

CROSS COURT

Newsletter of the Lower Hutt Tennis Club Inc
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February 2007

As I write this the Australian Open Tennis finals have just been completed & I expect & hope this will highlight a renewed interest in tennis as soon the schools go back.

The Club will introduce some more interesting events during the balance of the season & you will just have to read your Newsletter to discover these delights.

Mieke has accepted another position which means she will not be able to edit future Newsletters but we are working on alternatives. Thanks Mieke for the work you carried out for the Club.

This will be the last Newsletter you will receive in this manner. The costs of printing and postage are just too high & in future we will prepare a Newsletter to be available online. We will however then be able to communicate with you more regularly & will be able to include colour photos & more up to date information plus special offers & details of special events.

Make sure you send us an email with your email address so we can ensure you are kept up to date at all times. Don't assume we already have this email address please send this again.

CONTACTS

President	Barbara	566 0750
Chairman	John	577 0098
Secretary	Graham	569 2914
Treasurer	Graham	568 7976
Club Captain	Adam	566 6234
Midweek	Ros	938 1951
Junior Interclub	Kevin	569 7452
Junior Club	Elizabeth	971 4408
Night League	Linda	568 5292
Senior Interclub	Ora	566 6868

CLUB CHAMPS

The club champs have been postponed and will now be held after interclub is completed in March.

This is another reason to make sure we have your email address.

COURT USAGE

Doubles on court will take precedence over singles at all times.

In the event that there are no vacant courts & Members are waiting to play, those playing singles must invite 2 of those Members waiting, to join them, or vacate the court at the end of the set, or after fifteen minutes, whichever first occurs.

After 5pm weekdays & during weekend afternoons senior members have precedence over juniors for all casual play & for use of astrograss courts.

Scheduled interclub matches & any organised Club play will always take precedence over casual play.

If you are not a member (for example a parent playing with a child who is a member) you have no rights!

REGIONAL

If you would like to watch some great tennis our Regional 1 men & women are both playing at the club at 1pm on 17 February and again on 10 March with the women again on 17 March and the men on 24 March.

The matches on 17 February will be played against the top teams in the competition & this will be a great opportunity to see some of the regions top tennis players in action.

NEWSLETTER.

Send an Email to:

info@lowerhutttennisclub.com

showing "newsletter" in the subject line.
You must do this to continue to receive News & happenings at the Club.

No further Newsletters will be sent by mail.

You can win tickets to the ITF Tournament at the end of February if you reply .



The new Club logo in orange & green looks fantastic on the club polo shirts & vests. These are priced at almost half the \$\$ you would pay at Rebel Sports. Gene has a supply of these in his shop & I am going to buy a 2nd one.

ATOMIC TENNIS NEWS:

As the summer finally kicks in here are some important dates and notices for you all!

JUNIOR AFTER SCHOOL TRAINING

Starts Monday the 12th of February 2007. This includes Tiny Tennis for the 4-6 year olds, and Total Tennis for the 7 years & up. Players are arranged into days & times to suit you & the coach, as well as into similar ages and abilities. Please call or drop in to see us at the club.

ADULT DOUBLES SESSIONS

If you would like to get into a better position on the tennis court, then this could be for you. These sessions will run on Tuesday nights from 6.30 - 7.30 pm, you will be in a group of 4 players, & you will learn where to stand, where to move, & the best doubles tactics in town! Sessions cost \$60.00 for 4 one hour sessions. To book your place give me a call or drop in & have a chat.

LET ME SERVICE YOUR RACQUET

Drop in to the shop & leave your racquet. I will get it playing well for the new year! A restring & a new grip & your racquet will be moving like a sports car!

If there is anything else we can do for you, please contact us on 5696 872 or Gene on 027 259 3989!

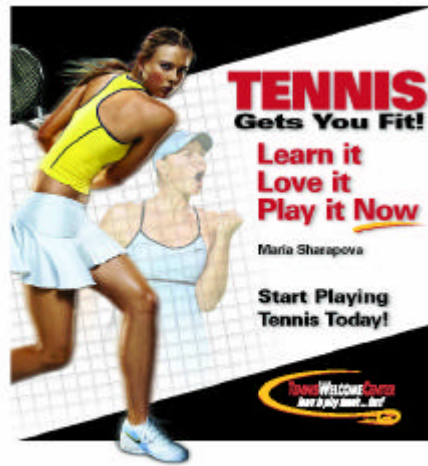
Gene

WATCH OUT

The following Juniors were nationally ranked by Tennis NZ as at 31/12/06. Watch their progress over the next few seasons as they continue to improve!

Under 18	
Amelia Harris	7 th
Hanna Baxter	34 th
Under 16	
Amelia Harris	3 rd
Rachel Baxter	82 nd
Under 14	
Thomas McCabe	94 th
Under 12	
Luke Leesburg	28 th
Tom Ngyuen	32 nd
Katie Farrell	46 th
Rebecca Clarke	86 th

Tournament successes post Christmas may have changed these rankings.



LEARN TO PLAY TENNIS - FAST

This is a new project commencing February 20, designed to teach the fundamentals of tennis to people wanting to start playing tennis or to those who already play but would like a refresher course. You do not need to be a club member.

It will cost just \$50 and you will receive six 1 & 1/2 hour lessons twice a week over 3 weeks.

You will learn

- the serve, forehand, backhand, & net game
- basic strategy, rules & etiquette
- ways to improve & keep on improving
- valuable practice, exercises & hand out.

Classes will be held Tuesday & Thursday mornings for 3 weeks starting at 10 am

OR

Tuesday & Thursday evenings for 3 weeks starting at 6.00 pm. These will start on 20 February.

If you know anyone wanting to start playing tennis (perhaps a member of your family) these classes will provide all the confidence they will need to get started.

These classes are based upon a programme designed in the USA and we anticipate they will fill up very fast as we will be advertising these throughout the Hutt Valley. Additional classes will start in March & April

To enrol please telephone

John 577 0098 or
Gene 976 1445

VETERANS - SENIORS

I have just competed in Perth in January in the Australian Tennis Seniors Championships teams event. Overall 5 NZ teams competed & I competed in the 55 year & over team. Our team finished 4th in our section. Beautiful lawn courts, 20 per venue & playing conditions perfect - 25 degrees with no wind. There were 800 competitors from 35 to 85 years old.

The NZ Senior Tennis Nationals were held mid January in Napier & I competed there as well. No titles but excellent tennis & weather. Both Malcolm Alexander & I have been elected onto the National Tennis Seniors Board for the coming year.

Sylvia Wilmshurst

NIGHT LEAGUE

The current Wednesday night league has 16 teams, which is the largest one for a while. It is running for nine weeks from 7 February through to 4 April and will then take a break for the school holidays.

As there are 16 teams, 4 teams will be playing on Tuesday nights so courts 1 - 4 will not be available for other play on Tuesday nights for this period.

There are a number of new players in this league & some that have returned to tennis after a break. We extend a big welcome to all these players, but also a huge thank you to all those that keep coming back to play on Wednesday nights. It can get pretty cold in the middle of winter!!!

This is a good social night, that at the moment does not have prizes, but we are looking into this. Watch this space.

The next league will run for ten weeks from 25 April through to 27 June. If you want to talk to someone about the league, please give Linda Forsyth a ring on 568 5292.

If you are unable to play for any reason, it is up to you to find a replacement & to let your captain know.

While daylight saving continues there will be courts available on Tuesday nights for organised casual play for those of you who would like to play more often.

MIXED TEAMS EVENT

The "Head" Seniors Mixed Teams Event will be held April 21st and 22nd at the Lower Hutt Tennis Club. Same format as last year with the first fully paid up 10 teams accepted. Teams comprise 3 men & 3 women aged over 35. Entry Form is on Club website.

MIDWEEK MEMO

The weather was looking good for a start back on 30 January for midweek tennis. Remember we play all year on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9:30 am. 2006 finished off in great style with the Hot Ham & Bubbly Christmas lunch. Welcome to Claire Farrelly who joined us recently.

We had some great pre-Christmas interclub results. Jackie's team was 2nd in their first time in Grade 1 & Philippa's was 3rd in their first time in Grade 3! In Grade 2, Judy's team was 2nd & we are looking forward to playing against Lynne's team who have been relegated from Grade 1. Sandie's team were 4th in Grade 3 & Jan's team were 5th (of 8) in Grade 4.

Interclub starts on 7 Feb for Grades 2 & 4 and 14 Feb for Grades 1 & 3.

Midweek champs will start shortly. Singles commence 27 February & Doubles 6 March
Ros

PICNIC

We intend to organise a picnic day for members, family, children & friends at the

Martinborough Tennis Club probably in March.

This will be a unique opportunity to play friendly tennis on real grass courts - sit on the grass - in the sun - & enjoy a few glasses of wine - visit a vineyard etc.

If we have your email address we will give you more information when we are able to confirm arrangements.

JUNIOR INTERCLUB

The club had 20 junior interclub teams in competitions prior to Christmas, 12 boys and 8 girls teams. Of those 20 teams, 17 were in the Hutt Valley Competition & 3 were in the Regional Wellington Competition. All interclub is played on Saturday mornings. Every Friday night the teams have practice & coaching for 1 & ½ hours at the club. This is an opportunity to have doubles practice with teammates & coaching from Gene and his helpers & also from Jack Ng.

The following are the pre Christmas Interclub placings.

Boys

Regional 1 Agassi	1st
Regional 2 Becker	1st
Premier Borg	4th
Premier Emerson	5th
A Grade Edberg	3rd
A Grade Wilander	6th
B Grade Kramer	3rd
B Grade Sedgman	9th
C Grade Vilas	1st
C Grade Connors	5th
Under 12 Federer	3rd
Under 12 Sampras	5th

Girls

Regional 1 Sharapova	1st
Premier Austin	1st
Premier Mandlikova	4th
A Grade Seles	8 th
B Grade Williams	3rd
B Grade Capriati	4th
C Grade Sabatini	1st
Under 12 Mauresmo	1 st

There were also a number of impressive performances from other teams. It's important to remember that Interclub changes tennis from an individual sport to a team sport. I want to really encourage juniors to be supportive of their other team member's results on the day so they know when the scores are close, they watch other matches & offer encouragement to team members.

Almost every week a results sheet comes back with extremely close results where the scores are either tied or only a game or two apart. It's a good reminder of the importance of trying to win every game – they all count!

As a result of winning the Regional 1 competition convincingly our top girls team decided to enter the Hutt Valley Senior Divisional competition for Feb/March. We wish them luck as they take on the adults.

We have entered another Under 12 girls team made up of players who had some extra coaching in the October-December period & are now ready to start interclub. Good luck to those girls as well.

The Hutt Valley Junior interclub competition resumed on the 3rd February & the Wellington Regional competition resumed on the 10th February.

JUNIOR LADDER

The Junior ladders for boys & girls are now safely housed inside a lockable glass cabinet. Thanks to John Farrell for that. The ladders rank the boys & girls who play interclub. It is an opportunity for players to challenge those above them on the ladder in an attempt to move higher up the rankings. It's a good opportunity to have competitive singles play outside interclub & tournaments. I'd really like to encourage Junior interclub players to make challenges & let me know the results so I can make any changes that are necessary to the rankings.

JUNIOR CLUB CHAMPS

The junior club champs will be held Friday 2 March from 5pm (first round of games) & then Sunday 4 March from 9.30 am. We will not hold up games while people go off to play touch or soccer. They have to be committed for both days!

Entry forms will be on the noticeboard early February.

JUNIOR PRIZEGIVING

Friday 30 March – more details later.

Have a look at the Club website

www.lowerhutttennisclub.com

Community Coach

Coachforce Tennis will be running courses this term. These courses are designed for those volunteers who would like to assist the coaching team at the club.

If you would like more information contact Stefan Knap at

coachforce@regionaltennis.co.nz

JUNIOR NEWS

As we all know the tennis season has been very frustrating pre Christmas. Sunday morning coaching missed out on a few weekends as well as the Christmas party. We start again on 11 February at 9am with our team of enthusiastic coaches who will have a few treats in their baskets!

Junior Interclub teams managed to get most of their games in before middays on Saturdays when the rain started - there were some very competitive and close matches.

Interclub practices begin again on Friday 9 February. Tee shirts for the junior players are now available at the subsidized price of \$10. All interclub players must have one for the rest of this season.

Elizabeth

The Global Leisure Group Limited, consultants in open space & facility planning, are preparing a report on Sport in the Hutt Valley with some emphasis on tennis. This report will be released by the Steering Committee (appointed by Hutt City) probably after its meeting mid February.

It is anticipated this report may have wide spread ramifications for tennis in the Hutt Valley.

REGIONAL INTERCLUB

This season has been a very difficult one with team members not always being available. Where has loyalty and commitment gone? In past years if you put your name down it meant you would be available for every match and injury was the only excuse.

The top Regional Junior girls team is playing in the Women's Division 1 post Christmas. The team members are

Doris Berberic
Julie Farrell
Emma Clarke
Isabelle Kerr
Rebecca Sim

good luck girls!

SENIOR INTERCLUB RESULTS

Pre Christmas results are as follows

Men	
Regional 1	3rd
Regional 2	6th
Division 1	3rd
Division 2	6 th
Division 3	1st

Women	
Regional 1	2nd
Regional 2	1 st
Division 1	2 nd

Presidents	
Premier	2 nd
Division 1 A	4 th
B	5 th
Division 2 C	1 st
E	2 nd
D	6 th

Any one have any experience with "intermittent claudication". Please let me know
John 577 0098

ASB PRO CIRCUIT

WELLINGTON
RENOUF CENTRE

23 – 25 February Qualifying
27 Feb – 4 March Main Draw

Tennis NZ are combining the ITF Mens & Womens Pro-Circuit event for the first time.

See top players in action

Ticket prices start from \$10 per day then \$15 per day from the quarter finals & \$50 for the whole tournament

I have 2 free \$50 tickets to give away.

Each Email sent to the Club by 18 February showing "newsletter" in the subject line will be entered in a draw to win these tickets.