



President's Report

2013

Introduction

I would like to thank you for your continuing support, which has helped us to deliver a range of significant achievements for the club throughout the year.

In 2012 we consolidated all the work we had put into our tournaments, mid-week competitions, Sunday Social tennis and the active club membership, which ensured another successful year for the club.

This report provides an overview of our activities for the 12 months to December 31st 2012

Overview

Reflecting on the past year numerous memories spring to mind – our sponsoring partnership with the Moore Park View Hotel (mpV), the Grand Slam tipping competitions, the Mid-Week Summer, Winter and Spring competitions, Mardi Gras Fair Day, Mardi Gras Players Party and the 2012 Mardi Gras Championships, our annual Bake-Off, Charity Poker Tournament, the Club Doubles Tournaments – Hard Courts & Grass, the subsidised coaching, our first live draw for the Peter Deacon Tournament, the successful Players Party at the Altamont Hotel, the sanctioning of the Australasian Gay & Lesbian Open as one of the five Master Series Tournaments for 2013 by the Gay & Lesbian Tennis Alliance (GLTA), the induction of our very popular club secretary Leanne Spencer to the Tennis Sydney "Hall of Fame", our annual World AIDS Day fundraising Tournament, our Christmas Party held at the Tilbury Hotel, the Sunday Socials held each Sunday at Parklands Tennis Centre and all the trophy presentations and social events held at the mpV throughout the year. Full details on all the above activities can be found on our website in an article "Tennis Sydney 2012 –The Year in Review".

My thanks to you all for making these things happen.

Although the 2013 Australasian Gay & Lesbian Open, held in February is not part of the year in review, most of the work and time preparing for the event occurred during the year. It 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 recently 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".

Membership

One of the most gratifying and encouraging achievements is the realisation that our membership number continues at a stable level, which is very encouraging as 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, the club had 212 financial members.

Our membership year has reverted once again to the calendar year for 2013 making it easier for our members and our administration to determine their membership status.

Concession rates continued to be available to eligible members for annual membership, competition and tournament entry fees.

I thank **Tim Pailthorpe** for all his work in dealing with membership matters and with all the problems dealing with the transformation of the membership year to the calendar year.

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 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.

Thanks to **Adrian Caspar**, 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 end the year with money in the kitty.

Tournaments

During the year we held our two major tournaments, the Mardi Gras Championships in February, and the Peter Deacon Spring Tournament in October.

The 2012 Mardi Gras Championships attracted 174 players from the club, interstate and overseas to participate while the Peter Deacon Spring Tournament had an entry of 139 players. This was an increase in players taking part in both tournaments as they both continue to grow and prosper.

I thank **Dean Matterson**, our Tournament Director, who did a magnificent job in the preparation and running of these events. We appreciate all his time and effort that he put into those tournaments.

The one-day doubles members' only tournaments have proved to be increasingly popular. The Hard Court Doubles was held at the Olympic Park Tennis Centre. It provided an opportunity for some of our members to play on the plexi-cushion surface for the first time at the venue where the Sydney International is held each year in January.

The Lawn Doubles tournament was held in September at the Marrickville Districts' Lawn Tennis Club was also a fundraiser for our nominated charity.

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

I thank **Tim Pailthorpe** who was our Tournament Director for all three tournaments for a magnificent job.

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 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 all 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 on to organise Sunday Social for the day. Our gratitude also to **James Nicholson** for his work on the computer program and to **Cuong Hoang** 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 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 was initially for 2012 and has now been renewed to continue for 2013.

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.

Thanks to **Steven Thorne** our Sponsorship Coordinator for his work on this.

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.

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

Social Events

A number of Tennis Sydney functions were held at the mpV during the year, trophy presentation nights, charity poker night and our "Hall of Fame" induction.

We also hosted a Players Parties for the Mardi Gras Tournament in February at the Taxi Club and at the Altamont Hotel in October for the Peter Deacon Spring Tournament, which was attended by about 70 members and players.

Our Christmas Party held in December at the Tilbury Hotel was well attended by 77 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 **Cuong Hoang** for organising these events.

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 \$3,565 for 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. On behalf of the committee I thank members for your generosity in supporting these causes 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 raffle ticket sales and large amount of money raised from it.

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

I am mindful that alongside me on the committee are those who toil unceasingly to keep the club moving and to whom I am ever grateful.

At the AGM, which was held in April 2012 the following members were elected and remained on the committee for the whole year.

Brendan Moore (President), **Dean Matterson** (Vice-President), **Leanne Spencer** (Secretary), **Adrian Caspar** (Treasurer), **Tim Pailthorpe** (Membership Coordinator), **Russell Hall** (Competition Coordinator), **Steven Thorne** (Sponsorship Coordinator) and **Cuong Hoang** (Social Coordinator).

Geoff Daus (Grading/Ranking) was elected the committee at the AGM but left in September due to work commitments.

Mark Ehrman was invited to join the committee in October and took on the role as our Sunday Social Coordinator.

My sincere thanks to each of the committee members for all their support and input throughout the year. I thank them for their commitment, time and effort to ensure the club runs successfully.

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. To our "Supporter of the Year" **Ray Lance**, we thank you for the support and encouragement you offer us throughout the year. You support us at all our mid-week competitions, across all grades, at all our functions and all our tournaments. We love your video clips and the photograph memories that they provide and your presence at all of these events.

I thank **Karim Konrad** for use of his photographs and the excellent posters he provided for our two major tournaments and also to **Jon Zhu** and **Chi Lam** for their 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.

Finally

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 2013 will be another

successful year for us as we have initiatives in place to help the club grow further and develop its potential.

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