



The Topspin Lob

April 2009

The Journal of the Noosa Tennis Club

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Well, here we are, it's April already and Easter is just around the corner. Where have the last three months gone?

As you know, the Club held its Annual General Meeting on 22 February. A big thank you to Greg Crittle, who as Treasurer over the last 3 years did a fantastic job of maintaining our financial records. Also thanks to Peter Mellish who has helped out on the committee over the past year. Two new members were elected to the committee - Len Steele and Barry Herbert. Our new Treasurer is Darryl Higginbotham, who joined as a committee member a few months ago and agreed to take on the job of Treasurer (no arm twisting necessary!). I would like to say a special thanks to all the committee members who agreed to stay on for another year, in particular John Fergusson as this will be his third year on the committee as Tennis Director and Vice President.

If you've been to the Club in the last few weeks you will have noticed we have a new Gazebo with bench seating located between courts 1 and 2. We plan to create access through the fences alongside the Gazebo to facilitate ease of use. We needed to remove the paper bark trees as there was a danger of their roots causing serious damage to the courts and were able to install the gazebo after being awarded a grant by the Sunshine Coast Regional Council. Frank, Len and Barry Herbert have removed the last of the paper barks and now all the wood will be mulched and used in the gardens around the facility. I am sure you will all agree that the club grounds are looking fantastic at the moment. Frank and his band of merry men have been keeping busy to get it looking so good. Also Wayne Richardson has contributed a huge amount of time and effort in keeping the grounds and gardens in tip top condition, with the help of Dave McMahon.

Due to the 'death' of a couple of items we have had to purchase another blower and also a second hand fridge. We are also getting quotes to repair the internal fencing and hope this work can commence shortly.

Open Day

Those of you who came and joined in the fun at the Open Day on 15 March will know how good the club looked. There was the ball machine on court 8, with Len in charge of the 'firing', with lots of items on the court that if you hit you would win. This was a 'big hit' with the kids! Next door on court 7 we had the Wilson Pee Wee programme running for young kids, with small nets and modified balls which was very ably assisted by Mark Gielis. There was one young fella on the court, about 3 years



old, who spent the entire morning there, and was not at all happy when we had to leave! Dave ran three short coach and play sessions to show what can be done and how much hard work they are!



At the end of each session the players could test their serving speed using a speed gun, which was kindly loaned to us by Tennis Queensland. Zinc FM were at the club in the morning, with live crosses broadcast from the club, and plenty of give-aways. The highlight of the day had to be when our patron, Evonne Goolangong Cawley joined us. Shortly after Pat Rafter arrived and they were both very gracious and giving of their time and autographs. The morning ended with a sausage sizzle, with delicious sausages kindly donated by Sunrise Beach Butchery and bread donated by Bakers Delight. A big thank you to Jim Kennedy and John Morton who very generously gave their time slaving over a hot bar-b-q so we could enjoy the yummy sausages and onions.



A reminder to all members that it is very much appreciated if you place any garbage in one of the bins located around the facility. Also, please ensure that if you use the kitchen it is left clean and tidy with dishes washed and put away.

One last reminder, if you bring a guest to the Club please make the Pro Shop aware you have a guest and pay the appropriate fee.

We really do appreciate your co-operation in these matters.

TENNIS DIRECTOR'S NEWS

The ITN (International Tennis Numbering System) and its relationship to our Club Grading System.

If you are a new member you may be unaware of the Club Grading System. I will email it out to the membership list separately as it will make the Top Spin Lob too large if I include it here. The process of updating the member list with an ITN is ongoing as we gain new members. I will have an updated Members List with ITN numbers posted onto the Club Notice Board over the next few days for your information.

One of my motivations in mentioning this system in the 'Lob' is to seek your support in implementing this system into our tennis activities within the Club. The main areas of relevance are to use it for:

- Organizing matches on social tennis days
- In determining where players would best fit into tennis fixtures nights.

In particular, our social tennis activities will benefit from the application of this system. Due to sensitivities, most players will not publicly express their dissatisfaction (I hope) with being placed into sets with players who are either much more or less skilled than they are. It is also sometimes (I am being intentionally diplomatic!!!!!!) the case that most players think they are better players than they actually are. Given that I suspect that most players who are playing social tennis will be in ITN bands 6, 7, 8, I suggest that we start placing the players ITN number against the person's name on the 'social board'. In this way, the individual player who is selecting players for the next set can be guided by the ITN number. For example, 6 players name plates are in the frame for Nodes to select the next set of 4:

Nodes should ideally select 3 other players with ITN of 7 or 8 and avoid players with ITN 6. To apply this system it may be occasionally necessary to select other players above the 6 names sitting in the lower frame section of the 'social board'. I think this is preferable than making up sets that will be unbalanced.

Smith -7

Brown -6

Bloggs -7

Zuss - 6

Soo - 7

Nodes -8

Nodes should ideally select 3 other players with ITN of 7 or 8 and avoid players with ITN 6. To apply this system it may be occasionally necessary to select other players above the 6 names sitting in the lower frame section of the 'social board'. I think this is preferable than making up sets that will be unbalanced.

The other (diplomatic!!!!!!!) suggestion that I would like to make for the social tennis activities is that, as much as possible, players should be grouped on ITN not gender (is that diplomatic enough??).

Social tennis is a very important part of our tennis club. The suggestions I am making are intended to improve the level of satisfaction for ALL players. I have received feedback from members – past and present – who have indicated they would like to see this more structured approach to the way sets are made up. Can all players give this a go and see how it works.

Feedback is welcome.

Monday Night Fixtures

We are keen to build the numbers of players who are willing to play doubles on Monday night. The numbers at present are the bare minimum to make this night viable. If there is sufficient interest it may be possible to split the night into 2 levels:

- One for players with ITN's 6 & 7;
- One for players ITN 8 – 10.

If you are interested then please contact Dave McMahon at the Pro Shop.

Club Entrance Gate System

When the facilities upgrade work was undertaken in 2007 & 2008 part of this was to install fencing and gates adjacent to the Pro Shop. We have been tardy in fully implementing the intention with the gate system, but the committee have discussed and decided to fully implement the original intention. This is that the pedestrian gate adjacent to the Pro Shop will always be closed / locked. People arriving at the Club should pass through the Pro Shop on their way into the court facilities. As they pass through they should identify themselves to the staff member in the Pro Shop by stating their name and if they are a "current" financial member. If they are not on the "current" list of financial members then they should pay their casual membership fee prior to playing. In the event that members go to the Club when there is no-one at the Pro Shop then they will need their key to open the gate. The other initiative is that a sign in book will be placed on a lectern (thank you to Bob Woods for manufacturing the lectern) at the Pro Shop door. Everyone arriving should enter their name into this register. I seek all members support in ensuring this arrangement is followed.

Q. How many tennis players does it take to screw in a light bulb?

A: "What do you mean it was out, it was in!!!"

New Ride On Mower



The Club recently purchased a new ride on mower. This replaced the "old" mower that was initially purchased second hand about 11 years ago. The old mower has been ministered to by Quentin

McCutcheon over the years and as such has been kept going well beyond its use by date. Thankyou to Quentin for all his work to the old mower over the years. He has also assisted in the process of identifying a suitable replacement. Part of this process was to subject it to some user trial when we caught Quentin doing 'donuts' on our new mower. He advises that it corners very well.

Donated Pavers

Thankyou to Doug Reynolds for donating pavers that became surplus after he undertook some renovation work at his house. The pavers have been moved to the club through the efforts of Quentin McCutcheon, Doug and John Fergusson and stacked by Len Steel, Bob Woods and their helpers (whose names I do not have, but thankyou). These will be useful in extending areas of paving within the Club area.

Events on the calendar at the Noosa tennis club

4 - 5 April Junior Masters

2 - 3 May NDTA Junior tournament

10 - 12 July Noosa Tennis Carnival Junior

17th to 19th July Noosa tennis carnival open age

If you are planning to play at the Club on any of these dates, please call the Pro Shop for court availability.



Well term 1 for the coaching is almost over and Easter just around the corner. The coaching program for the kids has been great this term and numbers are starting to improve and get back on track. There are quiet a few young children looking ready to start NDTA comp for the next season so it is good to have a new bunch of kids coming though .

We hosted NDTA junior fixtures finals over the weekend. Noosa competed in 5 of the 9 divisions played in the semi finals and 3 teams got though to the finals. But although they were very close battles only one team was able to take out the final. So big congratulations to those competitors over the weekend.

The night comps are going really well at the moment except for some rain interruptions. Wednesday night comp is closely competed and still running 9 teams. The comp is half way though the season now and we are still looking to increase our reserve list, so if you are interested just call the proshop for more information. Thursday night is at its strongest it's been for many years now. With the new format and handicaps in place we have seen some interesting matches. Also there has been a small injection of some new faces around which will hopefully convert into some new members.

See you around the courts Dave.

RACQUET SALE



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K FACTOR 3 WAS \$390 NOW \$280

K FACTOR 4 WAS \$390 NOW \$260



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