

# **2022 (61<sup>st</sup>) Annual Report of the North Balwyn Tennis Club Inc.**

Presented at ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (for year 2022) Sunday 27th November 2022

This year, 2022, marks 60 years since the establishment of the Club.

## **THE COMMITTEE**

The NBTC Committee of volunteers for the 2022 year consisted of:

President:	Tony Barton
Vice President:	Peter Moran
Secretary:	Yana Barton
Treasurer:	Shesh Murthy
Junior Organisers:	Stuart Brown and Andrew Halford
Committee Members:	Feng Fang, Brett Turnley, Peter Yap, Don Jinnette, Albert Yung, Rowena Sheung, Chris Georgiou
Membership Secretary:	Peter McCaw

Committee meetings in 2022 were held February (videoconference), April (Greythorn Park TC), May (videoconference), June (videoconference), August (videoconference), September (videoconference), October (in our clubhouse). Unfortunately, we lost Peter Moran to illness this year and we pay tribute to the many years that he served on the committee.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership number in November was 322 which is a recovery from a low of 280 at this time in 2021. This is above 2019 pre-COVID numbers and reverses a slight downward trend from a more recent high of 350 at this time of year in 2015 and 2016. In the five years from 2017 there has been a continued decline in Juniors from 24% to 20% of membership, a slight increase in Adult female from 16% to 17%. and a moderate increase in non-playing females. Adult males increased to 48% of the membership. A continuing challenge for the club is how to attract more women and girls.

## **FINANCE**

Our financial reserve continues to increase with a cash balance of \$206,000 (at Aug 2022) up from \$178,000 at the same time last year. Our projected income from membership subscriptions should increase modestly in the next year as we get back to full membership subscription rates, however we have planned expenditure on fencing and light installation in 2023 of \$130,000. The light installation on courts 7 and 8 will be assisted by a Tennis Australia National Court Rebate of \$14,910. We were disappointed to miss out on a North-East Link grant that would have enabled us to proceed with resurfacing of courts 7 and 8. Our retained funds after fencing and lighting on courts 7 and 8 will be necessary to keep en-tout-cas courts 1,2,7 and 8 in playable condition, for remediating the sunken area on court 3, and for the resurfacing of courts 3-6 which will be necessary in the next few years.

## **CLUBHOUSE AND COURTS**

The clubhouse rebuilding project was completed in September ending almost two and a half years in temporary accommodation. We have put in a claim to Council for lost subscriptions where we had statements from discontinuing members which, if successful, may be a useful contribution towards new furniture.

D&A Lighting's replacement of some failed LED components on courts 1 and 2 was completed this year. We have also engaged a new court maintenance contractor, Jared Patterson.

Our synthetic Polyclay courts are now 13 years old and the time frame for replacement is now about 3-4 years. Our budget allocation of \$90,000 to this is approximately half the estimated cost for resurfacing. Either increased subscriptions, a grant, or a loan will be required to cover the gap.

## **COACHING**

We have negotiated a new coaching agreement with our coaching partner, Tennis Matters, consisting of partners Andrew Halford and Stuart Brown. The new agreement does not require the coaches to be members of the Club Committee but continues their roles as Junior Conveners in charge of our Saturday and Sunday morning competitions. Andrew and Stuart continue to be involved in club activities such as the club championships.

### **JUNIOR COMPETITION *Saturday and Sunday morning:***

The Summer 21/22 season had five teams entered, with COVID disrupted finals completed in March. Winter 2022 saw an increase to 12 teams entered (7 on Sunday), including 3 girl's teams. The current Summer season has 3 Saturday and 6 Sunday teams.

### **SENIOR COMPETITION *Saturday afternoon ERT, WDTA and Pennant:***

A men's Pennant Grade 8 Section 2 team had a successful season, winning their section finals and participating in Grade finals. The Club entered two Saturday teams in the Summer 2021/22 ERT season and one team in WDTA completed in March. The same teams entered in the Winter ERT and WDTA seasons. The current Summer season has two teams again in ERT and two teams in WDTA.

***Midweek Ladies:*** Two Tuesday MEMRLTA teams and one Thursday WDTA team continue to compete in these Association competitions. A Wednesday EDWTA team has been entered for Season 1 2023, the first entry in this Association for several years.

### ***Thursday Metro Masters:***

Two teams were entered in the MMTA Thursday afternoon 50+ competition for the Autumn 2022 season and two for the Spring season just completed.

### ***BDNTA Night Competition:***

Fifteen teams were entered in the last full season with over 90 players involved. Twelve teams with over 80 players entered in a shortened Spring season that allowed a resetting of the association season. It is expected that the full season starting in February 2023 will have close to fifteen teams and close to 100 players registered.

## **SOCIAL TENNIS**

Organised Social tennis at NBTC has resumed this year with some decline in numbers in the midweek groups but increased opportunities in new time slots. Sunday afternoon continues as well as new groups on Saturday morning and a monthly Friday morning in rotation with other clubs. The Club will continue to host the monthly Friday evening Twilight social tennis in rotation with other local clubs.

## **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The 2022 Club Championships was deferred from March and was completed over several Fridays and Sundays ending in November.

## **CONCLUSION**

Expanding membership in 2022 as the Club reestablishes itself in a restored clubhouse puts the Club in a good position as it enters 2023. Challenges are the recruitment of volunteers for committee, project and maintenance work, and the continuing challenge of attracting juniors into competition and female participation.

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