

Red Hill Tennis Club

Summer 2019 Newsletter

President's Welcome

Welcome to another issue of the newsletter. We've had a great 2018 with social and competition tennis going strong and people using our courts more and more through Book-a-Court, which is what we are all about – promoting tennis in the community!

You'll see in the stories below we've continued to improve and maintain the facilities and thanks to everyone who has been part of that. Helping the community is good for your wellbeing!

We are making progress on our damaged lights and fences, more details below. We are working hard to be up and running normally as soon as we can.

See you around the courts and have an amazing 2019.

Carolyn

New Members

Millie and Bridget Myvalt
Kieran Francis
Julie Neill
Isaiah Long
Phil Baker
Curnow/Grant family

Red Hill Tennis Club on Facebook

Remember to follow and like our Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/redhilltennisclub>

It's the best place to check for club updates and announcements.

Dates for your diary

RHTC Committee Meeting - Thursday 7 February

Family Night - Fri 22 March

Working Bee - Sun 5 May

We are on the lookout for a new treasurer, so if you'd like to join a boisterous fun-loving crew of misfits making the world better one tennis game at a time, contact Carolyn (0407 974 203) or Libby (0468 751 165).

Guy Sancataldo's New Role



It was with regret that we must farewell Guy Sancataldo from our club committee – although Guy will continue as long-standing club member and active participant at the club. Guy has taken up a full-time paid position as '*Competition and Tournaments Coordinator*' with Tennis ACT – therefore sadly he cannot remain on our committee. Congratulations Guy on getting the job in a competitive field of applicants – quite an achievement at such a young age of 19!!

Guy joined the club in 2008 taking his first tennis lessons from our super coach Matt MacDonald who instilled in him a great love of tennis. Over the years Guy has played both Junior and Adult Pennant and he has been an enthusiastic participant at Social Tennis on Tuesdays – and Guy was voted ACT Junior Club Player two years in a row in 2016 and 2017!

Guy also developed an interest in umpiring starting as a ball-person for ACT tournaments aged 14, then at the Sydney International for 2 years. He then went on to work as a line official at ACT tournaments and he is currently working his third year at the Australian Open!!

Guy volunteered to join our committee to represent the views of younger players in the club and we've appreciated his youthful energy and fresh ideas, he will be greatly missed.

** We would love another junior player to join our committee – please contact Carolyn, Libby or Femke if you'd like to give it a go.*

Junior Spring Pennant

Ten junior teams were entered in to Spring 2018 competition, and some fabulous tennis was played by all.

Four teams made it to finals:

Div 1 (Felix, Kieren and Antoine)

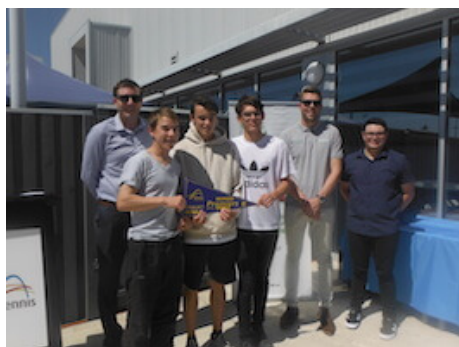
Div 2 (Christian, Yutaka and Aidan)

Div 6 Blue (Sarah, Lucy and Maddie) and

Div 7 (Luka, Nic, Logan and Finlay)

A great result. Two teams were successful in winning the final - congratulations to Div 1 and Div 7. Red Hill Tennis Club last won Div 1 when McDonald School of Tennis coach David Kearns was a junior player!

Many thanks to Matt for the constant encouragement of players from week to week, giving them tips and strategy to win matches. Matt has continued his role as miracle worker, finding reserve players at the eleventh hour when all hope was fading and the match approaching...thanks as always Matt! Thanks also to all those parents who acted as manager - it could not be done without you. Go Red Hill!



Div 1 Winners
Felix, Kieren and Antoine



Div 7 Winners
Luka, Nic, Logan and Finlay



Div 2 Runners Up
Christian, Yutaka and Aidan



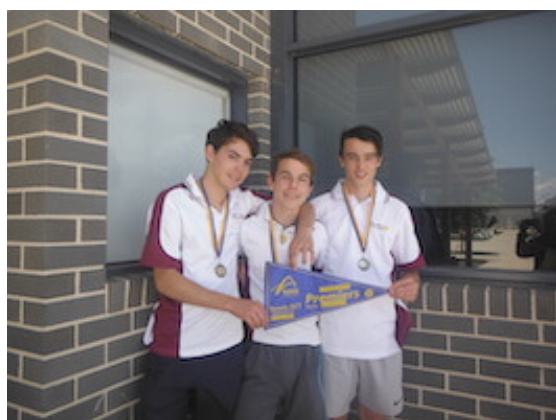
Div 6 Runners Up
Sarah, Lucy and Maddie

Adult Spring Pennant

Five adult teams played in the Spring 2018 Pennant, which was an all time high!

Of these teams, 3 on Monday night and 2 on Thursday, 3 of them made semi finals and 1 team (Felix, Kieren and Antoine) won the Monday Night Div 5 final. Congratulations lads!

No matter how teams went, tennis was the winner, and it was great seeing 20 adults, a number of them students of the School of Tennis, playing their first competition season and putting their tennis lessons to good use. And Red Hill continued their tradition of hosting the best suppers!



Div 1 Winners

Felix, Kieren and Antoine

Red Hill ASF Fundraising Campaign

In association with the Australian Sports Foundation we have set up a fundraising page to help cover the cost of repairing or replacing our broken lights.

You public can make tax-deductible donations to the club online here:

<https://asf.org.au/projects/the-red-hill-tennis-club>

It's been a great success so far. In the first six weeks we have raised nearly \$850.

Many thanks to all contributors!

2018 Club Championships

The 2018 club championship was a triumph over the weather!

Having been washed out on the two attempts to hold it in 2017, we were determined to make the 2018 championship happen.

The day had everything, a hot sunny start, strong winds, a pelting rain storm causing a temporary stop to play and finally a calm cool evening!

Members played through it all just enjoying the festival of tennis that only the master ring leader, Matt McDonald, can achieve. As always, he was simultaneously watching games, encouraging players onto the court, consoling losers and congratulating winners while keeping track of scores and eating watermelon. Thanks Matt.

This year doubles games were played for the first time which saw some unlikely pairings.

I think I can speak on behalf of all players to say we all had a wonderful afternoon bringing different parts of the tennis club together (really closely together when we were all huddled under the awning to avoid the rain!)

Congratulations to the winners whose names will be added to the Championship plaque.

The Winners



Junior Boys: Guy Sancataldo



Mens Doubles: Guy Sancataldo and David Kearns



Junior Girls: Elise Dayton



Womens: Libby McCutchan



Womens Doubles: Elise Dayton and Libby McCutchan



Mens: Tom Shafron

And some others ;)



Update on the Lights and Fences

As you may know large flocks of cockatoos destroyed our LED court lighting in August 2018. As a result, we can't out hire our courts at night, social and competition tennis has been relocated and Matt's coaching has been affected.

Lighting electricians inspected the lights and suggested we replace them. Luckily the ACT Government Sport and Recreation grant round was due to close at the end of September, so we worked hard and submitted a grant application.

We are expecting the ACT government to announce the successful grant recipients soon – fingers crossed. In the meantime, we have been fund raising and working towards a grant through the Tennis Australia Court Rebate Scheme - even if we are not successful with the grant, we will at least aim to install lights on the grass courts and see if we can repair some of the lights on the clay courts.

The court fencing closest to Astrolabe Street bent after severe winds caught a Book-a-Court sign. We removed the sign immediately and attempted to bend the poles back into place with a winch on Adrian McConnon's car. Unfortunately, the poles being circa 1970 were rusted and two snapped off at ground level. We got a quote for replacement of the poles by a contractor but given our need to fund the light replacement (with or without the grant) we decided to try to replace the poles ourselves. The Shafron family will be the brains and the brawn on this, so keep an eye out for improved fencing in the near future.

Social Tennis – Tuesdays 7.30 - 9.30pm

Our Tuesday social tennis will continue to be held at Eastlake until further notice.

Many thanks to Eastlake for their support in allowing us to use their courts.

Red Hill Tennis Club has set up a MeetUp group to better manage communications around social tennis.

Sign up at <https://www.meetup.com/en-AU/Canberra-Fitness-Meetup>

Or get the Apple and Android MeetUp apps here.

[Apple](#) [Android](#)

Volunteers

Volunteers – do you have a special skill you could share?

The club is run by volunteers - and although we do our best we know there is always room for improvement.

We would love some adhoc volunteers to help with the website, social media, fundraising, club repairs and maintenance, marketing. You don't need to join the committee permanently, just join us for a special one-off project. Please contact us if you would like to share your skills to support the club.

Bruce Cup

The ACT posted a strong performance at the Bruce Cup (School Sports Australia 12-and-under Championships) held in Adelaide from 20-27 October, finishing in sixth position.

The team competed hard throughout the week and their efforts were highlighted with victories over Tasmania (13 rubbers – 11 rubbers) and Northern Territory (17 rubbers to 7 rubbers).

3 of the 14 member team were pupils of the McDonald School of Tennis - Sophie McDonald, Hugh Taylor and Alisha Kumar - and Sophie McDonald, as captain, was sponsored \$200 by the club.

Sausage Sizzle

Members of the club totally excelled themselves in the Christmas break with back to back Bunnings BBQs on 28 and 29 December. We made around \$1,400 from the 2 days.

Thank you to everyone who helped: Ali Kellar and Adrian Sancataldo, Kirsty Bunfield, Melissa Crampton and Aidan Stewart-Thomson, Chris and John Robinson, Dan Kennedy and the Paris-d'Arbela family, especially Carolyn's mum Bev Paris who cut 20 kgs of onions single-handedly.



2018 Diplomatic Tennis Comp

Another successful diplomatic tennis tournament was held in November of 2018. As always Red Hill Tennis Club was well represented, with Dan Kennedy, Zac Shafron and Tom Shafron all participating. Sadly, Zac and Dan were unable to progress to the knockout stages. However, Tom (The current Red Hill Tennis Club Champion) and his partner Judy were able to advance all the way to the advanced mixed-doubles final.

The final took place in the beautiful grounds of the New Zealand residence. The mixed-doubles final was a very close game with some long rallies and great athleticism on display. Unfortunately for Tom and RHTC the team of Tui and Masatoshi were too strong, winning 6-3.



Working Bee

Thanks to everyone who took part in the Spring working bee. We got so much done and everyone left feeling happy and satisfied they'd improved the club facilities. This six-monthly activity makes an enormous difference to the look and feel of the club, with many hands making light work!

The gardens were weeded, mulched and trimmed, the practice court surface was high pressure sprayed. Weeds and leaves removed from the courts (even while junior pennant was in play!) and the club house and surrounds left sparkling and tidy.

As usual the troops were looked after with morning tea and a sausage sizzle.

Look out for the next working bee in Autumn 2019.

