



## **President's Report**

**2014**

### **Introduction**

2013 was a very successful year for Tennis Sydney. Participation in our tournaments, mid-week competitions and Sunday Social tennis enjoyed significant increases during the year and the active club membership continued to grow.

This report provides an overview of our activities for the 12 months to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2013

### **Membership**

Club membership is our main income source. Active membership ensures a flourishing mid-week competition, successful annual tournaments and enjoyable social tennis. By December 31<sup>st</sup>, Tennis Sydney had increased membership to 238 financial members.

Concession rates continued to be available to eligible members for annual membership and Sunday Social player's fees.

### **Finances**

I am pleased to report the club's finances were in surplus by year end. The full account details are published in the Treasurer's report.

Annual membership fee remained at \$50 while we kept Sunday Social tennis fees at \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members.

We continued to subsidise Sunday Social because we felt it was important for the introduction of new members to the club and that it fed increased participation in weekly competitions as well as our tournaments.

Thanks to **Rob Sheedy**, for his work throughout the year, keeping a tight hand on the purse, making deposits and payments in a timely fashion and ensuring that we ended

the year with money in the kitty. Rob has streamlined our accounting procedure and introduced easier secure banking for invoice payment ensuring that all payments are made.

## **Tournaments**

We staged the following tournaments this year:

1. Australasian Gay & Lesbian Open (AGLO) (February)
2. Club Doubles – Clay Tournament (May)
3. Compass Singles Tournament (July)
4. Club Doubles – Grass Tournament (September)
5. Peter Deacon Spring Tournament (October)
6. Compass Doubles Tournament (December)

The 2013 Australasian Gay & Lesbian Open was a very successful event for the club and one that the committee are proud to have been part of. It was the largest tournament organised by the club since the Gay Games in in 2002 with 208 players taking part. The event was recognised by the Sydney Mardi Gras, winning the Best Sporting Event category "For outstanding achievement in presenting the best sporting event during the Mardi Gras Festival 2013".

I thank **Dean Matterson**, our Tournament Director for AGLO and **Tim Pailthorpe** who did a magnificent job in the preparation and running of the event. We appreciate the significant time and effort that they put into all the tournaments they organise.

The Peter Deacon Spring Tournament had an entry of 115 players and was played over the long weekend of October. Many thanks to our Tournament Director **Mark Ehrman** for whom it was a successful first major tournament.

The one-day doubles members' only tournaments have proved to be increasingly popular. The Clay Court Doubles was held at the Eastcourts Tennis Centre, Kingsford in May. The Lawn Doubles tournament was held in September at the Marrickville Districts' Lawn Tennis Club which was also a fundraiser for our nominated charity.

The Compass Singles tournament was held July at Parramatta City Tennis Centre while the inaugural Compass Doubles tournament was held on the first Sunday in December at the Cintra Park Tennis Centre, Concord. The day doubled as a fundraiser for a worthy cause as our contribution to World AIDS Day.

I thank all the Tournament Directors **Dean Matterson** (AGLO), **Tim Pailthorpe** (Clay Doubles and Compass Singles), **Mark Ehrman** (Lawn Doubles & Peter Deacon) and

**Tyrone Andres** (Compass Doubles) for a magnificent job in organising and running these events. We appreciate their time and effort.

### **Competition Tennis**

All our competitions have seen an increase in participation and a number of new players have emerged as the rising stars of the future. There is a high standard in each of our grades and players have been appropriately promoted when the opportunity arises.

Our competitions are now played across four venues, Parklands Tennis Centre, Camperdown Centre for Tennis, Eastcourts Tennis in Kingsford and Moore Park Tennis Centre.

We thank our Competition Coordinator **Russell Hall** for running the competitions and making them so successful. I would also like to express thanks to the captains for their help in ensuring the success of all the competitions.

### **Sunday Social Tennis**

Sunday Social Tennis continues to prosper with an average of 60 players each Sunday. Thank you to all the players who continue to support Sunday Social. I thank Mark **Ehrman** our Sunday Social Coordinator and all the committee members who are rostered to organise Sunday Social for the day. Thanks also to **Cuong Hoang** and **Steven Thorne** for looking after the refreshments each week.

Sunday Social Tennis will take place every Sunday that Parklands Tennis Centre is open except for the weekends that we play the Australasian Gay & Lesbian Open, the Peter Deacon Spring Tournament and all the one-day tournaments.

### **Sponsorship**

Our sponsorship partnership with the **Moore Park View Hotel (mpV)** was renewed for 2013. This enabled us to continue to offer the existing events and services to our members and continue to introduce new services, opportunities and events.

The partnership was great news for us and we were grateful and proud to have the **mpV** as our sponsor for the last two years. Unfortunately the **mpV** will not be renewing their sponsorship for 2014. We thank **John Doble** and the **Moore Park View Hotel** for their generous sponsorship over the last two years and wish them all the best.

Thanks to **Steven Thorne** our Sponsorship Coordinator for his work on this in ensuring that all our responsibilities and obligations in the partnership were met.

## **Communications and Legal Issues**

The main communication with Tennis Sydney members is via the newsletter, our website and increasingly through our Facebook page. We thank **Byron Watson** for his work with the social media and his management of our Facebook page

Thanks also to **Tye Brown** of Aquawebs Designs for all his work to the website during the year

I thank our Webmaster, **Teh Liew Cheng**, for updating and managing the website.

**Adrian Caspar** lodged our statutory returns with the Department of Fair Trading, which we are legally required to do, many thanks to Adrian for ensuring that this happened.

## **Social Events**

A number of Tennis Sydney functions were held during the year, Players Parties, trophy presentation nights, charity poker night, "Hall of Fame" induction and our Christmas Party in December at the Dolphin Hotel which was well attended by 70 members and friends. It was a successful night with the highlight being the presentation of the Tennis Sydney Oscars. The awards were for excellence during the year and some fun acknowledgements.

Thanks to our Social Coordinator **Cuong Hoang** and Steven Thorne for organising these events.

## **Insurance**

The committee had discussions early in the year with Tennis NSW with regards to membership of their organisation and the advantages and benefits for our members. We joined Tennis NSW in June which now provides all our members with Personal Sports Accident Insurance and Insurance Protection to the club (Public Liability), along with a range of other advantages as detailed on our website.

## **Fund Raising**

We had two fundraising events during the year and funds were also raised by other activities such as the Grand Slam tipping competitions, Poker tournament, Bake-off and a small portion of the entry fees for the one-day tournaments. We raised \$3,504 to be shared between two charity organisations, **Camp Goodtime** at the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick and the **Gay & Lesbian Counselling Service**.

Camp Goodtime and Gay & Lesbian Counselling Service do not receive any government

funding, instead they rely solely on fundraising events, sponsorship and donations. I thank members for your generosity in supporting these organisations and the committee for their time in organising the events.

Our gratitude to **Steven Thorne** for his time in organising the magnificent prizes for the World AIDS Day raffle draw. He did a wonderful job managing the raffle ticket sales and a large amount of money was raised.

Thank you to all those members for their donation of home-baked cakes, muffins and cookies throughout the year. All proceeds from the food and drink sales were donated to the charity.

### **Committee**

Tennis Sydney is fortunate to have a dedicated group of volunteer committee members who have given their time and talents to the running of the club. I thank them for their work, unwavering enthusiasm and professionalism in organising all the activities of the club for the benefit of the members and ensuring that the club runs successfully.

At the AGM held in April 2013 the following members were elected and remained on the committee for the whole year.

**Brendan Moore** (President), **Steven Thorne** (Vice-President), **Leanne Spencer** (Secretary), **Rob Sheedy** (Treasurer), **Mark Ehrman** (Sunday Social Coordinator).

**Tim Pailthorpe** (Membership Coordinator) was elected to the committee at the AGM but left in May due to work commitments. He has continued to work on membership issues and as a Tournament Director from outside the committee.

**Roderick Gawthorp** (Grading) was elected to the committee at the AGM but left in October due to study commitments.

**Cuong Hoang** (Social Coordinator) was elected to the committee at the AGM but left in January due to work commitments.

**Russell Hall** (Competition Coordinator) was elected to the committee at the AGM but resigned in September due to work commitments. Russell continued to run the Spring Mid-Week competition from outside the committee until it was completed in December.

**Byron Watson** was invited to join the committee in August and took on the role as our Social Media Coordinator.

**Tyrone Andres** was invited to join the committee in September and took on the roles of Compass Doubles Tournament Director and Mid-Week Summer Competition Coordinator.

On behalf of our tennis community I acknowledge the many members, often in the background, who help to keep our club functioning.

Thank you to **Jon Zhu** for the creative and skilled graphic designs that appear on our posters, Facebook page and website, he also conceptualised and designed our fabulous trophies for our recent AGLO Tournament. We are appreciative of the many hours that he has spent to produce professional and interesting designs for us.

To all members of the club, whilst you may not have time to devote to the committee, a small portion of your time would be helpful to the club. Please notify us if you can spare any time during the year to assist.

### **Finally**

I believe the club is in a very good position financially, we have a growing membership, well patronised social tennis and strong competitive tennis throughout all grades.

The continuing support of members has helped the Tennis Sydney committee to deliver a range of significant achievements for the club in 2013.

With initiatives in place to assist the club grow further and develop its potential I expect 2014 will be another successful year.

It has been a privilege to serve as President again this year, thank you to everyone for your encouragement and support.

Brendan Moore

President