

CROSS COURT



NEWSLETTER OF THE
LOWER HUTT TENNIS CLUB INC.

67a Totara Cres, Lower Hutt

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/lowerhutttennis>

Website: <https://clubspark.kiwi/LowerHuttTennisClub>



2023/24 SEASON

Welcome to a new season of tennis with warmer weather and competitions for the season of tennis ahead. Our new courts and clubhouse upgrades are looking fabulous. We hope to see you using the facilities as much as possible!

TENNIS CLUB CONTACTS

Secretary – Steph Fuller (temporary) stephfuller@outlook.co.nz
Treasurer – Jackie Clarke clarkes1@outlook.co.nz
Chairperson – Alan Reece alanreece1@gmail.com
Midweek – Jackie Clarke clarkes1@outlook.co.nz
Junior Interclub – Vicky Sali lhtcjuniors@gmail.com
Men's Premier Simon Stronach stronachcoaching@outlook.com
Men's Divisional – Alex Bass bassienz@gmail.com
Women's Senior– Steph Fuller stephfuller@outlook.co.nz
Monday Night – Alex Bass lhtcmnl@gmail.com
Wednesday Night – Kais Al-Samaraie alsamaraiekais@gmail.com
Saturday Afternoon – Tinie/Simon Jellie tinie.jellie@outlook.com

Club Coach

Simon Stronach: stronachcoaching@outlook.com
M: 027 976 1628

Thanks to our Sponsors



Membership

CLUBSPARK MEMBERSHIP PLATFORM – FEES

We will be sending an email through Club Spark for your membership fees over the next month. This will require you to register on the site, if you already haven't done so to pay for your new season membership. **Please note that if you are an interclub player, please use the 'add on' for the correct interclub fee and pay this together with your membership sub.** The club fees have increased for the first time in 5 years (HVTA affiliation fees have increased, as have our costs to maintain the club).

Type	Fee \$	Late payment**
Senior (19 & over)	290.00	320.00
Couple (same address)	500.00	530.00
Family (same address)	630.00	660.00
Midweek (midweek tennis only)	250.00	280.00
Veterans (over 65)	250.00	280.00
Junior/Intermediate (Under 19)	170.00	200.00
Student (full time) – (Over 18)	220.00	250.00
Court Hire (per hour)	15.00	15.00
Visitors Fee (per player)	10.00	10.00
Non Playing (no court use)	25.00	25.00
Corporate Sponsorship	316.25	316.25

(The above subscriptions include GST and entry fee for Club Championships). Subscriptions are due 1 November 2023.

If anyone has any membership queries then please contact Jackie Clarke, our Treasurer, at clarkes1@outlook.co.nz. It would also be helpful if you are not renewing your membership to email Jackie and advise this also.

Congratulations

Ary Bhawan took part in tournaments in Brisbane as follows over the Term 2 School break.

- Rod Laver Lead-in; and
- Rod Laver Junior State Championships

The links for both the tournaments are below – you will be able to access the list of winner under the "More" tab.

[2023 JT Premier 250 RAFA Nadal Event & Rod Laver Lead-In | All Tournaments – Tennis Australia](#)

[2023 JT Signature 500 Rod Laver Junior Qld State Championships | All Tournaments – Tennis Australia](#)

[2023 JT Signature 500 Rod Laver Junior Qld State Championships | All Tournaments – Tennis Australia](#)

[2023 JT Signature 500 Rod Laver Junior Qld State Championships | All Tournaments – Tennis Australia](#)

His achievements were as follows:

Winner: 2023 Rod Laver Lead-in 16/U Doubles, with Lucas Evans from Christchurch

Winner: 2023 Rod Laver Junior Championship – 16/U Boys Tier 1 Consolation Singles

Finalist: 2023 Rod Laver Junior Championships 16/U Boys Tier 1 Doubles, with Lucas Evans from Christchurch



JULIE SCOTT NEE COOPER AWARDED LIFE MEMBERSHIP

At the AGM, Julie was presented with a Life membership of the Club - she has been a member for over 40 years. She started playing Premier 1 tennis at 12 until this year.

She has been coordinating the premier teams as well as playing. She is 'retiring' from singles interclub but we still see her around playing doubles interclub.

She was also awarded the Tennis Central Regional Female Player of the Year.



TENNIS CENTRAL AWARDS

The Tennis Central Awards were held on 19 August at the Renouf Centre. We would like to congratulate the following people/teams for their awards:-

- Julie Scott – Top Premier 2/3 player. Julie played 14 matches this season and won all of these without dropping a set.
- Winter Interclub – C Grade Lower Hutt Purple – Jodie, Raewyn, Jane, Simon, Justin and James
- Midweek Interclub – Lower Hutt/Avalon – B Grade – Penny, Barb Mandy, Lynnette and Kim (Avalon)

Shane Jackson was also recognised as volunteer of the year for his work on the Mitchell Park development and around the region.

Club Centenary

We are going to prepare a history of the Club as part of the celebrations in 2027 and are starting now, can you help us?

Were your parents or grandparents members and what do they remember?

We would be grateful for any anecdotes about present or past members or about games played. What were the good times, the great people, the wins the losses. What were the facilities like, the wooden racquets, the wet tennis balls. Did you make new friends?

Please email John Donaghy john.donaghy@xtra.co.nz describing how you enjoyed your tennis or what you thought of the club. Pictures would be great. Funny stories are even better.

John joined the Club in 1957 and can remember when we had real grass courts that opened on Labour weekend and on a Saturday afternoon we would have 150 members waiting their turn on the court

Your grandparents may have old club tennis trophies (miniatures) we would love to get back.

An example of a story

I have just received a score sheet for a one set men's doubles exhibition match between Rod Laver and Ken Rosewell of Australia vs Luis Ayala of Chile and Andres Gimeno of Spain. Rosewell and Laver were top men's singles players in the world.

In the 1940's to 1960's New Zealand hosted many tennis teams from Australia and played many international exhibition matches. Some of these were at Lower Hutt tennis club.

This score sheet is notable for the LHTC as the umpire for the match was Ross Dean who was our Club Captain 1957 -1960. It is incredible that this score sheet featuring top players in the world managed to survive 70+ years.

Important Reminders

Visitor's fees

Please note that any visitors being brought along with members are expected to pay the visitors fee of \$10 either in the slot in front door or through an online payment.

This is to help pay for the maintenance of the club facilities that club members pay their membership fees for.

Clubhouse use

Reminder to shut the gate, and ensure the clubhouse is closed with lights and heatpump turned off, if you are last to leave.

Our lighting consent is for no court lights to be used on a Sunday or after 10pm other days.

Dates For Your Diary!

Senior interclub team player registration: 31 August

Annual Working Bee: Sat 2 Sept 9:30am – 12:30pm

Love Tennis: Sun 10 September 10am – 4pm

Sunday Junior Coaching starts 17th September 23 – finishes Sunday 17 December

Junior interclub players registration of interest deadline – 1 Oct

Seniors Opening Tournament: Sat 7 October

Premier Interclub Starts: Sat 7 October

Red & Orange ball tournament Sunday 17th December

Parent & Child tournament Sunday 17th December

Upcoming Events

JUNIOR TENNIS SUNDAY TIMES

Sunday session new structure

9-9.45 5-8 years Beginners (Red Ball - bigger ball, small courts)

9.45-10.30 7-10 years - Intermediate/2nd year playing
(Orange Ball, 3/4 size courts)

10.30-11.15 Interclub Fundamentals. (Preparing for interclub - Green Ball)

11.15-1.00pm Interclub training for all divisions

WANT TO PLAY JUNIOR INTERCLUB?

Are you are interested in playing Junior interclub this season? LHTC has junior interclub teams that cater for all levels and abilities - if your child is a beginner but keen then please let us know they are interested as there is a beginner grade. Note that Junior interclub players will need to pay an additional small fee and will need to purchase a club top to play in (approx \$40-\$45).

Trials for the top 3 teams (Prem and Div 1) - 11.15-1.15 sessions on 17th and 24th September.

Cut off date for registering interest in being in an Interclub team is **Sunday 1st October**. There will be a sign up sheet put on the junior notice board, the club house main door, or they can email or discuss with Simon.

SENIOR INTERCLUB REGISTRATION – BY THUR 31 AUG

Anyone interested in playing Senior Interclub this coming season please contact the appropriate person below.

Women's - Premier (Sat PM), Tecnifibre (Sat AM) and Hutt Valley Division Doubles (Sat PM - fortnightly)

Steph Fuller stephfuller@outlook.co.nz

Men's - Premier (Sat PM)

Simon Stronach StronachCoaching@outlook.com

Men's - Hutt Valley Divisional (Sat PM)

Alex Bass bassienz@gmail.com

CLUB SENIOR OPEN DAY TOURNAMENT - SAT 7th OCT 1PM

The club is planning on running a tournament to mark the opening day of the senior club for the summer season. Entry is open to all senior players, and junior players playing senior interclub.

The tournament will follow a format to ensure that your tennis will be played with players of comparable standard to your own. All games will be doubles, and you will be allocated to a court with four other players (5 players per court) and play one set with each of the others on your court. Scores will be dutifully recorded resulting in a court winner and at the conclusion of the day there will be a prize giving (about 4 to 4:30ish).

The club will put on a sausage sizzle, and please bring a plate to share and BYO drinks.

To enter contact Mark Cullen

mutecullen@gmail.com



Sat 2 Sept (PP Sun 3 Sept)

Every year prior to start of interclub and spring tennis season the club needs a little tidy-up to attract and retain members. We have limited funding to clean and maintain the premises - and rely on volunteers to keep the facilities clean and working well.

We have planned our working bee on Saturday 2nd September from 9:30am – 12:30pm. Club play is restricted to coaching only between 9.30 and 12.30 pm (or while the working bee is running or in the morning – take your pick) We are hosting a BBQ at 12:30pm to celebrate summer (fingers crossed it arrives by then!) and reward any volunteers. Postponement day will be Sun 3 Sept.

If you can help please turn up for a 1-2 hour roster that suits your time available. Some of the tasks are indoor (clubhouse clean) and others involve weed control, cleaning culverts and minor repairs. All you need to bring is spare spade or gardening tools and family members and children more than welcome to make it a fun couple of hours.

INDOOR COURTS AT MITCHELL PARK

The project to cover the 4 front courts with a roof and hard courts has started. The court surface is prepared and all poles and roof structure are now in place. The courts will be completed before the end of the year. This will enable tennis to be played locally all year around and will be available for interclub, tournaments and coaching.



Did You Know?

The longest singles match in recorded history lasted 11 hours and 5 minutes, stretched over 3 days. This was contested between Nicolas Mahut and John Isner at Wimbledon in 2010



Tennis originated in France in the 12th century with a game similar to the sport now known as Real Tennis.

LOVE TENNIS – SUN 11 SEP 10AM-4PM

We are looking forward to welcoming visitors to our Love Tennis event. Make sure you mark Sunday September 11th (10am-4pm), on your calendar. There will be tennis activities for the kids to get involved in, games for adults to join in, competitions to take part in and giveaways. There will be a **20% discount** on membership for brand **new** members. Tell your friends, bring them along. We can supply racquets if required.

Club coaches, Simon Stronach and team, will be on hand for any questions you may have. There will be a free BBQ running for the afternoon.

Please make sure that you all share the event on Facebook, Instagram, and any other social media you are on.

<https://lovetennis.tennis.kiwi/index.html#>

The Love Tennis Team are needing assistance from our members on the Love Tennis day (young and not so young) so let Mandy know if you can pop down for an hour or two (bring the kids) and she'll find something for you and the kids to do. It is a fun day for all involved and all volunteers get to go in a special draw to the ASB Classic (four prizes are being given away). There will be a variety of ways you can help out - including offering to drop off some baking if you can't make it on the day, helping set up beforehand, or tidy up afterwards.

Please contact Mandy Stewart via the following email: lovetennislhtc@gmail.com if you can help out for some of the day.

Know the Rules

Double hit rule

Only when there is a deliberate second push does the shot become illegal. Two hits occurring during a continuous swing are not deemed a double hit."

Winning the toss

Rule 9 provides that the winner of the toss can choose to serve or to receive OR can choose which end of the court to play first OR can require the opponent to make the first choice.

Check our club website for the latest news [Lower Hutt Tennis Club / Home \(clubspark.kiwi\)](#) and the contact details for the league organisers are listed at the start of this newsletter.

Regards

Craig Eves

Newsletter Editor

on behalf of the Lower Hutt Tennis Committee