

President's Report 2020

Overview

This past year, the club and tennis activities in general have been heavily impacted by the pandemic. On March 27th we received notification to shut down all tennis activities and were finally allowed to play tennis again on 15th May, whilst following the new COVID 19 rules and restrictions.

I am sure our members have had many challenges to deal with during this time and hope things are returning to normal as we come out of these restrictions.

The Picton Tennis Club members have had to endure club closure, no competition, no socialisation, financial hardship and isolation. To support our loyal membership base, the club decided to offer free membership to all competition players for the 2020/2021 year.

New systems were quickly implemented to ensure the safety of our members including a cashless payment system. EFTPOS payment options are now available via an ipad setup which is working really well. Thank you to Luke Radford for organising.

I organised hand sanitizer, posters, a weekly cleaner and wrote the club's COVID Safety plan. I also installed a new lockbox at the front gate to house the court hire key, so that we could continue hiring the courts whilst the Bowling club was shut.

With an on and off again situation this past year, it has been difficult to organise events and competitions but Thursday Night Ladies and Tuesday Mixed competitions have been well attended.

Coaching

First Serve Tennis Coaching were asked to step in on an interim basis in January 2020, and I would like to thank them for their continued support and delivering coaching programs and holiday camps throughout 2020 and into 2021.

The committee do intend to advertise for a more permanent long term head coach position in the near future.

Seniors Tennis Tournament

The annual Seniors Tennis Tournament for 2020 was cancelled due to COVID 19. This year's seniors tournament is booked for Friday 14 to Sunday 16 May 2021. I am stuck overseas for a lot longer than intended and with no fixed return date, I decided to talk to Seniors Tennis NSW.

Tennis Seniors NSW are very keen for the tournament to go ahead and have appointed a new Tournament Director Katrina O'Callaghan to run the event. I wish to thank Katrina and Tennis Seniors NSW for their help and have extended my offer of help where I can, to Katrina.

Social Tennis

Sue Ottesen runs social tennis on Monday mornings at the club and I want to thank Sue for volunteering her time every Monday and to congratulate her for the steady growth in numbers and obvious success. Well done Sue.

Thank you

Committee meetings have continued via zoom this year and have continued to be involved in facility maintenance, administration and decision making particularly with regards to Covid-19 measures.

Please give a hearty thanks to the whole Committee Sandra Colucci, Aaron Hodges, Luke Radford, Wayne Lowcock and Mel Hinton for their continued commitment and giving their time so willingly to manage the club.

Sandra Colucci has indicated that she will be stepping down as a committee member this year. Sandra joined the committee in October 2011 and has been a highly valued member for nearly 10 years. She has volunteered countless hours, organised Bunnings BBQ fundraisers and held the position of Public Officer.

Mel Hinton has also indicated that she will be stepping down as a committee member this year. Mel joined the committee in November 2017 and has also been a valued member of the committee. Mel has volunteered her time over the years and her perspective from a parent's point of view has been invaluable.

Both Sandra and Mel will be sadly missed.

I would also like to thank Aaron Hodges and Sue Ottesen for running weekly competitions in my absence. And Luke Radford for volunteering to run the Wednesday Men's competition but unfortunately I haven't received enough players to run this event.

Without the volunteer efforts of all these people, the club would not be as successful as it is, nor function as well as it does. The committee is a welcoming group, and is always in search of new volunteers. If you wish to become a committee member or volunteer please let me know.

I am looking forward to 2021 and to see us return to normal again.

Alison Radford
President

March 2021