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Royal Park Tennis Club Inc. Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2014

CHRISTMAS PARTY - Saturday 13th December 6.00pm - 11.00pm

The annual festive season get-together was quite popular last year and we are aiming for another success!!
It's a twilight gathering at the Club, so take time out to come along and catch up with other members and friends;

SPIT ROAST + DESSERT

This will be fully catered - no need for you to shop or cook - just come along and enjoy!!

- Costs are quite reasonable - \$20 per adult, \$11 per child (under 10) & Under 4 free
- Bookings and payment to be finalized by **Saturday 29th November** (for catering confirmation)
 - You can pay direct to the Club account - see details on flyer attached
- Contact the club (9380 1259) with names and numbers - or add details to the noticeboard list
- The traditional raffle will be on, with great prizes, including Australian Open tickets; premium wines;
- Santa Claus will join us - we have a booking made in his busy schedule;
- The Christmas Tree will be on display - with sparkling decorations & twinkling lights;



All members are invited to join in the fun - family and friends are also very welcome!

Presents: if you would like your young child (10 & under) to receive a gift from Santa Claus, please bring a present up to the value of \$20 wrapped and clearly labelled with the recipient's name, and place it under the tree when you arrive.



This is usually a very enjoyable event, with members & friends meeting up to chat about the year gone by and their Christmas plans! Don't miss the opportunity to enjoy yourself and share some festive spirit!

Queries: please contact Janice 9380 1259 or 0401 195 477.

JUNIORS - there are some great opportunities coming up very soon!!

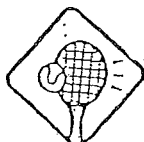
Alicia Molik Cup: this is a team event for boys & girls aged 12 & under as at 31 December, 2014

Matches are held at Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club - 13/14th December

Teams are 2 boys, 2 girls - the team is selected and entered by NSJTA.

Applications close 23rd November - form available from Carole or NSJTA website.

Try-out day: details to be advised shortly - see NSJTA website.



Daphne Fancutt Shield: this is also an NSJTA team event for Boys & Girls - 10 players required;

Participants are 18 & Under, 16 & Under, 14 & under age groups

Each age group will have 2-4 players, with equal numbers of boys and girls.

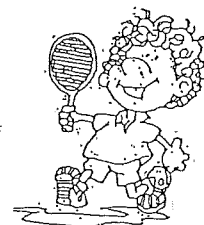
Matches will be scheduled Saturday/Sunday 17th & 18th January 2015

Round Robin format - with singles and mixed doubles - red porous courts

Venue will be Doveton Tennis Club, Robinson Reserve, Frawley Rd, Doveton

Age Groupings will be determined on player age as at 31 January 2015

Applications close 10th December - form available from Carole or NSJTA website





Christmas Raffle - Ticket sales

The big raffle is on again – it's our traditional fund raiser, and \$s raised will assist with costs for the Christmas Party. So – we want to sell lots of tickets! and your help is requested please. A book will arrive by mail - please sell/buy them and return the \$\$s to Club Manager, Carole Houston. Other books are available at the Club.

Make sure you have a name and phone number on the ticket stub to identify the winners! All tickets, sold/unsold, should be returned to Carole by **Friday 12th December** – either by hand at the Club or by mail to RPTC, 333 The Avenue Parkville 3052.

Prizes are very attractive – Australian Open tickets!! Booked seats in the newly covered Margaret Court arena. Not to mention some premium wines – very handy with the festive season gatherings that will be happening!

PENNANT 2015 - A Great Opportunity!!

This competition offers opportunities for senior, junior and veteran players, with singles & doubles for men/women's teams, plus doubles matches for women and veterans. It is generally stronger than Association level, and is a good option for improving your on-court skills against different players.

This year we had 7 teams participating, and they enjoyed the season, with some strong results being recorded.

We had 4 teams qualify for Sectional play-offs & our A Grade Masters Doubles team won a very tight final!!
About 60 members took part, and we would love to have you all "do it again" in 2015!



Matches are generally based on rubbers – "best of 3 tie-break sets"
Time slots will be Saturday/Sunday, with morning/afternoon options.
Season probably starts late April – and finishes late August.

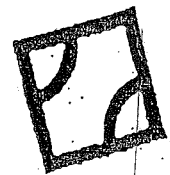
Interested players should register NOW – the entry form is enclosed, or is available at the Clubhouse.
A \$65 deposit is required for the season to cover ball costs, team management etc;

Closing date: FRIDAY 19th December

Queries: contact Jason Vochala 0419 132 423

PRELLI RACQUETS

207 - 209 Victoria Parade, Collingwood 3066
9419 4000



PRELLI

***** November/December *****

Tennis Shoes: Specials - up to \$70 off selected models (most brands)

Clothing: Specials (men's, ladies & children's ranges)

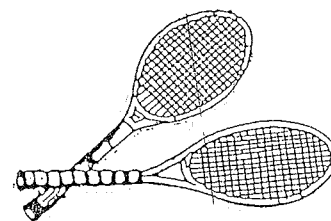
Racquets: Wilson Prostaff 97 - new model available (Roger Federer)

The store is still open on Sundays as well - 10am to 4.00pm

Ask for Lou - mention Royal Park Tennis Club for 10% discount (conditions apply)
- you must show your current membership card to qualify.

COMPETITION NEWS

(current highlights & happenings)



NSNTA (*night competition*)

Spring Season: semis & finals have just started! Good luck to all those who qualified; Our participation is somewhat low-key – but player hopes are high! We have 6 of our teams in the semis; Ladiesx3; Mixedx2; Men'sx1 Don't forget to go along and support our players – see NSNTA website for draw; **Queries?** Contact Liz Bradley 9387 0794



Autumn Season: 2015! Your entry should be in by now! **Closed on 9th November**

If you forgot, or lost your form – you may well have missed out! Team selection is being finalized this week – you might be lucky if a team is short! Contact Jason Nell 9395 6029 0407 621 903 **URGENTLY** with any queries

NSTA (*Saturday afternoon*)

Spring season: our A Reserve Mixed team is into the semis – they are ready to win!!

Autumn Season: 2015! Your entry should be in by now! **Closing on 22nd November**

Mixed, Men's singles/doubles, and Men's Doubles on offer.

Contact Julie Benstead if you have any queries.

NSJTA (*juniors*)

Current season: strong results to date with 11 of 16 teams into semi-final's this weekend; Finals are set for 28th/29th November – enjoy the opportunity & support your team! Well done to all our players - thank you for participating through the season.

Next Season: this is scheduled for February 2015 & team selection is underway; contact David McInnes (0409 724 564) or Carole Houston (0419 560 436) for information.

NSLTA (*Thursday ladies*) The major rounds have finished – and our Section 5 team just missed the cut! They are now planning their end-of-season, and their 2015 tactics!

COURT CARE

With the persistent winds, and return of some warmer weather, our courts are very dry and thirsty;

We need assistance from all players to ensure our courts are well maintained;

You **MUST** water well before play – from fence to fence (& not just between the lines);

Watering should also be done after each set or half-hour of hitting;

Please sprinkle before bagging after play as well; that settles the dust and keeps the en tout cas stable

If the courts do not get enough water, the playing area will break up and holes will appear.



MEMBERSHIP

Our first four month's period has finished, and it's encouraging to see that we have 344 members returning for 2014/15. That's a 71% return rate, which is similar to the previous year, and reasonably positive. We have also attracted 57 new members, and now have a total of 411 (incl. Honorary).

However, another 90 are needed to get back to our long-term average of 500!! **Please help!**

Do your best to convince visitors to join up!! We have quite a few member benefits on offer !!

And our fees are very reasonable in comparison with neighbouring clubs !!

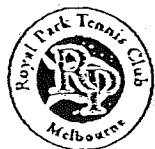
Junior Pennant: congratulations to several of our juniors who have been playing Junior Pennant: Reagan May, Peter Hill, Niamh Ollquist Maguire, Natalie Walsh, William Tolikas, Almosh Tompa Pinter

AGM Report

Our 2013/14 Annual General Meeting was held Sunday 29th September, with all members invited to come along. Attendance was very disappointing – only 17 members signed in! and that was after we interrupted some players on-court to join the AGM to make a quorum!!

WHERE WERE YOU???

These were some of the main points reported:



- * a positive Net Trading result of \$44,344, providing some \$172,666 in funds for on-going activities;
- * membership levels dropped by 6%, going below 500 for the first time in 18 years;
- * strong competition results, with 84 teams participating across seasons, and 6 premierships won;
- * Popular member benefits (Wine Offer & Australian Open ticketing), plus positive Special Events;
- * Member Services Manager appointed – to reinvigorate social tennis & increase patronage.

Copies of the Report are available at the Clubhouse – take the opportunity to review our positive year!

Management Committee: Congratulations and thank you to the following members who were elected, or have taken up positions subsequently:

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---------------|
| * <u>President:</u> | Caryle Demarte | * <u>Junior Co-ordinator:</u> | David McInnes |
| * <u>Secretary:</u> | Maria Keys | * <u>Facilities Co-ordinator:</u> | vacant |
| * <u>Treasurer:</u> | Julie Limbach | * <u>Social Co-ordinator:</u> | vacant |
| | | * <u>Match & Team Co-ordinator:</u> | vacant |
| * <u>Four General Committee members:</u> | Julie Benstead; Tom Halbert; 2 x vacant | | |
| * <u>Four members Match & Team:</u> | Jason Vochala; Liz Bradley; Julie Benstead; Tom Halbert | | |

Vote of Thanks: to Ravi Ketharanathan for his long-term leadership with team selection and management .

HELP WANTED! Your Invitation to be involved!

At the AGM, it was of some concern that there were nominations for only 60% of Committee positions – a rather disappointing situation, & definitely not a good sign for the future.



Our new Constitution provides for a smaller Management Committee, but – we will still need more members to volunteer to help, to get involved and support Club activities. Currently there are several areas where it would be great to have additional resources – facilities, general projects and social events. If you could assist with any of these, please contact Caryle Demarte 9387 4796 or Maria Keys 9819 1973.

Social: this creates opportunities for members and friends to get together and enjoy “off-court” gatherings.

Facilities: planning for future developments and maintaining current facilities are on-going major considerations, so ideas, solutions and identifying options are part of these activities;

General projects: these Committee positions help with selected projects, and the overall management of Club affairs; it’s a great opportunity to see what makes the Club such an active, friendly sporting complex ;

It’s not necessary to have specific expertise – just an interest in our Club! If you can help with ideas, researching possibilities and would get a buzz from making something happen – come and join in! There are also opportunities for helping with short-term projects from time to time.

COACHING SESSIONS: please remember!

We have two qualified professionals formally engaged to provide coaching services at our complex. These Agreements preclude members and non-members engaging in similar activities on our courts, and all members are requested to respect these arrangements. Please DO NOT conduct coaching sessions nor bring other coaches onto the site to provide coaching or hitting practice. Should it appear that individuals are breaching these guidelines, they will be cautioned by the Club Manager or Committee personnel. Casual “informal” member parent/family training hits are within guidelines.

