



# Tennis Manawatū

## NEWSLETTER

December 2023

The start to the 2023 season has been a busy one with lots going on in the Tennis Manawatu office. With the start of Interclub, S grade tournaments, Junior Development Programme, Senior Rep Tournaments and the implementation of police vetting and other Tennis New Zealand initiatives there is plenty to keep the operations team busy!

We have been reasonably lucky with the weather for interclub which means most rounds apart from a couple of rainouts have gone ahead. Premier Tennis on a Wednesday night is proving popular with good player participation (not too many fill-ins) and there has been some fierce competition out on the court. It has been interesting observing the interclub competition and how it is currently run. Tennis Manawatu are responsible for providing the interclub draw and recording the results every week which sounds simple, however, when there are 35 matches played every week there are a lot of results to enter! Occasionally it proves difficult to enter scores when there are fill-ins and only a first name is provided. Also, having paper scoresheets means there is a chance of losing results and with 35 different ways of recording scores along with various handwriting styles there is plenty of room for error! We know our processes can be improved and there is some work ahead to continue making interclub a viable and strong competition.

We have put together an interclub survey which we will send out to clubs to forward onto players. We want to know

players thoughts on interclub on how it can be improved and if people's busy lives now mean we have to look at running interclub differently. We know that players learning how to use Matchhub and entering scores on the sideline will make a huge difference to the efficiency of recording scores and we'd love to hear from players how they see interclub moving forward. Watch this space!

The Junior Development Programme (JDP) is up and running with the first training going ahead on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November. It is fantastic to see so many junior players getting involved and keen to develop their game further. Unfortunately, the weather gods haven't been playing nicely and the team have yet to play a Junior Rep fixture having two of them cancelled because of rain. Fingers crossed they get a match in before Christmas. There is still room for more juniors to get involved in the JDP in Term 1, so please get in touch with TMI if you (or know of a junior player) who would like to get involved.



### Do you enjoy watching great tennis?? Would you like to support our elite Manawatu tennis players???

Then join us on **Sunday, 10th December**, to watch the best tennis players that both Manawatu and Eastern have to offer, battle it out for the highly prestigious Christie Cup!

**Start time:** 10.30am – 4.30pm  
**Format:** Teams of 4. Male and Female.  
Singles and doubles  
**Location:** Vautier Park, 43 Puriri  
Terrace, Palmerston North

Pop in for 15 minutes or join us for the day. It promises to be an EPIC tennis battle!



# TOURNAMENT UPDATE

Congratulations to Lara Power and Lily Smith who recently completed in the National U14's tournament in Wellington. Lara (5) made it to the semi-finals of the singles and was only just beaten in a tight match against number 3 seed, Yashwitha Reddy (7-6, 7-5). Lara and Lily also made it to the semi-finals of the U14 girls doubles. Again a narrow loss but a fierce battle. These two girls are certainly ones to watch!



Lily Smith and Lara Power

# UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

## Tennis Manawatu Tier 3.

13<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Age group singles and doubles  
10's, 12's, 14's, 17's and Open grades  
Vautier Park

*Enter via Tournament Software*

## Tennis Manawatu High School Champs

28<sup>th</sup> February, 2024

Years 9 & 10, Years 11 -13  
Vautier Park

*Enter via your school*

## Primary and Intermediate School Champs

The annual Primary and Intermediate School Champs were held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November at Vautier Park. Congratulations to all who entered and we'll done to the players who moved on and represented their school and region in the Tennis Central School Champs on 15<sup>th</sup> November.

### Results



#### Primary Boys

Winner - Charlie Wright  
Runner Up - TJ North



#### Primary Girls

Winner - Lucy Windley  
Runner Up - Beatrice Fumaglli



#### Intermediate Girls

Winner - Sarah Jennings  
Runner Up - Ali Pinkney



#### Intermediate Boys

Winner - Jamie Waugh  
Runner Up - Noah Wright

## The 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Masterton Seniors Tournament

A number of our associated Manawatu Masters players went across to play in the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Masterton Seniors Tournament held at Masterton Tennis Club on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December. There were many successes across the weekend including the following pairings in the mixed doubles:



#### B2 – Pool A - Winners

Catherine Eckersley & Mark Dobson



#### B1 – Pool C - Winners

Jo Shaw & Brendan Hannan



#### B1 – Pool C – Runners-up

James Wineera & Kiri Kawai



#### B2 – Pool B – Runners-Up

Dwayne Richardson & Julie Foley



#### B2 – Pool C – Winners

Ann Honeyfield & Don Wright



#### B1 – Pool A – Winners

Hayley Underwood & Andy Martin

# 2023 TARANAKI OPEN

STRATFORD 27 -30 DECEMBER

**TARANAKI TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

**ENTER**  
online by 23rd December  
[@tnz.tournamentsoftware.com](https://tnz.tournamentsoftware.com)

- All information online  
When you sign up
- Location - Stratford TET  
Portia street
- Food and drink  
available on site

**CONTACT** Andrew Baylis  
[baylisa23@gmail.com](mailto:baylisa23@gmail.com)

Accommodation is available please see extra information book in so we can accommodate all

**SPONSORS**

- McDonalds - Real Estate
- Warren Cleland - Concrete Contracting
- Quinton Oakes - Builders
- Sam Cleland - Builders
- Jichelle Health & Beauty

## MASTERS MANAWATU

Seniors Tennis is thriving in the Manawatu Region. Based down at Awapuni Tennis Club Manawatu Masters Club provides an all exclusive tennis experience for the more mature player 😊

Here's what Linda Wynks from the Masters Club had to say...

We are a group of like minded tennis enthusiast. We play at the Awapuni Courts every Sunday from 0900 – 1300 hours. As you can see from our name we cater to seniors – in this case over 35 years old! We have a very affordable subscription which lasts a year and we play every Sunday unless its raining heavily or it's a public holiday and Christmas.

We would love to welcome new members! If you belong to another club your subscription fee to the Masters is less. A lot of our players do belong to other clubs.

We're very social and try to have a barbeque at least every couple of months and at Christmas there is a Christmas dinner put on the by the club for all the members and their significant others (there is a small charge for non-members). For those that just like to watch but can't play, there a small charge to be a social member and enjoy the benefits the club offers.

For those of you that may think we're a bunch of old, slow players think again! Most of us are still very competitive and play in many senior tournaments all around the country with many successes. We cater for all levels of play so come and give it a go.

Just turn up! First day is free. Every Sunday from nine – see you there! For more information contact club secretary, Debbie Curtis at [manawatuseniorstennis@gmail.com](mailto:manawatuseniorstennis@gmail.com).



## WHĀNAU FRIDAY LEVIN TENNIS CLUB

WHĀNAU FRIDAY - a time to drop in, socialise, enjoy games, get to know our club families and share a meal together. Bring a plate, your tea for the night, or something to pop in the oven, there is no need cook to feed a tribe as there is always ample to feast on.

A few weeks ago the juniors played dress up singles (under the lights). The adults played cards and learned to play Carrom (Indian Board Game ) Big thanks to Amjad's Whānau for bringing it . Well done Monica , first time player and current Champion. Everyone shared a wonderful meal together.



## INCORPORATION SOCIETY CHANGES - UPDATE

You may have heard about the changes to the Incorporated Societies Act that need to be implemented by all incorporated societies by April 2026. If not, you can more information here:

<https://companiesoffice.cmail19.com/t/r-e-tthkaud-bdiukuiit-n/>

At this stage there is no need to panic or to start registering under the new Incorporate Societies act. Tennis New Zealand with be implementing the changes first, then regional and association entities, allowing clubs to be the last in the chain. Tennis New Zealand will share more information as it comes to hand.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MANAWATU LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Work is underway at Manawatu Lawn Tennis Club, where the front 5 courts (that were looking more than a little worse for wear!) are being torn up in preparation for 5 new courts.

The work is scheduled to take approximately two weeks and once finished promises to provide an awesome new playing surface with no risk of tripping on old threadbare and ripped courts!

There is also a new boundary fence and entrance way to MLTC which separates the club from the empty council land next door. Eventually the land next door will be developed (more than likely a townhouse development), however, MLTC has secured their lease and will remain a prominent and constant feature on Fitzherbert Ave. Many thanks to the funders who made the court resurfacing and new fence possible. MLTC would also like to thank their members who have generosity donated money or contributed to fundraising events. The club is in a great position with many new members – young and old – enjoying the benefits of upgraded facilities.

While the courts have been out of action MLTC have been able to move some of their evening league matches down to Vautier Park. Thank you to Tennis Manawatu for lending the club these courts and also to Netball Manawatu who have allowed MLTC to use their floodlights.

## JUNIOR SOCIAL CLUB NIGHT



MLTC Club Coach, Jorden Le Long, has introduced a junior social club night for MLTC junior members, non-members and their friends.

The evening consists of two one hour sessions. Session one is for Orange and Red ball players (5 – 11 years of age) and session two for green and yellow ball players (11+ years). Parents have been encouraged to attend and enjoy a glass of something bubbly from the bar while watching their children hitting tennis balls with coach Jorden. After the session the players enjoy pizza up in the clubhouse. Jorden intends on continuing these junior club evenings after Christmas so keep an eye on facebook for more information.

## BON VOYAGE TO AN MLTC LEGEND

Many people within the Tennis Community would have come across MLTC committee member, Brian Day during the 7 year period Brian has been involved at MLTC.

Brian took on Thursday night business house at MLTC and quickly turned it into an extremely popular and competitive league. Brian and his wife, Li, are moving back to Melbourne to be closer to family.

Brian's attention to detail and passion for the game will be missed, along with his sense of humour and love of photography (the club has never had so many photos adorn the walls!). Brian was also part of the team that got MLTC to Tennis NZ Club of the year in 2019. We are confident Brian will find a new Tennis Club in Melbourne who will benefit from his tennis knowledge and experience. Come back and visit Brian – you will always be welcome at MLTC.



**MEET JOHN SALISBURY (BIG JOHN)**

John Salisbury is the Head Coach and President of Marist Tennis Club. John has been involved and part of the Manawatu Tennis scene since the 1970's when he first picked up a racquet as a 15-year-old.



**When did you start playing tennis and what sparked your interest?**

Funnily enough it all started over an argument about a matchbox car! A mate of mine damaged one of my matchbox cars, which caused a heated exchange between the two of us. To stop things escalating and as a peace offering, my friend offered to take me down to the Northern Tennis Club to play some tennis. I arrived at the club a 15-year-old complete novice, without a racquet and no tennis experience. Northern Tennis Club stalwart and tennis advocate, Ian Laing, lent me a racquet and from there my passion and Tennis addiction began. I would spend hours at Northern Tennis Club hitting against the wall if no opponents could be found only to be forced to leave when it got dark. It took me 2 years to save up and buy my own tennis racquet and it was a proud moment when I was able to hand back the tennis racquet lent to me by Ian Laing. After being a loyal Northern Tennis Club member for 5 years I moved to Marist Tennis Club where I have been ever since.

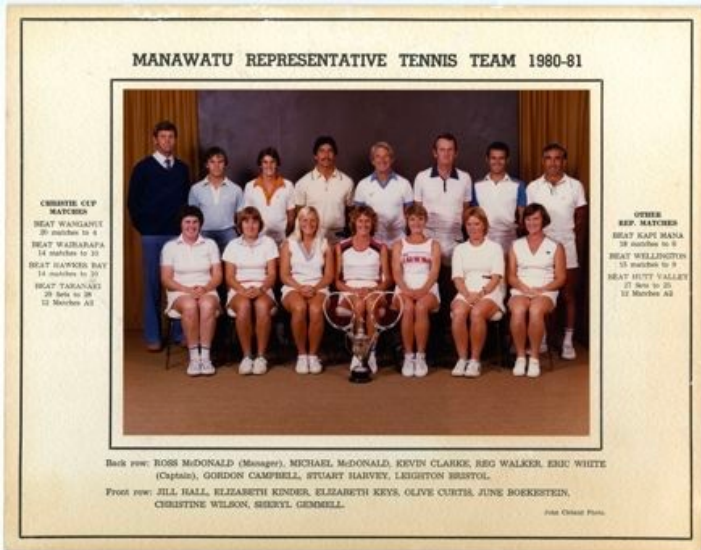
**Greatest Tennis Achievement?**

After such a long tennis career it is hard to pick out just one. I am proud of the fact I was able to make it to a professional tennis level without much assistance. In fact, I only had two tennis books borrowed from the library (one that was volley specific) and taught myself how to play. During the 80's I played professionally part-time for 6 years in Australia, moving from tournament to tournament earning money from tournament winnings. Those years were not particularly glamorous and due to lack of money I would often sleep in my car, under trees or on clubhouse couches. However, the tennis and life experiences that period of time gave me was invaluable.

**Who is/was the tennis player you admire the most and why?**

Manawatu Legend, the late Eric White. Eric was the Principal at PN Boys High School and was a Tennis Manawatu representative and New Zealand Davis Cup captain. I actually dreamt of being Eric White! When I was 16 years old and covered in pimples, Eric beat me 6-0, 6-0 and it took 7 long years to be able to reverse those scores. My proudest moment was Eric shaking my hand and presenting me with the Manawatu representative shirt as a less simply 19-year-old.

On a side note over the years I have noticed the decline in the amazing culture that surrounded wearing the Manawatu shirt and representing the region. I have always said that as a Manawatu representative you should 'bleed green and white' and leave everything out on the court in every match. I am hopeful that the honor and privilege of wearing the shirt will come back one day and that those that represent Manawatu in the future will be proud to 'bleed green and white'.



The late great Eric White in the 1980-81 Manawatu Rep Team. Middle back row.

**How long have you been coaching?**

At age 21 I became a qualified coach and have been coaching for 43 years.

**How would you describe your style of coaching?**

I would describe myself as a technical coach and work with players on developing the mental side of the game. Overall, I consider myself a competition coach.

**Greatest Coaching Achievement?**

Sorry – I've got three!

During the 90's I was approached by Nick Bollettieri to coach at his Tennis Academy in Florida, USA. I took a young PN Boys High student with me who was accepted into the elite squad within the academy. I coached in Nick's academy for 2 years, including coaching Belgian player, Xavier Malisse who was 14

at the time. Xavier went on to becoming a top 20 player on the ATP tour, with a career-high singles ranking of world No.19. During my time at the academy I rubbed shoulders with celebrities, including the Bee Gees who had their own private court at the facility and sometimes dined in the same area as Venus and Serena Williams. My second greatest achievement was being elected the President of the NZ Professional Coaches for 3 years and my most recent achievement, which I am very proud of, is becoming a life member of Tennis Manawatu.



*Xavier Malisse*

### **Do you have any interests outside of Tennis?**

Golf! I am currently addicted to watching golfing videos every day and find myself giving coaching advice sometimes when it's welcomed – sometimes when it's not! I find coaching golf very similar to Tennis with the only difference that one ball is on the ground.

### **What's happening at Marist Tennis Club currently?**

I've been President of Marist Tennis Club for 14 years. As the club is based at Vautier Park and shares the facilities with Netball, it is only open 6 months of the year which proves difficult to maintain members. We are hoping to work with PNCC and Netball to use roll-away nets all year round so members do not have to move to different clubs during the off-season. Marist offers an amazing hotshots programme for children of every age and we have interclub teams that play in the regional interclub competition. Currently there is no club night but it something we would like to develop – especially if we can keep the club running longer than 6 months. We are running an in schools programme in term 1 of 2023, to encourage local school age children to get involved in our mighty sport.

## SPONSORS

Many thanks to our generous sponsors who continue to support Tennis Manawatu in it's endeavors to grow, develop and promote tennis in the region.

We appreciate you!



## CAN YOU HELP GROW TENNIS IN THE MANAWATU?

Tennis Manawatu are looking for sponsors from the local community to help us continue delivering a quality tennis programme in the Manawatu region.

We have put together a list of activities and events we provide to our players and where you can contribute and make a difference through financial sponsorship. In return we can give your business exposure through our website, newsletter, scoresheets, and tournaments etc. There is also an opportunity to put signage up at Vautier Park or make a one off donation.

We will work with you to make sure your business gets good exposure within the tennis community.

Please note that local Tennis clubs are also always on the look out for sponsors. If you are more inclined to help a local club rather than the Tennis Association, we are happy to give you club details. Every donation whether to a club or the association goes towards the growth of our mighty sport!

For more information contact:

Hayley Underwood:  
 tennismanawatuoffice@gmail.com  
 0272 778 778

## TENNIS NEW ZEALAND PLAYER PROTECTION PROGRAMME

The Tennis Participant Protection Policy (TPPP) was established in 2018. The purpose of this policy is to protect the health, safety and well-being of everyone who participates in tennis activities. It applies to all tennis organisations, anyone involved in any aspect of tennis, and it operates throughout New Zealand.

Tennis NZ has created safeguarding resources to simplify and bring to life the procedural obligations of NZTEs (New Zealand Tennis Entity's) that relate to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

To contribute to a safe and secure tennis environment, Tennis New Zealand **requires all people who have regular contact with children or vulnerable adults (as defined in the policy scope), to undergo a police vetting check.**

**What do we need to do in the Manawatu?** Clubs should have received information about this through Tennis Central, directly from Tennis NZ or more recently from TMI. TMI understands that some clubs are already in the process of gathering the information which is fantastic.

You can find more information about the TPPP on the Tennis NZ website:

<https://tennis.kiwi/clubs/safe/resources/mandatory-obligations-for-tennis-organisations/>

You will also find the police vetting form on the Tennis NZ website:

<https://tennis.kiwi/abouttennisnz/policies-and-reports/police-vetting-policy/>

We understand this adds to club workloads; however, to protect our young and vulnerable players every effort should be made to ensure our players are participating in a safe environment.

# ADULTS... HELP US KEEP OUR CHILDREN & VULNERABLE PEOPLE SAFE

IT'S UP TO ALL OF US TO MAKE OUR CLUB A SAFE & ENJOYABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR YOUNG & VULNERABLE PEOPLE.

## DO'S

- DO report any behaviour you feel is inappropriate
- DO provide an example you would wish young people to follow
- DO be alert to the issue of bullying and deal with it promptly and sympathetically
- DO listen too and report any issues raised by children or vulnerable people
- DO remember that caution is required in sensitive moments, such as when dealing with bereavement, bullying or abuse
- DO remember that another person can misinterpret your actions, no matter how well intentioned

## DON'TS

- DO NOT use physical discipline at any time
- DO NOT engage in any inappropriate physical contact
- DO NOT let youngsters involve you in excessive attention seeking, crushes or inappropriate language or behaviour
- DO NOT show favouritism
- DO NOT use social media or texting to communicate with children about topics unrelated to tennis

PLEASE CONTACT EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS:

[tennis.kiwi/clubs/safe](https://tennis.kiwi/clubs/safe)



play tennis



## CHANGING OF THE GUARD AT TENNIS MANAWATU!

Tennis Operations Manager, Kurt McNamara will be leaving Tennis Manawatu on the 29th of December, 2024.

Kurt has been with TMI for the past 4 years and has played a large part in the implementation and delivery of S grade

tournaments, junior social leagues, development programmes, rep fixtures, regional tournaments and has worked with Tennis NZ and Tennis New Zealand on various projects.

We wish him well and thank him for his contributions over the past 4 years. We also wish him well with his next big project – parenthood! Coming June 2024 😊

Tennis Manawatu will be actively looking for a replacement Tennis Operations Manager, however, for the second half of the 23/24 season will be relying on some key tennis community members for delivery of TMI programmes. If you are able to help, please contact Hayley on 0272 778 778.

