

President's Report 2018

Overview

The Picton Tennis Club has 80 financial members to date with more to sign up in the coming months. Our main focus this year has been on facility upgrades and pursuing our dream of a brand new clubhouse.

Clubhouse

The clubhouse DA application process at Wollondilly Council had stalled and thanks to Nicole Bloomfield (one of the parents) the application is now moving forward again. This year, the club paid for a site survey to be done as part of the additional information required. Michael Whitehouse has also been a huge help with communicating with Council, answering questions and amending and re-submitting drawings.

A few months ago, I submitted an expression of interest to the Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund for \$900k to build but unfortunately we were unsuccessful. The good news is, we have another chance to apply in June 2019. Yesterday, I watched a webinar giving useful feedback and a greater understanding with how to be successful next time.

Facility Upgrades

Hard courts

Hard courts have been resurfaced by Recreational Surfacing for a total cost of \$79,321.00 Through the Community Building Partnership Program and Jai Rowell the club received a total of \$52,500.00 in funding for the project.

I successfully secured a further \$12,000.00 funding from Tennis Australia through the National Court Rebate Program.

The total cost to the club for the hard court resurfacing was \$14,821.00

I strongly recommend that we do NOT use Recreational Surfacing again.

Resurfacing under seating

The surface under the seating area had become a slip hazard when wet and needed to be replaced.

The resurfacing was done by Dynamic Sports Facilities for a total cost of \$8210.41 Through the Community Building Partnership Program and Jai Rowell the club received a total of \$5000.00 in funding for the project.

The total cost to the club for the under seating resurfacing was \$3210.41

Courts 1 & 2

Courts 1 & 2 were the oldest surface and are now resurfaced. All 9 courts have now been resurfaced in the last 5 years.

The resurfacing was done by Dynamic Sports Facilities for a total cost of \$49,049.00

Funding was received for this project from the Veolia Mulwaree Trust of \$27,400.00

The total cost includes an additional \$1500.00 to repair the base.

The total cost to the club for courts 1 & 2 resurfacing was \$21,649.00

Adult tennis activities

Club competitions are run on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday evenings during school term time An Inter-club challenge Picton v Moss Vale – was organised by Stephen Halls and hosted by Moss Vale Tennis Club on 14th April 2018. Moss Vale won and it is our turn to host the return match. Unfortunately our annual Town of Origin did not run this year due to scheduling conflicts with Camden Tennis Club. The club also hosted our annual Seniors Tennis Tournament from 18th to 20th May 2018.

Seniors Tennis Tournament

Players travelled from all over NSW, QLD, NT & ACT to participate in our National Ranking Tournament with players ranging from 35 to 80 years old. All events were run as a round robin format and we received 169 entries and ran 25 events. This is our seventh year of running this tournament and would like to thank SE Region Tennis for their financial support of \$250.

Junior tennis activities

I would like to thank Stephen Halls and his coaching team for another year of excellence. Revolution Tennis have delivered a full range of tennis programs for both juniors and adults including coaching programs including toddlers and Mums, junior squad training, cardio tennis, cardio kids programs, a School Gala Day and competitions.

The stand out tournament series for me is the Grand slam themed events held throughout the year jointly hosted by Picton and Camden Tennis clubs with a Final 'Masters' event on 9th December.

Juniors also have the opportunity to travel and Stephen has further organised Inter-club Challenges within the Macarthur & Wollondilly regions and an Inter-regional challenge (Northern Beaches Clubs vs Macarthur/Wollondilly teams) held at Blacktown on 21st of October.

Cliff Havey

Sadly, on 18th November 2017, we lost an esteemed life member Cliff Harvey. In the last few years, even though his playing days were over, his enthusiasm and interest for the club never waned. We always received a visit in May to watch the Seniors Tournament and chat with players, and more recently to present the Cliff Harvey Scholarship to junior recipients. He was a very prominent and well respected member of this club for many decades and will be greatly missed.

Annual Junior Scholarships

Every year, scholarships and gold passes are given to selected junior members who have shown outstanding promise and/or enthusiasm. The Cliff Harvey Scholarship for the boys and the Sally Robertson Scholarship for the girls.

This year's scholarship presentation was held on 7th September 2017. Sally Robertson presented the Sally Robertson Scholarships and Pauline Harvey (Cliff Harvey's wife) presented the Cliff Harvey Scholarships.

The club's financial commitment is \$100 each and this is matched by Revolution tennis enabling us to offer a \$200 scholarship package for each recipient.

This years recipients were:-

Orange Ball - Mikyla Ryan & Lachlan Malcolm
Green Ball - Arianna Phillips & Noah Fitzgerald
Yellow Ball - Damon Siutz

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Sally Robertson who has very generously donated the money for the Sally Robertson Scholarships, 2 years in a row.

Gold passes are also presented to keen junior players that allow free court hire for 12 months.

This years recipients were:-

Orange Ball - Sam Merchant & Erin Still
Green Ball - Lucas Hinton & Liam Ryan

In the community

The Picton Tennis Club has also been active within the local community. A stand or stall at various events throughout the year has raised our club profile, introduced tennis to the wider community and signed up new players on the spot.

A stand at the Australia Day Celebrations, maned by club volunteers and Stephen Halls is always a success along with stands at local school fetes and Open days held at the club.

This year we were also invited by the Rotary Club Camden to volunteer on the gates at the Camden Show. This was a fundraising opportunity where we were paid by the hour. Our wonderful volunteers generated \$909.00 for the club.

Volunteer recognition

We are extremely fortunate to have a fantastic team of volunteers. Adult and junior members, friends and parents and of course committee members who have selflessly given their time to ensure the smooth running of the club. Everything from baking, fundraising and BBQ duty to weeding the courts, I want to take this opportunity to thank each volunteer for their valuable contribution.

I believe volunteers should be publically thanked and recognized and a new Volunteer Recognition Board has been put up in the clubhouse and a Volunteer party is being held after the AGM.