



GPHC Annual Report 2024

NOVEMBER 24

Grace Park Hawthorn Club

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The 10th Annual General Meeting of the Grace Park Hawthorn Club (GPHC) will be held on Monday 2nd December 2024 at 6.30pm in the Sharman Room at 2 Hilda Crescent Hawthorn.

Under the rules of GPHC, the following Committee positions will become available:

- Vice President
- Secretary
- General Committee Member (five positions)

The interim Vice President has indicated she will be re-nominating for the position. The current Secretary is retiring and hence the position will be vacant.

Five General Committee positions will become available this year. One of the two committee members who have completed their 2-year term, has indicated they will not be standing for re-election, leaving one vacant General Committee position.

The three Committee members who were appointed during the past 12 months must stand for re-election and all intend to do so.

Any member (except social members) over the age of 18 can nominate themselves or, with their consent, another member, for any of the 7 positions listed above. All candidates in the forthcoming Election of Grace Park Hawthorn Club Inc. are entitled to have a personal profile of no more than 150 words (including photograph) forwarded to the voting membership.

To stand for any of the positions listed above, please return the attached nomination form to the Club Secretary by 5pm Friday 8th November 2024 by email to secretary@gphc.com.au or return a copy of the form to the Club office.

If you have any further queries, please contact either the Club Secretary (Angus Henderson) or any Committee Member.

15 October 2024

Angus
Henderson Club



Secretary

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*GPHC aims to be recognized as a premiership level club;
competitively and as a leader in membership engagement.*

(GPHC Strategy Plan 2021-26)

President's Report 2024

Jane Nathan
President - Grace Park Hawthorn Club



It is my pleasure and with pride that I submit my President's Report along with the audited financial statements for the financial year ending 31st July 2024.

This is my sixth year as President, and I appreciate that I have been fortunate to build on solid foundations. Grace Park and Hawthorn Club were historic Hawthorn identities, cherished by their members and in 2014 the process started to amalgamate the two entities, in 2024 we can truly say that the amalgamation to GPHC is a great success. It is a club that amongst the community is viewed with respect and with activities enjoyed by all. My six years have had their memorable occasions, there have been demanding, exciting and interesting times filled with many changes that have seen the Club progress as your Committee, guided by the 2021 Strategy, has concentrated on its key objectives.

To be successful we realised we needed to move to an operations team that would give substance to our strategic directions. Our operations team includes Di O'Shaughnessy, Finance and Membership Manager, Kirsty Walsh, Club Engagement Officer, Marketing and Sponsorship and Steven Cuff, as Bar and Functions and Maintenance Manager along with amazing support from our business partners Deb Welsh and Michelle Peric. This structure has allowed for consolidation and planning backed up by the implementation of engaging activities, experiences and successful sponsorship agreements.

Our strategy, 2021-2026 has served us well despite significant shifts in the operating environment, I am pleased to report that the 4 main priorities Membership, Club Sustainability, Facility and Club services covering areas including governance, house and grounds, food and beverage and marketing were developed to guide how our Club progressed and have continued to give ongoing guidance to Club management. Our Operations Team have been focusing on and recorded considerable improvement in all the objectives and measures stated under each strategy. The Committee with the Operations Team will continue to focus on full filling our strategic objectives. The Strategy is available on our website.

We have seen improved members' experiences, supported by disciplined execution, persistent adapting and upgrading of services and prudent balance sheet settings, a relationship-led approach increasingly enabled by an operations group has helped drive GPHC during 23/24. There is one area where we have little success and that has been in gaining funding to support our environmental strategy and looking at the renewable energy sector, we are continuing to seek opportunities to achieve our objectives.

Our Committee led by our executive, Vice President Bec Xuereb (until May 2024), Angus Henderson our Secretary and Gaurav Gupta our Treasurer was a great mix of skills and personalities which I really appreciated. Their voluntary commitment is a very generous gift to our Club, and it is with regret along with a touch of sadness that we said farewell to Bec in May.

Bec was always on call to give practical assistance to me during her term. Bec has contributed numerous hours and a depth of expertise that financially as well as professionally contributed to contracts and work programs being drawn up, relationships developed, and infrastructure being put into place, we will also miss her buoyant personality and engaging demeanor. On behalf of all our members thank you, Bec, and we wish you all the best with your future endeavors.

It took a while to fill Bec's shoes and how fortunate we are that Cherie Leatham accepted the tap on the shoulder to take on the role of Vice President and has already shared her legal expertise and her insights into Club activities to the benefit of GPHC.

Angus Henderson our Secretary has indicated that he is retiring at the Annual General Meeting after being on the Committee since 2018 and serving as Secretary since 2020.

Angus, who has strategic and contractual expertise, has led the policy and process system formation giving ease of access to information, this has allowed for clear guidance to all involved in the Club. Angus has also spent an inordinate amount of time reviewing and adapting our business partners' contracts. Writing these up involved hours and hours of diligent work, not daunted by those tasks, Angus then accepted the role of team leader for the investigation of a replacement organisation on the retirement of Terry and Sandra Stone. Angus offered to chair the selection panel, drew up the brief for the selection of the Stone's replacement and collated all the interview material. The Panel worked hard to make sure it was fair as we had two excellent applications, Angus was meticulous in recording and reporting the process this ensured that the decision was based on the Committee brief. Angus, our thanks and congratulations combined with our best wishes to you for your next adventure.

Our sincere thanks also go to the selection panel consisting of Colin Davis, Chris Chetwin, Guyver Huang, Paul Deiseo and Angus Henderson.

Rob De Luca has announced that he needs to retire due to his other commitments. We completely understand and are indebted to the contributions he made in his time on the Committee across the operations of the Club; the financial planning, his management advice and his involvement in Tennis have all led to positive changes. I approached Rob to join the Committee as we really needed his skills and professional financial expertise. Rob helped draw up a budget that would direct the Club expenditure so that we could feel assured that we were working within our financial realities and also working towards building a corpus to enable longer term capitol works program as well as managing and enhancing members services. Rob responded without hesitation and his commitment to the Club will continue as he takes charge of Junior tennis.

The Club is grateful to all three members as GPHC is in a much stronger position because of Bec, Angus and Rob's contributions

Our Committee is proud that GPHC continues to be recognised as a premier Squash and Tennis Club with in house sporting activities that have given our members the opportunity to meet and participate in competitions at all levels that carry over to social activities. By reputation GPHC is known as the friendly club with strong competitive credentials, as a Committee we couldn't be happier, and our story is supported by continued growth in membership across the board.

In 2022 we started to investigate ways to underpinned what we hear with what is actually happening to develop a clear and accurate data base, we all know how valuable data is to allow for investigation and initiation of ideas and activities as well as developing usage plans for budgeting both short and long term, since then Di and Kirsty have interrogated our information and it has given directions in our Committee decision making, we acknowledge that we do not always get things right but we always look to what is best for the members and we really appreciate positive and respectful feedback.

Di, Kirsty and Steven are working closely with Michelle Peric from Absolutely Delicious to make sure our members and their guests have a memorable experience whenever they are at GPHC, great company, marvellous surroundings and delicious food supported by professional staff. As our functions cross subsidise our Club by keeping our Membership fees at a reasonable level, we all need to look at ways to build on our Functions reputation. Those who have used our Club have written wonderful thank you notes so it is in spreading the word that the Club needs your support.

We open our Café most evenings and on Thursday and Friday mornings and also over the weekend. The

café offerings, supported by some of the best coffees around from our capable Barista Braden have started to develop a loyal following.

The operations team are working closely with the Committee to carefully evaluate what we were doing, the how, the why and the financial, social and competitive benefits. We are continuously investigating opportunities for the Club to enhance its member engagement, update all policy and operational requirements as well as developing marketing and membership programs. One example is the development of the Pickle Ball Court when our diligent Kirsty Walsh spied the opportunity to create a relationship with The Bendigo Bank, Kirsty inspired them to sponsor the Court to the tune of \$25,000 Dollars. We are however obligated to introduce 5 of our Members to the Bank every year, you don't have to change mortgage providers, just meet with Claude, Kirsty has his details, already we have one very happy member who is saving \$6000 a year on their mortgage.

Our Billiard Room is one of the best in Melbourne and yet we are still struggling to get increased member usage, the introduction of Monday night snooker is gathering numbers, but there is plenty of potential to increase patronage.

We congratulate Hubble Tennis on winning the Tennis contract, replacing Sandra and Terry was momentous and we are pleased to note that Hubble Tennis is gaining a reputation that builds on the past and adapts to present coaching expectations.

The Tennis Club Championships continued to be played over 3 weekends included a social grade which broadened the participation and I think the enjoyment. As a member activity we watched the very best our club has to offer as well as the opportunity for adventurous players from differing sports to demonstrate their adaptability all ending with drinks to celebrate, great fun and a wonderful connector.

We thank our tennis convenor Adam Hubble for all the amazing work he puts in as a volunteer to organising Tennis across the board. Carla Smarrelli has taken on the role of Tennis convenor and with the members of the Tennis Sub Committee are investigating more ways to create opportunities for member engagement.

Geoff Sanders, squash with his Sub Committee, has also increased the involvement of Squash players including successful in-house competition from beginners to elite players.

GPHC has also got a great racquet ball group going organised by Tanya Scida which as members you should all experience a game, it is great fun and played on a Sunday afternoon and Wednesday evening. Both sub committees carry an enormous responsibility in organising all our tennis and squash both competitive and social and as Committee members have the responsibility of reporting to the Committee every month.

Adam and Miranda continue to play an important role as they continue to help organise teams.

Deb Welsh is seen by many as the face of GPHC. Deb's Absolute Tennis is recognised across the tennis and squash community as the go-to for any equipment, especially for her expertise in restringing racquets. Deb is always on hand to lend a hand, she continuously in a voluntary capacity to make sure that the Club's presentation and cleanliness is always up to scratch and that the members are well looked after and fills administrative gaps if they occur, Deb does this in her own time and for this we applaud her.

GPHC thanks our other business partners and looks forward to their growth, Hubble Tennis, both Adam Hubble and Miranda Poile, Squash with Selena and Mike adding to GPHC's prestige while building on their respected reputations as professionals. We also look forward to Steve, Emma and the Gym team continuing to run their thriving business and broadening the reach of participants at GPHC. We

welcome Jen Slater with Perfect Pilates as a great addition to the Club and are pleased with the growth in participants on a Monday and Wednesday. We thank Michelle Peric from Absolutely Delicious, for her contributions to event management and assistance with Bar and Functions and her attention to detail and for her nurturing the casuals.

Being a volunteer is a wonderful way to learn new skills, meet people, develop strong relationships and has been shown to be very good for your personal health. There are also many members who are always ready to respond to my calls for their expertise to guide the club, it is what a membership is all about and I am grateful for all contributions made.

We are in the process of drawing up a maintenance list of the low hanging fruit and I know some of you generously answered my call to volunteer hopefully the list will give us the opportunity to form working bees, watch this space.

On behalf of the Club, a big thank you to our present Committee, who carry a large unseen workload, Cherie Leatham, Angus Henderson, Gaurav Gupta, Carla Smarrelli, Adam Hubble, James Canty, Rob De Luca and Geoff Sanders combined with our staff we will work with your support to continue to make GPHC the beating heart of our community.

All the very best for Christmas and 2025

Jane Nathan

President – Grace Park Hawthorn Club (GPHC)

“GPHC is a member-focused club whose mission is to offer a premium sporting, fitness and function facility in a boutique, inclusive and friendly environment. Boasting first class facilities, GPHC offers access to competition across all standards of tennis, squash and snooker and encourages social interaction amongst its members and guests.”

Treasurer's Report 2024

The club ended the 2024 financial year with a deficit of \$55k, showing an improvement over the previous year's larger deficit of \$132k.

Key factors influencing this year's results include an increase in cash position, steady membership subscriptions, and notable activity within bar and function services.

Here's a summary of the main results and trends:

- Cash position on 31 July 2024 was stronger at \$340k, up \$93k vPY, indicating improved liquidity.
- Revenue increased by \$128k, 14%\$ to 1.06m v \$934k FY23
 - Membership subscriptions grew by \$14k, 4% to \$361k.
 - Bar and Function activity trended strongly up \$123k, 35% to \$478k.
 - Revenue from Non-Op Activities was down \$(46)k on account non-recurring insurance payout in FY23.
- Expenses were rose by \$50k, 5%, to \$1.12m.
 - Cost of sales increased proportionally with higher activity by \$53k, 21% to \$309k.
 - Employment expenses we broadly flat at \$350k, 3%.
- Other Notable Information:
 - Tennis Australia Loan: The Tennis Australia loan (8 yr.) which commenced in 2017, currently has an outstanding balance of \$10k.
 - FY25 Forecast: Based on the latest forecast, the club is on track to finish 2025 with a surplus of \$73k.

The Club has shown improved financial stability in FY24 with reduced deficits, a stronger cash position and increased revenue streams from both operational and membership activities. Efforts to manage costs effectively will be essential as the club works towards its forecasted surplus for the upcoming year.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement.

Gaurav Gupta, CPA
Treasurer

	2024	2023	%	\$	2022
Bar Sales	170,740	185,988	-8%	(15,248)	126,201
Bar Food Sales	69,099	36,758	88%	32,341	15,649
Functions Sales - Drink & Food	238,723	132,863	80%	105,860	103,830
Total Bar & Function Sales	478,562	355,609	35%	122,953	245,680
Gym Hire	10,909	10,301	6%	608	7,283
Hire of Facilities	38,545	22,673	70%	15,872	23,515
Membership Subscriptions	361,172	347,653	4%	13,519	255,624
Tennis & Squash	86,741	85,285	2%	1,456	60,111
Tournament Fees	9,300	13,215	-30%	(3,915)	6,747
Premier League / Pro AM	16,500	-		16,500	-
Visitor Fees	15,988	9,315	72%	6,673	686
Revenue from Op Activities	539,155	488,442	10%	50,713	353,966
Revenue from Non-Op Activities	43,664	89,713	-51%	(46,049)	155,462
Total Revenue	1,061,381	933,764	14%	127,617	755,108
Cost of Sales	308,724	255,838	21%	52,886	162,675
Employment Expenses	349,456	360,455	-3%	(10,999)	219,803
Depreciation	118,389	108,534	9%	9,855	105,528
Operating Expenses	325,824	331,467	-2%	(5,643)	240,938
Finance Costs	14,297	9,956	44%	4,341	8,161
Total Expenses	1,116,690	1,066,250	5%	50,440	737,105
Net Result (Operating Surplus/Deficit)	(55,309)	(132,486)	-58%	77,177	18,003
Tennis Australia Loan	10,374	20,679	-50%	(10,305)	31,272
Cash (Operating Funds)	339,916	247,358	37%	92,558	392,320

GAURAV GUPTA, CPA
Treasurer

General Committee and Sub-Committees

Office Bearers 2023/2024

President: Jane Nathan

Vice President:

Secretary: Angus Henderson

Treasurer: Gaurav Gupta

General Committee: Adam Hubble, Rob DeLuca, James Canty, Cherie Leatham, Geoff Sanders, Carla Smarelli,

Grace Park Hawthorn Club Committee Attendance 2023/24

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
J. Nathan	P	P	P	p		P	P	P	P		P	P
R. Xuereb	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	Retired from the Committee		
A. Henderson	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	A		P	A
G. Gupta	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	A		P	P
R. De Luca	A	A	P	A		P	A	P	P		P	P
A. Hubble	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P		P	P
P. De Ieso	P	A	A	P		Retired from the Committee						
G. Huang	P	P	P	A		Retired from the Committee						
T. O'Loughlin	P	P	A	P		Retired from the Committee						
G. Sanders						P	A	P	P		P	P
C. Leatham						P	P	P	P		P	P
V. Parekh						P	P	A	Retired from the Committee			
J. Canty*								P	P		P	A

Present = P Apologies = A

Paul Deleso, Gyver Huang and Tim O'Loughlin did not stand for re-election at the 2023 AGM.

Vaishali Parekh, Geoff Sanders, Cherie Leatham were elected to the Committee at the 2023 AGM.

Vaishali Parekh retired from the Committee in April 2024, and Rebecca Xuereb retired from the Committee in May 2024.

James Canty was appointed to the Committee in March 2024

The were no Committee meetings held in December 2023 and May 2024.

Sub-Committees

Tennis Sub-Committee

- *Carla Smarrelli (Chair)*
- *Luke Wrigley ((In House)*
- *Manie Meyer*
- *Roland Shepherd*
- *Cooper Millett*
- *James Boyle (Night Comp)*
- *Adam Hubble*

Squash Sub-Committee

- *Geoff Sanders (Chair)*
- *Angus Henderson*
- *Steven Cuff*
- *Lakshmi Wijeyewickrema*
- *Marco Premoselli*
- *Adam Gough*
- *Tania Scida*
- *Duncan Dalgety*

Audit and Risk Sub-Committee

- *Angus Henderson*
- *Gaurav Gupta*
- *Rob DeLuca*

Investment Sub-Committee

- *Angus Henderson*
 - *Gaurav Gupta*
 - *Rob DeLuca*
-

Squash & Racquetball Report 2024

2024 was a year of continuity. Squash participation remains steady, and Racquetball participation remains robust, driven by popular social sessions on Wednesday evenings and Sunday. These social sessions are a key highlight, attracting not only regular participants but also new members who are eager to join the fun. The lively atmosphere and the competitive yet friendly matches make it a mid-week highlight for many. Furthermore, recruitment initiatives are underway to reinforce our Racquetball pennant team in anticipation of two members' overseas departures next year.

We fielded teams in a variety of competitions: Club Circuit as well as Masters, Racquetball and Southern Squash League. In the Autumn Club Circuit Squash competition we won A2, B2 and F2 grades. Our pennant Racquetball team boasts a strong track record, consistently demonstrating competitiveness. The team's performance has been impressive, negating the need for tips from other teams. This level of competence is a testament to the dedication and skill of our players.

Inhouse Squash competitions on a Monday night have proved popular, especially for people new to Squash or the Club. Social Squash on a Friday night is a perennially popular fixture and another great avenue for new players to learn the sport.

The participation of players from other clubs has been a highlight of the sprint Racquetball tournaments run by F8 squash. This not only enhances the competitive spirit but also fosters a sense of community within the broader Racquetball network. The success of these tournaments has solidified our reputation as a welcoming and vibrant club.

2024 welcomed a new Open Squash Club champion. Congratulations to Druvinka Perera on the title, and Selena Shaikh who won another Women's crown as well as the Racquetball title! Special mention to Darcy Walsh (a multiple times Club Champion) for putting up a great fight in the Open final despite a chronic knee complaint.

As well as being a very busy and popular Club Coach, Selena successfully defended her Australian Open Women's Racquetball Championship. Congratulations also to the Porwal boys (Ketan and Jay) who finished 5th and 7th respectively in their age groups in the Australian Junior Squash Championships. They've both shown enormous improvement over the year.

Finally, thanks to Adam Gough for his efforts in setting up the court booking screen in the squash court area. It has proved an informative addition to the courts and improved court usage. Thanks also to Duncan Dalgety, our Club Circuit representative, Tania Scida for her Racquetball efforts, Adam Gough & Pat Myles for running Social Squash and to all those who helped during the year.

Geoff Sanders
Squash
Convenor

Tennis Report 2024

GPHC started the year by hosting the 2024 Oceania Para Standing Tennis Championships. This was a fantastic event which saw players from all over the world compete at our club.

The 2024 Australian Open was another great success, with Matthew Ebden taking home the win with his partner Rohan Bopanna, making it three years in a row an Aussie has won the Men's Doubles.

We continued the success of the In-house Competition, with 50+ registered players competing in our February season. The In-House competition continues to be a success, as we have now added UTR (Universal Tennis Rating) for each match. This is a very popular event which continues to attract players of all standards, including State-Grade players from Pennant, and really creates a wonderful atmosphere at the club on a Saturday afternoon.

Our Club Championships were another success as we had over 100+ entrants playing across 23 Events. We continued to offer more graded events due to the large number of players at the club and the depth of talent across all ages. It was fantastic to see a spike in Women's participation across all standards and it was great to see many juniors transitioning into the adult grades. The club is looking to run the 2025 GPHC Club Championships in February/March 2025 so please look out for upcoming details.

The Blackburn & District Night Comp seasons in 2024 have been successful without achieving the ultimate prize yet. We had 8 teams in the Autumn Season and 9 teams in the Spring season, where we are just about to commence finals with at least 4 teams due to compete with a good record, so we are hopeful of obtaining a couple of flags.

The Junior Comp has seen GPHC well represented with 12 teams in both seasons for Bayside Region competition. We had a fantastic Autumn Season where 7 teams made finals of which 3 were premiers. The Spring season is coming to a close with 7 teams currently sitting in the top 4.

Tennis Victoria Winter pennant has continued to grow over the last few years. We are pleased to say that GPHC was represented by 12 teams (9 Men's & 3 Ladies). We hosted the Masters Grades 1, 2 & 3 and Grade 6,7 & 8 Mens pennant finals. Out of 12 Pennant teams, GPHC were the Premiers for Masters Grade 1 Men's team and Grade 5 Men's team. Our Women's State Grade Pennant team has now made 3 consecutive finals series. We will continue the consistency of GPHC being a leading club in the Pennant Competition, having a clear pathway for juniors to compete.

The Paul Arber Cup will be another highlight of 2024/2025, however not commenced as yet as played in early November between Kooyong & GPHC. This is played in honor of the late Paul Arber, he represented both clubs at a very high level and was a much-loved figure in the broader tennis community.

The successful Premier League tennis will no longer run in the year 2024, but will be moved to March/ April 2025, with GPHC looking to be represented once again in the Men's and Women's sides.

Tennis has continued to go from strength to strength at the club in 2024. We have continued to establish ourselves as a Premier club in all areas of competition with a great range of players across all standards, and plenty of aspiring juniors are making the transition into adult competitions. The future of tennis at the club is looking bright and we look forward to 2025 with hopefully even more success.

Key positives for the year:

- - Our numbers continue to grow in all aspects of tennis.
- - State Grade Pennant was back again for Men's & Women's teams.
- - Premier League tennis will be back in 2025 with a Men's & Women's team.
- - Paul Arber Cup continues Paul's legacy.
- - Club Championship entrants were high, and we will aim higher again for 2025.
- - Teams and Individuals have been successful in all forms of competition.
- - New lights upgraded on courts 6 & 7
- - Due to the ongoing success of our in-house competition, we will continue to host in-house competitions in February and then again in November for many years to come.
- - The Wednesday night social tennis is often near capacity, and we are looking to continue to grow and promote the club's social tennis activities amongst members.
-

Carla Smarrelli
Tennis
Convenor

Pro Shop Report for 2024

2024 seems to have come and gone in a flash!

GPHC was lucky enough to host a Para-Standing tennis event in mid-January which brought a raft of new visitors to the club from all corners of the world. The Australian Open followed which always sparks interest from the social tennis playing public. Melbourne is blessed to have such a popular event annually to inspire us.

All sports seem to have been well represented & utilised at the club. With Club Championships to district & social comps, Absolute Tennis has continued to service & supply equipment promptly for all participants.

The general feel around the Club this year has been really positive, due to our membership base being such a great group of human beings!

I'd personally like to thank the Club Committee & Operations Team for their tireless efforts this year. There are a handful of superstars amongst you who get things done... you know who you are 🙌

We're all looking forward to the Christmas mayhem around GPHC & hope that 2025 continues in an upward trajectory.

Thank you most sincerely once again to all who frequent Absolute Tennis. I feel blessed to be a small part this awesome, unique jewel of a club 💎

Deb Welsh

Absolute Tennis and Leisure

Squash Coaching Report for 2024

F8 Squash, formerly Shaikhit Training, has had a massive refresh this year.

You may have seen the new purple F8 logo floating around the squash courts. We're still the same team but with more to offer members and new & improved ways for members to book and interact with the team.

We've expanded our coaching team, created more training options & squads and launched a booking system for GPHC members to book into squads and lessons easily.

The F8 Team

The F8 team has grown and GPHC members enjoy lessons from a diverse range of coaches. Now with 8 regular coaches on the team, there is a time, style and type of coach for everyone whether it be Squash or Racquetball. We now also offer 8 different training squads for members to jump into.

This year we ran a coaching workshop for our F8 team with Cameron White to further our knowledge in squash coaching but also upskill all our coaches in Racquetball Coaching to meet the demands of the growing racquetball interest at GPHC.

Racquetball Continues to Grow

The interest in Racquetball continues to grow at GPHC. We are a big supporter of Racquetball and believe it's a fantastic way to get more people on court, either as an entry point for squash or as a sport on its own.

The F8 team ran a sporting trip to the Gold Coast in July. Bringing players to the Gold Coast Racquetball Open to train and compete in the event. A hugely fun event and one we will run annually on the last weekend of July.

Later in the year, in the lead up to the Australian Racquetball Open held in Albury/Wodonga this October, F8 ran a 6-week Sprint Tournament giving players a chance to get match ready and test themselves against other players in the lead up to the tournament. Given the number of racquetball players, we now have at GPHC, this was well supported and a lot of fun had by all in the 2-hour sprint event.

Junior Success at GPHC

Our Sunday morning Junior Programs continue to also grow and what is fantastic for our club is that we fielded our first ever Junior Pennant Squash Team this year. The players all came through our Junior Training program and it's fantastic to see home grown players representing our club from as young as 7 years old. With 14 juniors enrolled across our Junior Pee Wee and Junior Development program this term from 6 to 12 years old, the future of squash, and squash at GPHC is looking bright.

Congratulations also to Will Scott for competing in his first external squash tournaments this year. Will works hard at his game and follows in the footsteps of our more senior-junior players Ketan and Jay who display values of sportsmanship and genuine care to other players development & enjoyment of our sport. We truly value this

and it's part of why our Junior Squash Program is so great at this club.

Ketan and Jay also work extremely hard at their own game and have enjoyed success at National events this year with Ketan finishing 5th at the recent Australian Nationals and Jay a respectable 7th in their age groups. Ketan also competed in the British Junior Open this year and both boys have got their sights set on the Singapore Junior Open in December this year. Good luck boys.

Club Championships

F8 enjoyed running a successful Squash and Racquetball Club Championships this year. The event was well supported with over 50 participants aged 7-74! Members stuck around to watch, help with refereeing duties and cheer on their clubmates and it made for a great tournament. A big thank you to all who continue to contribute at these events in their own way - as it does not go unnoticed – John Rives, Richard McCart, Shane Way to name a few however there we many that put their hand up on the day to assist and we say thank you to all.

Looking ahead

We will continue to provide members with varied coaching options and look to grow each training squad so that there's something available to all members from young to old, beginner to advanced. We will also grow our Sprint Tournaments for both Squash and Racquetball after the success of our Racquetball format this year and run Squash and Racquetball Sporting Trips next year.

We have the capacity to take on more coaching whether it be one-on-one or spots in squad sessions. We aim to grow our beginner and ladies squad offerings while continuing to push Junior Squash at the club.

Selena

F8 Squash

Tennis Coaching Report for 2024

In January 2024, we proudly launched Hubble Tennis, aiming to bring high-quality tennis coaching to the members and our community. Our journey began with Holiday Clinics during the Australian Open and continues to service members with year-round coaching.

It has been an amazing year, and seeing everyone continue to improve their game is very rewarding. Highlights have been the success of players who represent the club in many forms of competition and the addition of our new programs such as Cardio Tennis, Adult Group class and Elite Squad.

Hubble Tennis programs are offered every week from Monday-Saturday.

We cover all Hot Shots programs (Blue Stage, Red Ball, Orange Ball, Green Ball), Adult Group classes, Cardio Tennis, Elite Squads and Private lessons.

A big thank you to our coaching team, Miranda Poile, Rob Ensor, Clive Wilson, Peter Wilson, Jordan Lemke, Marcus Nield, Charlotte McIntosh, Harry McCorkell, Harriet Stewart, Louis Taylor, Brayden Daly, Jack Calleri, Luca Bond, Wes Neylon, John Hammond. All of whom work tirelessly to help players reach their full potential.

Thank you to the committee, operations team, club members, and Deb Welsh for supporting us during our first year of coaching.

We wish everyone a joyful holiday season. Thank you for being part of Hubble Tennis, and we look forward to the continual development of our players at GPHC.

Adam Hubble
Head Coach

HUBBLE TENNIS

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