



JULY 2022

TOPSPIN

Dear Members,

My sincere apologies for the delay in this issue going out, but I hope that the contents will make up for the delay. Once again, this “unusual year” has brought with it another round of surprises with Wimbledon, the 3rd Slam of 2022. At the time of writing this editorial, the women’s side will have a new champion and a first time Slam winner in either Jabeur or Rybakina.

On the men’s side, Rafa’s quest for the elusive Calendar Slam is over after his unexpected withdrawal. Now two of the most polarising tennis “villains” will be pitted against another, both chasing history for their own reasons. My cousin has labelled it the “battle of the dicks”, which says it all.

In the past quarter, our Club has seen the transition from the long summer days to the onset of wet weather interfering with play and the surface. On that note, all members should check and update their footwear as necessary. A recent significant accident involving one of our older members is also a timely reminder that more members should sign up for first aid courses for their own good. We cannot assume that medically trained club members will always be on site.

This bumper edition will feature a larger coach’s section to make up for the last edition, as well as some new sections which hopefully might maintain your interest. We are also sadly bidding farewell to one of our beloved



longstanding members.
Howard, we will remember you
always ...

- Glenn

(Yes, its always fun to be Rafa’s UBER ride)



DIARY OF A DESPOT



(aka Supreme Leader's Report)

Hello to all members and welcome to the Winter edition of Topspin.

Well we've had a mixed bag with the weather over the past month or so with some rainy days and then (as I write this) we get blessed with the occasional glorious sunny day much like today. But it is great to see that the wet weather hasn't deterred many of the tennis die-hards in our Club from coming down and having a hit even when the courts are damp. We are very fortunate to have a surface that can still be played on even in damp conditions.

The Club Championships were held over successive weeks in late March and early April and the event was a great success with some high quality tennis being played by all participants. Thank you to all of you who took part in this event – I hope you enjoyed it. Many thanks to our Club Captain Adrian Fowler and Life Member John Cresp for organising this enjoyable tournament.

The Club has a number of social activities coming up over the next couple of months which I hope will help warm up your Winter. I look forward to seeing many of you at these events.

Also, the AGM is coming up in September. While that seems a long way away, I would like to ask members to strongly consider the possibility of serving on the committee. Our Club is run by volunteers and the future success of the Club will only be possible through having strong Committee representation. I can certainly say that it has been a rewarding experience for myself and have learnt a lot over the past few years.

In the meantime, best wishes to everyone and stay warm. And I hope you continue to enjoy your tennis.

- Rob

Ed : Just for fun - I have hidden a more current photo of our beloved illustrious Supreme Leader somewhere in this publication.... See how you go with playing " **SPOT THE DESPOT** " !!

Captain's Log...

June 2022 AD



Firstly, a note of acknowledgement and huge thanks to Glenn Liew for all his efforts in putting together Topspin for us

I would like to welcome our new members – Jorik Proesse, Janine Davidovic, Jeremy Wrobel
Nicky Wraith

Saturday Social

As winter sets in and we start getting a few colder days, we are still getting strong numbers, even when the wind played havoc a few weeks ago and made for an entertaining afternoon.

In August, we will look to do a 4 week trial of the new software system TennisPro for organising sets. If you're particularly interested in organising sets with someone else as part of that trial, please let me know

Wednesday Social

Continuing to get really good numbers along, and several new membership enquiries.

Sunday tennis

In a bid to generate more interest in Sunday tennis, we have run two monthly events in May and June, with great attendance. Thanks to Andy for organising both days. The creative format for both days was enjoyed by all and the upcoming Teams event on 10th July promises to be a lot of fun. If you're interested in putting in a team (2 men and 2 women) or just want to join a team on the day, please let Andy [0450 040 960](tel:0450040960) or myself [0419 883 273](tel:0419883273) know. Coupled with the Sunday pennants team also playing is making Sunday afternoon a busy time again

Regards

- Adrian



Coach's Corner

BUSSELTON TRIP

Several of the FPTC members travelled down to Busselton tennis tournament on the long weekend in early March for what was an enjoyable couple of days of tennis. Notably mentions go out to Denise and Jackie who won the B grade Ladies doubles, Peter who lost in a very close semifinal in the Men's singles Open. Paul Courtis and Vincent Yip also won several matches throughout the weekend and although not actually seeing him I have been told Ruud was present and playing. Nick Bertelli and Penny yip although not playing played a very important role supporting the Floreat players. I would highly recommend this event for next year, the grass courts were immaculate, very well organized and catered for all standards.

KING'S PARK TOURNAMENT

Another great weekend of tennis which several of our members participated in. Peter and I managed to win the Mens Doubles and Denise played fantastic on our way to losing in the final of the mixed doubles. Some great performances from Paul courtis and Penny Di Giovanni and Phebe Schofield. Penny and Phebe had some great wins in the Ladies doubles notable on late Sunday afternoon .

Junior Club Championships

The juniors had a quick turnaround in between the 2021 and 2022 club championships as we brought the Juniors inline with the Senior championships, having played the last 2 in December. I think the change made for a better atmosphere and encouraged more Juniors to play in the Senior events. Notably Kade Eber (15 years old) making it all the way to the Men's Singles Final just narrowly missing out on winning the Title in a tight 3 set match. Congratulations to all our participants for producing a high level of play throughout the 2 weeks. The photos from the 2021 Tournament are also in this edition as it was missed out on the last one.

2021 Junior club championship



Kade Eber
Boys 18&under
Boys 15&under
Runner up



Sho Mallen
Boys 18&under
Boys 15&under
winner



Pear Suk-Udom
Girls 18&under
Girls 15&under
Winner



Emma Xiang
Girls 18&under
Girls 15&under
Runner up



Rayan Jape
Boys 13&under
Runner up



Myron Chu
Boys 13&Under
Winner



Saya Mallen
Girls 13& Under
Winner

Ishika Balram
Girls 13& Under
Runner up



Tvisha Shringarpure
Green Ball
Winner



Alessandra Kelemanis
Green Ball
Runner up

2022 Junior club championship



Kade Eber
Boys 18&under
Runner up



Sho Mallen
Boys 18&under
winner



Pear Suk-Udom
Girls 18&under
Girls 15&under
Winner



Imogen Hubbard
Girls 18&under
Runner up



Myron Chu
Boys 15&Under
Runner up



Aaryan Shah
Boys 15&Under
Winner



Emily Shen
Girls 13& Under
Green ball
Winner



Miles Sealey
Boys 13&Under
Winner

Tvisha Shringapure
Girls 13& Under
Green ball
Runner up

Dylan Marshment
Boys 13&under
Runner up



Kade Eber
Most Improved
Boy



Pear Suk-Udom
Most Improved
Girl



Coach's Corner

BROTHERS HOMECOMING!

I am happy to announce the arrival of a couple of additions to the Men's 1st Team... Jasper and Lincoln Paterson. Jasper and his younger brother Lincoln both started playing their tennis at Floreat, but left to head to the hard courts where most of their tournament play would be on.

After playing at several clubs throughout the last 5 years they have come back to Floreat!

You can watch the brothers in action on Saturdays from 12:30pm along with Peter and another new member Will Burgess, who is a friend of Jasper. These new additions will improve the level of the Men's 1st Team greatly and is well worth the watch.

- Andy





ANDY'S TENNIS TIPS

Next time you're playing doubles why not try out getting the Server's partner to decide where the serve should be placed. Doesn't need to be anything more than 3 choices. Serve wide, at the body or down the T (middle) The benefits of using this tactic are as follows:

For the server:

- One less thing to think about. Forces you to focus on a specific area of the box
- Gives you a clearer understanding of which serves you have success with and which ones you need to work on.

For the server's partner:

- Keeps you focused on each point (not switching off)
- Forces communication with partner
- Allows you to take up a more aggressive starting position Note: start by only deciding where the first serve is to be directed (if you're anything like me the box is good enough for the second serve)



Battle Of The Coaches



Team JASON - Champions 2022

Musings of a Tennis Nut



For this instalment, I want to address an elephant that has been sitting in the room of every post match conference of the pro tour for some time... behavioural issues.

For many decades, the sport was considered genteel and for the more “cultured” amongst the general population. It was polite, non-contact, non-aggressive and governed by abundant strict rules over anything from racquet dimensions to player attire. Some have described it as a sport for the affluent whites. Spectators at the majors and tournaments are expected to remain silent during play and applaud politely when a player wins a point. Contrast that to the “atmosphere” of a raucous football match in a packed stadium and you get my point.

Then in the 70’s there came the first signs of a seismic change in the sport. The attire was still mainly white but the hair was long and wild, and the shorts were ridiculously short! Together with this change in the appearance of the stars we idolised came something previously rarely seen on a tennis court... players questioning umpires, temper tantrums, the occasional racquet thrown and dummy spit. Thanks to characters like Nastase, Connors and The Mac the era of the “bad boys of tennis” was birthed. The women’s tour had a few contrasting characters but was largely spared any on-court spats. Spectators responded in kind, now no longer content to be silent, the sight of their favourite players mouthing off at officials seemed to have emboldened them to also start to holler, boo and heckle in between points. They had paid good money to be there and felt entitled to be part of the “atmosphere”.

Fast forward to today’s game and what we are seeing nowadays was absolutely unthinkable in the days of old. What? Players coming to blows, breaking so many racquets that they had none left, smashing a ball in anger into an umpire so hard that it caused permanent blindness, smashing a racquet into the umpire’s chair and spitting into the crowd? Players testing what is needed to be defaulted from a match or tournament? You know the incidents that I am talking about. If not, you have been living under a rock and you need to watch some of the links below.

When you survey the room, there are always a range of opinions on this matter of player etiquette and behaviour. So my disclaimer here is that this article is only written for light reading and to generate conversation. My opinion is my own and I am entitled to it. Don’t hold it against me. Personally, having been a keen devotee of this sport for many years now, I cannot help but feel that what is happening is heading in the wrong direction and some order needs to be restored before things really get out of control. While it is nice as a fan watch our beloved players have real passion and emotion on the court, it should be limited to something that enhances the game like a fighting spirit and not something that leaves anyone with a bad feeling or an official to fear for their safety.

How did the game get to this point? Have I been asleep for 10 years and missed something? While baby boomers keep recounting Johnny Mac’s infamous “you cannot be serious” speech, it remains entrenched in history because it was so rare to see such petulance and bad behaviour. Nowadays its almost at every major on TV!

In the past decade we have seen some notable headlines :

Serena threaten to ram a ball down a lineswoman's throat and as a result lost a US Open Final (only to repeat the behaviour not long after)

Shapovalov , Tsitsipas and Novak whacking balls in anger then offer a token apology but showing they have learned nothing by being repeat offenders.

Then there is of course our "own" (can we please give him away?) Nick. While he did have a point when asking why Tsitsipas was not defaulted at their recent Wimby showdown, let's not forget his own list of infringements. Disgusting rude language, throwing his racquets when he loses and spitting at the crowd when he felt maligned. What are you, Nick... like 3 years old?

The ones of even more concern to me recently are Novak attacking anything within his reach, and Pliskova and Zverev destroying the umpires chair after losing their matches. Is that just a player's emotion boiling over? Was it just an out of character incident? Novak would have you believe its just his way of "channelling his anger" as evidenced by him playing better after an outburst. Nick wants you to think that if he misbehaves he is deliberately putting on a show for your hard earned money and its good for tennis. Serena says you wouldn't understand because you're not a black woman.

Honestly, I have heard so many lame excuses it's becoming hard to watch the post-match conferences. When will common sense prevail? When will they realise that the laws of physics dictate that when a strong athlete sends a racquet or even a ball into fast orbit with force it will likely hurt someone? When will they feel what an umpire feels when someone is smashing a racquet to smithereens barely inches from your body? The fact that Zverev, Rublev and Pliskova are still in the job and not facing lifetime bans tells me that both the ATP and WTA think that violence is ok as long as nobody ends up in hospital. Giving players token fines as "punishment" to try to show they have done their job by putting in a deterrent ? Please.. What deterrent? It's like me losing 5 cents that rolled out of my pocket at the petrol station.

My point is that (in my humble opinion) it is not a necessary part of the evolution to modern, fast-paced electrifying tennis. Roger and Rafa have proven that you can win multiple Slams without any poor racquet meeting an early demise. Steffi and Barty have shown you can be at the pinnacle of women's sport and remain gracious, humble and well-liked without screaming at the opponent like a psycho killer on every point (read Ostapenko). Don't forget the kids and next generation idolise these players and will think that violence, hostility and spitting are part and parcel of the modern game.

I will leave you with these links to some of the infamous incidents in question. Watch by all means but please DO NOT COPY!

- Mr Peanut

Greatest Smash Hits



In no particular order, I present :

Marcos Baghdatis

<https://youtu.be/JAx7pmfJEDY>

Denis Shapovalov

<https://youtu.be/3XTjvVGUyXY>

Jelena Ostapenko

<https://youtu.be/vPhiBazkhMU>

Karolina Pliskova

<https://youtu.be/3VrBbT7Mtu0>

Alexander Zverev

<https://youtu.be/jD-FkGeeR-U>

Serena Williams

<https://youtu.be/2RCi1dl0jfk>

Novak Djokovic

<https://youtu.be/6x1dbMnUSBk>



VALE HOWARD JONES

It is with regret that the Committee advise members of the recent passing of long standing FPTC member, Howard Jones.

Howard was born in Bromley in the UK in 1937. He obtained a PhD in Microbiology from Reading University and then did postdoctoral research in the USA at both Yale and Michigan State Universities. He came to Australia in the 70s to work initially with CSIRO in Canberra and then as an environmental scientist at the Fisheries Research Laboratory at Watermans Bay until his retirement in 2000. During this time he joined the Floreat Park Tennis Club and remained a popular and enthusiastic member for over 40 years.

He was a regular player on Saturday afternoons and also played on Tuesday afternoons as an integral part of a fellow group of FPTC members, (fondly known as the "Tuesday Group"), until 2021 when the years and illness took over. At that time some members of the group decided to forgo tennis and meet socially to solve some of the world problems over a cocktail or two which they continue to do, and Howard was a regular participant until his passing. He was a great supporter of FPTC social events and busy bees throughout his time at the Club and was a member of the bar roster.





Howard was an excellent linguist with command of six languages. His language skills enabled him to travel extensively for both general knowledge and at times to teach languages in other countries including Japan. French was his speciality and he spent considerable time attending Alliance Francaise in Nedlands.

During his travels to France for the summer break he worked for a UK travel company assisting with bike tours for holiday cyclists which also enabled him to live like a local and practice his linguistic skills as well as tennis and Petanque with the locals.

Another travel enjoyment was his visits to South America to pursue his Tango dancing passion. He was an accomplished Tango dancer and was a member of a Tango dance group in Perth. Due to this passion, he arranged for a professional Tango dancer to perform at the 2013 Xmas Party at FPTC.

Although a lifelong bachelor, he was also a charming ladies man and a true gentleman. Well educated, quiet, respected and liked by all of his acquaintances, he will be sadly missed...



Ed: Many thanks to Dieter, Max, Wendy, Rob, Don and Frederick for all their hard work in compiling this fitting tribute to Howard.



CLUB MEMBERSHIP NEWS

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

It's hard to believe that we have completed another club year (ends 30th June 2022) and that it is time for our memberships to be renewed. The great news is that your committee has again decided to keep our membership categories and rates **unchanged**.

For those members that have registered online (now the vast majority), renewing your membership is straight forward. You will receive an e-mail at the end of June with a link that allows you to quickly confirm your membership type and pay online by credit card or via bank transfer to the club's account.

For those members that don't have access to a computer, it's still an easy task. Please pay your membership fees directly to the club's bank account as per the details above (Commonwealth Bank BSB: 066 000 Acc. No. 11194380 and please include your name).

Membership Category	Annual fee
ADULT	\$360
COUPLE	\$640
FAMILY (COUPLE & ALL CHILDREN U18 at 1/7/22)	\$640
UNDER 25 (at 1/7/22)	\$200
JUNIOR (U18 at 1/7/22)	\$110
PARENT AS JNR HIT UP PARTNER	\$40
COUNTRY	\$165
SOCIAL	\$35

BOOK A COURT

We continue to be pleased with the new Book a Court system and look to improve the management of this. As of 1/7/2022, our club coach and committee have decided to move to a constant 5:30 pm peak/off peak timing over the whole year and simplify the payments for members playing with non-members.

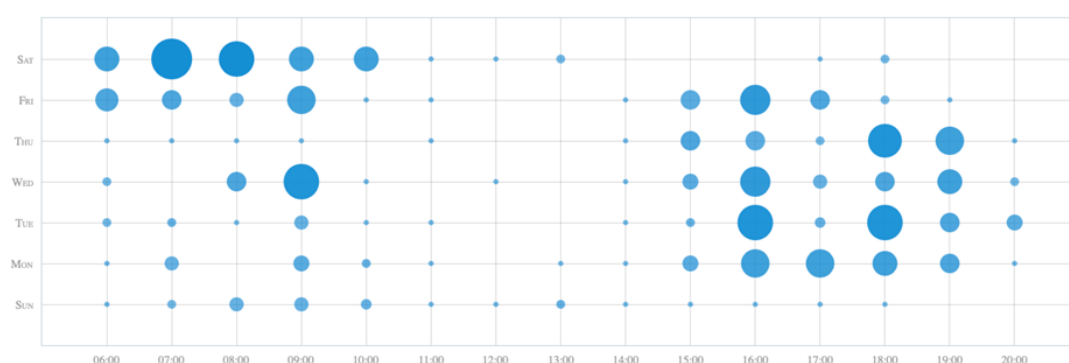
	Members (\$/hr)	Non Members (\$/hr)
Off-peak hours (<5:30 pm)	\$0 (members only) or	\$15
Peak hours (> 5:30 pm)	\$15	\$20

The peak/off peak approach is designed to help manage peak court usage times and not linked to the requirement for lights. If lights are required in your peak hour booking, they are included in the price.

The simplified approach to members playing with non-members means you only need to identify one non-member in your booking to get the correct rate for your court. This is required for off-peak times only as peak time court hire is the same price with or without non-members. This inclusion of non-member players requires members to be honest in declaring the non-members in their booking.

You may not know that it is our Club Coach (Floreat Park Tennis Academy or FPTA) that is responsible for managing the hiring and use of our courts. The revenue raised from **court hire partially offsets the monthly fee** paid by the FPTA to the club. As a result, if a court fee is not paid as required, the FPTA effectively ends up making that payment.

Peak Booking Times ●



An example of the sort of information we get from the Book a Court system.

MAKING TENNIS EVEN GREENER!



Did you know that an estimated **10 million tennis balls** are purchased in Australia each year? Unfortunately, at the end of their useful lives, all of them end up either in landfills or in our waterways, eventually working their way into the ocean.

To address this environmental concern, we have partnered with @gameonrecycling to collect and recycle tennis balls. From now on, you can dispose your unwanted tennis balls in the collection unit at the front door of the clubhouse.

We look forward to collecting, processing, and recycling your tennis balls! We have already sent two full boxes of balls for recycling and look forward to sending many more.

Approx. 220 collection sites are being established around Australia to collect old and unwanted sporting equipment. Items collected will be sent to processing facilities in West Melbourne to be sorted and separated into:

- Items that can be reused and put back into circulation, thereby extending the life of the product;

or

- Items that have well and truly come to the end of their life and need to be recycled.

Re-use items will be made available to various community clubs, groups, institutions and organisations, alleviating the costs of purchasing new equipment. Items destined for recycling will be granulated into 5mm pieces and used in a variety of manufacturing processes including producing soft fall matting.

A big thank you to @wilsontennis and Australia New Zealand Recycling Platform for launching Game On Recycling.

- Russell

Social Committee Report

The second quarter of the year has been quite busy with lots of tennis played despite a few wet days! Tennis has been interspersed with social drinks and nibbles at the busy Racquet Bar especially on a Saturday evening.



Winners of the 2022 Club Championships were celebrated with delicious baked brie, prawn toasts and smoked salmon. The Captain vs Coach event was followed by some tasty pork sliders, the Battle of the Coaches event had chicken satay, and the participants of the King and Queen of The Court competition were replenished with pizzas! (See pic above—Ed : Stop it, Denise, I'm getting hungry reading this!!)

All members are welcome to join these Sunday afternoon tennis events, the next one is scheduled to be held on Sunday 10th July and is a mixed teams event.

In honour of the Wimbledon Final on Saturday 9th July we would like all members to wear "white" to social tennis. A special "Wimbledon" afternoon tea will be provided.

The 2022 FPTC annual Quiz Night is to be held on Saturday 17th September do get your tables ready early as this event is usually very popular!! And while you have your diaries open, don't forget to pen in Saturday 3rd December for our annual Christmas Party !

- Denise



Kings & Queens



Winners 2022— L-R : Sebastian, Franco, Scotty, Lesley, Michelle



Unsung Heroes

In this new section of the Magazine, we would like to pay a quick tribute to a Club Member who has worked tirelessly behind the scenes to keep our Club as wonderful as it is. We would like to keep this little spot to convey our sincere thanks and appreciation for all that they have done quietly in the background.

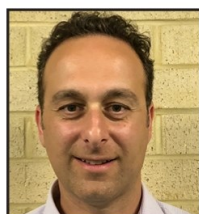
This edition our unsung hero is none other than our longstanding member (and pillar of the Club) Garry Briggs, affectionately known to us as Briggsy. Garry has single-handedly revamped and renewed our Club Champions honour board on the Club walls. On the note of Champions, for those new members who are unaware, Briggsy is a true living legend and “The GOAT” of FPTC having won the Club Championship more times than Federer has won Wimbledon.. And he did it over 30 years!!



Thank you Garry!!!



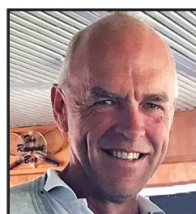
2021/2022
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Robert Nakhoul



VICE PRESIDENT
Fred Santich



CAPTAIN
Adrian Fowler



CLUB MANAGER/HEAD COACH
Andy Mackechnie



SECRETARY
Helen McCready



TREASURER
Catherine Dolphin



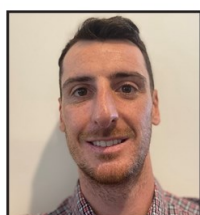
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Philip Nadebaum



SOCIAL COORDINATOR
Denise Cramer



MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR
Sue Walsh



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COMMITTEE
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