

November 2010

PRESIDENT'S RAMBLE

Dear members,

Is summer really here now?!!! Carpe Diem, seize the day.

Great to see the Tennis season underway, Junior Tennis Interclub competition started pre Labour weekend. I have visited a few nervous managers when their team was in action recently and it's great to see such composure "in the line of fire". Enjoy the challenge, the camaraderie, the sportsmanship and the game.

Look out you Interclub players, the Saturday morning coaching is well underway and what talent. They are all "riding the horse", serving is next! Saturday 11th December, look out for the "Man in Red". Gifts required please.

Congratulations to Henry Pyc, Junior and now Senior Squash Champion. Another huge battle from Hayden Adams, he never gives up, well done.

Tracey Hartley is the Ladies' Squash Club Champion - congratulations, after a whole season resting an injury. And well done to Natalie Sheridan, ladies runner-up in both Squash and Tennis. Look out 2011!

Doesn't our club look good - a new sign is planned for the front. Now we hope the Lotteries Commission will grant us the dollars to combine with the North Shore City Council's \$45,000. It's for the changing room and bathroom upgrade. Sadly you can't get the Council money without the other.

Sorry folks, but for personal reasons I am unable to continue as President from 11th December. I will continue to work with the juniors and support the club always. A meeting is to be called to vote for a President and Vice President. Please discuss with someone you would consider to be competent in either of these two roles and ask if they will accept a nomination.

Look after our club, turn off the lights, shut the door and clean your teeth. Sounds familiar?

Merry Christmas!



Geoff Topham

PS: Hit balls against walls.

COACHES' CORNER



Manu Yam
www.squashcoach.co.nz

The **ladder** names for the men, women and juniors have been updated and once again we're all ready to go. For those whose names are not in the board, please let Manu know so he can add your name right away.

We started with the **Thursday Junior Club Night** last week from 5-6pm and we had 10 kids show up, play and have fun. All junior members of the club can just show up at 5pm to play or practice.

Women's Squash 4-week programme:
Wed 10-11 am, Thu 6-7pm starts 17/18 November. Suitable for beginners - intermediate. Great for fitness & socializing. Costs: \$40. Call Manu to book on 021 886 583.

Mark Nielsen
www.smashtennis.co.nz

Attackers & Defenders tournament, 17 November. Entry fee \$15. You must have attended 3 Attackers & Defenders sessions previously to participate. Give it a go!

Private or duo lessons available, contact Mark to book on 021 462 496.



November 2010

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Thank You

A big thank you to all of you who have already your membership fees. Cathy mailed all the invoices out a couple of months ago – if you've not received yours, please contact her on admin@belmontracquets.co.nz.

SENIOR NEWS

Monday Men's Night

Over the winter months at 7pm on Mondays a handful of keen and determined men have braved the elements and taken the court to hit balls furiously at each other. This has been enjoyed by all and many, thanks to Geoff Topham for emailing us each week to remind us.

The good news is that we intend to keep this going throughout the season as it is a great way to get a bit of exercise, have a laugh or practice for interclub on the off weeks.

If you are a good keen man, send an email to Clive Melling (andrea.clive@xtra.co.nz) and he will keep you informed.

JUNIOR NEWS

Saturday Tennis Coaching

Bronze 9-10am; Silver 10-11am; Gold 11-midday.

Our Saturday Tennis Group coaching started again on 16 October. With over 80 children already participating and new members joining each week the Club is just buzzing on Saturday mornings!

Rochelle Cooper and Susan Edgson along with our own legendary Geoff and the wonderful coaching team are all there to ensure everyone enjoys, learns and develops their tennis skills each week.

After each session the children are offered cold cordial, apple and the lolly plate, which remains an enjoyable part of the morning. Please remember to be on time, to wear a hat and sun block.

MIDWEEK LADIES NEWS

Interclub

Midweek Ladies Interclub commenced in October for those grades playing on Tuesday, namely Premier, A1 and B2. Results have been mixed, with the B2 team the only one with 3 wins out of 3, but it is early days yet! Competition for the C and (brand-new) D grade teams began on November 1 with wins all around!

Everyone please keep looking out for potential midweek players and encourage them to come along on Wednesday mornings.



November 2010

GENERAL NEWS

Second Sunday of the Month BBQ

During the summer months we'll fire up the BBQ each Second Sunday of the Month after Social Doubles. We'll make sure we've got some decent sausages, so please be prepared to put \$5 in the kitty.

The dates to remember for now are 14 November, 12 December and 9 January.

Thursday Night Club Night (Squash & Tennis)

Senior Club night, every Thursday night 7pm onwards. As one of our tennis members said: "It's like Sunday Doubles but on a Thursday night". So you've got the picture!

For both Squash and Tennis this means it's open to all senior members and guests of the club. Play friendly and social matches with everyone and have a beer afterwards. (The more we spend [responsibly] at the bar, the sooner we can buy a new bar till!)

Business House Tennis

Debbie Timmins (debbietimmins@xtra.co.nz) is hoping someone will take over organising Business House Tennis this year which is due to start soon (date tba). It involves running the tournament (6 teams of 4) over a 6-week period and feeding 24 hungry mouths at the end of the night.

On two of the nights we can order Pizza or Fish 'n Chips, but on the other 4 nights it is all hands on deck with the catering. This is a great fundraiser for the club, but requires a team effort. Hands up please if you can help, even if it's just on one of the nights.

Have you seen our new website?

Natalie Sheridan has done an amazing job on getting our new website up and running. If you've not seen it yet, please have a look www.belmontracquets.co.nz.

Any direct feedback/comments can be emailed to natalie.j.sheridan@gmail.com.

CELEBRATING OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Henry Pyc wins Top Squash Award

Huge congratulations to Henry Pyc who recently won the award for Most Improved Junior Male Player at the 2010 Squash Excellence Awards held at Herne Bay club on the 16th October.

The awards recognise outstanding achievement, performance and service in the Greater Auckland squash community during the 2009/2010 season.

Henry has had an exceptional year, moving rapidly up the ranks to a B2. He also came runner up in the NZ Junior Nationals in the U15 division earlier in the year in Christchurch. Well done!

Belmont Park finalist in Auckland Squash Club of the Year

Belmont narrowly lost out to Franklin Squash Club at the annual Auckland Squash Excellence Awards. Congratulations to the squash organisers and enthusiasts at the club who continuously strive to make Belmont one of the best squash clubs in Auckland – Manu, Michelle and Gabriel in particular. We'll get it next year!



November 2010

Squash Club Champs 2010

Congratulations to Henry Pyc and Tracey Hartley who won the club champs titles over the weekend of 29th - 31st October.

Henry played an excellent match to beat Hayden Adams in the men's final, whilst Tracey's skill and precision on the court overcame Natalie Sheridan in the women's final.

Congratulations also to Simon Munro and Walter Lawry and Dorothea Kingan and Anneke Simmonds for a strong showing in the round robin play.

FEEDBACK

We'd like to hear from you...

Please let us know what you'd like to see on the website, in this newsletter and at the club. If you have ideas for fundraisers, social events or any other feedback and suggestions we'd love to hear from you.

Email your ideas to admin@belmontracquets.co.nz.

It's your club!! Let's make it the best it can be!

For Social Club ideas, please contact Gottfried (gottfried_pausch@hotmail.com) or any of his fellow Social Committee members - Gerry Wilson, Sara McNeish and Brian Lawry.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter.

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