

OCTOBER/ NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



Albert Park Lawn Tennis Club



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This year's AGM will take place on Sunday 18th November at 10.00 am at the clubhouse. If you have not been previously, we encourage you to attend. The President will report on the year's activities, including progress on the proposal to upgrade the courts. The Treasurer will present his yearly financial report and there will be 2 nominations for Life Members (Joy Bandy and Paul Robinson) which will be discussed at the meeting. There may be elections for committee positions as required.

Current Committee: Peter Davidson (President), John Dunne (Vice- President) Ron Hall (Treasurer), Paul Robinson (Secretary), Committee Members: Anna Hunt, Michael Fisher, Bill Katelis, Dennis Klapas, Rebecca Richardson. They have all indicated their intention to stand again but members are welcome to nominate if they think they can contribute to the club.

WHAT HAS THE COMMITTEE BEEN DOING?

Apart from the mundane things a committee has to do, we have been working on improving the most important part of the club i.e. the playing surface and playing conditions.

1. Green mesh/Shade cloth behind Court 2. In response to suggestions from members and in particular from the women's team who play from 10.30 till 2.30 on Thursdays we have had this shade cloth installed. We hope that the ball will be easier to pick up against a darker background rather than being lost against the background of the park and houses.
2. Lights: We have decided to upgrade our lights to an eco-friendlier, cost efficient lighting system. More importantly it will not be necessary to wait 10 to 15 minutes (as you have to now) to turn the lights back on.
3. Upgrade of Court Surface: The committee has been investigating for some months how best to upgrade our courts, 10 years after their installation. Lots of people have been contacted, various quotes have been received. Finer details of the upgrade will be presented to the AGM.

JUNIOR COACHING

Junior coaching continues to flourish under the guidance of our long-term coach Nicole Bruce-Smith and her assistants (most of whom were coached by Nicole). After 10 years we increased the coaching fee from \$5 to \$6 but this has resulted in an increase in participants.

Coaching takes place on Saturday mornings with sessions at 8,9,10 and 11 am during school terms. Special clinics are held in the holidays and private coaching is available. Junior Club Championships are held in October/November. Draws etc are posted on the noticeboard at the club.

COMPETITION TEAMS

Our Men's Team recently completed a season competing in the Tennis Victoria 35 and overs Doubles. They finished 3rd against some very good opposition particularly MacLeod and Heathmont. They have started a new season in early October in the Bayside competition with wins in their first 2 matches.

The women's team is nearing the end of another season. They are currently in 3rd position.



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Treasurer and the Secretary (who are both Volunteers) were very frustrated and disappointed having spent many hours trying to track down who has paid their membership fees and who has not.

ONLY 40% OF MEMBERS HAD PAID BY THE DUE DATE.

A number of members claim they did not know the fees were due and that they did not get the email about fees. It is worth noting that the fees notices go out every year at the same time!!

We are trying to sort out the problems with emails but we must remind all members that it is your RESPONSIBILITY to tell the club if there is a change of email.

Another problem is that members do not include the CODE which is on the subscription notice to help identify who is paying.

There is a feeling that there might be an attitude among members "it is only the tennis club and it is only \$150 so it is not as important as other bills."

We do not think that the current situation can continue next year. It is not fair to a number of people including those on the waiting list who are anxiously waiting to see if there is a place for them.

We will be doing all we can to improve the system.

See you at the AGM and on the courts as the weather for tennis gets better.

APLTC Committee

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