



**ESPERANCE
TENNIS CLUB**

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

EASTER IS UPON US...

Alysha Castelli- President

Christmas and New Years have come and gone and now Easter is just around the corner. Cannot believe it. It has been a wonderful start to the year and the tennis playing momentum at the club has continued thanks to Coach Bastien and our weekly captains.

A few updates for members include the cancellation of the March Tennis Tournament along with a few maintenance projects on the go around the clubhouse. Firstly, the cancellation of the tournament was disappointing for all involved, especially considering the planning that goes into a large-scale event such as this one. Thank you to volunteers for your time on this, as well as those who put their name down to help on the weekend.

On the maintenance front, the courts are looking amazing after a professional clean from Mark Tucker at West Coast Sporting Surfaces. You may also notice Dave McMullen from McMullen's Blinds, Sails and Canvas updating the sails and fixing the shutters over the next few weeks. Read more on this below.

The Esperance Tennis Club Championships will be held on Saturday 25th March. Please save the date. This will be a great opportunity to come together as a club and celebrate tennis in our community. This year's events will be sponsored by Byfields Business Advisers and Mr Peter Rundle MLA. Thank you to the sponsors for your support. More information will follow.

I am devastated to hear of the passing of Darren Foss. This is awful news for our tennis community, and we send all our love to his wife Patty and his close friends and family. He was a kind and enthusiastic tennis coach who held a positive and strong relationship with all members, particularly the junior players at the club. Our thoughts are with the family.

IMPORTANT DATES

Saturday 25th March : CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS (Juniors & Seniors)

Friday 31st March : RED BALL COMPETITION (Year 3&4 students)

Monday 22nd May- INDIGENOUS TENNIS & LEARNING ROADSHOW- PRIMARY SCHOOLS DAY

Monday 23rd May - INDIGENOUS TENNIS & LEARNING ROADSHOW- SECONDARY SCHOOLS DAY



JUNIORS

There was a shift through the divisions for our junior pennant players this term. With players moving away for school and a noticeable improvement in skills gained from coaching and consistent match play. The rallies are becoming very exciting to watch across all divisions. Well done to all the Juniors putting in the effort to improve. Thank you to the parents for stepping out on court each week to ensure the games can continue efficiently and run effectively. Special mention to Jane Morris who is always lending a hand with the barbecue. We only have a few pennant mornings left; please can we have more volunteers for the barbecue. Many hands make light work.

COACHING

Coach Bastien is doing an amazing job with both the Senior and Junior players in our community. Thank you for your constant enthusiasm. I would like to formally welcome Max Desbois to the Esperance Tennis Club community. He will be helping Bastien with coaching to ensure all players get adequate feedback during coaching due to the increase in numbers in each group. Thanks Max! Max is also our 2022 Club Champion, so he has some serious tennis skills.

Some housekeeping for the parents during coaching. We love to see you out on the court having a hit or siblings playing around the club and enjoying themselves, though please ensure they are always supervised, especially inside the club rooms. If your child has been in there, can you please ensure the room is put back together neatly before you leave, and any food scraps are to be put in the bin. We would prefer to not attract more birds and animals to this area.

It is important that the children respect the equipment. If you see your child climbing fences and swinging on the nets, please step in and let them know not to. Thank you for your support.



SENIORS

It is fair to say each time I arrive at the tennis club I am seeing new faces playing or watching their children while coaching. This is exactly the way it should be, and I am so happy to see more families coming down for a hit together throughout the week. Coaching is great to become confident with a racket but the best way to improve is to play as much as possible. Have a hit on the court as much as you can, it is a wonderful family game. Friday Family Social is seeing an increase in players, and we couldn't be happier.

MR PETER RUNDLE MLA & BYFIELDS BUSINESS ADVISERS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Esperance Tennis Club Championships will be held on Saturday the 25th of March. We are lucky enough to have National party member Peter Rundle MLA & Esperance Byfields business advisers sponsoring our Club Champs this year. It would be great to see as many members at the event as we can get. This is another great opportunity to come together with our family and meet players from all ages who play at our local club. Even if you would prefer to spectate, the bar will be open, and Bacon and Egg burgers (AM) and Beef and Gravy rolls (PM) will be on offer. Let's celebrate the year we have had and see whose name makes it on the honour board for 2023.

Events:

SENIORS

Mens Open Singles (Sponsor: Peter Rundle MLA)

Mens Open Doubles (Sponsor: Byfields Business Advisers)

Womens Open Singles (Sponsor: Peter Rundle MLA)

Womens Open Doubles (Sponsor: Byfields Business Advisers)

Veterans Doubles (any combination of partnership) (Sponsor: Byfields Business Advisers)

Please Contact Alysha Castelli on 0407 192 768 for registration.

JUNIORS

Sponsor: (Byfields Business Advisers)

Junior Division A Singles

Junior Division B Singles

Junior Division C Singles

Junior Division D Singles

Please contact Jeff Sortberg on 0498 638 143 for registration

2023 MARCH TOURNAMENT

It is disappointing that the March Tournament had to be cancelled this year due to lack in player registration. Momentum was lost following the Covid-19 pandemic and following that the town, like many others, are having accommodation shortages which doesn't make it any easier. I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the members who have stepped up in helping with club maintenance and behind the scenes tournament organising. Thank you to those members who put their name down to donate their time in the canteen and bar over the long weekend, and for those who were happy to donate food for the event. The Esperance Shire were also very supportive in opening campgrounds near the club for players and their families if accommodation in town was full. I believe we did everything in our power to provide an opportunity for this regional event to continue but unfortunately it did not come to fruition. These barriers will most likely continue for other regional towns if there isn't more of an incentive to travel the distances to country towns. This is something I will be looking in to as it would be a disappointment to see other country clubs lose major events due to the same barriers.

CLUB MAINTENANCE

It is exciting to see the improvement in the club facilities over the last few months. The club courts look exceptional thanks to West Coast Sporting Surfaces. Mark Tucker travelled down from Perth and worked hard over the course of 3 days to complete this mammoth task. Dave McMullen will also be in and out of the club completing different maintenance jobs. The shutters should be in full use in a few weeks. A part is on order and should arrive soon which will be amazing. The new shade sails will also be going up over the next week. Please ensure you are clear of any works going ahead. There should be no impact on the courts and fixtured games now that the courts have been cleaned.

ANNUAL TENNIS WEST RED BALL TOURNAMENT

Ben Cribb from Tennis West will be travelling down to Esperance on Friday the 31st of March and hosting the annual Red Ball Tournament for year 3 & 4 aged children. Our local primary schools will be putting teams into the competition to compete, and it will be a fantastic day with many of our courts being full for the event. This is a maximum participation event where we hope to introduce young students to the game of tennis so they can see it as an option to continue as they get older. Please take note of the date so it doesn't conflict with any private games you may be organising.



INDIGENOUS TENNIS & LEARNING ROADSHOW

Jarron Kretschmann from SunCity Tennis Academy and Darren Patten from Murlpirrmarra Connection will be holding a South Coast Region Roadshow where they will be visiting local schools and hosting tennis clinics for school aged students. Two of the events will be hosted at our club on Monday the 22nd May for a Primary Schools Day, and Tuesday the 23rd May for a Secondary Schools Day. This is a fantastic opportunity for school children to get involved and learn some new skills, along with find support when furthering their education through to year 12. We look forward to supporting this program at the Esperance Tennis Club. Please take note of these dates for your reference.

NEW SPONSORS!

Thank you to Esperance Toyota, Esperance Byfields Business Advisers and member for Roe, Peter Rundle MLA for your recent club sponsorship.

Esperance Toyota have become one of the clubs' major sponsors and both Byfield Business Advisers and Peter Rundle MLA will be sponsoring our 2023 Club Championships. We feel very lucky to have your support.

DARREN FOSS

Darren brought a calm and happy feel to the Esperance Tennis Club. He built special relationships with his players, particularly the Junior players he coached regularly and took away to Country Week. This is very sad news for our club to hear that we have lost such an incredible man. We send all our love to his wife Patty and his close friends and family back in New Zealand. You may have noticed a donation page that was posted on our club Facebook page. If you would like to offer any financial support to Patty, go to our Facebook for the link.

DARREN & COUNTRY WEEK JUNIOR TEAM



ETC CLUB SPONSORS

The Esperance Tennis Club wouldn't be the club it is today without the assistance of our sponsors. Thank you for your continued support.

