



# Tasmanian Masters Squash

Edition 10, September 2014

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## Ross's Rants and Raves BATHURST 2014

### 2014 COMMITTEE

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The AMSA Bathurst 2014 tournament has now come and gone with some of the Tassie group still holidaying on the big Island.

We had great success from a very small contingent with the following results?

#### INDIVIDUALS

**Michael Brown: Winner**  
M O'60 Open

**Gaye Mitchell: Winner**  
W O'60 Open

**George Kovacs: Winner**  
M O'60 Div 2

**Elaine Boxhall: Runner-up**  
W O'50

**Julie Smith-Kingston:**  
Winner W O'65 Div 3

#### TEAMS

**Div 6 Winners**  
**Eddie Carmichael; George Kovacs; Andrew O'Brien**

**Div 12 Winners:**  
**Dave McDonald; Julie Smith-Kingston; Elaine Boxhall**

#### Div 12 R/up:

**Jane O'Brien; Anne Collins; Suzie Carmichael**

Not bad getting 3 Podiums from 5 Teams and 4 Individual winners from 10 competitors.

Hamish Laws Performed well in a W.A/ TAS Div 1 team at No2 and Rod Cahill had some very tough matches playing as No1 in a Div 2 WA/ TAS combined team.

Unfortunately due to the low numbers at the tournament and lack of follow-up from the teams meeting, Sandra didn't get a run in the 2nd week, but she still attended and supported the teams every day albeit more tiring than actually playing.

I played 1 match in the teams on Monday & realised that a 15 min hit-up on the Sunday really wasn't enough court time to fine tune a game plan. (perhaps 2 hits for Perth).

*Continued over page. . .*

# BATHURST 2014 cont.

The Wrinklies once again was a hit and although there was a minor hic-cup with the wrong music being played at the start of the Tassie skit, we performed very well and other states mentioned how good it was.

Thank you to all who venture. to Bathurst this year and congratulations to all our winners.

**Dates for Perth 2015:**

**Individuals 7-11 September 2015;  
Teams 14-18 September 2015.**



*Ross Barnden, President*



*Gaye Mitchell*  
*Winner Women's O 60 Open*



*George Kovacs*  
*Winner Men's Over 60 Div 2*



*Elaine Boxhall*  
*Runner Up Women's Over 50*



*J. O'Brien, A. Collins, S. Carmichael*  
*Div 12 Runners up*



*E. Boxhall, D. McDonald, J. Smith-Kingston*  
*Div 12 Winners*



*A. O'Brien, G. Kovacs, E. Carmichael*  
*Div 6 Winners*

# ANDREW O'BRIEN

## - MORE THAN JUST A SQUASH PLAYER

(Scoop in the daily Bathurst Boast)

Andrew O'Brien is on a mission to win his team event for Tasmania at the Australian Masters Squash tournament, and that is exactly what he did. His first match of the day saw him come up against an opponent that he is very familiar with, Jeff Marr from Victoria.

**“ Jeff and I go head to head in just about every squash tournament we play in and every time it can go either way, today I was lucky enough to get up on him. ”**

O'Brien came out strong dominating the first game 9-2, then following they went game for game eventually ending in a victory for him.

**“ That first game was a really handy game to win, then after that it was a bit of luck and a bit of fitness that gave me the winning edge. ”**

In the 40 years that O'Brien has been playing squash he has always been a team player.

Andrew went on to win his teams division with fellow team mates George Kovacs and Eddie Carmichael.



***The Tasmanian representatives at Bathurst 2014 (Dave McDonald missing in action!!!)***

# 2014 Tasmanian Masters Championships

Another championship tournament bites the dust. With around 60 competitors from as far as WA, ACT, a squad of Victorians, a dabble of NW Tassie and many Hobartians, it was always going to be a recipe for success.

We had a few missing as they were tripping around Hong Kong at the World Masters. More on that on another page.

Matches got under way about 7pm Friday night, of course running to schedule with stand in tournament director Fuehrer Barnden and trusty assistants Sandra and Cheryl!!! After the matches were completed and supper was provided for all with compliments of Simon Ottway of KAM Joinery.

There were some cracker matches over course of the weekend, some serious, some not so serious, but the aim of the weekend was doing something we all love and that is playing our sport, socialising and having a laugh with a great bunch of individuals.

The dinner dance was a load of fun with **the theme being "Wild West"**. Some very interesting costumes emerged from

horses to cowboys to Indians to saloon girls, even the lone ranger made an appearance. Our band Big Swifty had everyone up on the floor within minutes. The more cordial that was consumed **the better we danced. Our caterer's Relish**, did an excellent roast meal and our squash volunteers made up some tasty treats for dessert. The raffles on the evening were jam packed with beauty products and vitamins (ethical nutrients/Swisse) were supplied by Terry White Pharmacy (compliments Judy Fox).

Of course a tournament cannot be successful without our generous sponsors and our supporters/competitors, so thankyou one and all.

Our tournament sponsors:

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Division 1 Winner: Hamish Laws  
 Runner up: Richard Horlock Canberra  
 Plate: Darren O'Neill, Victoria



Division 2 Winner: John Sands, Victoria  
 Runner up: Tony Lawrie  
 Plate: Simon Bamford



Division 3  
 Winner: Michelle Duffy  
 Runner up: Dave Brown  
 Plate: Chris Rowland Vic/Tas/ACT



Division 4  
 Winner: Rob Bell  
 Runner up: Cheryl Unsworth  
 Plate: Mark McCormack



Division 5  
 Winner: Linda Wing, Victoria  
 Runner up: Vaughn Cooper  
 Plate: Glen Tremayne



Division 6  
 Winner: Cameron Smith  
 Runner up: Annie Baker



Division 7  
 Winner: Julie Smith-Kingston  
 Runner up: David McDonald



Division 8  
 Winner: Anne Collins  
 Runner up: Elaine Boxhall



# Wild West







# 2014 WORLD MASTERS SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP

## – 4 TO 11 July 2014

Where do we start! What a great week of squash and experiencing Hong Kong with over 780 competitors from all over the world.

Hong Kong Island itself:

- is an area of 80 sq. kms with a population of 1.3 million people (7 million in all HK)!
- 28 – 33 degs. day and night. There is the odd downpour of rain but it is so hot that one dries out very quickly. Luckily plenty of blue skies while we were there.
- Shopping mecca of the world – if you are a shopper you can shop until you drop 11am-11pm.
- Busy, crowded but you get used to it. Terrific public transport.
- Some fantastic scenery.
- People are very obliging and most spoke English.

The Venues:

To die for – two venues about 20 minutes apart on a public transport route and a shuttle bus was also provided.

1. Hong Kong Squash Club – 18 court centre with one full glass display court.
2. Hong Kong Football Club – 7 squash courts. This club is centred around Happy Valley Race Track. As well as the seven squash courts, it had indoor bowling rinks, indoor ten pin bowling, three restaurants, an outdoor 25 mt. pool and two spas. Because space is such a premium, the rugby and soccer ground are inside the Happy Valley Race Track.

Competitors and partners had full use (free) of all the Football Club facilities – one could play squash and then go and jump in the superb pool. There were bar and food facilities at the pool as well.

The trap was it was a cashless club – so you were given a card at reception and you just topped it up with cash when it ran out to pay for food and grog. It seemed to run out very quickly! I am sure it had nothing to do with the parties in the Sports Bar where everyone congregated!!

Now, finally, to the squash:

What amazing squash there was to see – Brett Martin, Sarah Fitzgerald, Omar Elborolossy (Egypt) – O'35s – and it goes on.

Flying the flag for Tassie were Gaye Mitchell (W o'60), Mike Brown (M o'60), Mike Haybittel (M o'55) and Bob Simmons (M o'65). Gaye was seeded 3 in the W o'60, Mike was seeded 5-8 in the M o'60.

Both held their seedings. Gaye met Pauline Douglas from Scotland, the eventual winner of the W o'60, in the semi-final and lost in 4 to her.

Australians did very well, particularly the women:

Women's Champions: 40+ Amanda Hopps (WA); 45+ Sarah FitzGerald (Vic); 50+ Sue Hillier (WA); 50+ Mary Sceny (Vic)

Men's Champions: 40+ Craig Rowlands (NSW); 55+ Geoff Davenport (NSW); 60+ Brian Cook (Qld)



Runners-ups – Women's: 35+ Melissa Martin (Qld); 45+ Sarah Nelson (NSW); 55+ Anne Richards (WA); 60+ Sue Volzke (WA).

Runner-ups – Men's: 50+ Brett Martin (Qld); 55+ Kelvin Smith (Qld)

3rd placings – Women's: 45+ Sue Davis (Qld); 50+ Sue Williams (Qld); 60+ Gaye Mitchell (Tas); 65+ Marilyn Kennedy (Qld).

The World Masters Squash Championships are held every two years. In 2016 it will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Anyone can play in the Worlds – there are no divisions – so you cop what you get but there are plates and special

plates so everyone is guaranteed three games.

If you love your squash you should aim to play in a Worlds – it is a great experience! Just pick a location you like and it is a great way to see the world and meet fellow squashies – just like an Australian Championships, but on a bigger scale.



*Junk boat in Hong Kong harbour*



*Gaye Mitchell & Pauline Douglas from Scotland. Pauline won the event after their semi final.*

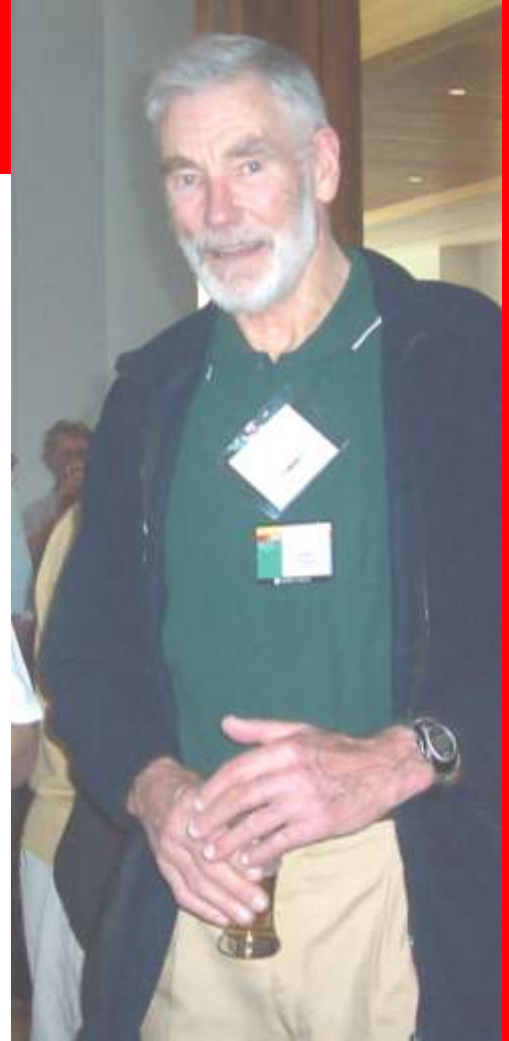


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# John Harding

“Talk about taking ‘spitting the dummy’ to extreme!

One of our grand masters of squash spat his top dentures across the court whilst playing a competitive game in Gentle Squash – and to top it off – it was a Friday afternoon and so couldn’t do anything about it until the following Monday. Picking up the many bits of John’s teeth provided great entertainment for his fellow ‘Gentle Squash’ mates. Better watch out if you are thinking of taking on this ‘Gentle Squash stuff – you might be taking on a bit more than you can chew!!”



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# MONDAY MASTERS PENNANT

Monday Masters at Eastside continues to run smoothly.

This pennant we have changed things a little, in that players need to get their own reserves.. This has worked very well with more commitment shown and more matches being played on each court.

Some players come and go but it is good to see some new faces as well. Hopefully a few that have been injured will make a comeback in the near future.

After the matches are played everyone becomes a little more social in the clubrooms, sharing squash stories, battle scars and the odd glass of wine or 2. Supper is becoming a competition as the winner receives a bottle of wine.

During this pennant we have also had a break to cater for the Australian Masters Championships and extended holidays taken by a lucky few! A Masters

Ladders League was organised by Chris for the break.

Cheryl does a wonderful job getting a detailed report of each Monday night pennant out on email before we even get home—**that 's dedication.**

At the end of each pennant the winners from each league win a dinner at the Ball and Chain Restaurant courtesy of one of our sponsors Simon Ottway of KAM Joinery. All pennant players are welcome to join in the fun night as well.

I believe on one of these occasions the majority were chaperoned to and from the restaurant on board Eddie **Carmichael and Simon Ottway' s** boats.

Thankyou to Ross, Cheryl and Chris for their dedication and organisation of a great pennant which continues to be a popular night.



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## AUSTRALIAN MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS PERTH 2015

**Individuals September 7-11**

**Teams September 14-18**

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 Squashworld Mirrabooka with 14 glass backed courts.

### OPTIONAL SOCIAL EVENTS

- Welcome Function - Hillarys Yacht Club, Sunday the 6th Sept, 5:00pm
- Individuals Dinner Dance - HBF Stadium Friday the 11th Sept, 7:00pm
- Wrinkleys Review - The Italian Club, Tuesday the 8th Sept, 7:00pm
- Teams Dinner Dance - Joondalup Golf Resort, Friday the 18th Sept, 7:00pm

**INTERESTED! Contact Annie at [quirkyannie33@gmail.com](mailto:quirkyannie33@gmail.com) or 0438452778**



## SQUASH CALENDER

**VICTORIAN MASTERS CALENDAR**

**Ballarat November 21-23**

**NW DEVOPORT TOURNAMENT 2015**

**April 17-19**

**TAS CHAMPIONSHIPS HOBART 2015**

**July 3-5**

**AUSTRALIAN MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS PERTH 2015**

**September 7-18**