



North Balwyn Tennis Club Inc.
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The Forty-third Annual Report of the North Balwyn Tennis Club Inc.

Dear Members,

Welcome to the NBTC Annual Report covering the year ending 31st August 2004.

Office bearers:

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|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • President | Rhonda McCaw |
| • Senior Vice President | Peter Purcell |
| • Junior Vice President | Kevin Chiselett |
| • Secretary | Jody Edwards |
| • Treasurer | KK Sheung |
| • Membership Secretary | Peter Purcell |
| • Junior Organisers | Stuart Brown & Andrew Halford |

Committee members:

Christa Schlifilner	Public Officer	Carole Snowsill
Val Love	Honorary Auditor	Bill Somerville
Susan McLaughlin		
Shannon Ede		
(Two vacant positions)		

THE COMMITTEE:

Two vacant positions on the committee were filled during the year by Susan McLaughlin and Shannon Ede.

We are pleased to welcome aboard younger members who represent the future of the club. Peter Purcell, our membership secretary is resigning after 12 years on the committee. Peter has done a great job in welcoming members, managing the membership database and the collection of the annual subscription. He has also been active on various sub-committees to improve the clubhouse and the carpark. Whilst his retirement from the committee will give him some well-earned free time, he still intends to help manage the Thursday Veteran's mens' competition and we thank him for his past and continuing commitment to the club. Jody Edwards, our secretary for the last twelve months is retiring due to impending motherhood and we thank her for doing a great job and although we will miss her on the committee we offer Jody and Simon our congratulations. We need a new secretary who has basic computer skills as this position now entails managing the email address. Please contact me if you feel you may be interested in this very important role. Christa is also resigning after two years on the committee. She has been an active member of the committee, compiling our volunteer register and managing and formatting the contributions to our newsletter, which comes out twice a year. Shannon is unable to continue on the committee due to work commitments. This is Bill Somerville's last year as auditor and we thank him for his contribution over the last six years. Theo Eversteyn has kindly offered to take over this important task. There are a number of vacant positions on the committee and we urge members to consider nominating to lessen the load on those who are presently continuing.

FINANCE:

KK Sheung has prepared the Annual Financial Report, which will be audited and presented at the AGM. This year the association fees have increased again, and the newly introduced competition fee will offset this increase to some extent. We have had a number of unexpected costs for repairs to the courts due to the storms last December and January. We applied successfully to City of Boroondara for compensation and have been reimbursed 100% on the damage to the surfaces. We have also negotiated 1:1 reimbursement for line repair/replacement. We were successful in our application for Sport & Recreation Victoria facility funding (only one of three projects supported by City of Boroondara) on 1:1 basis for rebuilding of the northern ends of courts 3 & 4 and for construction of a walkway at the rear of the clubhouse. The courts are to be rebuilt in January 2005 and the walkway will be constructed in the next financial year. Lobbying of Council over a number of years for sealing of the carpark has also been successful and \$200,000 has been included in the 2004/2005 Council budget for this purpose. Introduction of parking restrictions is being considered to overcome the problem of non-members using the carpark for all day parking.

MEMBERSHIP:

Although membership has been steady at about 400 for a number of years, the number is down this year by approximately 15% and the committee is considering ways to attract members. Financial security of the club is directly dependent on maintaining or,

ideally increasing membership numbers and the new committee will need to address this trend. Obviously good quality courts and a well maintained clubhouse and surrounds are important features and the appointment of a court maintenance person and our plans for renovations have been important initiatives. We provide a wide range of tennis, both social and competition formats and coaching for groups and individuals so we feel energy needs to be directed at promoting the club. We are currently planning a major leaflet drop of the local area to promote the club and coaching at NBTC. Club members can help enormously by being ambassadors for the club and promoting it amongst acquaintances and neighbours who may be looking for a club to join.

GENERAL CLUB MAINTENANCE:

As mentioned above, specific court maintenance was necessary after flooding of the courts earlier this year. Trevor Habel is contracted to regularly inspect and maintain the court surface. Geoff Hall, our caretaker, continues to maintain the court surrounds and clubhouse and co-ordinates work done by tradesmen. I have been de facto maintenance co-ordinator until this position is filled, ideally by someone who is not working full-time. From time to time we need to call on members for specific projects and I thank those dedicated members who respond when called upon. The volunteer register provides us with a list of people and their "area of expertise" to help us co-ordinate working bees. Notification of working bees will be displayed on the club noticeboard, the blackboard at the clubhouse entrance and via email. Our plans to renovate the mens' toilet and change area have been affected by new regulations regarding facilities for the disabled. Modification of the original plans will be necessary and Council has offered to help redraft the plans and may be able to assist us financially. Meanwhile some short-term improvements to the area have been made and the plans for the kitchen renovations brought forward.

COACHING AND JUNIOR TENNIS:

Andrew Halford and Stuart Brown took over as Head Coaches at the beginning of the year. They are providing after school coaching to juniors, adult private lessons and school holiday programs. They have fulfilled their initial aim to increase the number of children coached and have introduced some new initiatives such as squad training nights and midweek group lessons. Our Head Coaches are also our Junior Organisers at the club and they have had a very busy time promoting junior competition at the club. They have a number of goals, including boosting numbers of teams entered, increasing participation by girls, and promotion of Sunday junior competition. Communication with parents concerning their obligations, and improving player team commitment are two further worthwhile objectives. I appeal to all parents of children playing competition to support Andrew and Stuart in these endeavours.

SENIOR TENNIS:

NBTC provides a wide selection of formats, both midweek and on weekends and the reports in our biannual newsletters make for entertaining reading. Some formats are struggling whilst others are becoming more popular. It is hoped that the provision of midweek coaching opportunities will stimulate interest in the social and competition tennis offered at the club. Midweek social tennis continues to be well supported and lately it has been good to see the more enthusiastic competition players using the courts for social tennis both Saturday afternoon and Thursday nights during the breaks between seasons. I invite all night competition players to consider playing regularly between seasons. It is great practice and provides extra revenue for the club.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS:

The club championships were held in March in good weather. Congratulations to Shannon Ede and her committee who co-ordinated the event, for a job well done. This event is probably the most important event of the club year and I urge all members to consider becoming more involved next year. It is a lot of fun and a great opportunity to play some different formats with your fellow members. There were some terrific finals matches this year and I hope next year more club members come along to support our top players in the finals of the board events. The spit roast, which has become quite a tradition over the years was well attended and continues to be a great way to conclude the championships.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:

Earlier this year the committee organized two social events, a film night and a dinner at Vicki's Italian restaurant. Stuart Brown is presently planning a golf day on Sunday 21st November (put the date in your diary) and a bush walk is being considered for January. We encourage all members to support these functions and email us with any further suggestions for next year.

CONCLUSION:

I would like to conclude by thanking my committee and all the members who have contributed to the running of our club, including all those who have volunteered to be on selection and to be team captains. There are vacancies on the committee which I would like to see filled so don't be shy! We have a great club but it needs people who care about the club and its future to volunteer their time and fresh ideas to manage it well. Finally, I extend a warm invitation to all members to attend the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 13th October 2004 at 8.00 pm. See you there!

Rhonda McCaw
President