

Policy Plan S.S.V. The Boosters 2024-2025

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# 1. Introduction

Dear Booster,

On a relatively sober, warm night in May, some Boosters members gathered together for a (virgin) cocktail roulette activity organised by our activity committee. Exactly this evening these members had a crazy idea and decided to be part of a new board, which would in fact become the 37th board of SSV De Boosters. As you already know, our previous board consisting of only two board members, was formed in an urgent matter. However, thanks to their hard work and dedication, Willeke and Roel did an amazing job in keeping the association up and running. The new 37th board, consisting of five squash lovers, is happy to take over and continue their work, which should be easier since the new board is more than twice as big!

The internal regulations (Dutch: Huishoudelijk Reglement (HR)) and the statutes are the basic principles of the association. The policy plan specifies our focus for this year. We aim to make the association more functional, organised and enjoyable for every association member. In order to do this, we would like to introduce some changes into the existing policies, with the main focus on improving the public relations such as promotions and more sponsors, and we also want to improve internal communication. For this reason, the 37th board will, other than the chair, secretary and treasurer, also have a Public relations commissioner as well as a Squash Commissioner, the latter focusing on communication and organisation of squash-related matters. These functions will be further elaborated on below.

Other changes and modifications as well as a detailed plan on how we want to achieve this can all be read below under corresponding sections. Since this new board was formed before September, the current policy plan is subject to minor changes, as we also value additional input and feedback from our dear members.

The main structure of this policy plan is as follows:

- 1. <u>Internal organisational structure</u>: here we specify the internal structure of our association; the member list and tasks of our committees, list of trainers, members statistics? Here we specify how we as a board want to maintain contact with our committees and the extent to which we want to do it.
- Squash sport: in this we set out all squash-related matters and plans. Thus, everything related to court times, competitions, and tournaments and their organisation
- 3. <u>Association</u>: this is mainly about the additional board functions, reinstatedPublic Relations (PR) (promotion), internal communication, the social character of the association and goals and vision regarding new and current members.
- 4. <u>Finances</u>: this gives a brief overview of how the association is doing financially and what we want to spend our budget on this year, and the notes to the budget.

As a board, we wish all the members another successful and enjoyable squash year with a lot of fun activities both in and outside of squash courts!

The 37th board of SSV De Boosters,

Ivo van de Geijn- Chair

Jelena Tavcar - Secretary

Marie Peeters - Treasurer

Nikky Kuil - PR commissioner

Milo Reinmöller- Squash Commissioner



Abbreviation	Meaning
ALV	Algemene Ledenvergadering
HAN	Hogeschool Arnhem-Nijmegen
IR/HR	Internal Regulations/Huishoudelijk Reglement
NSK	Nederlands Studenten Kampioenschap
NSSR	Nijmeegse Studenten Sport Raad
SSV	Studenten Squash Vereniging
OBT	Open Boosters Tournament
ONT	One-Night Tournament
PR	Public Relations
RSC	Radboud Sports & Culture
RU	Radboud University

# 2. Internal Organisational Structure

N.S.S.V. De Boosters consists of the following active groups within the association: the board, the committee members and the trainers. It is possible for a member to be a combination of these. Other members are not seen as active members of the association.

Until March 2025, the Radboud Sportcentrum (RSC) has assigned one trainer to the association; Bas Hinten. During this period, there will be consultations between N.S.S.V the Boosters and RSC to discuss the appointment of a potential new trainer.

#### 2.1 Trainers

For the upcoming year, besides Bas Hinten, we have trainers from our own association. This list is prone to changes throughout the year, since new trainers are always welcome and current trainers may decide to leave.

Chris Pirie

Yoeri van Hal

Max Meijers

Sabry Ghoneim

Inger Albeda

Wytske Hepkema

Besides the regular trainers, there are also two reserve trainers, which are available in cases of emergency.

Roel van der Veer

Aldwin Ransijn

### 2.2 Committees

For the upcoming year, we have multiple committees, with each board member assigned as a contact person for one or two committees. Board members will assist these committees as needed. The occupation is still subject to change, since people might join or leave committees throughout the year.

Activity Committee (Accie)

The activity committee currently consists of three members: Sam Sweere, Evelien Dekker and Anna Vasilenka

The task of the Activity Committee is to make this association more than just squash. By organising fun activities, the goal is to create not just a good, social atmosphere at these activities, but also at the squash courts. The aim is to organise an activity every month, which every member of the association can join. The activity committee will organise activities in or around the week(s) specified in the year plan. The board will help out organising the annual Christmas Dinner and the annual Boosters Barbecue. Except for these two activities, the Activity Committee is free to choose any type of activity, as long as it fits the budget and they have green light from the board. In case they want to promote their activities, they have to contact the PR Commissioner (Nikky Kuil). Assigned board member: Jelena Tavcar

#### Technical Committee (TC)

The Technical Committee will consist of the following three members: Yoeri van Hal, Aldwin Ransijn, Willeke Knottnerus and Chris Pirie.

The technical committee deals with squash-related matters. To be more specific, their duties lie within the court hours we have on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. They are responsible for scheduling training sessions and assigning trainers in case there is a training as well as organising Open Club Evenings on Mondays and Fridays. The TC furthermore organises the ONTs and the annual Club Championships at the end of the year. In case they want to promote their activities, they have to contact the PR Commissioner. *Assigned board member: Milo Reinmöller* 

#### Tournament Committee (Toernooicie)

The tournament committee consists of the following members: Jason Peters, Dijana Piljanovic, Roel van der Veer and Mitchell Boesveld

The Tournament committee organises three open tournaments throughout the year, in the specific weeks assigned at the beginning of the year, for both members inside the association as well as for people outside of the association. If they want to promote their tournaments, they have to contact the PR Commissioner. Assigned *board member: Milo Reinmöller* 

#### Treasury Committee (Kasco)

The committee consists of Roemer Hinlopen, Yoeri van Hal and Willeke Knottnerus.

The treasury committee ensures that the association is acting correctly financially and is in financial-administrative order. To help fulfil this goal, they also give financial advice for the treasures. Assigned board member: Marie Peeters

#### Website Committee (Webcie)

Currently, the committee consists of Mitchell Boesveld and Fouad Lamsettef.

The Website Committee maintains the association's Wordpress Website. Assigned board member: Nikky Kuil

#### Advisory Committee

The advisory committee consists of Max Meijers, Yoeri van Hal, Aldwin Ransijn and Seray van Montfort.

The advisory committee assists the board with solicited and unsolicited advice. The board will inform the advisory committee whenever there is something going within the association that is of interest to them, and vice versa. When a member of the Boosters has comments on, or remarks about the board, they can approach the board directly, or if this is for some reason not optimal, the member can instead contact the Advisory Committee which then resolved the problem with the board. Assigned board member: Ivo van de Geijn

## 2.3 Objectives

With regard to the internal structure of the association, we have the following objectives and plans in the coming board year:

- 1. Now that we have a five person board, where each member has a certain committee assigned to them, we hope that the relationship and communication with the committees should be easier and more efficient. The board will have weekly meetings, where they can discuss what is happening with the committees. By dividing it over the board members, we also divide the workload of the committees, so that not one of the board members is overloaded by information from all the committees. This way, the board knows more about what committees are doing and the board can make sure that activities, tournaments and other events are not all planned in the same week(s).
- 2. We want to improve the promotion of social activities and tournaments. By doing this, we hope to boost (ha ha) the morale and engagement with members, not just at the squash courts. The new PR commissioner will be responsible for the promotion of aforementioned social activities and tournaments on different platforms such as Whatsapp, Instagram, e-mail and the website.
- 3. We want to encourage more people to join activities. This we would achieve by making a year plan as a guideline for committees to plan their activities. This will prevent clustering of different events, for example tournaments organised during exam weeks or Accie activities organised during external tournaments. Secondly, members will get an extra reminder of events via the newsletter (e-mail).
- 4. We want to bring the Boosters Weekend back. This board year, together with the Accie, we will organise a fun weekend full of activities in and around Nijmegen around April. But the board will also schedule and book the next Boosters Weekend, next year at the beginning of the board year. During the upcoming year, the board will look out for members that are interested in helping organise the Boosters Weekend.

# 3. Squash/Sport

#### 3.1 Court times

In this section we set out our proposal for the association's court times and how they will be used. Members of our association will continue to sign up for training and open court slots via our website. We would like to continue a change initiated by the previous committee: members can cancel their slots by 10:00 am on the morning of the session at the latest, and if they cancel they must inform the other members via group chat (Whatsapp). Failure to do so will result in penalties. The penalties are as follows: 1st offence: warning; 2nd offence: 1 week suspension (no participation in training or club evenings); 3rd offence: 2 weeks suspension; 4th offence: 3 weeks suspension, and so on.

### 3.1.1 Training times

Currently, members of our association can sign up for training sessions at four weekly slots, as shown below. Please note that these Monday sessions only take place on the first and third week of the month. The schedules for the second, fourth and possible fifth Mondays are described further below.

- Monday (technical training, focus on the technique and different types of shots)
  - 19:00 20:05 (basic)

- 20:05 21:10 (advanced)
- Wednesday (competition training, focus on the game)
  - 19:00 20:15
  - 20:15 21:30

Monday training sessions are organised by the trainers of our association. The earlier slot (19:00-20:05) should enable players to practise the basic squash techniques. Therefore, beginner to immediate players will particularly benefit from these sessions. The later slot (20:05-21:10) should address more advanced technical aspects of the game. This session will be of particular benefit to more experienced players. However, all members of the club are free to sign up for either slot.

It is important to note that the basic training (1st slot on Mondays) is held in principle every Monday, whereas advanced training sessions (2nd slot on Mondays) will only take place every 1st and 3rd Monday per month. On the 2nd Monday, instead of the advanced training session, there will be an open club evening, where students who are not yet members of the Boosters, as well as members of our club, can play freely. On the 4th Monday a special squash related activity may be planned by the TC, such as the double clinic. This could also be a regular open club evening. On the 5th Monday, there will usually be a One Night Tournament (ONT) (see §3.2.1.2, for details). Note that ONTs may also be held on other days.

Wednesday training is organised by a coach from the RSC. Unfortunately, our esteemed current coach, Bas Hinten, will be leaving the RSC in March 2025. It is our aim that a suitable replacement will be found through collaboration between the Board, RSC, TC and Bas Hinten. Registration for Wednesday training is open to all members. However, priority will be given to competition members by allowing them to sign up four weeks in advance. Regular members can only register five days in advance.

### 3.1.2 Open court times

In addition to the training sessions, the association will continue to provide court times for free play of our members. Currently, the following slots are available for open play or other squash activities such as tournaments, clinics or tosses:

- Mondays
  - 21:10 22:15
- Fridays
  - 20:00 21:30

We also want to encourage more of our members to play at weekends. We will therefore set up structures to help members find a partner to play with and organise themselves. For example, weekly Google spreadsheets could be created in which members indicate the times they would like to play at the weekend. Or a new group could be created within our Whatsapp community with the purpose of organising weekend games.

### 3.2 Competition

#### 3.2.1 Internal competition

#### 3.2.1.1 Ladder competition

Our aim is to reactivate the internal ladder competition. In this competition, players will freely arrange games against two players in their league over a period of about three weeks. Based on the results, players will be promoted, retained or relegated from their leagues to play against new players in the next round. This type of competition allows members to play and get to know other players in the association. The organisation of the ladder competition is the responsibility of the TC.

Alternatively, we're looking into the possibility of taking part in a larger ladder competition organised by the RSC and a representative of the app 'Clubladder'. In this competition, members of our association could play against students from outside the association. This option would have the advantage of including a larger pool of players, making it less likely to play against the same players again and again. This could also be a new way to recruit new students to our association.

#### 3.2.1.2 One-night-tournaments (ONTs)

One-night tournaments are usually held on the 5th Monday of each month. Players will play against players of approximately the same level. Depending on the number of participants, winners will be determined in roughly three categories. The organisation of the ONT is the responsibility of the Technical Committee (TC).

#### 3.2.2 External competition

Our aim is to hold three tournaments a year, open to both members and non-members of the Association. The Tournament Committee is responsible for organising these tournaments.

We want to continue to offer members of our association the opportunity to play competitive squash against players from other cities. While this year four teams represented our club in the Kleine Kompetitie, we would like to explore the possibility of joining the Sunday competition of the Dutch Squash Association (SBN) in the Region East. This competition would allow our players to play in different cities compared to previous years and to play on Sundays instead of Friday evenings, which seems to be preferable for many members. However, there are serious concerns about the financial feasibility of joining the Sunday competition. These two options will be discussed in the coming weeks.

Irrespective of the competition to be entered, it is our aim to register teams of different squash levels in order to provide competitive play for all members. From all members who are interested in playing in the external competition, the TC and the Squash Commissioner will form teams with each team being led by a captain. Once these teams have been formed, the captains and the TC will discuss achievable goals for the season.

### 3.3 Squash level ranking

We consider it important to establish a more transparent process of determining the squash levels of members in our association. In cooperation with our trainers, the trainer of the RSC and the TC, we aim to create criteria defining the characteristics of players for each level. The coaches and the TC should then use these criteria to update the levels of the members on set dates. One evaluation of members' rankings should take place at the end of October when new members are integrated. The other should preferably take place about six months later (April).

### 3.4 Trainer Compensation

Last year, for the first time, a budget was allocated for the compensation of the Boosters' trainers. We will continue to settle and pay this compensation once a year at the end of the academic year.

### 4. Association

Last year, the Boosters welcomed a significant number of new members. We hope to continue this trend. It is of importance to attract new members to keep the trainers compensation, to keep the third hardheidsclausule and to make an appeal for more court time at the RSC. To ensure new members joining, we plan to hold an introduction period during September and October, in which interested students can join open trainings, tosses and tournaments. Like other years, we will also be present during the official Radboud introduction at the sports days and the introduction market. Additionally, to attract new members, enhancing the visibility of the Boosters through improved PR strategies is also a priority (see below).

The 36th board set a goal to attract more international students. As a board consisting of not only Dutch, but also international students, we evidently strive to continue providing promotion material and information in English, as well as the policy plan, general board meetings and other activities.

### 4.1 Social character

As a board, we want to continue promoting the social character of the association inside and outside of the squash courts. To do this, we plan to keep the monthly drinks going, in addition to a monthly activity, spontaneous drinks at the Yard after training, a new member activity and an active member activity. To encourage attendance throughout the year, we aim to implement to following:

- Ensure that all activities and events are well-promoted (in time and visible) (see below).
- With regard to the monthly drinks, we want to provide additional incentives, such as a multiple-ride ticket (the Dutch equivalent of a 'strippenkaart').
- We believe a weekend activity early on in the academic year is an excellent bonding activity. Although it is not feasible to organise one in September for the upcoming academic year (2024/2025) on such short notice, we will plan a weekend filled with activities in and around Nijmegen in April. To ensure an early weekend activity is possible next year, the current board will determine the date and arrange the location

for the following academic year (2025/2026). A weekend committee will be established at the start of the second semester to organise the event content-wise.

### 4.2 General members meeting

Like other years, attendance at the general member meeting remains a challenge. The board intends to increase promotion and stress the importance of members' active involvement.

### 4.3 Promotion, visibility and internal communication

Last year good improvements were made to attract new members and organise a set of diverse activities. To ensure that information about squash-related and non-squash related matters is accessible and visible to all (potential) members, we have decided to make one of the board members responsible for PR and internal communication. The PR Commissioner is primarily concerned with:

- attracting new members, the goal is to improve visibility by actively managing the Boosters Instagram page, the website and on-site promotion materials such as QRcodes at the squash courts.
- improving internal communication, the aim is to actively promote all activities, squash-related events and tournaments through various online platforms, namely the WhatsApp community, Instagram and email.
- Launching new club-clothing, ideally presenting it around December and distributing it in January/February. As many members were unaware of the existence of club-clothing in the past years, we will increase promotion of these clothes.
- Collaborating with the Nijmeegse Studenten Sport Raad (NSSR) to promote open events and activities to a broader audience.

### 4.4 Squash Commissioner

As the Boosters deals with multiple parties in regard to squash, (e.g., RSC-trainer, Booster-trainers, technical committee, the RSC), the 37th deems it fit to assign the communication and organisation of all squash-related matters to one board member primarily. This so-called Squash Commissioner will function to streamline the communication among the different parties, maintain oversight and coordinate the squash sport more effectively. Consequently, the squash commissioner maintains direct communication with the head-trainer of the RSC (Bas) and Yoeri (TC).

# 5. Finances

Currently, the association is in a healthy financial state. Last year, the budget was designed to incur a loss of around one thousand euros because profits had been made in previous years. However, the actual loss was less than the budgeted thousand euros. This is one of the reasons why this year's budget also anticipates a loss of around €800,-. See for further specifications the Explanation of the Budget and the Budget 2024-2025 documents.

# 5.1 Trainer Compensation

Last year, for the first time, a budget was allocated for the compensation of the Boosters' trainers. We will continue to settle and pay this compensation once a year at the end of the academic year.