

# COURTSIDE NEWS

## Somers Tennis Club Inc

June 2020



### We're open for business!



With the gradual easing of COVID-19 restrictions, we were delighted to open the courts once again on 13 May, albeit on a limited basis. It has been great to see so many members, non-members and visitors making use of the courts and to have our coaching program underway again.

We look forward to receiving further advice from the Federal Government, Tennis Victoria and the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council regarding the resumption of competition.

### Club Championships

#### Sunday 9 February 2020

It seems so long ago, but in February we hosted the 2020 Club Championships. It was our first Club Championships since 1995.

The idea of reviving an event like this was first tabled in November 2016 at the AGM "after party". Throughout 2017, we toiled with possible ideas for a 2018 event to be held over a 3-day long weekend, however delays in the resurfacing of court 3 meant we were unable to proceed. The event was eventually scheduled for the 2019 Australia Day long weekend, but was unfortunately cancelled due to low entry numbers. As a result of the cancellation, the Club decided to hold a Family Fun Day in April 2019. This social event was well attended by members and non-members alike.



*Tahlia Adams hits a forehand to Charlie Alsop in the Mixed Doubles while Harry Taylor and Maryann Pittard watch on*



*Zoe Proctor, Glenice Carr, Ray Willis and Brad Billing after the Mixed Doubles final*

The idea to hold a Club Championships event was shelved until October last year, when it was brought up at a general meeting. This time however, things were to be scaled back. Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February was chosen for favourable weather and the availability of more players. The format of the event was changed to a single day where all of the preliminary matches would be played, rather than trying to schedule all matches including finals over three successive days.

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On February 9<sup>th</sup>, 35 competitors took to the courts in the events Men's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles. The Men's Singles started off the day at 8:45am and had 12 entrants. Each player played a set against the other two players in their group. Chris Bullard, Harry Tucker, Connor Hipwell and myself won through to the semi finals. The Men's Doubles (8 pairs) and Women's Doubles (5 pairs) then took over and the strong crowd were treated to some great tennis. The Men's Doubles was played as a knockout, with Chris Bullard/Taylor Brennan winning through to the final, where they would meet Harry Austin and myself. The Women's Doubles had two groups—the first was decided in a marathon set which was won by Louise Adams/Jacqui Moir against Sarah Shepherd/Maryann Pittard. The other was dominated by Bindi Mealey/Clea White. The Mixed Doubles also had 8 pairings and was divided into two groups. Ray Willis/Glenice Carr and Brad Billing/Zoe Proctor lead their groups and won through to the final. It was great to see a few juniors enter the events and have a red hot go. They were not daunted by the challenge of playing senior players, which was encouraging.

This day was one of the most enjoyable days I can recall at the Club. It was great to see so many people come out to watch and support those who were playing. All entrants were timely and knew where they had to be and who they were playing next which made proceedings a whole lot easier. A big thank you to the committee, particularly Secretary Louise Adams and President Charlie Alsop, for helping out so much in the organising stage and then on the day. A presentation day for all of the winners will be held at a date yet to be confirmed. Trophies will be presented and an honour board unveiled with the winners names. We hope to see you all plus more next February for the 2021 edition of the Somers Tennis Club Championships.

Oscar Willis  
Somers Tennis Club Vice President

**[Finals results on page 3]**



Harry Austin serves with Oscar Willis at the net



Harry Tucker preparing to serve



Tahlia Adams hits a forehand while Harry Taylor watches on at the net



Spectators on the western deck watching the Men's Doubles match

## 2020 Club Championships finals results

### Men's Singles

#### Semi Finals (Feb 13<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm)

Oscar Willis defeated Harry Tucker 6-0 6-0  
 Connor Hipwell defeated Chris Bullard 6-2 6-2

#### Final (Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> 3:30pm)

Connor Hipwell defeated Oscar Willis 6-2 6-2

### Men's Doubles

#### Final (Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> 1:00pm)

Oscar Willis/Harry Austin defeated Chris Bullard/  
 Taylor Brennan 4-6 6-1 7-5

### Women's Doubles

#### Final (Feb 12<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm)

Bindi Mealey/Clea White defeated Louise Adams/  
 Jacqui Moir 6-4 6-4

### Mixed Doubles

#### Final (Feb 19<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm)

Ray Willis/Glenice Carr defeated Brad Billing/Zoe  
 Proctor 6-2 6-3



Oscar Willis & Connor Hipwell after the Men's Singles final



Clea White & Bindi Mealey after winning the Women's Doubles final



Oscar Willis & Harry Austin after winning the Men's Doubles final



Louise Adams, Jacqui Moir (obstructed), Sarah Shepherd & Maryann Pittard after their marathon set



Taylor Brennan at the net with Chris Bullard preparing to serve in the Men's Doubles final



Declan Aumont serving in the Men's Singles

## Membership renewals—2020/21 FY

The following 2020/21 membership fees were endorsed at the 24 November 2019 AGM:

**Family \$290 — Single Senior \$140 — Single Junior / full time student \$88**

Membership fees for the 2020/21 financial year are due by 30 June 2020. A renewal notice will be sent to all members in the coming weeks. A reminder that only current financial members are entitled to court access. Members are welcome to bring along a guests/guests—a \$5 fee per adult visitor applies. A court hire fee of \$15/hour applies for non-members who are not accompanied by a current financial member.

Complete your membership renewal [here](#). Thank you for your ongoing support!

## Welcome to our new members

We would like to welcome our newest members to the Club. Our membership continues to grow and Somers Tennis Club has a very healthy membership when compared with other tennis clubs across the Mornington Peninsula Shire. Our new casual holiday membership package—offered for the December 2019/January 2020 school holidays—proved very popular with visitors and holiday makers, and casual court hire has also been on the increase.

## CARPET COURT

DREAM IT. STYLE IT. LIVE IT.



A big welcome to our newest sponsor—Hastings Carpet Court. Hastings Carpet Court is a long-term, locally-owned family business. After working in the business with his father and uncles for over twenty years, Justin took over the day-to-day running of the Hastings Carpet Court store with his wife Anika in 2009.

As the largest flooring retailer in the country, Carpet Court has huge buying power which means Justin and Anika can offer a huge selection of quality flooring products at affordable prices. One of the best things about shopping at Hastings Carpet Court, aside from the fabulously friendly and knowledgeable service of course, is that you can also shop for window furnishings and rugs to complement your beautiful new floors.

Pop into the showroom at 2080 Frankston-Flinders Road, Hastings or visit [www.carpetcourt.com.au](http://www.carpetcourt.com.au).



Somers Tennis Club is grateful for the ongoing support of Club Supporters, **Westernport Uniting Church Opportunity Shop**, who recently donated \$400 towards the purchase of a new fridge for the clubhouse.

*Please support our sponsors and supporters:*

### Club sponsors



**DM Holden  
Plumbing Services**



### Club supporters



**Bittern Market**

**Western Port Uniting Church Opportunity Shop (Crib Point)**

## What's new

You may have noticed a few changes around the Club since our last newsletter:

- New LED lighting to court 3
- New court signs honouring Life Members Richard Carr, Rod Nuske and Geoff Griffiths
- New combination padlocks on court gates
- New digital lock on main entrance gate
- New mechanical lock on clubhouse door
- New squeegees
- New scoreboards
- New leaf blower
- New oven
- New reverse cycle air-conditioning
- New chairs and tables
- New main entrance sign board sponsored by Harcourts Real Estate



These projects would not have been possible without the support of members, the hard work of our Committee, the generosity of our Premium sponsors Bendigo Bank, or without access to grants.

We are most grateful, in particular, for Bendigo Bank's ongoing sponsorship of Somers Tennis Club. We were fortunate to receive a grant earlier this year for the new digital gate lock, squeegees and leaf blower.

## What do we have planned in future??

- Upgrade to LED lighting on courts 1 & 2
- Decking to the northern, eastern and southern sides of the clubhouse
- And, subject to funding and our continued growth ..... a 4th court!



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 Reg No: A0005777P

## Committee

**President:**  
 Charlie Alsop

**Vice-President:**  
 Oscar Willis

**Treasurer:**  
 Zoe Proctor

**Secretary & Membership Officer:**  
 Louise Adams

**General Committee:**  
 Graeme Wilson  
 (Immediate Past President)  
 Mark Jaensch  
 Grant Tucker

Proudly supported by Balnarring & District Community Bank Branch



## Court and clubhouse hire

### Court hire

**Members:** No charge **Non-members:** \$15 / hr per court

To book a court phone 0402 154 952.

### Visitors fee

Visitors aged 18 years and over pay \$5 per visit when playing with a Somers Tennis Club member.

### Light hire (social play)

**Members:** \$10 / hr per court **Non-members:** \$25 / hr per court

If you wish to use the lights for social play, please contact Louise Adams 0402 154 952 or Graeme Wilson 0424 015 351.

Court and light hire money is to be placed in an envelope near the main entrance and posted in the key slot or ball cupboard. Please include the date, your full name and the number of hours court/lights used. You may also pay by direct deposit—BSB 633 000, account 134397249.

### Clubhouse Hire

Did you know our clubhouse is available to members, non-members, community groups and individuals for a range of activities and events including meetings, special interest group sessions and private functions? Contact Louise for further details on 0402 154 952 or email [info@somerstennisclub.com.au](mailto:info@somerstennisclub.com.au).



## Competition tennis

Somers Tennis Club enters teams in the Peninsula Tennis Association's (PTA) **Saturday morning Junior competition**, **Saturday afternoon Senior competition**, and **Thursday Mid-Week Ladies Doubles competition**, as well as the Westernport Night Tennis Association's (WPNTA) **Monday night Mixed Doubles** and **Tuesday night Men's Doubles** competitions. The PTA run other competitions for ladies on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and the WPNTA run an open singles competition on Wednesday nights.

If you are interested in joining a team or forming a new team, please contact Louise on 0402 154 952 or email [info@somerstennisclub.com.au](mailto:info@somerstennisclub.com.au).



### Follow us on Facebook

Did you know our Club has a Facebook page? Keep up to date on the latest news - 'like us' at [www.facebook.com/somerstennisclub](http://www.facebook.com/somerstennisclub).

### Club clothing

Club clothing is available for junior and senior members. We have t-shirts, polo shirts, jackets and Club caps available in a range of sizes with the Club's logo. Samples uniforms and order forms are in the Clubhouse or contact Louise on 0402 154 952.

Adult's t-shirt	\$31	Adult's polo shirt	\$39
Child's t-shirt	\$30	Child's polo shirt	\$36
Adult's jacket	\$66	Cap	\$10

### Books for sale

We are most grateful for the generosity of our members and others in the community who have donated books and DVDs for the Club to sell. We have been absolutely inundated with donations and have a fantastic selection!

As soon as the clubhouse is open again, please call in to check out our extensive range. Books are only \$2 each.

## Court action

### Saturday Juniors

Somers Tennis Club had three teams in the 2019/20 Summer Season **Mixed Sections 4 and 6** with two of our teams making it through to the semi-finals. Unfortunately COVID-19 put a stop to the finals, and finishing top of the ladder, our Section 6 team were declared Premiers. Congratulations Harry Taylor, Isabel Allen, Eloise May-Konning and Hamish Alsop!

In the 2018/19 Summer Season, our **Mixed Section 4** team took out the Grand Final. Congratulations Zach Dueringe, Chris Tucker, Clea White and Declan Aumont!

Our junior players continue to improve, and some of our older juniors have transitioned to night tennis. We currently have two teams entered in **Mixed Sections 4 and 5** in the 2020 Winter season, however competition has been suspended due to COVID-19. We are hopeful of entering a Section 10-12 team in the 2020/21 Summer season, so if you are aware of any youngsters wishing to play competition, please let us know as soon as you can.

### Saturday Seniors

In the Saturday Senior competition's 2019/20 Summer season, we had a **Mixed Doubles Section 1** team and an **Open Singles Section 2** team who both finished the season 5th on the ladder. In the 2019 Winter season we had a **Mixed Doubles Section 1** team and an **Open Singles Section 2** team who finished the season 4th and 6th (respectively). Unfortunately our Mixed Doubles team were defeated by Dromana in the semi-final. In the 2018/19 Summer season, our **Mixed Doubles Section 1** and **Open Singles Section 2** teams both made the semi-finals. Our Mixed team were unfortunately defeated by Tyabb in the semi-final. Our Open Singles team progressed through to the Grand Final but were unfortunately defeated by Mornington.

### Mid-Week Ladies

Our **Thursday Mid-Week Ladies Doubles** team have defeated archrivals Ranelagh for the past two seasons, taking out premiership wins in the 2018/19 Summer and 2019 Winter Grand Finals. We look forward to continuing competition once COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted.

### Night Doubles

After making the Grand Finals for the past four seasons, our **B Grade Mixed Doubles** team (Somers Smash Hits) had their second Premiership win in the Spring 2019 season. The team has since been elevated to A Grade where there is plenty of stiff competition!

In the Spring 2019 season we had two teams entered in the **B Grade Men's Doubles** competition (Somers New Kids and Somers Grand Slams). Somers New Kids finished 4th but were unfortunately defeated in the semi-final. Our newest team, the Somers Grand Slams, finished 5th.

Night tennis will resume once COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted.





## Are you or your family members interested in learning to play tennis or in brushing up on old skills?

Our Club Coach Tony Withers has afternoon and evening coaching vacancies available on Mondays and Wednesdays during school terms. There are various sessions for juniors and adults, beginners through to advanced players, including private lessons, small group lessons and cardio tennis. No membership required.

Contact Club Coach, Tony Withers on 0413 331 104 or email [witherstennis@hotmail.com](mailto:witherstennis@hotmail.com) for more details.

For a little slice of Somers Tennis Club history, visit our web site to view a collection of photos dating back to the 1940s.

[www.somerstennisclub.com.au](http://www.somerstennisclub.com.au)



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