

Squash BOP Interclub Survey 2019 - Summary of Responses

Issue	Trend	Suggested Outcome
Juniors Playing Interclub	Slightly more positive than negative around letting juniors play	Status quo - 1-2 juniors per team maximum. Juniors to participate off court as a team member.
Travel time	Split down the middle	Status quo - neutral venues for travel over 90 mins. Teams can negotiate home and away between themselves
Shorter competition	Pretty much split between 6 weeks and longer	This year stick with 11 weeks for the next round, then 6 weeks for spring as scheduled.
Earlier start	Players slightly in favour of earlier start, clubs prefer 7pm	Go back to 7pm. Some clubs are not happy with earlier start due to pressure on courts, and the feedback wasn't overwhelming for the early start.
BPL	In favour of removing BPL	Leave BPL out for next round. We still have an issue with not many top women playing womens interclub, but the mens side is working well
Supper	5% - get rid of supper. 55% - keep communal supper. 12% - nibbles only. 20% eat supper with opposition only	Status quo - communal supper, but teams can organise their own thing if they prefer

Some of the feedback:

"Teams playing at neutral venues need to assist with cooking and cleaning up and not leave it to the host club only."

"I am all for the juniors to be playing but do need to be reminded about interclub etiquette eg. Supporting your team, be on time, playing away games etc (Some seniors also fall into this category so not just picking on juniors)"

"I think the bonding that happens after games with supper is awesome but the down fall is the lateness. Having the nibbles option would be ideal"

"I would like to see the womens interclub played on a wednesday night. Mums especially dont play because then they have the rest of the week to get through. If it was wednesday you would only have 2 days to get through and more women might play."

"I personally enjoy the way it is run, responsiveness of BOP squash and the event in general."

"Think it is great the way it is. Maybe try and more eastern bay teams in as they do their own league. Maybe approach them to encourage more teams to enter interclub."

"Would you consider smaller teams such as 3 in a team like the ladies did in Auckland. Apparently it's great because nights aren't as long and the points are closer together so better games."

"Some Junior players are lovely and are a real part of the teams, others look like they'd rather be somewhere else and spend most of the evening on their phones and struggle to even make conversation or even say 'Hello'. It seems like some are there just to get points and not really part-take in what interclub is all about."

"With all our team living out of town, we struggled with the 6.30pm start time, especially if travelling as it didn't really allow partners time to get home from work to mind the children. "

"We enjoy eating and socialising with all of the teams at the neutral venues. Teams should negotiate ahead of matches their preferences for meals or nibbles, and discuss start times as 7 is not realistic for us clubs who are 1-2 hours travel from other BOP Clubs."

"I think we should stick with home & away, for the clubs further away it allows them to be "at home", plus have the revenue of a few drinks afterwards & they always put on a fantastic spread for supper"

"6 week is quick and fine if you are playing round robin as we are, but feel like if you are playing a different team each week you do not make the same kind of connections as you do when you see the "same" team more than once. This may just be a personal opinion especially being new to the area."

"6 weeks is too short. Considering we are 3 out of our 4 teams are unable to enter the winter interclub, it has made it into a short playing season for our members"

"It's probably easier for BOP squash to organise a 10 week Home and Away draw than have to re-do the draw every 6 weeks."

"the 6.30 start wasn't good for us as a club, it cuts into our 6pm bookings which go to 6.45pm. A lot of our members play the 6pm slot and don't think that the half hour earlier start makes that much difference, especially when some clubs have to travel a distance that makes it impossible for them to reach their destination on time."

"The change to 6 weeks made no difference to our team/player numbers as we had the same "

"Thoroughly enjoy interclub all in all."

"I would like to see a mix grades in one team e.g. b1 c1 d1 e1 / b2 c2 d1 e1 etc but I think that idea went down like a lead balloon."

"It's a great asset for the sport and should stay. Juniors being involved is ok but needs to be limited."

"Two 11-12 week competitions to give everyone a Home & away option is better than 2 short comps & 1 main winter comp"

