

CLUB NEWS

2022/23 tennis season

Key dates

Social play - pre-Xmas 2022

Thursday evenings from 7pm - be brave and venture out even if the weather is a little cold. You'll soon warm up.

Sunday mornings from 10am - a good chance to get some exercise in the morning before tucking into a Sunday roast lunch.

All welcome - usually play doubles because it can be more fun and mixes things up.

Interclub

The pre-Xmas 2022 interclub season starts on Saturday 15 October.

We have six teams entered. Contact us if you want to join a team.

Season membership

Membership is now open for the 2022-23 season running from 1 Sept to 31 Aug.

Go to the website and pay online. Thanks.

Reminder for interclub players that you must be a member to enter interclub competitions.



Love Tennis will be a fantastic introduction to some new people (who might like to take up the offer of half-price membership on the day) and a warm welcome back to existing members and supporters.

It will double as our Season Opening Day.

Tennis activities start at 11am and will run through the day. Plenty of prizes and giveaways as we rumble into the afternoon.

The BBQ will crank up at midday for some hot kai.

It's a community event, not just a tennis event. Don't be surprised to be handed a pair of tongs to help out on the BBQ or a tennis racquet to have a little game or two. Rest assured that it will only be for a short time before someone else steps in and takes over. See you there!

Postponement date is Sunday 18 September.

Coaching

Efforts continue to find a coach or coaches for our junior and senior players.

However, it is not looking promising. Even some of the larger, better-resourced clubs are struggling to get coaches.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on Thu 25 August. Club Captain and Treasurer reports are attached to this newsletter.

We farewell Robyn Matthews and Simon Scott from the committee and thank them for their enormous contributions over the years.

We welcome Stu Kilmister to the committee.

Election of Officers for 2022/23:

Club Captain - Garth Gulley

Treasurer - Garth Gulley

Secretary - Heather Atkinson

We resolved to keep membership fees at the same rate as last season.

Working Bee

Tremendous mahi on Sun 28 August to get the clubhouse clean and tidy for the season. Huge shout-out to Simon Maguire for really cranking it and not raising a fuss when a bunch of us headed to the courts to play interclub.

Thanks everyone!

This sporadically-produced club newsletter was put together by your committee of Heather Atkinson, Jane Poole, Debbie Quennell, Rachel Hall, Mike Thomas, Stu Kilmister, Simon Maguire, Robert Gulley and Garth Gulley.

Prize Giving 2022

Last year’s cheap and cheerful pot luck dinner, followed by a quiz and then prize giving was so good that we did it again. We could be starting a tradition - just saying.

With hardly any planning, the pot luck dinner fed everyone handsomely - and it was delicious. It’s an amazing thing how that works. Thanks to all those who brought some kai. Some of us are already putting in our orders for a repeat of certain dishes next year.

The quiz got some laughs going and seriously strengthened the tennis knowledge of every person. We now know that Love Tennis in te reo Māori is *Arohaina te Tēnehi* and why line judges stand up rather than sit down.

Handing out the silverware is always a pleasure. Despite some disruptions here and there, nearly all the titles were competed for. We missed out on playing the Unders/Overs Doubles and the Handicapped Doubles. In an executive decision about the Handicapped Doubles championship title, Garth and his brilliant partner remain the reigning champs.

Winners of prizes for the 2021/22 season:

Singles - Junior Boys: Ryan Flanagan

Singles - Junior Girls: Eleanor Smith

Singles - Senior Men: Bryce Middleton

Singles - Senior Women: Monique Hore

Doubles - Senior Men: Simon Maguire and Robert Gulley

Doubles - Senior Women: Monique Hore and Rachel Hall

Doubles - Senior Mixed: Jane Poole and Tony Lowe

Most Improved Player:

Mike Thomas



Prize Giving 2022



PUKERUA BAY TENNIS CLUB

CLUB CAPTAIN REPORT 2021-22 SEASON

Kia ora koutou

Overview

Our club battled on throughout the 2021-22 season. We coped with Covid and its impacts and ran a successful tennis and community programme ranging from club champs and interclub to social play and clubhouse bookings. In most respects, despite Covid constraints, we had a reasonably normal year.

Positives

- My gratitude goes to each Committee member for their mahi over the season. Without your involvement and support, we cannot function. I'd like to especially acknowledge Jane Poole for her help with the finances and Heather Atkinson for keeping all the administrative aspects ticking along.
- We ran our first Love Tennis day and it was a great success. We gained some new members and showcased the club to our community. Having Mel and Flo from Tennis Central visiting us in the afternoon was a bonus.
- Graham Ward continues to keep our grounds in excellent order. Thank you very much, Graham.
- Simon Scott is a huge asset to the club because of his electrical expertise and the contacts he has for height access equipment and electrical supplies. Thanks, Simon, for your work on the court lights.
- Heather Atkinson does so much for the club that it is difficult to thank her enough. We would be poorer without her efforts.
- Our Interclub teams performed well across Premier, Tecnifibre, Frampton and Junior competitions. We are known as keen competitors and good hosts. It looks likely we will enter a similar number of teams in the 2022-23 season.
- Our various club championships were played in fine spirit. Winners were presented with their trophies at the prize giving evening on 12 August 2022.
- Our Easter Tournament came close to being scuttled by Covid but a late flurry of entries saw us running an event that was at near maximum capacity. Once again, the food was superb, drinks were plentiful and everyone had the opportunity to socialise. The event runs well and successfully due to the hard work of our committee members and whānau. Thanks to everyone who shopped, got sponsors, cleaned, organised, washed dishes, took payments, and generally helped out.
- Porirua City Council completed the side fences and cleaned the courts, as well as regularly trimming the grass. I've been impressed with the Council's response to our requests for help or information.

Challenges

- Coaching took a big dive this season. We managed to get a coach finally in October but bad weather knocked out a few sessions. Then the coach left. I ran a few sessions for beginner adults and helped on Fridays with the Juniors. We are working with Tawa Tennis Club to find a coach. At present, it is not looking hopeful.
- Clubhouse bookings were well down on previous years. Despite that, the hire of our clubhouse provides a valuable and needed service to our community, and the money we get helps pay our bills. As always, we thank Heather Atkinson for her mahi and manaaki.
- Membership income grew; participation in social and competitive tennis didn't. Some interclub teams had low numbers or difficulty in ensuring a full team was available.
- We have a lack of competitive Junior players and very few children and teenagers using the courts for practice and fun.

Opportunities

- The Love Tennis event worked well and there is every expectation it will work well again. It is scheduled for Sunday 11 September 2022 and I propose we offer membership deals and other incentives to encourage membership.
- Renovating the men's toilet and front entrance to cater for disabled people will meet our community obligations and allow more groups to book. I propose we seek a grant(s) for this work.
- We should continue to maintain our relationship with Tennis Central by attending network events and offering to help with their initiatives.
- We need new and younger people on the committee to provide different ideas.
- We make sure we remain known as a small club with a big heart - good hosts, good tournament organisers and a valued community asset.

Conclusion

We have a low membership base, a shrinking committee and rising costs. In addition, the club exists for the community, yet we see minimal community involvement. Without growth in membership (players and committee) and clubhouse bookings, I think it will be challenging to field teams in competitions, run events, have well attended social tennis activities, pay the bills, and so on.

Despite all that, the challenge is worth it. It's worth it for the thrill of hitting a crisp forehand, the laughter after a mix up at the net, the smiles from people at the Easter Tournament, the delight of parents hosting a child's birthday party and the joy of spending time outside with other people on a warm summer's evening.

For all those reasons - and many more - we are going to have a great 2022-23 season and I look forward to all it brings.

Nō reira, kia ora tātou katoa.

Garth Gulley, Club Captain

25 August 2022

PUKERUA BAY TENNIS CLUB
TREASURER'S REPORT 2021-22 SEASON

Overview

Our financial position at 31 May 2022 was fairly similar to previous seasons. We went up in some areas, down in others - and ended in roughly the same place.

Rental income was down from last year by \$1,360, perhaps because of Covid. Nevertheless, it contributed \$1,070, which puts a big dent in our annual electricity bill of around \$1,600.

Coaching didn't really happen this season. We had a couple of sessions for Juniors but wet weather and then a lack of coaches meant little income. The external coaching company did not bill us for their time. Last season's coaching was subsidised and ran at a loss of \$755.

Membership income increased by \$830 over last season. That is not a big sum. However, in the context of how many members we have, it is quite large. The main reason was our Love Tennis promotion that offered half-price membership.

Interclub costs were lower because we were not billed for three teams.

Financial position

As at 31 May 2022, the total equity of the club was \$138,499.

Our current assets were \$11,879 in the transaction account, \$6,444 in a term deposit and \$150 in stock (tennis balls). Our non-current assets were \$111,086 for buildings and \$8,940 for plant and equipment.

With depreciation of \$7,727 factored into our expenses, the Profit and Loss statement shows a loss of (\$6,360).

Positives

- I'm pleased with Xero as our accounting platform. It took some effort getting the system running but, now that it is, I am finding it easy to use. David Hawkyard's support has been terrific and the club owes him a great deal of gratitude. Having a simple, stable, cloud-based system means it should be straightforward to shift the financial responsibilities to the next Treasurer and have that person quickly and confidently operating.
- The online payment processing system, Stripe, has reduced a lot of manual accounting work. Stripe takes its cut but we have generally factored it into the invoices and fees. With Stripe and Xero doing their thing, I spend relatively little time generating, chasing and reconciling payments.
- The Easter Tournament returned a healthy surplus. Many volunteer hours and donations of food helped us get that money in the bank. It's a terrific event for tennis and socialising reasons and an important contributor to our bottom line.
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Concerns

- Insurance is going up year on year. I will need to contact our broker soon to get an idea of the cost of our insurance for our building. The result of that conversation may initiate a conversation among committee members as to our level of insurance cover.
- Rental income is vital. Membership fees are insufficient to pay the bills. We must increase rentals to meet the ongoing costs and expected rises. Making the clubhouse more attractive to people and then marketing its attractions is one strategy. But it will cost. Is that a cost we want to pay?
- Although we ran coaching at a loss, a continued lack of tennis coaches means we don't have young people and their parents around the club. That can impact membership and potential clubhouse bookings. At present, there is no solution to this problem.

Conclusion

We didn't thrive financially this season, but we did survive. For that, I'm thankful. And I am optimistic that barring catastrophes, such as all of our court lights exploding or our roof blowing off, we will have another good season. We will run a strong Easter Tournament, clubhouse bookings will increase and members will remain loyal. Kia kaha!

Garth Gulley, Club Treasurer

25 August 2022