



Hornsby Kuring-Gai District Tennis Association Inc

2018/19 Annual Report



Reports

President

Much has happened within HKDTA over the past 12 months:



- In February our long serving Treasurer Tristan had to withdraw from that position, and Mark Bloomer stepped up from his general committee member position to become Treasurer. Mark has undertaken a major restructure of our accounting system to provide much more accurate information to the Committee, and prepared a budget for the year ahead.
- Mark also took the lead in our “Paid services sub-committee” to review our current contracts with suppliers of goods and services to HKDTA. When Marc and Mai Donnelly had to reduce their involvement with HKDTA due to Mai’s illness, Mark led the process to search for a replacement supplier for that contract.
- Tim Brackenreg was awarded the contract to provide maintenance, cleaning and management services to HKDTA, commencing on 1 August.
- Our new website (www.hkdta.com.au) is up and running, and we will continue to add to and improve that site over the coming year.
- In March this year an automated court management system was installed at Berowra. All bookings for Berowra are now done online, and the courts unlock when a booking has been made. There has also been an increase in the number of online bookings made for courts at Mills Park, probably driven by people accessing the new website and booking from there.
- Social Tennis at HKDTA has had a bit of a revamp, particularly on Wednesday Nights which has a new structure of “fast tennis”, with a focus on the grading of players in sets to ensure good, competitive, balanced matches.
- Our Tuesday Night competition, which was previously called “Tuesday Night Men’s Comp”, was made open to women as well, and we have had ladies play in every division. From those ladies we were able to put together an Interdistrict team to play in the Angus & Coote cup, the first time since at least 1992 that we have had a HKDTA team at that level.

As you will see in the financial reports, we made a loss of around \$5,000 for the 2019 financial year. As a result of that expected loss identified earlier in the year by our Treasurer, we reviewed many of our fees for membership, court hire, competitions and social tennis events. We also need to invest a large amount of money into the centres over the next few years, with all of our court surfaces getting

very close to needing replacement, and we have to build the funds to be able to do that.

As mentioned above, a major change during this year has been the reduction in involvement by Marc and Mai Donnelly, who for 7 years had the contract to provide cleaning, maintenance and Pro Shop services to HKDTA, as well as taking on numerous other tasks on a voluntary basis. Marc and Mai have been very active participants in HKDTA for many years, and we all wish Mai the best with her health and look forward to the time when she can be back on court playing. Marc continues his role as coordinator for our Monday Night Quick Mix competition and plays in the Tuesday night comp.

Thanks to all the Committee and other club members who helped to cover for Marc and Mai with the day to day operations of Mills Park from the Easter weekend until Tim’s appointment in August. Unfortunately, the need to do this did mean that the Committee didn’t progress as much as we would have liked with a few of our objectives, so they will be our priority over the coming year.

These priorities include:

- Finalising our strategic plan for 2020-2025.
- Reviewing our range of tennis “offerings” including competitions, social and special one-off events to ensure that we are providing appropriate options to our members and prospective members in the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai community.
- Reviewing our current situation and developing a plan for coaching services offered through HKDTA.
- Improving our programme for Junior players.
- Developing a plan for a complete refurbishment of HKDTA facilities, from court surfaces through to change rooms, bathrooms etc.
- Continuing to build our relationships with Hornsby Council and Tennis NSW in particular, as well as our State and Federal local members, to ensure that we are working collaboratively to improve our facilities and tennis programmes at Mills Park and Berowra.

We have a number of committee members who for various reasons have chosen not to be a part of the Committee going forward, and I want to thank Mai, Lynda and Tristan for all that they have contributed to HKDTA during their time on the Committee.

I thank our members for the trust that they put in me and the rest of the Committee at the AGM last year. I believe that we have made good progress over the past twelve months, but there is much more for us to do in the next twelve!

Eddy Watson

Treasurer

Dear Member

Financial performance

The Association finished the year with a net loss of \$5,000; (2018: a profit of \$10,000).



The decline in performance (of \$15,000) was almost entirely due to a fall in competition income. Most notably, the Thursday night comp participation level fell from being a two division comp in 2018 to a one division comp in 2019; (the impact of this was a loss of income of \$9,000). Friday night Juniors also declined; (the impact of this was a loss of income of \$3,000). Other comps were relatively stable. And, other sources of income including from social tennis, coaches and general court hire were broadly comparable to last year.

Gross income of \$240,000 was down \$25,000 from the prior year amount. About \$10,000 of this decline is due to a change in accounting methodology (discussed further below); however, this was offset by a positive adjustment to expenses of a similar amount, and therefore there was no overall impact of the change in methodology on the net loss this year. The remainder of the decline in income (\$15,000) was due to the decline in competition income already mentioned.

Expenses of \$245,000 were down \$10,000 from the prior year. This was almost entirely due to a reduction in the rent amount, which followed negotiations with the landlord during the year. Otherwise, expenses were broadly in line with the prior year.

While the decline in income, and associated net loss, this year were disappointing, the Association remains in a stable financial position as it finished the year with just over \$60,000 in the bank.

Financial information

One of the key projects I identified for myself when I took over as Treasurer this year was to improve the quality of financial information available to manage the Association. No operation can be managed properly unless it has good information to show how it is performing - the changes I felt were needed have now been implemented.

The Association previously operated on a cash basis of accounting. That methodology is crude and made it difficult to monitor performance in a meaningful way on a month to month basis. Also, there was very limited ability to track different income types - everything just went into one big pot. And, some of the accounting control procedures needed to be enhanced.

I have now converted to an accruals basis of accounting which has increased the reliability of monthly information. I also modified the chart of accounts to ensure that each of the different types of income are now tracked separately. I have also developed a budget for next year so that we can better monitor whether the Association's performance is on track. The impact of these changes is to provide much more accurate and meaningful information when reporting the Association's performance each month. All income types can now be properly monitored, and as changes in performance are identified, they can be investigated and acted upon.

A number of new accounting controls were also introduced which will help ensure money due to the Association is being properly accounted for. For example, all fees are now being billed through an accounts receivable system which ensures all monies are collected or identified as being outstanding; (previously this was handled using weak manual processes which were difficult to control and monitor).

Outlook

With a cash buffer in the bank, the Association is reasonably positioned for the next financial year. However, looking forward, I believe it is necessary to develop a proper strategic plan to ensure all areas of activity are performing to their potential, and members are receiving good tennis offerings. As part of the strategy process, it will also be important to develop a long-term capital expenditure budget to help determine how much needs to be set aside for such items.

Mark Bloomer



The 2018 "Festival of Tennis" raised \$3,000 for Hornsby Kuring-Gai Women's Shelter. The cheque was presented to Ms Kiki Paul from the Shelter by Mai Donnelly & Matthew Noone, together with Rosemary Stevens and Alison Johnston from Westleigh Tennis Club.

Secretary

The full Committee of HKDTA, as elected at the 2018 Annual General Meeting, has formally met 6 times throughout the year. In addition, the Office Bearers met once. Committee members and their attendance at meetings are listed below.

At the February meeting Tristan Conybeare resigned from the role of Treasurer, and Mark Bloomer was appointed to that role. Tristan was appointed to a general committee role for the remainder of the year.



	President	VP	Treasurer	Secretary	General Committee Members				
	Eddy Watson	Matthew Noone	Tristan Conybeare/ Mark Bloomer	Robyn Flood	Laneth Bissett	Mai Donnelly	Lynda Fox	Mark Bloomer/ Tristan Conybeare	Steve Thompson
Meetings eligible to attend	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	7	6
Meetings attended	7	7	4/3	7	5	4	2	4/2	3

Robyn Flood

Office

The 2018 Schoolgirls competition consisted of 169 teams and 742 girls playing in 23 divisions at 30 different venues. Participating schools were Ascham, Barker, Brigidine, Kincoppal, Loreto Normanhurst, Pymble Ladies College, Ravenswood, Monte, Roseville College, Kambala, SCEGGS, Loreto Kirribilli, Queenwood, St Catherine's & Wenona. Kambala won the best overall school for 2018.

This competition is a good opportunity for some girls who haven't represented their school at a major tennis competition (IGGSA or Tildesley) to get a feel for the game without the pressure to win "at all costs".

Beate Seiler

Social Tennis (April-June 2019)

In February 2019 the HKDTA Committee supported a proposal to focus on a deliberate strategy to build social tennis offerings at HKDTA for adults, in line with the Tennis NSW strategic plan.

Wednesday evenings has been our major focus for re-invigorating social tennis, with a well attended launch on 17 April. The adoption of "quick 30 minute sets", with all courts starting and finishing at the same time has been welcomed by the players, as they enjoy more time playing tennis. For the first month we trialled engaging Keith Smith as coach, which was welcomed by many players but not feasible to continue without increasing fees.

We have been encouraged by the 44% increase in average participation in Wednesday night social since the new format was introduced in April.

Three weekly social events remain scheduled as they have for several years, with new organisers on Wednesdays and Sundays.

- **Wednesday evenings** – organised by Robyn Flood & Matthew Noone – for players of all standards.
- **Saturday afternoon** – organised by Stuart Hillier – aimed towards intermediate/advanced players.
- **Sunday afternoon** – organised by Eddy Watson – for players of all standards.

All of these events are now charged at \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members as of 1 July 2019, with new balls. HKDTA have been more active in promoting these events via emails to members and other players, Facebook and WhatsApp.

In addition, we held social tennis events on Easter Monday, which was very well attended and the June Monday Public Holiday, which was poorly attended.

HKDTA Social Tennis Participation (April – June 2019)

Event	Average no. players	Min-Max Players
Wednesday Evening	14.4	9-24
Saturday Afternoon	13.6	11-17
Sunday Afternoon	11.4	5-17

Special social events

- Easter Monday (22 April): 20 players
- Queen's Birthday (10 June): 4 players

Matthew Noone

Interdistrict

Congratulations to our Under 10 Boys team for winning the Stan Pedersen Cup in 2018!

This year we again had four teams representing HKDTA in Interdistrict, including for the first time since at least 1992 a team in the Open Ladies Division.

All teams have found the competition very tough this year, and with one round still to be played only the George Fletcher Cup team are still in with a chance to make the semi-finals.

Thanks to all players who have represented HKDTA this year!

Eddy Watson

2019 Interdistrict Teams

Blackwell Cup (Open Men)

Ian Choat (c), Chris Bissett, Nandan Keerthi, Laurence McDonnell, Bala Parayil, Stuart Windybank

Angus & Coote Cup (Open Ladies)

Natalie El-hage (c), Robyn Flood, Julia Kraemer, Kirsten Johnston, Linda Tysoe, Kitty Yang

McAndrew Cups (12 & Under Boys)

Aarush Sethupathi (c) Miles Phijidvijan, Mile McNee, Kai Sloane

George Fletcher Cup (50 & over Men)

Matthew Noone (c), Dennis Carter, Roger Barclay, Mark Bloomer, Laurence McDonnell, Kerry Mulley, Peter Talbot, Eddy Watson, Ian Westmoreland

Monday Ladies

The Monday Morning Ladies Winter Comp ended with an epic final between teams Nadal and Federer with Federer snatching the win by only one game. Well done to Jo, Yvonne and Kerry!!

We have been flexible in how we run the comp by the trialling of a different format for the cooler and warmer weather comps. Our Winter and Spring Comps include the format of two doubles and one singles whereby our Summer Comp format is made up of three doubles. The outcome of the new trial has been very successful.

At the moment the comp is running with 7 teams and one bye. We always look forward to getting new ladies to join and so far we seem to acquire a few new players every year.

We are pleased to advise that some of the ladies have been playing in the same comp for over 20 years. Age is no barrier!

We would like to thank all our ladies for making time to come to Mills Park for a great morning of tennis, coffee and socialising and we look forward to seeing everyone back to start the new comp on Monday 2nd September.

Theresa Johnson and Beate Seiler

Monday Night Mixed

Monday night mixed comp teams consist of two ladies and two men playing each week. All our teams are very consistent and strong, and this makes for an exciting night of tennis every week, played in a friendly, social atmosphere.

Monday Night Mixed Winter comp of 2018 consisted of 5 teams competing. We ran for 10 rounds, from July to November 2018. The winners of this comp were Ballistic and the runners up were Queens Road Rangers

The Mixed Summer comp of 2018/19 consisted of 5 teams competing. We ran for 10 rounds, from December 2018 to April 2019. At the finals, Seeing Double defeated On the Line.

The Mixed Winter comp we just completed, ran for 10 rounds, from May to August, 2019 with 5 teams competing. The winning team was Queens Road Rangers and the runners up were Ballistic. Both teams battled on despite the cold, wet conditions.

Our next Spring/Summer competition will run from 2nd September 2019 for 15 rounds, through to February, 2020 with five teams. To maximize court usage and allow uninterrupted tennis through the year, we will be playing through the school holidays in October, but we will have the usual break over Christmas/January.

My thanks to all the fantastic players who participated in Monday Night Mixed Comp over the past year and who make Monday nights a great way to kick-start the week.

I would also like to give a special note of appreciation for the ongoing assistance of Beate at HKDTA for her support, production of the draws and regular updating of weekly scores. Also thanks to Eddy and the committee, and of course, a big welcome to Tim Brackenreg in the Proshop. Tim is already adding a spark of warmth and happiness on the cold Monday nights.

Finally, heartfelt thanks to Mai and Marc for providing advice, help and good cheer during 2018/19 and our very best wishes for health and happiness.

Margaret Stirling

Congratulations!!

Anastasia Berezov was awarded the Tennis NSW 2018 **Junior Female Athlete Of The Year** prize, and was also selected in the Australian Junior Federation Cup team. Anastasia has been part of the HKDTA family for over 7 years now and we look forward to following her career in tennis.



Monday Night Short Mix

Monday Night Quick Mix Comp is now in its third year of operation and is continuing to grow in popularity. We have two divisions and regularly have match ties so the standards are very equal and challenging. Each comp runs for approximately 6-10 weeks from 7.30pm to 9.15pm. It is a short and sweet comp, so come and join us for a good time. You can feed the kids, come to tennis, play 3 sets and easily be home by 10.00pm.

Marc C. Donnelly

Tuesday Night Comp

This comp is the biggest & strongest comp in the Association, with up to 28 teams across 5 divisions, using all our courts at Mills Park, 3 courts from Berowra, and even having to hire an extra court from KWTA for the Autumn comp. The restriction of only male players being allowed to play was removed this year, which contributed to the boost up to 28 teams. Seven ladies so far have taken part in the comp, four of them have gone on to also represent HKDTA playing in the Open Ladies Division of the Interdistrict Competition.



Always Warming Up, "Elite" winners of Tuesday Night



The Phantoms, "Wimbledon" winners of Tuesday Night

With Mai having to withdraw from her role as co-ordinator back in March, I have taken over that role on a temporary basis until a permanent co-ordinator steps forward. The co-ordinator should be someone playing in the comp I believe, so I encourage all players to consider taking up that role!

It is looking very positive for growth in this comp, with teams from other clubs around the area and individual players looking to join when the next comp starts in a few weeks time.

Eddy Watson



Berowra Boyz, "SuperComp" winners of Tuesday Night



Amalgamated, "Roland Garros" winners of Tuesday Night



Jet Setters, "Australian Open" winners of Tuesday Night



2018/19 Wednesday Ladies Spring/Summer Comp Finalists



2019 Wednesday Ladies Autumn/Winter Comp Finalists:



Wednesday Ladies

The Wednesday Ladies Comp is still running with 2 Divisions, consisting 10 teams. We have 5 teams and a bye in each Division.

The 2018/19 Spring/Summer Comp started on the 15/8/18 and finished on the 20/3/19. In the finals we had Lucinda defeating Matchplay in Division 1 and Horizons victorious against Finesse in Division 2.

The 2019 Autumn/Winter Comp started on the 27/3/19 and commenced on the 28/8/19 as we replayed three wet matches. In Division 1 Phoenix defeated Lucinda and in Division 2 Highly Strung triumphed over Westleigh. The new Spring/Summer 2019/20 comp has just started.

I would like to thank everyone for their support and help in the running of this comp, especially Mai. Also thank you so much to all our wonderful ladies who are supporting our game of tennis and helping me in filling out their forms and paying on time. Wishing everybody another fantastic year of tennis.

Beate Seiler

Thanks!!

Thank you Westleigh Tennis Club for your ongoing financial support of our HKDTA juniors!



Thursday Night Mixed

This comp has been very competitive for the last few comps, with different teams winning the 3 comps finalised over the year so far. The players from the old Division 2 teams have sometimes found it a bit tough against some of the old Division 1 combinations, but have met the challenge and enjoyed it!

Eddy Watson



Silvertails, winners of the Thursday Night Autumn Mixed comp

Friday Juniors

Each school term HKDTA runs a Friday Night Junior Competition. Teams usually consist of two players graded into different Divisions according to ability.

The Committee will be exploring all options to further develop this competition over the next year. I encourage everybody to become involved by either joining the sub committee or to provide feedback to this process.

Thanks to all those involved in organising and running the Junior Competition.

Lindy Enge

Coaches

Mills Park

There have been a few changes with the Pro-Shop and maintenance recently, so first of all I would like to thank Marc and Mai for all the help to myself and the other coaches over the past seven years and wish them all the best for the future. I am looking forward to working with our new manager Tim over the coming years.

Once again the JDS tournament held at Mills Park was a success thanks to all the committee and volunteers that helped to run the tournament and supervise the kids on the day.

This year we have had considerable success with a lot of the players that have lessons regularly at Mills Park getting some great results on the ATP and WTA tours, the ITF Junior Tour, the Australian Nationals, the NSW Junior Age tournaments, and two of our players have been selected for the Australian Junior team for their age to tour Europe. Congratulations to all our players for their great effort!

Steve Thompson

Berowra

This has been a mixed year at Berowra.

Several of our top juniors are competing at HKDTA competitions and other open events.

One in particular entered into a tournament whilst in France, with a solid performance.

The trees which surround the courts continue to be an increasing problem, making court cleaning of leaves, bark and gumnuts a full time job especially in summer months.

The trees have grown so much that they are masking the lights, so that courts 1 and 4 have dark areas.

Trevor Hodge



Hornsby Mayor, The Honourable Philip Ruddock attended the 2018 Festival of Tennis and handed out awards to winners of some of our 2018 Club Championships.

2018/19 Committee

President	Eddy Watson	Vice President	Matthew Noone
Secretary	Robyn Flood	Treasurer	Tristan Conybeare/Mark Bloomer
Committee Members	Laneth Bissett, Mai Donnelly, Lynda Fox, Steve Thompson		

Competition Secretaries

Monday Ladies	Theresa Johnson & Beate Seiler
Monday Night Mixed	Margaret Stirling
Monday Night Quick Mix	Marc C. Donnelly
Tuesday Night	Mai Donnelly/Eddy Watson
Wednesday Ladies	Beate Seiler
Thursday Night Mixed	Mai Donnelly/Eddy Watson
Friday Night Junior	Lindy Enge

Social event co-ordinators

Wednesday evening	Mai Donnelly/Matthew Noone/Robyn Flood
Saturday afternoon	Stuart Hillier
Sunday afternoon	Mai Donnelly/Eddy Watson

Head Coaches

Mills Park	Steve Thompson
Berowra	Trevor Hodge

HKDTA Staff & major contractors

Office Manager	Beate Seiler
Mills Park	Marc & Mai Donnelly Pty Ltd
Berowra	Trevor Hodge
Auditor	William Kang

Friday Juniors	Lindy Enge, Leigh Marshall
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Facilities Leases	Hornsby Council
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