



# **NEWSLETTER**

## **AUTUMN 2023**

<https://play.tennis.com.au/saletennisclub>

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## Junior Report

With the final 2 rounds to go, Sale has 12 teams firmly in the top 4 and 2 more close to making it through. We will be represented in the finals in every section. A fantastic result on the ladder, but also indicative of a really strong effort by players and all 19 Sale teams.

A big thank you to the team managers and other volunteers who help out across Saturday to make things run as smoothly as possible. Tennis is such a great game for our kids to pursue, but it literally couldn't happen if we didn't have the support of families for transport, scoring and encouragement.

Our canteen volunteers on a Saturday are also very much appreciated – in particular Masami Gould who does an amazing job getting everything setup and most weeks spending her whole morning keeping everything ticking along, together with Lara Levchenko's scrumptious fresh baked muffins – they are helping to keep everyone fed and also raising funds for the Club.

Good luck for the last rounds and the finals ahead – we hope to see some flags brought home to the Club.

We are also working on some competition options for the middle of the year, when traditionally junior tennis takes a back seat to other sports. If you are interested in keeping tennis going, then please stay tuned for new options in Term 2.

*Kurt Best – Junior President*



*Left: Section 5 Zac Ingram  
Above: Section 2 Sam Crouch  
Right: Section 5 Rory McMillan*



*Clockwise from top left:*  
Section 2 Andre Wasserman  
Section 2 Adelline Bertino,  
Section 2 Milla Lazzaro  
Section 4 Emily Evans,  
Section 1 Finn McDonald,  
Section 1 Joey Board,  
Section 2 Riley Egan  
Section 2 Jamie Pate.





*Clockwise from top left:*  
Section 1 Judah Levchenko  
Section 2 Ruby Running  
Section 4 Oscar Callanan  
Section 4 Archie Wallace  
Section 4 Seb Jones  
Section 1 Riley Nicholas  
Section 4 Noah Broughton



*Clockwise from top left:*  
 Section 6 Ollie Dihood  
 Section 6 Charlotte Greenwood  
 Section 4 Charlotte Biram  
 Section 4 Callum Broughton  
 Section 4 Ted Bertino  
 Section 4 Vida Yanez



## Coaches Column

After Term 4 concluded, we were lucky enough to have a guest appearance by Santa just in time for our Christmas School Holiday Clinic. He stopped by to have a “*Can you win a point against Santa Challenge?*” where the kids had a chance to play him to win an early Christmas present. Thanks Santa.

After heading back to Melbourne to spend some quality family time, before I knew it, the Australian Open was upon us. We held an Aus Open Clinic the week before the tournament which was sponsored by Tennis Australia. They donated a bunch of AO gear which was well received by all kids involved. Over the holiday clinics, we had 70+ kids enrolled so it was a huge success.

On Day 2 of the Aus Open, I had the opportunity to take 10 lucky kids for a Kids On Court Experience. We were fortunate enough to play on Rod Laver Arena and Elena Lazzaro was chosen to toss the coin before Aryna Sabalenka’s 1st Round match. To top it off, all players and parents were given Rod Laver Arena tickets, which proved invaluable when all play on outside courts were suspended due to the heat. Overall, it was an incredible day and was a great feeling to see such huge smiles on the kids’ faces.

2022 surpassed all my expectations. It was humbling to receive so much positive feedback. We introduced a pathway for beginner Hot Shots juniors all the way up to high performance players. To cater to the new demand, I brought on-board 4 assistant coaches, Alex Boxall, Rachel Page, Aaron Donaldson and Samuel Bertino, who all did an amazing job last year and are looking forward to another big year ahead.

At the beginning, the growth was slow and steady. However over recent times, the word-of-mouth snowball effect has spread like an avalanche with an incredible number of new players joining the Club. So, it was a pleasure to invite another 3 up-and-coming juniors to join our expanding coaching team: Louis Lazzaro, Eden Levchenko and Riley Nicholas. They have already hit the ground running and have added a new dimension to the coaching program. Another valuable new addition to the coaching team is Tim Dunnett. He has an extensive playing background, currently represents Sale TC in our Section 1 Seniors Team, and is also training to join the Masters Circuit. All 4 of our new coaches have received their Community Coaching Certification and are excited to continue assisting all STC’s juniors into the future.

A New Year has brought a new buzz around Sale Tennis Club. Not only do we have more classes and programs on offer, but we also have many exciting events and competitions planned for 2023.

Exciting year ahead!

To your tennis, health and fitness,

Coach Jason Yap

## Sale Tennis Club Hot Shots Claim Centre Court at AO 2023

10 Sale Tennis Club Hot Shots players had a once in a lifetime tennis experience when they got to play on Rod Laver Arena on January 17. The excited children preceded the Aryna Sabalenka V's Tereza Martincova match on centre court then as a special treat got to stay on in Rod Laver Arena for the rest of the days play. Sabalenka was the eventual champion so perhaps the Sale Hot Shotters helped inspire her.

The Sale Hot Shots players were assisted on their big day by Club Professional Coach, Jason Yap. Jason offers 7 separate Hot Shots sessions each week during the school term with a time and standard suitable to all players.

The Hot Shots program has been an outstanding success with numbers increasing year on year. Hot Shots kids play on smaller courts with modified equipment to make it easier, and more fun to progress. They have lighter racquets, lower nets, and tennis balls that don't bounce too high – so they are easier to hit and chase down.

Tennis Hot Shots is above all – FUN! Kids develop their social and problem-solving skills while playing in a team, and as individuals. They also learn how to cope with wins and loses fairly.



Above - Lucy, Ethan, Iris, Omar, Leo, Nash, Elena, Milla, Ila and Ryan on Rod Laver Arena

Right - Elena Lazzaro with the ultimate AO Champion, Aryna Sabalenka and Tereza Martincova



## Louis and Emma - Ballkids at the Australian Open

Sale Tennis Club is super proud of the latest of our juniors to become ballkids at the Australian Open. Louis Lazzaro and Emma Best progressed through ballkid trials in early 2022 to be 2 of the 360 ballkids chosen out of the over 2500 applicants Australia wide. Just getting through the trials is a significant achievement and both children were delighted to have made the cut.

Louis and Emma spent the first week getting a feel for their on-court role during the AO qualifiers. The following week they moved on to the main draw and relished the challenge of being so involved in one of the world's great international sporting events.

Louis and Emma follow a rich tradition at Sale Tennis Club with the Club now having ballkids at every Australian Open for over 10 years.

Louis and Emma have kindly shared their AO story below.



**Photo:** Louis Lazzaro and Emma Best at Melbourne Park

### **Louis**

*I was thrilled to take part in the 2023 Australian Open as a first-time ballkid. For each match, there are two net Ballkids and four baseline Ballkids. I was always on the net.*

*To be selected as a ballkid you have to commit to a series of training sessions in Melbourne, in the lead up to the AO. You also have to be able to live in Melbourne for three weeks – including the qualifying week because you don't know what shift you're on until 8pm the night before. (sometimes later depending on the play)*

*The Ballkids lounge is right next to the Players lounge so every day I got to see all the big names up close. I was ballkid for Aussies Jason Kubler, Rinky Hijikata, Alex Bolt, Olivia Gadecki, Luke Saville and Tristan Schoolkate. I was also on court for Alicia Parks who had a really strong serve, and Yoshihito Nishioka from Japan, who's quite small but ranked 32 which is good to see! And on one of my days off, Mum and I took the opportunity to watch Alex De Minaur play at Kooyong which feels a bit like what I image Wimbledon is like.*

*During the three weeks I got to watch a lot of amazing tennis. I had some very hot days on court (38 degrees feels like 45) yet there were other days when I was on my hands and knees with a towel mopping up the rain so play could resume. I also had some very late nights past midnight. I got to watch Rafa, Tsitsipas, Iga Swiatek, Ons Jabeur and Mum's favourite Holger Rune on practice courts. I was also able to watch the 2023 AO winner, Novak Djokovic, play his first-round match. And thanks to Jason Yap and the Hotshots team, my sister Elena got to do the coin toss on Rod Laver Arena for the AO 2023 winner Aryna Sabalenka's first round match. The MC called out her name and the Sale Tennis Club over the loud speakers and she was allowed to keep the coin!*



Louis in his full Ballkids uniform outside Rod Laver Arena

*But it's not just about the tennis. The Ballkids experience taught me some great leadership skills, and some important navigation techniques having to find my way around Melbourne Park, and the city using buses and trains. I made lots of new friends and I will be practicing my fast and flat rolls in the hope of getting selected for the 2024 AO!*

Louis Lazzaro, 13.

### **Emma**

*I didn't think I was going to get in to the AO Ballkids this year. I made it through the first 2 try-outs but then was allocated to the Train On Squad which meant there was no guarantee of getting through to the AO. But at the last minute I got an offer and thought, "Ok – lets do it".*

*Day One of the qualifiers I was nervous – but it didn't take long to get into the rhythm. The "qualies" are actually an emotional rollercoaster – the players are trying so hard to make it to one of the few spots on the AO main draw. When they lose it is so devastating and when they win it is like they've won lotto.*

*After the qualies were done it was on to the main event. The crowds were bigger, the players were more famous and the whole of Melbourne Park was next level. I was lucky to get on to John Cain Arena on my third shift – the really hot day when play was suspended outside. Tiafoe was a highlight – he always needed a ballkid to help him get his top back on after a break. Azarenka on the other hand was so annoying – she doesn't accept the ball from the right hand court, so us Ballkids have to keep up, channelling the ball to the other side so she can serve.*

*There were so many players that I really enjoyed seeing – Rod Laver on night 5 was the match between Medvedev and Korda which was so good to be a part of. The Tsitsipas brothers playing doubles on Court 15 was pretty amazing too....the court is much smaller and the players are right there. Karen Kachanov, JJ Wolf, Coco Gauff, Alex de Minaur – so good to be up close to these players.*

*I finished the AO on the final Saturday with the Girls Junior Open Final. Two Russians, Andreeva and Korneeva slogged it out for nearly 3 ½ hours on Rod Laver Arena – a great way to finish my time at the AO.*

*Interesting fact; there is nowhere under Rod Laver for the Ballkids to wait, so we are just in the hall during our breaks off court – but there is a space for a hairdresser and a special room for the trophy engraver during finals.*

*To answer the most common question: No, we don't get paid, but we do get a meal allowance that doesn't go far because food is so expensive. We also received an AO jumper, towel and AirPods. Better than all of that, I had an amazing experience that I will never forget.*

Emma Best



## Ballkids Trials

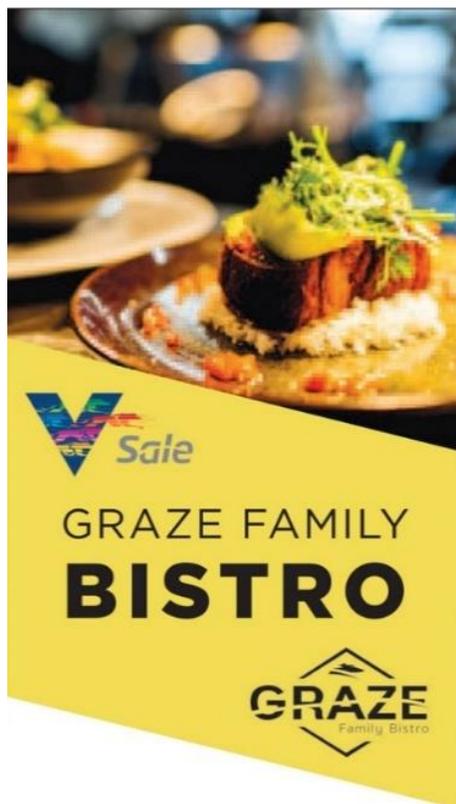
Sale Tennis Club will host another Ballkids Trial later this year. We have not yet been able to confirm the date but keep in touch with Jason and watch our Facebook page for the confirmation of the date. Please note that you must enroll online well prior to the trial. We suggest you enroll now if you intend to try out.

Enrolments are now open at:  
[Ballkids and Officials | AO \(ausopen.com\)](https://ausopen.com)



## Saturday Summer Pennant – Seniors

**Sale Central Storage** return for season 2022 / 23 as the sponsor of the **Sale Tennis Club Player and Team of the Year**.



They are joined by **Graze Family Bistro** who have generously provided our 3 set winners vouchers for the past 5 years.

We will post the current Player and Team of the Year standings on TeamApp. Keep an eye out for the update.

With only 1 round of WGTA pennant to play, 4 of our 6 senior teams are set to make the finals, which begin on March 18.



*Clockwise from top left:*

- Section 2 Nok Pate
- Section 2 Steven Farley
- Section 3 Tim Bull
- Section 1 Tim Dunnett
- Section 3 Scott Pearce
- Section 1 Sen Gould





**Section 1 Mia Goold**



**Section 1 Jo Rule**

**WS** 2022/23 WGTA Summer Seniors Competition | Section 1  
Yellow Ball

ORGANISATION  
Wellington Gippsland TA

Email  
+61 417 503 320

Matches		Ladder	
POS	TEAM	P	PTS
1	Maffra Gippsland Real Estate	11	122
2	Sale Findex	11	111
3	Sale John Elliman Real Estate	11	86
4	Bairnsdale	12	79
5	Maffra Wellington Real Estate	11	65

**WS** 2022/23 WGTA Summer Seniors Competition | Section 2  
Yellow Ball

ORGANISATION  
Wellington Gippsland TA

Email  
+61 417 503 320

Matches		Ladder	
POS	TEAM	P	PTS
1	Stratford	13	110.5
2	Longford	13	101.5
3	Sale Central Storage	12	91
4	Maffra All Round Landscapes	13	86.5
5	Heyfield	12	82.5
6	Maffra Community Sports Club	13	61.5
7	Sale Dahlsens	12	57.5
8	Maffra Vets	12	51.5
9	Sale Glencoe Lime	12	49.5

**WS** 2022/23 WGTA Summer Seniors Competition | Section 3  
Yellow Ball

ORGANISATION  
Wellington Gippsland TA

Email  
+61 417 503 320

Matches		Ladder	
POS	TEAM	P	PTS
1	Briarolong	14	102
2	Sale KFC	14	91.5
3	Stratford	14	87
4	Maffra Stobies	14	85.5
5	Heyfield	14	81.5
6	Maffra Adams Accounting	14	69.5
7	Maffra Removalists	14	59.5
8	Maffra Wilmour Motors	14	31.5

## Alicia Molik Cup

The 2022 Alicia Molik Cup was contested in December at the Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club with the East Gippsland side finishing a respectable 10th.

Named after Alicia Molik, the former Australian professional tennis player, who reached a career high singles ranking of world Number 8, the prestigious Tennis Victoria team's event is for both city and country players who are 12 and under.

East Gippsland was represented by Anna Banson, Ethan Sutherland (both Bairnsdale), Paige Hosford (Heyfield) and Henry Seeber (Sale) who were supported by Team Manager, Jon Hosford.

The matches were played in 30+ degree heat, which tested all players.

Beginning with a bye in Round 1, East Gippsland was defeated by North Suburban in Round 2, before bouncing back with a narrow win over Goulburn in Round 4.

Bayside Regional was East Gippsland's nemesis in Round 5, but the team finished the event strongly comprehensively defeating Barwon 3. The event was taken out by the very strong Bayside Regional Tennis Association.

The event is a round robin format with ties consisting of two boy's singles, two girl's singles and two mixed doubles rubbers.

The weekend provided the juniors with an opportunity to compete at a high standard of junior tennis, whilst also, importantly, beginning friendships for future competitions.



**L to R: Henry Seeber, Ethan Sutherland, Paige Hosford and Anna Banson**

## Sponsors

We have recently sent out our annual sponsors invoices. Our courtside and other sponsors are responsible for an essential component of our annual budget, without which we could not deliver our programs or provide the quality facility that we all enjoy. In fact they provide nearly 10% of our annual gross revenue each year. We therefore wish to acknowledge and thank our sponsors for their vital support which allows us to maintain our courts and surrounds to the standard expected of our regional facility.

Tennis is a sport that can be played both socially and competitively throughout life. It is therefore as important to community development as it is to the world of competitive sport. In promoting the values of fun, fitness, health and social relationships, tennis clubs and facilities are vital parts of local communities.

Sponsorship makes much of this possible and we genuinely appreciate their support. A full list of our sponsors is on Page 1. If you have an opportunity to support them with the goods and services you purchase your support will be appreciated by them also.

## Night Pennants – Grand Final Results

### Tuesday Night

The theme for last season's teams were famous Tennis Venues – Roland Garos, Indian Wells, Wimbledon, Shanghai Masters, Aus Open, Swiss Open Gstaad and Flushing Meadows.

The winners were Shanghai Masters who consisted of Chris Boxall, Tim Bull, Christie Stothers and Damien Theobald. Runners Up were sadly a team of almost all fill ins – Lorraine Crawford (Lisa Fuessel, Rex Dowsett, Ron Crawford (Kaz D.) and Alex Boxall (Cijo Kuriakose).



*Winners are grinners* – Shanghai Masters - Chris Boxall, Tim Bull, Christie Stothers and Damien Theobald



*Runners up:*  
Lorraine Crawford,  
Rex Dowsett,  
Ron Crawford &  
Alex Boxall



Left to Right: Franky Japhary, Mark Elliman, Nathan Wallace, Steve Farley, Tim Bull (for Eamon Leahy), David Auld, Andrew Bryant and John Meade.

Spider Sprayers (Brendan Doolan, Bryan Lazzaro, Guy Dawson & Suzanne Ross) finished the Thursday Pennant season firmly on top of the ladder, followed by Sale Turf Club (Mark Elliman, John Meade, Andrew Bryant & Franky Japhary), Khayaam Hair Salon (Robin Lowe, Mia Goold, Riley Nicholas & Louis Lazzaro) with KFC (David Auld, Nathan Wallace, Steve Farley & Eamon Leahy) in 4<sup>th</sup>.

The semi-final was a bolover with KFC taking out the hot favourites, Spider Sprayers by 2 games. Sale Turf Club accounted for Khayaam Hair Salon to book a date with KFC in the Grand Final. KFC continued their "David V's Goliath" ways in the final to take out the coveted Sale Tennis Club towel, although the members of Sale Turf Club didn't seem too upset with their STC socks.



If you require any further details about night pennants or to get your name on the permanent player lists or the fill-in list please email [theelms82@outlook.com](mailto:theelms82@outlook.com) or contact:

*Tuesday Night* - Karen Deschepper 0408 517 000

*Thursday Night* - Robin Lowe 0418 514 788

## Volunteer Feature – The Levchenko Family

This newsletter we celebrate the Levchenko family for their fantastic work in supporting our Club. Lara, Nick, Eden, Josiah, Judah and Asher represent everything we love about our Club.

The Levchenko's have been constant supporters since Josiah first started juniors in 2016. Since then Josiah, Judah and Eden have been constant members of our junior teams. Asher, the youngest Levchenko family member, is yet to suit up in a Sale Tennis Club shirt but we are confident he will, and when he does his family will all be there to support him, and us.

We see the whole Levchenko family every time we have a working bee and when they attend a working bee, they really work! Nick is constantly looking for practical ways to help such as fixing our pesky vending machine or taking down nets from courts that need repair. A fantastic example to all.

As a certified dietitian Lara has been an invaluable resource in helping to guide some of our junior catering choices. Every week during the summer pennant season Lara bakes a large batch of muffins (*try the white chocolate and raspberry – they are insanely good*) that we sell in the canteen. If you haven't tried one of Lara's muffins you really are missing out. This generous donation raises over \$1,000 for the Club each summer season and is the highlight of the Saturday morning canteen offerings.

Earlier this month Eden undertook the Community Coaching course and is now part of coach Jason's team of junior development coaches. Eden was front and centre during the Club Open Day in January and was rarely without a smile throughout the whole day. The whole of our junior coaching program will benefit from Eden's commitment and dedication and her wry sense of humour.

Josiah, and more recently, Judah have been regular members of the East Gippsland Regional Teams teams. These Tennis Victoria Regional Teams are important events on the tennis calendar and help expose our region to players from all over Victoria and put our Club on the tennis map. Josiah was most recently in the East Gippsland John Fitzgerald Cup. In addition to on court activities Josiah has also taken responsibility for the score recording for all of our junior teams. Every Saturday after pennant Josiah inputs the scores from our 19 junior teams into Match Centre so that the results and ladders remain up to date.

We are privileged to have a family so dedicated to our Club and hope the Levchenko's will be a part of Sale Tennis Club for generations to come.



Above: A batch of Lara's famous muffins

Left: Asher, Nick, Lara and Eden

## Sale Tennis Club Open Day

Nearly 50 people participated in Sale Tennis Club's Open Day on Sunday January 29. Buoyed by the amazing feats of their heroes at the Australian Open, tennis fans searched their cupboards to find long forgotten tennis racquets and turned out in droves on a beautiful Sunday afternoon.

Club Coach Jason Yap prepared an entertaining program with his coaching team delivering speed serving using the Club's serve radar, a tennis target competition and cardio tennis as well as various tennis drills and activities. Players of all ages enjoyed the challenge of trying to serve like the professionals with some excellent speeds achieved, but none quick enough to eclipse Sam Groth's record 263 kilometre per hour bomb.

The target practice was also a popular activity with players trying to score a maximum 10 with a tennis ball.

Sale Tennis Club President Robin Lowe said "The Club was delighted with the turnout. Everyone had a great afternoon of tennis activities, we got to meet some wonderful new players, young and old, and as a measure of success, we ran out of sausages. We look forward to welcoming the many new players to our Club."

We had a "Nearest the Pin" competition on the winner of the Men's Final at the AO with prizes provided by Tennis Victoria and the Club. Novak was imperious in winning the final and in the process made some very happy winners of AO prize packs in Amanda Vowell, Anastasia Crause and Kirstan Wallace. Congratulations to our winners.



## Out & About

### Game, Set and Match Santa

Santa made a surprise appearance at the Sale Tennis Club School Holiday Clinic held at the Club from December 20 to 22, much to the delight of the more than 30 budding tennis stars in attendance. Santa was given a few pointers by Head Coach Jason Yap, before he was challenged by the children with anyone who won a point from Santa scoring a treat.

Santa really appreciated the pointers as tennis is not that easy to practice at the North Pole, with the courts being covered in snow much of the year. The elves are keen tennis players so there is at least someone to practice against. Luckily Santa did not lose all of his toys so there was still be some left for Christmas.

Head Coach Jason Yap and his coaching team were delighted with the large turnout and after Santa returned to the North Pole to finalise Christmas preparations the children got a full 3 days of fun activities. Target practice, a speed radar and a myriad of other coaching aids made the 3 days a carnival of fun for the children.



### Need a Tennis ID Number?

Most Tennis Australia sanctioned tournaments require a Tennis ID Number. As a member of Sale Tennis Club you may already have your number. If you don't know your number it is as simple as phoning Tennis Australia on 1800 752 983, give them your details, mention that you are a member of Sale Tennis Club and you will get the 12 digit number over the phone.



## Sign Up to Team App

Want to be kept up to date with events at Sale Tennis Club? Download **Team App** on any iPhone or Android device and then search for Sale Tennis Club and request to join. Team App is a hub for our Club's information and communication needs, sending instant notifications to members' smartphone or tablet. Team App allows us to send news, create events, upload photos and videos, and publish newsletters and much more. All content is sent securely and privately to members and allows us to keep in touch in a non-invasive way. Sign up today and you will get confirmation of your membership and start being kept up to date.



## Aussie World Rankings



Ranking	Name	Age	Ranking	Name	Age
19	Nick Kyrgios	27	34	Ajla Tomljanovic	29
25	Alex de Minaur	23	59	Daria Saville	28
79	Jason Kubler	29	136	Kimberley Birrell	24
91	Alexei Popyrin	23	154	Olivia Gadeki	20
93	Jordan Thompson	28	165	Jamie Fourlis	23
96	Christopher O'Connell	28	171	Pricilla Hon	24
116	Rinky Hijikata	21	191	Storm Hunter	28
138	James Duckworth	31	214	Astra Sharma	27
139	John Millman	33	269	Lizette Cabrera	24
141	Thanasi Kokkinakis	26	302	Alexander Bozovic	23

## Ball Machine Hire



Our ball machine is available for hire for a small fee of \$5 or unlimited use for a year for \$50. (The money collected will pay for its maintenance and eventual replacement.) The ball machine is now stored in the utilities room opposite Court 14. To get access you will need the code to the key safe which is located outside the pro-shop. This is available from any committee member.

To avoid disappointment bookings can also be made via the link on TeamApp.

We would prefer for the ball machine to be used on the **hard courts or Courts 5 – 7**, as these are the most settled. (We have been getting some unfortunate baseline damage on our newest courts due to the repetitive nature of ball machine use.)

## 2023 Seniors NRT at Sale – Save the Date – May 12 – 14

Sale Tennis Club will host a Seniors National Ranking Tournament (NRT) to be held from 12 to 14 May, 2023. Events cater for players 30 and over and include age based singles, doubles and mixed events. All events are “round robin” ensuring players get plenty of tennis.

Local support is essential to ensure a successful 2023 event and its scheduling in future years.

Online entries are currently open at <https://www.tenniseniorsvic.org.au/>



## 2023 Maffra Seniors NRT

The Maffra NRT was conducted over the weekend of 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> January. There were nearly 60 players entered with 18 events played over the 3 days. Unfortunately, the ladies numbers were low once again. All players and spectators thoroughly enjoyed the new clubhouse and facilities.

Sale players we well represented with Jo Rule winning the Ladies Doubles 40+ with Kaylene Ruciman and backing up in the 100+ Mixed Doubles with Tim Dunnett. Jo and Kaylene were also runners up in the Combined 80+ Ladies Doubles. Debbie Iseppi was a winner in the Combined 140+ Ladies Doubles with Colleen Geysen while Tim Dunnett and Aaron Kennedy were runners up in the Men's 80+ Doubles.

Sale will host a Seniors NRT from May 12 to 14. Mark your diary for a fun event.

## Working Bee – Friday March 3

We understand that everybody is busy but if you can spare an hour or two on **Friday March 3 from 4:00 pm** for a working bee it would be greatly appreciated. We realise that not everyone can attend at this time but we hope that as many people as possible will be there to share the tasks.

There are a lot of things that need to be done around the Club with many of the upcoming WGTA events to be played at our courts. Unfortunately your membership fees do not cover anywhere near the full cost to maintain our facility and what we don't get done ourselves we have to pay others to do.

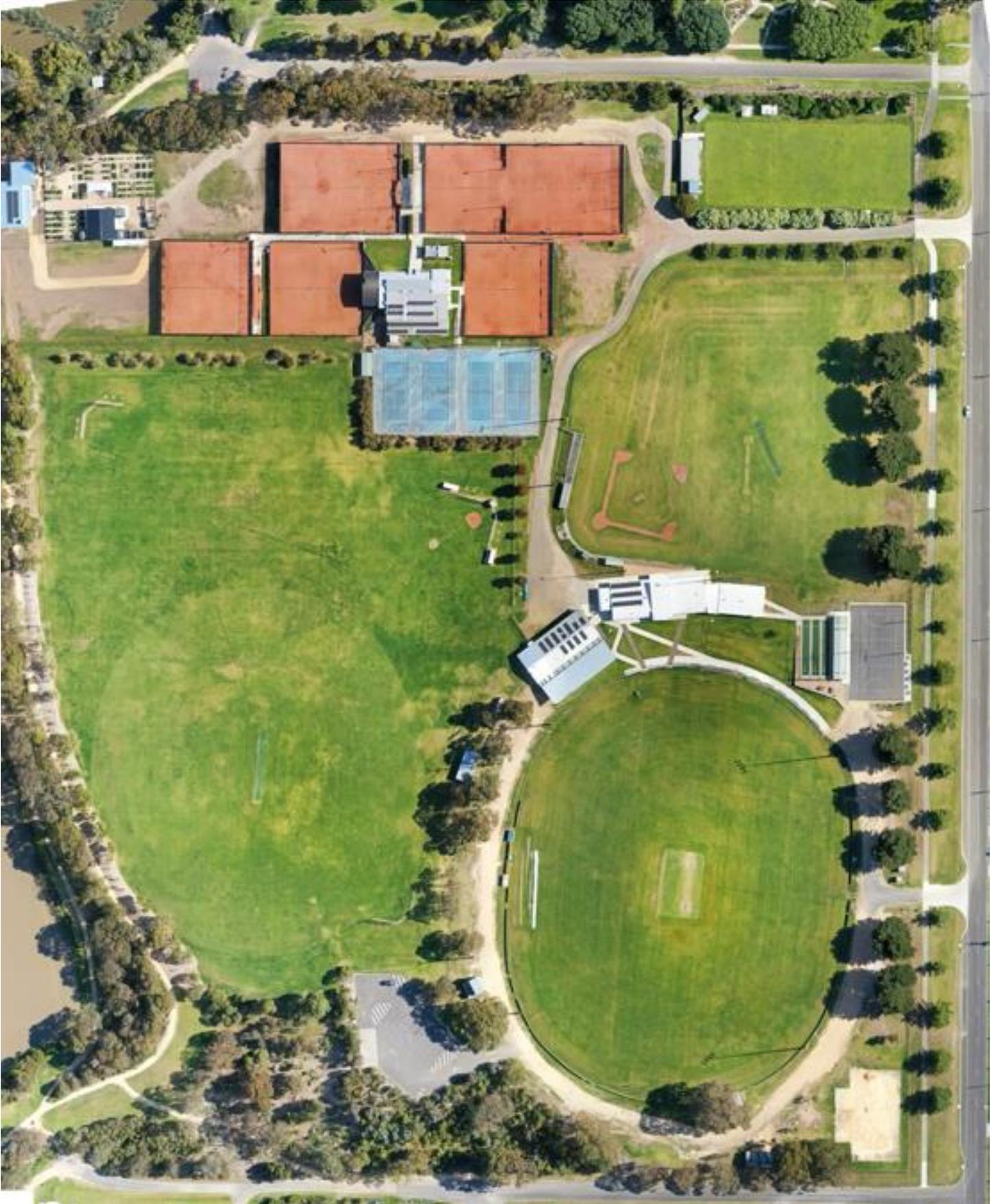


Arrive at any time from 4:00 pm to help with some jobs. We have some new courtside signs to put up so if you are good on a ladder we might just have the perfect job for you. If ladders are not your thing there will be plenty of other tasks to share around.

Please make the effort to attend. We hope to see you there.

## Birds Eye View

How good does Stephenson Park look from the air? Is there any wonder this is Wellington Shires most important sporting precinct. We look forward to the Master Plan delivering the next series of improvements including roadways, car parks and accessible pathways.



## Community Coaching Course



Sale Tennis Club hosted a second Community Coaching course on February 18 and 19. The Community Coaching course is suitable for those who would like to begin coaching tennis, or who are currently coaching, under the guidance of a qualified tennis coach. The course trains coaches to develop the skills of junior tennis players with a focus on the Tennis Hot Shots program.

The majority of time during the course was spent on-court with participants actively learning to deliver coaching sessions where players serve, rally and score using modified balls, racquets, nets and courts appropriate to the developmental needs of junior players. The aim of the course is to prepare coaches to conduct Tennis Hot Shots activities, to introduce the role and responsibilities of a tennis coach and explain basic coaching methods.

The course was delivered by Jon Watson, Tennis Victoria's Coach Leader - Metro East & Country East. Jon has over 35 years coaching experience predominantly in the UK and Australia. His current role is Coach Leader, mentoring and supporting coaching in the region and Tennis Australia Coach Development facilitating and presenting courses and workshops. He has particular interest in developing and delivering fun and inclusive programs for preschool aged children and athletes with a disability.

Sale Tennis Club had Louis Lazzaro, Eden Levchenko, Riley Nicholas and Tim Dunnett attend the course and all are now part of Jason's regular coaching program.

## Court Care Reminder

A reminder that en-tout-cas courts require some essential maintenance if we are all to enjoy playing on them at their best and preserve them for future generations.

- ❖ **Water** - It is vital that you water your court before the start of each set. (The only exception is if it has just been raining.) Please water the whole court all the way to the fence and avoid making large puddles. Many people only water the lined court area but you spend more time behind the baseline than on any other part of the court so be sure to water all areas. Take your time and ensure a thorough even cover. Nobody should commence any play on courts that are totally dry and dusty. This will gouge the courts resulting in potentially significant and expensive damage. All courts should have some moisture in them before play – just how much will depend on the prevailing climatic conditions.
- ❖ **Bagging** – Please bag the whole court after each set. Bag all the way to the baseline fence. Don't turn around as you reach the baseline, keep going until your nose touches the fence, then turn around.
- ❖ **Shoes** - All players should wear correct clay court tennis shoes – cross-trainers are unacceptable. Any player seen not wearing proper tennis shoes may be asked to leave the courts.
- ❖ **Nets** - If you arrive at the Club and see courts with the nets lowered, this is a sign that these courts are under repair so no play should occur on these courts. Please respect this and do not play on these courts.

With proper care our courts will last a lifetime. Please ensure you do your part.

## Responsible Service of Alcohol Training

Sale Tennis Club has a policy of sponsoring its members and their immediate family to complete Responsible Service of Alcohol training. It is one of the ways that we ensure that we live and breathe our Level 3 *Good Sports* accreditation. There are face to face courses coming up at Gippsland Regional Sport Centre over the next month.

If you are a Sale Tennis Club member and would like to complete RSA training please register your interest with Robin Lowe at [theelms82@outlook.com](mailto:theelms82@outlook.com)

## ActiveActivities Award

Sale Tennis Club and Grand Slam Fitness have won an award as one of Gippsland's Most Popular Kids Activities for 2022.

The rankings were allocated by location to the activities with the highest number of visits, positive reviews and overall engagement across the ActiveActivities website.

ActiveActivities is an online marketplace where kids activities, events for kids and school holiday activities for kids can be found and contacted.



## Annual General Meeting – May 17 @ 7:00 pm

Our next Annual General Meeting is on May 17 at 7:00 pm. You can support your club by being part of one of our committees. If you are not able to commit to a permanent committee position you can still support our committee members by attending the AGM. Please take the time to have your say and support your Club.



## Calendar of Events

- March 3 Working Bee – Sale Tennis Club – 4.00 pm start
- March 5 WGTA Championships – Sale Tennis Club
- March 8 International Women’s Day
- March 11 – 13 Bairnsdale Labour Day Tournament – Juniors & Seniors
- March 17 Junior Breakup – from 4:30 pm
- March 18 WGTA Elimination Finals
- March 25 WGTA Grand Finals
- April 9 – 12 Maffra Easter Tournament – Juniors & Seniors
- May 12 – 14 Tennis Seniors NRT - Sale Tennis Club
- May 17 Sale Tennis Club Annual General Meeting – 7.00 pm
- August 18 – 20 Tennis Seniors NRT – Bairnsdale Tennis Club
- September 21 – 24 2023 Sale Tennis Club Open and Junior Event
- October 15 Life Members Day – Sale Tennis Club – **note revised date**
- November 26 Sale Tennis Club 71<sup>st</sup> Championships – Sale Tennis Club

## Have You Heard the News?

Do you have any news that you would like to include in the next newsletter? Just let us know at [theelms82@outlook.com](mailto:theelms82@outlook.com) (or phone Robin on 0418 514 788) and remember “a picture tells a thousand words” so be sure to send in a photo.

## Email Addresses

If you have not yet provided your email address, or have changed your email address, please advise us immediately at [theelms82@outlook.com](mailto:theelms82@outlook.com) and please tell your friends to do the same. (If you no longer wish to receive our newsletter just reply with “Unsubscribe” as the topic.)

Look us up at: <https://playtennis.com.au/saletennisclub> or  
<https://www.facebook.com/saletennisclub>

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