



NEWSLETTER

St John's Catholic Tennis Club
54 Yarra Street
Heidelberg VIC 3084
Founded 1937

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Welcome to the latest Bi-Annual Newsletter – July/August 2022

President's Report – By Juanita Richardson

Hi Everyone and I hope our bi-annual newsletter finds you all happy and well and enjoying some time on the tennis courts.

Well, we've made it through this year with minimum disruptions and getting used to our new COVID Safe normal. It is great to see so many familiar (and new) faces at the Club. Welcome to our new members and please reach out to me if there is anything we can do to help you settle into the Club.

The Autumn Competition Seasons went well and we had a few teams that made the finals. Congratulations to those teams that bought home the flag! We will look forward to hanging them to our growing collection!

The Spring Competition started the week of 1st August and I hope you are looking forward to shaking off the cobwebs after a couple of months break. We are always looking for more players and teams so reach out to one of the Committee Members if you are interested.

You should have received the inaugural SJCTC Member survey recently and if you haven't already, please take 5 minutes to give us your feedback. This is your Club, and the Committee would like to ensure the decisions we are making align with your needs. Our Head Coach, John Paci has offered a free 45 min group tennis lesson for all members who complete the survey so you have no excuses! (further details provided in the survey link)

We have some exciting upcoming events including the Dinner Dance, Stephen Smith Friendship Cup and Club Championships. The Dinner Dance is our major fundraiser for the year and we would appreciate your support by either coming, providing donations or purchasing raffle tickets.

You may remember last year we extended existing members annual membership due to the pandemic lockdowns. Most of our members will now have their annual fees due later this year. Unfortunately, there will be an small increase to the fees to keep up with escalation of the recent years. The Committee is striving to keep this as low as possible to you.

That's it for me..... Enjoy the upcoming Spring
Juanita



TEAM REPORTS

Night Teams' Report for Autumn 2022 and Spring 2022 Start – By Stephen Giacon

The season finished with 3 teams playing in grand finals with two going on to become premiers. Congratulations go to our Vets 7 Team managed by Daniele Fiore and Mens 11 managed by James Murray. Congratulations also to our Womens 3 Team for Runners-Up honours. Well done to all teams and players.

Below are the ladder positions at the conclusion of the season:

Competition	Section	Ladder Position	Comments
Womens	3	2 nd – 136 pts 9 wins RUNNERS-UP	Juanita Richardson's team after finishing 2 nd in the season winning 6 sets to 1 in the semis, lost the grand final against a formidable top team, Eltham, 5sets to 1 34-19 games. Great effort after being moved up 1 section.
Womens	10 Team 2	6 th – 102 pts 6 wins	Anita Molony did a grand job getting 4 players each week after Tanya Saines and Cheri Tobin incurred injuries and others having Covid isolation or new work clashes. Great to have Carolina back after her frozen shoulder issues. Overall, a great team effort .
Womens	10 Team 1	5 th – 114 pts 7 wins	Julie Simonelli's turn to be manager saw the team just miss the finals by 1 point to the eventual premiers, where in this section both semis were forfeits by the top 2 teams.
Mixed Thurs	1	4th 126 pts 8 wins	After being elevated into the top section our mixed team with team manager Julie Thorn lost in the semi to the eventual premiers Fitzroy 6-0 36-13 games. A grand effort making it to the finals.
Mens	11	1st – 144 pts 10 wins PREMIERS	With our Mens 7 team disbanding due to injuries James Murray's team welcomed Daniel Pederick joining them. After finishing second they won their semi against Greensborough 4 sets to 2, 32-26 games. In the GF they played strong tennis beating top team Banyule 6 sets to 0 , 36-14 games. Well done James, Daniel, Josh, Luca , Tom and Ben
Vets	2	3rd –142pts 9 wins	Peter Candido's team - after being relegated and recruiting Martin from Kew North had a much more enjoyable season. They lost to second team Rosanna in the semis 4 sets to 2 32-25 games.
Vets	5	3rd 108 pts	Mark De Villiers' team - after finishing top of the ladder limped into the finals having Paul Marcon injured all season, then Bill Lavery and Simon incurred injuries, and then Ian contracted Covid. Lost the semi 5 sets to 1 35-24 games. A sad ending but a great effort.
Vets	6	3rd –108 pts 6 wins	The results for Robert Ciavarella's team jumped about due to player availability. In the end they lost the semi by 3 games after Rod and Stephen had to pull out on the day with Flu and Covid. Being up 2 games after the first 4 sets, lost to the eventual Premiers Macleod.
Vets	7 Team 1	5th– 102 pts 6 wins	Lauchlan Rewell's team finished just 2 points out of the finals. After Adam Hart joined the team the team had some wins but just ran out of puff in the last 3 weeks
Vets	7 Team 2	1 st -160 pts 11 wins PREMIERS	A new team that were under graded just dominated the season losing just 1 round. GFinal saw Eaglemont with only 3 players available. Great job Daniel who managed the team, recruiting new members Trung Le and Chris Liamos. Well done Alex , Dean and Paul G.
Vets	9 Team 2	7th – 82 pts 5 wins	Aaron Lee's team had some struggles after losing regulars Dean and Alex who went up to vets 7 and consequently struggled with numbers. When they had their regulars they had good results. Despite recruiting Jesper Hovrell they often required an emergency fill in. If anyone who is new to the game or has not played for a time and would like to join them, they would love to

			hear from you as an emergency player
Vets	9 Team 1	5 th – 115 pts 5 wins	Ken Coleman's team just missed the finals by 3 points which unfortunately turned out being due to our other St. Johns forfeiting to the 4 th team so giving them the maximum points. A pity as they deserved to make it. Another stellar season by Bill Molony and great having Neil Nguyen and Tom Nguyen rejoin night tennis.

In Spring 2022 we have the same number of teams entered. This season we have playing at St Johns' home courts our Vets 7 Team, Lauchlan Rewell, with Mens 10, Luca Cope now managing the team, and they will alternate with the Vets 5 Team (1) being managed by Daniel Fiore, sharing with Vets 8 run by Ken Coleman. At Ivanhoe TC we have our Vets 4, Mark De Villiers' team who will share with an Ivanhoe TC team, while Robert Ciavarella's Vets 5 Team (2) will share with our Vets 9. managed by Aaron Lee. Unfortunately our mens team that was run by Ben McCauliffe has not been able to restart. Fingers crossed for 2023. We welcome new players Anh Nguyen who joins Vets 4 via Michael Mathai, and Tom Nguyen who joined Vets 8 as emergency. Peter Candido's Vets 2 Team will be playing at the East Preston courts.

In the Womens Competition we have Juanita's team moving up to Section 2 and really needing another player to join them. Anita Money has done a stellar job recruiting Derryn Horsley, Louise Rose and Katie Mathai for Womens 11, however they still would like another player to be available occasionally as an emergency. Julie Simonelli's team has remained in Womens 10.

Our Mixed Team, with Julie Thorn as manager, has stayed in Section 1 and they also have room for other players as emergencies for the team.

We have our first Tennis Vic Pennant Team entered by our tennis coach John Paci that play Saturday afternoons in Section 7, but we were unable to get enough committed players for the Winter Eastern Region Saturday Competition. We will be entering teams in the Summer Competition that starts in October. We will likely enter both open doubles and singles/doubles teams.

Stephen Giacon
St Johns' Night Convenor

Seeking interest from men and ladies for our night tennis teams as well as anyone who wants to play in the Eastern Region singles/doubles competition and doubles only starting in October. In singles/doubles team composition can be mixed in any combination, or all men or women, playing 1 doubles set and 2 singles played to 6. Please contact Stephen Giacon on 0432320106 if interested.



Mens 11 Premiers
James Ben Daniel Luca Josh



Vets 7 Premiers
Trung Le Paul Daniel Dean

Junior Club Report – By John Paci

Saturday mornings at SJCTC are buzzing with two of our three teams playing at home most weeks!

Our Section 6 Boys & 3 Girls have picked up where they left off, after both playing in grand finals last season they have had a strong start to the Spring Season with a couple of wins on the board already. We also have our first Mixed Doubles team representing SJCTC with a handful of brand new players as well as a couple from our doubles team last season.

The Club is so proud of all of our juniors who get up bright and early to represent SJCTC.

The Club is always open to anyone who wants to come and support our juniors on Saturday mornings.



Team manager, Jenny Murray & Head Coach, John Paci with the Girls Section 3 Premier Team comprising Jennifer, Grace, Annie, Zara, Sierra and Alex

Metro Masters Competition Autumn 2022 – By Peter Peyton

The St Johns Catholic Tennis Club Heidelberg again entered three teams to compete in the above competition and were represented by twenty one male players and one female player, Kathy Buttifant, over three sections.

All home games were played on the East Preston Courts in Collier Street, East Preston.

One of the St Johns' teams was allocated to play in Section 2 and was represented by nine players in a six team competition and finished the season in fifth place on the ladder in a season of fifteen rounds and so missed out on the finals.

A team from Donvale defeated the Fitzroy team 41 games to 32 in the Grand Final.

St Johns was also represented in the Section 4 competition of six teams with eight players over fifteen home and away rounds and finished on top of the ladder with twelve wins.

This team played Eltham in the Grand Final and had an exciting win by just one game.

Section 5 saw the third St Johns' team entry and they were represented by eleven players in a competition of 6 teams. They finished the season with seven wins and ended in fourth position on the final ladder.

The first Semi Final had St Johns drawn to play North Balwyn but due to bad weather conditions the game was disbanded and North Balwyn went through to the Grand Final as that team had finished above St Johns on the final ladder.

North Balwyn went onto win the Grand Final defeating Donvale 38 games to 35.

Overall the season was a success providing a good opportunity to play mid-week tennis in a friendly, competitive manner. Due to Covid rules the after match social events were not always able to be held which was a disappointment to the competition players.



Metro Masters Section 4 Premiers – Team represented by Joe, Tuan, Toan, Frank and our Metro Masters Teams' Convenor, Peter

Vic Tennis Pennant Update

Although the boys haven't had a lot of success on the court this year, Coach Johnny & the team have loved being able to bring pennant back to SJCTC.

They have had great turnouts at their home matches with a lot of Johns' junior coaching students coming down to watch and support the team.

If you'd like to come down and support the team, they have one match left before the season ends!

Join us on Saturday the 13th of August for the club's last home match, some food & drinks followed by a hit of tennis.



*A big 'Shout Out' to our New Pennant Team in their First Season
Taylor Johnny Daniel Owen*

Coaching Update

Our coaching program is growing day by day!

We are so proud to announce that our Thursday night cardio class now has 12 participants after launching this July.

Our Hotshots coaching program has now grown to over 50 students with classes running before & after school.

We have also launched our day time home school tennis lessons on a Monday which is very exciting & means the courts are being used during hours that are usually very quiet at the club.

Our adult coaching program is also growing. In addition to our new cardio class & adult group training on Monday nights we have now added 5 hours of adult private lessons throughout the week & we anticipate these hours to steadily grow coming out of the colder months.

Coach Johnny is always happy to chat regarding lessons, hitting partner work or just a coffee in the club rooms!

You can reach him via email or text to organise any of the above: Johnp@gptennis.com.au or 0433514441.

***John Paci Head Tennis Coach & Junior Convenor
SJCTC & Latrobe Uni TC
0433514441***

Eastern Region Competition Teams – Latest News

In the Summer Season, our Section 5 Doubles- mixed, open age team played in the Eastern Region Saturday afternoons winning 8 close matches and having 2 draws, but finished 5th so missed the finals by 3 points. Our first Singles/Doubles Team, however, made it to 4th with 8 wins and 1 draw, but lost 9 sets to 2 to the eventual premiers Donvale. Thanks go to Cathy Alibrando and Daniel Pederick who managed the respective teams.

Unfortunately this Winter season we do not have any teams playing in the ERT as we lacked enough committed players, but we are confident we will have 2 teams for the upcoming Summer Season starting in October. We hope to have one Singles/Doubles team and at least one Doubles team. If anyone is interested in playing in these teams please contact Daniel Pederick (Singles/Doubles) on 0434223994 or Cathy Alibrando (Doubles) on 0407835199 or myself. Team entries will be in September.

Stephen Giacom Competition Coordinator 0432320106

Club Maintenance Update – provided by Stephen Giacon - Vice-President

As you would have noticed we completed the concreting at the club entrance, costing us \$10,818, hanging the Wilson wind breaks and the new car park fence costing us \$1,942.75 as well as lopping the trees at the north end of the courts (\$2700). Another court light blew so that was replaced over the Queen's Birthday weekend as well as the lights above the barbeque and clubroom entrance (\$650). Thanks to Robyn and my son Alex as well as Daniel Fiore, Colum Colfer, Brendan Abrahams and Michael Mathai who helped lift the scissor lift from the school yard onto the court and back out.

We are now trying to procure grants for court benches with shade for Courts 1 and 3 as well as other improvements, such as another soaker sponge roller. We also are waiting to see if future grants for changing to LED lighting can occur.

The Committee and others have concurred our court surfaces are still in good condition and the mud at the north end of the courts is soaking up from underneath. We are in the process of seeing if we can just pull the Tiger Turf back and fix the underlying base and improve the drainage.

Please Note: If using Court 1 after a period of rain, check carefully to see if the baseline area is slippery. Make sure you use caution if playing on this court !

Come along and join us at the fast approaching SJCTC DINNER DANCE !

Please see the previous email communication on 9th Aug. to members for the live link for ticket purchase



SJCTC DINNER DANCE

HOSTED BY:
SJCTC VIETNAMESE SOCIAL TENNIS GROUP
Great night socializing with club members & friends
Major club fundraiser for 2022
Grab a group & car pool!

SATURDAY 27th AUGUST 2022
FROM **6:30PM**

AT **GRAND STAR RECEPTION CENTRE**
499 GRIEVE PARADE, ALTONA NORTH

\$80 PER HEAD INCLUDES:
DINNER - VIETNAMESE BANQUET OF 8 COURSES
DRINKS - WINE, BEER & SOFT DRINKS
LIVE BAND

BUY TICKETS HERE: [tickets](#)

FOR INFO CONTACT STEPHEN @ 0432 320 106