

2023 Club Championships Report

Andy Shuttleworth

There is nothing quite like the PFFTTT! Sound as a new tin of tennis balls is opened and echoes throughout the valley. This accompanied by the youthful excitement of juniors gathering with their rackets in anticipation of competition. You never know.....today could be the day that ignites the spark in the next Leyton Hewitt or Ash Barty.

As the parents stand arms crossed making excuses for the absence of their name on the sign up sheet, or recalling heroic on court antics of yesteryear. The fun loving sledging was almost as competitive and enjoyable as the on court performances.

The volunteers and organisers had things running smoothly right from the start with all the courts being used throughout the day, not to mention the BBQ sizzling away under the tree and keeping everyone fed.

New coach Adam Fleming gave up his Saturday morning to run drills with the juniors which was "above and beyond". His infectious passion for tennis rubbed off on all the kids and made for a wonderful morning for everyone.

Then it was down to business!! the casual scheduling seemed to suit all competitors as people seamlessly bounced from singles ,to doubles, to mixed doubles and back. Whoever wasn't playing. was watching. Sighs of excitement were heard as prolonged rallies reached a climax and cheers of support for some amazing shots.

Parents playing with children , friends playing against friends. The configurations and combinations were endless. The only common denominator was that everyone was having fun.

If you were there you would've had a great day, if you weren't then keep an eye out for it next year. For a little country town we have a great club ,wonderful volunteers and fantastic facilities. As I've rediscovered in the last few months tennis is such a great sport for all ages.

The results were:

Boys Juniors

Winner: Zek Shuttleworth, Runner-up: Luke Cosgriff

Girls Juniors

Winner: Emily Macklan (by forfeit)

Singles

Open Mens

Winner: Jase Gentile

Runner-up: Tom Carrie

Open Womens –

Winner: Claire Lucas-Gear

Runner-up: Mish Forrer

Mixed Doubles-

Section A

Winners: Claire Lucas-Gear & Andy Shuttleworth

Runners-up: Mish Forrer & Tom Carrie

Section B

Winners: Alison Kennet & Ivan Mock

Runners-up: Heike Fleckenstein & Eileen Johnston

Section C

Winners: Zek Shuttleworth & Andy Shuttleworth

Runners-up : Gill & Ian