

2021/ 2022 Manager's Report – Wayne Peterson

The past 12 months has been one of challenges, triumphs & unpredictability as we continue to adjust and operate to COVID-19 changing environment.

Activities in the earlier part of the year were hindered by a late summer Traffic Light Red protection period, with several planned Junior Regional & National events being postponed until October 2022.

As we now move back to a form of normality with the relaxation of Covid rules, which has meant that once again tennis can be played.

Our summer tennis schedule is now back online for all Club, Regional and National events and we look forward to a brighter year.

Interclub Competition Review

Although we started late, the 2021/22 summer interclub season was able to go ahead for all grades. We worked out protocols that enabled us to play matches within the constraints of the COVID-related restrictions in place at the time.

Wayne Peterson and Tracy Bowell ran a Clubs Forum in late winter at which input on possible changes to interclub for the 2022/23 season were sought. A number of small changes, including extending the season to enable more tennis to be played, eventuated in response to that input.

As of yesterday (29th October) All grades and competitions have commenced for junior and senior interclub 2022/23. It's great to see strong participation from across the region with more teams entered in most grades than for the 2021/22 season.

Graded Tournaments

The WTT graded tournaments, which attract both junior and senior players, continue to be a strong success for the organisation and for the tennis community. 14 tournaments have taken place this year all with strong entry numbers. We have only had to cancel 4 tournaments for due to poor weather. WTT would like to thank Oskar Williams for his work as Tournament Controller, Jethro Franke-Bowell and Tracy Bowell for their work as Tournament Referee.

Representative teams and Waikato Tennis Centre fixtures

Waikato Players featured well in the final placings of the 2022 Pascoes Tennis Seniors National Championship held in Western BOP, some top results for our team!

- 30+ MS** - Rhys Wilcock (3rd) & (3rd) Mens Doubles
- 40+ WD** - Ainsley Leslie & Mel Ruffell (Runners up)
- 40+XD** - Adam Whauwhau / Tania Martin (2nd)
- 45+ MS** - Shawn Salisbury (3rd)
- 45+ MS** - Adam Whauwhau (Consolation)
- 45+ MD** – Warren Lovegrove / Chris Patten (2nd)
- 45+ WD** – Toshiko Mackinnon / Violet Skipper (4th)
- 55+ MD** – Mike Callard / Phil Hempstead (3rd)
- 55+ MS** - Phil Hampstead (1st)
- 55-60+ WD** - Delwyn Guilford/Karen Cranston (1st)
- 55+ XD** - Delwyn Guildford / Craig McFall (2nd)
- 60+ MS** - Peter Lehrke - Consolation
- 60+ MS** – Kevin Honiss (3rd)
- 60 + MD** – Jason Cargo / Peter Lehrke (2nd)
- 60+ XD** – Jason Cargo / Jane Geldard (3rd)

65+ MS - Gary Redgate (3rd)
65+WD - Raewyn Watson/Marg Hart (3rd)
70+ MD - Neil Johnson/John Macdonald (Consolation)
80-90+ MS - Evan Dela Rue (1st)

The Waikato Tennis Centre hosted the Waikato Secondary Schools Singles & Doubles Championships in March of this year.

We had fantastic player entries and a very festive mood with players being supported by their school mates throughout all matches.

Congratulations to Hamilton Boys High School for winning the overall boys SINGLES division & St Peters School Cambridge for winning the overall girls SINGLES division.

Congratulations again to Hamilton Boys High School for winning the overall boys DOUBLES division & St Peters School Cambridge for winning the overall girls Doubles division.

Special thanks to Tournament Director Meto Snegirev for running and controlling the tournament & to the school co-ordinators for organising their team players.

The Centre also hosted the Regional Qualifying Junior Kiwi Indoors Event in July.

There were some epic battles that went down in all age groups, congratulations to our winners!

A big thank you to match referees Desrae Garrett & Jethro Franke.

Boys 12U

Fletcher Percy (Winner)

Marthinus Van Zyl (Runner Up)

Boys 14U

Bede Mccashin (Winner)

Paxton Maling (Runner Up)

Boys 16U

Matthew Finn (Winner)

Flynn Mcgregor (Runner Up)

Thando Thebe (3rd Place)

Rafael Pettersson

Girls 14U

Gemma Johnson (Winner)

Emma Stokes (Runner Up)

Delay with the 100 yrs event and upcoming celebration

The 100 year gala dinner celebration has been challenging with several changes due to COVID. We are scheduled to have the dinner on Friday 11 November 2022. It will feature guest's speakers Owen Henderson (legend players of the century) and Paul Honiss (history and events held).

Our attendance is lower than hoped but we are competing with Hamilton Tennis Club having a similar event on 29 October 2022. Both Hamilton Club and Waikato Association shared courts in 1921 at Rostrevor St.

2021 Waikato/Thames Valley Club Awards

Congratulations to the winners of the 2021 Club Awards, congratulations to all of our winners and thank you to all of the clubs who submitted nominations.

2021 Club Coach of the Year – Oskar Williams

2021 Club of the Year – Cambridge Racquets Club
2021 Female Player of the Year – Annabel Chapman
2021 Male Player of the Year – Paxton Maling
2021 Most Dedicated Player - Max Stephens
2021 Most Improved Junior Player - Eddie Wilkinson
2021 Volunteer of the Year - Bruce Irving

Tu Manawa Fund

Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa is a fund provided by Sport NZ & Sport Waikato, including schools and kura, to deliver physical activity opportunities for tamariki and rangatahi, particularly for those that are less active. These groups include:

Tamariki (5-11) and rangatahi (12-18) in higher deprivation communities
Girls and young women (5-24); and Disabled children and young people (5-18)
Maaori tamariki and rangatahi

WTT in partnership with Kiwi Tennis coaches & Success Tennis coaches have developed links and tennis programmes with the following kura in our region:
Knighton Normal School, Glenview Primary School, Sacred Heart Girls College, TKKM o Toku Mapihi Maurea, Newstead Model Country School, Goodwood School and Hamilton Girls High.

This is an exciting programme which exposes a wide range of tamariki to our game!

Pro Shop Lease

The lease for the shop space in the Perry Arena changed during the year, and after seeking requests for proposals, Raw Sport were successful in entering into an agreement to operate in the space. We thank Werder Rackets for their tenure at the centre and service to the racket sport community.

Conclusion

The Waikato Tennis Trust look forward to running a successful and hopefully uninterrupted 2022/23 summer tennis season and we're very excited about the coming years activity!

Starting off with the Aon Junior Masters Series being played this weekend.
Waikato Bays Regional Qualifying Wildcard Playoff's scheduled for mid November,
NZ Wheelchair Tennis Championship (Indoor Centre) 3 & 4 Dec
Waikato Xmas Tournament (7 to 12 Dec)
We welcome the return of the Aotearoa Māori Tennis Championships (27 – 29 Dec)
Primary & Secondary Schools Championships, March
National Secondary School Cup (Boys + Girls) 28 to 31 March
Waikato Seniors Tennis Club hosting the 2023 Pascoes Tennis Masters National Teams Event – Easter 2023
Junior Masters Anzac Tournament – Anzac weekend

We look forward to a bright future.

Wayne Peterson
Regional Tennis Development Manager