

NEWSLETTER : February 2016

FROM THE PRESIDENT...



It has been a busy few months for your committee. Having accepted that Tennis Canterbury Region Incorporated (TCRI) will not be relocating to our facility we were then faced with two other issues of importance to the future of the club.

First is TCRI's proposal to change the present affiliation fee model which is based on numbers of members to one based on the number of courts. With our 28 courts, should the proposal be implemented, our affiliation fees will increase substantially. Following a survey of clubs to determine the support for the changed model it seems TCRI will be further developing the model which will be implemented in an as yet not defined form. We will be working with TCRI to obtain the best possible outcome for the club. It is our aim to ensure the club remains sustainable.

The second issue is a proposal to form by way of a Trust a combined "North Hagley Sports" grouping. This would involve Tennis, High School Old Boys Rugby, Croquet and Petanque initially with the possibility other clubs may join at a later date. The expressed purpose of the grouping is to foster the interests of each member club by acting together while retaining the autonomy of each club. To date there have been expressions of willingness to proceed but no details of procedure or timing have been decided.

Our 41st Annual Veterans' (now called Seniors') Tournament held on the 30th and 31st of January 2016 was very successful with 105 players participating and a good financial return to the club. Of note was the standard of players in both the Men's and Women's A grade sections. These included a number of players from the Premier Interclub Competition and resulted in some excellent hard fought matches.

My thanks go to those who helped with the tournament and in particular to Michelle Kelsen (kitchen), Michael Ross (refreshments), Christine Yap (raffle, draw and prizes), Frank Tay (tournament control) and Merv Cronin who started everything off and then went to Australia to some other tournament.

We will be having working bees to top-dress two rows of courts in late March or early April over two Saturday mornings. To do this efficiently we need 12 to 15 members to come along and spread the top soil. Details of the dates will be announced when they are finalised and I will be seeking your help with this essential activity.

It is in the best interests of any club that an office holder does not retain the position too long. I am completing my seventh year as your president with the feeling that a use-by-date is fast approaching. It is my intention to seek the office of Immediate Past President for the 2016-2017 year thus giving the opportunity for a new and enthusiastic approach to the club's business. In the meantime I will continue to work on your behalf and thus in the interests of the club.

Alex Sutherland, President

Play Tennis, Get Fit, Have Fun!



CLUB BBQ

March 9th
Tennis from 6-8 followed by BBQ and drinks
Support your club events,
See you there!

Social Tennis

- **Friday Night Social Tennis & Sausage Sizzle.** Keep the occasional Friday night spare for some Social Tennis and Sausage Sizzle (SS). Advice will be via email with notice of a couple of days – to ensure good weather.
- **Wednesday night social tennis** from 6-8pm, organised by our resident coach Mark Belcher.
- **Thursday night group coaching.** Adult beginners at 5.30pm followed by adult intermediate level at 7pm. There is a fee payable to Mark for the group coaching.
- **Saturday afternoon** – we have our members' day. Hit off from 1pm with a cuppa around 3.30 then play on after that if you wish.
- There's also an assortment of players who turn up for some relaxed, casual **Sunday afternoon tennis from 1pm** and they welcome anyone to join them for a hit.

JUNIOR TENNIS – Janine Tyler

8 teams have been entered in the Junior Interclub section this season.

We have 3 Challenger Teams (2 boys and 1 girls) competing, playing sets, in the top section and 5 other age group teams.

These teams have coaching once a week with Mark and then play either on a Friday or Saturday morning. Numbers have been down this year so some teams have struggled with having enough players for all games, but we hope to improve on this as the season continues.

The 2 Boys Challenger Teams, and Boys 12s Div 1 are in the running at this stage to make the Finals play-off which is an achievement the club can feel proud of.

Saturday Morning Coaching is continuing for those new to tennis and Mark is reporting improving numbers so this bodes well for the future.

CLUB CHAMPS REPORT – Tim Preston

The senior club champs were successfully completed as planned over Waitangi weekend. Entries were pleasing with 13 men and 5 women involved although we are always encouraging more entries. Thanks to Bryce Thomson for making good even numbers in the men's singles draw. Honourable mention goes to Christoph Bergmann for winning the men's singles plate after winning two close matches.

The seedings proved accurate with top seeds winning all draws. Notable results were the women's doubles final being an "all Div One women's team" affair with Christine and Sara proving too strong for Linda and Vicky. Matt Sunderland showed he is still too old, wise and/or persistent for the younger talent Jamie Garbett in winning the men's singles title, (although Jamie had some consolation revenge in the doubles final). Christine had a similar experience beating Linda Buss in the women's final. Congratulations also to Jamie Garbett and Tim Preston for

the men's doubles title and Matt and Christine taking out the mixed doubles, which also saw Christine picking up a rare 'triple crown' for her efforts.

We had some interest from junior players but too few to make up a contest. We are still interested to run junior club champs and please give any feedback or suggestions on that to Janine Tyler or Mark Belcher. Spectator interest was somewhat disappointing given the calibre of the matches. The committee have recorded their thanks to organisers Tim and Christine.

Extra Club Champs Report – Bryce Thomson

A big thank you to Tim Preston for getting this event to completion.

Winners were as follows:

- Women's singles Christine Yap beat Linda Buss 6-1 6-2
- Men's singles Matt Sunderland beat Jamie Garbett 6-4 6-4
- Mixed doubles Matt Sunderland and Christine Yap beat James & Vicki Clark 6-4 6-4
- Men's doubles Tim Preston & Jamie Garbett beat Steve Brookman & Matt Sunderland 6-2 6-2
- Women's doubles Christine Yap & Sara Broglio beat Linda Buss & Vicki Clark 6-2 6-3

FINANCE

While the club's financial situation remains less than secure, efforts of the committee and club members have resulted in several positive points.

Firstly in response to request we received donations from club members totally approximately the significant cost of the new line marker purchase - this speaks volumes to the commitment our members have to the success of the club and the committee have been greatly encouraged by this result.

Our tireless President has renegotiated agreements with both Christ's College and our grounds manager to significantly increase our income and reduce our costs. This was difficult for Dave and we all should share our gratitude to Dave for accommodating this necessary change of circumstances.

We have had significant success with funding applications this season with more 'in play'. If we see further success in this area we can expect to declare a positive end of year financial outcome which will be the first in several years and the a substantial turnaround on last year.

The committee have also thanked Janine for unprecedented success in collection of subs, clarified reporting and budget forecasting to name a few of many areas which she has improved on in her tenure as treasurer.

INTERCLUB – Bryce Thomson

The shining light in interclub is our Div Two Women who are currently third and should make the semi-finals. All other teams are fighting out bottom positions.

HOUSE KEEPING MATTERS

Parking next to the volley board is intended only for when there are no spaces available in the public parking lot. Recently this has been abused and as a result limited the use that can be made of the volley board by members and visitors.

Please check the public parking lot before you take advantage of the club's current policy which will be changed if the abuse continues.

It would be a help if all who used the club parking closed the gate as she/he left even if others are still obstructing the volley board. This would serve to remind them to also shut the gate.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

COACHES REPORT – Mark

Juniors- FRIDAY BBQ- Parents and juniors remember our weekly BBQ from 4:30-6pm Kids play from 4:30-5:30 then have a drink and sausage, parents welcome to have a hit or an end of the week drink while the kids play.

Jamie Garbett- Congratulations to Jamie who recently gained a world junior ranking, quite an achievement at just 14 years old. This was achieved by reaching the last 16 of an ITF tournament recently here in Christchurch.

Parent /child fun tournament- start putting your names forward to me now for a fun/fundraiser parent child tournament, kids grab a parent, if you can't drag out a parent I'm sure an uncle, older sister brother will do :) Watch this space for details but be ready to play and have some fun at the end of the season.



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