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Dear Club member,  
Welcome to Spring. Here's what's been happening around your Club:

### **Barrenjoey High tennis coaching and 'Scholarship'**

Barrenjoey High School offer tennis as a sports option for Terms 1 and 4 each year and they hire our courts for an hour and a half each Wednesday afternoon. This had been designed as a casual sports afternoon to get some exercise and have a bit of fun but there was very little organisation and no learning experience was offered.

The Committee had the idea to enhance these sessions by funding the cost of coaching to engender some basic tennis skills to those interested. The plan is that the resident coach, Scott Browne of Evolve will provide his services and piece together an appropriate program at no additional cost to participants.

In addition, it is proposed that the Club would offer a 'Scholarship' to the three students who display the greatest enthusiasm and skills for the game each Term. This would be in the form of some additional group coaching plus complimentary Junior Membership to the Club, provided the students meet the membership criteria. It is hoped that this activity and encouragement would form a pathway to further involvement by the students and the feedback following the first two sessions is very positive indeed.

### **'Evolve Tennis Academy' special offer**

Evolve have just completed their first three months at the Club and we are all encouraged by their professionalism and enthusiasm. For those not familiar with 'Evolve', they currently run coaching programs at Collaroy Tennis Club and Wyatt Park Tennis Club in Belrose as well as here. The Careel Bay leg of operations is headed by Scott Browne who is rapidly becoming a familiar face around the building. Scott held an ATP World Ranking not long ago and is a well-qualified coach with six years' experience so he can certainly make a difference to your game.

For those considering lessons, Evolve has created a special CBTC Club members discount offer that is contained within the attached flyer so now may be the perfect time to get yourself match ready for the Summer.

### **Working Bee**

The next working bee is scheduled for Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup> from 8.30 – 11.30 am.

You have probably noticed the stylish cabanas installed on the far side of the courts by Ivor and Barry Black. The main focus of Sunday will be to complete the structure of the garden beds in this area and compost the soil ready for planting which will finish off this great enhancement project. As always though, there are plenty of other jobs to keep everyone occupied. Any time at all you could devote would be appreciated and you will be rewarded with cake and conversation.

Staying on the 'thanks for your contribution' theme, special mentions go to Ingrid Burgess for the terrific outdoor table and chairs near the bbq and also Fred Geissler for the large flower pots that are appearing around the club.

### **Vintage Championships**

The best of the over 55 brigade have tested their abilities on court and I am pleased to report that the defibrillator was not required.

*Ladies Singles Final* – Chrissie Camp def Alison Stewart

*Ladies Doubles Final* – Chrissie Camp & Margaret Moore def Jan Milton and Alison Stewart in three very tight sets.

*Gentlemen's Singles Final* – Paul Harrison def Simon Antrobus in two exciting tiebreak sets.

*Gentlemen's Doubles Final* – Peter Gorian & Roland McAdam def Ivor Ackerman and Paul Harrison.

The heavy rains earlier have hampered the *Mixed Doubles* schedule and as such we were not able to hold the Final as planned so this will be held over until later this month.

### **Member's mid-week social play**

The committee has reviewed the allotted 'free of charge' times for mid-week members play as there was a degree of confusion around which courts are available at what times. The court allocations have been adjusted according to demand and you will receive a separate email outlining just when courts are now available or you can always check at [careelbaytennis.net.au](http://careelbaytennis.net.au) and go to 'Court Hire'. Any of the areas in green marked as 'Club Time' are for members use at no charge.

A trial experimenting with different formats has also been undertaken in the popular Tuesday 7:30 am – 9:00 am slot. There are currently around a dozen players but room for more as four courts can be made available so if that time suits you just turn up and speak to Jeff Annersley, Andy Hurford or John Voice and they will assist you to become involved.

### **Terrey Hills Challenge**

This annual inter-club challenge, involving representative teams of 10 men and 10 women, is an away fixture this time at Terrey Hills Tennis Club on Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup>. After cruising to victory in all of the first few years of the challenge, Careel Bay was soundly trounced last time by a hand-picked group of tennis mercenaries and as such our Captain will be seeking to enlist a strong and fit squad in an attempt to regain the trophy and some pride. Either way this is a great social day at a really pleasant venue.

### **Court lights**

The committee is working to upgrade the existing metal-halide (MH) lights to LED. The cost for converting the five courts is in the region of \$50,000 which has been prohibitive for our meagre reserves, however the Club managed to secure a \$28,000 grant from the Council which made the project financially feasible. Our contribution has been reduced to around \$22,000, which is still not insignificant, but with expected savings in the region of \$4,000 per year, our return on the investment will be 4-5 years before the project pays for itself. We currently await final competitive quotes for the work before making a decision and are investigating further options to fund the shortfall and reduce our financial exposure as much as possible.

The major benefits of the upgrade are:

- LED lights provide better illumination conditions in terms of brightness and uniformity than the old metal-halide lights. The levels should not only meet but comfortably exceed Tennis Australian Club Competition standards. This will benefit not only our night competition players but also our more mature club members and other court hire users suffering reduced visibility.

- The lights are much more efficient and will result in 40-50% reduction in power costs and greenhouse gas emissions.
- The LED lights are virtually maintenance free where the MH lights are very expensive to maintain. The old lights typically only last 3 years where the LED's are fully covered under a 10-year warranty and are expected to last 15-20 years.
- LED lights be instantly switched on/off and do not require a long warm up period.
- Clubs which have moved to LED lighting have seen a marked increase in night court usage and hence revenue.



Recently members of the Committee, accompanied by some night comp players, inspected a similar set up at Queenwood Tennis Courts (Oxford Falls) and all were suitably impressed.

Big thanks must go to Peter Gorian for securing the initial grant and managing the project and also Glen Woodward for his input and continued assistance along the way.

### **Xmas Party**

Friday December 15<sup>th</sup> is the night to reserve in your social calendar as that is the date for the event that stops a suburb. This year's Xmas Party will be held at the Club. More information will be forthcoming over the coming month but reserve this date on your calendar now.

### **Web master or mistress**

The Club's web site has become an important tool in communicating news to members and the public and after several years managing and developing the site to the point where the potential for sponsorship exists, Ivor has decided to take a well-earned break from this role. As such we seek assistance from a member who has the skills to upload information and photos and keep the site current and fresh. If that sounds like you please contact Roland at your earliest convenience.

### **Dog policy**

We recently had a visit from a Council ranger to remind us that, as there is an unfenced kid's play area on the premises, there are no dogs allowed inside the fence. This includes dogs on a leash or tied up or carried so please be aware as the ranger has indicated she will be monitoring this policy in the future.

### **Questions & feedback**

Any suggestions you care to offer will be readily received by your newly elected Committee so feel free to contact any of us with what's on your mind.

Roland McAdam – President, Kay Howarth – Vice President, Claire Davis – Club Captain,  
Helen Hunt – Secretary, Charles Perry – Treasurer and Management Committee members  
Mark Audet, Peter Gorian, Sandra Morgan & Graham Roll.