



Tasmanian Masters Squash

Edition 13, December 2015

Annie Baker - Editor
quirkyannie33@gmail.com



We wish all our squash masters a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year

Ross's Rants and Raves

2015 COMMITTEE

- **President**
Ross Barnden
- **Vice President**
Jenny Brown
- **Secretary**
Gaye Mitchell
- **Treasurer**
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 - Sue Carmichael.



As we come to the end of 2015, I wish all Masters Squash players and their family's a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous start to the New Year.

Our numbers remain constant at 72 members topped up by some reserves for the Monday night masters pennant. The Monday night KAM joinery pennant still fills 6 courts of 6 players with the majority staying for a social get together, supper and beverages.

The July TMSA masters tournament was a great success, albiet a small field of 60 players. The highlight of the weekend was the Wild West Dinner Dance at the Rosny Bowls Club. Thank you goes to our sponsors KAM Joinery (Simon), Globes Lighting (Elaine), Grays and Eastside Squash (Steve and Chris), Swisse and Ethical Nutrients (Judy), and Tierney Law (Graeme), Third Child Winery (Jane). Without your support we could not run this tournament.

The AMSA tournament in Perth

WA has come and gone and we now look forward to Darwin in September 2016.

Accommodation is very tight so please ensure you pass on to Ross or Gaye your intention of competing week 1 and or week 2 to get a unit in Parap Village.

Congratulations to Michael and Gaye for their efforts in assisting Australia to defeat New Zealand in the Trans Tasman Series and also to Gaye for winning the NZ over 60 individuals championship.

The AGM in July saw the Treasurer Mark Hayes depart and head to sunny Queensland . Thank you Mark for a job well done. We wish you all the best on your new venture.



Ross Barnden, President

AMSA PERTH 2015

A small group travelled to Perth in September for the first week, Individuals, with mixed results.

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| Gay Mitchell | Over 60 Women's Open | R/UP |
| Judy Fox | Over 60 Women's Div 3 | WINNER |
| Jan Hopkins | Over 70 Women's Open | R/UP |
| Hamish Laws | Over 40 Men's Div 2 | 3rd |
| Graeme Bradfield | Over 55 Men's Div 2 | 3rd |
| Michael Brown | Over 60 Men's Open | R/UP |
| Ross Barnden | Over 70 Men's Div 3 | 3rd |

And the second week-Teams, Great results from the 6 teams entered—4 podiums.

| | | |
|--------|---------|--|
| Div 6 | WINNERS | Rod Cahill, Simon Ottway, Simon Bamford |
| Div 9 | R/UP | John Jeffrey, Cameron Phillips, George Kovacs |
| Div 16 | WINNERS | Judy Fox, Marcus Kinghorn, Di Kinghorn, Ross Barnden |
| Div 21 | R/UP | Nick Van Der Nest (WA), Karen Clifford, Sandra Fogarty |

Hamish Played Div 2 for W.A. and Nick (Div 21) played for us.

The Individual Dinner Dance for the cost was below par, as was the Wrinkleys, but the Teams Dinner Dance was spectacular.

The Wrinkleys format as we know it has now gone to sleep, so, as it happened, we were the last act to perform, with the final fling being Andrew O'Brien Flashing.

Many Stayed on to sight see. Thank you Western Australia.

Ross Barnden



Michael Brown (far right)



Hamish Laws (left)

AMSA PERTH 2015



Graeme Bradfield (left)



Di Kinghorn, Judy Fox, Marcus Kinghorn, Ross Barnden



Rod Cahill, Simon Bamford, Simon Ottway



Karen Clifford, Sandra Fogarty, Nick Van Der Nest (WA)



John Jeffrey, George Kovacs, Cameron Phillips

Thank to everyone who has contributed to this newsletter, I couldn't do it without the support of my fellow squashies. If anyone has a contribution to the next newsletter, ideas, jokes, stories, milestones, photos, anything that will make it more interesting reading, please email Annie Baker - quirkyannie33@gmail.com

AMSA PERTH 2015

*What happens at Masters doesn't necessarily stay at Masters,
it goes in the Newsletter!*



Report of Trans-Tasman 3-Test series between Australia & New Zealand Napier NZ – from 12 October 2015

The Place:

Napier is a beautiful seaside town North East of Auckland on the North Island with a latitude similar to Sydney. It is the 'art deco' capital of New Zealand. The people are friendly and laid back.

The Courts:

We used Hawks Bay Squash Club as the main venue. It was a centre with one glass-back court and 4 solid courts. It is set in a 'tin shed' but has a fantastic function area which has a full bar and a commercial kitchen. The ladies' toilets/showers are to die for – great facilities. They make their money from the function area which is used a lot for outside functions, a cook is employed but the bar is run by volunteers from the squash club. The second centre was Hawks Bay Tennis & Squash Club, again they have a bar and cooking facilities. They have many tennis courts and just 3 squash courts.

The Tests:

An Australian team comprising of 6 males and 6 females (one from each age group over 35 to over 60) played our counterpart in New Zealand in a 3-test series. Tassie did well to have 2 reps (Mike Brown & Gaye Mitchell – both in O'60 age group).

The first test on the Monday night was won by New Zealand 7 matches to 5.

The second test on the Tuesday night was won by Australia 7 matches to 5.

This meant that we went into the final test on the Thursday night even and anything could happen!

Thursday night was a very exciting (and nerve-racking night), with a number of Australians who were competing in the following weekend NZ Championships, coming in early to support Australia in the final test. There were some very close matches and Australia got to the point where they were 5 matches to 3 up with the final 4 matches to be played. Australia only had to win one of the four to be played to take home the shield as we had enough games up our belt. The only problem was that of the last 4 matches we did not have a sure winner! NZ won the next 2 and we were level on 5 matches all, with 2 to go. Tracey from Queensland was playing in the second last match of the night and was down 0-2. Tracey came from behind, and with much screaming and barracking, got up in 5 – 15 – 13 in the 5th. She hadn't beaten her opponent until then! This got us over the line as we ended up 6 matches all and won by 3 games! Would not want to be any closer. A big night was had by all!!!

Over the test series Mike and Gaye performed well with Mike winning 2 out of his 3 matches and Gaye winning all 3.

The NZ Championships:

After that very exciting and draining Thursday night we all then had to front up to matches on Friday as part of the NZ Championships. They had just under 200 entries and it was an excellent tournament. Australians to take out NZ age championships were: Craig Bran (NSW) – M40, Jeff Bond (Qld) – M45, Sarah Nelson (NSW) – W45, Sue Hillier (WA) – W50, Gaye Mitchell (Tas) – W60.



Gaye Mitchell

Tasmanian Masters Championships July 2015

What a huge weekend we had ! Tournament: Over 70 entries with a good cross section of people from Melbourne, WA, NSW, North (a few newbies) and North West, as well as our southerners. Mike Brown did a great job with the draw – not an easy task. He had 3 late withdrawals on the Friday but managed it well. I think in general the four games for everyone was good to fit in, though it obviously made matches late on the Friday but value for money, and not too many grumbles about wrong seedings, which is impressive given the number of new people that we knew practically nothing about. Tournament control with Cheryl and Sandra on duty most of the time was as efficient as ever – thanks for such commitment Cheryl and Sandra – it is not a job many like to put their hands up for. People were also very cooperative with marking and refereeing and behaviour on court was very good. Division prize winners will be on the web.

Social side:

Canteen ran well with very generous donations from many without chasing too hard – it makes the job of Wendy and myself so much easier. Bar – well what can we say – Ross, George & Dave – **we couldn't do it without you** – and you do it so well. The Janz was a hit and maybe next time (if the price is right), just stay with the good one. Friday night supper a hit as usual – I think if you had 50 pizzas they would still disappear as quickly! Sunday afternoon tea – also very good with lots of camaraderie.

The dinner:

We had 80 people attend which was brilliant. The band made the night – thanks to Annie & Jude – the band is worth every cent we pay for it! The theme was a hit – **'4th July'**. **Again, a theme really gets the night pumping from the beginning. Judy's brother** – Tony (who is a chef) – said he will cook the main meal next year – that would be good if it comes off. Desserts – apparently we **were a bit light but wasn't too bad. Thanks to the little band that took responsibility for setting up** and dismantling the room – the O'Brien's, Glenis, Jenny, Annie (I may have missed someone). **Shame about the person who forgot to pick up the balloons for the evening (me....)**

Sponsors:

How good are they – Globes Lighting (Elaine), KAM Joinery (Simon Ottway), Tierney Law (Graeme Bradfield), DJ Motors (Hans), Rosny Post Office (John Jeffrey), Grays, Matt Cock from **the N.W. with wines, Jane O'Brien's brother, John Skinner** - Third Child Vineyard, Judy Fox with SWISS and other products.

Overall the feedback was very good, with many complimenting the Masters on the organisation of the tournament and the excellent social side of things. One small negative is our huge supporter/sponsor of masters squash – Simon Ottway – lost his wallet somewhere at the centre – if you find it please let us know – it has lots of invaluable family memorabilia in it.

So thank you to all participants, organisers, volunteers, sponsors, and particularly Chris Doig for the use of the centre and come back next year for more of the same!! My apologies to anyone I have left out!

Happy squashing,

Gaye Secretary, Tas Masters Squash

RESULTS JULY MASTERS



DIV 1

Winner HARKER, Rod N.Tas
 R/Up HUDSON, Mark S.Tas
 Plate LAWS, Hamish S.Tas



DIV 2

Winner SANDS, John Vic
 R/Up COCK, Matthew NW.Tas
 Plate O'GRADY, Jason S.Tas



DIV 3

Winner DARREN O'Neill Vic
 R/Up COETZEE, Rick N.Tas
 Plate HEGARTY, Wayne Vic



DIV 4

Winner JEFFERY, John S.Tas
 R/Up EEDY, Janine Vic
 Plate SIMMONS, Bob NW.Tas



DIV 5

Winner MARKOS, James N.Tas
 R/Up TYTLER, Neil Vic
 Plate KOERBIN, Andrew S.Tas



DIV 6

Winner ALLEN, David N.Tas
 R/Up HEDGE, Michele NSW
 Plate HULME, Garry S.Tas



DIV 7

Winner HANCOCK, Kym S.Tas
 R/Up TREMAYNE, Glenn S.Tas
 Plate SMITH, Cameron S.Tas



DIV 8

Winner WOODYARD, Lynette Vic
 R/Up STEGMANN, Susan NW.Tas
 Plate McHENRY, Diana N.Tas



DIV 9

Winner MINTY, Debbie S.Tas
 R/Up BOXHALL, Elaine S.Tas
 Plate CLIFFORD, Karen S.Tas

Welcome Squash Master's
to our
4th of July Bash



4TH OF
JULY







VALE WARWICK ASHLEY

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Warwick on the 20th November 2016 after a 2 year battle with cancer.

Warwick was a late starter to squash and to masters but brought with him a dry wit and great sense of humour.

It was heart warming to see the vast numbers of squashies to send Warwick off and give support to Wendy and their family.

R.I.P. Warwick

Monday Masters Pennant

Our Monday night Masters, sponsored by KAM Joinery, continues to be an enjoyable night, both on and off the court! There is entertaining squash and entertainment in the clubroom afterwards (well at least a drink, supper and a chat). The process of finding our own reserves generally is still working well, but our reserve list circulated by Chris is a bit smaller at the moment (some have returned to playing full time). Whilst we do have a bye, players in the bye teams may be used as reserves for that week. Our last pennant was won by Andrew O'Brien, Eddie Carmichael and Kym Hancock (Division 1) and Chris Bennett, Jo Baldwin and Verity Clarke (Division 2). Congratulations to those players. Our Masters Pennant 4 for 2015 is being played at the moment and will take us up

to December. We had a five week gap when the Australian Masters was being played and there were a number of players who had extended holidays – very lucky for some! A mini pennant was played during that time.

If you know of anyone who would like to play Masters' squash, please get them to contact Eastside (phone 62441386) or email (eastside@squashpro.com.au).



Cheryl Unsworth





PLAYER PROFILE GAYE MITCHELL

Our wonderful newsletter editor, Annie, has basically ordered me to do a profile of my squash career. I preface all that I will talk about by saying I am not a particularly good squash player. Fitness and persistence has got me where I am!

The first time I had even heard of this game called squash was when I was in my early 20s and my fellow workmates talked me into having a 'hit & a giggle' after work. This then progressed to one of them asking me to fill in for her in the lowest ladies' grade – at that time either D or E grade! I won't forget that fill-in match – zipped 9-0, 9-0, 9-0. This produced a determination to get better and I started playing pennant and moving through the grades gradually.

My first state representation occurred in my late 20s when I was selected to play for Tasmania in the last Australian Open Teams Competition in Perth WA. This was the first time I had any coaching which was very enlightening! In that Teams Competition a 16 y.o. Sara Fitzgerald was the number 3 in the Victorian team and Vicki Cardwell was their coach. It was a scary line up and any one of the Tassie's only managed a few points but it was amazing to watch some of the stronger states play.

Then came the discovery of masters squash at 35 y.o. The home of masters squash at that stage was Launceston and a group of friends from the south (Judy Fox, Sue Denman, Geraldine Brown and myself), having no idea what masters squash was about, thought we could win it! We went off to Geelong, Vic, went to the reception on the first night and thought 'what are we doing here?' All these people look so old! We were about the youngest in the room and had never had our bums grabbed so much! Anyway, we went on to win the Over 35 open women's division and had the most wonderful time. We learnt a big lesson about masters squash. They party as hard as they play, so we got into the regime of one night on, one night off (on the partying) or we would never have survived! I had a young family and only competed in Australian masters intermittently until they were older but still maintained my playing regime at home and moved into the men's competition, where at that stage not many women were playing in the men's competition and women were not particularly welcomed by some of the men. Of course this has all changed with the integration of men and women in competition, which has been a good change. From 45 y.o. onwards I had the time for masters squash and believed I was within reach of being a serious competitor for the age titles. I have since won age group titles in over 45, 50, over 55 and over 60 age groups and had a great time at many Australian Masters Championships. At the same time I have been fortunate to be selected to represent Australia in the Trans-Tasman three-test series against New Zealand on a number of occasions. This competition is held every two years and the location alternates between Australia and New Zealand and is made up of six women and six men representing each age group from over 35 to over 60. This year I will be travelling to Napier in

New Zealand as the over 60 women's representative, with Mike Brown being the over 60 men's representative which is a fantastic achievement for Tasmania to have two representatives. A highlight of my squash career was winning the World over 55 title in New Zealand in 2008. What an amazing experience playing in a competition of around 1,000 people and generally not knowing any of the people you come up against! Also **very nerve racking!** I came off the court after the final and hadn't realised, but all winners of world titles are required to be drug tested – so instead of downing the champagne I was dreaming of I had to sit in a room observed by an official until I could give a wee sample – just try weeing after a hard squash match where you have used up all the reserves your body has! Nearly an hour later the first champagne was downed! The second Worlds I competed in was in Hong Kong last year and I finished 3rd in the over 60s – again an amazing experience. So to wind up, squash, and particularly masters squash, has given me some wonderful life-long friends, contacts all over the world, targets to aim for, disappointments and achievements, and enriched my life. And very finally, I am so pleased to see, with the move of the base of masters squash from Launceston to Hobart in 2005, that the camaraderie and supportive environment continues to grow and I see people from all walks of life meeting and becoming good friends through our wonderful game of squash.

AUSTRALIAN MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS DARWIN 2016

Individuals September 5-9

Teams September 12-16

<http://wamasters.com.au>



All Squash players 35 years of age and over, are invited to participate in the annual Australian Masters Squash Championships, to be held in Perth in September 2015.

The individual championships will be for each 5 year age group from 35 to 85 years of age. Depending on the number of entries, each age group will have an open event and ranking based divisions. It is anticipated that each player will have a minimum of three matches.

The Teams event consists of three person mixed teams arranged on the basis of state and ranking. There will generally be 6 teams per division. The number of divisions is dependent on the number of entries.

- Both the above events will be held at Darwin Squash Centre, a new facility with 12 glass backed courts



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

We have booked Parap Village Apartments. Cost approx. \$62p/p pn. 3 brm apartments. <http://www.parapvillageapartments.com.au>

Please fill out form below and drop into Eastside Courts.

For more information Contact Gaye Mitchell, Secretary, 0407 435 378

NAME/S PH.....

POSSIBLY ATTENDING YES

WOULD LIKE GROUP ACCOMMODATION YES NO

INDIVIDUALS YES NO TEAMS YES NO

BOTH WEEKS YES NO