

Off The Court

Orakei Tennis Club Newsletter – April 2008



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2008 CLUB CHAMPS WRAPPED UP

Keith Bason and Patricia Minkhorst are the 2008 Singles Champions after all events were completed on Finals Day, Sunday 20th April.

Keith kept his inner demons under control to defeat a gallant Murray Sorensen in two sets, thus taking the title without dropping a set over the entire tournament. Keith added this title to the Singles title he won last year.

Patricia went one better than last year to win the Women's Singles, although a leg injury suffered by her opponent Rebecca Lash curtailed what was turning out to be a close final match.



Men's Doubles Final

Murray Sorensen had a long day after making it to the finals of all three events that he entered. Although beaten in the finals of the Men's events, he and partner Rebecca Lash won their first match of the day to take the Mixed Doubles title over Susan Gilbert and Andrew Phipps.

Susan could have been excused for having her mind elsewhere during the Mixed Doubles Final – she organised the tournament with her usual aplomb despite the demands of chivvying, cajoling and persuading the competitors in the ten events to get their matches completed by the dates required. Susan also obtained prizes for the winners and runners up. Some of these came from Liquorland in The Strand, and Scarbro Tennis Park in Glendowie. Thanks to these sponsors and to Susan and her helpers for a great tournament!



Keith Bason

Results

Men's Singles: Keith Bason bt Murray Sorensen 6-4, 6-4

Women's Singles: Patricia Minkhorst bt Rebecca Lash 6-5 (retired)

Men's Doubles: Keith Bason & Steve Brockbank bt Murray Sorensen & Pashtrik Hoxha 6-1, 6-7(3), 6-3

Women's Doubles: Patricia Minkhorst & Lynley Downey bt Pip Duncalf & Kate O'Connor 6-2, 6-4

Mixed Doubles: Rebecca Lash & Murray Sorensen bt Susan Gilbert & Andrew Phipps 7-6 (2), 6-2

Plate Men's Singles: Eru Watana bt Andrew Morris 7-5, 6-2

Plate Women's Singles: Fiona Bignell bt Kristie Yee 7-6 (3), 6-4

Plate Men's Doubles: Rob Yallop & Tim Harvey bt David Stark & Peter Shapiro 6-4, 6-2

Plate Women's Doubles: Divya Velalagan & Kristie Yee

Plate Mixed Doubles: Penny McGarry & Peter Shapiro bt Fiona Bignell & Thomas McNally 5-7, 6-2, 6-0



Patricia Minkhorst



Rebecca Lash and Murray Sorensen



Lynley Downey & Patricia Minkhorst



Glenn Neeve presents the Neeve Cup to Steve Brockbank & Keith Bason

News Flash!

Sunday Morning Play... From May onwards, the main gate at the club will be open on Sundays for social play from 11am till about 1pm. However, there will not be anyone on duty to organise games - you will have to organise your own.

Committee Notes

AGM – All members are urged to attend the 2008 Annual General Meeting, which will be held at the clubhouse on Wednesday 28 May 2008 from 7:30pm until approximately 8:30pm. There will be a complimentary sausage sizzle. Whilst there will be social play prior to the AGM from 6pm, the court lights will be switched off at 7:30pm. The President and the auditors will be presenting their respective reports. A new committee will be elected and club members will have a chance to ask questions.

Club Raffle – A chance to win an \$80 voucher at Rice, a stylish and fun restaurant in Auckland CBD. We are running a raffle for an \$80 voucher at the restaurant Rice <http://www.rice.co.nz/>. Rice was the Metro Corbans Restaurant of the year in 2006 and 2007. Their food is fusion with an Asian slant. Check out their menus - it's enough to make your mouth water! Raffle tickets are \$2 each or \$5 for three. Tickets are being sold at Wednesday club nights and Thursday morning social play. The raffle will be drawn at the AGM.

Club Renovations – On 3rd April a letter was sent to all senior and midweek members seeking their comments on the proposed spending on the preliminary work of the clubhouse renovations. By the deadline of 11th April, we had received five written responses. There was one objection, with the other four agreeing to the proposed spending with comments on the clubhouse re-design. All comments will be considered by the committee.

An architect has been engaged to commence work on the preliminary drawings. We will keep all members posted on progress and any potential disruptions. In the meantime, we are looking for members who have experience and expertise relating to renovations to help with managing the project. If you could lend a hand, please contact the President, Michelle Tsui, on 021 426 888 or mgstsui@hotmail.com.

Entertainment and Wine Books – See the ad for the 2008-2009 Entertainment Book later in this newsletter. Wine Books are also for sale at \$40 each. This book gives you great discounts in purchasing wine around New Zealand. If interested, please contact Vinod Vetath.

Court Lights - The repair and bulb replacement work is finally considered complete with all 40 court lights replaced and working as well as replacement of the court 3 rusted (square) light fitting and re-direction of the left hand court 1 light so that it points towards the court (rather than down the slope of the reserve).

Thompson Electrical (1983) Limited (Kevin Thompson) was the electrical firm that undertook the work.

All work was paid for by grants given by The Lion Foundation, Scottwood Trust and Perry Foundation.

Commercial Breaks

Are you looking for somewhere for your party, function or to hold a team building exercise?

Look no further. The clubhouse and courts are available for hire. For less than \$500 you can have the use of four courts and the clubhouse for three hours. The clubhouse is perfect for a birthday party or family gathering. You can get more details from the Secretary, Sue Wesley.

Seeking new ways to promote your business?

Our club has over 200 members, all of whom receive copies of the club newsletter at least nine times a year. Members come from all over Auckland, not just the eastern suburbs. Our interclub teams play all over Auckland too. And our website has over 1,400 visits and 6,000 hits a month. Advertising your business through the club is guaranteed to reach a large audience. We have several different advertising and sponsorship options available. Please contact Sue Wesley or Mary Gardiner for more details.

2008 / 2009 Entertainment Book



**Purchase your new 2008/2009
Entertainment Book now...
It's the best Book ever!**

The club is raising funds by selling the 2008/2009 Entertainment Book. The books sell for \$65, with \$13 from each book sold going into the club's renovation fund. Sample copies are available at the clubhouse so you can get a good idea of the discounts that are available. Savings from dining at two or three of the establishments listed will more than recoup the cost of the book!

Entertainment Books contain hundreds of 25-50% off and two-for-one offers from popular restaurants, cinemas, hotel accommodation, the arts, and sporting events. There truly is something for everyone with high value offers from Vinnies, Partingtons, White, Cin Cin, Q Restaurant, Pontoon, Lone Star, Wagamama, Northern Steamship Company, Breakers, The Royal New Zealand Ballet, Kelly Tarltons, Auckland Rugby, Spookers, Snow Planet, Auckland Luge and many more.

Order your book from either Vinod Vetath (528 4657 or 021 654 610) or Michelle Tsui (021 426 888), or email secretary@orakeitennis.org.nz.

Events Calendar 2007 – 2008 season

April 08 Wed 30th Final New World BBQ @ Wednesday Club
Vinod Vetath (Team Leader)
 Felicity Berry
 Daniel Hynes
 Judy Mathias

May 08 Wed 28th - Club A.G.M.

Wednesday Club Nights

Wednesday club nights continue throughout the year. Over the winter season (May – mid October), a committee member or volunteer member is rostered on to run the club night, including doing the board and running the bar.

Coach Carl's Corner

Orakei's resident coach, Carl Limberger, is available for senior and junior coaching throughout the year. For more details, contact Carl on 027 590 0048 or email thetennisacademy@clear.net.nz.

Court Fees

The honesty box for court fees is located inside the clubhouse to the right of the glass entry door. There is a \$6 court fee per player for guests who accompany members for private play.

Membership Opportunities – 'Join a Friend' - your chance to help the club grow!

Throughout the year, if you introduce a new adult full member, you'll get a \$75 cheque. If you introduce a new student or midweek member, the cheque will be \$50. There's no limit on the number of people you may introduce.

10 Visit Concession Card

For prospective members, an alternative to immediately paying a year's subscription is to pay \$40 for a 10 visit concession card. This entitles the person to participate in Wednesday club nights, but does not include keys for the gate and clubhouse. Note that this offer is not available to existing club members.

Subscription Rates 2007 - 2008	
Senior*#	\$320
Veteran (Age 65 years & over)*	\$195
Midweek*	\$220
Senior Couple*	\$550
Family*	\$610 2 Adults/2 Children \$380 1 Adult/2 Children
Student*	\$220
Intermediate Junior (9 – 16 years)^	\$60
Micro Junior (5 – 8 years)^	\$45

*A \$20 discount applies for existing senior members renewing subscriptions by 1 October each year.

Easy pay option available: 4 payments of \$85.

^ Junior subscriptions do not include coaching fees.

Senior members are entitled to court and clubhouse keys for a one-time payment of a \$20 refundable bond. Court key locks are changed each October – members must hand in their current key in order to obtain a new key.

Quick Links

Orakei Tennis Club: www.orakeitennis.org.nz

Auckland Tennis: www.aucklandtennis.co.nz

Interclub draws and results: www.aucklandtennis.co.nz/seniors/seniors-interclub/

Interclub player results and ratings ("Topdog"): www.tennis.org.nz

If you have received a printed copy of this newsletter and you have an email address, please contact the secretary to have your email address added to the club database. This will ensure you receive prompt electronic delivery of the newsletter and club notices, and save printing and mailing costs.

Off The Court is published the first Friday in each month except June, August, and January

Commercial advertising rate: \$100 (GST incl) per quarter-page insertion, or \$750 (GST incl) for a year's issues (9 issues or more). Club member non-commercial ads: free.

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