



REID TENNIS CLUB



Established 1928

PRESIDENTS REPORT 2018/2019

This report covers the period 1 July 18 to 30 June 19. It is my sixth report to the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

With the foundation of the Club in 1928, this is perhaps the 91st AGM. The minutes of the 1973 AGM record that meeting as number 45.

The Club is affiliated with Tennis ACT. Committee members attended a number of their meetings.

We were saddened during the year with the loss of long term member/committee member/President and life member John Gavin on 5 March 19. John succeeded the late Alison Ide as President in December 2008 and remained in the position until October 2013. For his services to the Club, John was made a life member.

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 run the Club: Sue Willis as Vice President for her initiative and strong support; Peter Willis as Secretary for recording our meetings during the year; Ann Poole as Treasurer for managing our financial affairs; Andrew Chalklen for looking after our membership details through Mytennis and Clubspark; Anthony Johnston for his work with pennant teams and Michael Poole for his initiative and support for our IT systems. The Committee welcomed Michele Grant as a new Committee member.

Small Clubs like ours cannot flourish without a dedicated Committee.

In addition to the Committee, I would like to acknowledge the work carried out around the courts by John Bowden; Keith Croft for his assistance with maintenance issues and Ian Warden for enhancing and maintaining the garden in front of the club house.

BOOK A COURT

Perhaps the most significant change to the management of the club's resources was to implement Book a Court and Clubspark at a cost to the Club of about \$18,000. A significant amount for a small tennis club.

Installing the systems involved about 50 metres of trenches to carry data and electrical wiring. Supporting software and electrical work were also required in the club house and pin pads at the entrance to courts.

Financial assistance was provided by the Australian Sports Commission and Tennis Australia.

These initiatives moved the club from a manual to an automated system where the courts and club house are locked. Access is now by a four digit pin code generated at time of booking. The club could simply not continue with a manual system and an honour arrangement for non members for court bookings and fee payments.

Book a Court allows for the courts to be booked and appropriate fees paid online.

Clubspark is an online membership management tool where members can manage their accounts and new members join.

Book a Court and Clubspark came online in June 19. Early indications are that it will make significant enhancements to the overall administration of the Club.

I wish to thank Committee members who did so much work to implement the systems. In particular, I want to mention the effort by Peter Willis who led and coordinated the tasks.

MAINTENANCE

From a maintenance and infrastructure viewpoint, 2018/19 has been another year of improvements. The Committee continues to strive to make the Club an attractive place to play and enjoy tennis.

Tree roots were removed from the top courts (1 and 2) in December 18. The ACT Government met the cost.

A 45 metre tree root barrier was also installed along the top of courts 1 and 2 in December 18. Again, the ACT Government paid for the work.

COACHING

The Club coach, Robbie Manzano of Tennis Canberra, continues his coaching at Reid. Wednesdays are busy, with coaching juniors after school and cardio tennis/coaching for adult players of all standards.

Robbie conducted successful junior tournaments on 17 November 18 and 2 March 19.

OTHER MATTERS

On 27 August 18, the Club celebrated its 90th birthday at the Mercure hotel. Quite an achievement. About 100 people attended including members, Tennis ACT officials, Reid residents and other tennis enthusiasts who wished to congratulate the Club. The event featured in the Canberra Times and on local ABC radio.

Membership is strong with nearly 209 members as at 30 June 19 compared with 198 in 17/18 and 200 in 16/17. During the year the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science, based in Civic continued to hire courts during their lunch time break.

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

Although considerable funds have been spent in recent years, annual fees have not increased since 1 July 17.

The Club has an account with the Commonwealth Bank and uses a cheque account with Combiz to manage income and expenditure. Thanks so much to Ann Poole as Treasurer. 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 held two Community tennis days (3 March '19 and 2 Feb '19) which were well attended. The Christmas party on November 17 and New Years tennis evening proved popular and were well attended.

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.

With the strong support of the Committee, the Club is in a sound 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.

Terry Walker
President
26 October 2019