

# **Victory Park Tennis Club 2020/21 President's Report**

## **COVID-19**

It has been a difficult 12 months for the club with on again – off again restrictions. The courts being closed for periods caused the need for extra effort to return the courts to their normal standard. Weeds and wind did not take a holiday during lockdowns. QR codes, extra signage and creation and maintenance of a COVID Safe Plan was also required. At the time of writing this report we are in lockdown and unable to utilise the courts.

## **Julie Fidler - Life Membership**

Julie Fidler was awarded life membership of Victory Park Tennis Club for her exemplary service to the club. 23 years as Junior Organiser and 10 years as President.

## **New Office Bearers**

This year we had a major change of office bearers with Robert Dickson replacing Julie Fidler as President. Kurt Heigl replaced Cathy Poynter as Secretary and Terry Laragy taking over as Treasurer from Greg Fidler.

## **Communications and cloud document storage**

This year a new Google account was set up for the club. Its email feature provided improved accessibility, privacy and security by removing the use of committee members personal email addresses. It also allows committee members to monitor incoming emails and take action if the intended recipient is unavailable. The new gmail address replaced personal email addresses on the club's web page. Reports and correspondence can now be digitally stored in the cloud using the Google Drive feature.

## **ClubSpark**

As part of our affiliation with Tennis Australia ClubSpark was offered free of charge to clubs. ClubSpark is an on-line system that can be used to administer and control many of the functions that are done manually or semi manually by VPTC. The committee decided to take up a number of modules in ClubSpark. In particular – Membership and Web page. Our treasurer Terry took on the task of administering the system and our secretary Kurt looking after the web page. It is now generally working well but it still has a little way to go.

## **Free painting and carpentry offer by Glen Eira council**

In December 2020 Glen Eira as part of the Victorian Government's \$1.7 billion Economic Survival Package offered free labour for carpentry and painting services within our leased area. A list of works were provided for the council to consider. All were agreed to. Painting of the benches along the front of the clubhouse was completed. The offer for carpentry works was withdrawn by Glen Eira in March 2021 before any work was done.

## **Renewal of the lease of the courts and clubhouse.**

The lease of the courts and clubhouse was renewed during the year. Understanding the implications and requirements of the document was a complex and time consuming task. Our lease expires 28 February 2025.

## **Automatic lights in toilets**

The problematic push button timer light switches in both toilets were replaced with movement sensor activated switches. A much better solution.

## **Junior Competitions**

Victory Park had 2 Bayside Regional Tennis Association Sunday Junior teams in both seasons during 20/21, but none of them made finals.

## **Senior Competition**

Victory Park entered a men's rubbers team in both the winter and summer competition with the Bayside Regional Tennis Association. Both seasons were quite disrupted by COVID-19. We did not make the finals in either season.

## **Club Open/Fun Day**

The annual Free Fun Day on Sunday, March 28 was organised by Julie and Kurt. It was a popular event and generated much interest and enquiries.

## **Your committee in review**

My first year as president has seen many trials and tribulations. COVID-19 and all it brings with it has been the biggest challenge. Limited numbers (4) on the committee made it hard to give everything the attention it deserved.

I must thank my other committee members for their efforts. Kurt, Julie and especially Terry put in a lot of time and effort across the year. We achieved quite a lot in a difficult 12 months and I believe the changes implemented in your committee's operational structure has put it a strong position moving forward.

Kurt is not standing for re-election at the AGM but we have four club members who have nominated for committee positions. They are Stephanie Avanzi, Kevin Fischer, Robin Fuller and Alison Webb. An expanded committee will allow greater attention to detail. Importantly they come from different areas within the club which will provide a greater diversity of views.

From the start of term 3 Julie handed the coaching and junior organiser duties over to Greg Jones. He is already proving popular with his students.

Robert Dickson  
President