

October 2014

The Player

Wembley Downs Tennis Club Inc.

From the President – John Pritchard

TEAMWORK!

Well, what a *hail* of a day we had on Open Day!

Not much tennis played but a great example of how members pitched in to make the afternoon and evening a wonderful success. The Hopman Cup was a bonus and the afternoon tea to die for. The test came with the hail. Mops, brooms and buckets appeared from nowhere as the water poured in to the Captain's room, lounge and hall. Our Club Captain & VP moved very quickly into the Captain's room to minimise any damage while buckets quickly appeared below leaks in the lounge.

Outside, David Drake & Chris George emptied the shade sails of ice while others swept it away. Where there was a need to help someone was there and all through the drama the Social Committee members continued their preparations for the BBQ. Nothing deterred them. Over at the bar JV and some helpers opened early and began serving followed soon after with some snacks. Come dinner time everything was back to normal. WELL DONE to everyone involved.

A club, like the game of tennis, is a team "sport." We have a collection of individuals who work together to accomplish a common goal. While the players contribute in varying degrees, no one person can produce a victory on his or her own. Each member of the team has a role; leading, coaching, helping, organising, supporting...sometimes in the spotlight, sometimes in the trenches.

We are a great Club with excellent facilities so let us keep it this way with everyone sharing the load. There is a role for all.



Members

A big, warm welcome to the following new members!

Midweek: Jordan Powell

Juniors: Daan Bosboom, Blake Fleay, Andrew Parker, Tim Del Borrello, Oliver Harmer, Zali Schoolkate, Brodie Schoolkate, Luca Bonini, Talia Gibson, Casey Tay, Ethan Cook, Arden Demelo, Nigel Lee, Tim Jacques, Shanae Haywood, Koby Haywood

Social: Henry Wood (affectionately known as “Woody”) Anita Heath

Pennant: Sue Volzke

Happy birthdays to Jan Hibbard, Rae Savage, John Venn and anyone else celebrating October birthdays!

Injured list

Last month, our Club doctor Gordon Kendall, whilst riding his bicycle down Ednah Street to WDTC to play tennis was attacked by a rabid dog. In taking evasive action he fell off the bike and broke his collar bone. We miss you Gordon and hope to see you soon.

Social Committee News – David Simpson

OPENING DAY

Thankyou to all who brought along a plate for afternoon tea and to my Committee for doing such a wonderful job in setting up and serving afternoon tea to everyone. The Social Committee then worked tirelessly to provide a sumptuous BBQ, salads and sweets which was enjoyed by everyone!

Terry Tinsley provided us with Music for the evening and the Theme of “We Are Everlastings” was well received. The decorations, with Nola’s expert advice, set the mood.

There was a great turn out with 77 people attending the dinner! *See photos at end of Player*

PRESIDENT’S COCKTAIL PARTY- Friday 7th November

President John, in the tradition of our Club, is hosting a Cocktail Party for all Management and Committee members, plus Life Members. If you haven’t confirmed your acceptance, please do so A.S.A.P. to assist the Social Committee in Catering.

CHILDREN’S XMAS PARTY- Saturday 13th December

We have arranged with Father Christmas to, once again, journey from the North Pole to WDTC at about 4.30pm on that day, loaded with presents for our children and grandchildren, followed by something for the Grown ups.

AUSTRALIA DAY BREAKFAST – Monday 26TH January 2015

The Committee has decided to hold an Australia Day Breakfast on Australia Day, Monday 26th Jan 2015. We anticipate Tournament Committee will organise some “Special Tennis” following the breakfast.

ST PATRICKS DAY – Saturday 14th March 2015

“Lambs on the Spit” on St Patricks Day, 14th March.

We anticipate Terry Tinsley will again, provide us with music.

House and Grounds - *Mark Sims*

I would like to extend a big thank you to all the enthusiastic volunteers who helped in the annual Busy Bee to make Club spick and span for the Opening Day. We would not have a club without your support.

There are too many names to mention individually, but I would like to extend a special thanks to those ladies who provided a wonderful morning tea (organised by Marnie); to Woody who had only joined the club the day before; to Gary Atkinson for lending his big trailer and to Bruce Maccas who helped me take the refuse for a fun packed trip (not!) to the Balcatta dump.

I would also like to extend a very big thanks to the small task force of the magnificent Marnie, the lovable Lorraine, Colonel John (the Pres), the ever reliable Keith Farley and the dependable Richard for helping to transfer unwanted junk, mainly from the hall storeroom and the ground-keeper's shed, to the verge for the Council collection.



Captain's Room – *Mike Underwood*

It was fantastic to see all of our league teams in action this weekend and all players looked very smart in their team uniforms. It really stands out when compared to our opposition where almost every single player had a different outfit. Well done to all players, team captains and Janet and Louise in giving up their time to allow members to try them on.



The standard of tennis was very good and watching Scott and Rafe slide around on the grass made my knees hurt. Midweek league also started this week with all teams very competitive as usual.

A big Wembley Downs welcome to Peter & Tristan Schoolkate who both debuted for the club on Saturday. Tristan also plays in our junior State League side on Sundays.

From the History Vault

Some members may be surprised to know the world no 29 Casey Dellacqua helped WDC win a womens State League Title in 2000. Team members were Stephanie Martin, Robyn Lamb and Nikki Sarginson. Tennis West records only go back to 2002 however it appears we had a womens State League team until 2004.

Etiquette Tip

Since I have been a member of the club I have seen some major conflicts escalate from very minor origins and this is both on and off the court. This is understandable as tennis can be an emotional game. Let's aim to get better at resolving our differences through endeavouring to understand the other person's perspective, keep communication channels open and don't take the issue personally or get personal. If none of this is working seek assistance to resolve the issue as soon as you can.

Handicap Tournament

Alan McLaughlin is running (and providing prizes) for our handicap events on the following dates. Just enter your name on the notice board (note the commencement times on the board for each event).

Singles – Sat Nov 1st

Mixed – Sat Nov 8th

Doubles – Sat Nov 15th

Player of the Month – *Tristan Schoolkate*

Our bio/interview this month is with Tristan Schoolkate

- Been playing since age 8.
- Currently ranked 3rd in age group in Australia and Number 1 in WA.
- Favourite player Jo Wilfred Tsonga.
- Favourite shot is between legs and has played in competition successfully.
- Tennis Strengths - forehand and net play.
- Areas to develop - overall strength and court mobility.
- Other sport played - water polo.



Mid-Week Ladies – Linda Townsend

We celebrated our opening day recently with a good turn out on the tennis courts and a delicious lunch afterwards. We were pleased to have John Pritchard join us for lunch. Beverley and Ann did a fantastic job organising the morning.



One of our members, Norma Henderson, has recently decided to hang up her tennis racket. She has played at the club for 46 years and we will miss her on the courts but we know that she will always come back to see us and bring a cake! She celebrated her 'retirement' recently with a morning tea kindly provided by herself, when she was presented with a bouquet of flowers.

Upcoming Events

Craft Day – 4th December

Christmas Lunch – 11th December

Juniors – Louise Hall

The following Juniors were presented with medals for the Winter League at the Junior Open Day on Friday October 24th.

Girls U16 Div 5

Anya Rajan, Ella Pastorino, Alexa Tran, Sophie Tran

Boys U14 Div 1

Gavin Tay, Alfredo Huamani, Alistair DeVroet, Guy Hall, Elliot Sylvester, Blair Sewell

Next Friday 31st October at 5 pm is the start of the Junior Ladder.

Please sign up with Joe if you would like to take part.

- Summer junior pennants kicked off well last Sunday with a packed house down at the club. We had 14 out of 18 teams on the weekend well done!
- Global Tennis is looking forward to welcoming a group of 10 Chinese players who are coming to Perth to take part in a 2 week training camp with Global Tennis.
- We have 5 players qualified for the Australian national championships so far with more to qualify in the coming weeks, Joe will be taking them all to the tournament in Melbourne in December.
- Our Men's drills class (Wednesday 700 pm) and Adult beginners class (Thursday 700 pm) are proving very popular so if your free on these nights come on down for a hit.
- Staff member Scott Webster has signed with a college in North Carolina, Scott will be playing tennis for the college on a 4 year deal.

Joe McCarthy

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WDTC Uniforms

The Club has available stocks of new WDTC white shirts and tops (in a variety of styles) in time for this summer season.

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

Bar – John Venn

Bar Price Increases

At the recent bar committee meeting it was agreed prices would be increased for liquor products sold at the club, to become effective from 1st November 2014. With the exception of VB 750ml bottles and a glass of wine, most other prices will increase by at least 50c subject to review of 2014 wholesale prices.

The decision has taken into account the need to keep prices to a level where ALL members can enjoy a wine and beer at a relatively low commercial price. WDTC members can enjoy the lowest priced drinks in WA, with the greatest range of products.

However, WDTC needs to maintain our bar price margins. Gone are the days where club membership fees were able to cover all of the club running costs. Since 2010 we have commenced a downward trend in both bar sales and membership. The bar profits nowadays provide a major contribution toward keeping the WDTC account bottom line in the black.

The bar committee extends our thanks to all our customers for their understanding and patronage.

Wine Appreciation

In recent times there has been more research conducted on just how “**Decanting**” changes the chemical composition of the wine. Wine has long been decanted to remove older wine from the sediment. Well, times have changed.

So which wines benefit from decanting? Basically all of them.

With the advent of the screw top, wines that most need to be decanted are the youngest. Reds of course, a yes! But get this - white wines also! The reasons are “**Chemical**”

The very act of decanted wine allows the wine to “breathe” as if the wine will inhale life-giving oxygen and exhale beautiful fragrance. In truth **Decanting** essentially allows the wine to “**Fart**” hence it smells better.

When wine is bottled up in an anaerobic environment, sulphur- which occurs naturally in both grapes and yeast- forms compounds called mercaptans. Some of the more noxious mercaptans smell like rotting cabbage or burnt rubber.

Even the milder mercaptans are potent enough to cover up the fresh fruit aromas you can expect to smell. These reductive compounds are excellent masking agents and can hide the positive characteristics of any wine.

Would you believe these compounds form in every wine, but they are particularly oppressive in lighter whites wines sealed with screw caps. Screw caps do not allow even tiny amounts of oxygen into the bottle that corks do.

So, to appreciate the real quality of the wine you are about to smell and taste, you would be best served by having your wine decanted.

Your favourite bar, down at the WDTG bar, now offers Red or White decanted wine.

Even better, you can now place your order for the “hyper-decanting” vessel now on sale at WDTG . What a great Christmas gift for those who love their wine.

Now, the last glass in bottle can taste equally as good as the first glass.

WDTG Annual Golf Classic – Jon Bowden

Twenty eight golfers in teams of four enjoyed a wonderful spring day at the Wembley Golf complex playing an Ambrose event. The range of talent was on display at the very start with a novelty event of hitting a golf ball nearest a flag placed eighty metres down the fairway. Everyone had to use the same “1950’s vintage” putter and in some cases the resulting shots were hilarious by just making it over the edge of the tee and others which wouldn’t stop and were perhaps better than the drives (there is photographic evidence). Mark Sims showed his expertise by narrowly winning by a “foot” from 2 other “close” shots which were 4 metres away from the flag.

The eventual winning team “Smooth Spinners” consisting of Jon Bowden, Dennis Gillespie, Chris George and Meg Simpson played a couple of “miraculous” shots more than other teams, and were separated by half a point from the second placed “Forehand Fugitives” team of Mark Sims, Harry Banfield, Peter Ding and Marion McGuire.

Longest Drives (Heroes) went to Jeff Wright and Jon Bowden, (Wannabes) to David Simpson, (30+) to Meg Simpson and Trevor Lusty, and Ladies to Wendy Greenway. Nearest the Pin shots were won by Lorraine Sims, Marion McGuire, Mark Sims and Dennis Gillespie.

It was a great day of golfing and bonding, followed by presentations and a sumptuous dinner prepared by last year’s winner – thanks Nola Carmignani. Next year the event promises to be a fantastic event and will be organised by the team of Jeff Wright, Gary Booth, Peter Doherty and Lorraine Sims for their outstanding performance on the day.

See photos at end of Player

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/main/products/resuscitation/products/onsite/demo.wpd>

Upcoming Events – please mark them on your Calendar!

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ST PATRICKS DAY – Saturday 14th March 2015

'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 day

Tennis is mostly mental. Of course, you must have a lot of physical skill, but you can't play tennis well and not be a good thinker. You win or lose the match before you even go out there!
Venus Williams

The Funny Side

Question: How do you make a tissue dance?

Answer: Put a little boogie in it!

Question: What did the femur say to the patella?

Answer: I kneed you!

Question: What did baby corn say to mama corn?

Answer: Where's Popcorn!

Question: What did Winnie the Pooh say to his agent?

Answer: Show me the honey!

Question: What did one elevator say to the other elevator?

Answer: I think I'm coming down with something!

Everlasting Opening Day Photo's - special thanks to Marco for taking photo's!

Before 4.00pm

After 4.00pm





WDTC Annual Golf Classic 2014 – thanks to JB for photo's!





WINNERS ARE GRINNERS!



THE LOSERS! (STILL SMILING!)



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