



SQUASH CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Since becoming chairman, I have got to know many members. Our club is made up of a diverse range of people from many walks of life, it is these people and their families that make the fabric of our club and other clubs like ours. We must always be mindful of the fact that the club is here for its members and as elected representatives we are here to do the best for them. That includes ensuring that we provide a happy, safe environment for all while also ensuring that we can provide the services required within the budget we have available. 2020 has been a challenging year especially with the effects of Covid-19 and restrictions that placed on each and every one of us and our club/sport. I'm happy to say we have worked hard to ride it out as best as possible but we have had to implement some changes to how we operate in order to continue to maintain a high level of participation within squash, tennis and club.

During this period Cambridge Squash was able to host 4 major tournaments and a beginners Tournament these being:

- Cambridge Racquets Festival
- Waikato Masters
- Waipa Open
- Club Champs 2020
- Women and Wine 900 series

FINANCIAL

The financial position of the club is sound but has always been challenging especially with the effects of Covid-19 have had on New Zealand as a whole but we were able to navigate through this with support from Squash Waikato/Squash NZ and government subsidies. However, I believe that with some real focus on membership, sponsorship and grants along with new initiatives in 2021/22 we will see income increase and put us in a better financial position moving forward. I have spent a considerable amount of time and energy looking at options to grow revenue for the club by way of membership, sponsorship, grants and bar income strategies and I truly believe that we can strive for more income for betterment of the club.

MEMBERSHIP

I have to be honest here and say our membership is stagnant and an area that the committee needs to tackle in 2021. We have some good initiatives already in place such as the Women in Wine and Business House and we are seeing good numbers of participation, but these are not transferring to memberships. In saying that, we have seen an increase in individual use of pay2pay which has been a positive financial gain for the club but the challenge for the committee is again getting these people to join the club and be part of or organised events. We offer a number of easy payments options that should be of benefit to current members and also encourage new members to continue be involved in our sport.

At the time of writing this, the Racquets Management Committee have made the decision to increase annual club fees by \$20pp based on an increase in operational cost. There is also an increase in the pay2play court fee from \$9 to \$12 in line with demand and other clubs nationally.



Areas to focus on in 2020 around membership will be an increase in female participation, membership programmes and tapping into the people using pay2pay in a casual capacity.



SPONSORSHIP

This is an area that requires a lot of attention as we have not actively followed up on opportunities for signage and club sponsorships. One of my tasks going forward is to promote sponsorships. Many business owners who are also members of our club are missing great opportunities to become club sponsors and advertise their services to our members. I have ideas on new opportunities we can offer sponsors as I'm sure a lot of members do. So, we would love to hear your ideas and if possible, engage your help to drive this area.

BAR AND LOUNGE

One of the initiatives I want to undertake is to promote the use of our facilities for functions and events. This can be a great revenue earner for the club. Further to this, I would also like to hold regular club member evenings to provide a venue where both new and old members can come and meet and network. This will also provide contacts for new members who wish to meet people that they can play their sport with.

MAINTENANCE AND RENEWALS

As you are all probably aware now the club has finally got around to organising the installation of LED lights in all of the courts - I make a special mention to Tim Pevreal, Murray Brown, Jim Farrelly, Pete Hobman, Darcy Stannard and Ian Tutbury from ITC Contracting for their work to help install the lights - the club management committee is now looking at what grants can be obtained for revitalising the club rooms and what level of work we may require over the next few years. So if you have any thoughts on this matter please make Wayne aware at the office so he can advise the appropriate committees. A couple of areas of focus has been cleaning and painting of the court walls and Wayne's office space and how we can make that a more of a focal point for visitors and also making it more of an inviting environment for Wayne to work in.

OFFICE

The heart of our club pumps in the office. Wayne is always ready to help. It is very much a focal point for many members and prospective members for enquiries about memberships, general enquiries or sporting questions. Wayne's office functions include our accounting, memberships and general enquiries, he is always ready with a cheery smile and a helpful attitude to ensure that your enquiries are answered quickly and efficiently.



THE COMMITTEE

I would like to acknowledge the importance of the committee and every one of its members who give their time and effort to meet, discuss and solve the many issues that arise over the club year. Many nights are spent trying to get the right result for the club and its members. So, thanks to our current members, Tim Pevreal, Noel Calvin, Ben Calvert, Ben Thornton and Leanne Brown. Looking at 2021 we are looking to recruit a more diverse range of people into the committee to help with the governance of squash and this is an area of real concern for the club as we need people to commit to help run the club or we will not have a club or be able to offer programmes for the future.



VOLUNTEERS

A very important part of the club structure are our volunteers. Without volunteers many tasks would not get done. Thanks to the many people are always there to help with working bees, tournaments, handyman work and many other areas around our club. Your dedication and selflessness in giving your time and energy is very much appreciated. We need more of our members to step up to the plate to help where they can as we cannot rely on the same old individuals time and again to assist. We need to spread the load amongst our financial members and interclub groups for all things to be successful. Special mention to Kerryn Mclean and some of her helpers for creating Women and Wine evenings. Demand has been fantastic and from all accounts Kerryn is getting a buzz out of bringing new ladies into our sport.



OUR SPORT

I see and contribute to the time and effort that is put into organising squash events - everything from club nights, tournaments, interclub and club champs. At the end of the day, this is what our club is about, it is about our chosen sport, playing it, loving it and being part of the community that provides it. I truly hope we can meet the expectations of every member at every playing ability.



RE-ELECTION

It is my intention to stand for re-election, but I also must manage my commitments as I have started a new job for Taupo District Council, my children and my partner and family. I would like to continue the work begun and work to make Cambridge Squash a club of choice in the Waikato. I need members to help me achieve this. So again, I reiterate the fact that we need volunteers to drive, manage and support the club.

SPECIAL MENTION

Congratulations to the following members for taking out Club Champs this year

Ben Calvert Men's A Grade

Leanne Brown Women's B Grade

Scott Calder Men's B Grade

Carli van Zyl Women's C Grade

Kane Taylor Men's C Grade

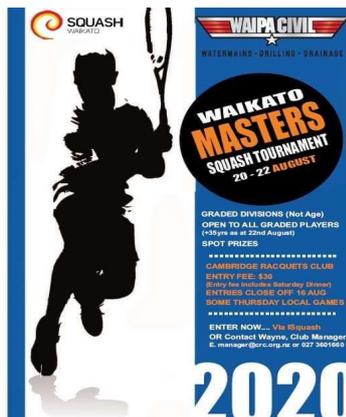
Junior Boys Josh Stannard

James Kilgour Men's D Grade

Lachie Scott Men's E Grade

A BIG THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Ryan George - Waipa Civil Waikato Masters



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Merry Christmas And Happy New Year, Stay Healthy

Michael Young

Cambridge Squash Chairperson 2020