

AWTTA – President’s Report, 2018

Thanks and Acknowledgement:

It’s been a pretty busy year for our club:

- I want to personally thank the members of the committee and division co-ordinators for all of their hard work over the past twelve months
 - Treasurer Rick Woods had bigger amounts to deal with during the past year with the club extension and other projects for the improvement of our facilities, but our bank account stayed in the black.
 - Barbara Manley continued her work in promotion with several media items and instigated Come & Try days from which we have gained a few new members. Barbara has also assisted in the kitchen for tournaments.
 - Cody Luton continued as committee liaison person with the pennant co-ordinators and working with various school groups. He was acting vice-president after Hans Kasper, our elected vice-president sadly passed away in January. Cody also assists with the running of our tournaments.
 - Leonie O’Haire with a team of members conducted a Bunnings sausage sizzle to raise significant funds for our club and often assists in our kitchen for tournaments.
 - Bill Farrell joined the committee during the year, providing measured and knowledgeable contribution to committee discussions.
 - Ian Radley recently joined the committee and undertook to expand on the photo gallery with photos of life members including their significant contribution to the club.
 - David Smith continued to the overall pennant co-ordinator and Div 1 co-ordinator, assisted by co-ordinators Cody Luton, Larry Benton and Jo Dighton.
 - Secretary Kerry Bell had a very big year acting as project manager for the extension by six courts and other improvements to our facilities, including the kitchen, foyer and extra ladies toilets. This included the sourcing of decent chairs after an incident at the 2017 AGM. He looks after catering for tournaments and our kitchen’s menu is another drawcard of our tournaments. He also pursued a number of grants. Kerry was awarded Life Membership for his many years of extraordinary service to our club in December 2017.
- Then there are so many other members who provide hours of voluntary work, with some donating materials as well.
 - There’s always quite a few to assist with catering for tournaments (including an additional one for the Deaf Games in 2018), gardening and other activities.
 - Border Signs for providing a few additional signs around the premises and updating the honour boards.
 - VIP Home Services for providing supplies for our amenities.
 - ASPIRE group mow the grass and do some general gardening.
 - Ken Smith continues his good work with Secondary School Table Tennis with a big local tournament, then taking a team to Sydney.
 - Kaitlin Scott continued to promote club activities via Facebook, but she has asked that somebody else take on the Facebook postings. Expressions of interest to me.
 - Tony Pringle has drafted plans for a few projects.
 - Thanks to Geoff Cadd for all of his voluntary garden work and donation of plants

- Once again, Graham “Macca” MacDonald, Colin Parker and Richard Lautenbacher have done significant work in maintaining and improving our club facilities.

Again, I am thankful that there are so many wonderful people in this club willing to offer so much for everyone’s benefit.

Coaching course

Eleven members attended a TOPS coaching course so that the club has a good number of qualified introductory level coaches to assist with Sporting Schools and school holidays sessions.

Club Competition

A number of players have been promoted through the divisions during the year and are enjoying the challenge of higher divisions. David has presented trophies to club champions.

There has been an attempt to start a Wednesday afternoon Junior Competition for which Cody Luton volunteered to be available. Unfortunately, there was the desired interest. Maybe with increased Primary school sessions at the club, this may happen in the future.

Social events.

- We had a good number attend the social evening which included a barbecue, the official opening and a demonstration by top player Heming Hu. A few members enjoyed the experience of playing opposite him, as did Albury City mayor, Kevin Mack.
- The Keenagers once again had a Christmas lunch, Australia Day lunch, Christmas in July lunch and Melbourne Cup lunch
- Our major sponsor Commercial Club has been the venue for a few of our social events, including tournament dinners and the Keenagers Christmas lunch.

Membership Stats, as per Treasurer’s records:

	2016	2017	2018
Pennant - Juniors	115	41	43
Pennant - Adults #		84	87
Keenagers #	141	174*	138*
Total	256	299	268

A few are counted in both. * 2017 Thursday group discontinued.

Financial Stats:

	2016	2017	2018
Pennant	\$20,034	\$22,986	\$22,728
Keenagers	\$26,820	\$35,289	\$29,262^
Schools & Groups*	\$13,349	\$12,731	\$12,813^
Total	\$60,203	\$71,006	\$64,903

* We have had an increase in the number of Primary School groups through the Sporting Schools program. We also supported Wodonga City Councils “All Abroad” school holiday program assisting three large groups of students in one day.

^Some decrease in income due to fewer attendees during re-stumping of clubroom and construction of the extension.

Tournaments

	2016	2017	2018
Junior Championship	25	37	53 [#]
Senior Championship	41	39	43
Veterans (2 day event)	79	72	81
Keenagers*	120	95	75

The Junior tournament was also the Victorian Open Junior tournament in 2018. We may also hold that event in 2019.

*The date for the AWTTA Keenagers Tournament has been changed a few times to fit in with other clubs' events and the extension work. This has affected the numbers. It is hoped that a settled date and improved facilities with more courts will attract larger numbers in the future.

AWTTA Successes:

AWTTA Open Seniors:

There were fifteen AWTTA participants. Darryl and Tyler Young were runners-up for Division 3 Doubles; Andy Eberle was the winner of Division 6 Singles and runner-up for Division 5 Singles; and Terry Caldwell was runner-up for Division 6 Singles.

AWTTA Open Veterans:

2017: There were seven AWTTA participants. Geoff Prior was second in the O60 singles and Div 3 Singles; Colin Geraghty was the winner of O80 Doubles and O75 Doubles; and Geoff Prior and Bas Smeulders were second in the O40 Doubles.

2018: There were thirteen AWTTA participants. David Smith won the Division 3 Singles and Terry Caldwell was runner-up in the Division 5 Singles.

Vic Open Juniors:

The Commercial Club and Albury City provided extra sponsorship for this tournament and the prizemoney was higher than usual.

There were seven AWTTA participants and Max Geering was runner-up in Division 5 Boys' Singles with William Batrouney also making the semi-finals for the same event.

Keenagers:

AWTTA comp:

Winners: Mixed Div 1 (Richard Jones and Julie McKenzie-McHarg); Ladies Div 2 (Dawn Gibbs with a Wangaratta partner).

Runners-up: Mixed Div 1 (Phil Collinge and Joy Jacob); Mens Div 2 (Ivan Church and Tony Ellwood); Ladies Div 2 (Barbara Manley and Lea Lautenbacher); Mixed Div 2 (Lea Lautenbacher with a Wangaratta partner).

MPTTA comp:

Kevin Phibbs and Andy Eberle were runners-up in the Div 1 Doubles.

2018 Country Championship

There were 19 divisions ranging from A to E7.

Tristan Radley, Geoff Prior & Tyler Young were third in B2.

Dean Bilston, Callum Mitchell, David Smith, Stuart Davidson & Ashley Wurtz were fourth in B3.

Adrian Rix, Brad Dare & Geoff Altass were fourth in C3.

Patrick Brownlaw, Casey Barker & Robert Auel were second in D1.

Joel Syphers, Sam Ekman & Bethany Smith were third in D2.

Ken Smith, Aaron Pimm & Cody Luton were third in D3.

Congratulations to all players for representing the club to the best of their ability.

Looking ahead:

- Continued focus on improvement of facilities including the expansion of the club amenities to include changerooms with showers. Thanks again to Tony Pringle for drafting plans.
- More school activities, taking advantage of the Sporting Schools program and the additional volunteer coaches who have completed the TOPS coaching course.
- Hopefully more NSW children will take up the opportunity to use their Active Kids Voucher for Table Tennis after AWTTA became a registered provider during 2018.
- Co-ordinators reviewing competition nights with whatever possibilities the increased number of courts provides. Perhaps two or three nights of competition rather than four.
- Improve further on communication. There have been about 300 recipients (including some interested past members) of the monthly President update emails. If you have an email address and it is not registered with the club, please do so.
- Encourage more members and newcomers to seek information on the AWTTA website, including general club information, pennant draws and results, the calendar of events and TTV and AWTTA tournament information.
- Encourage Pennant players to enjoy some social events and maybe even consider interclub competitions again.
- Be inclusive e.g. we just had a recent approach by an occupational therapist to make facilities available for a client's rehab program and we hope to provide opportunities for a couple of community groups.
- There have been approaches about external groups such as Scouts and Cubs hiring the facilities in the evening if they are available. There is also a non-member enthused about the PingPongAthon charity fundraising which is scheduled for next week and members are encouraged to participate. Rob Boehm will speak to you about this tonight.
- Find ways to increase the number of people enjoying Table Tennis competitively or socially in our region.

In 2016, when first elected as president, I thought that a two or three year term is appropriate for a president. The 2018-2019 year will make this my third year. Just saying!

Congratulations to all members who make this club what it does in providing social and health benefits to many.

Terry Caldwell

AWTTA President 2017-2018