

**KILBIRNIE TENNIS CLUB Inc
WELLINGTON**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – August 2012

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2011-2012 SEASON

Welcome everyone to the Kilbirnie Tennis Club's AGM for 2012.

Firstly, I can report that Kilbirnie Tennis Club is still in good heart, despite a small drop in membership. This appears to be a common issue with many other clubs around Wellington. We have always had an enthusiastic core club membership. Our ongoing challenge remains to find ways to fire up this kind of enthusiasm in other club members and also draw in new members.

One area of real enthusiasm in the club is the midweek club. In the last few years, Diana Spice has grabbed this club by the scruff of the neck and turned it into a well-oiled machine. For this, and her previous service to the club, she has been awarded a well-deserved life membership.

In fact what Diana has done for the midweek members is what we are striving to achieve for the full club members: the knowledge that on any Saturday or Sunday afternoon, or Wednesday evening, they can come along to the club for some competitive and enjoyable club play.

The jury is still out on a couple of initiatives we introduced last season to achieve this, namely concentrating on Sunday as club day and putting back the start time to 2.30pm. We were, however, quite unlucky with the weather in the early part of last season. We do have a few more ideas lined up for the coming season.

It is disappointing to note that our annual fixture with Havelock North Tennis Club did not occur this year. It find it particularly disappointing as I see this type of fixture as an opportunity for players at all levels in the club to get together in true club spirit. This was in evidence in our annual 'Across the Harbour' fixture with Muritai Tennis Club, where a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon's tennis and socializing was enjoyed by all.

Looking at our facilities, I think everyone will agree that the new top courts have been a big success and are a pleasure to play on. They have really enhanced the feel of the top courts. It would be fair to say that, for various reasons, the lower courts have progressed more slowly than we all would have liked. We are hoping to have the final Synpave hard surface applied early in the new summer season. As an aside, despite their motley appearance, they are currently the smoothest asphalt court you could ever play on! Once this work is complete we will have five top-class courts, up with the best of any other club in Wellington. Looking forward, I see the clubrooms are looking a little

tired and in need of a spruce-up. And I know there are many club members who would like to revisit the subject of lights!

To finish off, I think this coming season is one where we really need to drive for new members, leveraging off our new courts. Again, I would remind everyone that your committee are all volunteers and welcome any help or ideas. Do you have ideas on how we can improve the club? Do you have things that bug you about the club? Let someone on the incoming committee know. Even better, would you consider serving a year or two on the committee? It is not hard work or time consuming, and at times can provide a real feeling of achievement.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable year of tennis!

Stephen Bennett

Junior Report for Kilbirnie Tennis Club AGM 2012

Another season is over and planning for the 2012/13 season is about to begin and hopefully it will be another good year for the Kilbirnie junior section of the club.

The coaching sessions were again held on a Tuesday afternoon to allow the junior interclub teams to play their matches at their home courts on Sunday mornings. A session for under eight year olds was held on a Sunday morning and then teenage tennis was on Friday afternoons. Junior numbers were slightly down on last year but we were still able to field 13 interclub teams pre Christmas and 12 post Christmas.

Andy Wheeler and his team from Capital Coaching ran these coaching sessions, as well as a number of after school and holiday programmes and ensured the juniors had fun while learning basic tennis skills.

Some of our interclub teams enjoyed success this season with two teams winning their grade and three teams were runners up. One girls' teams and one boys' team from last season both moved up to play senior interclub this season so it was great to see this progression in the club.

I would like to thank Andrea Rota, Donna Campbell and Jono Cordwell for their help at the beginning of the season with setting up the interclub teams and also John Hammond for his role as membership secretary and for just generally being another person able to help out where required. I would also like to thank the team managers for their efforts in ensuring they could field a team every week.

Friday night teenage tennis numbers grew throughout the season and there were a few barbeques organised post Christmas, thanks to Kim Hill-Rennie and Lynette Gadsby, so thanks Kim and Lynette for organising these.

The ongoing success and growth of the junior club is a credit to all the parents, club members and coaches who put so much time and energy into the ongoing development of the players.

We received a \$1,000 grant from the Eastern Suburbs Sports Trust / Pak 'n Save Kilbirnie again this season. This funding went towards the cost of tennis balls for coaching and interclub which is of great assistance in ensuring the club can keep the cost of subscriptions down.

We now eagerly await the start of the 2012/13 season and some warmer weather to get everybody geared up for the summer season.

Michelle McKibbin
Junior Convenor



Kilbirnie Tennis Club Match Committee's Report August 2012

Summer Interclub

In the Slazenger summer Interclub competition, the club had 5 men's teams at grades 1, 4, 5, 6 and Monday night; a women's premier 3 team and 1 team at grade 2; and 2 mixed teams.

Congratulations to our Mens 1, A and our Mixed teams who had successful seasons, and the Mens 5 who were toppled from first in the last game. We also had a number of juniors who have stepped up to the senior interclub at all levels, they have all done very well and are a credit to the club – we look forward to seeing them again in next season's competition.

Handicap Tournament

This was held before Christmas in good conditions, using a system of first to 31 points. The winners were as follows:

Women's Singles: winner – Nicole Yee, runner up – Diana Ford

Men's Singles: winner – Steve Gracie, runner up – Dave Gleadon

Women's Doubles: Diana/Catherine (0) v Michelle/Jo (-10)

Men's Doubles: winners – Rory Hammond and Steve Hunter, runners up – George Imo and George Rota

Mixed Doubles: Steve H/Jane (0) v Graham/Diana M (0) – the winner plays Stephen B/Michelle (-10)

Thanks to Marcia, Graham and Evelyn for their organising of the catering – never seen so many portions of fish and chips in one place before!

Club Champs

These were held in mid-April. The winners were:

Men's Singles: winner – Ian MacFarlane, runner up – Finlay Deterte

Women's Singles: winner – Michelle McKibbin, runner up – Emma Boyes

Men's Doubles: winners – John Emery and Finlay Deterte, runners up – Mat Fepuleai and Yuki Iwasaki

Women's Doubles: winners – Marcia Rew and Diana Maunder, runners up – Jo Draper and Jane Kitchenman

Mixed Doubles: winners - John Emery and Emma Boyes, runners up – Finlay Deterte and Alex Jacobs

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make the events run smoothly by turning up when required and being prepared to wait around.

Muritai Tennis Club Visit

This was held at Muritai on the 6th of May on an afternoon that was perfect for tennis. The team from Kilbirnie was too strong for Muritai and ran out 22-10 winners. The prize giving was accompanied by a very nice afternoon tea, and everyone had a good afternoon of social tennis.

Havelock North

Unfortunately Havelock North could not get the numbers together for this long-standing fixture. We look forward to this fixture in 2013.

Winter Interclub

We currently have 1 team playing in the Frampton Winter Interclub at grade A captained by Adrian Macey. There are some very good teams in this grade but the Kilbirnie team has got some points on the board. Good luck to them for the rest of the season.

Fun Doubles

We currently have around 30 players involved in Fun Doubles on a Saturday afternoon. Thank you to John Hammond for taking up the organising of this again.

Court resurfacing

We have been very lucky to have been able to play the club tournaments and the home interclub matches on the new Tiger Turf surface on the top courts. Unfortunately, due to inclement weather we could not have the bottom courts ready for the summer, but they are due to be completed in October. A big thank you to Graham Alderton for the tireless work and countless hours he has put in to the resurfacing projects – organising contractors and volunteers, resolving fencing and drainage problems, taking care of correspondence, to name just some of the work involved in these projects.

Midweek Report for Kilbirnie Tennis Club AGM 2012

Here we are again, another year of tennis been and gone!

We've managed to work around grotty weather by playing on days other than Tuesdays and Thursdays. One hardy group played for a couple of hours in the rain recently, quickly learning the art of bending the knees to scoop up low bouncing soggy wet balls!

One important fact emerged - the court drainage is very good on 4 and 5 but puddles still form on 3 after prolonged rain. Unfortunately the gutters still hold heaps of water which is seeping down the bank behind court 5. We put some planks along to protect the balls, but maybe netting would be more successful as a temporary measure? Tiger Turf has proved very popular as beneficial to the body and joints because of the surface's forgiving nature

There have been lovely calm sunny days too and more players attend requiring use of the 'work in progress' lower courts. I have been informed of the difficulties faced to complete these and trust this will happen before the midweek 'crowds' start turning up! My last count shows 12ish men and 16ish women with leisure time midweek. Lucky!

Many thanks to Alan Cliffin for his timely grass-cutting. While thanks are in order I would like to express mine to whoever approved my Life Membership. It is much appreciated.

We all miss Emily McDonald and her excellent tennis. She and husband Leigh returned to the UK where they have produced a lovely daughter Esther Grace, a sister for our little mascot Oliver. Best wishes to them all.

One year ago we achieved 5 courts full for the first time .and photographed the occasion. We hope there will be no objection to our smiling faces appearing on the clubhouse wall as a record of this day.

C'mon Summer!!

Diana Spice

Midweek Organiser