



TASMANIAN MASTERS SQUASH ASSOCIATION

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NEWSLETTER

January 2008

Damn!! Another year has passed and only one newsletter for the year. I was going to do more but where has the time gone?? Obviously too much playing squash and playing!!

South - Masters Pennant (by Ross Barnden)

We held three successful pennants during the year of 15 weeks each. We had 48 players in each pennant with a reserve list of 12/15 people each pennant, which means 60 players competing each pennant.

During the year the pennant sponsors changed from Globes Lighting to KAM Joinery. Thank you to Elaine & Ron Boxall from Globes Lighting for your support of masters squash (which will be continued through the tournaments). Welcome on board to Simon Ottway (KAM Joinery) as our southern pennant sponsor. Simon has some new initiatives which started at the end of the last 2007 pennant with a BBQ at the courts for all players. A big thank you to Cheryl Unsworth who gets all the results of the night into the computer & on the website by the end of that night - very impressive!

We are really pleased to see Chris Doig back at the courts after his recuperation and even back playing squash!

The next Southern Masters Pennant commences on 21 January and we have a full list, but for those wishing to be involved, we are happy to take your name as a fill in.

Northern Masters Pennant Report (by Leon Barnett)

Unfortunately due to lack of numbers the Tasmanian Masters Tournament that was scheduled to be held in Devonport had to be cancelled. More effort will be put into promoting next years Tournament and hopefully this will kick start a new era for Masters squash in the Northern sector.

A number of Devonport Masters Players traveled down to Hobart last July to play in the well run Tasmanian Masters Championships. Many new friends were made and lots of tall stories were told, September saw 8 Devonport Masters players making a beeline to W.A. to ply their skills in the 2007 Australian Masters Squash Championships. Trophies going to Christine Harris, Bob Simmons, and Julie Smith-Kingston. The high light of the series was our own Linda Pattison making her debut in the AMSC she out played her 2 opponents and thrilled the huge crowd with her winning shots. All in all this was great event and well worth the trip over.

Now it's off to the tropics next September to take part in the Darwin hosted Championships, this I can assure you should not be missed as all who played up there last time can vouch this to be one of the best tournaments. To all our eligible Masters players up here (35 years of age upwards) get your strapping on and make the effort to support the Tasmanian Masters Squash Association.

We are keen to run a weekly or monthly Masters Pennants up here and I know there are sufficient eligible players to make this a huge success. To all our Northern Members put your thinking caps on and introduce new players to the Masters ranks (Contact Leon Barnett 0427 011 772) who is keen to get this off the ground. As you are aware some centers are in danger of losing courts simply because courts are not being filled let's put up a fight for our game and look a ways to get back to what we used to have - full courts and great social nights. It's that time of year again so to all our Northern Masters Friends have wonderful Christmas and an injury free New Year and we will see you all in Devonport in April.

AUSTRALIAN MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2007 – WA – 3/9 – 14/9/07

See separate attachment compiled by Sandra Fogarty – thanks Sandra.

AUSTRALIAN MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2008 - DARWIN

More to come later but just a quick update:

Accommodation: Has been booked at Parap Village. Approx price is \$35-40 p.p. We have booked 38 beds for the fortnight (this is the total available). Anne Baker will take deposits of \$100 to secure your accommodation from 1 February 2008. All payments for accommodation need to be fully paid and finalised by 4 August 2008. Because of limited numbers the first to pay the deposit will receive priority on accommodation. This is shared accommodation – if you don't want shared accommodation please check out the Darwin Website (<http://www.amsasquash.com/NT2008Web/Index.htm>)

Flights: I have just booked through Tiger Airlines and got flights for approx \$90 each way Melbourne/Darwin. Well worth a look as they are very cheap! But I wouldn't wait too long.

Fishing Trip: one is planned at the end of the tournament (14/9/08 for 2 days) – inquiries to Simon Ottway (sohome@bigpond.com.au)

Dates for the Diary

- A Tasmanian Masters Tournament will be held in Devonport on the weekend of **4 - 6 April 2008**. Watch out for the entry forms.
- The AGM will be held on 5 April 2008 (in a break in the NW Tournament).
- Tasmanian Masters Championships - **4 - 6 July 2008** at Eastside Squash & Fitness.
- AMSA Championships - Darwin NT - 1 - 5 September 2008 (individuals); and 8 - 12 September 2008 (team events).
(<http://www.amsasquash.com/NT2008Web/Index.htm>)
- The VMSA (Vic Masters) also have a number of good tournaments which some Tasmanians attend - for information on these tournaments, please check the Victorian Masters' website www.vmsasquash.com
- World Masters Squash Championships - Christchurch, NZ 17 - 25 October 2008 www.worldmasterssquash.com for more information.

Australia V New Zealand three-test Series in Auckland - October 2007

(by Gaye Mitchell)

The Australian Masters Squash Assn (AMSA) selects a 12 person team (1 man and 1 women from each age group from O'35 to O'60 to represent Australia in a Three-test Series against New Zealand every two years.

I was fortunate to be selected as the O'50 female representative.

We had a very exciting series with the results being that Australia won the test series 3-0, but not before some very close results. In the first test we drew on rubbers, games and had a countback to points (not bad over 12 matches). The second test we won 9-3 and the third test we drew on rubbers and won on games.

I saw some fantastic squash with the best of the Australians and best of the New Zealanders in each age group playing each other. It was very inspirational and I have come back with a focus on making it to the World Masters Championships in Christchurch in October 2008.

The Australia Team was:

- O'35 - Men: Paul Bushell (ACT); Women: Amanda Hopps (WA)
- O'40 - Men: Warren Miller (Vic); Women: Cindy Meinjes (WA)
- O'45 - Men: Geoff Davenport (SA); Women: Christine Cooper (WA)
- O'50 - Men: Tom Sparks (Vic); Women: Gaye Mitchell (Tas)
- O'55 - Men: Brian Cook (Qld); Women: Sue Volkze (WA)
- O'60 - Men: Hugh Colburn (Qld); Women: Marilyn Kennedy (Qld)

Some photos below:



Victory for the Australians



Aussies in full cheer – very glamorous!!



Australian (Gaye second left front) and New Zealand Test Teams



Why is a Christmas Tree better than a man?

It's always erect, stays up for 12 days and nights, has cute balls, and looks good with the lights on!!

*Merry Christmas and a happy New Year for 2008
From your TMSA Committee (better late than never!)*