

The WAVERLEY INFORMER

Issue 1, February 2021

A TRIBUTE TO LEN

Words by Ian Chanter

It is with great sadness that Waverley Tennis advises our players and club officials of the passing of our dear friend and colleague, Len Pratt, on 12 April 2020.

Len joined Waverley Tennis in 1980 when his late wife, Peg, was the Junior Records Secretary. He joined the Committee of Management in 2002 as the Senior Winter Competition Records Secretary, and continued, acting for both Junior or Senior seasons between 2002 and 2010. From 2011 he contributed as the Mid-Week Men's Records Secretary along with many other activities, including as the Association Photographer.

Len was the sole editor and producer of the Association newsletter, the Waverley Informer, since the first issue in 1994. He built it up from a simple one-page document to the fine publication it is today.



Len was very jovial and bright to the end. He loved to communicate with his family and the world around him – *"I have Facebook, Foxtel, Netflix, and now, Facetime!"*

Len welcomed everyone, regardless of ability, to the world of tennis, and his qualities of fairness, inclusiveness, teamwork and passion within the world of tennis were obvious to everyone he met.

Len's passion for tennis was not just to Waverley Tennis and the Doveton Tennis Club, but also to the Melbourne Churches Tennis Association, and his beloved All Saints East Malvern Tennis Club (now known as the Glendearg All Saints Tennis Club).

Len's late wife, Peg, was also known as a great contributor and we have lost two very special members of Waverley Tennis. We were very lucky to have had their contribution in so many ways for so long.

Len's contribution was monumental, and his drive and inspiration will be sorely missed by all those who had the privilege of meeting him. We have lost a great warrior for tennis.

Waverley Tennis and the Committee of Management are much saddened by the loss of a great friend and supporter. Our sympathies are with Len's family, his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. 🍀

In honour of Len Pratt and the legacy he leaves behind, this issue of The Waverley Informer will be red – Len's favourite colour.



THE (NEW) JOAN LIGHTOWLER PAVILION

Joan Lightowler has been volunteering at the Rowville Tennis Club for an amazing 39 years.

Over the years, Joan has occupied the positions of Treasurer, Secretary, and Junior, Night and Mid-Week Ladies Convenor, often taking on multiple roles each year.

To surprise her, it was announced at the 2020 Christmas party that the pavilion had been named in her honour.

While she has not been in good health in 2020, she has vowed to return to her beloved Saturday Juniors in 2021. 🍷



▲ *Brad McMillan (President), Sandi Dawson (Vice President), Joan Lightowler and Priscilla Dawson (Committee)*

COMPETITION REPORT

Words by Trevor Smyth

It is great that competition tennis has now restarted and a big thank you to all clubs who have entered teams into our summer competition.

The 10 rounds plus finals series ensures that the season provides as much tennis as possible. The season commenced the week after restrictions were relaxed sufficiently to enable matches to commence in a safe manner.

Thank you also to all our Match Committee officials for preparing all the summer information at short notice and with the necessity of amended dates being required at the 11th hour.

This season we have a total of 646 teams, including:

- Senior 225
- Saturday Junior 249
- Sunday Junior 172

This is about 17% less than last summer, but, in the circumstances, a very good entry.

We were also pleased to see that the matches for the Autumn 2021 Night Tennis Season commenced in the first week of February.

Also, a friendly reminder that all clubs should be maintaining the State and Local Government Authority Regulations in relation to access to clubhouse facilities and monitoring and recording the entry of each person to your facility, including non-playing visitors, either with a book or via QR code.

Further, we advise that a Venue Supervisor must be present and easily identifiable at all Junior home matches. The Venue Supervisor should wear the Waverley Tennis lanyard and introduce themselves to the visiting team to lessen confusion about who to contact in the event of an incident arising.

To allow Junior teams to have their warmups before the official starting time, venue facilities should be opened by 8am Saturdays and 8.15am Sundays.

Lastly, it would be greatly appreciated if clubs remember to provide scoresheets for all matches, including both Junior and Senior. This helps to minimise errors in recording to make everyone's jobs a lot easier. 🍷



A NEW FACE AT WHITES LANE TC

Following the departure of Peter Taylor to Langwarrin Tennis Club after 12 years, Whites Lane Mulgrave Tennis Club is delighted to welcome Adrian Lombardi as their new club coach. Adrian is an accredited Level 3 Tennis Australia High Performance coach and a Tennis Australia Talent Development coach with over 26 years coaching experience and the club is looking forward to having him on the team to build and grow tennis in Monash. 🎾



RECOGNISING COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Outgoing President of Glenburn Tennis Club, Geoff Cook, was recently awarded a Chisholm Community Award 2020 for his outstanding service to the club. This well-deserved award was presented by Federal MP Gladys Liu at the Christmas lunch held by the Club's social group.



▲ Geoff receiving the award from Federal MP Gladys Liu.

(Left to right) Andy Moore (President), Peter Hudson (Secretary), Gladys Liu, Geoff Cook, Charles Rossiter (Vice President) ►



BIG SAVINGS AT ST ANDREW'S GARDINER!

One of the main costs associated with *en tout cas* courts is water. Antony Braakhuis, the Treasurer of St Andrew's Gardiner TC, managed to significantly reduce the cost of water by approaching Yarra Valley Water to adjust the default setting on the water bill. Yarra Valley Water was very responsive and also provided a refund for the previous year!

A significant component of the water bill is the sewerage disposable rate. This is based on water usage multiplied by a discharge factor as determined by the type of business. The discharge factor should be 0.1 to reflect that the main usage is on watering courts – not the default setting of 0.9! 🎾

Have a look at your water bill to see if your club is eligible to have the ongoing rate adjusted.



FUTURE SUPERSTARS!

Take a look at our junior players and what they have been able to achieve in the past year!

2020 tennisTRAIN GOLD JUNIOR EVENT

Congratulations to these players for their success in the following:

- Girls 14 Doubles** Zara Lumanovski (Doveton) and Yana Mana-Kelleher (WA)
Boys 12 Singles Steven Klasan (Doveton)
Boys 14 Singles Ryosuke Shibuya (former Doveton member)
Boys 16 Singles Marko Pavicic (Doveton)
Boys 14 Doubles Ryosuke Shibuya and Ethan Gottschalk



▲ Auray Hu and Harrison Sakara (winners), Lleyton Hewitt, and Steven Klasan (Doveton) and Cruz Hewitt (runners up).

WAVERLEY SQUAD

Every Friday night at Doveton TC. New players are always welcome. To get involved, please contact **Lyn Gillen** on **0412 567 496**.



HOT SHOTS

With restrictions easing, we were super keen to finally get a wriggle on with our Hot Shots Match Play in Term 4, 2020. While numbers were lower than normal, our players didn't let that stop them and we had a successful season with all players thoroughly enjoying themselves on court!

We are looking forward to a full competition for Term 1, 2021, starting this February.

Hot Shots Match Play is the first step in the Waverley Tennis Junior Competition Pathway. Players will play on adjusted court sizes or ball compressions to get used to playing tennis competition. Players aged between 7 and 10 begin at "Orange Ball" Match Play and players aged 11 to 13 move up to "Green Ball" based on their ability. 🎾

Interested? Reach out to Jim Birch, our Hot Shots Match Play Coordinator on hotshots.matchplay@waverley.asn.au



THE 30TH ANNUAL DAPHNE FANCUTT SHIELD

Waverley Tennis had the honour of hosting the 30th annual Daphne Fancutt Shield this year. With the timing of the event, especially after coming out of lockdown, rules were more relaxed, with many associations 'borrowing' players from other teams. It was great to see everyone showing such great sportsmanship and we are all very proud of our representatives. Bayside Regional Tennis Association won the event, and Waverley came in 5th position. 🏆



▲ *Simone Dunker in action*



▲ *Mineth Nawarathna in action*



▲ *Graeme Gillen, David Hocking and Lyn Gillen (Tournament Director) in the Tournament Box.*



◀ *(Back row) Callum White, Mineth Nawarathna, Lachlan O'Neill, Ethan Meddis, Delyth Samuel (Team Manager), Segal Parekh and Armaya Chandran (Front row) Nicholas Huang, Jasmine Lay, Kayla Yip and Simone Dunker*



ASSOCIATIONS JUNIOR LEAGUE

Waverley Tennis entered 8 teams in the Tennis Victoria Associations Junior League 2020 season. Unfortunately, the season had to be postponed but Tennis Victoria decide to go ahead with a shortened season, commencing on 15 November 2020 and concluding before Christmas on 20 December 2020. We were so happy to see that all players registered were keen to go ahead as soon as restrictions eased.

An outstanding five of our Waverley Warriors teams made it through to the Grand Final. Congratulations to our 12A Girls, 14B Girls and 14C Boys for winning, and our 12C Boys and 14A Boys for putting up a good fight and coming runners up.

12A Girls

Sophia Brooks-Gay
Zyphveronee Te-Kahu
Siena Fenech-Murone
Tijana Kolar
Tamara Licina
Kartia Badanjek

14B Girls

Zihan (Molly) Qin
Molly Thao
Alice Irvine
Sejal Parekh
Aaliya Ally

14C Boys

Anthony Emelianov
Ethan Gooi
Ryan Lucas
Dylan Teo
Reuben Bukuya
Jonathon Wong

12C Boys

Alex Boeve
Oliver Hallam
Errol Kingsley-Woods
Lucas Yip

14A Boys

Steven Klasan
Josh Ascar
Liam Kindler
Josh Reynolds
Matthew Rydell



▲ *Our 12A Girls – Grand Final Winners! After 6 rubbers of excellent tennis against North Suburban Tennis Association, the team won their match by one set. (Absent: Siena)*



▲ *Our 14B Girls – Grand Final winners! The team went through the season defeating all opponents and continued their winning form on Grand Final Day.*



▲ *Our 14C Boys – Grand Final winners! Undefeated all season, the team kept up their winning streak, winning 5 rubbers to 1.*





▲ *Our 12C Boys – Runners Up!*
All smiles on this team, showing us good sportsmanship 'til the end.



▲ *Our 14A Boys – Runners Up!*
Wearing the Waverley Tennis blue with pride.

The competition would not function without the dedication and support of parents, especially those who took on the roles of Team Managers: Stephen Gay, Slade Te Kahu, Greg Irvine, Steph Wendler-Canning, Malin Yip, Ivan Klasan, Claire Curl and Han Gooi.

A further thank you to the following clubs and their management who allowed us to use their facilities during the season: Tally Ho TC, Knox City TC, Essex Heights TC and Doveton TC.

Hopefully next season will be a normal one! 🍀

ACKNOWLEDGING MARJ WALL

Marj Wall has been an essential volunteer at Heritage Tennis Club in Dandenong North. We thank her for all the hard work and commitment she has demonstrated in the tennis community. It is through her effort that so many players, young and old, were able to have such a memorable playing experience.

After many years, Marj has retired from her duties now that Heritage Tennis Club has closed its doors.

Marj proudly represented her Club for the last time at the Summer Season Competition Grand Finals that were held at Doveton Tennis Club. 🍀



▲ *Marj Wal, Heritage TC volunteer, with the team on Grand Final Day.*

Heritage TC with their good luck charm! ▼

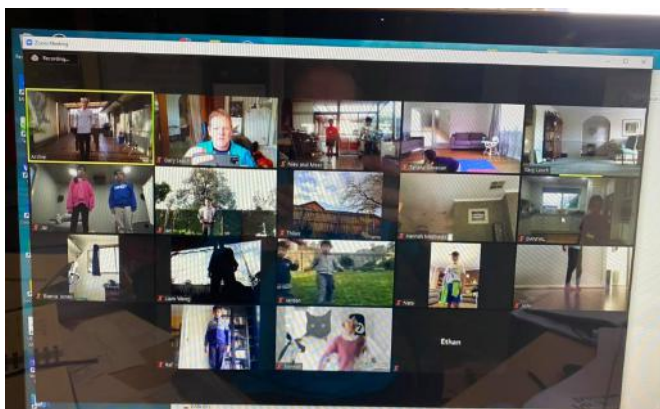


LOCK DOWN FUN

While we were all in the safety of our own homes, Knox City TC showed us some innovative ways of staying engaged with players. Led by Vice President and Head Coach, Gary Leech, the club launched a new website and TEAMAPP for junior communication. The app allowed for news, events and notices to go out to members and the public. It went so smoothly that they were able to organise night competitions twice a week as soon as each lockdown was over.

The Committee also worked hard by successfully applying for grants to improve the facilities. The Club set up a court booking system through Facebook to easily limit member usage.

The Clubhouse was given a thorough going over and courts were prepared for the long layoff by placing mesh over the baselines.



Club members continued to support club sponsors in the community to keep up the income sources running for the Club.

The Coaching Team kept kids engaged with Zoom fitness sessions twice a week, and even other fun stuff like colouring competitions. This meant our coaches could keep up their professional development with virtual presentations and regular Zoom meetings. (This was also super important for checking in on mental health!)

Records and certifications were updated, lessons were planned, Hot Shots assessments were carried out and video editing software was ready to be deployed.

The Club set up multiple cameras and speakers for the Coaches to run squad sessions from off the court, and to allow parents to stay updated by watching on Facebook from wherever they were! 📺

YOU MADE IT TO THE END! THANKS FOR READING!

Got something you'd like to share? Submit your stories and photographs now by emailing us at secretary@waverleytennis.asn.au

Stay up to date with everything Waverley Tennis by liking us on Facebook.



Waverley Tennis (WDTA)



In the spirit of reconciliation, Waverley Tennis would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land upon which we work, live and play. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

