

AWTTA – President’s Report, 2021

Thanks and Acknowledgement:

Thank-you to the members of the committee and co-ordinators for their solid contribution over the past twelve months, especially noting Ivan Church and Cody Luton who have not nominated to continue after a few years on the committee.

Also, thanks to the groups of members who have volunteered for Dederang Primary School and Vacation Care Table Tennis sessions and for the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle. Other members quietly go about less noticeable tasks, such as minor maintenance, gardening, equipment orders, apparel purchases, promotion, social media, history scrap book and other voluntary jobs, and I appreciate their willing worthwhile contributions.

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

Ian Radley worked around restrictions to provide members with some competition in 2021 and he will report separately on this. The 2021 Club Championships were postponed to March 2022.

Social events.

These have been curtailed somewhat due to COV-19 restrictions again, but over 100 people attended the AWTTA Christmas Lunch at Commercial Club Albury. In 2022, this will be on a Saturday, rather than a Friday, giving even more members a chance to attend.

Membership Stats, as per TTV’s records:

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Pennant - Juniors	43	50	34	33
Pennant - Adults	87	78	59	97
Keenagers (not in Pennant)	138	143	156	152
Total	268	271	249	282

Our membership is up, but many members did not participate as much as usual. I am hopeful that this can be better in 2022.

Financial Stats (June 30):

	2018	2019	2020 [#]	2021 [#]
Pennant	\$22,728	\$18,281	\$15,729	\$16,778
Keenagers	\$29,262 [^]	\$33,164	\$25,654	\$28,927
Schools & Groups	\$12,813 [^]	\$13,995	\$11,681	\$13,667
Total	\$64,903	\$65,440	\$53,064	\$59,372

Closed for several weeks during the financial year. Also, there was considerable time that NSW members could attend, but Victorian members couldn’t.

Tournaments/Interclub events

	2018	2019	2020	2021
AW Junior Tournament	53 [#]	28	Not Held	Not Held
AW Senior Tournament	43	58	Not Held	Not Held
AW Veterans (2 days)	81	75	68	Not Held
AW Keenagers	75	75	Not Held*	74

The Junior tournament was also the Victorian Open Junior tournament in 2018.

The most successful AWTTA Keenagers teams were Richard Jones and Julie McKenzie-McHarg (winners of Div 1 Mixed double) and Andy Eberle and Geert Mensinga (runners-up in Div 1 Mens Doubles). Julie also partnered an MPTTA player to win the Div 1 Ladies Doubles.

Victorian Country Championships

This was cancelled again in 2021, after thirty-one AWTTA members had nominated. I hope that we can have at least this number for the 2022 event.

North-East Challenge at Yarrawonga

AWTTA was very successful in the teams event on Saturday December 4.

- Max Geering and Levi Geering won the A Grade without dropping a match in 16 singles and 4 doubles matches. Max was best player in A Grade.
- Luke van Zanten and Terry Caldwell won the B Grade also without dropping a match in 16 singles and 4 doubles matches. Luke was best player in B Grade.

Several players also participated in the individual events with many successes on Sunday December 5, which also included some novelty event.

State ranking

Congratulations to Max and Levi Geering, who are once again in the top ten of their age group for state rankings.

Coaching

It is intended that our visiting coach, Sam Palmer, has sessions in Albury, on one Saturday per month. In 2021, with COVID restrictions, we managed a three-day coaching camp in January and five or so Saturday sessions. Hopefully we can have these sessions more regularly in 2022.

AWTTA received a grant to support some junior members who are able to put their share to coaching as well as tournaments in 2021 and 2022.

Some other grant money was partly to support instruction/coaching by an experienced visiting coach for schools. AWTTA has an extension to achieve this by June 30, 2022, due to the difficulties in getting a coach in 2021.

First Aiders

Thanks to the dozen or so people with qualifications who have volunteered to cover our sessions.

MPIOs

Thanks to Ashley Wurtz and Stuart Davidson who volunteered to become the AWTTA Member Protection Information Officers and undertook a course to prepare for this.

More Sponsors

Thanks to Ian Radley for seeking sponsorships, as well as our main sponsors, Commercial Club Albury and AlburyCity. We now have the following minor sponsors: Lester & Son, 777 Automative, Helloworld, Delited Cleaning Services, Border Sign Studio, Daintree Family Dental Clinic, Lavington Auto Electrical Table Tennis World and Kobi Energy Solutions.

Solar System

AWTTA had a solar system with 80 panels installed by Kobi Energy in October, thanks to an AlburyCity grant which generally covered the whole cost after AWTTA had applied for a grant to cover two-thirds of the cost. Rather than paying about \$1000 per month for electricity, AWTTA is actually receiving monthly credit statements during the summer months.

This has certainly helped the AWTTA committee decide not to increase session fees for 2022.

Looking ahead, we want:

- Continued focus on improvement of facilities including the expansion of the club amenities to include changerooms with showers in partnership with AlburyCity, then maybe more courts.
- More school and vacation care activities.
- More Junior members with more NSW children taking up the opportunity to use their Active Kids Voucher for Table Tennis. There are now two \$100 Active Kids Vouchers per year.
- Promotion of corporate events, which in turn will help raise awareness of local Table Tennis.
- More members to enjoy some club social events, particularly the AWTTA Christmas lunch, which will be moved to a Saturday from 2022.
- More competition members to be involved in at least the TTV tournaments hosted by AWTTA.
- Support of interclub events such as the North-East Challenge in the region.
- More people enjoying Table Tennis competitively and/or socially in our region.

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

Terry Caldwell

AWTTA President 2020-2021