



## Club Report for 2021/2022 season

### General summary

Challenging and uncertainty is about what sums up the last 12 months, thanks to the pandemic. This has affected everyone throughout NZ and naturally sports clubs were also disenfranchised. Creating and working through ever changing Covid policies, ensuring we met TNZ's requirements over court bookings and answering enquiries kept us busy.

Membership was obviously been affected by the uncertainty of courts being open and whether the season would actually occur. This was reflected in the membership uptake, our annual return showed only **92** full members (down from **133** last year). We have since seen an uptake of short term packages with several 6 month ones being purchased.

**Stats for 2021/22. Seniors;52- ; bulk of which are over 35, Juniors 12-18:34 -; Juniors under 12: - 6**

The "Book- a Court" access installation system has been functional for almost 3 years now. So far, we have managed to be on the winning side in regard to public court bookings vs monthly outgoings.

LOVE TENNIS Weekend was cancelled in Auckland; however, the rest of NZ went ahead with this.

#### **Grant's update:**

- Active- another two community resilience grants were received towards monthly utility costs of **\$4674.89** received for the months August – Dec 2020 whilst we were essentially closed.
- Active Junior Player Fund of **\$4000** received in April 21, due to post Covid sport membership impact. This was targeted for sponsorship of Tamariki/Rangitahi in our locality, recognised as interested in tennis- identified through the local schools
- Grassroots Trust **\$5000** towards annual paid administrator costs, by contractual arrangement
- Total grants of **\$13,674** contributed to taking a serious hit on our capital reserves

#### **Statutory obligations update:**

- Mandated police vetting of members directly involved with junior players, was not actioned because of Covid. However, this is a work in progress for TNZ, as pertinent policies can be viewed on their website. There will be constitutional reforms to be made as a result of the update to the Incorporated Societies Act and some work to do around meeting the new criteria. We have time up our sleeves to achieve this, however the onus on statutory liability of committee members has been obligated. We have sufficient insurance coverage with a standalone policy through Tennis Northern and this is separate from our contents, public liability coverage we have with JLT(Marsh), which we will need to review when due at the end of October.



## Interclub

- **Senior highlights- Sue Evans**
- 11 teams in total competing in various grades across all the competitions offered by TNR.
- This season we had one grade winner, the Women's 1 singles. As it was a rejigged grouping the competition was not as strong as this group would have liked.
- Thanks to all the team captains coping with a particularly difficult half- season for finding reserves yet again; what with injuries and Covid it was often difficult to field a team. TNR made some quick rule changes to allow players from other clubs to fill in, this was often well utilised.
  
- **Junior highlights- Brian Uy**
- Junior numbers were down from last year- we originally had 9 teams entered however our top 18U boys team pulled out just prior to starting the post Xmas comp.
- 2 of the 15U boys teams won their grades- so well done to these two teams and their managers and supporters. Gavin said there were some talented players in these teams and we can only hope they continue playing whilst their studies become a priority in their lives.
- As always, a special thanks to the Junior team managers for their commitment to ensuring they had a team. A lot of juniors were in club uniform and it was great to see. Transporting and organising children is a feat at the best of times.
- Some more interclub shirts have been sold; we still have some leftover for purchase.
- We had very few Saturday morning members renew membership because of Covid uncertainties and this was where the \$4k grant came into its own as we sponsored 15 children from the community, and subsidised some of our current members to be coached in term 4 2021 and term 1 this year. We averaged 30 children over the 2 sessions. Thanks also to Neththra Fonseka for helping both Gavin and myself out as we managed these sessions.
- The \$4000 Aktive grant has also included \$1600 towards the cost of Saturday's coaching which has offset our usual budgeted amount of \$8k.
- Thanks to our coach Gavin Hill for the last time, for his tireless commitment to working with the junior sector. It has been a very hot summer and that coupled with a sore hip, that required an operation, demonstrated this.
  
- **Midweek highlights-**
- This part of the club is supported by a small group of enthusiastic players who endeavour to play weekly the entire year. There were 2 interclub teams and 1 social team this season. It was a fraught time trying to find a team not affected by Omicron absences.
- The B2 team again finished fifth. Club day is every Thursday morning from 9.30 finishing with morning tea around 11.30am. Thanks to Heather Fanshawe(rosters), team captains and delegates Maureen and Kayo. Sandie is on the executive of NSLTDA and had insight into what was being planned for us.



Some key revitalisation challenges to be faced by the Club: These have not changed.

- Working with the new coaching team to create a vibrant atmosphere and lots more opportunities to engage in social tennis
- Obtaining, maintaining and retaining volunteers to help manage the club, either as officers or on sub- committees, especially site management. This is an endless task and we need better turnouts at working bees, to help with regular clearance of leaves on the courts, we have purchased a leaf-blower for member use.
- Sufficient funding whether through fundraising or grants, for us to maintain a profit going forward with a view to modernise the club, update court lighting and general upkeep.
- Increase the membership through social media marketing initiatives and other forms of communication, especially to promote our public Book -a-Court offer.
- Review all tennis activities- create think tank opportunities to seek different ways of doing the time- honoured methods we have employed for years

### Acknowledgements and thanks

- The Committee, for their voluntary work and support in managing the club this fragmented and frustrating season
- Tony, as Treasurer who this year is standing down. Maureen as Secretary, Sue (interclub and club captain), Brian Uy (Junior Convenor)
- And the rest of the Committee- Joanne, Pandora, Kayo and Naj – we had little to organise as all potential events were cancelled. So, they **still** didn't get a real taste of the organisational side.
- Jon Wakeman for continuing to help me with site matters.
- Kayo Suga has cemented the role of club administrator of our website Clubspark. She has been a real asset and will continue in this role next year. I hope to be able to secure a grant to continue to fund this role
- Kevin Turner for auditing our accounts as always.

### Farewell to Gavin Hill

- We said goodbye to Gavin on 30<sup>th</sup> April, he has been coaching us over the last 5 years. He has chosen to retire and spend more time in Whangamata, waxing down his surfboard! Gavin has been a friend and assiduous worker for the development of our club- recruiting members and supporting our junior coaching in particular. He has gone beyond the role of a coach supporting me with small projects and keeping our costs down. We will miss his camaraderie, however, wish him well in his retirement as coach of our club.
- **Replacement coach**
- One of our recent major efforts has been finding a replacement coach, EOI were sought from E3 tennis/Sparta Academy and some personal approaches by myself of coaches who I work with whilst refereeing local junior tournaments. The securing of E3 tennis has subsequently fallen through and we have now engaged Kiwi Tennis from October 2nd this year.



Thank you to those who have come along today, those who have supported the club in various ways and remember our door is always open to ideas and offers of help, whether it be on or outside of the actual committee.

Regards

Sandie Newton

President, July 2022