

Newsletter January 2016

Welcome to 2016

The beginning of 2016 sees a number of exciting changes for Southern Table Tennis with affiliation to Table Tennis South Australia, a change to the DHS plastic ball, new barriers for the stadium and a new website. We are also currently working on introducing more sponsors to the club, designing our own club t-shirt and exploring what upgrades could be made to the stadium. The biggest focus for Southern Table Tennis in 2016 will be to build participation numbers and to take advantage of being affiliated with TTSA.

Plastic Balls



In July 2014 the ITTF introduced plastic balls and they have been used at all ITTF events since that time. In 2015 they were used in South Australia for all tournaments sanctioned by TTSA and for the TTSA winter competition. We are one of the last clubs in South Australia to still be using the celluloid ball and it has been agreed that it is time for us to also change to plastic balls. As from the 1st of January 2016 we will be using the DHS seamed plastic ball for all of our activities. One of the most informative reviews of this ball can be found at <http://tabletennis-reviews.com/dhs-40-plastic-ball-review/>. As it will take quite a while for us to build up enough stock of used balls to use for practice and social sessions please do not take these plastic balls home. New plastic balls can be bought from the canteen for \$2 each.

New Barriers



Since the stadium was built in 1987 we have been using the heavy green barriers to define each of the courts. They have done a magnificent job and proved to be very hardy. However they do not meet the recommended guidelines for barriers as set out by Table Tennis Australia. We had the opportunity to obtain new barriers which were used in the recent Pacific School Games so we have replaced all the barriers in the stadium. They certainly change the look of the stadium and hopefully will prove a little bit safer to use. We would like to thank Geoff GOSS who spent a considerable amount of time putting up the new barriers and pulling apart the old barriers all by himself.

New Website

Our new website will be online from the 1st of January 2016 and will initially have all the same information as the previous website. It should however be much easier to use on portable devices and will allow us to update information in a more efficient manner. We would like to thank Bev and Brian JAMES for all the hard work they have put into putting the new website together. As we will be looking to continually improve the website if you have any feedback or encounter any problems please contact Bev and Brian via email at stta2@southernsttabletennis.org.au. The website address has not changed.

Summer Season – new players wanted

We are very keen to attract new players, particularly beginners, for our 2016 summer competition so if you know anybody who might be interested please encourage them to come out for the evening practice session on Monday the 4th of January to have a hit and get graded. This session will be free for new players to our club. The entries for the summer competition close on Monday the 4th of January so make sure you get your entry in or send the relevant details to stta2@southernsttabletennis.org.au. The 2016 summer season commences on the 20th of January and goes for 12 weeks including finals.

Spring Grand Final Results



Division 1 **Aqua Bats (6)** Claire Pickering Matthew Lambert, Lee Quilliam,
Defeated
Magpies (4) David Crane, Anna Twartz, Tom Bloch



Division 2 **Alligators (6)** Stephen Jones, Ashley North, Tim Braslavskiy
Defeated
Koalas (4) Gerad Harrington, Stuart Packer, Chris Packer



Division 3 Cheetahs (6) Sammy Williams, Simon Munn, Bart Jansen

Defeated

Penguins (4) John Paul (Liam Storcken filled in for Grand Final), Rob Cussans, Steve Laidlaw



Division 4 Toothless Dragons (6) Damien King, Alvan White, Tom Grace

Defeated

Chop Suey (3) Trevor Goldsmith, John Munro, Mark O'Neil



Division 5 Park Rangers (6) John Gallagher, Ruth Searle, Nathaniel Hutton

Defeated

Pooh (5) Garry Williamson, Lyn Giles, Tom Frahn



All the team and individual results are available on our website and through ratings central.

Juniors Grand Final



The junior competition grand final was between “Fantastic Four” (Liam, Hannah, Lachlan and Leon (Blair filled in for Leon in the grand final)) and “Spun Out” (Mitchell, Jackson, Matt and Elijah). There were lots of family and friends present which helped provide a real finals like atmosphere. It was a very close final with the teams splitting the opening 4 singles matches. “Spun Out” then took a 4-2 lead by winning both doubles matches. Going into the reverse singles “Spun Out” only needed to win one of the four remaining singles matches to claim the win but “Fantastic Four” did very well to win all four matches and steal a 6-4 grand final victory. Hannah picked up the best player trophy losing just 1 singles match for the season.

The next junior competition will be in term 2 of 2016. The junior coaching program will commence again on Tuesday nights in term 1 of 2016.

Holiday Coaching for Junior’s

Alvan will once again be running coaching for juniors during the January school holidays. The sessions are from 11.00am to 12.30pm and will be held on Tuesday the 12th and 19th of January and Friday the 15th and 22nd of January. The sessions cost \$5 each and we ask that you let Alvan know on phone 8326 1214 if you intend to attend any of the sessions so that we can organise enough coaches.

Sponsors Wanted

We are currently in the process of trying to attract sponsors for the club and we are offering 3 different sponsorship categories. If you know of any businesses that may be interested please contact Maurice QUINN at admin@southerntabletennis.org.au. We would like to thank Maurice for all the work he has put into this project and hopefully we will soon have a number of sponsor’s signs around the stadium.

Club Shirt

We have been thinking of having a club shirt for quite a while now and if we decide to enter any teams into the TTSA winter competition it is a requirement to have one. At this stage this project is on hold to see if we can attract any major sponsors whose logos would appear on the shirt. If anybody has any experience in designing a shirt or would like to be involved in designing a shirt please contact Marcel on 0417 870 181.