



Hornsby Kuring-Gai District Tennis Association

# 2020/2021 Annual Report



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2020/2021 Committee

# President's Report



Well, here we are again! In last year's report I wrote about the impact that COVID had on HKDTA, but how we had worked together as a club to minimise the impact and do our part in ensuring the safety of all our members and visitors. At that time, I think we all believed that the worst of

it was behind us - unfortunately this year the impact was even greater. Most of the financial impact is in the period from late June to now, so next year's President seems doomed to still be talking about it!

As you will see in the Treasurer's Report, 2020/21 was in the end a very good year for us financially, due in large part to the financial assistance provided by the Australian and NSW governments; and Hornsby Council. There was also a renewed interest in tennis for many people during that period when there were heavier COVID restrictions on most other sports, that led to increased participation after last year's restrictions were eased. Many people came back to playing tennis, remembered what a superb sport it is and were starting to play in our social events, join as members and to look to participate in our competitions. As we are now slowly easing out of COVID restrictions, hopefully that trend of increased participation will continue!

Wednesday night social tennis in particular had a large increase in numbers, regularly having 35-40 players. Much of that success can be attributed to the hard work of Matthew and Robyn in promotion; and also working every night to ensure players got to play well balanced sets and had a positive experience. Some nights there were too many players for the courts available, which was adroitly managed by asking Tim to stay back and run a few 30 minute hitting sessions for those players who were off court.

Many of our comps were affected not only by COVID, but also the weather, with both the Monday Quick Mix and Tuesday Night comps that started in February still each with a few weeks to run before completion. Monday Quick Mix continues to grow in popularity, with the increase in numbers now meaning it requires courts at both Mills Park and Berowra centres to cater for the numbers.

At last year's AGM we had a few new members elected to the committee, Theresa Johnston, Henry Chim and Tony Foster have all made some major contributions to the operation of HKDTA in their first year. Tony unfortunately resigned during April, but with his work on our "new name" sub committee in particular made some important contributions. After advertising the committee vacancy to members, Linda Tysoe joined the committee in August - thank you Linda for stepping up.

Stuart Hillier returned last year as Secretary, and his experience and wise counsel has been very beneficial. Together with Marc Donnelly, Stuart is starting the process of

documenting our history and exploring options for celebration of our centenary in 2023.

Jonathan Gray also came on board last year as Treasurer and has had a major impact on our operations. Details of some of his activities you will see in the Treasurer's Report and other places in the Annual Report. One major achievement was in preparation of a submission for a grant to undertake a complete refurbishment of Berowra Tennis Centre, including an innovative component to capture and store energy as well as establish an electric vehicle charging station at the centre. At a total cost of nearly \$1m, this scale of project required a dedicated project manager to oversee its completion, and after advertising the position, the committee has appointed Jonathan to that role. Unfortunately, that means HKDTA is again looking for a new Treasurer, so please consider putting yourself forward for this role.

Laneth Bisset, Henry Chim and Marc Donnelly were the other general committee members for the year and Matthew Noone continued his stellar performance as Vice President. I would like to thank Henry for his continued efforts to promote various aspects of play and connection through HKDTA - his marketing efforts have been curtailed due to COVID restrictions but we hope will bear fruit as they relax.

At the AGM we will be announcing the new name that we will be using to promote all our tennis activities. We retain the name of Hornsby Kuringai District Tennis Association, but will use the new name for all our signage, promotions and branding etc. Thanks to all our members who contributed their ideas for the change through our survey and other discussions! I don't want to give too much away, but can say that the name chosen reflects not only our feelings about the game of tennis, but also our aspirations of where we want our tennis programs, facilities and members experience to be, with an added local twist.

Thanks to our two "towers" Beate in the office and Tim in the pro shop who keep the day-to-day operations of HKDTA running smoothly. We welcomed Riley and Khairul to our maintenance staff, and Tim's role is being redefined to have more emphasis on managing and developing competitions, along with the day to day management of the centres. Coordinating closely with our Mills Park head coach Steve Thompson, and also liaising with Trevor Hodge the Berowra head coach, Tim will also be working on developing a coherent program of coaching opportunities at HKDTA which can be offered to our members and wider tennis community.

Anybody who has attended Mills Park Tennis Centre recently will have noticed the new look at the entrance under development. With the Berowra centre refurbishment now underway, the committee's attention is focused on getting Mills Park up to the same high standard so that from the time you walk through the rejuvenated entrance, past the resurfaced courts (4 now done, 6 more planned over the next

# President's Report (continued)

2 years) you will come to a fully refurbished clubhouse with modern, accessible amenities and an attractive environment to enjoy both playing and watching tennis. Our aim is to have that complete in time for our centenary celebrations in 2023, so there is much to do in the next 12 months. If you have any suggestions for this refurbishment or any skills that could assist please don't hesitate to contact any of the committee or staff to discuss with us!

A challenge that we have in the year ahead is the renewal of our leases at both Berowra and Mills Park, which expire in June 2022. We will be reaching out to members with relevant experience to assist in preparing our bids for those leases.

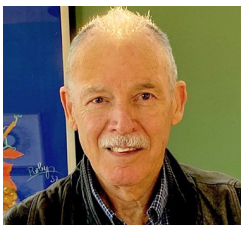
Thanks to all our members for your support over the past year, and I look forward to working with and for you over the next year.

**Eddy Watson**, President



## Secretary's Report

### HKDTA 2021 Annual General Meeting



Few would have predicted this time in 2020 how the past year has evolved. From a club perspective there has been much positive change in both its appearance and its prospects in what, we are assured, will become a less restrictive and more predictable environment. The physical changes

and improvement plans at both centres are referenced in greater detail elsewhere in this Annual Report.

It has been gratifying to see the upsurge in Socials participation over the past year and we especially thank those members and other strong supporters who have continued to make use of reduced facilities during the worst of the lockdown periods. We also thank Hornsby Shire Council (HSC) for its financial and other professional assistance, our suppliers who have sometimes struggled to provide their goods and services, and the contractors who have installed or upgraded various facilities and undertaken improvement work at both of our sites.

Beate Seiler and Tim Brackenreg warrant particular mention for the capability they bring to their respective roles and it has been pleasing to welcome Riley Makings and Khairul Karim to the club during the year and to see the benefits of the maintenance work that they have been doing. We also welcomed Linda Tysoe to the committee in August, filling a casual vacancy.

Owing to the pressures applied on the club by the pandemic, it has been necessary for the full committee to meet twelve times rather than the originally scheduled six since the last AGM. In addition, the four Office Bearers, Beate and Tim have also been meeting weekly since the beginning of August to address any urgent issues, especially those arising from the COVID situation, that could not readily be dealt with individually or held over to a full committee meeting. Both the regular committee and the weekly OB meetings have been conducted via ZOOM over this time.

Given the significant improvements, both actual and planned, at the Mills Park and Berowra centres, the next year will be critical to our ability to maintain this programme, not least because both leases expire in mid-2022 and will require re-negotiation with HSC in the interim. As a successful not-for-profit organisation, HKDTA is a community asset which relies on the goodwill and support of many stakeholders as it seeks to continuously expand its facilities and services to members and the wider public.

The club values the support it receives and, as it enters its 99th year, looks forward to restoring and growing the range of playing options available at affordable rates and in a friendly, enjoyable and safe environment.

Attendance at the twelve scheduled committee meetings has been as follows :

Eddy Watson	12
Matthew Noone	12
Jonathan Gray	12
Stuart Hillier	12
Laneth Bissett	11
Henry Chim	12
Marc Donnelly	10
Tony Foster	7 (resigned April 2021)
Theresa Johnson	12
Linda Tysoe	3 (joined August 2021)

**Stuart Hillier**, Secretary

# Treasurer's Report



During my tenure as Treasurer, I've drawn on my professional experience and background to advance the interests of the Association and its Members across a range of aspects. In saying that, I believe that HKDTA has a strong role to play in bringing together members of the broader

community to start or refresh their connection to tennis, to people and to each other. As the COVID pandemic has taught us, people and relationships are hugely important - HKDTA can play a significant role in fostering relationships through tennis.

It is particularly pleasing to report that the Association has made a significant profit for the year. Through that financial strength we have been able to endure the worst effects of the COVID pandemic and position for future success.

During this unusual period, HKDTA has made every effort to reduce costs and reconfigure the business to position for the future on a sustainable basis - whilst addressing the aspirations of our stakeholders, particularly our members. To that end I am pleased to report that we have both reduced recurrent costs and made a range of expenditure commitments. In relation to the former, we have reduced costs in the following areas: *insurance* - reduced overall annual premium by i) eliminating unnecessary Policy(ies) ii) amending Policy parameters to match risk settings and iii) changed business practices; *energy* - in the process of changing GenTailer, negotiated a fresh deal basis with materially reduced tariff; *telecommunications* - changed provider to improve competitiveness esp. through fees for service, installed physical NBN connections at both Tennis Centres - with notably improved performance at the Berowra Centre as we replaced an ageing and costly wireless service provided by a 3rd Party; *employee subsidies* - maximised the capture of Commonwealth and State Grants and employee subsidy schemes including the JobMaker Hiring Credit and JobSeeker programmes to support our new hires; *hygiene support measures* - negotiated reduced cost for services at Mills Park and introduced new portfolio of services at Berowra; *Merchant Fees* - reduced merchant fees in our St George bank relationship from a blended average of ~1% to approx. 0.7% (reducing annual fees by several hundred dollars); *Payment Channels* - separated payment channels between the Pro Shop and HKDTA thus reducing the basis of payment of bank fees and separating payment risk.

On the revenue side, we have similarly taken a range of measures but many of them remain in abeyance pending the lifting of COVID Restrictions: *Ball Machine Hire* - following extensive research, and the introduction of the new Ball Machine, increased the scale of fees; *Social Play* - introduced modest fee changes, especially for non-Members; *Platinum Court Hire* - a new fee structure for this segment will be implemented post easing of COVID Restrictions; *Competition*

*Fees* - extensively reviewed the fee structure for gender equity, infrastructure utilisation and participation metrics. A new Competition Fee structure is proposed to be implemented at the first opportunity post easing of COVID Restrictions; and *Membership Fee Structure* - a possible amended fee structure to reflect equity, usage and other factors is to be considered for implementation in 2022.

One of the most positive things we've been able to do in the past Fiscal Year is to encourage employment opportunities. Thanks to certain Commonwealth support measures related to the NDIS, we've been able to retain Khairul Karim (a long-term Member) for up to 8 hours per week. Regular attendees will have noticed Khairul's focus on court maintenance at Mills Park - with increased frequency and focus on preparing court surfaces and environs for play. Meanwhile, at Berowra and also working at Mills Park, we've been able to secure the services of Riley Makings - a Bundjalung man who grew up on the Gold Coast and spent pre-COVID times on Canada's ski fields looking after various resort facilities. Riley's dedication to the Berowra facility has seen significant improvement to the playing experience on the courts. A major effort has also gone into the environs of the Berowra Centre, preparing the surrounds of the Clubhouse for the future rejuvenation project and removing rocks from the garden bed before we restore the garden itself.

Finally, thanks to the dedication and effort of our long-term Office Manager, we've been able to encourage Beate to stretch her talents accompanied by a modest pay rise. This has resulted in some automation improvements through MYOB to reduce her workload and reduce the potential for misadventure and error.

## Infrastructure Improvements

Your committee has devoted substantial time and effort to improving various forms of infrastructure across both Centres. Whilst we have secured two Grant sources of close to \$1m for the Berowra Centre, both Commonwealth and Local Government funds have been secured for improvements at Mills Park.

At Mills Park we have undertaken the following:

1. Consistent with the ongoing court resurfacing programme, we completed the resurfacing of Courts 9 and 10 to the same standard as Courts 5 & 6. This included replacement of the winders and nets to be consistent with the balance of court furniture. An Application for resurfacing of three more courts during FY22 is before Hornsby Shire Council - the plan is to re-surface Courts 7 & 8, together with Court 2;
2. Deployed 20 new recycled plastic, Kingfisher blue, courtside bench seats and removed unsightly ageing Umpire Chairs;
3. Commenced the deployment of a substantial number of Babolat Windbreaks with consistent livery to the seating

# Treasurer's Report (continued)

- Commenced the renewal of all nets at Mills Park with "Championship Nets" (2' 8") – a bespoke design of Jadee Sports with superior materials and performance characteristics. We have also undertaken repairs to a select group of nets which qualified for repair rather than disposal – providing a reserve as we progress through the complete replacement of nets as part of the court resurfacing programme;
- Constructed new court access stairs from the main entry pathway to Courts 4, 7 & 8 including a new access Gate for Court 4 at Mills Park. Deployed adjacent sandstone rocks to create pockets for future plants to attract insects and small birds e.g., Superb Fairy Wren per the recommendations of an avian specialist from the University of Wollongong;
- Agreed a pioneering Sponsorship Deal framework to be announced soon – with accompanying banner to be located on Court 5;
- Arranged high pressure cleaning of the main pathways at Mills Park – many will have noticed the cleaner look as you enter the facility;
- Deployed two Misting Fans to alleviate the worst effects of high temperature days for players and spectators alike;
- Deployed a new Fire Fountain gas heater to improve customer amenity whilst waiting off court;
- Undertaken a range of electrical infrastructure works including changeout of most fluorescent light fittings to LED;
- Purchased a sample recycled plastic chair to provide a prototype for the subsequent potential wholesale replacement of similar chairs in the Clubhouse;

- Constructed lattice surrounds to create a storage enclosure underneath the Court 7 & 8 courtside shelter building;
- Painted various sections of the Clubhouse MP to improve basic aesthetics

As can be seen from the above, your Committee has achieved a great deal in a relatively short period of time.

In a similar time frame at Berowra, modest improvements to infrastructure have been made. Major effort has gone into making an application to the Greater Cities Sports Facility Fund. The major programme of works at Berowra using funding from the GCSFF will commence during FY22 and comprises i) resurfacing all four courts (to a similar standard of playing surface as the refurbished courts at Mills Park) ii) replacement of the Halide lights with LED – with improvement to State-level illumination standards iii) refurbishment of the Clubhouse across a variety of features to improve amenity, notably conversion of the toilets – one to disability standard and the other to unisex iv) renewable energy – deployment of various elements to generate solar energy, store that energy in batteries and control the export of energy – either to the Grid or to charge electric vehicles. Close to \$1m is to be spent across the Berowra Centre.

## Summary of Financial Results for Year ending 30 June 2020

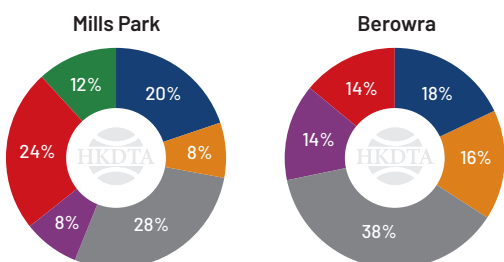
Net Profit for the year was \$107,733 – a very healthy result considering the latter part of the year was affected by restrictions related to COVID.

Key operational metrics are as follows:

- Operating Revenue \$428,014 (compared to \$322,611 in FY20; a 33% increase)
- Total Expenses (including depreciation and accruals) \$320,281 (\$224,264 c/f pcp; a 43% increase)
- Net Profit \$107,733 (\$98,347 c/f pcp; a 10% increase)

### Court hire by type:

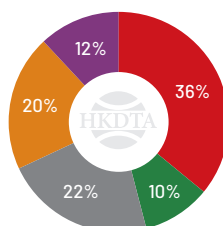
- Member
- Coach
- Competitions
- Non-Member
- Permanent Hirers
- Socials



Overall court hire hours distribution:  
Mills Park – 84%, Berowra – 16%

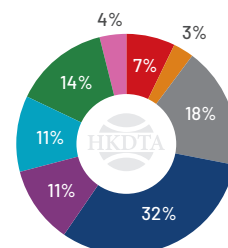
### Income by type:

- Competitions
- Coaching
- Permanent Hire
- Socials
- Casual Hire



### Competition income by category:

- Mon. Ladies
- Mon. Quick Mix
- Wed. Morning Ladies
- Fri. Juniors
- Mon. Morning Berowra
- Tue. Night
- Thu. Night
- Other



## Treasurer's Report (continued)

While the Association has been able to obtain additional government funding during FY22, this income should not be seen as guaranteed or available throughout the coming year.

The Association is aware of maintaining a solid cash reserve and as at 30 June 2021 had \$172thd in available cash – with just over \$165thd on deposit with ING and the balance in the operational account with St George Bank.

### Looking to the Future

As the Association prepares for renewal and awakening after COVID Restrictions start to lift, I commend the following for attention of the Association and the Committee in particular:

1. Lease Renewal – the leases at both Centres reach the end of their term during 2022 and there is no assurance that HKDTA will continue as Lessee. In fact, such circumstances attract keen competition and with few exceptions, when such leases have expired recently, either (or both in JV) of SSMG and Voyager Group have taken over;
2. Court Booking System – whilst the current system, linked to automation at Berowra, has provided useful service, the customer interface is clearly out of date compared to how technology and customer expectations have evolved. There is a need for complete overhaul;

3. Website – the present website is clumsy, ad hoc and lacks modern functionality. It too is well overdue for renewal;
4. Clubhouse refurbishment – whilst some exploratory effort has been made, earnest attention is required to prepare a Design Brief then progress through the Development Application process;
5. MYOB Automation – some implementation has occurred in respect of Payroll and related Superannuation, but more work remains to implement automation for routine billing parties and competitions;
6. Competitions – most competitions will start afresh in 2022 and opportunity exists to refresh their structure, longevity, fees and participants

### In Summary

A fantastic financial result for the Association. Whilst government stimulus and grants have contributed to success this year, the Association, without these funds, still made an operational profit of \$107thd. This performance has been the best in more than 4 years for the Association.

**Jonathan Gray, Treasurer**



## Landscaping Sub Committee

This year marked the establishment of a formal subcommittee to address various landscaping challenges.

Of all the projects addressed over the past year, the most memorable and impactful was the creation of the Mai Donnelly Memorial Garden – and the related celebration held in January 2021. The Mai Donnelly Memorial Garden celebrates more than fifteen years of dedicated service by Mai Donnelly to the HKDTA community – and the broader Hornsby LGA. Mai had an energy that could not be matched. She brought a breath of fresh air to the association with her new ideas. She was passionate about giving back and raised thousands of dollars through her annual 24-hour tennis event for Hornsby Hospital and Hornsby Kuring-Gai Women's Shelter.

One of the first challenges of the sub committee was to reconfigure the forecourt of the Clubhouse – this was achieved by removing barriers to access the area by relocating the planter boxes and opening up the precinct via reconfiguring the pedestal tables and associated chairs.

The subcommittee has addressed a number of mini-projects at Mills Park as follows:

- Removed all Cocos Palms – an invasive pest species per NSW DPI. This has significantly opened up the skyline at

Mills Park and removed a difficult plant species that inhibits the growth of competing plants;

- Removed the Pygmy Palms from the main entry garden. The two plants have been preserved and will go to a better home which is more appropriate for the species;
- Prepared the main entry garden for future plants by removing a substantial portion of plants, weed material and mulch;
- Deployed more than 6 cubic metres of fresh garden bed mix to the main entry garden following the preparation steps – the final step before planting out a fresh cohort of plants to renew the garden;
- Arrayed a new portfolio of plants, including three trees. A group of three large rocks is to be positioned in the garden to enhance the overall natural look;
- Installed a new automated irrigation system in the main entry garden. New plumbing will also be undertaken to provide dual function supply – for irrigation, hosing and in the near future, bubbler replacement;
- Purchased a new Kingfisher blue, recycled plastic table (Replas) to replace the old table and chair setting upstairs;

# Landscaping Sub Committee (continued)

- Initiated construction of a new outdoor table and bench seat setting for the gazebo at Court 2 through the St Ives Mens Shed.

The main outstanding exercise of the sub committee at the time of writing is to complete the replacement of the outdoor furniture in the forecourt of the Mills Park Clubhouse. An assessment has been made of the functional and physical requirements – and a selection made of the preferred types and models of each category i.e., chairs, tables etc. We anticipate visiting the preferred wholesaler of outdoor furniture in late October to undertake the final step of due diligence. Subject to that confirmation step, we will then move to purchase the replacement furniture and ideally deliver it to site before the end of the year. Overall, the silver chairs and tables in front of the Clubhouse will be replaced, the two white tables will be relocated upstairs to create new environs (and chairs recovered from the Court 9/10 shelter to match) and the blue bench seats and nearby tables will be replaced by modern outdoor extendable tables with matching chairs.

More plans are at an early stage of development but are too ephemeral to report.

At Berowra, most of the landscaping works have been in preparation for the wholesale rejuvenation of the site:

- Removed ageing plants and rocks from the entry garden preparatory to overall garden bed renewal and re-planting;
- Deployed new garden bed mix to replace the lost volume and enhance the beds for new plants;
- Deployed a new multi-function bubbler unit – allowing for conventional use, water bottle refill and catchment in a bowl for dogs;
- Tendering for installation of two new taps – one which can be used for irrigation of the lawn area and another which can service the renewed garden bed;
- Removed a wide variety of unnecessary plants behind the Berowra Clubhouse and along the fence line – this will allow unfettered access to construction crews as they work on the clubhouse. In the medium term, once construction has concluded, additional plants will be able to be laid out to replace the losses



Berowra Tennis Centre



Berowra Tennis Centre



Mills Park Tennis Centre



Mills Park Tennis Centre



## Office Manager



What an interesting and challenging year we've had! Coming out of Covid restrictions in 2020, back into it in 2021!

The last months have certainly been challenging, but everybody has put in a tremendous amount of extra work to

get through this.

Thank you to our wonderful committee, competition secretaries, coaches, Tim, Riley and Khairul for their dedication and commitment.

Thank you also to all our members and players for their support and understanding. Numbers are increasing steadily, and we are hoping to keep this up (see table below for member numbers).

Year	Junior	Adult	Registered Players*	Total
2017/18	78	306		384
2018/19	55	332	128	515
2019/20	61	342	260	663
2020/21	51	370	472	893

\* Are non-members who have hired courts or played social tennis.

We have been busy with revamping both our centres through maintenance, refurbishments, repairs, court resurfacing as well as constantly improving our tennis offerings.

HKDTA is currently looking into upgrading and enhancing our membership and data system to make it more user friendly.

The 2020 Schoolgirls competition consisted of 171 teams with 742 girls playing in 23 divisions at 30 different venues. Participating schools were ASCHAM, BARKER, KAMBALA, KINCOPPAL, LORETO KIRIBILLI, LORETO NORMANHURST, MONTE, PYMBLE LADIES' COLLEGE, QUEENWOOD, RAVENSWOOD, ROSEVILLE COLLEGE, SCEGGS, ST CATHERINE'S and WENONA.

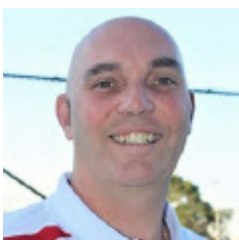
ST CATHERINE'S won the best overall school trophy for 2020.

Looking forward welcoming everybody back to our usual tennis activities soon!

**Beate Seiler**, Office Manager



## Centre Manager & Pro Shop



A solid 12 months of activity at our Berowra and Mills Park Centres. Lots to celebrate and even more to look forward to in the coming year.

The HKDTA team grew in depth and talent over the year. We welcomed Riley Makings to the team. Riley's talents and time have helped us

deliver service to both centres with friendly and professional service.

The Association was also able to engage the services of Khairul Karim to assist Riley and me in adding value to the centres at Berowra and Mills. With an eye for details and solid work ethic; Khairul can be proud of what he has added to the Tennis experience.

I am happy with our efforts this past year but more excited by the opportunities and potential of what's possible in our future.

Thanks to the committee for their engagement and vision. I also want to acknowledge the skills, smarts and support of Beate and Stephen who support me and my work every day of the year. I am fortunate to work with the best in the business.

**Tim Brackenreg**, Centre Manager & Pro Shop



## HKDTA Coaching



Firstly, on behalf of Absolute Tennis, I would like to thank the coaches as well as the HKDTA committee and Beate Seiler on a successful year despite difficult times during the Covid epidemic.

Everyone has put in an enormous time and effort to make sure that all the correct regulations were in place. Due to the restrictions and we were only able to permit a small number of students on the courts and many have elected to take up private or semi-private lessons to keep improving their tennis.

Our pre-Covid Friday Junior comp, run by Tim Brackenreg and his team, has been a success and participants have been increasing steadily.

All tournaments had to cease in June, so many of our elite juniors have been left to practice and get ready for the bans to be lifted. We are all looking forward for some tournaments to start in November.

Congratulations to Rafael Murnocza, Sava Marinkov, Vesna Marinkov, Renee Alamee, Rianna Alamee, Chanel Awka, Aarush Sethupathi and Andre Filip who have been selected into the NSW State squad and to Pavle Marinkov and Ivana Popovic who have been being selected to the National Academy in Brisbane. Well done!

We are looking to increase our coaching programs currently on offer as we ease out of the restrictions.

**Steve Thompson**, Head Coach

### Berowra Tennis Centre



It has been a very difficult year at Berowra with COVID 19 intruding into all aspects of tennis.

Coaching has been limited to private lessons as all group lessons (adults as well as children) have been cancelled for obvious reasons.

There has been a huge increase in families and siblings getting out of the house and exercising at tennis.

We all are very anxious to see all the future upgrades planned for Berowra, which have already started with the installation of a fantastic new bubbler.

Many thanks to all the people involved and Jonathan in particular.

Let us all hope for a fantastic, safe 2022 .

**Trevor Hodge**, t.p.a.a Berowra coach



## Thank you!

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

# Social Tennis

COVID certainly gave social tennis at HKDTA a bumpy ride during 2020/2021! After recovering from our first pandemic outbreak of 2020 and associated restrictions, social tennis enjoyed growing participation in the second half of 2020.

By January 2021, social tennis was booming at Mills Park at all three weekly events - Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesday nights. From January to April, up to 40 players of all standards attended our social events. This created pressure on court availability and mild panic for Robyn and I at times, but that's a good problem to have! Over summer we also hosted our popular "Get your racquet on!". These sessions ran on Wednesday nights for new players, with a focus on having fun, easy tennis drills, improving fitness and meeting new people.

This all came to a screeching halt in June 2021 with Sydney's third, longest and most stringent lockdown and social tennis was forced into hibernation over winter.

At the time of writing (Oct 2021), we are planning to resume social tennis later this month and looking forward to summer!

**Matthew Noone & Robyn Flood**  
Social Tennis Coordinators, HKDTA



# Competitions

## Monday Ladies

Everyone in the Monday Morning Ladies comp were excited to return back to tennis on the 7th September 2020 and for everything to get back to normal. We were able to provide our ladies with their preferred comp formats as we had 24 ladies participating namely, 1 format of 4 teams consisting of 3 ladies per team playing one singles and two doubles and secondly; 1 format with 6 teams made up of 2 ladies playing 3 sets of doubles. The winners of each comp were: Team Williams with Sacha Parker, Jo Warren and Narelle Dearden and Team Barty with Bev Limburg and Margaret Cheyne.

We concluded the year with our traditional Christmas party and social tennis on Monday 7th December. A good time was had by everyone!!

This year we started our Summer comp on 8th February ending on 24th May. We had 13 teams and a Bye consisting of 26 ladies. The doubles only format is mostly preferred by the ladies in the Summer comp because of the high temperature at times during the day when they would be playing their singles match. There were no finals at the end of this comp and two teams shared as "winner" having equal points at the end of the comp: Team Bolt with Robyn Joscelyn and Helga Seiler and Team Thompson with Bev Limburg and Tina Li.

The Winter Comp started on the 31st May and would have concluded with finals being played on the 30th August. But due to the lockdown we played our last match on the 21st June, 2021.

We would like to thank everyone on the committee and Tim, Riley and Khairul for their tireless efforts in making the centre run smoothly in these unprecedented times and look forward to seeing all the Monday ladies back together to share our love of tennis and socialising.

**Theresa Johnson and Beate Seiler**

## Berowra Monday Ladies

Monday morning doubles tennis is enjoyed by a group of ladies enjoying some competitive tennis and friendship. We definitely bring true meaning to the phrase "hit and giggle".

If you are interested in playing, the format is three sets of doubles with partners set for the duration of the competition which is based on the school term.

All new players are very welcome to join! We look forward to being back on the court especially as we enter warmer weather.

**Melanie Seifert**

## Wednesday Ladies

Our lockdown interrupted 2020 Autumn/Winter Wednesday Ladies Comp played their finals on the 18 November. In Division 1 Phoenix defeated Highly Strung and in Division 2 Westleigh defeated Finesse.

The 2020/21 Summer comp started on 25 November 2020 and finished on 19 May 2021. In the finals we had Highly Strung winning against Lucinda in Division 1 and Westleigh winning against Finesse in Division 2.

Our 2021 Winter Comp started on 2 June but had to be suspended after only 3 rounds of play. We are all looking forward to commence this competition soon...

Thank you to our wonderful committee, Tim, Riley and Khairul and thank you to all our wonderful ladies for your support and help in this difficult time.

**Beate Seiler**



## Tuesday Night

Tuesday Night has continued to feature as our premier competition, with up to 70 players taking part each night in some very close competitions. None were closer than Div A2 in the comp that concluded in February this year, with 4 of the 6 teams separated only by game difference at the end of the round matches. Unfortunately only two competitions were completed during the year:

### September 2020:

Div A1 - Excavators def Fantastic 3

Div A2 - Phantoms def TAFS

Div B1 - Jetsetters def Bravehearts

Div B2 - Broken Aces def Straight Aces

### February 2021:

Div A1 - Scared Hitless def Excavators

Div A2 - Casual Sets def Allrounders

Div B1 - Mediocrity def Bravehearts

The comp that started in February 2021 will hopefully be completed in December this year when all COVID restrictions are lifted. After losing 6 weeks to rain, and then the COVID lockdown in late June this has to be our longest comp ever!

## Thursday Night

Thursday night comp showcases some very high level mixed doubles and gender based doubles each week. With 2 male and 2 female players in each team it gives players a variety of sets to play each night. With COVID restriction last year and multiple wet weeks this year, we only completed 3 comps, and were about to start the 4th one when lockdowns came into effect. In October 2020 "Mostly the D Team" defeated "Sets in the City" in the final, in February 2021 "Fault Less" upset the powerhouse "Mostly the D Team" in that final, but in June 2021 "Mostly the D Team" got their revenge, defeating "Fault Less" in the final.

### Eddy Watson



## Friday Junior Competition



**Lucas Wang**

*JT Cup Term 2/2021*

*Individual Performance Winner*

Our Juniors are the future of HKDTA. Encouraging our juniors to learn and love tennis is at the core of our focus for them. A year of mixed

fortunes for the kids with strong growth in our Friday Night Jordan Thompson Cup program and wins in the newly created Sydney Junior Teams Tennis Competitions being curtailed by COVID in Term 3 forcing these and other competitive tennis opportunities into hibernation. An increase in the number of juniors learning and playing at our centres has been a positive light in the year with our kids enjoying how to hit and to play through coaching, camps and workshops.

To this end, we have the support of Tennis Australia and Tennis NSW with their recent updates to the Player pathway and competitive player blueprints. HKDTA are aligning our programs to these strategies which will deliver a clear and club centric approach to making Tennis a fun and achievable sport for all levels.

We look forward to the year ahead. More organised court time and competition play is on the agenda with a strong focus on making tennis fun, challenging and aspirational for all players.

### Tim Brackenreg

## MQM Monday Night Quick Mix (the brain-child of Marc & Mai).

Well....this is the comp that just keeps giving, and giving.... And, this year, is seemingly never-ending.

The current comp started on 1st Feb this year! Due to public holidays, rain, and lockdowns two rounds are still to be completed. This comp grew by 8 teams from the previous one (18 - 26 teams). The rapid growth is predominantly due to word of mouth from all our happy participants (and some very trendy ones too). This is the social, albeit competitive, comp (short format, no sitting around, mixed (or not) doubles) that has consistently provided players with laughter, challenging tennis, well balanced competition, variety, tussles for top spot, and enjoyment for all. My sincere compliments and thanks to every participant for your contribution to this fabulous comp.

It will be such a joyous occasion for all when we can once again return to our spirit-lifting Monday nights. I feel confident we can play our remaining two rounds, and crown our winning teams and top performing individual players, before Christmas (2021).

Thereafter we look forward to welcoming new players to join us for our post-comp social hit-up and registration.

MQM.....What a great way to start the week!

### Desi Smith

# 2020/2021 Committee

<b>President</b>	Eddy Watson
<b>Vice President</b>	Matthew Noone
<b>Secretary</b>	Stuart Hillier
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jonathan Gray
<b>Committee Members</b>	Laneth Bissett, Henry Chim, Marc Donnelly, Tony Foster, Theresa Johnson, Linda Tysoe
<b>Competition Secretaries</b>	
Monday Ladies	Theresa Johnson, Beate Seiler
Monday Berowra Ladies	Melanie Seifert
Monday Night Quick Mix	Desi Smith
Tuesday Night	Eddy Watson
Wednesday Morning Ladies	Beate Seiler
Thursday Night	Eddy Watson
Friday Night Junior	Tim Brackenreg
<b>Social event co-ordinators</b>	Matthew Noone, Robyn Flood
<b>Head Coaches</b>	
Mills Park	Steve Thompson
Berowra	Trevor Hodge
<b>HKDTA Staff &amp; major contractors</b>	
<b>Office Manager</b>	Beate Seiler
<b>Mills Park Centre</b>	Tim Brackenreg
<b>Berowra Centre</b>	Tim Brackenreg
<b>Auditor</b>	William Kang
<b>Friday Juniors</b>	Tim Brackenreg
<b>Court Resurfacing</b>	Synthetic Sports Group
<b>Facility Maintenance Workers</b>	Khairul Karim and Riley Makings
<b>Facilities Issues</b>	Hornsby Council

