



February 2016

The Player

Wembley Downs Tennis Club Inc.

From the President – *John Pritchard*

Greetings

I have seen and spoken to a large number of members since the New Year, but to those who I have not seen, particularly the mid-week players and Juniors, I hope you had a wonderful break over the holiday period. I wish you all a wonderful, tennis filled and prosperous year at WDTA. May all your plans come to fruition and your wishes be granted!

Growing Our “Magnetic” Club

Let us commence 2016 by growing our club.

It is a fact! A number of sporting clubs battle for survival with dwindling numbers and a handful of volunteers. At WDTA we are fortunate in that we appear to have the right “mix” but we should never be complacent. It is incumbent on every Junior, mid-week and full playing member to be vigilant and help minimise turnover and attract new members. Don’t leave it all to Management. We are one big TEAM!

WDTA should be “one big magnetic” club – one that attracts and retains members, people who wish to be a part of the best club and enjoy the five components we offer. We need to strive to build this magnetism. Building such magnetism requires common values, firm but consultative leaders, conscientious and committed volunteers and an extraordinary level of respect for the members you work and play with. There is no room for “back biting” or “sniping”, but there is for constructive criticism and advice.

Our new year’s resolution must be to “grow” the club with quality members who have the best interests of WDTA at heart. Let’s strive to be “magnetic” in everything we do. Let’s DO IT.

Survey

Management is in the process of finalising a new strategic plan to guide us through the next five years. To assist Management in its decision making we have prepared a survey which I ask every individual member to complete when it is issued. We need to plan for additional revenue, possible conversion of grass courts to a different playing service, increasing membership, offering more playing time etc. Where husbands and wives are both members please each complete the survey. Parents of juniors please sit with your child or children and seek their views and assist them in filling out the form.

PLEASE return your survey by no later than 15 March.

THE 2016 ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS ARE COMING.....

WDTA will again be selling the popular Entertainment Books this year. If you like saving money these books are a must. They make excellent presents and can also be shared amongst family members. Please think about how many you and your friends would like. The more the Club sells, the more the Club makes! The President will be coordinating sales again this year, so get in early.

VALE: DARREN TANDY
(12/05/1967 – 24/12/2015)



Darren joined WDTC as an eight year old junior in 1975 and soon excelled in the sport. Within a few years he was playing Junior league and as a teenager played Junior State tennis. He became a regular member of the Junior State Tennis Programme and represented WA as a member of the Pizzey Cup Team. Darren was one of the first and youngest candidates to complete his tennis coaching accreditation levels.

In 1986 he was appointed Club coach at Wanneroo Tennis Club. This was the first of many coaching appointments throughout his short life.

Darren's international career began in 1988 when he travelled to Germany as an "import club tennis competition player" and during the season undertook some coaching. This continued for several seasons as he coached, assisted and introduced many prominent local players to overseas competitions and clubs.

1992 was his first venture into the ATP Tour. Darren teamed up with James Sekulov and Andrew Ille as coach and manager on the European leg of the tour. (Darren had previously coached James in Perth from a very young age until he was accepted into the AIS where he rose to a Junior World Ranking of No.2). Darren's ATP touring as a coach continued in 2011 when he teamed with another WDTC member, Matt Ebden, as Matt's coach. He remained as Matt's coach on and off at major events up to the US Open last year when he suffered his stroke.

In 2000 Darren became coach of the Floreat Park Tennis Club, a position he held for a number of years.

For some 35 years Darren retained his association and membership with WDTC. He represented the Club at State League for several years and assisted in forming many of our teams including the Club's first State League team.

Darren was a well known and highly respected player, coach and mentor to many players throughout the tennis world. I am sure I speak for a number of us in the Club and many outside of the Club; he will be sorely missed. May you rest in peace, Darren.

John Pritchard
President



At the end of the home and away season the Properties & Pathways WDTTC Mens' State League team has finished 2nd on the Ladder narrowly missing top spot to Cottesloe by a couple of points. This means that we host a semi-final on **Saturday 12th March 2016** against Hensman Park Tennis Club.

Our last match was away against Mt Lawley the team of Jake Robinson, Sam Ashenden, Dean Cochrane, Darren Slater and Charles Williams won 5 rubbers to 1. Unfortunately the match that was lost was Sam Ashenden's singles. This was Sam's only singles rubber loss during the season. He's sure to be fired up for the semi-final.

The team was well supported at this match by Simsie, Blackie and Prichie.

Everyone is invited to come and cheer on the team for their semi-final match **Saturday 12th March** starting at **12:30pm**. The team will be using 2 courts due to the Division 1 Men, Ladies Division 3 and Mens Division 10 team's also contesting finals on that day.

In addition to the tennis, we will be selling pizza slices from 5:00pm from one of our sponsors, Hugo's Pizzas City Beach.

Go Wembley Downs Tennis Club!!!

Peter Doherty

Chair State League Committee

Captain's Room – Mike Underwood

2016 is flying along it is February and January seemed to be over way too soon. Before I cover more positive matters I have noticed an increase in negative communication incidents around the club over the last few weeks. Not sure if this due to the time of year, higher temperatures or perhaps we can blame it on a bad market. From my side it is not about who is right or wrong it is the way we go about the communication. So let's aim to treat all members with respect and make sure we don't embarrass anyone in front of other people. Secondly can I remind spectators/league players not to get involved in a dispute on another court. Our objective is always to encourage players to resolve their differences without intervention.

Summer League

It has been a very positive summer league season so far with 9 of our senior weekend and midweek teams well placed in the top 4. And in the first week of finals (weekend semis 12/3/2016 12.30 pm start) we will have all 4 grass court teams playing at home which will be State League, Mens Div 1, Ladies Div 3 and Mens Div 10. The midweek teams will start finals a week later.

Success should not just be measured by teams in finals. I have been really pleased with the development of some of our new teams (quite a few playing senior tennis for the first time), the cooperation between midweek and weekend teams, the good spirit demonstrated by all of our players, the support of teams by all members and parents and despite some challenges with the new Tennis Australia systems/ratings the perseverance of all captains and players. We have repeatedly raised our concerns regarding these changes with Tennis West and we are hopeful some progress can be made after the end of the season. Particularly with making sure there is an effective ratings review process that accurately reflects the player's improvement (this is critical to our young developing members).

Winter League (*Expressions of Interest Due By Wednesday the 16th March 2016*)

All members who are keen to play winter league please contact Susanna (susanna.monaco@bigpond.com) for Ladies midweek or weekend league and myself (michael.underwood@metrecruitment.com.au) for Mens midweek or weekend league by Wednesday the 16th March. The season will commence on the 30th April.

League options will be pretty much the same as summer league and I am hoping Tennis West will provide some incentives and more options for Sunday League so anyone open to playing on Sunday please let us know.

Club Champs

The quality of this year's club champs will be outstanding. This year we are trying something a little different with a qualification tournament commencing on the **19th March** (we will accommodate league players playing in finals this weekend) and the seeded tournament being played on the **2nd & 3rd April**. The qualification tournament will be the equivalent of a second division however the winners will progress through to the seeded tournament as well as receiving prizes at the annual dinner. All players will only be able to contest two events due to time constraints and if any seeded players need a partner for mixed, please let me know. As a guideline seeded players will be any league player who plays regularly in Mens Div 2 or above, Boys Junior State League and Ladies Div 1 (numbers of entries will also be a factor). The vets tournament will be held on the 9th & 10th of April.

The Entry form has been sent as a separate email to all members. Copies may also be found in the Day Captains office and the club lounge. If you are confused (understandable) please contact me to clarify. If all members can pay their entry fees on-line prior to the events, that will be appreciated.

Our Social Committee will be running a function to coincide with Club Champs finals on the 3rd April so it should be a fantastic afternoon and evening and the best tennis you will see anywhere in Perth!

Our Players in Competition

Our players all performed very well in tournaments over the xmas and new year period. Some highlights include the following:

- Brenton Bacon came close to winning a wildcard in the mixed event to the Australian Open.

- Tristan Schoolkate was runner/up in his age event at the Australian National Championship in Melbourne and won the doubles final.
- Will Hann won the Commit Award and Tristin Schoolkate the Respect Award for their fantastic attitudes during the event.
- Rafe Bonini made the final of the Mount Lawley Tournament and won the doubles. Reached the semis of the Midland Tournament and the finals of doubles.
- Tom Hann made the semis of the Mount Lawley Tournament and won the Gold Tournament in the under 16 division.

Please contact me to let me know any other significant tennis achievements and I look forward to hearing back on how everyone went with tournaments this long weekend.

National Vets Championships (By our Roving Vet Bobbie Edwards)

The 2016 Australian Senior Tennis Championships were held at Shepparton Victoria. The first week from Jan 10th to the 17th was the teams week. Teams were in age groups and played doubles against the other states. All matches were on grass courts. Unfortunately a little play was lost due to 41 degree heat followed by rain. Linda Campbell a WDTC country member from Esperance played in the ladies 35/45 WA team. Other Wembley Downs ladies who competed were Rosie Harris and Gaye Hawthorn. There were no ladies teams that won medals. Max Purdys team won the mens 70 div 2. Kevin Hardiman Gary Booth and Ian Thomas were some of the members in this team. Great effort. WA also won the men's 55's and 65's age groups. The individual events were from 17 to 22 January. Singles doubles and mixed doubles were played. A few WA men did well and won medals. (Alan Gooch Henry Michael, Rob Prouse and Rob Murton.)There were no WDTC men who played in the individual events. The only WDTC participant was Bobbie Edwards who was defeated in the ladies 75 singles final by Mary Gordon from NSW.

Photos of the Vets event can be found in the Vetscene magazine which is on the competitions noticeboard in the club lounge.

SIMPLY THE BEST!

Members – Mark Sims

A big, warm, welcome to the following new members –

Full: Sinan Yahya, Eugene Ivanov, Bernhard Haring, Martina Hofer, Brendan Ragus, Robert Jackson,

Tim Kelleher (FIFO)

Intermediate: Dmitry Ivanov, James Haas

Junior: Frederik Haring, Miss Kelleher

Honorary Member: Matt Ebden



Everyone is invited to the **“The Best BBQ in the West”** on the Sunday 3rd April, at the finish of the Club Championships, when we will have the opportunity to watch some top tennis followed by a fantastic BBQ and scrumptious dessert.

The BBQ will commence at 6.00pm and the cost is \$20.00 per person!

List is on the Club notice board – please get your name down ASAP and payment to Meg Simpson by before 30th March!

Many Happy Returns!

January/ February must have been a good months with Dennis Gillespie, Nando, Margaret Robinson, Nigel and the President all-enjoying birthdays. Congratulations and make the most of your tennis.



Juniors – Louise Hall

League update for Juniors

Congratulations to all the Junior teams who are through to the semi finals. There are 10 of 14 junior teams through to the semis. These will be played on Sunday March 13.

Junior Club Champs

Entry forms are now available for the Junior club champs to be held on April 1st and 3rd. Matches will be played from Friday 1st at 4pm and on Sunday 3rd at 8.30am.

Many of our Juniors had some wonderful results at tournaments during the holidays- many congratulations to Kent Yamazaki who won both the Applecross Gold and South Perth Gold U 12 singles.

Global Tennis – Joe McCarthy & Brenton Bacon



Global Tennis Perth based at Wembley Downs Tennis Club will be undertaking the first college recruitment trip this March in California, USA. Both directors, Brenton Bacon and Joe McCarthy, will be taking twenty of the states finest players and look at successfully matching their athletes with colleges for next year.

Global Tennis looks to add to their already successful coaching profile over in the states. Three of their best players from last year have all been matched with division one colleges and have all gained substantial scholarships.

There will be two other regional coaches joining the team – David Kerr of Albany Tennis Academy and Jarron Kretschmann of Sun City Tennis Academy who will be there to help.

In total 8 schools throughout the California region have been targeted for the two week trip. Due to the different standards of players on this trip the team have targeted several different level colleges – Division One, Two and Three. This will be beneficial in making sure that all members on the trip are given the best opportunity to be seen and recruited.

For further information regarding high performance coaching or college information, please visit our website www.globaltennis.com.au

Kind Regards,

Brenton Bacon and Joe McCarthy

Doubles Tip - "The Non-Hitter's Role"

Did you know that what you do while your partner is hitting the ball can determine if your team is going to win the match?

If you are standing and watching your partner hit the shot, you are not influencing the game. On the other hand if while the ball is travelling to your tennis partner, you are correctly moving to attack or defend your tennis partner's weakest shot then you are understanding the movement. This will greatly improve your teams chance to win the matches.

Cheers,

Brenton

Joe McCarthy

Director of Global Tennis.

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www.globaltennis.com.au



Members Out and About



On Saturday 6th February, in a picturesque setting down South, our Coach Brenton Bacon married Amy McAllister!

From us all at Wembley Downs Tennis Club we wish you a long, happy and prosperous life together!

Peter Doherty was spotted, working hard at the Hopman Cup!



On the 19th December 2015 our Prez, John Pritchard presented Matt Ebden with his honorary membership!



Upcoming Events – please mark them on your Calendar!

SATURDAY 19TH MARCH 2016 – COMMENCEMENT OF CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

SUNDAY 3rd APRIL 2016 – “BEST BBQ IN THE WEST!”

WDTC Uniforms

All pennant players are expected to wear the shirts/tops with plain navy blue shorts/skirts or skorts.

Defibrillator



Please remember to check out the following link, which gives a short, 3-step demonstration on how to use the club's defibrillator (press Ctrl + click to follow link).

http://www.healthcare.philips.com/pwc_hc/main/shared/Assets/multimedia/flash/resuscitation/AED/HS1_onsite_demo/index.wpd

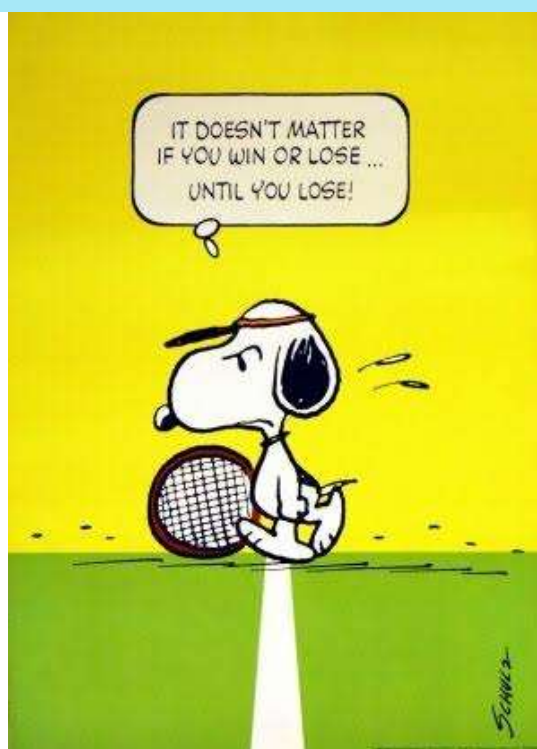
'Like' Wembley Downs Tennis Club and you'll see all the latest notifications, offers, photos and news! Your participation will encourage others and give our club exposure to possible new members. Thanks to those who have already checked in!



Quote of the month

DON'T PRACTICE UNTIL YOU GET IT RIGHT. PRACTICE UNTIL YOU CAN'T GET IT WRONG!

The Funny Side



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