

North Balwyn Tennis Club

END OF YEAR NEWSLETTER DEC 2018

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The following is from the 2018 Annual Report from our President Ross Davies to our Annual General Meeting on November 25th.

THE COMMITTEE

The NBTC committee of volunteers for the 2017/18 year consisted of:
President: Ross Davies, Vice President: Graham Besley, Secretary: Tony Barton,

Treasurer: Rowena Sheung, Membership Secretary: Peter McCaw

Junior Organisers: Stuart Brown and Andrew Halford

Committee Members: Yana Barton, Lucas Hunter, Don Jinnette, Melanie Katopodis, Rhonda McCaw, and Peter Moran

Meetings were held monthly, and my thanks go to all committee members for volunteering their time, effort and enthusiasm to each meeting and to the various tasks that they carry out in making sure that the club runs smoothly and efficiently. We continue to run seven subcommittees to manage on-going business and issues as they arise, including areas of child safety and protection, coaching, maintenance and capital projects, marketing, fundraising and website, social, club championships and disciplinary issues. These subcommittees are the engine room for the work carried by the committee – they carry out much of the pre-work necessary for good committee decision-making and they put the work of the committee into action.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the club remains strong, with 325 members (as at 2 Oct 2018), with a small 3% decrease from this time last year when the club had 335 financial members. While this may not represent a significant drop in member numbers, the committee continues to work hard to build and maintain our member levels by encouraging non-member coaching clients to join (especially juniors), conducting our annual membership drive (at the time of the AusOpen), and following up on non-financial members. I would like to thank Peter McCaw, our membership secretary, for the job he does throughout the year in managing all our membership inquiries, payments and access cards.

FINANCE

Our financial position remains healthy with a cash reserve of \$105,936 (at 31 August 2018) after recording a \$10,489 surplus from income and expenditure for FY2018. This is an excellent result because a surplus allows the committee to build its cash reserve and implement more projects for the benefit of members! The current cash reserve represents a drop from \$150,799 held at this time last year, and this is due to a capital expenditure of \$70,000 (after taking into account a \$5000 grant received from the Bendigo Bank) incurred in support of the court lighting upgrade (see New Projects below). Please note that our cash reserve includes a 'sinking fund' provision, now standing at \$50,000 (which we aim to increase each year by \$10,000) for the future renewal of court surfaces. I would like to thank Rowena Sheung, our club treasurer, for another outstanding job in maintaining our accounts for the year, and to Theo Eversteyn, our auditor, a job he says is made easy by the thorough work of our treasurer.

CAPITAL PROJECTS and MAINTENANCE

One major project has been implemented during the past year – the upgrade to our court lighting system at a total cost of \$75,000. This upgrade was undertaken in two parts. Firstly, the existing 1000W metal-halide light fittings on Courts 1 -4 were replaced with modern, energy efficient, 400W LED ‘Hawkeye’ light fittings. The effect of this work will be to lower our power consumption due to court lights by 60%, while at the same time, increasing the on-court light intensity, without introducing any negative light spill issues. The second stage of the court lighting upgrade was the installation of new poles and the same LED lights to Courts 5 and 6. The result is now 6 courts under LED lighting, allowing the club options to have more night competition teams, more coaching and/or more social play, especially during the winter months. This new lighting system also provides other benefits: instant ON/OFF (no globe warm-up period) and negligible (zero?) maintenance costs. All costs considered, the committee estimates that this project will have a payback period of about 8 years, with an estimated project life of 20 years – an excellent outcome if all goes to plan! Thanks to Graham Besley for leading the Maintenance and Capital Projects Subcommittee and the work they do to implement new projects and maintain existing facilities to a standard we can all enjoy.

SENIOR COMPETITION

Saturday ERT: Five teams in both the Summer 2017/18 and Winter 2018 seasons yielded a very impressive four premierships, a runner-up, and no wooden-spooners ... well done to the Saturday players.

Tuesday MEMRLTA: Our two existing teams were joined this season by a new team of young mothers ... we can imagine their busy schedule, so this is good to see!

Thursday WDTA: One team in Section 1 played both Autumn and Spring ... they battled hard, played and talked enthusiastically about the great tennis, but sorry ... no chocolates.

Thursday Metro Masters: NBTC is one of the biggest supporters to this competition and we should be proud of our level of participation. Five teams in both the Autumn and Spring 2018 seasons yielded one premiership (the ‘Panthers’ in Section 6), one runner-up (‘NB One’ in Section 2), and three teams made preliminary finals – a solid outcome.

BDNTA Night Competition: Over recent seasons, NBTC has been able to field 11-13 teams per season, across all weeknights (except Fridays, where no competition is offered). With more courts under lights, there is now scope to increase the number of teams, without adversely affecting the coaching schedule and the opportunities for night social play.

JUNIOR COMPETITION

Saturday and Sunday ERT: We have a steady number of teams entered in the ERT junior competition. There has been a slight shift, with a spike in the number of Sunday teams, which is very positive. However, Saturday mornings are still our busiest day. We have mainly teams playing the open rubbers format, giving the children the opportunity to play best of 3 sets. There are two boy’s singles/doubles teams, where the focus is on doubles. Sunday mornings also have majority of teams playing open rubbers, but we also have a girl’s singles/doubles team. Overall the juniors perform really well and generally collect a couple of premierships each season, along with a few runners-up. The proportion of girls is currently a little over 30%.

Andrew Halford and Stuart Brown, our club coaches and junior competition coordinators, are pleased to report that our juniors are well behaved and show great sportsmanship out on the court – a good balance of enjoying the game, playing fair and fighting to win. Tennis is a game for life, and the coaches maintain that as long as the children enjoy competing now, they’re more likely to continue into their 20’s and beyond.

SOCIAL TENNIS

The committee believes that NBTC is unique in that it offers so many opportunities for members to participate in 'organised' social tennis. These organized sessions include Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Thanks go to Albert Au for coordinating these sessions.

Friday night 'Twilight Fast 4' social tennis is another opportunity to play socially and has been operating for a number of years under a rotation system - three or four local clubs (North Balwyn, Canterbury, Deepdene, with Balwyn Park to join soon) each host the event once per month. This event is becoming very popular, attracting about 20+ players each week (especially in the warmer months) and allows players of all standards (from participating clubs and local residents) to get together, have a hit, and enjoy a drink and a chat to finish the night. This is another way for members with busy work schedules to play socially and will continue to be supported by the club. Thanks club members who take turns throughout the year to host this event when it's our turn.

Casual social tennis is also on the rise. With more courts under lights and the introduction of the on-line booking system, members who are not necessarily attracted to competition tennis are encouraged to consider a social hit of tennis at night, under lights.

And finally, Sunday afternoon 'organised' social completes our weekly schedule. This event was started late last year, and after a modest start, it now regularly attracts about 10-12 players. Special thanks to Shesh Murthy for initiating this event and for persevering through its early stages to achieve the success it now enjoys.

COACHING

Tennis Matters (TM) is the club's coaching providers, servicing the coaching needs of club members and members of the community for the past 15 years. Led by Andrew Halford and Stuart Brown we currently have up to 5 coaches, helping players to improve their game. For junior coaching, there has been a shift from almost all lessons being group and squad with only a few private lessons, to a steady level of group lesson numbers, less squad numbers, and a big increase in private lessons.

Coaching recruitment (a source of new business for the coaches, and an equally important source of new members for the club) comes via the TM website and word of mouth – NBTC coaching has an excellent reputation amongst clients and new clients come by word-of-mouth recommendations. TM and the club are also very fortunate to have Balwyn High School nearby, with many students walking near the club – this is great exposure and an important source of new clients. TM has been involved in flyer drops and newspaper articles, but these are not always a reliable way of gaining new clients.

Adult participation is on the rise. TM also reports that they have several groups, and private and two-player private lessons running weekday mornings. All of these players are women. In the evening, they also have several adult group lessons, as well as private lessons. One of the current adult groups is the direct result of a recent 'women in sport' promotion. A new adult team, facilitated through this coaching promotion, has joined the Tuesday morning competition and has recently added night competition to their schedule – another great outcome for the club.

The club coaches would like to build larger squad training sessions in the future. Squads are more demanding and include fitness, drills and tactics. Squads are great team training sessions and the intent is to provide a more serious approach for those playing competition or wanting to play competition.

CHILD SAFETY

While much of the work to establish our policies and procedures around child safety and protection was completed last year (thanks to Graham Besley and the Child Safety Subcommittee), this year has been about trying to put the essence of these documents into practice. The committee has started down this track and will continue its work to identify behaviours around the club (good and bad) and, where necessary, provide the support, feedback and direction necessary to achieve the desired outcomes.

Annual General Meeting and Committee for 2019

Our Annual General Meeting on Sunday November 25 appointed a new Committee for 2019. Attendance was a little down on last year's but we managed a quorum. Your new Committee is listed below. We welcome Shesh Murthy as our new Treasurer and Wayne Zhou, Michael Zhao and Sheryl Kerwick as Committee members. Members enjoyed pizza afterwards with a few drinks.

Your Committee for 2019

- Ross Davies (President),
- Peter Moran (Vice-president)
- Tony Barton (Secretary)
- Shesh Murthy (Treasurer)
- Andrew Halford and Stuart Brown, coaches and Junior Organisers
- Rhonda McCaw
- Don Jinnette
- Yana Barton
- Wayne Zhou
- Michael Zhao
- Sheryl Kerwick



Our new treasurer Shesh Murthy receiving an outstanding volunteer award at the AGM

Club Championships 2019

Club Championships will be on 1st and 3rd and 4th weekends of March. The subcommittee will be asking for a gold coin "donation" for entry. Please talk to Andrew Halford, Stuart Brown or David Rehe if you have any questions.

Damage to Courts: The recent rain has damaged our courts. There was quite a bit of damage to Courts 7 & 8.. Red Court Maintenance (RCM, our court maintenance contractors) have completed some work on Courts 1 & 2. They will be back late January to repair and top dress these courts. So these courts will remain out-of-play ("No Play" signs are on the nets) until then.

Club Liquor Licence

Members are reminded that our BYO liquor licence permits alcohol consumption on Sunday and Public Holidays Between 12 noon and 9.30pm, Monday to Thursday Between 11.30am and 10.30pm, Friday & Saturday Between 11.30am and 11pm.

Alcohol must only be consumed within the clubhouse and its decking. This area is defined by the Red Line Plan – which is on the notice board in the clubhouse corner closest to the front gate. It is our club's obligation under the Liquor Control Reform Act 1998 to:

always have a copy of the red-line plan at our premises and produce it if requested by Victoria Police or a VCGLR inspector. If we get a visit from Victoria Police or a VCGLR inspector, it is likely that they will ask for a copy of our plan and will check that we are operating within the red line. It is important that members know where the red-line plan is. And this does mean no drinking on the courts or surrounds.

COMPETITION REPORTS

JUNIOR SATURDAY ERT

The Eastern Region Tennis Winter 2018 season finals were in August/September. Final ladders for our teams are shown below with Premiers (P) and runners up ® shown.

Sat Rubbers 1	Pts	%	Sat Rubbers 11	Pts	%
Gracedale Park	87.0	272.87 P	Doncaster	81.5	184.02 P
Donvale Green	80.0	160.29 R	North Balwyn Green	80.0	234.45 R
Donvale Blue	64.5	116.60	Box Hill	61.0	170.66
Ferny Creek	57.5	106.94	Croydon Green	59.5	129.06
Heathmont	49.5	91.78	North Balwyn Blue	52.0	101.18
North Balwyn	31.5	72.55	Croydon Blue	28.0	52.68
North Ringwood	23.5	64.64	Wonga Park	24.0	50.33
Box Hill	19.5	51.77	HE Parker Reserve	17.0	40.41
Sat Rubbers 12	Pts	%	Sat Rubbers 16	Pts	%
Doncaster	66.5	167.39 P	North Balwyn Green	63.5	158.01 R
Blackburn Blue	57.5	167.30 R	Box Hill Green	60.0	146.95 P
North Ringwood	46.5	114.62	North Balwyn Blue	55.5	132.99
South Hawthorn	46.5	87.55	Box Hill Blue	49.5	110.68
Blackburn Green	45.5	106.47	Doncaster	33.5	68.18
North Balwyn	21.5	61.20	Willison Park	29.5	85.28
Croydon	20.0	55.63	St. Dominics	16.5	33.57
Sat Rubbers 18	Pts	%	Sat Boys 4	Pts	%
South Hawthorn	68.5	148.48	Nunawading Comty	116.0	211.36 P
East Camberwell	66.5	180.00 P	Nunawading	104.0	163.91 R
Wantirna	50.0	101.86	Bulleen	89.0	134.10
Box Hill	41.5	101.38 R	Greythorn Park	72.0	112.90
Doncaster	32.5	73.06	Box Hill	67.0	95.08
North Balwyn	25.5	77.16	Donvale	55.0	86.26
North Ringwood	24.5	60.33	North Balwyn	44.0	63.83
			Willison Park	13.0	32.95
Sat Boys 6	Pts	%	Sat Boys 9	Pts	%
Heathmont	97.0	128.78 R	North Balwyn	109.0	170.00 P
Blackburn	87.0	134.08 P	Bulleen	89.0	127.81 R
Wantirna	83.0	119.90	Currawong	72.0	97.37
North Balwyn	69.0	92.64	North Ringwood	71.0	99.09
Greythorn Park	65.0	90.85	Doncaster	67.0	95.26
Wonga Park	64.0	94.61	Donvale	64.0	96.62
Heatherdale	56.0	84.15	Nunawading Comty	47.0	76.57
Doncaster	39.0	73.51	Box Hill	41.0	68.17

JUNIOR SUNDAY ERT

Sun Rubbers 3	Pts	%	Sun Rubbers 4	Pts	%
North Balwyn Green	76.0	165.96 R	Doncaster Blue	87.0	180.41 P
North Kew	64.0	135.71 P	Bulleen	70.0	127.10 R
North Balwyn Blue	55.0	105.51	Serpell Green	53.0	103.01
Guy Turner Reserve	52.5	101.75	Hawthorn	51.0	107.57
Nunawading Comty	52.0	91.38	North Kew	49.0	109.26
Box Hill	46.0	123.17	Doncaster Green	36.0	83.42
Serpell	45.0	80.32	North Balwyn	36.0	72.60
Currawong	20.5	35.16	Serpell Blue	29.0	51.48
Sun Girls 3	Pts	%			
East Camberwell	103.0	241.40 P			
North Balwyn	71.5	113.16 R			
Canterbury	55.5	104.44			
Blackburn	52.0	91.73			
Currawong	48.0	82.13			

SENIOR SATURDAY ERT

Open Sets 2	Pts	%	Open Sets 4	Pts	%
North Balwyn	89.0	155.84	Balwyn Park	76.0	132.53 R
Bulleen	79.0	124.18 P	North Box Hill	67.5	116.74
Glenburn	69.5	121.20	Nunawading Green	67.0	116.47 P
Deepdene	63.0	112.45 R	Seville	62.0	109.96
Donvale	49.0	95.98	Gracedale Park	49.0	90.19
East Camberwell	46.0	92.44	Nunawading Blue	46.5	84.13
Templestowe Park	37.0	86.79	Greythorn Park	41.0	82.24
Keon Park	15.5	41.50	North Balwyn	39.0	82.06
Open Sets 7	Pts	%	Open Sets 8	Pts	%
Warrandyte	89.0	155.39 R	North Balwyn	91.5	168.86 P
North Balwyn	79.0	154.06 P	North Kew	74.0	137.96 R
Balwyn Park	65.0	109.18	Parkwood	66.0	109.85
Monbulk	58.0	97.75	East Camberwell	65.5	118.83
Bayswater North	56.0	84.83	Doncaster	48.0	80.07
Serpell	47.0	98.41	Gracedale Park	15.0	34.40
Mt Pleasant	29.0	57.57			
Ringwood Central	25.0	63.59			
Singles/Dbles 3	Pts	%			
Serpell	110.5	176.26 P			
Willison Park	105.0	139.47			
Croydon	96.5	109.60 R			
Warrandyte	85.0	114.43			
North Balwyn	61.0	83.94			
St. Marys	44.0	66.78			
Heathmont	41.0	59.75			

The Summer season started October 13 and resumes at round 10 on Feb 2. We have 8 Saturday Junior Teams, 5 Sunday Junior teams and 6 Saturday afternoon Senior teams. Finals will be in March.



Open Sets Section 7 after their Grand Final win in September at Warrandyte: L to R Cees Van Oost, Peter Yap, Kris Wolanski, Brett Fuller

MID-WEEK LADIES

MEMRLTA (Tuesday morning)

The previous Winter season 2018 finished in August.

Section 3 team of Christine Turnbull (C), Rhonda McCaw, Rowena Sheung, Sarah Shan lost the semi-final on 28th August to Kooyong.

Section 8 team (Julie Beasley (C), Tricia Arthur, Lorna Sargeant, Helen Rayner, Catherine Lawton, Carole Snowsill, Shirley Wick) came in 8th of 10 teams.

Section 10 team of Aimee MacQueen (C), Sally Main, Catherine Handbury, Emily Layland came bottom.

The present Summer season 2018/19 started in September.

Section 3 after 11 rounds is sitting in 2nd place. The team consists of Rhonda McCaw, captain, Rowena Sheung, Sarah Shan, Christine Turnbull, Penny Graham

and Melanie Katopodis. We are doing quite well this season and are currently in the four. Melanie is recovering from knee surgery and hopes to be back in form by February and we are very grateful to Chris who drives from Yarrowonga each week to play for the team.

Section 9 sitting in 4th spot.

Section 10 is in 7th spot with wins in rounds 7 and 9. The season resumes on 29th Jan after the Christmas break.

WDTA (Thursday morning)

Mid Week Ladies Section 1 team of Judy Davies, Jane Cash, Susan McLaughlin, Yvonne Pettigrew, Sheryl Kerwick, Fiona Medina, Yana Barton finished 7th on the ladder in the previous season which ran from July to November. Season 1 of 2019 starts Jan 31 with the team in Section 2.

BDNTA NIGHT TENNIS

Night tennis (BDNTA) finals were completed in first week of December after a few rain delays.

Monday night Section 5 North Balwyn Ballwin nets lost their grand final to Hawthorn while Section 9 North Balwyn Fun Seekers won theirs at home.

Tuesday night Sections 2 Scorpions lost their semi-final in a tie-breaker after being drawn at 6 sets. Section 10 won their grand final at Koonung Park after finishing the season in 4th place on the ladder. Section 5 lost their semi-final while Section 6 did not make the finals.

Wednesday night Section 3 Dragons won their semi-final by one game and won their final at Blackburn in an extra tie-breaker.

Thursday night Section 6 lost their semi-final by one game to Vermont, while the three singles/doubles teams did not get to the finals.

Twelve teams with a total of 74 players participated in the season. We had 17 women, mostly

in the two Monday "Ladies" teams. Next season starts in February. Entries have closed, but you can still participate as an emergency so contact Rhonda if you are interested.



Left: Monday Section 9 "Fun Seekers" pennant winners L to R: Lou Duncan, Lesya Abraham, Aimee Macqueen, Catherine Handbury



Left: Wednesday night Section 3 "Dragons" after their win at Blackburn L to R: Jimmy Bui, Michael Zhao, Navdeep Mangal, Jasper Tiong, Minh Bui



Left: Tuesday night Section 10 "Champion Chokers" after their win at Koonung Park L to R: Wayne Zhou, Yana Barton, Tony Barton, John Coulson. Don Jinnette and Joe Iacopino were our other regular players.

THURSDAY VETERANS

Finals for Thursday afternoon veteran's MMTA Spring 2018 season were in November. Of our five teams only Section 2 team "One" made it to the Grand Final but lost to Norris Bank. Of the other four teams sections 5 and 6 made the final four but lost their semi-finals. The five North Balwyn teams competed with 38 players.

Over 100 players from the competition celebrated the end of the year luncheon at Veneto on Thursday 29th November.

This over 50 competition has been "open" for some years now and about 11 women played this season.

Autumn 2019 Season commences on Thursday 7th February 2019. Contact Peter Moran if you are interested in next season.

ORGANISED SOCIAL TENNIS

"Organised social tennis" means there are courts allocated for doubles play, and good used tennis balls supplied by the club.

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday morning from 9.00 am an enthusiastic group of older ladies and gentlemen gather for a friendly hit. More senior ladies are needed, so don't be shy, come along and give it a go.

Sunday afternoon social organised tennis for the Winter months will run 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. For the Summer months it will start at 4.00 pm and go until 7.00 pm. It is co-ordinated by Shesh Murthy so please contact him if you have any questions on 0449 162 609.

For these sessions, the Social tennis board (for court allocation) is used and name tags for regular players will be made up on request.

Monday afternoons from 12.30 pm, a very social and eager group of advanced players meet at the club for some doubles matches followed by "afternoon tea".

Friday Nights, North Balwyn, Canterbury, and Deepdene Tennis Clubs each host a **Twilight Tennis** one Friday evening of each month, with North Balwyn hosting it on the second Friday of each month. The evening starts at 7.30pm. Entry by gold coin donation, with tennis balls and a light supper are provided. All members are welcome, including friends and family. This social event has now been going for a couple of years and we hope members continue to support it.

Social night tennis

Members are encouraged to come down for a hit under lights in the evenings, \$10/per court/hour paid into the Money Box in the clubhouse. It is essential to book courts under lights. The Court Calendar on the NBTC website under the side menu "Night Tennis" has availability. Court usage under lights for BDNTA will limit availability for social play Mondays to Thursdays. Bookings can be made by emailing northbalwyntc@gmail.com. Allow at least one day for bookings to be confirmed and to appear in the Calendar.

SPONSORS OF OUR CLUB

Mitcham Thai restaurant: <https://www.mitchamthai.com.au>

Many of you will know our club member Paul Bisiani, and have enjoyed his company and food at his Mitcham Thai restaurant. As a supporter and sponsor of our club, Paul is extending an offer to all North Balwyn Tennis Club members:

<http://northbalwyntc.org.au/nbtcfles/memberoffer.pdf>

Bendigo Community Bank has been very generous in supporting our club in the past and continues to offer to donate to our club if members of NBTC do business with them.

Canterbury:	143 Maling Road, Canterbury	Tel: 9836 9466
Ashburton:	241 High Street, Ashburton	Tel: 9885 2666
Surrey Hills:	107 Union Road, Surrey Hills	Tel: 9890 7188
Balwyn:	411 Whitehorse Road, Balwyn	Tel: 9836 8029

Canterbury, Ashburton,
Surrey Hills and Balwyn
Community Bank® branches



Vets on Balwyn, 341 Balwyn Road, North Balwyn and **Capital Physiotherapy**, 55 Whitehorse Road, Balwyn.

