

# Victory Park Tennis Club Treasurer's Report – 2020 / 2021

## Major Financial Activities

Given today's requirement for electronic banking, the club investigated using electronic banking with our current bank and found them lacking. The Commonwealth Bank's on-line facilities were geared towards servicing large organisations, not small clubs like ours. As a result the club transferred from the Commonwealth to the National Australia Bank (NAB). Now every payment requires two separate on-line authorisations instead of two signatures on a cheque.

The second major activity was to move our membership records over to Tennis Victoria's Club Spark. Why they ever picked that name is still a mystery. The aim was to have a facility where people could join our club and pay on-line. Currently we have successfully moved the club's membership records on to the Club Spark data base. In addition Club Spark provides the facility for Victory Park's web presence.

It has not been plain sailing with Club Spark. For new members it has worked surprisingly well. We have had local families joining up on-line even before we had met them. For existing members, renewing memberships has been a problem, which is still being resolved. Partially it is caused by a degree of inexperience of some members using web-based systems. Secondly there was a problem because people were initially entered into the system by Tennis Victoria as "contacts", not "members". This meant that renewing a membership was more complex than becoming a new member. Tennis Victoria's support team is learning as we learn. So Club Spark remains a work-in-progress.

Looking at the bottom line of club finances, we had a good year. However we need to look behind the figures to get the full story:

- The introduction of Club Spark has meant that renewal notices went out earlier this year than in previous years. So initial membership renewals came into the 2020/21 financial year, thus inflating the income for this year by approximately \$5,000.
- Club Spark also created a visibility on the web and resulted in some new membership applications.
- 2020 was a disastrous year for playing tennis. As a result some members have stopped playing tennis and appear reluctant to renew their 2021 membership. .
- Court hire is down because coaching was limited during the year.
- Income from the mid-week ladies has been regular and consistent.
- Court maintenance was reduced by \$3,000 because the court was used less and some maintenance was done in-house..
- The end result is that the total income for 2021/2022 will need a boost.

Other income and expenditure is more or less in line with the previous two years.

The challenge ahead is to increase the active membership of the club, expand the committee, expand our grant income, consolidate the club finances so that we can do things like re-surfacing one or two courts and installing an electronic locking system at the courts.

Increasing social activities will be an important part of our future strategy.

## Membership Numbers

At the time of the AGM, we have the following members:

Total membership	77
Current financial members are:	
• Adult members	11
• Family members	18
• Junior members	7
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Total financial members	36