

RLTA vs Wynnum Challenge Match 15-April-2012



It would be fair to say that Wynnum and Redlands Tennis Associations have shared a friendly rivalry going back many decades. The two bayside tennis neighbours have been opponents in many inter-club challenge matches and, in the past at least, have competed with each other at inter-district Tom Ferguson Shield matches. It would also be fair to say that Wynnum won more than its share of matches and invariably finished ahead of the Redlands in the inter-district competition. But how times change...

Last Sunday, against the odds after a morning of persistent rain, the two clubs did battle at the RLTA courts at Cleveland with Redlands taking every bit of the home court advantage to post a convincing win (34 - 14) in the first inter-club challenge match for almost a decade. Four teams of six players from each club played matches of 12 sets, the result being decided on the aggregate sets won and lost. The RLTA's third team was our most successful, winning all 12 of their sets. The RLTA's Ken Sorrenson was the most successful player, conceding a total of just four games in the four sets he played.



The RLTA Team resplendent in their representative uniforms

There may have been nothing more than bragging rights at stake, but the tennis was of a high standard and very intense at times. Off the court, everyone was relaxed and enjoyed the camaraderie of mixing with like-minded souls who also share a passion for hitting little yellow balls across a net. The day was certainly a lot of fun (even more fun if you were winning) and we can only hope that it is not another decade before the next match.

The success of the day was due in no small part to the chief organiser, negotiator, selector and rule-maker Greg Morris. A former Wynnum player, Greg has strong links with both clubs and was the ideal person to get such a match off the ground. On behalf of the club, I wish to thank him and the rest of the selection committee for their efforts in making it all happen in such a professional manner.

Our head coach Damian Waddell was also very supportive and ensured that we involved some of the best tennis talent in our club, along with some of our up and coming junior players. Special thanks must also go to the elegant trio of catering ladies (Maureen, Yvonne & Lena) who ensured that the legendary RLTA hospitality remains alive and well.



Greg & his Wynnum counterpart



David Young in action



Janelle is all focus



Kym having a brown sandwich



Nicholas Thompson & coach Damian



The elegant Lena, Yvonne & Maureen