



“FROM THE PRESIDENT”

Labour Weekend Tournament

Despite Auckland’s fickle weather over the past couple of months seriously affecting Summer Interclub we were blessed with two fine days for our tournament at Labour Weekend held at the Parnell Lawn Tennis Club. With over 100 players entering the tournament we had plenty of good tennis. It was good to see members taking the opportunity to play in their own home Seniors tournament.

Special thanks go to:

- Sal’s Pizzas - Who donated pizzas on Saturday afternoon for all the players;
- Ferrero Rocher - For donating chocolates for prizes;
- Luv Immigration - For a generous donation towards the prizes;
- Kay Luv - For her work in bringing the tournament together;
- Feleti Sofele - For running the tournament over the two days.

Final Tournament Results were:

Mens ‘A’ Grade

Winners - Shannon Paki & Steve Buckmaster
RunnersUp - Andrew Lobb & Pranil Ranchod
Plate - Nick Burnie & Eric Smalley

Mens ‘B’ Grade

Winners - Martin Gould & Ken McIntyre
RunnersUp - Peter Lehrke & Peter Stokes
Plate - Lance Hick & Karl Hick

Mens ‘C’ Grade

Winners - Krish Shekeran & Chris Wardle
RunnersUp - Ryan Bowater & Darrell Bowater

Mens ‘D’ Grade

Winners - Murray Denby & Nigel Hughes
RunnersUp - Brett Martelli & Kevan Joe

Ladies 'A' Grade

Winners - Jane Ioaba & Katherine Young

RunnersUp - Fiona Wikaira & Craigie McCulloch

Ladies 'B' Grade

Winners - Kim Jones & Laura Thomas

RunnersUp - Emelie Jensert & Gina Yun

Mixed 'A' Grade

Winners - Adam Whauwhau & Jane Ioaba

RunnersUp - Craig McFall & Paula Stubbing

Plate - Robert Pooley & Kirsten Dickison

Mixed 'B' Grade

Winners - Callum Dickison & Erica Whitcombe

RunnersUp - Robbie Blair & Annette Goetter

Plate - Graham Duthie & Emelie Jensert

Mixed '60+' Grade

Winners - Peter Lehrke & Kris Fernando

RunnersUp - Graham Boden & Clair Connor

Plate - Gerald Fava & Yolanda Alba

Your Committee is always looking for ways to improve this tournament. One ever present challenge is to try to avoid mismatches of ability in the games. The '60+' age group was introduced to try to minimise mismatches. We have found, however that being older didn't necessarily reflect a lesser ability. It may well be that we should look at the grading of individuals rather than their age in deciding playing levels. Even that is far from perfect especially with many players coming from outside of Auckland.

If you have any ideas as to how we could improve the tournament, attract more players and even attract a substantial sponsor (previously we had Farmers) we'd love to hear from you.

Tennis New Zealand Masters National Individual Championships 2024

Planning is now well underway for the hosting of the Tennis New Zealand Masters National Individual Championships in Auckland from 27th-31st January 2024 inclusive. Tennis Masters Auckland has been fortunate enough to obtain a small grant from the "New Zealand Community Trust" to assist with the running of the Championships. The Championships will be held at five venues – Remuera Racquets (the main centre for the tournament), Parnell Lawn, Mission Bay, Kohimarama and Royal Oak. This is an opportunity to showcase what Tennis Masters Auckland can achieve when hosting a National tournament. The actual tournament itself – the entries, the draws and the collation of results – is the responsibility of Tennis New Zealand Masters who will be operating out of the Remuera Racquets Tennis Club. But we do need members to step up to help us with aspects of this tournament. Megan has already sent out an email to all members outlining how you can assist. Even if you can only help in a small way that will allow the load to be shared.

There are two areas in particular that we need volunteers.

1. 'Meet & Greet' Function - 26th January 2024 - 5.30pm to 7.30pm

Tennis Masters Auckland will be hosting a 'Meet & Greet' Function on the evening of 26th January 2024. This will be held at the Parnell Lawn Tennis Club and will run from 5.30pm until about 7.30pm. We expect to have around 120 guests.

We will need volunteers to be on the door to welcome guests. And most importantly we will need volunteers to assist with heating the finger food and passing it around. If you know of anyone (whether a member or not) who might be interested in helping with the catering please let me, David Bradshaw or Wes Elder know urgently.

Contact details are:

David - Email: maria.david@xtra.co.nz or Mobile: **027-4897861**

Wes - Email: weselder@outlook.com or Mobile: **021-483311**

2. Photographers

We still need a few members who would be willing to visit some or all of the venues on one or two days to take photographs. Even if you can spare just a couple of hours to take some photos that would be a real help. Again let me, David Bradshaw or Wes Elder know if you are able to give a couple of hours to take some action shots of the tournament.

Contact details are:

David - Email: maria.david@xtra.co.nz or Mobile: **027-4897861**

Wes - Email: weselder@outlook.com or Mobile: **021-483311**

Tennis Balls

I have eight unopened 4 ball cans of Wilson US Open tennis balls left over from the Labour Weekend Tournament. I don't want to have to hold these over until next year so they are available to the first people to email or text me (contact details below). The cost will be \$18 per can or two cans for \$35 (a limit of two cans per person). A can of these tennis balls are currently \$19.99 on special at Rebel or \$24 at Players Sports. Payment for these will need to be made into the Tennis New Zealand Masters bank account no: 12-3086-0190944-00. You will need to arrange to collect the balls from me – I'm in Panapa Drive, St Johns and play at the Mission Bay Tennis Club.



David Bradshaw
President
28 November 2023