee

- All players on team rosters must be current members of U.S. SQUASH. It is the responsibility of league administrators and team coaches to make sure all players fulfill this requirement. Players may join on an individual basis, or league administrators or coaches may email [membership@ussquash.com](mailto:membership@ussquash.com) to pay for the memberships of teams or the whole league.

## Payment

U.S. SQUASH will generate a single invoice for the league team fees in total. The league administrator must collect fees centrally and send one check to U.S. SQUASH for the season.