

# COURTSIDE NEWS

## Somers Tennis Club Inc



### Club Championships

**Australia Day Long Weekend,  
Sat 26—Mon 28 January 2019**



Somers Tennis Club will hold a **Club Championships** over the Australia Day long weekend. It has been many years since the last Club Championships, and we look forward to providing this opportunity for our members to come together to play competitive tennis in a friendly social environment.

Depending on the number of entries received, matches will be of round robin or knock-out format. Draws will be published on the web site as soon as possible after the close of entries.

Some matches may be played in the evening. Please note, no courts will be available for social play for the duration of the Club Championships. Our junior members are encouraged to enter and we plan to have umpires, lines people and ball kids for finals matches. We will need volunteers for various activities, so please help when called on. It will be a lot of fun so get involved.

Complimentary tea and coffee will be provided throughout the event. Morning and afternoon teas and a light BBQ lunch will be available for purchase each day. Wine and beer will be available after 11am at below bar prices.

Refer to page 7 for further details, and page 8 for an entry form. The entry form is also available for download from our web site - [www.somerstennisclub.com.au](http://www.somerstennisclub.com.au).

**Entries close Friday 21 December 2018**

### Ritchies Community Benefits ... supporting Somers Tennis Club

Ritchies' Community Benefit Card Program donates a percentage of the money spent by their customers to their nominated club, school or charity. At the same time, cardholders receive discounts on groceries when they shop at Ritchies. A number of our members have already nominated Somers Tennis Club as the recipient, and we are grateful to receive a small donation from Ritchies every month. These donations assist our Club to cover operational and incidental costs, therefore we encourage all members to consider nominating Somers Tennis Club as their beneficiary. Enclosed with this newsletter you will find a Ritchies Community Benefits card. Simply nominate Somers Tennis Club as the recipient and return the completed form next time you shop at Ritchies in Balnarring. Thank you for your support!

**November 2018**

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Balnarring  
Community Bank® Branch



**The Balnarring and Community Bank Branch, Bendigo Bank are the major sponsor for the 2019 Club Championships.**

**RITCHIES**  
WHERE THE COMMUNITY BENEFITS

## 2018 Annual General Meeting

Our 2018 Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday 11 November. The meeting was well attended, with 30 members and guests taking time out of their busy schedules to attend. Recently appointed Tennis Victoria Participation Leader-Metro South, Nathan Phillips, attended the AGM along with Heather Goddard, Board Chair and Kym Bridgford, Board Member, Balnarring Community Bank Branch, Bendigo Bank. The meeting concluded with heartfelt speeches and a wonderful celebration of the many years of service provided by Graeme and Patsy Wilson to Somers Tennis Club (more below).

We would like to congratulate the following members who were elected to the Committee:

### 2018 / 2019 Office Bearers:

President:	Charlie Alsop	Treasurer:	Zoe Proctor
Vice President:	Oscar Willis	Secretary & Membership Officer:	Louise Adams

### General Committee:

Graeme Wilson (Immediate Past President), Grant Tucker, Mark Jaensch

New Committee members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining the Committee, please phone Louise on 0402 154 952.

## Graeme and Patsy Wilson recognised for their service to Somers Tennis Club and to tennis in Victoria .....

Graeme and Patsy Wilson have retired from their positions as President and Treasurer (respectively). Graeme will stay on the General Committee for the next 12 months.

In the presence of members, friends and family, the 2018 Annual General Meeting concluded with a special acknowledgement of the enormous contributions Graeme and Patsy Wilson have made to Somers Tennis Club for over 21 years, as well as to tennis in Victoria over many decades.

Patsy was awarded a **Life Membership** by newly elected President Charlie Alsop. She was then presented with a **Tennis Service Award** by Nathan Phillips of Tennis Victoria.



Patsy and Graeme started G&P Tennis Coaching Services in 1975, servicing the Diamond Valley area as well as Eltham, Hurstbridge, Phillip Island and Tolangi near King Lake. Patsy worked hard off the court assisting Graeme with the running of the business while working full-time as a dental nurse in Greensborough, a position she held for over 40 years. She was instrumental in promoting the business and assisting with tennis clinics and exhibition events. Following their relocation to the Mornington Peninsula in 1997, Patsy joined Somers Tennis Club as a social member. In 1999 she became a member of the Committee and in 2006 was appointed Treasurer and Memberships Officer, as position she has held for the past 12 years.

Patsy enjoyed many years of social tennis, but was unfortunately forced to give up playing in 2000 as a result of injuries sustained in a traffic accident. Patsy has not only tirelessly supported Somers Tennis Club as Treasurer and Memberships Officer, she has also played a key role in organising many fundraising and social events over the years.

Congratulations Patsy on being awarded a Life Membership and Tennis Service Award. You are a most worthy recipient, and our Club is so grateful for everything you have contributed over an extended period of time.

*Continued over ....*

..... continued

Graeme's passion for tennis started over 70 years ago at the tender age of 8. He has played competition from his early years right through to the present time. Over the years Graeme has participated in many Australian masters' and seniors' tournaments, winning Gold for the Men's Singles 65+ at the Australian Masters' Games in Adelaide and Geelong, and Silver in the Men's Singles and Doubles at the World Masters in Sydney in 2009.

Graeme ran his very successful tennis coaching business full time for 12 years before he had to retire due to an ongoing eye problem. He played for Diamond Creek for decades and was Secretary of the Diamond Valley Tennis Association. Shortly after moving to Somers in 1997, Graeme became a member of Somers Tennis Club. He was on the General Committee for many years before being appointed President in 2005, the position he has held for the past 13 years. Graeme is also Vice President of the Westernport Night Tennis Association (WPNTA).

Graeme has been instrumental in making Somers Tennis Club the success it is today. His passion for tennis and for the Club is second to none, and his leadership and contribution has provided measurable benefit to the Club for over 21 years. He has worked incredibly hard in fostering sponsorships, managing fundraising functions and initiatives, maintaining our wonderful facilities, facilitating and overseeing the resurfacing of all three courts, as well as upgrades to court lighting. Our courts are now the envy of many on the Peninsula and Graeme is very proud of the facilities he has been so instrumental in developing and maintaining over many years.

Graeme's commitment to tennis is never more evident as it has been on Saturday mornings. Every weekend, Graeme has been at the Club from early in the morning preparing the clubhouse and courts for junior competition. He loves to share his knowledge of the game with young players, regardless of the club they represent, giving them tips on how to play better tennis and sharing with them everything that he knows about court craft and etiquette. Graeme is continually praised for his support of and interest in the children, and the Club has earned a wonderful reputation under his leadership. He is very proud of Somers Tennis Club, and our Committee and members are most appreciative of his enthusiasm and devotion.

In 2015, Somers Tennis Club presented Graeme with a Life Membership in recognition of his exceptional, loyal and outstanding service to the Club. At the 2018 Annual General Meeting, Graeme was presented with a **Highly Commended Service Award** by Tennis Victoria, a prestigious award only granted to a total of 12 recipients in Victoria each year. Congratulations Graeme!



*Please support our Club sponsors and supporters:*

### Club Sponsors



**DM Holden Plumbing Services**

### Club Supporters



**Bittern Market**

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

## Court 3 Upgrade

Our Court 3 resurfacing project is now complete following the extension of the concrete slab, the replacement of the synthetic grass surface with Rebound Ace HSA, and the upgrade of the halogen lights to LED lights.

Somers Tennis Club is extremely grateful for the support of Balnarring Community Bank Branch, Bendigo Bank with this project. Over the past 8 years the Bank has contributed over \$30,000 towards our various court upgrade projects.



## News from the Committee

We have had a few projects on the go recently. A big thank you to Grant Tucker, Harry Tucker, Graeme Wilson and Brian Adams who spent a weekend in September removing the old steps and pavers at the Clubhouse entrance and replacing these with large pavers. We have also introduced combination padlocks on all external gates, replacing the outdated key system.

Future planned projects include:

1. Replacing the key lock to the Clubhouse door with a mechanical keyless entry system.
2. Repairs to the northern fence on court 3.
3. Completing the glass partitions on the deck.
4. Sight screens for court 3.
5. Decking from the entrance gate around the northern, eastern and southern sides of the Clubhouse.
6. Replacing the 34 year old electric heater with a reverse cycle/ split system.
7. Replacing the 34 year old oven with a new oven.



**Somers Tennis Club Inc**  
 RW Stone Reserve  
 68 Camp Hill Road  
 Somers VIC 3927

PO Box 319  
 Somers VIC 3927

ABN: 92 206 826 702  
 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



Graeme Wilson, Patsy Wilson, Nathan Phillips (Tennis Victoria), Tony Withers (Club Coach), Zoe Proctor, Louise Adams, Oscar Willis, Grant Tucker, Charlie Alsop & Heather Goddard (Bendigo Bank) at the 2018 AGM

## Court and Clubhouse Hire Fees

### Court Hire

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

To book a court phone 5983 1360 or 5931 3507.

### 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 advise 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.

### Clubhouse Hire

Please contact Louise Adams 0402 154 952 or Graeme Wilson 0424 015 351.

### Visitors Fee

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

## Night Tennis Competition

Somers Tennis Club enters teams in the Westernport Night Tennis Association's **A Grade Mixed and B Grade Mixed** competition on Monday nights, and **B Grade Men's** competition on Tuesday nights. Matches commence at 7pm and cost \$7 per player.

If you would like to play tennis at night, please contact Louise on 0402 154 952.

New players are most welcome. In particular we are seeking a male for the B Grade mixed team commencing next season, February 2019.



## Like 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 Graeme on 0424 015 351.

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 books—please call in to the Clubhouse to check out our extensive range. Books are only \$2 each.

## Court Action

In the **Junior** Winter season just concluded, Somers Tennis Club had teams in Sections 3, 5, 7 and 9 with Sections 3 and 5 playing off in the preliminary finals. Our junior players continue to improve, and with some players progressing to men's night tennis, we currently have three teams playing in Sections 4, 6 and 8 in the Summer season.

The **Thursday Mid-Week Ladies** team made it to the Grand Final last season, however were defeated by Ranelagh. Following another strong season, the girls made last week's preliminary final, but were unfortunately defeated by Mt Martha in a very close match.

In the **Senior** Saturday Winter season we had a mixed team in Section 1 and two Open Singles teams in Section 2. Both Section 2 teams played off in the Grand Final, with Oscar Willis and Harry Austin (Somers Red) narrowly defeating Taylor Brennan and Chris Bullard (Somers Blue). In the current Summer season we have a Section 1 Mixed team and a Section 2 Open Singles team.

For the first time in many years, our **A Grade Mixed** night tennis team missed out on playing in finals. However our **B Grade Mixed** team made up for this by winning their Premiership. With finals approaching, the B Grade team are hopeful of a double Premiership!



Taylor Brennan (Somers Blue) & Oscar Willis (Somers Red) - Section 2 Open Singles Grand Finalists



Harry Austin & Oscar Willis - Section 2 Winter Season Premiers



Leigh Williams, Louise Adams, Charlie Alsop, Andrew Jeffs, Zoe Proctor (abs) & Shane Vedamuttu (abs) - B Grade Autumn 2018 Premiers

## Coaching Update

### Coaching in Term 1, 2019

The coaching program is currently conducted on Wednesday afternoons and evenings. Some vacancies exist for next year ..... enrol now to reserve a place! Monday evening will be added to the coaching program in 2019 should the demand be there.

### Holiday Program

- Dates:** Monday 7 & Tuesday 8 January 2019 from 8:30-10:30am
- Suitable for:** 5-12 yrs (from no experience to regular players)
- Fee:** \$35 per day or \$55 for both days. **Bookings essential.**
- Note:** A match play program for those capable is available at Balnarring Tennis Club from 11:00am-1:30pm on the same days.

### New in 2019 ..... Adult Tennis Cardio Session

This is ideal for players wanting a good workout while enjoying a hit of tennis. Every player is guaranteed to hit lots of balls. Expressions of interest are being taken for these Monday evening sessions.



Please advise Tony if you are interested in coaching, the holiday program or Cardio Tennis.

**Contact:** Tony Withers  
0413 331 014, witherstennis@hotmail.com

## 2019 Club Championships

**Dates:** Commencing Saturday 26 January, concluding Monday 28 January 2019 (Queen's Birthday long weekend)

**Entries close:** **Friday 21 December 2018**

Please return completed entry forms with payment to:

Graeme Wilson  
2018 Club Championships Director  
Somers Tennis Club  
PO Box 319  
Somers VIC 3927

or email to [info@somerstennisclub.com.au](mailto:info@somerstennisclub.com.au)

**Entry fees:** Under 18 years - free  
18 years and over - \$5 per event per person

Payment by cash, cheque made payable to 'Somers Tennis Club', or direct deposit—BSB 633 000, account 134397249, account name Somers Tennis Club Inc. Use surname as reference.

**Event format:** The Championships will take the form of either a round robin or knock-out event, subject to the number of entries received.

**Contacts:** Graeme Wilson, Championships Director - 0424 015 351  
Oscar Willis - 0424 803 372 or Louise Adams - 0402 154 952



### Terms and conditions of entry:

- The Club Championships will be conducted in accordance with Tennis Australia Rules and Regulations and Tennis Australia and member associations' Events Disciplinary Policy and Member Protection By-Law.
- Regulation tennis attire must be worn. The use of shoes with heels or ripple soles is prohibited.
- Trophies will be presented to the winners of all events.
- Matches may consist of an 8 game set with a tiebreak at 7-all (unless stated otherwise by the Club Championships Committee before the start of play). Some finals matches may consist of 2 x 6 game tie break sets.
- Matches will commence at 8:30am on Saturday 26 January 2019 and each day thereafter at 8:30am. The event will conclude on the afternoon of Monday 28 January 2019 (Australia Day public holiday). All competitors must be ready to play when called or they will forfeit the match.
- All competitors must report to the Club Championships desk on arrival.
- The Club Championships Committee reserves the right to cancel or combine events.
- No player may leave the courts without permission.
- Partners will be arranged for doubles matches if requested.
- The Club Championships Committee shall have entire control of the management of the event.
- Tennis Australia Code of Conduct will be strictly adhered to for the duration of the Club Championships.

**Entries close Friday 21 December 2018**

**Somers Tennis Club - 2019 Club Championships**  
**Saturday 26 – Monday 28 January (Australia Day Long Weekend)**

**ENTRY FORM**

**Entries close Friday 21 December 2018**

**Return completed entry form to:**

Graeme Wilson, 2018 Club Championships Director  
 Somers Tennis Club Inc, PO Box 319, Somers VIC 3927  
 or email to [info@somerstennisclub.com.au](mailto:info@somerstennisclub.com.au)

**Name:** .....

**Address:** .....

**Email address:** .....

**Mobile ph:** .....

**Date of birth (if under 18 years):** .....

**Doubles partner's name:** ..... **or, partner required:** Yes / No

Event No	Event Name	Entry Fee
1	Men's Singles	\$5
2	Men's Doubles	\$5 / player
3	Women's Singles	\$5
4	Women's Doubles	\$5 / player
5	Mixed Doubles	\$5 / player

**Correct entry fees must be paid on entering the Club Championships. Under 18 years FREE.**

Fees may be paid by cash, cheque made payable to 'Somers Tennis Club', or by direct deposit—BSB 633 000, account 134397249, account name Somers Tennis Club Inc. Include name as reference.

**All events are open to juniors.**

Event No	Event Name	Cost \$
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$</b>

**Player signature:** .....

**Parent/guardian signature (for U18 players):** .....

**[Electronic copy of entry form available at [www.somerstennisclub.com.au](http://www.somerstennisclub.com.au)]**