

# AWTTA – President’s Report, 2019

## Thanks and Acknowledgement:

- 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
  - Ian Radley assumed the role of Div 1 co-ordinator and overall Pennant Co-ordinator at the eleventh hour. He then took on the role of webmaster which included setting up a new website more suited to AWTTA and Pennant results, with Janet’s assistance, and is very diligent in keeping it informative and up to date. Ian also organised the AWTTA50 raffle and was involved in promotional displays at shopping centres. He has also arranged for Pennant players to assist Juniors with skills at Wednesday sessions.
  - Secretary Kerry Bell, as well as normal secretary duties, looks after catering for tournaments and our kitchen’s menu is a definite drawcard of our tournaments. He is always on the look-out for a project funding to enhance the club.
  - Bill Farrell, vice-president, has instigated arrangements for Strategic Planning in which he has much experience. Thank you to the members who have volunteered for the Strategic Planning Group – Bill, Ivan Church, Stuart Davidson, Callum Mitchell, Neville Lowe, Amanda Rochford, Adrian Rix and Daniel Joosten. Bill will continue this work even though he is stepping down from the committee.
  - Treasurer Rick Woods continues to keep our financial records up to date, including managing a number of Active Kids Vouchers being applied to various activities.
  - Barbara Manley continued her work in promotion with several media items. She looks after orders for club apparel and assists with Come & Try days. Barbara has also assisted in the kitchen for tournaments. Even though Barbara is not nominating for the 2019-2020 committee, she will continue some of her work.
  - Co-ordinators Cody Luton (Div 2 &4), Larry Benton and Jo Dighton (Div 3) have ensured the smooth running of those divisions. Cody also looks after several school groups and Wednesday Juniors, and ensures that the club is open for most Sunday sessions.
  - Darryl Young makes positive contributions to meetings; does the mowing as well as that done by Aspire; and has volunteered readily for practical jobs e.g. letterbox, pest control. Due to recent health issues, Darryl hasn’t nominated for the 2019-2020 committee.
  - Bas Smeulders took on responsibility of meeting minutes and special orders from Affordable Table Tennis. Bas provided a very good pro-forma for minutes, action items and grants record which are still used since his resignation from the committee.
  - Ivan Church provides positive support and willingly assists with catering and fund raising.
- 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, gardening and other activities.
  - Leonie O’Haire with a team of members conducted Wodonga Coles and Bunnings sausage sizzles to raise significant funds for our club and often assists in our kitchen for tournaments.
  - Thanks to Geoff Cadd for all of his voluntary garden work and donation of plants and the Barry Wenke for his assistance with the gardening.
  - Ken Smith continues his good work with Secondary School Table Tennis with a big local tournament, then taking a team to Sydney.
  - Tony Pringle has redrafted plans for an amenities improvement project.

- Graham “Macca” MacDonald, Colin Parker, Tony Ellwood and Richard Lautenbacher for maintenance work.
- Geoff Prior answered the call for a person to post to the AWTTA Facebook and he has provided numerous photos, video and news.
- 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.
- An ASPIRE group mow and do some general gardening.

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

### **Club Competition**

There has been a significant increase in Pennant junior numbers during the year and a few past Pennant players have returned. Congratulations to Division Champions (Bas Smeulders, Cameron Burt, Luke Marsh and Joel Cook) and runners-up (Daniel Joosten, Rohan Hempel, Pop Cain and Caleb Scarlett) who were presented with trophies tonight.

### **Social events.**

- We had a more than eighty people attend an enjoyable social evening for the AWTTA 50<sup>th</sup> which included dinner, “Pro-Am” Doubles and Handicap Singles.
- The Keenagers once again had a Christmas lunch, Australia Day lunch, Christmas in July lunch, Melbourne Cup lunch and a trip to other Keenager clubs.
- Our major sponsor Commercial Club has been the venue for a few of our social events, including tournament dinners and the Keenagers Christmas lunch.

### **PingPongAthon outcome**

The Albury PingPongAthon organiser, Robert Boehm, is very pleased with the support from our members for its first appearance in Albury. Robert had a goal of raising \$1500 and he is very pleased to exceed the goal with \$1621 raised.

### **Membership Stats, as per Treasurer’s records (October):**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Pennant - Juniors</b>	115	41	43	50
<b>Pennant - Adults</b>		84	87	78
<b>Keenagers</b>	141	174*	138*	143
<b>Total</b>	256	299	268	271

\* 2017 Thursday group discontinued.

### **Financial Stats (June 30):**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Pennant</b>	\$20,034	\$22,986	\$22,728	\$18,281
<b>Keenagers</b>	\$26,820	\$35,289	\$29,262^	\$33,164
<b>Schools &amp; Groups*</b>	\$13,349	\$12,731	\$12,813^	\$13,995
<b>Total</b>	\$60,203	\$71,006	\$64,903	\$65,440

\* We have had an increase in the number of Primary School groups through the Sporting Schools program. ^Some decrease in income due to fewer attendees during re-stumping of clubroom and construction of the extension.

## Tournaments

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Junior Championship	25	37	53 <sup>#</sup>	28
Senior Championship	41	39	43	58
Veterans (2 days)	79	72	81	75
Keenagers*	120	95	75	75

<sup>#</sup> The Junior tournament was also the Victorian Open Junior tournament in 2018.

\*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.

## Tournament Results

**Country Week:** Four AWTTA teams were entered and it was a successful event for AWTTA. In D3, Cody Luton, Max Geering and Levi Geering won the team event with Max the most successful individual player in the division.

In C4, Adrian Rix, Casey Barker and Steve Bell won the team event with Adrian and Casey equal third individuals.

In B1, Bas Smeulders was third individual.

**AWTTA Junior tournament:** Seven AWTTA juniors participated in a total of twenty-eight entries. Max Geering was the winner and Jay Blanes was runner-up in Division 4 Singles (Rating less than 1000pts)

**AWTTA Senior Tournament:** Just ten AWTTA players participated in a total of fifty-eight entries. Jay Blanes won Division 4 Singles (less than 1000pts). David Marsh was winner and Rick Reitenbach was runner-up in the Division 5 Singles (less than 700pts). Ashley Harding and a Yarrawonga partner were winners of the Division 4 Doubles with Kevin Phibbs and a Yarrawonga partner being runners-up.

**AWTTA Veterans Tournament:** Eleven AWTTA members participated in a total of seventy-five entries. Geoff Prior won the Over 60 Men's Doubles with a visiting partner; Brett Marsh won the Saturday Division 5 Singles (less than 700 points); Wolfgang Forke was runner-up in the Sunday Division 5 Singles; Bruce Cowan and Peter Burr were runners-up in the Over 65 Men's doubles and the Over 70 Men's Doubles; and Colin Geraghty and Judy Crichton were runners-up in the Over 70 Mixed Doubles.

**Keenagers tournament:** There were 33 AWTTA Keenager and 42 visiting players from Ballarat, Coburg, Drouin, Mornington Peninsula, Portarlington, Traralgon, Wangaratta.

Congratulations to the successful AWTTA players.

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).

## Congratulations – state selection

Congratulations to Levi Geering, who was been selected in the Victorian Under 13 team to play in the Junior National at Wollongong, July 7-13.

### **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.
- It would be wonderful to get financial assistance for solar power as energy is a major club expense.
- 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. There are now two \$100 Active Kids Vouchers per year.
- Improve further on communication. There have been about 300 recipients (including some interested past members) of the monthly President 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 our comprehensive AWTTA website, including general club information, pennant draws and results, link to players' ratings, the calendar of events and TTV and AWTTA tournament information.
- Encourage all members to enjoy some club social events and maybe even consider interclub competitions again. The AWTTA 50 night was very enjoyable and we hope to have a similar event in 2020 – maybe as a charity fundraiser for the hay runners, as suggested by a committee member.
- Be inclusive e.g. Vision Australia group may continue discussions about storing a special table top here.
- Find more ways to increase the number of people enjoying Table Tennis competitively or socially in our region.
- Encourage more members to be involved in at least the tournaments hosted by AWTTA. It was very disappointing to have only five Pennant players participate in the Albury Wodonga Veterans Tournament.
- Continuation of younger players moving up through the Pennant divisions.
- Strategic Planning meetings will highlight some directions for the club.

Congratulations to all members who contribute to this club so that it can provide social and health benefits to many.

Terry Caldwell

AWTTA President 2018-2019