

Club History

This is based on a book written by Geoff Swartz “**25th Anniversary Tewantin Tennis Club, 1980-2005**”.

Note: Subsequent to this publication, courts 1 and 10 were constructed changing the court numbering as written by Geoff.

The Tewantin Tennis Club was established in 1980. Its humble beginnings saw play initially at the Tewantin State Primary School pending approval for the lease of land for courts on the Noosa Sports Complex site. Donations of money and materials, fundraising and volunteer labour resulted in the construction of four clay courts and a club house by 1982. Membership rose to over 100 plus 32 juniors.

The first two super-grass courts were opened in 1987. At the time when interest rates reached 17%, members private contributions totaling almost \$100,000 over several years enabled the construction of additional courts and refurbishment of existing ones by 1990. These loans were repaid rapidly from healthy club coffers. Construction of courts 5 and 6, plus lighting, came along when new funding assistance became available – membership grew to just under 200 by 1995.

Further improvements, plans for additional courts 7 and 8, plus court upgrading, club house facilities and more maintenance equipment for the tireless volunteers, saw an active membership welcome the new century. Emphasis was particularly on fostering junior tennis with many youngsters participating in fixtures, similar to the adult membership where both women and men participated in weekly Noosa District Tennis Association competitions and Veterans Sunshine Coast Association tennis monthly competitions.

Coaching has always been an important part of the club for adults and junior players. In fact together with the regular club coaches, the club used the expertise of former ATP professional Mark Kratzmann and JT Welford for special impact coaching and the development of a Fast Track Junior Development Program to assist the more advanced juniors to the next level in the early 2000s.

Active committee members saw to the healthy development of the club with considerable work going into planning and estimating, grant applications, working bees, fund raising, whilst also maintaining existing grounds, courts and clubhouse. As the membership matured a comprehensive timetable of social tennis replaced some of the inter club fixtures.

The history would not be complete without some mention of the social side of the club. Many enduring friendships have developed, in fact the club was once known as ‘The Friendliest Club in the World’! Both moral and material support is generously offered by club members when someone has problems. Many interstate players keep returning to the club when they are in town escaping the chills down south.