

GREENWICH TENNIS CLUB

Incorporated ABN 38 123 445 400
Leemon Reserve, GREENWICH NSW 2065

Web page www.greenwichtennis.com.au Email: admin@greenwichtennis.com.au

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2022

The Club is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984.

The Club is also associated with the Northern Suburbs Tennis Association ("NSTA"), organiser of the area tennis competitions.

Objectives

The objectives of the Club are:

- To facilitate and encourage the game of tennis
- To provide facilities for the game of tennis
- To advance knowledge and skills concerning the game of tennis
- To encourage and promote competition in the game of tennis amongst members and guests.
- To promote social activities amongst members and persons interested in the objectives of the Club
- To raise and receive money by any lawful means for the purpose of furthering the objectives of the Club

Executive Committee

At the November 2022 AGM a number of new committee members and office bearers were elected to the committee for 2023. Regan Bull was unavailable for election as Secretary. Nikki South was duly elected and took up the role. Tim Thacker became unavailable to participate on the committee early in the year and so Peter Walton who was an existing committee member was appointed as Vice President. Andrew Robertson also became unavailable to serve on the committee during the year however David Vincent was nominated and elected to replace him and to take on the Competition Secretary role vacated by Tim Thacker. We thank all of the volunteers for serving on the committee.

The 2023 committee comprised nine members as listed below:

President / Membership Secretary	Richard Hawkins
Vice President	Tim Thacker, replaced by Peter Walton
Secretary	Nikki South
Treasurer	David Williams
Booking Secretary	Caroline Elliott
Competition Secretary	Tim Thacker, replaced by David Vincent
Committee Member	Duncan Ramsay
Committee Member	Andrew Robertson - resigned
Committee Member	Bill Oliver

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Membership Fees

Joining fees remained free of charge and membership fees again remained the same as the previous year – unchanged since 2017.

Annual Fees:	2021/22	2022/23
Full Adult Member	\$125*	\$125*
Junior	\$35*	\$35*
Family	\$250*	\$250*

*A timely payment discount of \$10 is offered on full adult member annual fees received in August, \$5 discount for Juniors / Uni Students. These fees have not increased since 2017.

Visitors Fees:	2021/22	2022/23
Membership per Visit	\$5	\$5
Casual Hire Per Hour	\$15	\$23

November comparative membership numbers were:

	2021/22	2022/23
Full Adult Members	282	276
Honorary Members – living	8	8
Graded Juniors/Students/Juniors	170	153
<u>Non-playing parents</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>6</u>
	474	443

While we are only a small club, our membership has remained very strong over recent years as a result of our family-friendly policies.

During 2020 / 2021 / 2022 tennis continued to be very popular in the Greenwich community, as one of the few COVID-safe sports available. In 2021/2022 the club membership and court-playing time remained in high demand, so the committee continued to maintain a limit of 500 members.

During the 2022 / 2023 year tennis membership demand has receded from the high of 500 members in 2021 to 443 at the time of this report. The current 443 members for the 2 courts seems to be working well regarding availability and demand and is financially sustainable.

A new club coach was appointed in February of 2023 with the business ramping up over the year. This may have resulted in some loss of Junior membership along with Non-playing parents. Also there have been many relocations and a number not renewing due to lack of available time.

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Club Championships

The 2023 Club Championships were started in August this year to ensure that they were finished on time, playing through to November. Results will be published in the 2024 President's Report. Thanks to David Vincent for enthusiastically managing all aspects of this important event.

It was decided not to play the Handicap championships in 2022 as there was insufficient demand and ample opportunity for match play during the year in the Saturday competitions. For the record, the winners of the 2022 Championships, which were not fully completed by the time of last year's report are as below:

Men's Singles	Tim Thacker
Ladies Singles	Lizzy Bull
Men's Doubles	Tim Thacker & Jackson McGenniss
Ladies Doubles	Regan Bull & Lizzie Bull
Mixed Doubles	Sanjiv Gopinath & Nikki South
Men's Singles Plate	Sanjiv Gopinath

Congratulations to all winners and participants for again making this a successful tournament in 2022. There were 47 individual entries in the championships.

The standard of tennis was again very high. Congratulations to Tim Thacker for his inaugural Men's Single Title, winning over Jackson McGenniss. Jackson and Tim were too strong for Nima Kermani and Michael Armati when they paired up in the Men's Doubles. Lizzy Bull prevailed again in the Ladies Singles and also in the mother-daughter combination with Regan in the Ladies Doubles. Congratulations also to Sanjiv Gopinath and Nikki South for getting their names on the winners board in the Men's Plate and the Mixed Doubles.

Junior Club Championships

The Junior Championships were held on Sunday 21 May 2023 with 18 entrants this year, significantly down on the previous year. Thanks to Caroline Elliott and Nikki South for organising the event and to all parents for their help. The children enjoyed themselves and there was some top tennis on display. Congratulations to all participants.

Age	Winner	Runner-up
Over 12 Boys	Henry Martin	George Williams
Over 12 Girls	Fleur Motteram	Rose Williams and Gemma Garton
U 12 Boys	Ben Dielman	Xander Free
U 10 Boys	Freddy Allan	Jaxon Garton
U 10 Girls	Madeleine McColl-Jones	

Coaching and Juniors

After more than 10 years as the official coach at Greenwich Tennis Club, Andrew Bennett finished up providing coaching services at the end of 2022 to enter the financial services sector. We thank him for his significant contribution to the club over the years, helping many

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adult and junior players to improve their technique and their game. Many of the juniors will look back fondly on their journey with Andy, who made tennis fun.

The club was very pleased to be able to appoint the Lead Tennis Academy as the new coaching services provider for the club, led by head coach, Callen Ritcey. They commenced in late February 2023 building up their presence in both after-school and one on one coaching. We look forward to a long association with the Callen and his team.

Christmas Party

The Club held its annual Christmas Party on 13 November 2022 and is planning to hold the 2023 party on 26 November. The venue will again be at the clubhouse and under the camphor laurel tree and it will be in a similar format to the 2022 party – starting at 5.30pm, with each family encouraged to bring a plate of food to share. The aim is to play as many of the Tennis finals as possible on that afternoon. The club will provide drinks and there will be a prize giving for the 2023 Junior champions along with live music by Jo Cunningham and her sister Merran. The Christmas Party remains a significant event in the Greenwich social calendar.

Internal Mixed Doubles Competition

Again in 2023, a huge thank-you goes to Bill Oliver who continues to run the immensely popular handicapped competition for members on Saturday afternoons. Thank you Bill for your diligence, enthusiasm and community spirit in making this happen every week.

Big thanks again go to the ever-ready team captains; Jane Marquard (Sky Blue), Sharon Morse (Nike Red), Janice Gibson (Lime Green) and Annabelle Burley (Royal Purple) who ensure their teams are fully represented each week.

Members continue to show great enthusiasm for this competition, always putting their hands up to fill the required 16 places for the event to work each week. There are about 65 members active in the competition. A great community has been built around this competition.

2023	Spring Competition	Competition underway at the time of writing.
2023	Winter Competition	Blue Winners on 52.5 points to Red 52.0
2023	Autumn Competition	Blue Winners on 50.8 points to Purple 46.3
2023	Summer Competition	Purple Winners
2022	Spring Competition	Red Winners on 47.5 points to Green on 44.5

The results show that the competition was very close, with the final result in doubt right up to the last day of matches. The competition continues to be popular with members of all standards with the two time-slot format (based on club handicap) ensuring that games are evenly matched. There is always room for more players; just contact Bill Oliver at w.oliver@bigpond.net.au or any team captain.

Player of the Year Award

This award is given to the member who has both participated the most in the Club's playing

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activity over the calendar year and achieved the best results. In 2022 it was awarded to Edy Sirca who won from other close contenders Nikki South, Duncan Ramsay and Richard Hawkins - congratulations Edy!

The winner is decided using a points system, awarded for participation and performance in the internal Saturday competitions and the club championships. Sincere thanks to Peter Walton who continues to administer this award – thank you Peter!

The award (\$100 plus a clock shield-trophy) is presented to the winner, with the shield displayed in the clubhouse. To make the award more inclusive, the committee has decided that no member can receive the award for more than two consecutive years.

Arthur Harrison Trophy

The Arthur Harrison Trophy was donated by Arthur Harrison who, for many years lived across the road from the courts and spent much of his time looking after the courts. The club presents the trophy annually to an individual who has made a special contribution to the club and improved their tennis during the year.

The club chose not to award the Arthur Harrison Trophy in 2022.

Maintenance and Improvements

The court surfaces are now 9½ years old and seem to be standing up very well, and drainage after rain is very good. All Grass Sports Surfaces is contracted to undertake quarterly maintenance including cleaning drains, spraying algae and weeds, and to distribute sand around the courts by hand grooming or blower. The courts come up like new after this work is completed. This year a new leaf blower was donated to the club by Bill Oliver to assist with keeping the courts clean and in good condition between quarterly maintenance.

Sewer inspection and/or maintenance is an annual event because of tree roots invading the old clay pipe joints. All the above items are paid directly from Club funds. A sinking fund provides an allowance for the artificial grass surfaces to be renewed every 10 years.

Financial

David Williams continued as Treasurer since 2020.

The audited financial statements, which can be found on the Club's website (under documents) show that the Club is in a sound and healthy financial position. The cash reserve as at 31 July 2023 was \$135,780 (\$119,830 in 2022), which is sufficient to meet the Club's anticipated future expenditure. The long-term provision for maintenance and refurbishment as at 31 July 2023 was \$54,500 (\$44,500 in 2022).

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Acknowledgments

I would like to sincerely thank all committee members for their support over the year and their input on all club matters. A lot of behind the scenes work goes into managing the club.

Particular thanks to departing committee members for their contributions. Thanks to Regan Bull for her work as Committee Member since 2017 and for so competently executing the role of Club Secretary since 2018. Thanks to Tim Thacker for his management of the tennis championships since 2019 and also to Andrew Robertson for his contributions since 2021.

Thanks to Peter Walton for his sage advice and support and for his reliable work in managing the maintenance of the courts and buildings and for preparing the trophies each year. Thanks to Bill Oliver for his untiring professional and good-natured management of the Saturday afternoon tennis competition. Thanks to David Williams for his very professional management of the Club's accounts. Thanks to Caroline Elliott for managing the court bookings, for her input into social events and for managing the Junior Championships. Thanks to Duncan Ramsay for his input on insurances and legal matters. And special thanks to David Vincent this year for joining the committee and stepping up to manage the tennis championship so competently.

It is particularly pleasing to be part of a group of volunteers that works so well together in a spirit of goodwill and friendly co-operation. Thank you committee members!

Thank you too to all members for your support during the year and we look forward to another year of great tennis in 2024 at this Great Little Club we call Greenwich!

Richard Hawkins
President
November 2023