

Box Hill Tennis Club
Annual General Meeting
31 July 2017
Start: 7.35 pm
Cnr Station and Cyrll Street Box Hill South

1. Meeting opening and welcome: Ray Rust.
2. Apologies: Alan Heffernan, David McDougall, Harin de Soysa, Kerry Sullivan
3. Acceptance of minutes: Moved by Simon Verbeek, second Jill Ross.
4. **President's report: Ray Rust.** Another quality year for BHTC. Both financially and on the court. Strong participation and a lot of success in competition. Off the court, we were successful in getting a small federal government grant that allowed us to do some work in the clubhouse. We were able to render and paint the walls, new ceiling and lights, and a new kitchen. This has made a big difference to the feel of the club. We undertook a full review of our coaching last year because there had not been any significant review of our coaching needs. We wanted the best coaching service for our club. Future Demand was reappointed, and since then a lot of work has been done by Alexei to develop his program through the club. We've had a good response from our members and going forward it will only get better. Graham Forbes has decided to re-locate, and we acknowledge his contribution to the club and night tennis in particular. We thank him for his work. [Graham indicates that he will stay on for another 12 months as a co-convenor with Alan Edge]. We nearly had a disaster in the pathway next to court 3, with a hole developing. This has been fixed at no expense. In addition, a lot of people do a lot to support the club and we thank them. Ray acknowledges the committee for their hard work this year. Ray says he is not standing as President, and Jason is not returning in the role of Treasurer. Ray will stay involved but not in the President's role.
5. **Night Tennis: Graham Forbes.** Refer to report. The captains do a fantastic job of organising their teams. Strong success rate across the board. A special announcement to the Crushers who have never finished outside the finals in 7 straight seasons. Night tennis continues to pull in a lot of money for the club. Graham wishes Alan all the best in taking on the role and offers his support.
6. **Senior Tennis Report: Phil Thompson.** Refer to report.
7. **Maintenance report: Simon Clarke.** The largest maintenance item was dealing with the sinkhole at the entrance. We've had three working bees, generally well attended. Jill reports on the kitchen upgrade, which has highlighted everything else that needs to be done. For example, our windows are not double glazed. The kitchen is lovely, but it is not always left in the best condition. It was great to secure the 30k grant, and we should look for more! Jill thanks Jan for project managing the kitchen reno. Jan reports that the banners will be returned shortly.
8. **Membership: Jill Ross.** Our membership continues to be strong with 270 on the books. Jill is prepared to hang in for another year to get the process right. She will work closely with Tennis Victoria, and members can soon expect an invoice (or two). We rely on our membership being up-to-date, and will rely on the captains to help cleanse the data. We

need a process in place for people who do not pay fees; to deny them playing rights after a period of time has lapsed.

9. **Coaching: Alexei Demajo.** Refer to report. 2016-17 has been a big step forward. Teams were graded higher than usual, and as a result we had fewer premierships. Long-term, this will be of benefit to the players.
10. **Treasurer's report: Jason Abbruzzese.** Refer to report. We need to build up cash reserves to continue with maintenance and development projects. Rodney queries general under repairs, we have had a lot of items. Four of five significant issues. External court hire has increased. Rodney asks if we can get a discount for electricity, in some instances 30%. To be explored. Phil Thompson would like a phone reinstalled at the Club. Options to be explored. We have to look at how the Convenor declares a wash-out. This is currently done online, and all Club's know the process. It is the role of the Convenor to upload the washout notice. Taking this on notice for the next Committee meeting. Fees for next season are unchanged. The maintenance levy will continue.
11. Questions to the committee: Wind shades, can these be added to the top courts? This is going to be done in the middle of December. Suggestion to turn the clubhouse lights off during night matches, as they are a sight challenge to players. Alexei raises the issue of car-parking along Cyril street, in particular when the block of flats across the road are finished. Some suggestions: go to council for official signs, reserved for tennis only. To be taken on board with the next Committee. Jill asks if we can extend night tennis on the lower courts to 9.30pm. This would have to be broached with the neighbours first. Chris asks about the availability of courts for social tennis during night tennis – we are waiting for online court bookings to come in. The direction is to have one court available on certain nights for social, dependant on the number of teams we had. However, at this stage we are a strong night tennis club and social play is limited. It is a balance. In the absence of a serviceable online booking system, this is challenging to address. Jan would like to see the two top courts groomed. Simon says we can purchase a machine that will do this, but as an expense it will incur a cost which needs ratification by the committee. Simon Verbeek says it is 6k a year to have this done by an external company. He met with John Richards, and he suggested other ways to address grooming, namely having our own ride-on mower with a custom-made brush. This will fluff up the courts and help rejuvenate them. Simon Clarke advocates more signs, to help guide people with court brushing technique (side to side), kitchen tidiness and so on.

There is an issue with the bottom court lights, coming on and off. Ray is following up. Is there a system for changing the passcode on the gates? It will be changed after the next membership/payment phase. Social nights: Mark, Jess and Rob Mirvac are keen to organise something. Pennant fees have changed, we have tried a number of options. This year was user-based (\$10 if you are playing at home for entry fee and balls). It has been messy. Next year it will be a fixed \$50-\$60 up front. This year we paid \$600 up front for pennant fees to Tennis Victoria. It's a user-based system and we have to get better at it.

Rodney Jarvis moved to adopt FY17. Seconded Phil.

Election of Office Bearers

All positions are declared open.

President: Simon Clarke

Vice President: Simon Verbeek

Secretary: Kim Trengove

Treasurer: Chloe Verbeek

General Committee: Jan Michael Buxton, Jill Ross, Chris Davies, Ray Rust, Michael Miller

Night Tennis Convenor: Allan Edge

Maintenance: Open

Senior Competition Convenor: Phil Thompson

Membership: Rodney Jarvis, Jill Ross

Simon Clarke moves a vote of thanks to Ray for the work he has done over the past two years. He has made a big contribution to the club and we thank him. We also thank outgoing treasurer, Jason Abbruzzese

Meeting closes: 20.59 pm