

Registration No. A0026307B

Royal Park Tennis Club Inc.

Print Post Approved

Newsletter

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MAY 2023



Happy Mothers' Day to all our mothers.



Thank You to all our volunteers

"Super Sunday"

This party is planned for **SUNDAY 4th June** & everyone is invited to join in:

Volunteer Week Celebration

Good Sports Day

Juniors End of Season Break-up

Club Championships Trophy Presentation 2023

Timing to be announced shortly = watch this space

Will include:

BBQ

Junior presentation

Club Championships trophies



"Good Sports" program aims at strengthening community sports clubs and helping make clubs a welcoming & safe environment for players to socialize and participate in the sport they love;

It would be great to see a BIG crowd come along to celebrate our great tennis club.

Put the date in your diary NOW – more details will follow ASAP

Women's & Men's starter coaching sessions – spare places open!

These successful beginners' programs are being run again in Term Two. Classes have just started, and there are some limited places available. Feedback from previous courses has been extremely positive – 1 hour coaching; ½ hr practice format.

- Women's: Thursday class 12.00 – 1.30pm has three (3) places
- Men's: Sunday class 2.00 – 3.30pm has three (3) places
- Cost is just \$12 per lesson, including free hitting time, and you can join in **NOW**.

There are 6 weeks of classes remaining.

If you are interested contact Aleks ASAP - 9380 1259 (club) or 0467 737 332



COMPETITION NEWS

(current highlights & happenings)



NSTA (Saturday afternoon)

Our solo team is flying the flag, and may qualify for a semis spot. Good to see some juniors involved in the Singles/Doubles format.

Co-ordinator: Jason Vochala 0419 132 423

NSNTA (night)

Autumn Competition: Matches are into the last rounds, and our 17 teams are doing their best!

Fortunes so far are rather inconsistent. Ladies (4) have 1 well placed. Mixed (3) may all make it, and Mens' (10) are 50/50! All up - we have 8 to 10 teams likely to make semi-finals.

Fingers crossed for more wins! Good Luck!

Spring Season: will run August-November; Forms are available NOW, and closing date is 20th May. \$s to be included please.

Co-ordinator is Jason Vochala 0419 132 423

GENERAL:

Team members are reminded of the following:

- You are representing our great club when you play competition – please observe the rules of tennis and Association dress code;
- Be courteous and well-behaved, both on and off court!
- Contribute to refreshments and cleaning up when hosting matches at our Club.

NSJTA (Juniors)

Season 1 – matches resumed 29th/30th April

With 11 teams participating we are well represented. (3 Mixed, 2 Boys, 6 Unisex) - A Reserve 2 to D6. Results to Round 10 vary, with a 50/50 TOP4 ratio in all categories. Some are challenged to get a break! Strong hitting in the concluding rounds!

Season 2 – will run July-November

Player entries are now due - closing date was 6 May.

Contact is Matt Cull 0430 278 950

NSLTA – (ladies midweek)

Our team is strongly placed in Section 3. Best of luck for the last few rounds.

Pennant 2023

Players are just started the season.

We have 5 men's teams: Singles/doubles:

Match format is unchanged: Doubles & Singles are scheduled on the same afternoon – with 4-6 players.

First round recorded quite a few tie-breakers, and several very close wins!

Queries: contact Jason Vochala 0419 132 423
or Carole Houston 0419 560 436

Metro Masters 50+ (Mens' Thursdays)

Our Section 1 team is finding it rather tough again! Keep it going! Good luck for the final rounds!

COURT CARE & BOOKINGS

With Night Comp in full swing, and Pennant underway, tennis is very popular, and court availability is quite limited, especially from 5.00pm weekdays, and generally on the weekend.

You MUST book a court if you wish to play, & play on the court that you booked!

You MUST also pay a Visitor's Fee before playing if you invite a friend to have a hit.

Watering from fence to fence before you play is very important (if no rain!) – and you should water again at least every 30 minutes. We also request that the court surface is sprinkled before bagging the court – that helps stop the en tous cas from blowing away.

Please read the NOTICE on the gates to the courts – it details court care requirements

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023

Participation this year was similar to 2022, with 67 entries from 57 players contesting in just 8 of a possible 25 or more events. Most popular event was the Open Men's Singles, with 24 entries, and a Qualifying round was staged to manage the draw. No Ladies' events were played, and again there were insufficient entries for any Committee level categories. A welcome difference was the return of Juniors' events, with Open Singles for both Boys and Girls being included in the active program.

There were many quality matches, with highlights being the tight 3 set matches in the Open Men's Singles and Doubles. Extended deuce games & long rallies were involved, with many bottles of water/Gatorade consumed!

Match scheduling extended over two weekends to manage player on-court commitments. Highlights were:



- Round robin formats being used in the Mixed Doubles event to increase participation.
- Open Men's Singles: a new champion – Ben Thompson-Star – dropped only 1 set in 4 matches.
- Open Vets Men's: Kevin Warwick won through for his first club title.
- A match tie-break was needed to decide the Vet's Men's Doubles.

“Thank you” to organizers – Carole Houston & Maria Keys.
 Congratulations to our winners and finalists;

It was encouraging to see some new faces among the players, and to have spectators call in to watch matches.

Winners Presentation: a gathering is planned for **SUNDAY 4th JUNE**

Many thanks to all contestants – your involvement was much appreciated – and there's always next year!!
 It would be great to have more entries too – to add more depth and participation from members.

Event	Winner	Finalist
Men's Open Singles	Ben Thompson-Star	Tom McGrath
Men's Open Doubles	Tom McGrath/Peter White	David Tan /Ben Thompson-Star
Presidents Men's Singles	Siddhant Kohli	Shawn Neilsen
Presidents Men's Doubles	Shawn Neilsen/Sam Bradley	Siddhant Kohli/Brendan Perich
Open Veterans Men's Singles	Kevin Warwick	John Knights
Open Veterans Men's Doubles	Michael Furey/Anthony Malkoun	Nick Brunton/Nigel Christie
Open Veterans Mixed Doubles R/R	Neil Oborn/Trish Lowe	-
Open Boys Singles	Joseph White	Max Weis
Open Girls Singles	Evie Curtin	Alexia Frank

Health Alert:

Last year, our “**smoke free**” statement was updated as follows to include **vaporisers**:

The Club is a smoke-free organisation and does not permit smoking in or around the clubhouse facilities, courts or fields.

“Smoking” includes e.g. cigarettes, pipes, vaporisers.



Should you see any visitors/players “vaping” or smoking on site, please politely advise them of our policy, which is consistent with our lease commitments to the City of Melbourne. Please also make your visitors aware of the policy.

SKYRAIL – Help needed!!

This State Government project includes removal of 8 rail level crossings between Park St Parkville and Albion St Brunswick, to be replaced by Skyrail on the Upfield line, which runs past our Club next to the bike path and courts 14, 8 and 4.

Due to its proximity to our complex, we are keen to gather as much information as possible about the timing and potential impact of the developments. Opportunities to do this include:

- the Royal Park Stakeholders Network which we have joined;
- local forums being organised by Councils and interested community groups;
- discussions with City of Melbourne personnel.

We need a volunteer to offer to attend the occasional local area meeting on behalf of the club to pick up any details that would keep us informed on developments. Please contact Maria Keys (9819 1973) or Carole Houston (0419 560 436) if you can help.

MEMBERSHIP – more good news!

We now have more members than at this time last year, when we were rebuilding player interest post Covid. At end March, our numbers had increased to 464 (+3% on 2022), which includes some 82 new members and 16 returnees. The other positive aspect is the variety of interests among the players – social tennis, plus junior and night competition.

It's a promising trend, and great to see it happening!! Club viability is strengthened, while there are opportunities for meeting new people and interacting with different players – on and off court!

VOLUNTEERS – big thanks to all our club volunteers!!



National Volunteer Week (NVW) is being held 15-21 May, to celebrate and recognise all those who contribute their time, skills and talents to helping their communities. Within our club, there are many who assist in different ways to support our many activities. Please join in recognizing and thanking them all - incl. team captains, committee members, junior team managers, event organisers, and many more!

Tennis Service Award: Kevin Walsh

One of our amazing volunteers was recently recognized and congratulated for some 40 years involvement with the club. Since joining St Ambrose, one of our baseline clubs, Kevin has taken on roles such as President, Treasurer, and Junior Co-Ordinator. He contributed to our Master Plan development and implementation, initiated the now popular Wednesday night social session in 2015, and assisted with our 130th anniversary celebrations in 2019.

You can read more of Kevin's great contribution on the front page of our website.