



# REID TENNIS CLUB



Established 1928

## PRESIDENTS REPORT 2021/2022

This report covers the period 1 July 21 to 30 June 2022. It is my 9th report to the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

With the foundation of the Club in 1928 this is perhaps the 94th AGM. The minutes of the 1975 AGM reported that that meeting was number 47. At that time, club membership was 71.

The club has had five Presidents in the last 60 years or so. With the late Jack Langham retiring as President after 40 years of service, Mark Phillips was President in 2002/05; the late Alison Ade was President during 2005/2008 and the late John Gavin President from December 2008 to October 2013.

The Club is affiliated with Tennis ACT. Committee members attend all their Club Forums and other ad hoc meetings.

I want to thank the Committee for their work and support during the year. The Club is fortunate to have such a committed group to manage the Club.

Sue Willis as Vice President for her initiatives, strong support and as League Co-ordinator; Peter Willis as Secretary for recording our meetings during the year and for providing guidance; Ann Poole as Treasurer ( July/October 21) for managing our financial affairs; Phil Bignell for taking over from Ann as Treasurer; Michele Grant for managing our membership on the Clubspark platform and organising social functions; Michael Poole for his insightful support particularly with our IT support systems and for managing the asbestos issues in the club house; Brian McFarlane, another Reid resident, for his support and encouragement and Neil Lynch for agreeing to review and update the Constitution and Resolutions Register.

The clubs is fortunate to have such a dedicated and resourceful Committee. Of the 8 committee members, 5 live in the suburb of Reid, truly a community tennis club.

In addition to the Committee, I would like to acknowledge the support provided by the captains of the various groups who have had permanent bookings over many years. Members of those groups are the backbone of the club. Keith Croft for his assistance with maintenance issues and Ian Warden for enhancing and maintaining

the gardens Many compliments are received about the varied floral displays during the year.

## **NEWCOMBE MEDAL**

The Australian Tennis Awards night was held in Melbourne on 17 December 21.

The highlight of the event for our club was that Sue Willis, Vice President, won the Newcombe medal for Most Outstanding 35+ Tennis Senior.

Earlier in the year, Sue won two Tennis ACT awards - Most Outstanding 35+ Tennis Senior and Adult club player of the year.

At a Tennis Canberra function earlier in the year, Terry Walker won the Volunteer of the Year award in the ACT which attracted an ANZ Bank prize of \$5,000 for the tennis club.

On behalf of the Committee and members, congratulations Sue. A memorable year.

## **COVID**

COVID continued to impact the club. The courts were closed on 12 August 21 and later re-opened subject to some restrictions. Those restrictions were lifted on 14 October 21 when the club returned to "normal."

## **BOOK A COURT**

The most significant change to the management of the club continues to be Book a Court and Clubspark. It has revolutionised the day to day running of the club, including court bookings and details of financial transactions while providing information about club membership, such as age; gender; financial status and contact details including post codes. For example, a quarter of our members live in Reid and more than 30% on members are under 35.

The impact of Book a Court cannot be over estimated. Just a few years ago the club house and courts were not locked and court bookings were made on a booking sheet in the porch of a local house with fees deposited in the mail box. The club has gone from a 1950 type arrangement to the latest international tennis court management system.

I wish to thank Peter Willis, Michele Grant and Michael Poole for their enthusiastic approach to running these systems.

## **TREE ROOTS AROUND THE COURTS**

This has been a continuing problem for many years.

Discussions continued with the the ACT Government to install a root barrier around the courts. Initially, the Government rejected our request. Following further representations the Government agreed to make a small contribution. The outcome was that in March 22, a root barrier was installed around 3 sides of courts 3 and 4.

At the same time, the club funded the root barrier around the top courts, 1 and 2.

Finally, tree root barriers are now around most areas of the courts. A barrier will need to be installed along the Currong St end of courts 3 and 4 when the court surfaces are replaced.

### **KITCHEN AND BATHROOMS**

Negotiations with tradesman continued with the renovations. Thanks to Michael Poole who managed the asbestos aspects in these areas.

The lino in the bathrooms contained some asbestos. This was removed and sealed.

Hopefully, the work will be completed in coming months.

### **COACHING**

Coaching was again impacted by COVID 19.

Robbie Manzano of Tennis Canberra, continues his coaching at Reid.

### **OTHER MATTERS**

Membership remains strong with 309 as at 30 June 2021 compared with 260 in 20/21 and 200 in 19/20.

In July 21, the club completed the Tennis ACT/Tennis Australia sponsored venue Sustainability Rating Report to gauge the overall "health" of tennis clubs. The report covered financial aspects, membership levels, participation rates etc. The club rated well above average against most of the criteria. The reports simply confirms that, thanks to the dedicated Committee, the club is in good shape.

The Club entered teams in the Monday night unisex competition as well as the Thursday night competition.

The Club has an account with the Commonwealth Bank and uses a cheque account with Combiz to manage income and expenditure. The Club also has term deposits with Beyond Bank. Our accounts continue to be audited by Ian Hollow of Charter Group Accounting.

Six meetings were conducted during the year. All meetings were well attended by Committee members.

During the year, the Club hosted a number of social events; two Wimbledon inspired open court sessions in July 21; the Christmas party was held in November and was well attended by members and Reid residents. Thanks to the Reid Committee members who distributed invitations to all Reid households. The New

Years tennis evening proved popular as did the welcome to new members day in January 22.

The club participated in Club Forums conducted by Tennis ACT. The Forum provides an opportunity for Tennis ACT to interact with Clubs and for club members to exchange ideas with other tennis clubs in Canberra.

The club was also represented at meetings of Presidents of other clubs, hosted by Tennis ACT.

During the next financial year, the Committee hopes to enhance the practice wall and surrounding area.

With the strong support of the Committee, the Club is in a sound financial position for the foreseeable future. I am sure you will agree that the facilities and surrounds of the Reid Tennis Club continue to be enticing for members and their guests.

After 9 years as President, this is my final report.

My sincere thanks. I appreciated the support of the committee, members and supporters of the Reid Tennis Club.

Terry Walker  
President  
14 October 2022