

TENNIS EAST GIPPSLAND 2007/08 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Regional Council

I represented our Regional Council, along with Julie Glynn Region Secretary and Tennis Victoria Regional Development Officer, at the 2008 Country Conference at Grace Park TC in May 2008.

The merging of Tennis Victoria and Victorian Country Tennis Association has added a great impetus to central Victoria, and many members back to the parent body.

Providing the best possible competition for registered players was the order of the day at the Conference, both at junior and senior levels.

The meeting was very well attended and it was refreshing to see the enthusiasm of some of the Region's representatives, and the well represented Regional Councils from across country Victoria.

To this end, I hope that this AGM will see our Regional Council comprise a full complement of representatives assisting the advance of regional activities through our associations, clubs and media outlets in the areas of participation, communication and competition.

Pennant

It is hoped that the promise of a reintroduced Regional Pennant materializes for the coming summer season.

The former Tennis East Gippsland (TEG) pennant floundered in its sixth year and went into recess in 2005/06. I trust this will be seen as a positive step towards providing the best competition available in our Region.

Representative Teams

This program has become quite large over the years and our kids have certainly put the events on their radar.

Our TEG selected representative junior teams achieved the following results in the year:

- Wayne Arthurs Cup – Kooyong (10/U Boys and Girls) – coming 13th
- Frank Sedgman Cup – Bendigo (11/U Boys and Girls) – coming 11th
- Alicia Molik Cup – Kooyong (12/U Boys and Girls) – coming 14th
- John Fitzgerald Cup - Ballarat (13/U Boys) – coming 5th
- Foundation Cup - Benalla (13/U Girls) – coming 8th (after **WINNING** last year for the first time)
- Ambassadors Cups – Cobram (15/U Boys and Girls) – coming 5th
- Country Cup (17/U Boys and Girls) – not played (after **WINNING** last year for the first time).

Results can be viewed at <http://www.tennis.com.au/pages/default.aspx?id=3&pageId=11772>.

Country Week teams and the Inter-Regional Championships team also represented the Region.

Junior Circuit

Lead-in Circuit tournaments were conducted at Bairnsdale, Maffra and Sale. The Masters Final was held at Bairnsdale. Results can be viewed on the website.

Regional Work Plan

As Tennis Victoria Regional Development Officer, Julie Glynn has had another busy year, and we continue to work closely with her.

The principal areas of attention remain participation, communication and competition and Julie was appointed by Tennis Victoria to create an Indigenous Program at two Bairnsdale Schools with the aim of making it part of their ongoing curriculum, and ultimately replicating it in other parts of the State in years to come.

Tennis East Gippsland Championships

These were re-introduced last year for the first time since 1991/92. Hosted by Sale TC as two Friday evening/night affairs, the Championships attracted a small but enthusiastic field. Titleholders added to the Honour Board (see the website) were in the events of Men's Open Singles, Women's Open Singles, Boy's 18/U Singles and Girl's 18/U Singles.

Disaster Grants

TEG applied to the Tennis Victoria Disaster Fund for assistance following reported damage during the 2007 Flood event to Tinamba TC and Bairnsdale TC and received \$1,500 for each of these clubs.

Tennis Australia "Baseline" On-line Computer Administration program

As reported last AGM, this computer program was purportedly designed to encompass club membership and management and include association/club team competition draws and results within 18 months.

Disappointingly, the system has fallen short of expectations with only 20 something clubs finding the system usable, and only for reporting member details for the purposes of Player Registrations. Bairnsdale signed up and identified a quite number of shortcomings to Tennis Victoria prior to last year's AGM and although these have not been sorted out yet, the program still holds promise for our clubs and associations.

Communication

Repeating last year's comment "Whilst comments continue about not knowing what is going on in the region, the regional calendar of events continues to be published on our website. Gathering information from clubs is a little like drawing hens' teeth and I implore clubs to forward their events and functions particulars for inclusion to make the calendar more useful for all of us."

We also find email communication is easiest so if you want to personally receive TEG reports please advise us of your personal email address to be added to our mailing list.

Appointment of Association/Club responsible persons

We understand that not many of our communications get a regular spot at Association or Club general meetings and would like consideration to be given to formally appointing a committee person to receive these reports on behalf of each Association and Club.

Player Registration (PR)

After previously having PR and Personal Accident Insurance (PAI) as separate arrangements, Tennis Victoria has successfully completed a year combining these two elements.

PR provides funds for the structure under which our game is administered, club protection against litigation, and PAI within the one fee.

PR is compulsory for entry to certain sanctioned tournaments and competitions.

John Glynn

President Tennis East Gippsland
27/7/2007