



WHATS HAPPENING IN THE KITCHEN

WELCOME to our first ever newsletter. So much is happening and so quickly for our new club, and some of you may not be aware of all the news. So read on to see who we are, what has been happening, plus we will provide you with a little bit of information that we hope assists you.



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VICE- PRESIDENT
Graeme Beardwood



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Leigh Dunn



**ASSISTANT
SECRETARY**
Cathie Ferguson



TREASURER
Sue Garlick



OPERATIONS
Sue Shannon



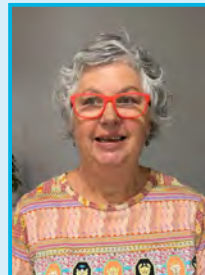
**COMMUNICATION/
PUBLICITY**
Fiona Bond



COMMITTEE
Rowan Thurman



COMMITTEE
Terri Beardwood



COMMITTEE
Kaz Shirley



COMMITTEE
Lea Preece

MEMBERSHIP

We started our club in November 2022 and at the time of going to print we have **111** members and we are growing weekly. Roughly 2/3 women, 1/3 men and the average age is 60. Although we are starting to attract quite a few in the younger age groups, largely because of our night sessions.

Congratulations to Peter Argus, who is our 100th member.

The "Come and Try" day in February was very popular with almost 60 people taking part.

Alison Marchant, our Bellarine State Member was invited to come and visit us. She came to one of the sessions, learnt how to play and stayed for the full 2 hours. She thoroughly enjoyed herself and was interested in finding out more about the club and pickleball. With Pickleball being in the 2026 Commonwealth Games, we want our elected members to be aware of the sport and the growth of it in the Geelong region. We need to have dedicated Pickleball facilities in the future, to meet the demand.

Our first club social event was held at McGlashans winery. It was very successful, with 45 people turning up. The club provided free pizza as a thankyou to members and there were also door prizes. A great night. So make sure you keep an eye out for our next one, which will be in May.



COMPETITIONS

Peninsula Cup

In February, the inaugural Peninsula Cup was held. This is a competition between the Bellarine and Mornington Peninsula's. Twelve members from both our club and Ocean Grove club caught the ferry over and played at the Sorrento community center. The format was mixed doubles and we brought home the Cup. Congratulations go to Lea and Roy, Fiona and Kevin, Mel and Mal, Leanne and Ken, Sue S and Graeme and Leigh and Ray. Thanks to our cheer squad who went over with as well, it was a fun day.

Victorian Open

On the March long weekend quite a few of the club went to the Vic Open. It was a 3 day event at Somerville with over 320 competitors. The format for this was gender doubles, mixed doubles and singles. The standard of play was incredible, as people came from all over Australia.

Congratulations to:

Paul Lapham who won a Bronze Medal in the Mens 2.5 -3.5 Over 60s

Fiona Bond who won a Bronze Medal in the Womens 2.5 – 3.5 Over 60s

Nyah Lapham who won Silver in the U/17 girls singles

Zuri Lapham who won Bronze in the U/17 girls singles

It was a great learning experience for everyone with some of our new members attending their first tournament and having a great time, plus all had a very social time as well. Anyone can play in the many tournaments that occur around the State or in Australia

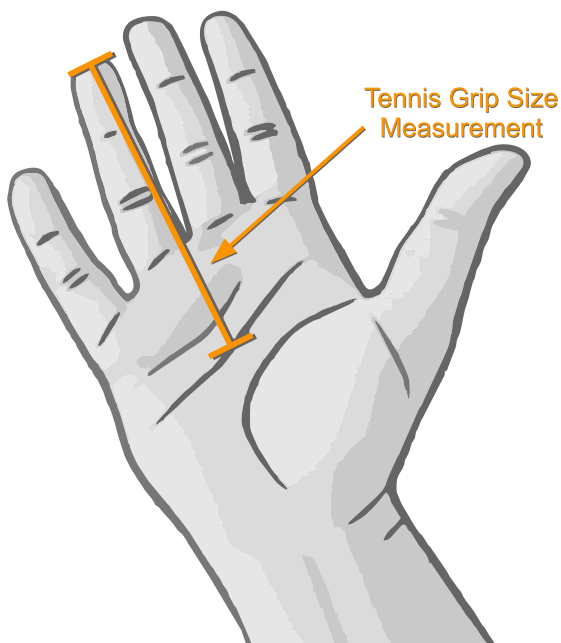
The next big tournament coming up is the Adelaide Masters 11-13 Oct 2023. So plan ahead, find a partner and be part of the group getaway.

Talking about ones to watch, did you see the Million Dollar Pickleball Tournament on 2 April in Florida USA. It involved tennis greats John McEnroe, Andre Agassi, Any Roddick and Michael Chang. It was televised, keep your eyes out for future tournaments.

EQUIPMENT

As Pickleball is so new there are very few places that you can buy equipment, which sees us all having to buy online. Over the last few weeks, we have had paddles supplied by David at ozpickleball.net.au and Vuss from mypickleball.com.au coming to Drysdale to show us different paddles. Both of these initiatives have proven to be successful, and we will look to do something similar again.

For those of you who had a conversation with Vuss about grip size he has supplied the following information which we hope helps



He said measure from the 2nd crease midway across the palm to tip of ring finger.

Rules of 'thumb':

11.2 cm + needs overgrip

10.5 - 11 cm = standard grip (4.25")

10 - 10.4 cm = narrow grip (4")

"I came across three players in my Melbourne/peninsula tour who need smaller than 4" grip so we customise down to a 3.6". Tricky but doable. We do this for children as well.

When we take any orders online or from players not-in-person, we ask for their grip size. Increased comfort & control. Decreased tennis elbow for addicts"

If you have paddles that you would like to sell please talk to one of the committee we can help with advertising it.

If you are looking for paddles talk to other members about what they are using, ask about secondhand options and make contact with either 'oz pickleball' or 'my pickleball'

You will have noticed a lot of members wearing our club t-shirts. We have just ordered some more so for those who had placed an order they will be here soon and for those who have not we have purchased a few extras so please ask if you are interested in buying one. In addition, if you would like to purchase a fun type of pickleball t-shirt then just ask as we have a few of them as well.

PLAYING DAYS

Our playing sessions are a work in progress as we grow we have to find more opportunities for you all to play. Some of our sessions sell out within 5 minutes and we know that is very frustrating when you miss out. The use of our booking app Spond is making life easier for all of us but remember there is still an element of manual work that has to occur when you pull out of a session.

Our current sessions are:

Mon 7-9pm

Wed 7-9pm

Thurs 8-10pm

Sat 9-11am & 11-1pm

Sun 9-11am & 11-1pm

A couple of our committee members addressed the Drysdale Tennis Club recently with a view to seeing what could be organized as far as playing outdoors during the week so we will keep you posted on how that goes.

Congratulations to Peter Gilmour and Jarna Salonen who attended the refereeing course, we look forward to hearing what you picked up.

COACHING

A number of our club have completed the Level 1 coaching course. So there are plenty of people on hand to help you with some skills training or just generally to ask questions. Along with Peter and Jarna the coaches will also be able to help you if you have any questions about the rules.

Look out for Viv Daniels, Sue Garlick, Sue Shannon, Leigh Dunn, Loretta Millen, Mel White, Paul Lapham, Kevin Ryan and Michelle Crofts.



COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President	Viv Daniels	0406 820 739
Vice-President	Graeme Beardwood	0402 300 449
Secretary /Membership	Leigh Dunn	0418 419 522
Assistant /Secretary	Cathie Ferguson	0423 717 440
Treasurer	Sue Garlick	0414 635 502
Operations	Sue Shannon	0438 059 459
Inter/Intra Club Competitions	Sue Shannon Lea Preece Kaz Shirley	0438 059 459 0428 546 796 0437 032 647
Player Welfare	Fiona Bond Terri Beardwood	0429 066 441 0404 082 004
First Aid Co-Ordinator	Rowan Thurman	0429 413 718
Communications /Publicity	Viv Daniels Fiona Bond	0406 820 739 0429 066 441
Social Media	Sue Shannon Lea Preece	0438 059 459 0428 546 796
Spond Administrator	Graeme Beardwood	0402 300 449

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Does this apply to you? Which one do you choose?

What people say when asked why they lose at pickleball

1. My team member 51%
2. The paddle 25%
3. The court 15%
4. The ball 8%
5. My fault 1%

See you all on the Pickleball court and keep having fun

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please contact Fiona Bond with any snippets you would like included in the next edition of "Whats Happening in the Kitchen"