

Mount Beauty Tennis Club

Down the Line

Official Newsletter of the
Mount Beauty Tennis Club

Email <mtbeautytennis@gmail.com>

Website <<https://play.tennis.com.au/mtbeautytennisclub>>



Welcome to the **February 2024 edition** of **Down the Line**. Contributions from members are always welcome.

Presidents Message



Gill Harrowfield

Welcome to the Summer season of tennis for 2024. All competitions and social groups are in full swing, so we look forward to a great year.

Generally, the courts are in good condition, but as we head into autumn, we must hold some working bees. Our beautiful but

pesty tree is already dropping pods and will soon start to drop its leaves. Although we will seek assistance from the Shire, we will also need a helping hand from members to keep all courts in playing order. Stay tuned for more information at a later date.

To members using the Clubhouse, please leave it clean and tidy. Just inside the Ladies' bathroom, behind the curtain, are cleaning materials. If you notice that we need more supplies, please inform a committee member. One way we can keep membership fees low is by not employing cleaners or gardeners but relying on the contribution and goodwill of our members.

I would really like to thank Adam Fleming for his wonderful work in coaching our juniors in 2023. Adam stepped into the position on short notice last year and was an instant hit with our juniors and their parents. We wish Adam and his family well. Fortunately, we have secured a new coach - more about this later in the newsletter.

I would also like to give a very big thank you to Mish Forrer, who has retired from her position as coordinator of the Night Mixed Competition. Mish has done a mighty job over many years and is well overdue for a break. Thank you to Juliette Oddoux and Sam Smith Roberson, who have agreed to assume this position.

Best wishes to everyone for 2024 - happy hitting

2023/24 Committee

Executive

- President: *Gill Harrowfield*
- V President: *Michelle Forrer*
- Secretary: *Paul L'Huillier*
- Treasurer: *Paul L'Huillier (Acting)*

Ordinary Members

- *Ivan Mock*
- *Andrew Robertson*
- *Claire Lucas-Gear*
- *Andrea Moorman*
- *Andrew Greenfield*

Portfolios

Newsletter Editor

- Paul L'Huillier

Deputy Editor

- Gill Harrowfield

*Website Administrator &
Membership Secretary*

- Paul L'Huillier

Wednesday Night Coordinator

- Michelle Forrer

K&DTA Section 1 Manager

- Lisa Bowring

K&DTA Section 2 Manager

- Sonja Greenfield

*K&DTA Section 3 Manager &
Junior Co-ordinator*

- Claire Lucas-Gear

K&DTA Club Representative

- Paul L'Huillier

Club Email

<mtbeautytennis@gmail.com>

Some Important Dates

- **Social Sunday** — **Sunday 21st April 2024**. Starts at 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm. Members are to bring their own food, drink, and a plate to share. There will be no BBQ. This will comprise social hitting and some team play if members wish. *Please come along and support this initiative.*
- **Social Night** – **Over 50's** (7:00 pm for 1.5 hours)— Two attempts were made to hold this evening of tennis at the end of 2023, but it was washed out both times. Another attempt will be made in March/April. *We have heard about the 'lights', so let us try them out.* Bring a partner and a plate of supper to share. **Note** — This session will replace the normal Tuesday morning session.
- **K&TDTA** — **Semi-Finals** — Saturday 24th February and **Grand Final** Saturday 2nd March 2024. The grand final is at Georges Creek.
- **Club Championships** — **Saturday, 16th March** (10:00 am to 3:00 pm). Refer to details in this newsletter.

Gill Harrowfield — Life Membership



Our current president, **Gill Harrowfield**, was recently awarded a Life Membership. It was presented to Gill at the Over 50's Group Christmas Luncheon at the Rocky Valley Café in December 2023. There were 20 in attendance.

Gill has played an active role in the club. For the past ten years, she has been a committee member and was a club member for several years prior. On behalf of the club, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to Gill for her ongoing commitment and support. The club wished to recognise her



contributions and achievements by awarding her a Life Membership. Congratulations Gill. Well deserved.

Read Gill's Citation [\[HERE\]](#)

To **nominate a member for Life Membership**, please refer to the club website to check out the criteria. **Click** [\[HERE\]](#) **to view.**

2024 Alpine Shire Australia Day Awards



2024 Alpine Shire Community Organisation of the Year

Pictured from left: Paul L'Huillier (secretary/treasurer), Tony Keeble (Shire Councillor & club member), Gill Harrowfield (president) and Andrew Robertson (committee member)

The **Mount Beauty Tennis Club** was awarded the **2024 Community Organisation of the Year** at the Alpine Shire Australia Day Awards on 26th January. This award was for the whole the Alpine Shire. President Gill Harrowfield accepted the award on behalf of the club.

The award reflects the hard work put in by the committee and the great support we are getting from members.

Attendance at our social (over 50's & Thursday ladies), night and pennant competitions is encouraging.

The coaching conducted last year saw family and junior numbers expand.

Court renovations, new light installation, court booking and light hiring automation via the Internet have boosted interest in the club.

Club Membership – was open on 1st October 2023

If you have not renewed your membership, please do so. — Click [\[HERE\]](#) to join.

Make sure you use the **same login as last year**, i.e. Facebook, Google or your own entered email address and password. **Note** – You will not get access if you change your login method. If you have problems contact the secretary.

Around the Courts

1. Night Mixed Competition

2024 Autumn Competition – Tuesday & Wednesday

The Autumn Social Tournament is ready to begin with a great sign-up of 39 people! An additional night will accommodate these numbers this season and ensure that games do not go too late. On Tuesdays, four teams will play from 6:45 pm, and on Wednesdays, six teams from 6:45 pm. To make it easier for players to remember their teams and add a bit of extra fun, **team names** will be added this season to the draw. *Juliette Oddoux* and *Sam Smith Roberson* have put their hand up to help organise the tournaments.



2024 Night Competition Organisers

Sam Smith Roberson & Juliette Oddoux. They have taken over from long-time organiser Michelle Forrer. Michelle, thank you for all the work you have done for the club over many years. They are both keen representatives of the [Mt Beauty Lakers Team](#) in the local Saturday Pennant Competition.

Competition/ball fee - Competition fees for the ten weeks are \$40.00, and for this competition, it must be paid by direct credit or over the counter at the Bendigo Bank **by Round 2** — no money on the night.

Bank details are **BSB:** 633 000 & **Account No:** 207 823 576. Please reference the payment with your name & ball fees.

Fill-Ins - Having the Night Competition over two nights means a fill-in could be taken from the other night if your circumstances require it. **Note:** Your \$40.00 competition/ball fee pays for your fill-in's fee.

The Competition has a [Facebook](#).

2. Over 50's

This social group meets every Tuesday and Friday, starting at 8:00 am, for 1.5 hours of doubles play. New players welcome- turn up on the day. It's a great social morning.

3. Thursday Ladies

This small group of friendly ladies meet at 9:00 am every Thursday except for school holidays. You are welcome to join them! If interested, please get in

touch with the coordinator — *Leonie Prime*, by email at leoniemprime@gmail.com

4. Kiewa & Talgarno District Tennis Association Pennant Competition

This inter-town competition starts in October and continues throughout the Summer months, with finals in early March. Sections 1 & 2 (Seniors) play on Saturday afternoon, and Sections 3 (Juniors) play on Saturday morning.

Mount Beauty Lakers* have Section 1 and 2 senior teams (3 men and 3 women make up a team, (only 3 sets of doubles are played) and a Section 3 junior team – **Mount Beauty Mischief** (singles and doubles are played). For more information about this competition, visit the [Association's website](#).

Junior Teams

Also, *Claire Lucas-Gear* has been excellently organising the junior teams for several years, but it is time for her to have a break. If you can help, please get in touch with Claire at clairelq@hotmail.com.

In or out?

Who is responsible for calling shots in or out?

The court etiquette in this regard is as follows:

1. Each player is responsible for calling shots OUT on his or her SIDE of the court.
2. If the shot is IN, do not say anything. If the shot is OUT, shout OUT whether or not you swing at or hit the ball.



What if you are NOT SURE if a ball is in or out?

When a ball bounces so close to a line that you don't know whether it was in or out, it should be played as a GOOD Shot. Do not ask to replay the point. Either have the courage to call it OUT or the DECENCY to assume it was in. Don't ask spectators what they think. If you ask your OPPONENT's opinion, accept it. It is better not to ask.

While it's rude to question your opponent's line calls if you really think you are being diddled, ask once, firmly: "Are you sure?" then move on.

Doubles — When returning service, *the partner of the receiver should generally call the service line for him/her*. The *receiver should generally call the centre and side service lines*. The call needs to be loud enough to stop their opponents/partners from playing.

Hot Shots

This programme was offered to children 5 – 12 years for four weeks in Term 4 2023. Thanks to *Claire Lucas-Gear* and *Alison Kennett* who underwent the training required to run this programme. The programme was well attended and was a great success. Claire and Alison have agreed to run the programme again- dates are still to be confirmed. We will let you know when more information becomes available.

Racquet Fence

We have probably seen or heard about the fences and chairs at Falls Creek made from old skis and snowboards.

The committee would like to **experiment** with something similar at the courts but made from old tennis racquets attached to the fence — a WELCOME sign has been suggested made from racquets. Do you have any ideas?

If you have an old racquet (wooden, composite or otherwise) you no longer want and wish to donate to the club for the fence, please drop it off at the clubhouse. Ask your friends if they have one as well.



Coaching

The club is very fortunate to have the services of **Garry Byrnes** – a professional and experienced coach. Garry offers group and private lessons for juniors [and adults on request.] **Click [HERE](#) to view.**

Contact Garry if you wish your child to take lessons (contact details on the website).

Garry Byrnes – Profile



Tennis has been a cornerstone of my family's involvement for a significant period.

My coaching portfolio includes state, national, and world-ranked players, and I am well-versed in working with beginners, intermediate, and advanced players alike.

I had a coaching tenure spanning 12 years for the McDonald's squad. This involved coaching advanced kids from all clubs in an area under my direction. I possess a wealth of experience in guiding players of varying skill levels.

As a junior, I held the prestigious #1 junior ranking; I was an active member of the Victoria Junior State Squad for four years. I played Senior State Grade Pennant for years and won several country tournaments.

Noteworthy achievements include my son Daniel's ascent to the #1 U18 junior ranking and representing Victoria in the Linton Cup. Furthermore, Daniel played a pivotal role as the #1 player for Oklahoma State University USA, securing All-American honours and placing among the top 20 players in America.

Similarly, son Nathan achieved the #1 U16 junior ranking and represented Victoria in the Reid Cup. His journey continued as an Oklahoma State (USA) Division 1 player.

Both Daniel and Nathan attained world rankings before encountering setbacks due to injuries.

2024 Club Championships

- **When:** Saturday 16th March
- **Time:** 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
- **Cost:** Singles – Seniors & Juniors **FREE**
Doubles – \$10.00 (seniors & juniors)
- **Grades:**
 - Open – Men's Singles
 - Open – Women's Singles
 - A Grade – Doubles*
 - B Grade – Doubles
 - C Grade – Doubles
 - Open – Junior Singles (boys & girls one Grade)



*either two men, two women or mixed

Note — Players can SEED themselves for Doubles or leave it to the organisers. If you wish to play with a particular player, email the secretary <mtbeautytennis@gmail.com> and let him know that fact; otherwise, the organisers will allocate you a partner.

• Entry

- It opens **online** on *Saturday, 2nd March, and closes on Wednesday, 13th March*, i.e. 3, days before the Championships. Please enter early to assist the organisers in working out the draw and pairings.
- **Online** via the club's website [Competition](#) Page. **Note** – scroll right to the bottom to select your entries and pay the appropriate fee. Singles is free, but you still need to enter.

All members are encouraged to participate in the Club Championships. It is a fun day with lots of good tennis, great company and a barbecue thrown-in.

Over the Net (snippets of news around the club)

1. **When leaving the courts** — It has been brought to the committee's attention that on occasions, the courts are left unlocked and the clubhouse similar. Please be a responsible member and check that the gate and door are locked on leaving.
2. **Clubhouse cleaning** — Feel free to use the vacuum cleaner if you notice the carpet needing care.
3. **Memberships:** Families 16, Adult 78, juniors not in a family membership 15 and life members 12.
4. **Australian Tennis Open** — We had some members attending for a day, i.e. Lisa & Callum Bowering, Peter Donnan, Eileen Johnson, Evie Nowicka, Rohan Luxton, Andy & Zelk Shuttleworth, Paul L'Huillier, and others the editor doesn't know about.

5. **The display boards in the clubhouse** have been updated, i.e. Life Membership and Club Champions.
 6. **Primary School court usage** — Three half-hour sessions per week in Term 1.
 7. **Secondary College court usage** — Four weeks, two 45-minute sessions/week in Term 1.
 8. **Night Mixed Tennis** — Held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays nights. It's huge!
 9. **Ladies' Thursday Tennis** — Looking for more players. It's very social.
 10. **Second-hand Balls for Sale** — \$2.00/can. The Money Bucket is on the table.
 11. **Members' usage of lights** — \$5.00/hour/court. When you Book a Court (free), you receive two PINs: a **Gate Access PIN** and a **Light Access PIN**. The light access PIN is entered on the Keypad to the left of the clubhouse door. Read the information.
 12. **Racquet restringing** — this can be done at SportsPower 3/435 Dean St Albury Tel: (02) 6021 5769.
 13. **Ball Machine** — It is getting plenty of use. Have you tried it yet? The club is purchasing 100 new *pressure-less* balls. *Normal balls are not to be used in the machine.*
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Learn Tennis

Instructional Videos & PDFs

Check out the club website [Coaching > Learn Tennis](#) for a great selection of instruction videos and PDF documents on all aspects of learning tennis techniques.



Door Code & Access to Venue Information – A Reminder!

Any club member can access the clubhouse whenever they use the courts for free.

The code to the lock on the clubhouse door will be emailed to members as they join for 2023/24. Note — if you input the wrong code, press **C** to clear, then re-enter the correct code. For security reasons, please do not give the code to anyone else. If non-members start accessing the clubhouse, we must change the code. If you have forgotten the code, please email the secretary, mtbeautytennis@gmail.com, and it will be sent to you.

Use of the venue is subject to the following conditions.

Access to the Venue

1. Access to the Clubhouse by members

Members have access to the door code and are permitted to use the clubhouse **amenities** (kitchen, refrigerator, hot water, tea/coffee

etc), [facilities](#) (toilets) and [equipment](#) (ball machine, radar gun, old balls and spare racquets). Members are required to leave the clubroom in a tidy state.

2. Access to the tennis courts *(free to members)*

Use your mobile phone and the **QR Code** on the gate, **OR** log on to the **club's website** and select Court Booking. You will be provided with a **Gate Access PIN** enabling access to the court via the main gate entrance at the date and time specified within your booking confirmation.

A **Light Access PIN** is also included when you book. The public and members all pay for the lights, i.e. \$5/hour/court. This fee is charged for a 7:00 pm or later booking.

Enter the PIN on the PIN pad, and press the **Confirm key** (bottom right) at the main gate entrance. Once you enter your PIN, the PIN pad will light green, and the gate can then be opened. Your PIN will be active for 10 minutes before your booking time and expire 10 minutes after your booking time.

If the main gate entrance is already open or unlocked, you must still enter your PIN before entering the facility. Please close the lock on exiting the courts with the keypad facing outwards.

The Clubhouse – what a great facility



Mount Beauty Tennis Club

HOME ABOUT US NEWS MEMBERSHIP COMPETITIONS COURT BOOKING MORE



Club Website

Want to know something about the club? You will find it on the website – there are a number of **sub-menus** under the main menus. Tell potential members about it.

Click [HERE](#) to view.

Thank you to our Supporters

