

27 July 2019

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2018-2019

Introduction

It has been another successful club year and I would like to thank all the executive committee members, our office manager, tennis coaches, bar, kitchen and busy bee helpers and all other staff and volunteers for their contributions in making it a success.

Many thanks go to Anna Thrumble for all her hard work in not only keeping the club ship shape but also all her additional efforts over and above the management role, in overseeing and helping to finish off the club revamp with smart furniture and fittings, making the bar fabulous, helping out at functions throughout the year, being the friendly interface with all our contractors, clients, visitors, sponsors, and also updating our Facebook page to keep us all up to date with the latest club information and tennis news. Thank you Anna, you do a remarkable job.

Thanks to each of our dedicated committee members who have volunteered their time over the past year to keep this club thriving:

- **Pam Bardetta** who took over the role of secretary and had some big shoes to fill and has done a fantastic job at all the committee meetings and well beyond that
- **David Le** who has been watching over the finances for us and been a great help in sorting out any accounting issues in MYOB
- **Suzanne Lucas** for her tireless work in not only looking out for the ladies but also in organizing and working in the kitchen at practically every event in the club calendar
- **Ben Cribb** for being a very efficient club captain and doing a great job at running the club championships earlier this year as well as the Thursday Singles Social Comp
- **David Buckoski** – our excellent junior coordinator who has taken responsibility for ensuring the junior pennants are running smoothly and has also helped with our events/tournaments and arranging relief cleaning
- **Daniel Triantopoulous** – our IT guru on the committee. Daniel has been instrumental in the set up of our new website as well as its upkeep, and he has helped with all sorts of technical issues that have cropped up in relation to computer needs, NBN, TV's, security, and so on. He has donated equipment, subscriptions and his time to the club. And he is always keen to help with everything, including serving at the bar. Thank you Daniel.
- **Cath Fitzgerald and Kate Dawson**- the awesome Fitz-Dawson. These ladies have been an absolute shot in the arm for our social scene- as I am sure anyone who came to the club dinner will attest- they are stylish and creative and know how to generate fun! But also they have consistently come up with new ideas to improve social opportunities and increase incidental income for the club making the most of our new facilities. Thank you Cath & Kate
- Last but not least **John Genovese**. Thank you John for all your guidance and your infallible "club-brains-trust"- John knows everything that is going on or should be going on at the club- he is like a living /breathing check-list and nothing shall be missed. John is also extremely generous with his time and handyman skills around the club and always ready to do the jobs that need doing, whether it be sorting tennis balls, printing score-sheets for the juniors, running Saturday Social Tournaments, organizing all the behind-the-scenes work for junior tournaments, and so on. Thanks John- you have been doing so much for so long- you're amazing.

Many thanks go to our coaching team led by the brilliant **Richard Sampson**. Richard runs a professional outfit that provides a great service to all of our members. Richard is a fantastic club supporter and sponsor and continues to provide excellent service and support in a well-balanced

package of coaching programs, Hotshots events, Family Fun Nights, tournaments, and supporting all of our club functions. Thank you Richard & team.

Many thanks to all of our regular **volunteers** who help in a million different ways, whether it is watering the plants, washing the tea towels, buying the milk, cleaning up at busy bees, and so on- it all helps to keep this club great.

Thanks also to **Jenny Scott** who came from Moora to run the kitchen during the junior state tournament in January this year.

A special mention needs to be made of **Dianne Broome** who we nominated for a Tennis West Volunteer Achievement Award in October 2018 for her work with the LAB program and she was selected as a finalist. Tennis West went on to create a promotional film clip of Dianne's contribution to tennis, which we screened at the club dinner recently. We want to thank Dianne once again for her wonderful positive influence in making tennis accessible to young parents.

I would like to welcome some new staff members, **Alica Marekova** and **Anna De Benedictis** who have been organizing social sets on Saturdays, **Christie Wise** has been employed to supervise junior pennants on Sundays, and **Carla Herd** on Tuesday night social. **Judy Evans** resigned in April after many years of employment doing afternoon court hire and cleaning duties. Judy was no longer able to meet our varying cleaning requirements and we now employ Bucko's cleaning services. We wish Judy all the best for the future.

I would like to personally thank all club members and their families for their help and good sportsmanship, camaraderie and club spirit throughout the past year. Thanks also to our major sponsors, particularly the City of Joondalup, Sports Surfaces and Tennis Only for their continuing support of our major tournaments and activities. Thank you also to all other sponsors including Realmark, ITM, Seacrest Massage, Eccolo Restaurant, Pilates with Hart, Peard Real Estate, Sunsmart and Healthways.

2018/19 Club Improvements

The club renovations funded by the City of Joondalup were completed on schedule by October 2018. The renovations included an upgrade to the bar and storeroom, the entry and players area were opened up, plastered and fitted with new bi-fold doors and windows, the bathrooms retiled, painted and fitted with new vanities and shower cubicles, the outside paths were re-laid over new soak wells to improve the drainage, and the patio was repaved to tackle the uneven and dated concrete slabs.

The club invested in some additional improvements over and above those funded by the City in order to complete the upgrade. We paid for the bathroom floor tiling, which was not included in the original project and we funded some additional furniture and finishing touches, including:

- A new bar fridge which is restockable from the back
- New bar tables and stools (thank you to Carol Darby for her fundraising towards this)
- New café tables and seating for the players area
- Bar shelving and décor (thank you Anna for painting & decorating the bar)
- A new large flat screen TV and antenna cabling for the hall
- Air conditioning units for the kitchen and for the bar area
- A new TV screen for the players area
- Replaced broken blinds in office and Pro shop
- 2 new recycled plastic outdoor benches near the playground
- new cushion covers and scatter cushions
- additional glassware, crockery & Manchester to cater for functions, and

- new lounge seating – which was kindly sponsored by our patron Mel O’Neil- thanks Mel

The improved layout has enabled us to use separate serving windows from the bar area, so that we can sell coffee, drinks and some food from the new window separately from the bar service during special events. The new café-style Players area has been a big hit with both juniors and adults for afternoon tea/ snacks after play, as well as providing a great viewing area for matches on courts 5 to 8. This room also served as a great pre-dinner drinks area for our club dinner. Our new bar license was extended to the entire building and some outdoor areas so there is much improved flexibility for alcohol service at functions.

Thank you to all members and club users for their patience during the renovations. I am pleased to say that we have retained all of our previous regular court hirers and hall hirers despite the upheaval and I am confident that it was all worth it. We have been receiving so many compliments on our facilities from members and visitors alike and I am sure that you will all agree that the club really is looking great.

Furthermore, in January we installed some new courtside shade shelters on courts 1, 5, 13 and 16 funded by a small Sports Development Grant from COJ. We had applied for 3 more to complete every court but with limited funds availability, this was not considered a priority by COJ at the time, but we can try for that again in future rounds of funding.

We launched a new website in September as the old platform was being discontinued. Thanks again to Daniel for his smooth handling of this for the club.

Membership

Our club membership is slightly down on the last financial year (320 from 346) and hopefully this is an area we can continue to improve on in future.

Social Tennis

Adult social continued to be well attended over the year, however, Junior Saturday social has been suspended for the time being due to lack of participation, but this can be reviewed in future. Our Tuesday night social has been increasingly popular and so has the Thursday Singles Tennis Comp run by ITM.

Pennants

The participation rate in pennants was good for both juniors and adults with 17 adult teams and 18 junior teams last summer, including a Boys State League team who finished 3rd on the ladder. Two of our junior teams won their finals, as well as 3 of our ladies teams with 3 Ladies MVP awards and 3 junior MVP awards- well done. Congratulations to all the pennant players for their efforts and good sportsmanship and extra cheers to all the winners.

Tournaments

Our club successfully ran the City of Joondalup Junior State Hard-court tournament in January 2019 with 220 participants and the adults Mixed Doubles Spring Tournament in October 2018 (48 entries). These tournaments both return a profit for the club, which every year helps to offset some of the club’s running costs. My personal thanks go to the sponsors, all the volunteers and staff that helped to make these tournaments a great success.

ITM also ran a schools competition again at the end of last year, and the tournament attracted a record number of participants from 8 local primary schools. Well done Richard.

Club Championships

The junior and adult club championship events were run together over one weekend in April 2019- thank you to Ben and his team for running a smooth event. Congratulations to all our Club Championship participants and winners. Congratulations in particular to the Ladies' Club Champion Paris Henson, our Men's Club Champion Michael Faulkner, our Junior Girl's Champion Claudia Shearwood and our Junior Boy's (U16) Champion Alex Carpenter.

Social Functions

We had a great year with a number of well organized and successful social functions. These events included Open Day, Melbourne Cup Day, Christmas Parties, the Norm Knell ANZAC Day event, the Annual Club Dinner and several Family Fun Nights. Special thanks go to all the staff and the volunteers for their great efforts.

Finances

The committee has reviewed the fees for this new financial year and made a slight adjustment for the 1.9% CPI increase. This year our financial statements show a net loss of \$23,771, which reflects the higher than usual expenditure associated with the club renovations, plus a significant expenditure on court light repairs. Although we have had substantial expenses this year, the finances are still quite healthy with current assets of \$51,490 and there are no major items of expenditure planned for the immediate future.

Governance

The Associations Incorporations Act 2015 requires that all not for profit associations update their constitution to comply with specific requirements contained in the new Act. We have known that this requirement was looming and it is now upon us, as the deadline for adopting the changes was 30 June 2019. The Department is allowing some extra time so that the changes can be confirmed at the AGM instead of calling an additional "extraordinary" meeting just for this matter. The committee has redrafted the Constitution document incorporating all of the required clauses and this document is presented at this meeting to be adopted by a minimum 75% majority of members present. This will bring the club up to date with the current legislative requirements.

Future

Future improvements planned for the club include:

1. Installation of security cameras around the club to improve monitoring and security
2. We are currently negotiating with COJ about repair and maintenance of walls in the crèche room and the admin office- hopefully to be funded by the City
3. We are going to approach the COJ also to discuss future court-lights upgrades and maintenance which has been an escalating cost for us, and
4. We will re-apply for 3 more court shelters for courts 4, 8 and 12, at an appropriate time.

Any members' suggestions to improve the club or streamline our operations are always welcome.

Many thanks again and best wishes to all.

Barbara Troncone
President