



# Presidents Report

## July 2023

The weather is a great conversation starter and I feel that this past year the rain and wind have both played more than their fair share. The rain has cancelled club days, business house, coaching lessons, prizegiving, interclub and far too many of my own games than I want to remember.

Thursday Business House has a reputation for wind, but the ongoing winds have been causing a significant degree of chaos to the courts, grounds and property in general. Significant moss growth on the Astro courts, damage to the rebound ace courts and leaves returning the next day have kept our property team busy. Our property team have coped with all this and still found time to give the clubhouse a good clean, sew the nets and all the other maintenance tasks needed.

I would like to thank our property convenor Kevin Wooten, as well as Scotty for helping out with general maintenance, and let's not forget Hugo for his efforts in supervising his wife Marley as she repairs the nets.

Our coaching team continue to run a full schedule aimed at all age levels from pre-school upwards. Both Paul and Luke are continuing to work on their coaching skills. Luke is currently studying his level 3 coaching qualification. Our coaching costs this year have increased however due to the generosity of Grassroots Trust funding, this cost has almost been fully covered. This included covering our assistant coach Luke. Increased junior training, return to both coaches on Wednesday evenings all year round, coaching at senior mens and mid week ladies once a month and fortnightly at Saturday club days.

Junior tennis remains popular with Friday Club night, Junior Coaching and Holiday programs all well attended. Unfortunately our efforts to start a teenage club evening didn't gain enough interest. Junior Interclub had great participation and our teams had excellent results overall.

Thanks to our Junior Convenor, Maggie, plus Paul, Luke and all the Junior Coaches for all their work.

Senior tennis has entered interclub teams in most sections pre and post Christmas. We've had teams entered in men's, ladies, mixed doubles, mid week ladies doubles and a new mixed doubles winter competition and have been getting excellent results with 1st and 2nd placings for some of our teams. Our mid week ladies interclub has also had excellent results in their ladies winning Division 1 and 3rd/4th placings for our other teams.

Thanks to our Senior Convenor Jill for her efforts and also to Di and her team for mid week ladies. Comments have been made, 'my tennis was no good today, but at least the food is great'

Many thanks to our MWL members for their cooking/baking skills.

Saturday club day numbers are still low, however we are starting to see an increase in younger players regularly attending. A year ago I was one of the young ones, now I feel middle aged.

We also now have a growing singles league happening and it has been awesome to see so many turning up each Saturday fortnight to play singles. Special thanks to Jimmy and Matt for making this so successful and also Luke and Puke for helping out.

It was encouraging to see those who participated in our club champs, especially the large number in the singles competition this year. Thanks again to Jill for her work on these. We also ran three major tournaments throughout the year which were well attended and received great feedback from those who participated in them. A special thanks and well done to Alyse who took on this challenge this year. I'm well aware of how much effort this took and her efforts are well appreciated. A disappointment has been the low participation by our own club members - either playing in the events or offering to help out. We are keen to get more of our own members involved - either playing and/or volunteering in all club events and tournaments. We are also making changes to our tournaments for the coming year, including introducing a new Junior Tournament in October this year.

It was great to see so many people turn out to our quiz night, with proceeds going to Waipawa Tennis Club which was affected by Cyclone Gabrielle earlier in the year. The club donated \$3000 from the profits raised from a quiz night and we have received a card of thanks from them with an invite to attend their reopening early next year. Thanks to the efforts of those involved, especially Paul, Lynne, Pam and Jill.

Thanks also to Brian, Leanne and Lynne for keeping the bar well stocked, especially as Brian and Leanne have been rather busy building their forever home (did we mention the weather?)

Financially the clubs accounts are ticking along nicely. Currently we have approximately \$112K in bank accounts and incurred no major upgrades or capital expenditure costs this financial year.

Our membership has remained reasonably steady and honesty box takings have seen a steady increase largely due to Club-spark and book a court.

Looking forward to the next year.

The upcoming change to Blake park leave the club in an uncertain position. The council has broken the project up into three phases. For us this means we are staying where we are for now and should gain six of the back courts for Tennis use all year round. While this sounds good in theory, we don't know for sure if we will still be moving in 5 years time or not.

Our next event is the Love Tennis open day coming up on Sunday 10th September and we would love every member to be involved in the day in some way or another. Help promote the day by telling your friends, family and work mates, bring them along and help out on the day (30 minutes of your time is all we ask). We want to make everyone feel welcome and you are all the key to making it so.

Kent Lendrum  
President