

1ST APRIL 2022

# TOPSPIN

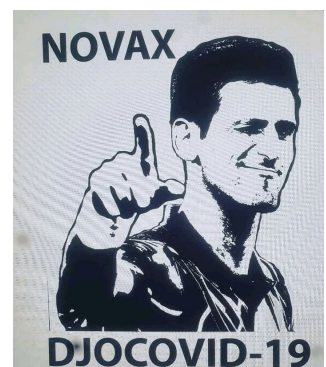
Dear Members,

Wow! One Slam down and 3 more to go...

In just a flash, a quarter of the “new” year that promised so much has passed and in doing so left us with mixed emotions. I sincerely hope that all who read this are safe, healthy and well. When I reluctantly agreed to take on this job, I realised I had big boots to fill after Leonie’s tenure and am grateful for her continued guidance while I settle in.

As our state slowly transitioned to losing its utopian COVID zero status, our eyes could not be peeled off the telly while watching amazing history take place at the AO this year. Our home-grown Aussie champ Ash Barty silenced the naysayers by being the first Aussie woman since Christine O’Neil to win the Ladies’ Singles. More about Ash later... Before we could recover from the euphoric rush of finally having one of our own triumph, we were treated to the epic 5 set Men’s Singles Final, where Rafael Nadal rose from what appeared to be a certain defeat to turn the tables in his indomitable fashion and become the first man to 21 Slams in history. I know it may be “old news” but I am dedicating this first edition of Topspin in 2022 to commemorating our “Home Slam” which started in shambles but ended etched into the history books. This is what makes kids want to play tennis!

- Glenn





## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**CLASSIFIED**

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

I hope you have all enjoyed your tennis over the long hot summer that we have just experienced. It's amazing to see people still keen to come down and have a hit regardless – admittedly you are all much braver than I 😊 Please do look after yourselves in these hot conditions and make sure you stay hydrated.

Australia Day saw the Club keep up the tradition of playing a few sets of social tennis followed by a champagne breakfast. The event was well attended and was a great opportunity to acknowledge that many of us come from different cultural backgrounds and reflect on how lucky we are to live in this country. Thank you to Denise for organising the breakfast and to Adrian for organising the sets on the day.

I'm happy to report that the Club has a new way of managing court bookings utilising the Book-a-Court system provided free of charge via our affiliation with TennisWest. As with all systems, there are always a few teething problems to begin with, but these can be resolved over time and on the whole I think the system is a good step forward for the Club and the way it manages court bookings and usage. I am really pleased with the way that people have responded to the new system. Many thanks to Russell and Catherine for their efforts in getting the system up and running and doing the necessary up-front testing to ensure the system worked properly.

The Club Championships are upon us and I would like to wish all those participating the very best of luck over the coming weeks. I know that there are likely to be many obstacles to the organisation due to COVID, weather, etc but I hope all goes as smoothly as possible and the event is a great success.

And finally, I would like to thank Glenn Liew who has so kindly volunteered to take over the role of TopSpin editor from Leonie Edwards. Best wishes Glenn and we look forward to reading the publications which will no doubt espouse your own individual style!

- Rob

# *Captain's Log...*

## *April 2022 AD*



Firstly, a note of acknowledgement and huge thanks to Leonie Edwards for all her efforts in putting together Topspin for the last 2 years

Secondly a big thank you to our new editor – Glenn Liew. Big shoes to fill and good luck

I would like to welcome our new members – Franco Roselli, Aaron Brown, Yvonne Buller

### **Saturday Social**

The trial of starting at 1.30 pm on the Saturday extended for longer than originally planned but has now finished up and we have reverted back to the 2pm start, albeit now trialling an additional set after the afternoon tea break and so finishing at 5.30 pm

Feedback – Overall, the 1.30 pm start time was mostly well received but didn't suit all members, so we will leave it as the 2pm start for now and perhaps review it again when the next summer season comes around. The trialled short afternoon tea break also reverts back to 30 minutes

On Saturday (19/03) , we trialled a new software system for organising sets. Huge thanks to Phil Nadebaum for an enormous amount of work in working with the software developer to implement necessary improvements from the existing system. We'll continue to trial it following club championships, while seeking feedback from members and look at additional improvements. Any comments welcome

Duty Captain will still have the option to choose whether to use the computer system or the manual board to organise sets

A couple of reminders for all players:

Please get your name tag out of the box when you arrive and place it on the board to help the Duty Captain out

If you are wanting to stop for the day or session, please **do not** remove your nametag from the board, but just draw a line through the sets you don't want to play





## Club Championships

Commenced on Saturday March 26 – Thanks so much to John Cresp for lending his experience and know-how to set this tournament up as he has done in previous years. Thanks also to Andy and Fred for their efforts in helping John to get it organised



The weather gods shined on us and the opening weekend showcased some really great tennis, including a couple of epic 3 – setters in the ladies doubles.

COVID unfortunately has disrupted things so please bear with us as we re-schedule where possible but please note we may not be able to accommodate every situation

Look forward to another entertaining weekend

- Adrian





# PROPERTY REPORT

We're looking for a member who is a keen gardener to revamp the planting down the gallery. The job would involve shrub selection, procurement and planting. All costs would be borne by the Club. The gallery garden beds are reticulated and we have a gardener who carries out regular maintenance of all the outdoor areas, so no ongoing work would be necessary. If you would like to offer your expertise please have a word to me or any committee member.

Following suggestions from pennant players, the Club has purchased shade umbrellas which will drop onto posts fixed to the benches to provide shade to players on courts 9 to 12 during end changes. As summer and pennants have now finished it may be some time until members see them deployed!

Eagle-eyed members using the toilets may have noticed that new cisterns have been installed.

A new smaller vending machine has replaced the old large machine and as well as working properly it provides better access to the water coolers. Also the bar has invested in a new freezer to replace the previous one which had started to malfunction.

*Phil Nadebaum*



## *Social Committee Report*

*As is tradition Floreat Park Tennis Club once again celebrated Australia Day with a wonderful morning of social tennis followed by champagne and croissants for breakfast. Approximately 40 members then proudly if not loudly attempted to sing the Australian National Anthem.*

*Nopefully Floreat members will support all Club Championships finals matches scheduled, weather permitting, for Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup> where refreshments will be served and presentations awarded.*

*We are currently looking for new (or old!), male or female, faces to join our wonderful social committee to help provide social activities for all Floreat members. If you are at all interested in being part of this group with virtually no formal meetings (email is a wonderful thing!) please let me know as we would welcome fresh ideas/suggestions and an extra pair of hands!*

*Please refer to the **club website** for all info and bookings regarding past and future social happenings at the club.*

*Thanks*

*Denise*

