



GOLD COAST TABLE TENNIS

NEWSLETTER



www.goldcoasttabletennis.org.au AUTUMN - ISSUE 8 - 2016

WHAT'S ON

Monday:	6.30pm-10pm All Star Fixtures & Social play
Tuesday:	4.15pm-6.15pm Junior Training 6.30pm-10pm Social play
Wednesday:	6.30pm-10pm Fixtures Div 3 & 4 and Social play
Thursday:	4.15pm-6.15pm Junior Training 6.30pm-10pm Fixtures Div 1 & 2 and Social play
Friday:	9am-Noon Mixed Handicap Social doubles
Saturday:	9.30am-4pm Social play 2pm-4pm Group Coaching
Sunday:	10am-1pm Squad Training

Tournaments/Competitions

To find out what tournaments and competitions are coming up, please visit the homepage of the website and/or go to competition-tournament calendar.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

23rd-24th April - **Moreton Bay Open**

23rd-24th April - **Townsville Open**

30th Apr-1st May - **Bundaberg Open**

14th-15th May - **QLD Open** (Brisbane)

19th May - **QLD Schools Comp** (Gold Coast)

28th-29th May - **Wynnum Open**

4th-5th June - **Rockhampton Open**

9th-12th June - **ITTF Australian Open**
(Melbourne)

Winter Fixtures

New season of fixtures will begin early May. If you would like to join in any of the comps and you have yet to submit your name, please let us know as soon as possible by calling or email the club. Thank you.

2016 Winter Season begins on the following dates:

All-Stars: Monday 2 May

Div 3 & 4: Wednesday 4 May

Div 1 & 2: Thursday 5 May

FIXTURES

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'gossip corner'

WITH the clock ticking, we are awaiting more detailed information about the training venue role the centre will play when the 2018 Commonwealth Games roadshow hits town. Gold Coast City Council Business and Investment Attraction Officer Craig Rowsell, whose special responsibility is for Economic Development and Major Projects, put in a load of work to prepare a brochure for Games countries and associations which was presented to delegates at the recent world championships by Peter Marriott, chief executive of Table Tennis Australia and Jens Lang, High Performance Manager and national Head Coach. The centre stage at Movie World, configured to accommodate 3,200 spectators, will host the Games competition proper.

TEENAGER Ben Houghton, one of a clutch of youngsters who first played at the club around the age of eight, is back in town following a second stint at the renowned Werner Schlager academy in Vienna. Austria's Schlager, world champion in 1999 - the last European to be the top dog - is remembered locally as the star attraction at the 1996 Australian Open held in Brisbane. Now he is regarded as one of the top mentors in the sport and Ben speaks enthusiastically about the technical and psychological gains his game has made as a result of his adventures. Ben will be teaming up with Jake Duffy to fly the Gold Coast flag at the Queensland titles here from June 26-30.

JAKE Duffy, meanwhile, has been busy since returning from Sweden, although his quest to progress in the Olympic qualifiers got no further than the first round. Time, of course, is on his side and the Commonwealth Games here on the Gold Coast in two years' time could be a realistic possibility. After prevailing in the state junior titles, Jake pulled on the green and gold in the Australian Junior and Cadet Open, thereby extending his experience in major events. The two questions which are being asked - how far can he progress in the sport, and how much taller can he get? He's unrecognisable from the pint-sized import of a few years ago.

THE top echelon at the club is preparing to welcome back Mark Goedeke, a former Gold Coast Association high achiever whose activity over the past 18 months had been hobbled by elbow and knee injuries. After a few hitouts, it is hoped Mark will be able to reignite the competitive juices in our next top-tier competition which will be featuring a new elite format. Unfortunately, his reappearance coincides with an anticipated six-month absence for injured veterans' stalwart Thomas Samuelsson, while stalwart performer Paul Cheung is also likely to be an absentee for some time as he pursues family and business interests in Hong Kong.

ALWAYS eager to promote participation by women and girls, the club can proudly spruik four out of the six top-average players in Division Two ... **Yuriko Newcombe, Ruth Cordingley, Suzanne Alexandersson and Marianne Dengate.** That's an impressive strike rate, and ladies are making an impact in other divisions too. Julie Harris, a first-time participant, managed a notable 50 per cent average in the latest Division Four comp. Meanwhile the much-decorated Helen Barnett continues to impress in the top section. What would be good is if these performances sparked fresh interest from young players so we can start developing the next crop.

ALLISON Quade, another of our highly-regarded ladies, missed virtually all of the latest competition because of a troublesome arm injury which took much longer to heal than originally anticipated. But the 'cake lady' (so called because of her home baking skills and generous provision of samples) signalled her readiness to return in notable fashion. Along for what she thought would be a gentle Wednesday night hit followed by a check from the doctor translated into a full-blown return to action. End result: three wins out of three, including a victory over Division Three top gun Trevor Crowley who had lost just once in the preceding three months.

SEASONAL team allocations are always made in the hope of closely-matched teams and there was quite the blanket finish in the race for semi-final berths in the Division Four summer competition. While the top two qualifying berths were locked up, Labrador, Arundel and Nerang jockeyed for positions three, four and five on a see-sawing final night of regular fixtures, each facing elimination at some stage and the prospect of all three finishing on the same points. Slide rules were out and players wrestled with various mathematical equations before in the final countback, Nerang - in third spot a couple of weeks earlier - missed out by a solitary win.





2016 STATE OF ORIGIN Round 1

NSW (South Tweed) v QLD (Gold Coast)

When: SUNDAY 22nd May @ Noon

Where: SOUTH TWEED SPORTS CLUB

4 Minjungbal Drive (old Pacific Highway), Tweed Heads, NSW

The Annual State of Origin event is a home & away 3 person team match across several Divisions. Any members who would like to participate to please write your name down on the provided form located on the club noticeboard.



WORLD TABLE TENNIS FOR ALL DAY

6 APRIL 2016

Celebrate a passion for ping pong on special day

TODAY is World Table Tennis Day so it's time to serve up some action, make a racket and score some points.

The first record of table tennis can be found in Victorian England where it was played as an after-dinner parlour game. Books were placed across a table to form a net and used as paddles.

China's obsession with the game was noted by a visiting British dignitary in the 1930s. Table tennis was launched as an Olympic sport at the 1988 Seoul Korea summer games.

Actor Susan Sarandon is the face of social table tennis in the Americas where her SPIN ping pong hall franchises can be found in New York, Toronto, Los Angeles, Chicago and San Francisco.

The UK celebrates the game for its inclusiveness and feel-good properties at an annual festival called Ping!

That turns six this year. Pop-up tables are installed in workplaces, clubs, bars, universities, club houses, parks and public places.

Two of Australia's top table tennis players hail from the Tweed Coast. Cabarita brothers Kane and Wade Townsend travel the world playing competitively and hope to join squads that will compete at this year's Olympic Games in Rio and the Gold Coast's 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Outdoor table tennis has taken the world by storm and members, visitors and kids at Club Banora are about to learn what the fuss is about.

The club has recently installed two aluminium netted concrete tables of the style more usually found in the parks and public places of London, Barcelona and New York. Discover the world of ping pong at goldcoasttabletennis.org.au

The ITTF firmly believe that table tennis is not only a matter of competition;

it is also a vehicle for positive social change, a healthy worthwhile use of leisure time and an opportunity to bring people together, an excellent tool for social inclusion & social cohesion.

Table Tennis has a unique value where people from different ages, gender, skills or physical condition can play together. It is sport for life and It's FUN!

"Sport has become a world language, a common denominator that breaks down all the walls, all the barriers. It is a worldwide industry whose practices can have widespread impact. Most of all, it is a powerful tool for progress and for development."

-Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General



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GCTTA would like to thank **Master Choice Oz & Table Tennis World** for its continuing support!



GOLD COAST SUCCESS at the State Junior Championships

The 2016 QLD Junior Championships were held in Brisbane from 30th March to 1st April.

The Gold Coast Junior Team was represented by six players in Jake Duffy, Oscar Wong, Youman (DJ) Li, Angel Li, Jakub Klouba & Hannah Klouba.

A total haul of 17 medals was won across the Teams and Individual events. Congratulations, a fantastic accomplishment by the group of players.

Here is a recap of the Gold Coast Results.

Teams Results - Our u/18 Boys Team of Jake & Oscar won the Silver Medal, and the u/13 Boys Team of Jakub & DJ also won Silver. A special mention to Jake who finished undefeated in all of the Teams matches.

Individual Results - Jake Duffy won the Gold Medal in the u/18 Boys Singles and u/18 Boys Doubles **with Benjamin Gould from Brisbane. This is Jake's final year as a Junior player and what a great way to cap off his QLD Junior career as the 2016 Singles & Doubles State Champion.**



Jakub Klouba won 4 Individual Silver Medals. He made the Final in the u/13 & u/15 Boys Singles, u/13 Boys Doubles with fellow compatriot DJ, & u/13 Mixed Doubles with his sister Hannah. A tremendous achievement by Jakub and hopefully next year he can go one better in these events.

Hannah Klouba won Bronze in the u/13 & u/15 Girls Singles, Silver in u/13 Girls Doubles, u/13 & u/15 Mixed Doubles. 5 Individual Medals, a awesome feat from Hannah and getting better every year.

DJ won two Silver Medals in the u/13 Boys Singles & Doubles. A great achievement and maybe he can go one step further next year.

From these performances, 4 Gold Coast players were selected to represent QLD at the 2016 Australian Junior Championships to be held in Alice Spring in July. Jake in u/18 Boys Team, Jakub & DJ in the u/13 Boys Team, and Hannah in u/13 Girls Team. Congratulations & all the best at the National Championships.

Finally a big thanks to the Coaches Petr Klouba & Gavin Duffy, who have put in the time and effort coaching and training the players. The results show the hard work has paid off. Also we must thank the parents for their help in transporting and preparing the juniors for the event. Thank you all.



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2015 New Zealand Veteran Championships

24th-28th March - Palmerston North

On Thursday evening before the NZ Veterans Championships there was the Annual Test Match against the Kiwi's and the Australian side included 3 members from the Gold Coast TT Club, representing Australia. All three players Martin Solomons, Colin Gradwell and Werner Borkhardt did make a valuable contribution to the end result of 35-30 in favour of the Aussies by winning all their singles as well as doubles matches.

The following day was followed by the teams matches, which included 4 members from the Gold Coast, two from Townsville and one lady from Moreton Bay Cub.

The age categories included Over 60's, 65's, 70's and 75's. The team of the Over 60's M.Solomon, J.Sherriff achieved a respectable 4th place, while the teams in the higher age groups all won the GOLD medal.

Over 65 – M.Solomon, J.Sherriff, C.Gradwell, W.Borkhardt

Over 70 – C.Gradwell, W.Borkhardt, M. Bligh

Over 75 – M. Bligh, G. McLachlan.



In the individual events there was also a great haul of medals by the GC members.

The greatest achievement happened in the Over 70's event, where Colin Gradwell despite a narrow loss in the groups, went on to make the final and then defeating another QLD player Morrie Bligh to claim the NZ Veteran title. He then went on to also retain the Over 70's doubles title with his long time double partner Werner Borkhardt. In the over 65 age group there was another good double result from M.Solomon/J.Sherriff who claimed the Silver medal, and this was also replicated in the Over 70's doubles where G. McLachlan and M.Bligh claimed the Silver.

Further medal haul also happened in the mixed doubles with W.Borkhardt and Tasmanian partner M.Gabbedy winning Gold in the Over 70's, and then went on to defeat the current Australian mixed doubles champion in the Over 65's and winning the final to claim another Gold medal.

The Gold Coast club members will hopefully be encouraged by those results and hopefully more players will make the trip across the ditch and participate next year in Christchurch at the NZ Veterans Championships.

Werner Borkhardt



Tapper Becomes First Australian Paralympian to Qualify for the Olympic Games ITTF

Melissa TAPPER has entered Australian sporting folk law by becoming the first Australian athlete to qualify for both the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

TAPPER, a class 10 Paralympian was born with nerve damage in her right arm, secured her Olympic berth by defeating Grace YEE from Fiji at today's ITTF-Oceania Olympic Games Qualification Tournament in Bendigo, Australia.

Holding back the tears of joy, the 26-year-old, who has already qualified for the Paralympics in Rio stated: "I was ridiculously nervous before my matches today. I am so excited and stoked with this result, it is come from a lot of hard work, a lot of dedication and a lot of support. I can't believe I am a part of Australian sporting history. Rio is going to be an experience of a lifetime. I want to do the best I can in the Olympics and win gold in the Paralympics."

TAPPER will be joined in Rio by Jian Fang LAY, who also created history by qualifying for her fifth Olympic Games, 16 years after her first games at Sydney 2000. Due to Australia qualifying two women, it means they also get to compete in the team event in Rio. Their third team member will be Sally ZHANG, who finished the next highest in the trials.

Australian's David POWELL and Chris YAN secured their ticket to their first Olympic Games by topping the men's qualification here in Bendigo. They will be joined by Tengteng Liu from New Zealand and Heming HU, who will be the third player in Australia's team for the team event.

POWELL, who narrowly missed out on qualifying for London 2012 stated: "There was a part of me that didn't want to try and qualify for Rio, because it was such a deflating experience before London and I really didn't want to go through it again," Powell said.

"But after qualifying for Glasgow in 2014 I knew I had it in me. I felt a lot of pressure today, but when I went 4-0 down in the final set I just relaxed, and everything worked out for me"



Tip of the Month

Be Respectful

A table tennis match is decided in a short time, and it does not take much to lose by underestimating your opponent. It is important to graciously accept losses and to show respect for your opponent. Whether I win or not, my strategy has always been to keep a low profile.

JAN OVE WALDNER

Rule of the Month

Changing your racket during a match

Regulation 3.04.02 states that you're no longer allowed to change your racket during a match unless it's been **accidentally damaged** so badly that you can't use it.

If the umpire does allow you to change your racket, you must show your new racket to your opponent and to the umpire.

Also, to prevent you from secretly changing your racket between games, you must leave it on the table during the intervals between games and you must not remove it without the specific agreement of the umpire.

If the umpire does allow you to remove your racket during an interval for any reason, both the umpire and your opponent must be given the opportunity to inspect your racket before the next game starts.

Coaching

Saturday Group Coaching

Coaches: Seref Bakanay

Georgy De Leon

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Cost: Adult \$14 Junior: \$8

Family Discount: \$20

Sunday Squad Training

Coach: Cathy Townsend

10:00am - 1:00pm

Cost: \$20 per person / Family Discount: \$35

Junior Squad Training

Tuesday Coach: Petr Klouba

Thursday Coach: Cathy Townsend

4:15pm - 6:15pm

Cost: \$10 / \$10 family Discount

Please see website for details and training schedule.

Play table tennis on the Gold Coast in 2016!

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Table Tennis

Gold Coast Table Tennis | Loc: Herberston Dr, Morelandia
Friday 11 - Sunday 13 November 2016 | Minimum age 30



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NEWS

NZ-AUS Test Match

On Thursday 24th March 2016 at the Arena Stadium in Palmerston North was the venue for the Annual Trans Tasman Trophy Test Match between New Zealand and Australia. This is a keenly awaited event by the Veteran Players of both Countries with the support of Table Tennis New Zealand and long time sponsor Bruce Penberthy together with the host Association Table Tennis Manawatu who have worked very hard to stage this event the which is set for an exciting contest.

Well as expected this was a tough battle between both Countries who played a total of 55 matches over age groups from 40-75's who played a total of 209 sets- 27 -3-0 victories with New Zealand winning 14 --Australia 13 --- 13-3-1 victories New Zealand winning 4--Australia 9 and 15-3-2 victories New Zealand winning 7 --Australia 8. This gave Australia victory 30-25 in a close encounter and if you believe in statistics well winning those 3-1 games by 5 certainly was the deciding factor.

To the players from New Zealand & Australia many of them playing in this Test Match for the first time I hope you have enjoyed the experience & thank you for making yourself available for the occasion. To the Australian players John Sherriff, John Bowers and Col Gradwell who replaced players who came down with sickness and injuries thank you for stepping in at such late notice only days before flying out. To Averil Roberts who stepped into the firing line as we had numerous problems together with major problems getting Australian Uniforms, some players leaving home not knowing whether they would be attired or not-this is not acceptable and my apologies to those players concerned. Thank you Averil you did a winning job.

Finally to the hard working Table Tennis Manawatu Secretary Shona Cudby a BIG thank you for all the information that you have supplied to the players and your promptness in supplying so quickly the results from the Test Match which allows us here in Australia to pass it on to our players and supporters of our great game of Table Tennis.

On behalf of Table Tennis Australia Veterans Committee.

Ken Cole

Luneng Sports Open Travelling Well

Table Tennis Australia CEO Peter Marriott is pleased with proceedings three days in to the Luneng Sports Australia Junior and Cadet Open.

Seagulls Club in Tweed Heads NSW is playing host to the six-day tournament showcasing some of the best young table tennis players from Australia, China, New Zealand, Fiji and Korea.

"Everything is going really really well, the players are loving it and the facility is great," Marriot said.

The CEO says the organisation has the sponsors to thank for helping everything run smoothly at the open this year.

"It would be impossible to put an event like this together without the help of Luneng Sports and our other sponsors," he said.

Events like the Australia Junior Table Tennis Open highlight the future for the sport, and Marriot likes what he has seen this week.

"Table Tennis is growing, participation in the sport is growing and the standard of our athletes is ever improving," he said.

Marriot says the future of table tennis is looking good, especially in Australia where head coach of the Australia team, Jens Lang, is doing incredible work getting the athletes ready for the elite level.

Hannah Solly

Volunteer Rewards

Congratulations to the following Volunteers who received Volunteer Rewards presented at the TTQ AGM.

These awards are in recognition of service to clubs and the sport of Table Tennis.

Silver Reward Recipients (10+ years of service):

Danny Lloyd Brisbane	Mike Edwards Brisbane
Peter Lander Brisbane	Georgy De Leon Gold Coast

Bronze Reward Recipients (5+ years of service):

Spence Martin Brisbane	Noel Curtis Brisbane
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Congratulations to all recipients, thank you for your continued support.



GCTTA Facebook Page

Please check out our facebook page if **you haven't done so yet. We aim to** provide information on all of our club news, events and other interesting stories, pictures & videos.

We would like you to join our page and share any new and exciting things with us.

Your contribution in commenting and liking our posts, will increase our number of followers and development of networks.



Gold Coast Table Tennis Association Inc. 2016 Committee

President: Mick Coughlan

Vice-President: Georgy De Leon

Treasurer: Matthew Jones

Secretary: Lukas Kozak

Committee Members:

Van Cassis, Ruth Cordingley, Martin Rogers,
Heinz Pepping, Robert Matheson,
Paul Kilmister, Charlie Voges

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Submit an Article

If you would like to submit an article or item for the next issue of the newsletter, you should email your document with images and attachments to info@goldcoasttabletennis.org.au

Please note that items submitted for publication are subject to the approval of the committee, and may be edited for both length and clarity prior to inclusion.

Thank you

Gold Coast Table Tennis

Feedback & Comments

Gold Coast Table Tennis would like to thank all members for their continuing support.

The club is always striving to improve and any feedback or suggestions on competitions, events, and other aspects of the club is much appreciated.

If you have you have any comments, perhaps ideas on ways to improve our club, please let us know by contacting members of the committee or feel free to contact the club.

Phone: 07 5597 1633

Email: info@goldcoasttabletennis.org.au

