



Redlands Lawns Tennis Association Inc.

ABN 34 199 331 139
Cnr Long & Smith Streets,
Cleveland, Qld, 4163

P.O. Box 986
Cleveland, Qld, 4163

Phone: 3821 0337
Email: rlta@somersoft.com.au

Wednesday, January 26, 2011

RLTA President's Annual Report 2010

This past year represents my ninth and probably my easiest year in the role as President of the RLTA, something I would attribute to the wonderful support that I have had from the team that keeps the club functioning. This year has also seen an absolute hive of activity at our centre, with such a wide cross-section of age groups participating. The figures provided to me by our centre managers Dean and Sophia Toparis showed more than half of the tennis-playing periods during an average week being at or near capacity, whether those activities were regular fixtures, coaching activities or social play. In particular, the significant increase in junior fixtures and membership this past year augurs well for the future of our club.

Administration

Dean and Sophia Toparis continued as joint site managers in 2010 and, with their coaching and pro-shop team, ran a comprehensive coaching program, organised and supervised an expanded series of junior fixtures, maintained a well-stocked and efficiently run pro-shop and managed all of our court hire.

For the record, the club's Administration for 2010 comprised Patron: Lena Bandeira, Auditor: Bruce O'Connor, President: Ian Somers, Vice President: Les Finney, Treasurer: Bill Tapper, Secretary: Betty McCoy, Minutes Secretary: Vivien Carlsson, Assistant Treasurer: Reg Griffin, Committee members: Shane Keeffe, Bruce Maclean, Arthur Hart, Maureen Hilzinger, Jan Hill and David Young. Keith Collyer and Pat Clearly continued their efforts to ensure our courts were playable and our site was clean and tidy. Bruce MacLean ensured our members were kept informed of club happenings through his monthly newsletter while Yvonne Wilson (raffles) and Tony Barton (bar) helped keep the club functioning in their own respective ways. On behalf of the club I wish to thank all of these people for their help.

Fixture coordinators still ensure that our various tennis activities run smoothly and I would like to take this opportunity to thank these individuals on behalf of the club: Ray & Eleanor Lambley (Monday night), Betty McCoy and Di Green (Thursday night), Kym Reimers (Saturday), Maureen Hilzinger and Jan Hill (mid-week ladies), Bruce MacLean (Vets), Tony Barton (Tuesday night social) and of course the coaches and parents who help Dean and Sophia with the junior fixtures.

Our club also joined a group of local sporting clubs (the Cleveland Sport and Recreation Reference Group) to use a group co-ordinator to assist in this group by providing advice on governance, developing networks and support with grant applications etc.

Clubhouse and Grounds

Members support for the raffles each week has seen numerous additions to our centre in the past year: a new fridge-freezer and new portable PA system (both with help from the mid-week ladies), a new petrol powered blower so that Keith can efficiently remove the leaves and other debris from the courts, an upgrade to our club's first aid kit, new wheels for the club BBQ, a new 50 inch HD plasma TV, a high pressure water cleaner for cleaning the clubhouse and a trailer for Keith's tractor.

On the court front, we have applied (albeit unsuccessfully to date) for State Government support for an additional ninth court for our centre. To even get to this stage, a long and involved series of meetings have been held with Council, the public, other showground users and the State Government in order to help with the formulation of a new Draft Showground Management Plan. I wish to acknowledge our resident architect, project manager and tennis tragic, Shane Keeffe for his efforts in

pursuing this matter through the various bureaucratic channels to ensure our longer term visions for our centre are realised.

Two of our courts (6 & 7) will be due for resurfacing sometime in 2011 while another (court 5) has compaction issues which may well result in repairs/replacement by the manufacturer. All courts were subject to their annual renovation in December (in between showers and storms).

Thank you also to all those volunteers who washed down the clubhouse and polished all the windows back in May. It is fantastic that so many members take such pride in their centre. At around the same time, Redland City Council decided to contribute to this worthy cause by landscaping our southern embankment. If it reduces the grass and leaves blowing onto our courts, our caretaker Keith Collyer will be eternally grateful.

Tennis – Club Championships

Redlands Lawn Tennis conducted its club championships during the September school holidays. The tournament was well supported and a great success, with the crowning of three new club champions. The Open Men's Champion for 2010 is Ben Bonaddio, a member of the coaching team at the Club, while Will Maher is the new Junior Boys Champion. However, it was thirteen year old Gemma Tapson who was the stand-out player of the tournament, winning both the Junior Girls title along with the Open Women's Championship, and not dropping even one game in either final

The final results of the 2010 Club Championships were as follows:

Mens Singles Champion:	Ben Bonaddio
Ladies Singles Champion:	Gemma Tapson
Mens Doubles:	Damian Waddell & Greg Morris
Ladies Doubles:	Emily Wilson & Melissa Bourke
Mixed Doubles:	Michael Leong & Emily Wilson
Junior Boys Singles Champion:	Will Maher
Junior Girls Singles Champion:	Gemma Tapson
Junior Boys Doubles:	Anthony & James Moss
Junior B Singles:	Rory Nichols
Junior B Doubles:	Simone Thomas & Madeleine Chapman
Junior C Singles:	Tom Needham
Junior C Doubles:	Melissa Wain & Sophie Clucas

Tom Ferguson Shield

On Sunday 22nd August, our club competed in the annual Tom Ferguson Shield, an inter-district competition between Redlands, Gold Coast, Beenleigh and Beaudesert. The event was hosted this year by Beenleigh who did a magnificent job of organising the weather and the tennis. With our brilliant red shirts, Redlands won the best dressed competition hands down, however, the best we could do in the tennis was a distant third. The official results were Gold Coast first (252 games), Beenleigh second (247 games), Redlands third (176 games) and Beaudesert fourth (109 games).

Thanks must go to all who participated from the Redlands, including two of our coaches (Ben and Damian), but special thanks must go to David Young for his persistence in getting and managing the team. The event next year will be hosted by Gold Coast, the scene of our most recent victory (2007). Hopefully, with Dean's coaching skills, we may have a couple of promising juniors graduating to the senior ranks next year and revive our past glories at the Coast.

Redland Bay Challenge

The Redland Bay Challenge for the Rosie Dunn Shield was held on a lovely winter's day at the RLTA courts. Those taking part said that the courts were well prepared, there was a magnificent lunch served and they were appreciative of David Young's efforts in organising our teams. The result: Redland Bay won with 45 sets and 322 games to RLTA's 19 sets and 245 games.

Special Olympics

The Brisbane East Regional Special Olympics was held at our courts on Sunday 8th August. Special Olympics is an International year-round program of sports training and competition for individuals with

an intellectual disability. The event is dedicated to empowering these individuals to become physically fit, productive and respected members of the community through sports training and competition. This year 24 athletes from Brisbane East, Gold Coast Redcliffe, Sunshine Coast, Brisbane North and Brisbane West participated.

Our Manager/Coach Dean Toparis is the current Tennis Coach for Special Olympics in the Brisbane East Region and wishes to thank Ian and Noni Thomas, James and Simone Thomas, Graham Ward and Yvonne Willson for their assistance on the day.

Redland Shire Perpetual Tennis Shield

Fifty players competed in the annual Redland City Council Seniors Week Tennis Tournament at our RLTA courts. The tournament is held every year as part of seniors Week in the Redlands and is open to players over the age of 50. The competition was held in perfect weather conditions and resulted in probably the closest results ever since the running of the contest.

After four sets, Val Watkins ended up a clear ladies winner with 24 games, but there were three other ladies all with 22 games, and up until the final set that Val played, it appeared likely that we could have had 4 ladies all with equal games. There was no clear winner from the men, with Keith Harmon and Wayne Bourne both on 23 games and Wallace Ormsby only trailing by one game. It was then necessary for the first time to have an extra doubles match played to decide the winner of the men's section. Wayne triumphed in this thrilling and close final set by winning five games to Keith's three.

Val Watkins and Wayne Bourne were presented with the Perpetual Shield together with a personal trophy and other prizes by the Redland City Council Mayor, Cr. Melva Hobson, who paid tribute to the 50 fit seniors who took part in this annual event

Family Doubles Day

The Family Doubles were held on the 17th October and a great day was had by all participants and onlookers. The A Grade was won by Craig and Nick Thompson; the B Grade by Craig and Aiden Levi; and the C Grade division by Paul and Nick Morrison. Thank you to Graham and Phillipa Perlin from "Take 5 Restaurant, the sponsors of this event.

Club Fixtures

Club fixtures remain strong with Monday and Thursday night competitions running at close to full capacity. Mid-week ladies make full use of the centre of a Wednesday morning. The Saturday A Grade fixtures continue to use three courts each week, with the Vets social tennis of a Saturday afternoon making full use of the remaining five courts.

Ian Somers

President RLTA.