



## TASMANIAN MASTERS SQUASH ASSOCIATION

*President:* Rose Searle [Searle@vision.net.au](mailto:Searle@vision.net.au)  
*Secretary:* Gaye Mitchell [gayem@aeutas.org.au](mailto:gayem@aeutas.org.au)  
*Treasurer:* Anne Baker [bakera@dbl.newsltd.com](mailto:bakera@dbl.newsltd.com)  
*Postal Address:* C/- 71 Kellatie Road Rosny 7018  
*TMSA Website:* [www.squashtas.asn.au](http://www.squashtas.asn.au)

# NEWSLETTER

December 2008

We like positives so here goes:

- Tasmanian Masters Squash has its highest membership ever!
- Record number of Tasmanian teams competed in Darwin in September 2008 (14).
- Had winners in individual and team events (see below).
- We have a World Champion in our midst (over 55 Women).
- North West Coast numbers increasing all the time.
- Trevor Dooley had a double/triple bi-pass early in 2008 and is back playing squash – even went to Darwin and acquitted himself very well. What a champ!!
- Chris Doig (Manager of Eastside Squash & Fitness) is looking so well following his health issues. Even heard a rumor he is back on the court. Good on ya Chris!

### AUSTRALIAN MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS – DARWIN – SEPTEMBER 2008

43 players went to Darwin (plus some partners- at one stage we had 54 Tasmanians there) and we want the championships to always be in Darwin – fantastic place. BBQ most nights around the pool outside of our accommodation; ate fresh fish caught that day by some of our intrepid fishermen; swam in the pool from daylight to well after dark; never put on a long-sleeve top; watched the sun set into the water; drank good wine/beer and made lots of friends and it just goes on – what more can you ask.

#### *Individual Winners:*

Women: O'55 Open – Gaye Mitchell; O'60 Div 2 – Jan Hopkins; O'65 Div 2 – Sue Poulton.  
Men: O'50 Div 2 Consolation Plate – George Kovacs; O'60 Special Plate – Trevor Dooley.

#### *Teams Winners:*

Div 3: Gaye Mitchell/Paul Rodgers/Graeme Bradfield  
Div 7: Cam Phillips/George Kovacs/Simon Ottway

#### *Teams R/Up:*

Div 11: Andrew O'Brien/Judy Fox/Christine Harris  
Div 18: John Champ/Hans Kerkuliet/Julie Kingston-Smith  
Div 19: Helen Hay/Anne Baker/Dave McDonald  
Div 20: Sue Poulton/Anne Collins/Jan O'Brien

The 2009 Australian Championships are in MELBOURNE in September 2009 (individuals 7-11/9/09 and teams 14-18/9/09). Accommodation has been pre-booked at Quest Prahran, 9 Balmoral St South Yarra with approx cost \$40 p.p. per night – very central – check out the website [www.questprahran.com.au](http://www.questprahran.com.au). If you are interested in attending please get in touch with Ross Barnden on 0408 442 515 or Anne Baker to book your spot.

Watch this website for updates and you can also register your interest at this site:

<http://www.vmsasquash.com/amsa>

## Northern/North-Western News (by Leon Barnett)

After a well-run tournament held at the Devonport Squash Centre earlier in the year with a record number of Masters from the North/North West playing, this event has created a lot of interest from Masters Squash Players. Many are on the cusp of being old enough have indicated their intention to participate. Many would have liked to trek up to the top end after hearing how great it was but they have assured us that Melbourne is on their calendar.

A word of thanks to all of the Hobart gang for helping ease the way in for our northern virgins – they had heard of how hospitable you lot were but now have experienced it first-hand and can't stop shouting about the great time you helped them have. Comments from a non-player *"I have never seen anybody enjoy themselves on the courts as much as you guys did, but then after witnessing the beer garden I realized it wasn't all about playing the game but also making new friends."*

We wish you the very best for the New Year from your new and old Masters friends.

## South - KAM JOINERY Spring Pennant (by Ross Barnden)

The last night of this pennant for 2008 is on Monday, 15 December at Eastside Squash & Fitness, Bellerive. 16 teams of 3 players (48 players each Monday night) completed in each of the three pennants held throughout the year. All standards of players are catered for and there is an extremely popular period at the end of the night where players share a supper and a wee drink. Players are welcome to come and see how the masters enjoy this evening.

The next pennant will commence on Monday, 19 January 2009 and preference will be given to those with an historically good attendance record.

Thank you to Cheryl Unsworth for her hard work throughout the year as our Registrar and Results Coordinator. This all takes valuable time and we really appreciate her tireless contribution.

A very special and HUGE thanks must go to Ross Barnden who was the instigator of this very popular competition, and continues give of his time, even when (for health reasons) he has been unable to play himself. We also thank Chris Doig at Eastside Squash & Fitness for his support.

## Dates for the Diary

- Southern Masters Pennant commences Monday, 19 January 2009. Leave your name at Eastside Squash & Fitness or contact Ross Barnden to participate.
- A Tasmanian Masters Tournament will be held in Devonport on the weekend of 27 - 29 March 2009. Watch out for the entry forms.
- Tasmanian Masters Championships - 3- 5 July 2009 at Eastside Squash & Fitness.
- AMSA Championships - MELBOURNE - 7-11/9/09 (individuals); and 14-18/9/09 (team events).
- 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](http://www.vmsasquash.com)

## SPONSORS

- We would be remiss if we didn't mention two sponsors who continue to be strong supporters of Masters Squash in Tasmania. Elaine & Ron Boxall of **GLOBES LIGHTING** and Simon Ottway of **KAM JOINERY** have made a wonderful contribution to Masters Squash and we thank them very much and urge our membership to continue to support their businesses as they support us.

## On a personal note!

- We pass our commiserations on to Rose Searle and her family on the passing away of her mum in September. Rose was booked to attend the Championships in Darwin but had to cancel.
- Our thoughts are also with the family of Tony Andrew (North West Coast), who passed away after a short illness earlier this year.

## World Masters Squash Championships – Christchurch NZ – October 2008

The World Masters Squash Championships were held in Christchurch, New Zealand in October 2008 with over 760 people from 35 countries competing. Mike Brown and Gaye Mitchell from Hobart both attended the Championships. Six centres were needed to cater for the numbers playing.

Mike Brown was in a draw of 102 in the Men's Over 50 Event – the largest event of the tournament. Mike was seeded 8-16 and finished 12th which was a fantastic effort, especially considering this is his last year in this age group.

Gaye Mitchell took out the Over 55 Title, after being seeded no. 2. Gaye was in a draw of 32; in the lead up played opponents from Australia, Scotland, England and in the final played Franci Stephenson from New Zealand. Franci defeated the No. 1 seed in the semi final in 3-1. Gaye had a very good tournament and did not drop a game during the tournament.

Australia did very well and won 6 of the 16 world titles on offer:

### Women's

O'35 Amanda Hopps (WA)

O'40 Sarah Nelson (NSW)

O'55 Gaye Mitchell (TAS)

### Men's

O'35 Jason Mudge (SA)

O'50 Geoff Davenport (SA)

O'60 Brian Cook (QLD)

This event is held every two years and the next World Masters Squash Championships will be held in Germany in 2010.

## Australian Masters Squash Championships – Tasmania in 2010

It seems like a long time before it happens – **September 2010** – but from previous experience we have found it takes 18 months of planning when it is our turn to hold the Australian Championships in Tasmania.

We seek expressions of interest in being involved in the planning over the next 18 months or being a volunteer during any part of the two weeks of the championships (school holidays in September 2010). You may be able to drive a bus, be on a merchandise table, organise social functions, enlist sponsors, produce a daily newsletter, run a bar, refereeing, general dogs body!! – we have found it is important to enlist people in their area of expertise and then it is not a chore – they actually enjoy using their skills. Please email to Gaye Mitchell at [gayem@aeutas.org.au](mailto:gayem@aeutas.org.au) if you would like to be involved in any area or have a skill which you think would be useful.

We were going to include some pics but there was so much news to impart that there is no room this time.

Same joke as last year but it's OK!!



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 2009*  
*From your TMSA Committee (Anne Baker, Ross Barnden, Leon Barnett, Mike Brown, Sandra Fogarty, Brendan Lucas, Gaye Mitchell, Rose Searle & Glenis Stephens.)*