



**Superb Tennis**

*Fun Fitness Friendship*

2023/2024  
Annual Report



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2023/2024 Committee

# President's Report



This is my first report to you as President – a role which I most certainly had not anticipated filling at the AGM in 2023! Despite having been a member of the Club for 24 years playing in the Monday morning ladies' competition, this past year has been a huge learning curve for me, including

gaining an understanding of the various activities of the Club, learning about how technology can assist us in running an effective and efficient operation, and understanding and managing past decisions.

## The Club is a community operated not-for-profit association

Superb Tennis is the trading name of Hornsby Kuring-gai District Tennis Association Incorporated. We have been a community run, not-for-profit organisation for 101 years. Your committee needs to provide the services of a tennis club in a way which covers our costs, meets the reasonable expectations of its members and the wider community, and sets aside funds to undertake regular maintenance works, including court resurfacing.

## Leasing arrangements with Hornsby Shire Council

Hornsby Shire Council has continued to support the Club during the year by providing grants for lighting and gate works at Mills Park, vegetation removal after a working bee, and patching the Mills Park car park surface.

We are fortunate to lease both the Berowra and Mills Park Courts from Hornsby Shire Council. Like most of the tennis centres in the Hornsby area we are currently holding over following the expiration of our leases in July 2022. Council has provided advice that situation will continue until mid-2025. When Council is in a position to seek tenders for new leases of both centres, the Club needs to be able to put forward a strong case for lease renewal and this requirement has been pivotal in guiding the work which the committee and management have undertaken this year.

## Changes made to improve Club efficiency and operations

The committee with the assistance of Tim Brackenreg as general manager, and Beate Seiler as office administrator, have engaged in a wide-ranging series of changes to allow the Club to operate in a more efficient manner.

The aims of the programs have been to:

- reduce the number of hours Tim is required to be at the centre, whilst ensuring that access to the sites is controlled;
- prevent the unpaid use of the courts;
- improve the efficiency of use of the lighting systems;

- improve security of both centres to reduce vandalism;
- reduce double handling of information and manual input of data;
- overcome issues we were experiencing with the Paypal payment system; and
- increase the ability of members to self-manage their use of the centres, rather than relying upon Tim and Beate as personal secretaries!

Those aims have been achieved by:

- commencing use of the InTennis system (managed by SportLogic) which enables casual and permanent court bookings, competition registration and management, coaching bookings, Club membership registration, and database management;
- installing gates with PIN code facility to ensure use of the courts only by those who have paid or registered for a competition or coaching, facilitated by integration of the lighting and gate automation with the InTennis booking system. This integration enables the lights to turn off shortly after the booked time period expires, saving electricity costs and reducing environmental impacts;
- changing our accounting system from MYOB to XERO which integrates with the InTennis system. The InTennis system reduces data entry and administration time, and produces instant invoices, reduces double handling of transactions and incorporates point-of-sale transactions seamlessly. All of these reduce the time-costly administrative burdens for both Tim and Beate;
- moving to a new website which is independent from our previous booking system. This is a project which is ongoing;
- improving instant and targeted communications by text messaging and email to relevant members eg to advise about weather cancellations or urgent reserve player requests; and
- integrating the point of sale (POS) transactions from the proshop with the accounting system Xero via InTennis.

When InTennis was initially set up we chose to use the EziDebit system to enable the integration of Point of Sale and credit card purchases to Xero. InTennis has recently required a change to our transaction provider to Payrix. The EziDebit transaction fees which we initially required our members and customers to pay, are increasing slightly under the Payrix model. For the short term the committee have decided to absorb those transaction fees.

Physical changes in relation to this program of works have included:

## President's Report *(continued)*

- new gates and locking mechanisms at Berowra and Mills Park;
- upgrades to the lighting and electrical circuits;
- improved car park lighting at Mills Park;
- changes to lighting at Berowra to enable two adjacent courts to be lit to improve the night time tennis playing comfort of members;
- a new computer for the point-of-sale transactions; and
- adjustments to the CCTV system at Berowra.

Effecting these changes has been an enormous task for Tim and Beate and the committee is extremely appreciative of their ongoing persistence in carrying through these changes. In particular we are grateful that Beate welcomed learning the XERO system and for Tim's very extensive level of management of multiple issues.

There have been some teething problems as is expected from this level of change, and I thank our members and customers who have adapted to these changes and for their patience and understanding when there have been the inevitable hiccups. I ask all to continue to embrace the alterations to our operations whilst new systems are bedding in and being finalised. The committee is confident that during the course of the next year once we all familiarise ourselves with the processes, the Club will reap the benefits of a more streamlined operation which will serve the Club well in the future.

### **Berowra Rejuvenation Project**

During 2020/2021 the Club was the recipient of a generous state government grant to upgrade the Berowra facilities, including court resurfacing, car park resurfacing, the installation of solar panels on new car park shelters, and the installation of an electric charging station (EV charger). There have been significant interruptions in the reliability of the EV system which have impacted not only the use of the EV charger, but also on ensuring consistent lighting for the Berowra courts. Since the end of the 2023/24 financial year, various units have been replaced under warranty and the reliability has significantly improved.

The committee is most grateful for Tim's persistence in achieving the improved reliability. By the end of 2024, the committee will finalise the Berowra Rejuvenation Project. We are extremely pleased with the improved quality of the facility and are thankful for the State government funding and support of Council in facilitating the carrying out of the works.

### **The outlook for the next year**

Following a year which has seen so many changes, the committee is looking forward to focussing on improving the quality of the tennis playing experience for our members and the community. We are keen to continue our relationships with schools, to support the coaches who use the two centres, and to continue to adapt our programs to suit a changing membership and player profile. We always welcome constructive advice to further our motto of fun, fitness and friendship.

Since the end of the 2023/24 financial year we have received a Council grant towards the cost of resurfacing the two hardcourts 9 and 10 at Mills Park. The Laykold hardcourt surface has significant cracking and has been a significant disappointment to the committee. They are to be resurfaced with artificial grass at the end of January 2025.

### **Thank you**

I would like to thank our office bearers, Kaska Musial-Gabrys (Vice President), Margaret Stirling (Secretary) and Lyall Pogue (Treasurer), all of whom have been a tremendous support and very ably assisted both the Club and our management team of Tim and Beate. Many thanks also for the ongoing support to our general committee members Theresa Johnson, Laneth Bissett, Stuart Hillier and Mike Taheri Mehr. Theresa and Stuart have decided to step down from the committee and I thank them for their time over many years on the committee.

Thanks also to Eddy Watson (past President) who has continued to act as our representative at the NSW Hardcourt Association and provided invaluable advice to the committee.

Many thanks to the multiple coaches who use our centres, in particular Steve Thompson. We hope that all the coaches' enthusiastic students find a place within our Club structure to continue their ongoing tennis experience.

The work of Tim Brackenreg and Beate Seiler is critical to the smooth running of the Club and without them the Club could not operate. The committee cannot thank them enough for all of their extended hours of work. The committee is also very thankful for all of the volunteer and other casual workers who have contributed to the maintenance of the centres over the past year.

**Ros Read**, President

## Secretary's Report



A limited number of office bearers were elected at the AGM on 29 November 2023: Lyall Pogue was elected Treasurer and Ros Read was elected Secretary. Three other people were elected as committee members (Laneth Bissett, Theresa Johnson and Margaret Stirling). However,

the positions of President and Vice President remained vacant, following the retirement of Eddy Watson as our long time President and some time Treasurer. Nonetheless, within a few weeks, a full complement of office bearers and committee positions had been filled as follows: Ros Read (President), Kaska Musial (Vice President) and Margaret Stirling (Secretary). Stuart Hillier and Mike Taheri Mehr also rejoined the committee.

Thanks very much to Ros Read for stepping up as President. Ros brings a great breadth of experience to the club, having been secretary of Cherrybrook Athletics for about 6 years, a member of the constitution committee of Little Athletics NSW, worked as a solicitor in NSW for 11 years specialising in leasing, land and environment court planning, and also commercial and property, and is now working as a town planner.

Our General Manager, Tim Brackenreg, has provided invaluable support, overseeing court upgrades, and implementing new technology, web site upgrades, improved court booking/ payment systems, managing competitions, and liaising from morning to night with all stakeholders of the club (including many vendors and suppliers, Hornsby council, coaches, Tennis NSW, and our all important club members, to name a few). Tim continues to provide strong input to policy and marketing initiatives.

Our Office Manager, Beate Seiler, is an invaluable resource handling all the day to day issues, including financial management, ensuring the club's adherence to many statutory requirements and overseeing the extensive administrative workload.

Thanks to Eddy Watson for continuing to be the club's representative at NSW Hardcourt Tennis Association and Tennis NSW and attending numerous meetings and events on the club's behalf.

The current leases for both Mills Park and Berowra have been extended by Hornsby Shire Council until 2025, but tenders are expected to be open in the near future to allow the club to apply for renewal.

The club values the support it receives from all members and looks forward to growing its range of playing options in a friendly, enjoyable and safe environment.

Committee attendance at the scheduled committee meetings during the past twelve months has been as follows:

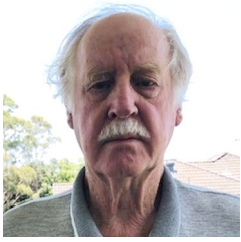
Name	Attendances
Laneth Bissett	9
Stuart Hillier	9
Theresa Johnson	9
Mike Taheri Mehr	6
Kaska Musial	10
Lyall Pogue	10
Ros Read	10
Margaret Stirling	9

### By Invitation

Name	Attendances
Beate Seiler	9
Tim Brackenreg	9
Eddy Watson	2
Steve Thompson	1

**Margaret Stirling**, Secretary

# Treasurer's Report



2023-24 has been a challenging year where Superb Tennis recorded an operating loss of approximately \$81,000 from ordinary activities.

Total income was down by \$57,000 due to a decrease in the grants received of approximately \$60,000.

Income from competitions reduced

by approximately \$28,000. Court hire at Mills Park increased by approximately \$7000 and at Berowra by \$3500. Membership fees increased by \$6000. We also received about \$8000 from sale of promotional T-Shirts and donations towards the Centenary event and an increase of about \$5000 from the Berowra EV charger. Social tennis and coaching court hire income remained steady.

Total expenses increased by approximately \$82,000 generally due to:

- an increase in management expenses of approximately \$40,000,
- \$16,000 for costs of celebrating the club's 100 years, and
- additional expenses arising from the Berowra rejuvenation project of approximately \$24,000.

Total assets reduced by approximately \$82,000 largely explained by:

- depreciation of \$21,000 at Mills Park (mostly attributed to the grass courts)
- \$30,000 to the new Berowra facilities (including the solar and EV system)
- Increased level of trade debtors in the previous financial year

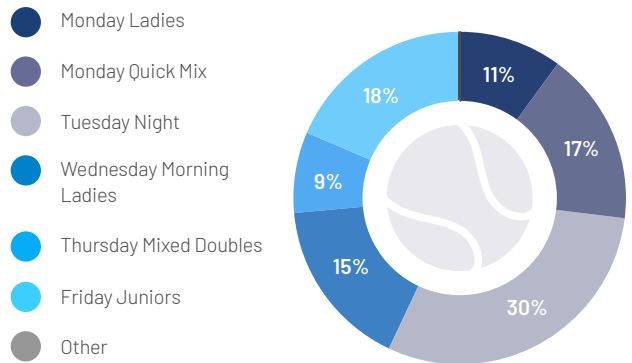
The club received council grants of \$5,600 to assist in the automated lights and pedestrian gate at Mills Park.

As of 30 June 2024, we held liquid assets of \$31,174 and \$33,000 on the Berowra Project which needs to be spent by November 2024. The Berowra rejuvenation project will be finalised by the end of 2024.

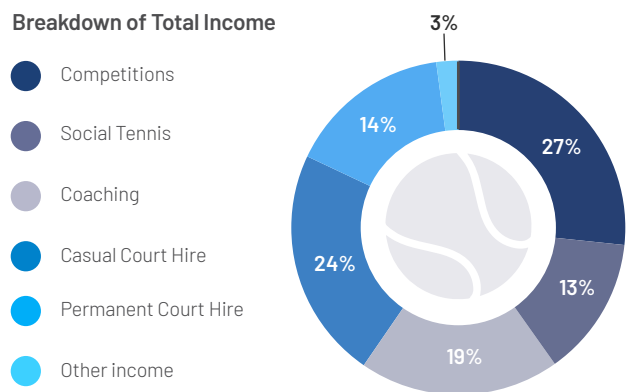
Despite the large amount of infrastructure changes during the financial year, they have not impacted substantially on the financial statements.

**Lyall Pogue**, Treasurer

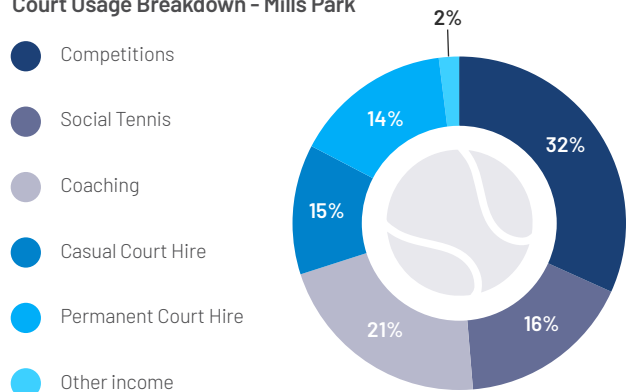
## Breakdown of Competition Income



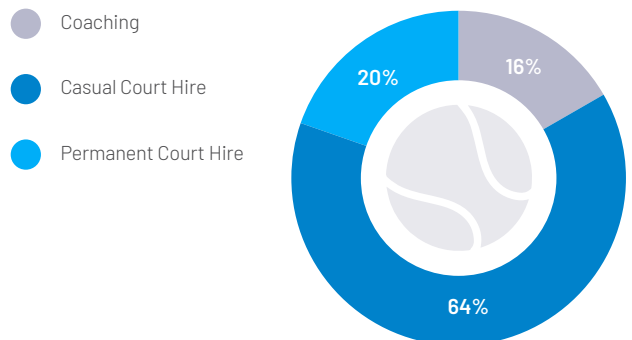
## Breakdown of Total Income



## Court Usage Breakdown - Mills Park



## Court Usage Breakdown - Berowra



# General Manager's Report



## In review

Another big year for Superb Tennis in 2024. Our strategic and operational efforts have made strong inroads towards our goals outlined in your strategic plan 2020-2030. We have much to be thankful for this past year.

With the last of the court resurfacing to occur early next year, we refine our focus on delivering improved autonomy for users of our courts and venues. Whilst we still have a little more work to do to improve processes, communication and information, you will start to see the team focused on ramping up the PLAY & PROMOTE "pillars" in the coming year.

In a year jam packed full of change, I want to acknowledge and thank the extensive team who got behind this work and supported Superb Tennis throughout the changes we have made. I see the benefits that will make the club a stronger, leaner and even more successful community presence in 2025.

Firstly, I want to acknowledge Beate, Stephen, Ros, Kaska, Lyall and Margaret, Theresa, Laneth, Stuart and Mike for their efforts in the club and support to me this past year.

Thanks also to the operational team who have provided time to support you and I this past year. Delivering both paid and/or volunteer efforts, each of these team members have been an important part of delivering the experience demanded each week. Thanks Tyrese S, Henry T, Alexander M, Khairul K, Sebastian P, Sophie M, Matthew A, Callum S, Liam B, Jodie B and Damian C.

Lastly, a big thank you to the members, guests and stakeholders of our club community during the 101st year of Tennis in the area. The continued support of your club will help to ensure its future and your facilities.

## Looking ahead

I perceive a change in the demographics and dynamics of our club. As an advocate for identifying and adapting to change, it is clear that we must work hard to be relevant to today's demands. I am looking forward to working with the club in the coming year to deliver on these needs.

When I took on the role in 2019, one of our big-ticket items was to renew the lease at Mills Park and Berowra. This item is still outstanding on our "to do" list and is an extremely important one for the club's success. We continue to work with Hornsby Shire Council to gain more certainty in this area and hope to present a compelling case for Superb Tennis to be chosen to continue to service the community in the coming years.

It is also important to acknowledge that this is not a "mere formality". Threats to this tenure are present: weaknesses in our own efforts, opportunities for council, and challenges to our plans can present the club with the possibility of an un-expected outcome or path. I am under no illusion that this renewal is a privilege and not a right. Your team take this matter with the utmost importance and we encourage you to support us when the time comes.

I am witness to what makes being a member of this club special - every day. To those who strive to deliver fun, fitness and friendship in your involvement with the club - a huge thank you!

I implore you to support the club which supports you and your community as we commence our 102nd year in tennis in the area!

**Tim Brackenreg**, General Manager



## Office Manager's Report



Another year has gone quickly. A big thank you to Tim for his dedication towards the club, our wonderful committee, competition secretaries, coaches, Khairul, Henry and volunteers for their ongoing loyalty and commitment.

And of course, a big thank you to all our members and players for their support and patience while we have been changing over the Superb Tennis Membership and Booking System to "InTennis". We are still learning and improving the system and are always open for suggestions and input from our members.

Player numbers have been increasing steadily in the last couple of years and we are extremely excited that we have more than 1200 total players for 2023/24 (see table for member numbers).

**Beate Seiler**

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
2021/22	26	396	531	953
2022/23	99	398	535	1032
2023/24	68	397	738	1203

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



L to R: **Jordan Thompson** (2024 US Open Mens Doubles Champion) with Dad, **Steve**.



## Mills Park Coaching



### Individual Achievements

Thank you to Beate, Tim and Ros our new President for their continued support to myself and the coaching programmes. Also, a big thanks to the coaches for their continued hard work running the lessons at the centre which

plays a big part in steady numbers in Private and Group lessons and Tennis camps.

We have had continued success with students performing in tournaments in Australia and also overseas and being selected to train at the National Academy.

### Some notable performances for the year:

**Maria Gabrys** Winner of several U/10s and U/12s NSW Tournaments and also selected to represent NSW in the State of Origin against Queensland winning all her matches. Maria and her team won super 10s for term 2. She also got extra award for tactical understanding and got special note from her coach.



**Anabelle Awkar** selected to represent NSW in the Bruce Cup Primary Schools Australian Championships.

**Rafael Munocza** selected to represent NSW in the Bruce Cup Primary Schools Australian Championships.



**Renee Alame** selected to train full time with the National Academy and now selected for the Billie Jean U/16s Australian team.



**Pavle Marinkov** was also selected to train full time with the National Academy in Brisbane and his ATP Men's ranking is currently 816 in the world.

**Vesna Marinkov** selected for the Australian U/14s Europe Tour and winning the doubles event with her partner **Lucas Han** in Paris.



**Jordan Thompson** was runner up at Wimbledon Men's Doubles. He then captured the US Open Men's Doubles with **Max Purcell**. Jordan also named Tennis NSW Player of the year in October 2024.

**Steve Thompson** - Absolute Tennis

## Monday Ladies

The numbers of our Monday Morning Ladies Comp participants have been steady which is great to see! Our traditional end of year Christmas party for 2023 was well attended as usual with over 34 ladies attending.



Our Spring Comp 2023 winners: **Kimberley & Jes** (Singles/ Doubles), **Manjula & Bev** (Doubles Only) and **Rebecca** winning the "Most games won" trophy:



Our Summer Doubles Only Comp (Feb – May 2024) consisted of 12 teams and 24 ladies. Winning team was **Ranu & Helga** with **Sue** winning the "Most games won" trophy:

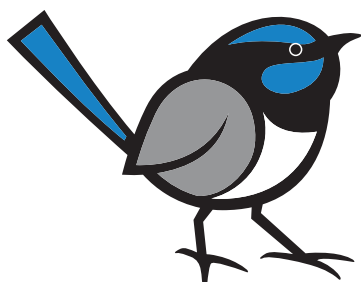


The Winter Comp (May – Aug 2024) was divided back into two formats: Doubles Only and Singles & Doubles. The winners of each competition were **Elsie & Margaret** (Doubles Only) and **Jenny & Trish** (Singles and Doubles) with **Wendy** winning the "Most games won" trophy:



We are currently playing our Spring Comp which will conclude in December with our Christmas Party on Monday 9th December.

**Beate Seiler**



## Monday Quick Mix

Ever popular, this competition continues to grow from strength to strength with our members. This year saw a significant increase in “family teams” taking to the court together. Parents and their children, couples, even siblings have formed teams to enjoy a great start to the tennis week.

Congratulations to the following team and individual winners:

Spring 2023:

**Sweepers – Sylvia & Khairul**

Autumn 2024:

**The Bad Guys, Baseline Swingers, Grip & Rip – Joan & Liam**

Term 3/2024:

**Squirrel Power – Joan & Sanqing**

**Team Hegarty – Sylvia & Brendan**

**No Problem – Morgan & Phil D**

**Tim Brackenreg**, General Manager



## Tuesday Open & Doubles

This year has been a transitional one for the club and this competition. A full review of the drop-in participation and revenue has been done to understand this change. What was once the flagship of our competitions is now becoming a poor cousin to other comps during the week. I look forward to working with the participants in re-building a healthy open and doubles only competition in the coming year

Congratulations to the following Tuesday Open winners:

Spring 2023:

Div 1: **ZAP**, Div 2: **ToTo**

Summer 2024:

Div 1: **Two Old**, Div 2: **Net Liabilities**

Winter 2024:

Div 1: **Two Old**, Div 2: **Eclectics**

Congratulations to the following Tuesday Doubles winners:

Spring 2023: **Patrick R**

Term 1/2024: **Patrick R**

Term 2/2024: **Patrick R**

Term 3/2024: **Patrick R**

**Tim Brackenreg**, General Manager



## Wednesday Morning Comp

Our beautiful Wednesday Ladies comp is still looking for players to join so that we can form a couple more teams. Everyone is welcome!

Our 2023/24 Summer Comp finished in March 2024. Div 1 Winner: Matchplay, Div 2 Winner: **Finesse**:



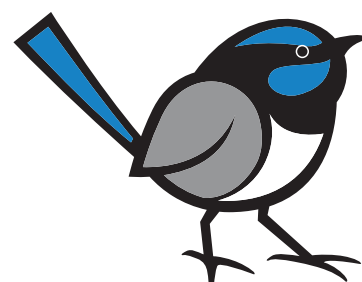
The Autumn/Winter comp was completed on the 31 July 2024 and congratulations to the winning teams (again, must be their lucky year) **Matchplay** & **Finesse**:



Our Winter/Spring comp will finish off on the 4 December with X-mas celebrations.

Looking forward to a successful year 2025 with hopefully new teams joining in.....

**Beate Seiler**



## Thursday Mixed

Thursday's mixed doubles competition continues with our four stalwart teams battling out each week. Although the players are very familiar with each other's games, the competition is still competitive each week.

Congratulations to the following winners:

Term 1/2024:

**Aces**

Term 2/2024:

**Aces**

Term 3/2024:

**Bourne Again**

**Tim Brackenreg**, General Manager



## Friday Juniors & Cadets

A significant change in our membership has seen the introduction of two categories for members still in school. Members in Primary school continue to be enrolled as Junior Members, with High school students now falling under the category of Cadet Members.

This change allows players to better align with their peers, be seen by the club in a more appropriate manner and provide opportunities that better fit our children's pathway and development.

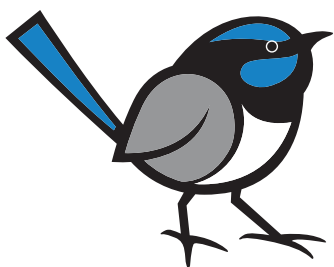
The Friday competitions have benefited from this change with the fun, fitness and friendship theme on show every week on the courts.

It is essential for me to thank Cadets **Alexander Moreau**, **Seb Parsa** and **Sophie Moreau** for their assistance in delivering this program throughout the year. Each have contributed in a unique and distinctive way to make the time on court enjoyable and educational for all the players. Thanks.

Congratulations to the following winners:

**Joseph SU**, **Jake Fitzgerald**, **Charley Brown**, **Oscar Choi**

**Tim Brackenreg**, General Manager



## Persian Tennis at Mills Park



This past year has been a tremendous period of growth and community engagement for our Persian Tennis League and Tournaments. We welcomed over 20 new players, bringing fresh talent and enthusiasm to our Mills Park Tennis Club courts. Highlights included 3 seasonal

tournaments, 2 tennis parties and a weekly league that allowed players of all levels to enjoy competitive yet friendly games. In 2023, we started weekly league with 8 players and now we have over 20! We cater for tennis players from other nationalities as well.

I'm also thrilled to continue being Superb Tennis club committee member for second year. Being part of such a dedicated team, working to enhance our community's tennis experience, is a true honour.

With such a strong support from Superb Tennis, I look forward to an exciting year ahead, filled with even more events and opportunities for players to thrive.

**Mike Taheri Mehr**



## 2023/2024 Committee

<b>President</b>	Ros Read
<b>Vice-President</b>	Katarzyna Musial-Gabrys
<b>Secretary</b>	Margaret Stirling
<b>Treasurer</b>	Lyall Pogue
<b>Committee Members</b>	Laneth Bissett, Stuart Hillier, Theresa Johnson, Mike Taheri Mehr
<b>Competition Secretaries</b>	
Monday Ladies	Beate Seiler
Monday Night Quick Mix	Tim Brackenreg
Tuesday Night	Tim Brackenreg
Wednesday Morning Ladies	Beate Seiler
Thursday Night	Tim Brackenreg
Friday Night Junior	Tim Brackenreg
<b>Social Tennis Co-ordinators</b>	
Mills Park	Tim Brackenreg
Berowra	Rhonda Anderson (Monday Morning)
<b>Head Coaches</b>	
Mills Park	Steve Thompson
Berowra	Trevor Hodge
<b>HKDTA Staff &amp; major contractors</b>	
<b>General Manager Superb Tennis</b>	Tim Brackenreg (Mills Park & Berowra)
<b>Office Manager</b>	Beate Seiler
<b>Auditor</b>	William Kang
<b>Court Resurfacing</b>	Synthetic Sports Group
<b>Facility Maintenance Workers</b>	Khairul Karim (up to 28.3.2024), Henry Toczydlowski (up to 5.8.2024)
<b>Facilities Issues &amp; Lessor</b>	Hornsby Shire Council

