



Sidelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE BURWOOD TENNIS CLUB INC.

Website: www.burwoodtennisclub.org

"...the times they are a changing"

Along time ago Bob Dylan wrote, "...the times they are a changing", and this is never more true than at Burwood today. Apologies to our younger members who are currently asking, "Who is Bob Dylan?" He was a songwriter and activist hugely popular in the sixties and early seventies. The Club is moving into a new era, and whilst it was to a large degree forced upon us, I am confident it will be a positive and exciting move forward.

For many years we have been asking, no pleading for members to join the Committee and take on the key roles of Secretary Treasurer, Junior Convenor, Clubhouse Manager even President. Sadly there has been zero interest. In fact several members said bluntly, "...just pay someone and put up the fees."

2009 - 2010 Committee:

President:

Colin Edwards
- 8790 6149

Vice President:

Greg Lammers

Secretary:

- Position vacant

Treasurer:

Fran Coggins

Club Captain:

Frans Verheij

Junior Convenor:

Natalie Bacon

Clubhouse Manager:

Ron Simpson

Membership Secretary:

Ian Grayson

General Committee:

Denese Bacon (Midweek)
Geoff Lambourne
Ashwyn Perera

In 1979 the Club was revitalised when 12 new Committee members came onto the Committee and the Club has never looked back. Failing a similar miracle this year will be the last year with our traditional Committee structure, and yes your fees will go up. Let me paint the picture, this year despite our pleas we were unable to secure a Secretary. Now Greg Lammers our Vice President has had to step down as he is moving out of the area. This is a massive loss to the Club, but the move will be good for Greg and his family. Greg has been a magnificent servant of the Club and the club will be poorer for his loss. Personally I would like to thank Greg for his support over the years. Sadly, my role at work has changed dramatically and I no longer have the time to devote to the important role of President. Accordingly, I must advise this year, my seventh will be my last year as President. It has been an honour and I will cherish the memory of my time as President.

So next year we would not have a President, Vice President or Secretary!!

Tough decisions had to be made!

We will be moving to a new structure next year and we will be out sourcing several key roles. In plain English we will now be paying for the roles we previously had members doing for free. Accordingly your fees will now include a substantial Administration Fee. Once all the details are agreed we will announce everything, but this is the type of structure we will introduce next year.

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| * President | - Oversee Management Company / Perform role of Treasurer |
| * Club Captain | - Same as before |
| * Membership Secretary | - Same as before |
| * General Committee | - Same as before |

Club Management Company

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| - Responsibilities
(Paid work) | - Perform role of Secretary |
| | - Perform role of Junior Convenor |
| | - Clubrooms Hire / Court Hire |
| | - Basic Maintenance of Clubrooms and Courts |
| | - New member enquiries |
| | - Produce Sidelines Newsletter |

**Exciting
NEW
Website**

* See details inside

* Look inside for a **MAJOR** announcement regarding our **NEW President**

How will it work?

- * The plan is for the Club Management Company to be given a basic Job Description, and the Committee will set in place Key Performance Indicators (KPI's), the Management Company will be expected to meet, if not exceed at all times.
- * It will be the role of the new C.E.O. style President to oversee the Management Company to ensure all the KPI's are met.
- * The exact Job description may vary to what I have stated, as this is our initial vision, but may need to be tweaked a little as we continue to refine and define exactly what we can expect for our money.
- * The role of Treasurer will now also fall to the President, as it was considered the Club should maintain control of the purse strings, and thus have final say over where the money goes.
- * Considering this new C.E.O. style President's role is considerably larger than the traditional President's role it was decided that the President should receive an annuity or financial reimbursement for their service.
- * The exact amount is yet to be decided.

How much will it cost?

- * At this stage the Committee in considering paying the Management Company approximately 80% of the estimated additional revenue the Club will receive via the Administration Fee.
- * The remainder of the increased revenue will fund the annuity for the President.

Who is our NEW President?

- * I am extremely pleased to announce ***Fran Coggins*** has agreed to become our first C.E.O. style President.
- * Fran is perfectly qualified for the role, having previously been President (4 times) and Treasurer (4 times). She has also been Secretary (4 times) and Club Captain (4 times). Fran is one of the longest serving members of the Committee, and understandably was awarded Life Membership of the Club several years ago. The Club is in good hands.

Who is the Club Management Company?

- * Watch this space. The Committee is in discussion with a Company and hope to make an announcement in the not too distant future. Several key details need to be finalised, but we are supremely confident that an agreement will be reached.

Why announce it now?

- * The time was right. If we were to announce everything in 2 months once all the details have been finalised, it will be Christmas time. Potentially many of our Membership base will be either away, or at the very least in holiday mode.

Did we have any other option?

- * No. We haven't had a Secretary all year. With Greg moving 30 kilometres away he is potentially leaving the club, and my changed circumstances at work mean I simply don't have the time to devote to the role of President. The Club will simply fold without a President, Vice President or Secretary. Fran is an excellent Treasurer, she is not however 'Wonder Woman' she will not be able to do all four roles!! Ron has been on committee for 24 years, Natalie 14 years, but for how much longer?

What are the consequences if we don't do it? - 3 potential outcomes

1. The Club battles on without a President, Vice President or Secretary and eventually stagnates, collapses and dies.
2. To survive the remaining Committee will be so stretched for time only the most pressing or urgent jobs will get done.
The Committee had planned several exciting announcements over coming years, but each would require considerable time to plan, co-ordinate and supervise. Sadly all would be need to be cancelled. We simply don't have the manpower. So...
 - ◆ No Shade Sail entertainment area ◆ No second Spectator Stand ◆ No new decking ◆ No new floor boards inside
 - ◆ No Air Conditioning ◆ No roof mounted projector screen ◆ No Trivia Nights ◆ No special events ◆ No Time!!
3. The Club receives a sudden influx of new members onto the committee to fill these critical roles for the Club.

What if I'm still not happy with the new direction?

- * The new Structure and direction will need to be endorsed at the Annual General Meeting next year.
- * Gather a significant group of members to come along and vote 'no', but please do consider the potential ramifications.
- * If you do not wish this change to occur, your best solution is to gather 10 of your most passionate and hard working friends and form your own Committee. Take up the challenge! I can truly promise you it will be worth it.
- * To be honest, I would be absolutely delighted if you did.

Colin Edwards
President

Consumption of alcohol at the Club

Following a recent incident and subsequent formal complaint to the Committee, it was decided as a Club we needed to take a stronger and more responsible attitude towards the consumption and service of alcohol at the club. It is important to realise society has changed, people's attitude to public drunkenness has changed, 10 years ago what was seen as harmless fun is now unacceptable. We have a duty of care to our members to ensure we provide a fun and importantly safe environment for all our members, and in particular our juniors. A sign will be placed at the bar which will state the following...

- ◆ Our Licence prohibits BYO
- ◆ Access to the bar area is strictly prohibited only designated bar staff may be in the bar.
- ◆ Any member judged to be intoxicated will not be served
- ◆ Any member obtaining drinks via friends, once they have been declined service will be asked to leave.
 - Potentially the friend may also be asked to leave.
- ◆ If a member arrives at the club already intoxicated they may be asked to leave, and will face disciplinary action from the Committee, thus placing their membership in jeopardy.

The Committee

Juniors - It all starts here...

** Thank you again to Natalie, who despite retiring from the role 2 years ago finds herself having to continue to act as Junior Convenor as not one member or parent came forward to take on the role.*

The Committee



Hi All,

I have had a busy year and have brought at least one new team into each season over the past 12 months. It is getting tougher and tougher to organize the teams etc as they keep growing. I appreciate we are all busy and I have appreciated how you all take on your Team managing duties with ease but this is a job that is still time consuming. I would be grateful if we could organize that ALL team managers each season will have a meeting at the end or just before the end of each season, and we delegate some jobs out and organize teams for the next season. The next season forms are included in this so we can get it early, with the new website, we can probably have the forms up almost automatically once the season starts for the next season. Obviously dependant on the time of year we may need to delegate some jobs to run the club championships etc too.

The 2009 Junior Club Championship results are listed below.

** Please note with Monika and William winning the Open singles this entitled them to their name becoming a part of the Future Champions Court (behind court 3), and as you will see later in this issue William did also win the Open Mens so is on his way to becoming a Champion and Monika also has already won the Open Ladies in previous years also.*

2009 - BURWOOD TENNIS CLUB JUNIOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

	<u>WINNERS</u>	<u>RUNNERS UP</u>
OPEN BOYS SINGLES	William Owen	Oliver Wadelton
OPEN GIRLS SINGLES	Monika Ceranic	Celine Tan
BOYS B GRADE SINGLES	Jonathan Stakos	Nathan Contin
BOYS C GRADE SINGLES	Lachlan Kafer	Dean Constantineas
GIRLS C GRADE SINGLES	Madeline Dodge	Kate Macgibbon-Parker
BOYS D GRADE SINGLES	Harry Sharpe	Tom Veitch
BOYS DOUBLES	Robbie Duncan / Jackson Sharpe	Ben Hall / Clinton Daley
MOST IMPROVED 2009	Matthew Salvo	
BEST AND FAIREST 2008 / 09	Celine Tan	

If you think you as a parent, or even your child may have time to do some of the jobs and share the workload...please PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

Natalie - ACTING Junior Convenor - nat@toptenn.com - 0412 619 695 9830 2322(wk)

Club Captain's Report

Last time we spoke to our Burwood TC members was before another great winter season and quite a few great achievements since.



2008 Summer Competition. We had 6 teams competing, 3 in Eastern region and 3 in Waverley. Our Eastern results were great with Glen Dawes & David Barnett taking home the winners flag in Men's open doubles singles Grade 2 and William (Billy) Owen & Daniel Sutton bringing home the runner-up flag for Open Singles Doubles Grade 1. A great achievement from all and it is another sign of the great young talent at Burwood Tennis Club, that we should actively encourage and nourish.

2009 Winter Competition. Burwood TC had 7 teams competing last winter, all in Men's Pennant. We had a good mix of strengths competing between Grade 2 and 13 and I am proud that for the first time in several years we were able to get a Grade 2 team on the courts. We will definitely try and do the same next year as we again have some great talent at our club that is close to making the big step to either Grade 1 or even State Grade. Out of our 7 teams in pennant, four made it to finals with two teams going into Grade grand finals. Well done to Mitchell Higgins, Oliver Wadelton, Tim Shackleton, Richard Bing and Adam Matthews getting into the Grade 8 final and being frustratingly close to getting into the grand final. What can I say about our Seniors Grade 7 team? I think this picture tells the story best. Well done to John Wade, Charlie Salvo, Greg Lammers, Colin Edwards, David Reed and Emilio Rogliano for being able to bring home a well deserved and extremely rare Pennant Winner's flag.



Another exceptional result for a medium size club as Burwood are the achievements of Fred Chamberlain (grade 3) and Adam Matthews (Grade 8) winning the Pennant player of the year awards. (The Player of the Year is calculated as follows; Percentage of singles rubbers won x 2 plus percentage of doubles rubbers won. If two or more players are tied, then percentage of singles sets won x 2 plus percentage of doubles sets won. If still tied, then percentage of singles games won x 2 plus percentage of doubles games won.)

Fred has been able in Grade 3 to produce a 100% winning record in both singles and doubles winning 13 straight matches, Adam has been able to win all his singles matches and dropping only 2 out of 12 doubles matches. Well done to both of you winning this prestigious reward for the club, there are actually no other clubs with more than 2 players of the year awards so Burwood TC has produced more players of the year than any other club in Victoria!

It is worth mentioning we were unlucky not to have a 3rd player to win this Award. David Reed from the Premiership winning Seniors Grade 7 team played 6 matches and did not lose a single set for the season, he then went on to keep his perfect record by not dropping a set in the final series. Unfortunately only playing 6 matches, David just missed the minimum number of matches to qualify for the Award, an Award he would certainly have won. Another outstanding effort.

2009 - BURWOOD TENNIS CLUB - OPEN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The same as last year, Burwood TC Senior Club Championships were played in the second week of the spring holiday. Once more the Senior Club Championship was open to all full members, and we actively encourage as many Junior members to enter these Championships, thus the Senior Club Championship is actually promoted as an Open Event. This is particularly relevant this year with young William (Billy) Owen winning his first Open Men's title. We had enough entries this year to produce 5 draws; Open Ladies singles, Open Men's singles, Graded Men's singles, Open Men's doubles and Mixed doubles. Every year we try and achieve a championship with the right balance between social and competitive play. We make sure all entries play at least two matches in a Round Robin draw. We then move into a 'knock-out' draw playing best of three sets which leads us to our proud Club Champions!

2009 - BURWOOD TENNIS CLUB - OPEN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS - RESULTS

Well done to Natalie who know has won the club championship title four times and will get special recognition on the championship Honour Board on court!!!! (behind Court 2)

Also, well done to Billy Owen who know has now won both the Junior Boy's singles titles as well as Senior Men's singles titles in the same year. Whilst a no doubt proud father Peter watched on, later Peter was reminded by friends that Billy had achieved something Peter had yet to achieve, winning the Open Singles title. History shows Peter came ever so close 3 times, including losing 2 very tight finals.

	<u>WINNERS</u>	<u>RUNNERS UP</u>
OPEN LADIES SINGLES	Natalie Bacon	Lisette Verheij
OPEN MEN'S SINGLES	William Owen	Frans Verheij
MEN'S GRADED SINGLES	Tim Cosstick	Fusi Zhang
OPEN MEN'S DOUBLES	Fred Chamberlain /Frans Verheij	Richard Bing / Oliver Wadelton
OPEN MIXED DOUBLES	Natalie Bacon /Greg Lammers	Lisette Verheij / Frans Verheij

Sadly in the Mixed I finished up with one less racquet....they don't make them as strong as they used to.

In the mean time summer competition has already kicked-off. We have again 6 teams playing in Eastern Region and Waverley. One comment – we could have had 8 teams playing if we had received entries earlier. This is a common occurrence, please make sure if you do want to play Competition you must enter early. The deadlines for selecting and submitting teams seems to be earlier every year. So please let us know ASAP if you wish to play as it is very frustrating receiving applications after the teams have been submitted.

Entry forms will be e-mailed to all members and are available in the club house.

Frans Verheij, Club Captain

***** NEWS FLASH - We still need to bag the courts after each set *****

One of the great misunderstandings since we put down our Euro Clay courts was that the courts do not need to be bagged after each set. We DO need to bag the courts as it redistributes the sand more evenly across the courts and this helps protect the court surface. So please ensure you bag the courts after each set exactly as

Midweek Ladies

Not sure this shot is a true reflection of today's Midweek Ladies Competition. This strikes me to be more akin to what my mother once played, 'hit and giggle tennis'. But I love the shot so just had to use it again.

*Colin Edwards .
President and Chief Stirrer .*



Calling all Ladies!!

Our Summer season has now commenced and we are fielding two teams, in the MEMRLTA Competition. The Season has started well, and after a few rounds we have met with some success, but perhaps most importantly we are all enjoying our tennis, and that is what it is all about. We can always do with more ladies who would like to play Comp on Tuesdays on a regular basis, or who would be willing to play as an emergency when needed. During the school holidays when there is no competition, we have a social hit at the club on Tuesday mornings.

All responses to Denese Bacon 9885 7166

We have a NEW and exciting Website!

Geoff Lambourne answered the call of the Committee, and put his hand up to help out, of which we were very quick to accept. Geoff's particular expertise was in computers, or more specifically designing websites, so of course we were just as quick to accept his offer to design a new website for the Club.

The Committee could not be more pleased with the result, and we suggest you all take a moment to log on and have a look around. We are extremely confident you will be just as impressed. The website is

www.burwoodtennisclub.org

The website provides a myriad of information, and will become a valuable tool for the club. Here are just a few highlights

- * Latest Club News
 - Club Championship results
 - Player of the Year winners
 - Team Ladders
 - Latest and previous editions of Sidelines
 - Latest Coaching updates
- * A link to the Weather Bureau - Forecasts
- * A link to Tennis Victoria / WDTA / Tennis Aust
- * Club History
 - Life Members
 - James Shrimpton Award
 - Our Official History Book
- * Information on the changing of the court surface
- * Photos from recent and past club functions
- * The Committee and Club contact details
- * Club Sponsors

Feel free to provide feedback, and also suggest any additional information you would like to see added to the website. Geoff, you have done a great job and I'm sure the members will appreciate it as much as we do.

The Committee

There was nothing TRIVIAL about it!



As many of you would know in July Burwood Tennis Club hosted a Movies and Television Trivia Night. With about 50 competitors, both members and non-members, and some fantastic prizes up for grabs the tables were hard at it. When the night was done and all the prizes handed out the Club made a profit of just over \$1000 which was a grand effort. Many thanks to all who attended and supported on the night. A big thanks go out to the many people who made the night happen such as Burwood Tennis Club; Ron Simpson, Emilio Rogliano, Col Edwards, Frans Verheij, Toptenn for prize donations, and my wife Jessica who assisted me greatly. Following the huge success of the night we hope there to be second trivia night.



Tristan Harper .

On behalf of the Committee I would again like to thank Tristan and Jess for all the hard work they put into preparing and subsequently hosting what was a very professionally run night. Over the years I have competed in too many Trivia nights to remember, but Tristan you are to be commended as host, as the success of the night was largely due to your personality and effervescence on the night. Your questions catered to all age groups, and most importantly you kept it fun and light so everyone remained focussed on the night. Actually, to be honest not everyone was totally focussed on the questions, the Trivia Night coincided with Hawthorn playing Collingwood at the MCG, and Linda Slapar had her radio with her, and provided numerous excited utterances as Hawthorn scored an unlikely win.

Colin Edwards - Similarly excited Hawthorn supporter

Toptenn - Golden Rules of Doubles



Peter and his team at Toptenn continue to go from strength to strength and likewise the relationship between Burwood Tennis Club and Toptenn is developing at a similar rate. In the next edition of Sidelines we will outline Toptenn's plans over Christmas and into the New year.

In the meantime with the compliments of Toptenn here are some words of wisdom from Ken Flach, who in 1985 was ranked No. 1 in the World for doubles. Ken won Gold with Robert Seguso at the 1988 Seoul Olympics. But arguably more importantly Ken also won two Wimbledon doubles titles, and two U.S. Open doubles titles.

Having Trouble finding a doubles partner?

Master these 3 skills and you'll be the most sought-after player at your club

– TENNIS MAGAZINE April 2006.

1 **Develop a dependable doubles serve.** Every good doubles team needs what I call a “stopper” in their serving rotation. Just like on a baseball team’s pitching staff, this is the player you can depend on to shut down the other team and hold serve. If you can become that player, you won’t have too much trouble finding partners. It would be nice if you could blast 200kph aces to win your serve consistently, but it’s not a necessity. It’s more important to connect on a high percentage of first serves, place them well, and get yourself in excellent volleying position. One of the greatest doubles team of all time, the Woodies – Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde – lacked overpowering serves yet they were incredibly successful at holding. Why? They made a ton of first serves, moved the ball around the box (working both corners and the receiver’s body), and mixed up speeds and spins. They followed their serves in quickly and were usually inside the service line when making their first volleys. A good kick or slice serve that stretches your opponent and sets you or your partner up for an aggressive volley is a money shot in doubles.

2 **Be an animal at the net.** There’s a lot of truth to the notion that a team is only as good as its net player. The best way to help your partner hold serve is to hit as many volleys as you can. One of the biggest problems most people have when their partner is serving is that their not aggressive enough. The fact is, if your partner hits a good serve, he shouldn’t have to hit a first volley because you’re picking off the returns.

A good net player is always in the heads of the returners, causing indecision and misery. You want your opponents constantly thinking to themselves, “Is this guy going to move or is he staying?” Just having that thought can lead to a poor return.

A few things to keep in mind to help with your net play:

- **Don’t be afraid of the ball.** Get right on top of the net and impose yourself on your opponents. Let them feel your presence. Dare them to beat you with a lob.
- **Accept that you might get passed.** If you want to be effective at net, you must be aggressive. Never feel ashamed or stupid if you leave your side of the court and your opponent burns you down the line.
- **Move at the right time.** Unless the return is a sitting duck, poaching requires guile and anticipation. A good rule of thumb is to move across on an angle toward the net once your opponent starts his forward swing on his return.

3 **Be Chatty.** The most important part of doubles is communication. When I played with Seguso, we talked all the time. Sometimes what we were saying wasn’t very nice, but there was always dialogue. Never go more than a couple of points without saying something to your partner. He needs to know that you’re connected and it’s not him against you, as well as the other team. Your partner can’t read your mind, and if you’re not conveying your thoughts, he’ll assume the worst and think you’re not happy with his performance. Even if it’s true, this will inevitably lead to him playing worse. Instead, be a cheerleader. A good doubles partner is overly optimistic all the time – not some or most of the time, all the time. You need to encourage and pump up your partner so he feels comfortable with making a mistake. Don’t try to make constructive comments during a match; they’ll be construed as criticism. You want him to know that he can poach without worrying about you jumping down his throat if he gets passed. The last partner a player will want is one who causes him to play tentatively and takes the fun out of the game.

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