



President's Report

2012

Introduction

It is with a sense of satisfaction I write this annual report detailing the activities and successes of the club for the past year.

2011 was another successful year for Tennis Sydney with participation in our tournaments, mid-week competitions and Sunday Social tennis enjoying significant increases during the year and the active club membership to grow.

This report provides an overview of our activities for the 12 months to December 31st 2011

Committee

On behalf of Tennis Sydney I should begin by offering a sincere thank you to our committee for what they have done and achieved over the last year, I thank the committee members for their commitment, time and effort to ensure the club runs successfully.

I have included the list of committee members below and I will go down the list. I hope this helps everyone know who these people are and what they do to make the club run smoothly.

I will start with **Dean Matterson** our Vice-President and Tournament Director who has spent many hours building up the Mardi Gras Championships and the Peter Deacon Spring Tournaments with increased participation in both and run with such success.

Leanne Spencer has done a wonderful job as Secretary, taking minutes at all our meetings. They are concise and well organised.

Our Treasurer is **James Nicholson**. Thank you for keeping our financial affairs in order by giving reports, making deposits and writing cheques in a timely fashion. This is an important behind the scenes job and we appreciate your work.

Our Competition Coordinator is **Russell Hall** who runs the successful mid-week competitions, everything from the negotiation of courts, organisation of the draws, publication of the Leaderboards and everything else in between which ensures that players can just turn up on court and play. You do an outstanding job and we appreciate it.

Tim Pailthorpe is at the helm as Membership Coordinator and does such a fantastic job to keep our membership updated and ensures that participants in the clubs activities are current members. This is important to the club as membership continues to be our main source of income. Tim also doubles up to be the Tournament Director for all our one day doubles tournaments which are held throughout the year so many of you would have come in contact with Tim in one of his roles.

Our Social Coordinator is **Steve Cashen** an invaluable member of the committee who organised the tournament players' parties, the Christmas Party and the BBQ's at all the tournaments during the year.

Geoff Daus is our Grading/Ranking Coordinator and is also responsible for coordinating Sunday Social tennis. Our club thrives when the grading is correct as it ensures an even competition throughout the tournaments and mid-week competitions. It is also important that it is seen to be fair by all competitors taking part.

Our newest recruit who came on board during the year to fill a very important role for us is **Steven Thorne** our Sponsorship Coordinator who was responsible for our sponsorship agreement with the Moore Park View Hotel. Steven has also negotiated deals with local businesses who have donated prizes to our charity raffles during the year. We thank Steven for his efforts for the money raised for these fundraising events.

My sincere thanks to each of the committee members for all their support and input throughout the year. I'm sure they would agree that we have had an enjoyable year working together.

While I am offering thanks for services rendered on behalf of our tennis community, there are so many members, often in the background who keep our club functioning. I thank Karim Konrad for use of his photographs and the excellent posters he provided for our two major tournaments and also to Chi Lam for his graphics. To all the volunteers

who helped throughout the year during competitions, tournaments, Mardi Gras Fair Day and Sunday Social tennis. Well done – your work and time is appreciated.

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.

At the AGM which was held in April 2011 the following members were elected and remained on the committee for the whole year.

Brendan Moore (President), **Dean Matterson** (Vice-President), **Leanne Spencer** (Secretary), **James Nicholson** (Treasurer), **Steve Cashen** (Social Coordinator), **Tim Pailthorpe** (Membership Coordinator). **Russell Hall** (Competition Coordinator), **Geoff Daus** (Grading/Ranking)

Grant Mistler was invited to join the committee in March but left in September due to work commitments.

Steven Thorne was invited to join the committee in October and took on the role as our Sponsorship Coordinator

Membership

Club membership continues to be our main income source. Active membership ensures a flourishing mid-week competition, successful annual tournaments and enjoyable social tennis. By December 31st, Tennis Sydney had increased membership to 212 financial members.

Concession rates continued to be available to eligible members for annual membership, competition and tournament entry 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 fees remained at \$50 and the subsidised tournament fees for the 2011 Mardi Gras Championships and the 2011 Peter Deacon Spring Tournament were maintained. The fee structure did not cover tournament running costs and both tournaments incurred a small loss. We plan to conduct a review of the entry fees for both major tournaments.

We kept Sunday Social tennis fees at \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. Sunday Social will continue to be subsidised because it is important for the introduction

of new members to the club and feeds increased participation in weekly competitions as well as annual tournaments.

Tournaments

During the year we held our two major tournaments, the Mardi Gras Championships in February, and the Peter Deacon Spring Tournament in October. We also held four one-day doubles tournaments, Clay Court Classic in May, Lawn Court Classic in July, Compass Singles Tournament in September, and the Club Doubles Tournament in December, which doubled as our World AIDS Day fundraising event.

The 2011 Mardi Gras Championships was a very successful event with an increased number of players taking part. The event attracted over 160 players from the club, interstate and overseas. The Peter Deacon Spring Tournament had an entry of 146 players and was played over the second weekend of October. There was an increase in the number of players taking part in the tournaments as they continue to grow.

I thank Dean Matterson, our Tournament Director, who did a magnificent job in the preparation and running of these events. We appreciate his time and effort

The one-day doubles members' only tournaments have proved to be increasingly popular with all available places for the tournaments filling up in between two-six days. The Clay Court Classic was held on the 22 May at the Parramatta City Tennis Club. It provided an opportunity for some of our members to play on clay for the first time.

The Summer Doubles Classic held on the 24 July at the Marrickville Districts' Lawn Tennis Club was also a fundraiser for our nominated charity Twenty10.

On 11 September we staged the Compass Draw, a singles tournament which was successful and well received by the membership.

The Summer Doubles Classic was held on the first Sunday in December at the Australian Tennis Academy at Oxford Falls. The day doubled as a fundraiser for a worthy cause as our contribution to World AIDS Day.

I thank Dean Matterson and Tim Pailthorpe who have done such a fantastic job organising and running these events. The Tournament Director's job for these events was shared between Dean and Tim. Dean was the Tournament Director for the Clay and Lawn Classics while Tim directed the Compass Singles Tournament and the Summer Doubles Classic.

Competition Tennis

All our competitions have seen an increase in participation and there is a high standard of competition in each of the grades. Players have been appropriately promoted when the opportunity arises.

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

The Summer Competition was a team format where players chose their own partner and played two doubles and two singles per night.

The Winter Competition saw a return to our doubles format where competitors partnered with a different player each night.

The Spring Competition was a team format in which players entered individually and the committee selected partners and played two doubles and two singles per night.

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

Sunday Social Tennis

The numbers attending Sunday Social tennis have increased with an average of 60 players each Sunday. Thank you to all the players who continue to support Sunday Social. I thank all the committee members who are rostered on to organise Sunday Social for the day and to Steve Cashen looking after the refreshments.

Sunday Social Tennis will take place every Sunday that Parklands Tennis Centre is open except for the weekends we play Mardi Gras Championships, the Peter Deacon Spring Tournament and all the one-day tournaments.

Sponsorship

In January it was with great pleasure that we announced a sponsorship partnership between Tennis Sydney and the **Moore Park View Hotel (mpV)**.

Under the partnership, the **mpV** agreed to sponsor Tennis Sydney so we could continue to offer the existing events and services to our members, build on the initiatives we've taken over the last two years, and start to introduce new services, opportunities and events.

In return we have agreed to prominently advertise our association with the **mpV** and, ensure we make use of their facilities and cooperate in conducting other club activities.

The arrangement is for the current year 2012 with the intention of it continuing as an annual agreement.

The partnership is great news for us, as we will now have greater financial security that builds upon the financial disciplines we have put in place over the last few years.

We would like to thank our club members Ray Lance and Mike Turner for their help in making this sponsorship possible.

Thanks also to those on the committee involved in the negotiations especially Steven Thorne our Sponsorship Coordinator who worked so hard to achieve this result.

Communications and Legal Issues

The main communication with Tennis Sydney members is via the newsletter, our website and increasingly through our Facebook page. Thanks 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.

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

Social Events

A Tennis Sydney dinner and two parties were organised during the year. We hosted a player's dinner during the Mardi Gras Championships at the Rockdale RSL Club, which attracted over 40 members and friends.

We also hosted a Players Party Ball in October for the Peter Deacon Spring Tournament, which was attended by about 70 members and some interstate players.

Our Christmas Party held in December at the Taxi Club was well attended by 76 members and friends. It was a successful night with the highlight being presentation of the Tennis Sydney Oscars. The awards were for excellence during the year and some fun acknowledgements.

Thanks to our Social Coordinator Steve Cashen for organising these events.

Fund Raising

We had two fundraising events during the year in which we raised \$3,587 for two charity organisations.

The first was for Twenty10, which was held during our Lawn Court Classic in July at the Marrickville Districts' Lawn Tennis Club, the amount raised was \$1,570

For World AIDS Day in December we organised our Club Doubles Tournament at Australian Tennis Academy at Oxford Falls as our fundraising event. The amount raised was \$2,017 which was donated to Camp Goodtime at the Sydney Children's' Hospital, Randwick. Camp Goodtime and Twenty10 do not receive any government funding, instead they rely solely on fundraising events, sponsorship and donations. On behalf of the committee I thank members for your generosity in supporting these causes and the committee for their time in organising both events.

Our gratitude to Steven Thorne for his time in organising the magnificent prizes for the World AIDS Day raffle draw, his wonderful job managing raffle ticket sales and large amount of money raised from it.

Thank you to all those members for their donation of home-baked muffins, cakes and cookies, also thanks to Paul Burns who provided the water and sports drinks. All proceeds from the food and drink sales were donated to the charity.

Finally

I trust this report enlightens readers to the activities of Tennis Sydney in the past year and helps members realise they are integral to the club's success. I believe the club is in a very good position financially, has a growing membership and strong competitive tennis throughout all the grades. I expect 2012 will be another successful year for us as we have initiatives in place to help the club grow further and develop its potential. With more exciting events planned a 2012 Calendar of Events has been added to the Tennis Sydney website. Watch our newsletter and website for further announcements of events for the coming year.

It has been a privilege to serve as president again this year. Thank you to everyone for your encouragement and support.

Finally, thank you to all the Tennis Sydney members whose continued support ensures the club's success.

Brendan Moore

President