



MCC Real Tennis Section Summer Newsletter 2014/5

Upcoming events

6 Feb & 6 Mar Intro Nights
8 Feb Match against R.M TC
28 Feb & 1 Mar Match against Ballarat TC

All year Gold Racquet Tournament
Handicap Club Championship

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2015.

The 2014 year was a big year for MCCRTS with a lot of tennis, with twenty one events from introduction nights, pennant matches against BTC and RMTC including an A/B grade pennant and matches against Ballarat, Hobart, RMTC and Sydney clubs. We had our first annual dinner, our gold racquet competition took on a stronger presence with players from Hobart competition as well and our membership numbers grew.

We had Hobart send across for the weekend of the 18th & 19th October to play and stay at Romsey. They sent a small team with handicaps ranging from 5 to 80 so there was plenty of tennis for all players. Andrew Gould, Mike Carroll, Graeme Blundstone, John and Luke Piccolo, Calum Munro and Paul Scally represented MCCRTS for a 10/5 rubber win. From all accounts, the weekend of tennis and staying at Romsey with the Hobartians, all had a great night and weekend there.

Annual Dinner

2014 saw our first annual dinner function, held in conjunction with the MCC Squash section. This was at the MCC main dining room and it is one of the best sporting section functions of the year. We had 25 RTS members and guests attend, so a decent number who enjoyed a great night. We made up perhaps 10% of the crowd and with the MCC Squash section a similar size to ours, we hope many more members will attend next year. Stuart Strange won a draw prize, a tennis lesson with Jonners. I hope he puts it to good use for his semi final against that man Friendly on 6th February.

We thank Reid Consultants for their sponsorship contribution to prizes and helping fund the cost for the night. Contact Greg on 0428 310 165 for any finance needs, investor, business or home loans. (Ed. Always good to help promote sponsors who support us).

2014 Gold Racquet Competition

Matches have been played at RMTC and some matches played in Hobart. Due to injury and overseas commitments, the final will be played between Kieran Booth and Nick Howell at RMTC on Friday 6th February from 6pm. Come along to this intro and members night and watch some very high quality tennis. In the path to the final, Nick H took on and beat the little master Frank F while Kieran B was just a little too consistent for the very elegant Paul T.

2014 Handicap Tournament

Due to a conflict of event timing, the final for 2014 could not be played on our finals night scheduled for 5th December. How dare Ballarat clash with our finals night! Even worse how is it the Ballarat members are winning all the way through playing at RMTC? Stuart Strange and Dick Friend play their delayed semi-final match at 5pm on Friday 6th February where Weedy Whitehead is waiting in the wings after defeating last year's winner, Henry Turnbull.

2015 Cowper-Cowdrey Cup

July 2015 on the sixth day of the Lords test, being 21st July, MCCRTS will be fielding a team to play against Marylebone CC team, playing tennis at Lords. Early interest is encouraged so we can look to work on some pairings and even practice before this event. Let Andrew Gould know if you are looking at going across or being there and wanting to play representing MCCRTS.

Membership

We now have over 120 members. If you know of anyone who has an interest in the game please let them know about the section. Subscriptions for 2015 are \$35 per year, or you can take advantage of the best bargain going around and pay \$90 for 3 years.

There are a number of benefits, being able to play at or against different clubs more regularly than you may be able to do just being a member of RMTC for example, an additional series of matches and pennants, access to MCC functions including Sports Sections Dinner annually, the use of the Hans Ebeling Room and Grand Final lunch at the 'G.

Hans Ebeling Room

This is one of the best kept secrets associated with being a member of the section. You can come to a blockbuster game, get a great dinner and drinks, then go out to your reserved seat on level 2. Non member guests merely need a visitor's ticket to get into the ground and they will have access to level 2 and the dining room bar, no need to get a balcony pass, if you can get one at all. It is made available for both the footy and cricket.

If you haven't yet renewed your membership, now is a good time to do so, contact Iain B for details if needed.

New members

We welcome the following new members:

- Matt Downey and Sam Bowman – both coming via MCC Squash section who have also joined a RMTC squash pennant team.

Club Championships for 2015

We will soon send out an invitation to play in the 2015 championships, keep an eye out for the invitation. Matches are arranged throughout the year with the final will be held on Friday 4th December at RMTC on our finals night.

Update on Court Development

There is not much to report on as yet, concept plans have been drawn, information on financial viability given but it is with MCC to be able to locate and then negotiate on a suitable venue. The concept that MCC will build

a 'racquets' complex for its members is high on their priority list to include squash courts (a MCC section that has been without a home for over a decade) real tennis courts and possible lawn tennis courts with gym etc.

Hassle your local MCC committee member to give them a push along.

Clothing

We have finalised a logo and in discussion with an embroidery company to get our own club t-shirts. Keep an eye out for future news.

Tennis Calendar for 2015 – an initial version to be completed once various pro's are back in action

Feb	6 8	Intro and member night – 2014 Gold Racquet final MCC vs. RMTC (Romsey)
Feb/Mar	28-1 6 18	BTC vs. MCC (Ballarat) Intro night AGM 12:00 (tbc)
April		
May	16-17 29-31	HTC vs. MCC (Hobart) MCC vs. STC (R, B & Rom)
June		
July	26	RMTC vs MCC (Richmond)
Aug		
Sept		
Oct	17-18	MCC vs. HTC (Romsey)
Nov	22	MCC vs. BTC (Romsey)
Dec	4	Club Champs Final

Committee

Just in case you have forgotten, your committee looks like this:

Chairman/El Presidente	Andrew Gould	abgould@bigpond.net.au
Secretary	Iain Buchanan	mccrts@y7mail.com
Treasurer	Greg Reid	gjreid@tpg.com.au
General Committee	Henry Turnbull	henry@traffixgroup.com.au
	Mike Carroll	Michael.Carroll@iinet.com.au
	Wendy Whitehead	wpw@netconnect.com.au

Mike Carroll and Greg Reid will be responsible for tennis this year – Mike is running the championships and gold racquet, while Greg will be doing the inter club pennants. Get involved no matter what standard you are and enjoy some fun both on and off the court.

If you have any feedback, ideas or suggestions please feel free to contact any or all of us