

NEWS

Hi Everyone,



We got us some squash doubles action this weekend, starting Friday night and then all day Saturday. As with any tournament, entries have bounced around a bit on the run up to the event but we do seem to have settled nicely on 16 pairs leaving us with a very managable 8 draw in both Mens Open Division and the Mixed Division. Undoubtedly, some as yet unseen misfortune will do it's best to ruin the draw but this is the format that tournament control are going with. We have managed to attract some interest from the other clubs which is great to see. They may have been swayed by the fantastic cash prize pot that we have been wafting under their noses. Huge thanks to club tennis and squash member, Nick Simpson and his building materials company **Holcim** for sponsoring this event.

While that's going on, many of our tennis players will also be in action for the Club Champs Doubles. Good participation numbers here as well. There will be a lot of games to try and get through, especially on the Saturday so you can expect that first rounds, at least, will have a restricted format (probably first to 9 sets) to save time. I'm sure that those required to play 3 or even 4 matches on Saturday will appreciate the logic of that.

Other Tennis Notices



Our big annual open doubles tournament sponsored by Langley Twigg is now only 2 weeks away. This tournament is coming in behind club champs doubles and mixed doubles competitions this year so you will be forgiven for not having turned your attention to it yet but you might want to start thinking about grabbing a partner for this one before they're all gone. Get your entry in by Wednesday 20th March latest, using the link https://www.hblts.co.nz/tennis-entry-form.html

Last night's round of Business House Tennis did little to affect the top end of the A Grade table with the top 4 teams all reeling in maximum points. The Guv'nor has read the danger signs, recruiting two new 'Bad Kids' to ease the increasing pressure on his team. He knows that any slip up at this stage will let BNZ into the final against Continuous Spouting on 27th March. They keep the 3 point advantage for now but a potential banana skin, in the form of NRE, awaiting them next week. Tumu Timbers do have a few

high ranked A grade players on their books but we just don't see them often enough and their team now find themselves back in familiar, division play-off, territory, losing out to and swapping places with General Compression. Poor old Evolution Motors, some 30 points of the pace, must look at evolving their team if they are going to compete at this level next season.

Ramage Sheetmetal's Bruce Pittman sent me an email last week expressing his surprise that I hadn't given his team a hard time in this bulletin and he is absolutely right to bring it to my attention because not only did they spanked by HTM last week, they got a hiding from Rench Builders last night. Ramage stalwarts Angus and Nick did very well to contain Rench's Gavin & Shane but the first pairing of Bruce Tomlinson and Bruce Pittman walked off the court packing more Bruce's than it did points after facing Judy & Rachael. They drop to 7th place on the B Grade table. Back to the drawing board boys (and may I suggest getting some sharper pencils). Pint Club maintain control of the board with a solid win over HTM. Can they hang on? They have Langley Twigg in the final round.

Apologies again to our regular Saturday session players. We just don't have enough court space to run Acclerator, Cardio or Club Day this week with the club champs doubles in operation. We will be struggling to get through it as is. We ask you to be understanding that March is a packed month for tennis events. We will put on an official tennis Club Day on this Sunday from 1pm-3pm and I will open the bar for a couple of hours 2pm-4pm.

Squash Notices

Congratulations to all our Ladies that took part in last Saturday's One Day Tournament here at the club. Results are as follows:

Div 1: Winner **Kay Lorimer (HBLTS),** Runner Up Melia Nielsen (Waipuk),

Div 2: Winner Jade Leith (HBLTS), Runner Up Jacqui Mattsen (H/North),

Div 3: Winner Angela Brooks (Waipuk), Runner Up Jessie Broad (Hast),

Div 4: Winner Sam Stevens (HBLTS), Runner Up Holly Lomas (HBLTS),

Div 5: Winner **Terri Reid (HBLTS**), Runner Up Alison Kershaw (H/North),

Div 6: Winner Vanessa Fraser (HBSRC), Runner Up **Tahlia Kemp (HBLTS)**,

Div 7: Winner Isabel Taylor (HBLTS), Runner Up Ana Baxter (HBLTS),

Novice Div: Winner Andrea Connell (HBLTS). The impressive spot prize wheel was also a "fan fave" with the crowd impressed by the selection of goodies up for grabs (kindly donated by the Michalakis family aka Greendemadows Physio).

Squash Eastern is looking to restart the weekly Secondary Schools Competition in term 2 and 3 and we have received high interest from schools already. We are in need of someone who can facilitate the event each week so are seeking expressions of interest from clubs. We have received funding from Sport HB so this will also be a paid role. It could suit a senior junior who maybe planning to play in the competition or a parent or teacher who is able to commit to after school hours. We are looking to run a Napier and Hastings/Havelock North competition so ideally looking for 2 people to run the separate locations. The event is due to start the second week of term two and run through to the end of term 3 with a tournament at the end of each term which is usually run during school time. The competition is run similar business house where schools enter a team of 3-4 and play 20mins each against other schools. The start time is 3.45pm – 5pm on Mondays. Anyone interested to get in touch with Michelle Kelly for more information.

No Squash Club Day this week with the doubles tournament in operation.

Interclub (Ladies and Mixed) Register now if you are wanting to play. It is a club teams event played on Tuesday evenings for Ladies teams, and Wednesday evenings for Mixed teams at the various clubs around the Eastern area. Team entries MUST be in to Eastern by the end of March! Remember you must be a financial member and graded in order to play in this competition.

Eastern Junior 200 Series: First one for 2024 to be held at HBLTS on **Sunday 24 March**. Enter now via Isquash or contact Dino/Jules

Upcoming local tournaments (Enter on Isquash)

Waipukurau Open (22-23 March) – Players Series event HBSRC Easter Open (29-31 March) – Player Series event Eastern Open Hastings (19-21 April) – Player Series event DOUBLE POINTS

In Petanque...



Congratulations to club champs doubles winners Sharon Cannon & Margaret Harkness who beat Bethne Gardner and Barry Hunt 13-3 in the final. They were the best of the 10 teams that took part in a very good day of competitive club pétanque. Yep…cheers ladies.

Entries for this will open 18th March 2024 and close 3rd May 2024.

All entries to be done via the club and payment must be made in full to enter. All entries must have all three names of those playing. (No entry will be accepted without all three names) Entries accepted in the order of payment received.

Please note that the cancelled Abbeyfield House Trivia Night has been rescheduled for Friday 12th April. It is our hope that those teams that registered for the previous date will get on board again and that more teams will be available to enjoy the fun and help Abbeyfield raise as much funds for their cause as we possibly can in one night.

That's all for now. See you at the bar

Gary.