

OCTOBER 2011

The

NETWORK

Open Day Issue

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OPEN DAY 15 OCTOBER 2011

Play Commences at 1.30pm

Official Opening 5pm

Visitors Play for Free



All sports, and tennis is no exception, teach those that participate many lessons that are relevant and valuable in all aspects of life such as importance of practice and teamwork to achieve the best results.

I have learnt lots of such lessons in my sporting life but I have recently been reminded of one in particular – if you are in a club or on a committee don't miss a meeting (such as an AGM in my case) as jobs/positions will be allocated by those who are in attendance.

In my new role as President, I must give a huge vote of thanks to the 2010/2011 Committee for the work they did and great results they have delivered particularly in relation to the court upgrade, the running of the Junior Open Tournament as well as running the inaugural Community Fair.

Particular thanks goes to **Vicki Taylor** for her excellent leadership of the Club as President for the past two years. Thanks also to **Steve Heath** as Captain, **Diana Bowman** as Treasurer and **Nathalie Smalberger** as the Midweek Coordinator as well as the rest of the Committee for their efforts. In particular, I like to thank the retiring Committee members **Joe McCarthy** and **Leith Malcolm** for their contributions.

A special thanks also to **Steve Hollier** for all the work he did in planning and coordinating the court upgrade project.

I, and the Club, are very fortunate to have a great balance of experienced members and new Committee members for the 2011/2012 season. I like to welcome the new members **Mel English** and **Nigel Shaw** and I look forward to working with them and the rest of the Committee for the forthcoming season.

The Club has again been invited to host the Junior Open Tournament this season. It will be held over four days straight after Easter – Tuesday 10 April to Friday 13 April 2012. This event was very successful last year in not only showcasing the Club but also raising significant funds for its future development. The event requires a lot of help from members particularly over the period of the tournament. However, the experience gained from running it last year will assist us not only in making it an even more successful event but should enable us to run it even more efficiently.

I am sure that you, like me, have enjoyed the benefits of the court upgrade over the winter hard court season. Having the additional hard courts have enabled more members to play on Saturdays not only due to the availability of the additional courts but also due to the ease of drying the courts after rain. Notwithstanding the fact that we have had more rain this winter than for the past two years, we were able to play every weekend and lost only very few sets of tennis over the whole winter.

The Club's social calendar commenced with the Winter Warmer dinner held at the Club after social tennis on the 4th of August. It was very well attended and the food was fantastic. Special thanks to **Jill Morgan** for the coordination of that event.

The summer season is almost upon us with Open Day on 15 October. We are again holding an informal long table dinner after the formalities. It is a great event and a must for your diaries.

Prior to Open Day, we need to spruce up the Club to impress potential members and the dignitaries who attend Open Day. To this end we will be holding a Busy Bee from 10am Saturday 8 October. Any assistance you can give on this day would be most appreciated.

I am looking forward to great tennis and great company at the Club with you all over the coming season!



With the new summer season nearly upon us in my role as Captain I look forward to providing support and encouragement to all members and guests in their pursuit of enjoyable tennis, the great life sport that we know it is. The tradition at Nedlands has many wonderful contributors and I look forward to working with other committee members and President Rob Lilburne in taking the club through its next phase. The rosters and social calendars for the 2011/2012 season have been completed and it is important that you diary the dates where you have accepted a commitment. Clearly when you are unable to complete a duty then adequate notice should be given to a replacement and I would ask that you copy myself on any changes.

From Opening Day there will be a draft list of duties covering all the roles and these will be sent to all persons on the roster so they are comfortable in what they have undertaken. You will note that those rostered for bar duty and approved managers cover a narrow group of members and further in this report there will be encouragement for you to assist with this problem.

During the season there will again be an emphasis on "Play and Stays" and these are a great feature of the sociability of the Nedlands Tennis Club so please support these and give as much notice to the organizing person as possible for planning purposes.

The Winter tennis season has witnessed some very consistent playing numbers on Saturdays and the court upgrades have certainly been welcomed by all members with the great facilities. To those members who have assisted with white board duties, thank you and I confirm that from Opening Day we will revert to the computer for allocating sets. On this point all playing handicaps will have been reviewed by then according to the latest Tennis West CTR rating system. If you do not have a handicap I will allocate this. If for any time during the season you think your playing sets can be improved then I am happy to receive such requests and deal with them as best I can.

During this season we will be playing host twice to surrounding clubs so refer to your calendars and if you are available please let me know so we don't have to scramble team members at the last minute.

Some improvements are being made to our tennis and club facilities and I note that the net skirt length on courts 15 and 16 have been shortened, the light poles have been padded up and we are to have improvised covers on the metal pegs that support the grass netting. We think this is prudent to eliminate potential injury in any event.

The subject of new members is critical to any organization and I will be working with the committee to develop more strategies to encourage prospective people to view and hopefully join the club. Again on this point we also welcome ideas and as part of the committee I encourage you as a member to assist where you can.

Lastly often we are inspired by fellow countryman sports people at the highest level and coming off Winter season where we had a ladies' US Open winner and a Wimbledon quarterfinalist; in the men's we can always still rely on our Lleyton Hewitt for inspiration and determination and the trademark fist pumping expression COME ON! Lleyton's advice on the heat:

"There shouldn't be a heat rule regardless. We are athletes. If you don't put in the hard yards don't play. If you can't cope with that get another job and get off the court."

Bar Pricing Over the last two months your committee has been reviewing all facets of the approaching season and in doing so there has been a review of all bar prices which will be effective from Opening Day. In considering the increased prices we have minimized annual fee increases and taken into consideration rising costs in all aspects of the club. We believe that the current prices are not in line with what similar clubs charge and this will be the first increase the club has had over the past 5 years. Further we are to review the wines and beer that are available at the bar so that the club can establish better buying prices and be more cost efficient. We are also going to introduce a Cider which reflects consumer drinking patterns and is healthier for you.

Recent changes to the licensing requirement under the Liquor Control Act requires the Club to have people who serve alcohol at the Bar to hold a Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) Certificate with a qualified approved manager present at all times. Unfortunately the Club only has a very small number of qualified managers which is likely to result in situations when the Club will not be able to permit alcohol to be served. This will greatly detract

from the camaraderie of the Club. To avoid such a terrible outcome, the Committee is calling for volunteers to do the Approved Manager course; if we get 10 attendees we are able to arrange for someone to come and conduct the course at the Club which would be the most efficient way to do it. If you are willing to do the course please advise any of the Committee members and the appropriate arrangements will be made.

The new licensing laws also requires no alcohol to be removed from the Club as our licence does not cover packaged take away. Half used bottles can only be removed from the premises if the person has a sit down meal so unless we have a function then this practice must cease.

LEAGUE NEWS

LOUISE DE ST JORRE

What better way to start the new season of Tennis League, than to celebrate the success of the last one! Nedlands Tennis Club had an OUTSTANDING showing this winter, with seven of our 8 Midweek Pennant teams earning spots in the Semi-Finals. This was quite an impressive outcome featuring some first time semi-finalists (Anne Love's Midweek Open Division 7 team and Mel English's Thursday Night Division 5 team), some rookie pennant players (Kerris Moffat, Sara Tan and Jayne Baird) as well as a long list of seasoned vets (you know who you are!). By all accounts, many of the Semis were closely fought battles (a certain Match Tie Break comes to mind!) and not without weather dramas.

In the end, two teams emerged victorious and went on to win their respective Grand Finals. Congratulations (and those infamous blue towels) to:

Men's Night Division 1

Dave Mofflin (Captain), **Steve Myers**, **Scott Van Heurck**, **Stjepan Maticcevic**, **Frank Sweeney**, **Steve Hollier** and **Ian Mumford**.

Women's Midweek Open Division 5

Tricia Herkess (Captain), **Judy King**, **Jenny Mellor**, **Louise de St Jorre** and **Joan Bussemaker**.



So.....no pressure on the new summer teams but....the bar has been set!

Nedlands will again be well represented in Summer League by 11 Midweek teams including three Women's Midweek Open, one Grasscourt 45s, three Men's Night and four Women's Night teams across various Divisions. Tennis West's implementation of the new Competition Tennis Rating (CTR) system, developed by Tennis Australia and used nationwide, should make for an interesting season. Player rankings will be updated each week, which in turn may cause fluctuations in the order of play amongst teammates. No system is perfect, but hopefully as the season progresses and more match data is available on which to calculate CTRs, most players will eventually fall into the band widths appropriate to their level of play. At the very least, such a dynamic system will provide lots of online entertainment for those who enjoy surfing the ResultsVault stats!

Ultimately, the best way to improve your ranking will always be on the court, so best wishes to all for an enjoyable, successful (and injury-free!) season of tennis. This will be an especially exciting season for me as I step into the role of Midweek Coordinator. Many thanks to **Nathalie Smalberger** for being such a great mentor; to **Steve Duncan** for all his help organizing the Men's teams, and to everyone else who has offered words of encouragement along the way.

Good luck and GO NEDLANDS!

SPONSORS

The Nedlands Tennis Club would like to thank our valuable sponsors for their continued support of our club.

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BRONZE **Blennerhassett Fine Jewellers**

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Please support those who support us!



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We have 26 world class grass, synthetic and hard courts. Please visit our website for information www.nedlandstennis.com

COMMITTEE 2011/2012

PRESIDENT	ROB LILBURNE
TREASURER	VICKI TAYLOR
CLUB CAPTAIN	ALAN BRUCE
MIDWEEK COORDINATOR	LOUISE DE ST JORRE
GENERAL COMMITTEE	STEPHEN HOLLIER
	DIANA BOWMAN
	JILL MORGAN
	PIP MICALIZZI
	MEL ENGLISH
	NATHALIE SMALBERGER
	STEVE HEATH
	MONICA PETERSON
	NIGEL SHAW



MEMBERSHIP FEES 2011/2012

CATEGORY	MEMBERSHIP DETAILS	FEES
FAMILY	Two adults and fully dependent children up to 26 years living at home	\$980
ADULT	Adult 19 years and over	\$475
COUPLE	Married couple	\$850
STUDENT	19-26 years (copy of Student Card required)	\$195
JUNIOR	18 years and under (each additional child \$150)	\$195
SUB-JUNIOR	Under 11 years playing modified tennis only	\$110
SOCIAL	Social, county, interstate or overseas	\$50

With the “winter” season all wrapped up we have moved into spring and therefore the opening of the grass court and the opening of the new tennis season. Around the club the chatter has certainly been sustained around the implementation of Tennis Australia’s new rating system (CTR) which comes into play this new season.

I was one of about nine coaches who were authorized to review players’ CTRs before the nomination of teams for the new season. Overall I received just under forty players from the local clubs, including obviously a few NTC players. The new system has not been a smooth transition and we are left feeling a little isolated being that Tennis Australia implements all the changes to the model and the website. Unfortunately we can only deal with Tennis West who act as the middleman to TA so nothing is simple. However the system appears to be a better model than the old ITN system; unfortunately it will take some time to smooth out processes and for everyone’s CTRs to settle into place.

JUNIOR LEAGUE

Winter:

We had two teams participating in the winter league, with many of the players competing in their first season and we commend them on their efforts and most importantly, good behaviour throughout. Our girls’ team made the Semi-Final and lost by a few games to Blue Gum, a great result coming from 1-3 down after the singles to win both doubles and giving themselves a chance.



Summer:

We have nominated eight teams this season. Unfortunately due to the early nomination date we have not received as many responses as hoped but have put teams in with room for adding more players once the “summer” season rolls in and people get back into the tennis mindset. This year Tennis West has added some modified ball competitions that are mixed gender and we have entered a team in this competition. We look forward to the new season and welcome our new juniors who are taking part in league for the first time. If any players have not nominated yet but wish to play then please let us know ASAP as we do have some available positions.

ADULT COACHING

We are getting good interest in our drills classes and will be expanding our classes and options over the summer. Look out for our flyers around the clubhouse and classes suitable for you and your friends. Our drill classes provide the flexibility to attend as you wish by a pay as you go system rather than booking in for a term.



TIP OF THE MONTH

It's not hard to say that we have a reasonable standard of play happening at social tennis and midweek leagues; however, the mindset of players is not at the level which is challenging them to be the best they can be. We are not professionals and cannot sustain a level of play that they do, but this does not mean we should not aspire to replicate what we see them do (within reason).

All good doubles is won at the net. Most players at most clubs stand near the net because that is where someone told them to stand, not because they are making a conscious decision to be in a "winning" position.



Voleys are a winning shot in doubles as you can exploit angles and space with more efficiency than you can from the back of the court. Voleys take away time from your opponents and gives you a great advantage, which is why we choose to stand closer to the net when we can. This is why you see high level players serve and volley in doubles; whilst this is probably too hard for the average joe tennis player, the theory of taking the net is suited to all levels of tennis. So next time you are at the net, don't stand there being passive and "watching"; YOU are choosing to stand there so make yourself known and get amongst it.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL SOON!



SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2011

WORKING BEE

10am START

"Many hands make light work."

NEDLANDS TENNIS CLUB SOCIAL CALENDAR 2011/2012

October 2011		
Saturday 8th	Working Bee	10am start
	Dust off the Cobwebs	2pm play starts. Grass courts to open.
Saturday 15th	Official Open Day	1.30pm play starts. ALL WELCOME, VISITORS PLAY FOR FREE. 5pm Official Opening. Please bring a plate for either afternoon tea or snacks. Evening BBQ*
Friday 21st	Junior Open Day	4pm to 7pm. ALL WELCOME. Pennant information for parents. Bar open and free sausage sizzle.
Saturday 29th	Dinner off the Green	TQR 7.30pm. RSVP Saturday Oct 22nd. Contact Pip Micalizzi 0412 090 680
November 2011		
Saturday 12th	Play and Stay	Gourmet Pizza Oven on site*
Saturday 26th	Quiz Night	7 for 7.30pm start. Tables of 10, \$20pp
December 2011		
Saturday 3rd	Play and Stay	Shashliks (kebabs) & Spuds around the BBQ*
Saturday 17th	Children's Christmas Party	5.30pm Father Christmas arrives. <i>Please</i> provide a wrapped present clearly marked with your child's name. Party food and lolly bags provided for children.
Saturday 31st	Busselton Social Tennis	NTC members' welcome
February 2012		
Saturday 4th	Play and Stay	Gourmet Sausage Sizzle and Salads*
Saturday 25th	'Summer Evening Picnic'	Details TBA
Sunday	Triangular Tournament	NTC to host friendly competition between Nedlands, Dalkeith & Claremont. Details to follow.
March 2012		
Saturday 10th	Club Championships	
Sunday 11th	Club Championships	
Saturday 17th	Club Championships	
Sunday 18th	Club Championships	
Saturday 24th	Club Championships	
Sunday 25th	Club Championships	
Saturday 31st	Club Championships Finals Play and Stay	"FINALS PARTY AT NTC"
April 2012		
Sunday 1st	Club Championships Finals	
Tuesday 10 th to Friday 13th	Nedlands Junior Open Tournament	
Sunday	King's Park Social	NTC to host Tennis & Lunch. Date TBA
May 2012		
Saturday 26th	Annual Club Dinner	Venue TBA
July 2012		
Tuesday 31st	Annual General Meeting	
August 2012		
Saturday 4th	Winter Warmer	

* Food will be organized by the club and charged at nominal fees to cover costs.

NEW MEMBERS

The Nedlands Tennis Club Committee would like to welcome the following members to our club. For any enquiries please contact our manager Miranda Hancock at nedlandstennis@bigpond.com or by telephone 93861650 mobile 0417753666.

Al, Bruce & Keith Acosta

Adult & 2 Juniors

Alyssa Van Heurck

Junior

Stephanie & Cameron Bisset

Juniors

Stewart Rieley

Junior

William Lewis

Sub-Junior (new category this year: U11 playing modified tennis only)



NTC GALLERY

