

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

For the year ending 30 September 2009

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Introduction

- 1.1 Hi and welcome to my report for the year ended September 2009. A big hello to all of our new members that have joined us over the past 12 months. It is good to see NZ emerging from a worldwide financial driven recession with plenty of positive signs now in the economy. Sport however will always remain an important part of our lives irrespective of the state of the economy and this year is no exception with a huge number of interclub teams in both squash and tennis this year. Our club continues to provide a value for money environment for all members of the family. With the clubs strong competitive spirit plus a social atmosphere that sees hugely successful events such as "Priscilla Queen of the Desert Road" being performed we are without doubt the best all round club in North Harbour. I look forward to seeing you around the club soon.
- 1.2 The Club as always has priorities for the immediate future. We currently have a grant application in with the NSCC to upgrade the upstairs and downstairs tennis deck area. We have had major financial set backs this year with unexpected expenditure for tennis lights repairs and a power loss for the club, plus club cash was required in order to get a second tennis court replaced with grant application paying for another.

Membership

- 2.1 Our membership fluctuates throughout the year but currently sits at around 690 members.

Club Manager

- 3.1 We welcome Fleur back from maternity leave not sure which job is easier looking after a 1 year old or 690 club members. The executive would like to thank Lucia Devoy for stepping into the Club Managers role for the past 12 months. It is a difficult role with varied skills required; we wish you the best in your next role Lu.

Grant applications

- 4.1 The opportunities continue to be a challenge however we are getting small grants for coaching, balls etc accepted. We have 1 x large grant application currently in with the Council for upgrades to the tennis viewing area decks. We have fingers crossed in securing some of the funds that the Council is disposing of prior to the start of the super city. We also need to replace the last 2 tennis courts and applications will continue to be applied for.

Fundraising

- 5.1 Very few fundraising events took place this year however Priscilla Queen of the Desert Road provided a positive result for the bank balance albeit this event is primarily a feel good have fun show for the club. We will be looking to run the auction again this coming year, probably around the start of the tennis interclub season so we will be looking for volunteers and auction ideas closer to September.
- 5.2 As a club we rely heavily on our volunteers and all too often the organisation and effort to put on ANY event falls on a dedicated few. For the benefit of all club members we ask that you please participate in events when you can, donate your time or just help out where you can. The more we can do within the membership base the less we have to raise the subs to all.

Sponsorship

The Club is grateful to the following:

- 6.1 In squash: - Tony Wiles from North Harbour Scaffolding
- 6.2 In tennis: - David Storey Motors for their continued support of our Men's and Ladies Chelsea Cup tennis teams.

Upstairs Renovation

- 7.1 A big thanks to Mid Week Ladies who provided us with some lovely new chairs in the lounge.

Bar and Kitchen

- 8.1 Lounge hire has been steady this year but continues to provide us with a steady stream of revenue through hire of the facility and bar takings.
- 8.2 The Bar Buddy system continues to work very effectively and provides a great service to the Club. A big thank you to all our bar buddies.
- 8.3 Luke has done a great job as Bar Manager this year and the Clubs executive appreciates the effort that he puts into this job. Luke is now leaving to pursue a plumbing and drain laying apprenticeship; we wish you all the best for this. Thanks again from everyone, you were a great bar manager.
- 8.4 Details of bar turnover and profits can be found in the treasurer's report.

Mortgage reduction

- 9.1 We are pleased to report that the mortgage debt has reduced substantially. Details are covered in the Treasurer's Report.

Coaching and the Pro-Shop

- 10.1 Gavin, Sue, and the various helpers (Rhiaan, Jeff etc) provide excellent coaching services for the junior members during the tennis season. I urge all of you to take advantage of their coaching skills plus the wide range of products that Gavin and Sue carry in the Pro-Shop. Retail is perpetually tough; if they don't have what you want just ask.

Website, newsletters and publicity

- 11.1 On-line booking system and web site is working well and this will continue to be our main source of booking both squash and tennis courts.
- 11.2 Communication through e-mail is our main source of communication so please make sure you notify Fleur of any changes to your contact details or better still update them yourself on the web site.

Squash report – by Allister Zimmerman (Vice President - Squash)

- 12.1 2009 was a busy year at Browns Bay, which kept the committee on their toes, we introduced numerous squash coaching and development programs that were well received and attended by members, plus had an extremely successful year with our junior players, and welcomed a lot of new squash playing members.

We started the squash season off with a push on recruiting keen players for the super-champ play offs in July, our thought process was that if we can start gaining member's interest early, and commence a coaching program, we may be able to enter a team from each grade, and indeed this was the case, 4 teams consisting of seven players in each entered this national competition which was one of the largest number of players we have entered for some years. Unfortunately we were not successful in winning any of the graded champ's rounds, but we did come second in the C grade division, all players were committed to the program, and it was really good to see so many keen to take up the challenge.

Our club coach Manu Yam played a major role in developing fantastic squash coaching and development programs in 2009, as follows:

- Elite junior coaching and development
- Holiday Programs for all school holidays
- Women's mid week and Friday night squash program
- Junior club night
- Squash Aerobics
- JETS training
- Boot camp (for the real keen)

And there were many more, and without Manu's dedication, these programs would not have been available to our members, and we the committee take our hat off and thank Manu for the efforts and drive he provided our club. While we are still on coaching, along with being named Squash Auckland's coach of the year, Manu was named Squash New Zealand's coach of the year, we are proud and indeed lucky to have Manu as our squash coach, and hope that we can retain his services for many years to come.

Browns Bay juniors continue to impress and excel in squash, this year has seen the largest number of junior members playing in the JETTS competition, we started out with 2 teams in term one, and finished with 5 teams playing in term 4, and to top this off, Browns Bay has won this competition each term, since its conception in 2008, along with coming first, all teams have been placed in the top five positions. This is an incredible achievement, considering the talent that exists with junior's players in the other clubs, again Manu has played a key role in this success, his rigorous training and coaching programs for the JETTS players is testimony to this fact.

We hosted two tournaments in 2009, BB open and BB Masters. For the open we were not able to secure a sponsor, the recession year saw companies holding on to funds, so we ran the tournament using the entry fees to cover the prizes, and although the prize money was not large, we were able cover the costs, and not make a loss. For the masters, our regular sponsor, North Harbour Scaffolding came to the party, thanks to Tony and his team, we had 70 entries for this tournament, which is not big, but it does take pressure off playing times, and allow us to finish on the Saturday, so it's relaxed and fun to play in.

2009 saw us involved with Squash Auckland and there numerous squash promotion programs, we focused heavily on schools in squash, and with the assistants of Steve Hodges we were able to attract the majority of schools in the bays area to participate in promoting this sport to there pupils and coming down and using our facilities during the day, and we will continue to promote this, as it does lead to young players becoming interested in squash and joining our club. Because of our commitment to these programs, Squash Auckland invested back into our club, we were fortunate to received \$200 in coaching funds, and \$1000 worth of junior racquets, which was very timely as our club racquets had seen there last days, and needed urgent replacement.

There is a lot of commitment required by members who put their names down to be part of the committee, without these people, we as a club would not be able to provide the support our players need, my committee in 2009 were great, they put their hands up to get involved in all areas, and gave a lot of there own time to ensure all the events we held run smoothly, and communicated with all participating players our goals for the year, and what we hope to achieve, which was well received.

So thanks to:

Andrew McKay, MCC – Suzanne Becroft, WCC – Rachel Dimoline – Mark Gallagher – Steve Hodges Junior convener – Laurence Low - Manu Yam, club coach, and the executive management team.

Looking forward to the 2010 season.

Allister Zimmerman -BBRC Squash VP

Tennis report

- 12.2 Chelsea Cup. Firstly I would like to thank Jono Craven, Ross and Jenny Preston for all the hard work put into organising our Chelsea Cup teams this year. With next to no budget the ladies are top 3 contenders looking to go 1 better than the semi finals of last year. It's great to see Briar Preston, Katherine Black, Jenny Morgan and Mike Deane taking apart well known import players from the other clubs.

The men are doing it tough however if we were allocated points for playing our home grown talent then Browns Bay would proudly be at the top of the table. Well done to Nick Wiles, Ari Davis, Andrew Ramsay, Jeff Birse, Wade and James. You are all a huge asset to our club.

12.3 Tennis Report – by Paul Grace (Vice President - Tennis)

It has once again been an unusual year for tennis at Browns Bay. In particular, the changes to the interclub team selections because of the new Tennis Northern criteria to have teams selected on top dog points. This certainly set up some lively conversations. A considerable amount of confusion was also generated as to how reserves worked under the new system. We will all have to wait until next season to see what the final outcomes may be.

We have had a good influx of new juniors, intermediates and seniors to the club and unfortunately have had a few fall away as well.

The injury list to all the weekend “oldies” seems to get bigger every year and every team captain seems to spend the week looking for fit and healthy players.

The year saw the addition of another new court, our thanks to Tiger Turf for the wonderful job they did in getting this laid down in record time. Thanks also to Peter Pye for his continuing behind the scenes maintenance that keeps all our nets up and functioning. Thanks also goes to the junior and tennis committees for their hard work during the year, thanks also to our coach Gavin Hill and his ongoing work with the juniors and intermediates.

For those of you who are unaware the executive committee is also made up of the squash ladies and men’s captains and VP. Some important decisions were made for tennis which required their input. Many thanks Allister, Andrew and Suzanne for the time you put aside for helping tennis. Mark Green our club president also has spent many hours working on behalf of tennis and Squash and this should also be recognized and acknowledged. Lucia and Fleur in the office, thanks for keeping us all on track and ensuring that the Tennis Northern catch phrase “more people playing more tennis” was actually achieved.

Lastly thanks goes to our tennis Club Captain David Storey, firstly for all the wonderful bar shouts, and secondly for all the hard work he put in during the season.

Paul Grace - VP Tennis

The Club scene

13.1 As I mentioned earlier the clubs events, tournaments, fundraising activities are generally all organised by volunteers. Without your assistance our subs would be substantially higher.

13.2 I would mention particularly:

- Junior tennis committee of Andy Burrows and his team, the juniors are our life blood and it’s great to see this membership area growing.
- Tony Peat for his unrelenting pursuit of a great set of accounts. Tony, the Executive and club appreciates all the extra effort you have put in this year.
- David Storey, Paul Grace, Jono Craven, Richard Tulley and the Tennis Committee and helpers for their management of our tennis needs, team selections and Club Championships;
- Thuten Kesang for his enthusiastic direction of our Thursday evening tennis teams event, which attracts players from all over the North Shore and puts a spotlight on the Club in more ways than one. Peter Weir for his devotion and organisation of Sunday tennis. Peter Pye for his unseen work on the nets and courts allowing us to just turn up and play.

- Those who contribute as Interclub Team Captains, helpers at working bees, Committee members, selectors and Regional Delegates, Bar Buddies and fun generators. You are too many to mention, but we know who you are and value your support immensely.
- Those who organise Thursday Senior Squash Nights and the Summer team events on Tuesday evenings;
- Manu Yam, for his hard work and dedication in assisting our junior squash players;
- Our social tennis players who, by filling our courts all Sunday afternoon, promote our Club and its friendly atmosphere to passers by; and
- The work of our informal social committee that consists of an ever changing crew but specifically this year a big thank you to Sharon Thomas and Brian and Karen Somervell for writing, producing and directing Priscilla. While I can't say that I enjoyed dressing up in women's cloths all of us that were involved in the show were taken out of our comfort zone in order to provide some fantastic entertainment. Thanks again guys we look forward to the next blockbusting show.

13.3 These contributions add significantly to our Club life and make our membership so enjoyable. Well done, everyone.

Conclusion

We hope this year has no major financial surprises in store for us as the club needs to build a healthy bank balance again. With an ageing facility we can however expect the unexpected and as such we continually need to have sound financial control and guidance. Thanks again to everyone for making the BBRC an enjoyable place to play sport and socialise.

Mark Green
President
3 March 2009