Gold Coast Table Tennis Association Inc.

Newsletter July 2010

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COMING UP

Qld Veterans, 31 Jul - 2 Aug GOLD COAST

Official Opening of the extension, 14 August

Gold Coast Open, 14 -15 August

OUR COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT: Mick Coughlan

VICE-PRESIDENT: Greg Quinn

SECRETARY: Lukas Kozak

TREASURER: Zark Roksandic

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Karl Braun, Virgoe Buckland, Duncan Turpie,

Tejay Lovelock

Fixture results are now published in Monday's issue of Gold Coast Bulletin.

But they are available Fri night or Saturday on our website, with the full details, which can also be printed.

HENZELL CLEANS UP AT THE AUSTRALIAN OPEN

June 26, 2010

Australia's top ranked table tennis player William Henzell has defeated 18-year-old New South Welshman Justin Han in the men's singles grand final at the Australian Open tournament.

William Henzell

It was the second consecutive year the pair have battled out the final, with the 28-year-old South Australian winning 4-1 on Saturday as the tournament wrapped up in Niagara Park on the NSW Central Coast.

Korean Sun Ae Yoon took out the women's singles final, defeating fellow Korean Lucy Yoon 4-2.

Australia's top ranked female player Miao Miao, 29, was defeated 4-0 in the semi-final by Sun Ae Yoon earlier in the day.

Disappointed with her performance, Miao, a dual Commonwealth Games silver medallist, said it was difficult to perform well at an international level, because Australian table tennis players do not play professionally.

Miao says she will now focus her attention on being selected to represent Australia at the Commonwealth Games to be held in New Delhi in less than 100 days.

Table Tennis Australia national head coach Brett Clarke acknowledged the difficulty faced by Australian players at international events, where their opponents play professionally.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE CLUB

The next two months at our club will be action-packed as we are now on the home stretch of the winter competition season. The final results will be interesting as to which team ends up the winner.

We are gearing up towards the Qld Veterans which will be held here at the end of this month, followed by the Gold Coast Open. To top this all, there will be an Official Opening of our club's extension on Saturday 14 August – providing the people from the Qld government and GCCC with all their PR and media confirm their availability.

With this knowledge there can be no excuse not to participate and enjoy these events.

Although we have now spent all our money on the extension, and just missed out on the Community Benefit Gambling Grant, we still need to complete the floor before these games can be held.

Hopefully this may happen very soon. We are still in the running for the Jupiter's Grant and also for several minor ones as well. So please appreciate your committee members and all other volunteers for their hard work.

We are fortunate to have many dedicated members willing to donate their time and effort to keep our club functioning. Recently, Lukas and parents with juniors and travelled all the way to Rockhampton to participate in the Qld juniors.

Congratulation goes to all participants.

Zark

YOUR PHOTO ON SHOW

Check out the photos on display as you come in the front door. Would you like to see your photo on the display board in our club house?

Well you can! You can choose from any of your Table Tennis action photos that are available from Marcus. Contact him on marcusck@tpg.com.au to select your favourite photo.

You can have a 15 x 20 cm (6" x 8") photo printed for $3 and put up on the display board— but wait, there's more! You also get another photo to keep.

Only one photo per person on the pinup-board, the photo stays until 1 Jan 2011.

Only table tennis photos allowed.

BILL BATES, WORLD CHAMPION

Men's Singles, 80- 84 Years

Bill Bates, a regular player at Gold Coast table tennis, recently won the World Men's Single Championship in the 80-84 age group.

The competition was held in China, Inner Mongolia, and attracted some 5000 competitors.

Bill was born in Carlton, Victoria, and first started playing table tennis, aged 17, at the Kraft factory where he worked. In those days it was common for large work places to have a table tennis area to use during lunch time.

In his younger days Bill played Aussie Rules (what else in Melbourne?). Unfortunately, the Blues weren't keen on Bill because he was vertically challenged for Aussie Rules, and not as solid as they liked. He was also keen on athletics, where he had a better chance of success.

These days he plays 3 or 4 times a week, in three clubs: Gold Coast, Tweed, and Wynnum. Living near Browns Plains, he finds Gold Coast the easiest to get to on the M1.

Bill has been a defensive player for most of his days, using 1mm pimples. Anyone who has seen him play cannot help but marvel at the way he keeps on returning smashed balls. Yes, true enough he is often standing near the back wall, but he just keeps lobbing them back on the table until the other bloke makes a mistake. He prefers to play socially, rather than the pressure of fixtures.

Being a defender he chooses to use 1mm pimples, no sponge, Giant's Dragon **and other side thin sponge 755 pimples.**

At the World Championships many of the other players in his group had combination bats, sponge on the forehand and pimples on backhand.

The contestants played for 5 days, three matches first day, then went into the main draw. There were a lot of Chinese and Japanese players, as one would expect in China. Bill played in the 80-84 age group, playing a German first, the number one seed, and then played him again in the final.

When he reached the quarter finals his hands were shaking so much he could barely sign the sheet. He was full of excitement and adrenalin. But once he started playing he was relaxed, doing what he always did.

BILL BATES

Bill was surprised when he won the final game, shocked. He believes his success was partly because he was fitter than many others, who often carried knee injuries. Also he used pimples on both sides, and is a Lefty to boot.

For Bill the table tennis was only part of the trip. He toured with three others from Wynnum Club, attending the World Expo in Shanghai, making it an 18-day trip.

Had a few panic moments when he left his ticket and wallet in the public toilet in Beijing on the way to Hong Kong. He ran back in to find it, but it was gone; fortunately it was handed in.

At the local supermarket he bought methylated spirits instead of water, the label being in Chinese. Back in the hotel, he topped up the water jug, made a cup of tea, and watched the milk curdle. His flatmate identified it as metho.

Bill Bates hasn't let his fame carry him away, he's just the same player he always was, " I'll be glad when all this hoo-ha is over."

The Gold Coast members are proud to have a world champion, and glad that it just happened to be Bill Bates.

JUNIOR'S NEWS

TOWNSVILLE OPEN

Rhys Thomas

Rhys Thomas made the trip north over the Queen's Birthday long weekend to play in the Townsville Open. He had a great weekend, and although he didn't bring home any "silverware" he nearly caused a couple of the biggest upsets on this year's junior circuit.

Rhys lost twice to the highly-rated David Fielding in 5 sets (including going down 11-8 in the fifth in the Under 18's final). He also lost in 5 sets to David Powell who is the reigning Under 18 Australian Champion and member of the Australian Men's Team who recently competed in the World Championships.

Rhys and David Powell teamed up in the Men's Open Doubles and made it to the final only to be beaten (again in 5 sets) by David Fielding and William Henzell.

Well done Rhys!

GOLD COAST JUNIORS SHINE AT BRISBANE OPEN

A large contingent of Gold Coast Juniors travelled to Brisbane for their Open tournament on the 15th and 16th of May. Jake Duffy pulled off one of the year's great coups by having William Henzell ask if he would be his doubles partner! After careful consideration, Jake graciously accepted the offer and while they didn't win, who cares — what an experience!

Under 13 Singles	Champion	Jake Duffy
Under 15 Singles	Champion	Ben Houghton
	Runner Up	Jake Duffy
Under 18 Girls Singles	Runner up	Kerryn Hunt
Under 18 Boys Singles	Champion	Ben Houghton
	Runner Up	Rhys Thomas
Under 18 doubles	Champions	Rhys Thomas & Naoya Yamamoto
Under 21 Singles	Champion	Wade Townsend
	Runner Up	Kane Townsend
A reserve Singles	Runner Up	Jake Duffy
Womens Restricted	Champion	Kerryn Hunt
B Grade Singles	Champion	Ben Houghton
	Runner Up	Jake Duffy
C Grade Singles	Champion	Morgan Barnett
C Grade Doubles	Champion	Jesse & Morgan Barnett

What a magnificent effort from the Gold Coast Juniors!

Ben Houghton

Jake Duffy

Kerryn Hunt

Morgan Barnett

Jesse Barnett

15/06/2010

Ratings Central

Leading Queensland Juniors By Age Group

Under 18 Boys			
David	Fielding	1954	Townsville
Naoya	**Yamatoto**	**1630**	**Gold Coast**
Rhys	**Thomas**	**1596**	**Gold Coast**
Kerrod	Coughlan	1571	Rockhampton
Ben	Werner	1520	UQ
Sean	Chun Tie	1499	Townsville
Christian	McDonald	1456	Bundaberg
Chris	Rose	1446	Bundaberg

Under 18 Girls			
Kayla	Coombs		Brisbane
Paula	Hockings		Rockhapmton
Kerryn	**Hunt**		**Gold Coast**

Under 15s			
Luke	Blucher	1595	Townsville
Ben	**Houghton**	**1513**	**Gold Coast**
Daniel	Rose	1457	Bundaberg
Matthew	Pettett	1432	Rockhampton
Jordan	**Dequina**	**1358**	**Gold Coast**
Doug	Brown	1275	Bundaberg
Edward	Forster	1205	Townsville
Morgan	**Barnett**	**1176**	**Gold Coast**

Under 13s			
Jake	**Duffy**	**1496**	**Gold Coast**
Jason	Zhang	1203	Toowoomba
Joseph	Loveday	1167	Bundaberg
Ned	Freeman	1155	Bundaberg
Ben	Gould	1057	Brisbane
Oscar	**Wong**	**1055**	**Gold Coast**
Olav	Dahl	1026	Townsville
Jesse	**Barnett**	**1004**	**Gold Coast**

The Australian Open was recently held at Gosford, NSW. You can read all about it on William Henzell's diary, and see the final singles match video.

A nice big club, but that floor is so noisy!

http://www.aussietabletennis.com/?Nav=News&news_id=464&nl=1

Australia Day Honours: Dorothy De Low

27 Jan, 2010

DOROTHY De Low of Hurstville is proof that you are never to old to be a champion, receiving the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for her service to table tennis for more than 40 years.

Mrs De Low only started to play competitively aged in her 70s, and said the highlights of her career were winning the over-80s world championship in Dublin in 1992, the over-60s women's doubles in New Zealand in 1989, and the women's doubles in Baltimore in 1990.

Turning 100 in October, Dorothy De Low, from Hurstville in Sydney's west, is the oldest of the 2000 competitors in the 15th World Veterans Table Tennis Championships being held in Hohhot, China, this week.

Mrs De Low took up the sport for fun at the age of 50.

This will be the 11th international championship the sprightly great-grandmother has taken part in. She is competing in the over-85 age group, meaning her competitors are much younger.

Mrs De Low won one of her single matches on the first day of qualification on Monday but was bundled out in the second game by an 85-year-old German.

Mrs De Low will team up with a 96-year-old from Japan for the finals of the doubles on Saturday.

Mr de Low said table tennis was a tremendous outlet for his mother, who drives herself to matches three times a week at Homebush Bay to play opponents 20 years her junior. "She has always been one to absolutely persevere and not be dissuaded from things," he said.

Mr de Low takes credit for introducing his mother to the sport. "When my father was alive they had an outdoor area with lights that he built and our neighbours could hear them belting away into the night. They loved the game."

Mrs de Low was the oldest volunteer at the 2000 Olympics. During a break in the table tennis program one day, the organisers put her on court to play and the crowd screamed out "Dotty, Dotty, Dotty" instead of "Aussie, Aussie Aussie".

PROMOTING TABLE TENNIS IN SCHOOLS

Is it possible for you to help teach some primary school children to play table tennis? There is no need for you to be an expert player, just an enthusiastic one!

Cathy Townsend has asked Rob Quinnell from the 'Australian Sports Commission' to visit our club this week. He is arranging the "active after school" program for primary schools and is now organising S.E. Qld schools in various sports, and if we are quick we can get in for the fourth term.

Is anyone willing to give a little of their time promoting table tennis to primary school kids? They don't need to be qualified coaches - in fact he says that he best results are often obtained by a display of enthusiasm while having fun with a view to getting the kids interested at an early age - the finesse can come later.

Cathy Townsend has more information about the program, as she is currently running classes in NSW. If you can help, please call Greg Quinn who can tell you more: 0422 251 221

We need to act quickly on this because we will require blue cards, which are free for volunteers, before beginning.

THE U.S. OPEN TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

GRAND RAPIDS -- Words like random testing, illegal chemicals and harmful side effects are being overheard at DeVos Place this week.

Players are looking for a competitive edge in table tennis, and the International Table Tennis Federation has called upon local volunteers to try to catch cheaters.

ITTF officials met with volunteers Tuesday before play began for a seminar on paddle testing, because that's where players look to when trying to pull a fast one.

Illegal chemicals and rubber can give shots a tricky spin and extra speed.

"Unfortunately, a lot of variances in the sport come in the form of the racket and the rubber and glue and the types of glues and chemicals that people put on their rackets," said volunteer Brian

Fowler, who runs Holland Killerspin Table Tennis Club said:

"It actually got out of control, and some of it is toxic and dangerous. You find players taking the rubber off and re-gluing it with this chemical, which would enhance their rubber and give them some unfair advantages.

"There are legal glues and illegal glues. Illegal glues will swell up rubber in a way that enhance the speed and the spin. There are literally legal rubbers and illegal rubbers. You see rackets with little pimples and some with longer ones that will take a ball and turn it into a knuckleball like in baseball. Some (rubbers) are glossy.

"We test for the reflection of the rubber, because if it is too glossy it can create some unfair advantages."

Volunteers were given a testing kit known as an Enez device, which is a fancy term for paddle sniffer. They place the paddle in the kit, and indicators will go off if any illegal fumes are detected.

"As an official, you can't touch their rubber, and you never hand it back to them when you are done. You have to hand it back to the umpire, and (the player) can't see their racket until they get to their table again."

More than 700 players are participating in this week's tournament, and Fowler said there is no way his staff can test every paddle.

So that's why they have called players up to the testing table in random fashion during the week.

Stefan Feth, recently named coach of the United States men's national team, said cheating is a problem at big tournaments, and catching cheaters is no easy task.

"At the world championships, you had some players that failed the racket testing and they couldn't play in the finals," Feth said. "You can have a big advantage by adding something to the paddle, and sometimes, it is out of control.

STUFF ABOUT TT THAT YOU DON'T NEED TO KNOW

Did you know that the metric dimensions of the table tennis table each add to 13? Length 2.74 m, Width 1.525 m, and Height 76 cm. [Why didn't you know this?]

Rules of table Tennis, Circa 1900

1. The game is played on an ordinary dining table, across the centre of which the net is stretched. The tablecloth should be removed. [Along with the plates and food].

2. It is as well to have the light as nearly central as possible.

3. The players shall stand at opposite ends of the table; the player who first delivers the ball shall be called the server, and the other the receiver. [As if the players would both stand at the same end!]

4. In serving the player must stand within the limits of the width and behind the end of the table.

5. The service must be strictly under-hand, [like cricket when bowling to Kiwis] and at time of striking the ball the

racquet must not be over the table, and no part of the racquet, except the handle, should be above the waist.

6. There is no second service, unless the ball touches the net or posts in passing over and drops on the table beyond the net. This is a "let", and a second service is allowed.

7. No faults allowed.

8. If the ball when in play strikes any object outside the table (other than the net or posts or the opposite player's racquet) the points shall count against the player making the stroke.

9. The server wins the point if the receiver fails to return the service, or the ball if in play.

10. The receiver wins a point if the server strikes the ball into the net, or fails to return the ball if in play, or return the ball if in play so that it falls off the table.

11. No volleying allowed.

12. If any ball be touched before striking the table it counts against the player touching it. If the ball passes the limits of the table without dropping on it it is dead, and counts against the striker.

13. Scoring is by points, 20 points making a game; if the score reaches 19 all, then the best of 5 points shall decide the game. Service changes after each 5 points, ends to be changed after each 10 points.

THE EXPEDITE SYSTEM

Now here is a TT rule that is current, but it seems most players have never heard of it. That's because with today's sponge rubbers, games don't last as long as they did in the old days of pimples and sandpaper. Out of curiosity read the rule:

2.15 THE EXPEDITE SYSTEM

2.15.1 Except where both players or pairs have scored at least 9 points, the expedite system shall come into operation if a game is unfinished after 10 minutes' play or at any earlier time at the request of both players or pairs.

2.15.1.1 If the ball is in play when the time limit is reached, play shall be interrupted by the umpire and shall resume with service by the player who served in the rally that was interrupted.

2.15.1.2 If the ball is not in play when the time limit is reached, play shall resume with service by the player who received in the immediately preceding rally.

2.15.2 Thereafter, each player shall serve for 1 point in turn until the end of the game and if the receiving player or pair makes 13 returns the receiver shall score a point.

2.15.3 Once introduced, the expedite system shall remain in operation until the end of the match.

RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

Do we have your email address? If you are not receiving the Newsletter by email, then it is because we don't have your address. (Or forgotten it!)

Send an email asking to be put on our (exclusive) list!

marcusck@tpg.com.au

Now for a laugh. This is the funniest celebration win I've ever seen. Make sure you look at the score.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HBXQlGNAx_Q&feature=related

2010 AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

For the first time, the Australian Junior Championships are being held on the Gold Coast. They are on at the Runaway Bay Indoor Sports Centre from 26 Sep 2010 till 2 Oct 2010. Make a note of that!

GOLD COAST OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Over $2000 Prize Money!

August 14th & 15th 2010, Gold Coast

Enter Online at: www.goldcoasttabletennis.org.au

Entries Close: Wednesday 11th August 2010

Come and Have a hit at Australia's best club facilities and warm up for the Australian Closed, the Australian Juniors, and the Australian Veterans Championships.

No Entry Fees for Junior Events!

Host Families Available for All Visiting Juniors!

Large Junior round robin Groups for more game time!

For more info about staying with a host family,

contact Paul Thomas at ppthomas@netspace.net.au

Okay, you've made it this far through the newsletter, great going! Now there are 3 important dates to remember, before you can have a Bex and a cup of tea:

1. Qld Veterans, 31 Jul - 2 Aug GOLD COAST CLUB
2. Official Opening of the extension, 14 August
3. Gold Coast Open, 14 -15 August

Best wishes,

Marcus Clark, editor

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