

Canterbury Tennis Club

President's Report – July 2015

Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen

I'd like to formally welcome you to the Canterbury Tennis Club [CTC] 2015 Annual General Meeting. Equally importantly, I'd very much like to thank you all for attending this evening – your presence is very much appreciated.

I would also like to acknowledge the attendance of 3 of our Life members, Kevin Bolton, Chris Thompson and Sue Constance – all still very actively involved in the affairs of the Club.

A reliable indicator of the strength of sporting club is the “number of members” metric. For a number of years, CTC has enjoyed strong membership numbers. Whilst there are always members who, for a variety of reasons, decide not to continue their memberships, at CTC we always seem to be able to attract enough new members to more than compensate. At 1 January 2014, we had 357 members increasing to 370 members by the end of the year. The Treasurer's report will comment upon the impact this growth has had on the financial position of the Club.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Bendigo Bank for their continued financial support to the Club, reflected in both a grant of \$1000 and other financial incentives. I would encourage all members to visit the homepage of the Club's website and read how your patronage of the services offered by Bendigo Bank can bring a direct and significant benefit to the Club.

During the year, the Club reaffiliated with Tennis Victoria. There was a financial incentive to rejoin, again to be explained in the Treasurer's report, but also it gave us access to the MyTennis membership software. Most members will be well aware that the migration to MyTennis has had its challenges, but I will at this point acknowledge the hard work of David Chin, who assumed responsibility for the migration, and who worked tirelessly to achieve a level of completion, in a very difficult environment. The MyTennis migration is Work in Progress and remains a priority of the Committee in the

2015/16 year to ensure members are delivered an effective and efficient service.

Also during the year, we joined with Greythorn Park, Deepdene, Balwyn North tennis clubs to kick off the Friday night Twilight Tennis initiative. This was in response to the somewhat disappointing response from members at each club to organised social tennis activities. I'm pleased to say that the Twilight Tennis evenings are proving to be very enjoyable and I encourage more members to take advantage of these opportunities.

The Junior Championships were conducted in July 2014 – Chris Harrison won the Boys and Olivia Shannon won the Girls.

Our Open Club Championships were held in October 2014. The day was an outstanding success. There is a detailed report on our website, but on the day Jeremy Taylor proved to be too strong for his father Andrew and so claimed the title. Jeremy and Barry Johnston teamed to win the Open Doubles. Tim Reynolds and Danny Tamborrini won the Veterans doubles.

Keen readers of the Boroondara Council Budget Papers for 2015/16, recently published, would have noticed that \$30,000 has been set aside in 2017/18 and \$300,000 has been allocated in 2018/19 for upgrades to the Canterbury Tennis Club pavilion. This is certainly encouraging and the Committee will be engaging with Council management to seek to both accelerate and broaden their vision of what might be achieved with regards Clubhouse redevelopment. In the meantime, we are deeply appreciative of their support to date and look forward to ongoing dialogue with them to secure improved facilities for members.

Finally, I would like to thank all members of the Committee for their support and continuing commitment to the overall management of the Club;

To Chris Thompson – for his role as convenor of the Senior Tennis Competitions and for promoting the Twilight Tennis initiative

To Maureen Spencer – for her role as Secretary and more recently for taking on additional responsibilities of Membership Officer

To Mark Watkinson – for his unstinting attention to the condition of the courts, Clubhouse and surroundings

To Anita Drake – for assuming the responsibility of Treasurer and for coordinating the Pennant activities

To Linda Kelly – for all of the work she does with coaching, competitions and recruitment

To Kerry Day – who has “raised the bar” on our communications with members, as reflected both through improvements to our website and the frequency and quality of direct communications with members.

And as always, a special thanks to other volunteers who have contributed to the success of the Club during the year, most notably to Pravin Sinnan [Junior Convenor] and to Sue Constance [Night Tennis Convenor].

I will close by summarising the Top3 Priorities of the Club for 2015/16

- Complete the MyTennis migration
- Further support the Twilight Tennis initiative
- Improve the joining experience of new members

Thank you

Richard Moore

President

24 July 2015