

## 2023 Squash Report - Flo Whittaker

Our squash membership is at 183 members as at July 2023 – which is holding steady from 2022 and an increase on the 2021 year

### **Outgoing Committee Acknowledgement:**

It is with deep appreciation and admiration that we extend our gratitude to the members of the outgoing committee who have steered our organization through the challenges and triumphs of the past year. In particular Ange Scott who through her commitment, creativity, and unwavering support has been invaluable to our shared mission, especially during the 2022 season where we had many moving parts. We thank both Ange and Chole for their hours of volunteer service, innovative ideas, and their commitment to making a meaningful impact. Your dedication has been a very real reason behind our success.

We now look forward to extending our warmest welcome to the new committee, embracing the exciting opportunities that the future holds.

The committee would also like to extend their gratitude to the Club Manager, Suzie, whose tireless support and dedication to the club and the success of the many squash tournaments and competitions throughout the year has been amazing. Suzie has allowed the committee to continue to build our membership, host a record number of tournaments and the club and to build a family friendly environment for our members. And along with Suzie we would like to thank Brett, Rosie and Carter for assisting Suzie and the club at the tournaments and meetings and allowing her to be at this second home of hers (and yours)

### **Key Achievements and Events:**

The outgoing committee has overseen a year filled with notable accomplishments and memorable events. We are pleased to highlight some of these key achievements:

1. **Waikato Wide Squash Tournaments:** We expanded our traditional hosted tournaments to include a number of notable events
  1. **Waikato Graded Champs** – an event we were selected to host this year, which was well received and provided additional income and exposure for our club. With the club winning the overall top Club award for the tournament – thanks to all our members who competed in the event
  2. **Werder Junior Finals:** We increased our presence this year by hosting the final of this Junior Series, last year we hosted a tournament but this

year having the Waikato representatives attend the final tournament and present awards added to the atmosphere at the club

3. **Waikato C Grade Super Champs - Women's:** This was a vibrant and exciting four days which showcased our ability to host large numbers in the club – with many participants commenting on how well run the tournament was
  4. **Waikato Doubles Single Tournament:** Another tournament for the club which was well received and plenty of fun – this will become a regular early in the season tournament for the club
  5. **Additional Tournaments:** We again hosted our annual WAIPA open tournament, a Woman's under 900 tournament and a Men's under 1500 tournament – all well received and successful tournaments
2. **Interclub:** We again provided a number of teams to interclub, 4 women's and 5 men's teams for Autumn, 5 woman's and 7 men's teams for Winter, and 4 of both men's and women's for the recent Spring interclub Mens D team brought home the Winning pennant.
  3. **Club Nights:** The committee has dedicated itself to providing fun and friendly club nights through out the year – ladies on a Monday and full club night on a Thursday – many thanks to all who assisted with the club nights
  4. **Club Champs:** We look forward to our club champs and end of year prizing giving being held in the next couple of weeks and acknowledging those members who have been outstanding through the year. Draws for B grade men and ladies to junior girls and boys .

Thank you to all those members who, while not on the committee, have regularly put their hand up to assist the committee with running the tournaments, being in the kitchen, manning the bar, undertaking tournament control duties and generally assisting throughout the day and night when these are on – without your much appreciated assistance we could not have taken on the number of tournaments we did this year – and more importantly we could not have conducted them to such a high standard.

We are grateful to have had all the courts re-plastered and a re-paint on courts 2,3 and 4. They are looking fantastic and have been well received for the later tournaments.

In closing, I would like to extend my gratitude to all of you, our members, for your unwavering support and enthusiasm. Your dedication and passion for our club are truly the driving force behind our organization's success and we look forward to the new journey we have ahead with enhancements to our infrastructure and the continued competitions, tournaments and fun family environment we have built over the past year.

Thank you once again to the outgoing committee for their exceptional service, and welcome to the new committee as we embark on this exciting year.