



MASTAS Newsletter

No.1. February 2007



Hello Fellow Masters Tennis Players

Christmas has come and gone and we are well into the summer. Lots of lovely tennis playing days and still more to come.

I spent some time in Melbourne at the Australian Open and it was another great event – every year they break attendance records and this year Melbourne Park has had a minor upgrade with wide TV monitors and a huge screen on centre court so the crowd can see replays and of course check out the Hawkeye on disputed decisions. More fantastic tennis with Roger Federer proving once again that he is one of the greats if not the greatest – this year he went through without losing a set – the first male since Ken Rosewall in the early 70's. Gonzo also showed he had gone to another level and is certainly a contender for the world No 2 spot. Serena Williams spent most of the tournament showing moments of splendour mixed with some very erratic play but continued to find enough to get over the line in each match. When it came to the final she stepped up another level and was in “the zone”. She was at her best. So we have had a winner of the Australian Open who could not get past the third round of the Moorilla just a short time before. The Moorilla keeps going to another level and will continue to do so. It is a major lead in tournament to the Oz Open and well liked by all those who participate as a unique tournament setting and friendly atmosphere – it can only get bigger and better. There have been fantastic changes to the Domain club house and it is looking very modern and up to date – I suggest you wander up there and check it out or better still play in our state Masters championships over the March long weekend at the Domain.

Congratulations to Max Byrne who won the Australian Seniors 75 and over singles in Perth without dropping a set and also to David Tunbridge who was unseeded but made it through to the semifinal in the 50+ singles.

Our 55+ mens team finished 5th in the first division but had very close matches with the 3rd and 4th teams with equal sets with each but going down on games.

We voted over 12 months ago to change our name to Masters to avoid the connotations of Vets or Seniors. I have now been approached by the CEO of Tennis Australia (Steve Wood) to change to Seniors. Steve plays with Victoria Seniors and agrees that the name is not pleasant for those younger members of our association but there are marketing opportunities that TA are looking at for us which could be very beneficial but will require a common name all around Australia so I will be asking at our next meeting that we change to Seniors. If any members have any comments please contact me.

Yours in tennis

Graeme Holloway President, Tennis Masters Tasmania

Reminder: Tennis at Taroona Tennis Club Sunday 11th Feb. Come and enjoy a great day!!

TENNIS MASTERS TASMANIA

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TENNIS SENIORS AUSTRALIA NEWS

REPORT FROM JON AUFDER-HEIDE , TEAM CAPTAIN



Perth 2007

Perth was certainly a great experience for us all—a modern city on lovely Swan river. The courts were only five minutes drive from our hotel and playing on natural grass was a long overdue experience that we enjoyed. Although we struggled against the two top teams who both had Australian representatives in them, including Max Bates, Peter Rigg and Wayne Fernes, we drew four sets all with the other two States, namely New South Wales 1 and West Australia 2. Funnily enough New South Wales were clearly stronger than WA 2 and beat them comfortably on the final day. We seemed to play well against them as we had a similar style of game whereas WA2 were less of an attacking side but just seemed to hang in there with a more defensive style and were hard to put away. This was emphasized in our final match when we struggled with injuries but still drew four sets all with WA2 but lost on games.

Unfortunately we lost all those close ones on games and it was a pity teams do not receive a point for every set won like it used to be so our efforts were truly recognised.

All our players had good and bad days except for Neville Milne who seemed to play well every day—he certainly loved playing on natural grass and seemed to read the play well with the great timing he has. Eddie Gotowski and Nigel Ricketts certainly made the opposition jump with their big serves too!

We had a nice trip on the Wednesday afternoon to the Wineries and then drove back down the coast looking at the million dollar homes across from the magnificent beaches.

Fremantle was also a great visit along with Rottnest Island. A superb trip! We encourage those thinking of going to the next trip in Albury to start planning your holidays now as these trips are fantastic!



Nigel Ricketts, Jon Aufder-Heide, Eddie Gotowski, Neville Milne, Ben Rafferty, Colin Mathew



TENNIS SENIORS AUSTRALIA NEWS—(CONT.)



Australian Individual Championships in Perth—

Report from Max Byrne.

Tasmania had 2 men playing in the Australian Individual Championships and both had good results.

David Tunbridge was in the semi final of the 50 singles and lost to the eventual winner Glen Busby, David and his partner were in the semi final of the 50 doubles and lost to Glen Busby and Wayne Pascoe.

I won the final of the 75 men's singles defeating Adrian Alle 6/1 6/3 It was a great thrill as this was my first Australian singles title having been runner up a few times. I was also in the finals of the 70 and 140 combined men's doubles with Nev Langford unfortunately we lost both events.

I have been selected No 1 and Captain of Australian 75 team to play the World Champs in Christchurch in November.

We were fortunate that the weather was cool for Perth at this time of year with average temperature around 26.

The matches were all played at Robertson Park on excellent natural grass courts.

The event was well run with all doubles finals on Thursday and the singles finals on Friday the presentation was listed for 3pm but unfortunately some matches did not get on till 2 and 2.30 even though there were plenty of courts earlier. The men's 35 singles was one last match and did not finish until after the presentation and announcement of the Australian Teams.

It was a very enjoyable week with little time other than for Tennis.

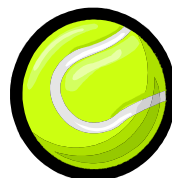
Alison Ide from Canberra tells us of a Tennis Seniors Tour to New Zealand which will be from the 8th to 22nd September. Tennis scheduled to be played against NZ Seniors twice in Auckland, Warkworth (a scenic area North of Auckland, Tauranga, Hamilton and Te Aroha. A costing will be advised as soon as available. If you wish to express initial interest contact Alison Ide email idea@netspeed.com.au or phone 02 62497976. Other tours have been very enjoyable and successful and the hospitality fantastic!

Congratulations to:

Max Byrne for his appointment as Captain of the 75+ Australian Team to play in Christchurch in November.

Jon Aufder-Heide for his win over T. Kerslake in the Men's Veterans Singles in the Cygnet Tennis Tournament. In the Mens Veteran Doubles T. Kerslake/J. Aufder-Heide def. B.Titmus/ G. Jacobs on forfeit.

D. Tunbridge/ R. Wynwood for their win over T. Kerslake/ J. Aufder-Heide in the Men's Open Doubles.



MASTERS TENNIS DAYS

Sunday November 12th Devonport Tennis Club. Lesley Baird, Pauline Baker and Ann Pusta rove from Launceston into increasingly dark skies and foreboding signs of rain. There were some showers, but we continued! Arrived in Devonport to see Colin Mathew, David Johnson and Doug Robinson busily using the squeegees on the courts after heavy rain had stopped. Eight players took to the courts and played about ten games and the rain really started! Wives and partners had prepared a great lunch and twelve of us thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality. It is not often that Masters lose a days play because of rain, but this time we did!. Thank you Devonport for all the trouble you went to, very disappointing.

Sunday December 3rd Sunshine Tennis Club. Arthur Mathews played, Pauline Baker came from Launceston and won on the day, Jon Aufder- Heide,(who was a winner on the day) Neville Milne and Eddie Gotowski got in some team work for Perth, and Ann and Terry Connell did a great job organizing the catering. Christmas good wishes were given by President Graeme Holloway.

Next Tennis Days

Your New Tennis Calendar is included with this circular. Please put it in a noticeable position and come to as many tennis days as possible to support the Masters and the clubs who host us for the day!

FEBRUARY Sunday 11th 2007 at the Tarooma Tennis Club. A beautiful setting , great tennis and hospitality, hear about the team in Perth and enjoy a social day with Tarooma members. Lunch provided.

**MARCH 10th, 11th,12th, DOMAIN TENNIS CENTRE
TENNIS MASTERS TASMANIA OPEN STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
ENTRY FORMS WITH THIS VETAS!!!! GET YOUR FRIENDS TO ENTER
TAKE PART YOURSELF. We need your active participation.**

APRIL Sunday 1st. Riverside Tennis Club. Southerners and NW Coasters make it a day to Launceston for a most enjoyable time at the Riverside Club. Lunch provided.

MAY Sunday 6th. Glenorchy Tennis Club. Wonderful hospitality at the Glenorchy Club and enjoyable tennis.

**PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR CLUB MASTERS REPRESENTATIVE IN OUR
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR THIS YEAR!!!**

They are:

DOMAIN –Elizabeth Bowden, Graeme Holloway. RIVERSIDE—Max Byrne.
GLENORCHY—Max Walker. ROSNY—Jon Aufder-Heide. SUNSHINE— Terry Connell,
Peter Rodgers. GEILSTON BAY—Mike Hodge. LINDISFARNE—Ross Brown.
DEVONPORT—David Johnson. TAROOMA—Ann Pusta.

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