

GOLD COAST TABLE TENNIS NEWSLETTER



www.goldcoasttabletennis.org.au WINTER - ISSUE 15 - 2017

WHAT'S ON

Monday:	6.30pm-10pm	All Star Fixtures & Social play
Tuesday:	4.15pm-6.00pm	Junior Training
	6.30pm-10pm	Social play
Wednesday:	6.30pm-10pm	Div 3 &4 and Social play
Thursday:	4.15pm-6.00pm	Junior Training
	6.30pm-10pm	Div 1 &2 and Social play
Friday:	9am-Noon	Social doubles
Saturday:	9.30am-4pm	Social play
	2pm-4pm	Group Coaching*
Sunday:	9.30am-1pm	Social play

**Please visit the website for coaching schedule*

Upcoming Events

To find out what tournaments and competitions are coming up, please visit the website and follow the links.

Seamaster 2017 ITTF World Tour
Platinum Australian Open

Gold Coast Sports & Leisure Centre
2 - 7 JULY 2017
www.TTAopen.com.au

seamaster

DHS STAG ITTF

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

10th-11th June - **Toowoomba Open**

28th June-2nd July - **QLD Closed**
(Townsville)

29th June-1st July - **Australasian Veterans
Open** (Gold Coast)

2nd-7th July - **ITTF Australian Open** (Gold
Coast Sport & Leisure Centre, Carrara)

8th-15th July - **Australian Junior
Championships** (Hobart)

19th-23rd July - **QLD Veterans** (Bundaberg)

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gossip corner

THERE is a feast of table tennis in store coming to a spanking new venue near you. In the most spectacular gathering of star power even seen on the Gold Coast, the Sports and Leisure Centre at Carrara will host the Seamaster 2017 ITTF World Tour Platinum Australian Open from July 2-7. It is one of just six Platinum World Tour events and will be headlined by two-time world champion Zhang Jike and the cream of his all-conquering team China colleagues, male and female. Veteran Vladimir Samsonov will spearhead the European challenge, and for the cream of Australian players this will be a great opportunity to audition for Commonwealth Games places at the same location.

AS A prelude to the main event, the Gold Coast Association is playing host to the Australasian Veterans Open from June 29 to July 1, with a big field expected. It's another feather in the cap for the club which has a big reputation nationally and internationally as an organisation and location suited to and capable of staging big-ticket events. Representation from across the Asia-Pacific region will be on parade for what will be one of the centre's stellar occasions this year. Team Events will be held for both male and female players in the following age categories: Over 40-49, Over 50-59, Over 60-69 and Over 70.

GET well soon shout outs go to players missing from action, among them Riley Rose and John Freame, both of whom are recovering from a broken leg! In a reminder that table tennis is a sport with a good health and fitness record, teenager Riley managed to sustain his injury while trampolining and big John was playing a supposedly social game of rugby. The upside of this medical report is that several players have returned from different procedures, among them Chris Orlowski who is now sporting the evidence of a major (and happily successful) back operation.

OTHER returns welcomed back into the playing fold include long-time member Martin Beckwith and Anna Hollingsworth, who was making impressive strides up the rankings before the arrival of son Kobe three and a half years ago. Master baker Martin has been absent for a decade because of unsympathetic shifts, but now he has a new roster with a morning start, he's picked up the bat once again. Anna, meanwhile, had been bringing Kobe along to Saturday practice with partner Damien Yep and now has just been persuaded to make a competitive return in Wednesday night fixtures. Always good to see old faces return.

WE have made comment in the past about the multicultural nature of our membership, and the latest Division Three line-up includes Prashun Upadhyay who hails from Nepal. He has been living on the Gold Coast for 15 years but only recently decided to venture into the realm of fixture play. The landlocked Himalayan nation was a kingdom when he left, and is now a democratic republic with more residents (26 million plus) than Australia. Another long-distance member from the other side of the world is Diego Espinosa, who hails from Colombia in South America. He's recovering well from recent major surgery, by the way.

DEMONSTRATING that it is possible to make your way through the ranks, Trevor Crowley is now playing in our First Division, a big effort considering that three years ago he was in the bottom grade. Trevor, who like our president Mick Coughlan first picked up the sport in his native Geelong, has made solid improvement year or year and the hard work is paying off. Incidentally Geelong's most famous sporting identity, Suns footballer Gary Ablett, is a keen table tennis player who recently (and not for the first time) dropped into the club for a hit on a Tuesday social night.

EDITOR MARTIN ROGERS





28th April 2017 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



Photos by Aldwyn Altuney
AA Xpose Media
www.aaxpose.com



GCTTA People know how to celebrate!!!

Well what a great night! The celebration was attended by 208 people with a few unable to attend at the last minute.

The night's highlights included Gold Coast Table Tennis members Gavin Duffy, Greg Quinn and Richard Burton with a great band who kept everyone entertained. Of course Berlin Joe, another club member, turned on a great performance with his one man show crossing many genres of music which had the crowd going and up on the dance floor. What a versatile performer he is!

Other highlights included a Table Tennis Exhibition Match between club star Australian under 18 and 21 Champion, Jake Duffy and former Australian coach and current Commonwealth Games Table Tennis CEO, Jens Lang. Fantastic to watch and greatly enjoyed by all present.

We were lucky to have the President of Table Tennis Qld, Trevor Barrett and his wife Cheryl, who travelled down from Bundaberg for the night. Trevor, a former GCTTA Club President and member spoke kindly about his time at our club and presented me with a Memorial Plaque to commemorate our 50th Anniversary.

Earlier, Agnes Herbertson spoke of her connection to the club and the club's history which was enthusiastically received. Later, Peter Paris was awarded Life Membership for almost 47 years of continuous membership at the club. Peter is often volunteering as well as covering for Lukas Kozak when he is away. Congratulations Peter.

Another highlight was the attendance of inaugural GCTTA President Frank Hampson – what an absolute gentleman. Frank was so great to talk to and offered some historical paraphernalia including a 1970 Gold Coast Open Tournament Programme. Such history – a few current players names spotted in the programme including Geoff McLachlan and Ron Greeves.

The German Club was a great venue. The atmosphere was fantastic and everyone enjoyed themselves immensely. All in all a fantastic night and congratulations to our club facility manager Lukas Kozak who organised this event. He estimated 200 people should be catered for and this proved to be spot on. It ran smoothly all night. Thanks to all those who attended and to those who have supported our club over the last 50 years.

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY GOLD COAST TABLE TENNIS CLUB!!

BY MICK COUGHLAN





50TH ANNIVERSARY SPEECH

By Agnes Herbertson

The original founder of the Gold Coast Table Tennis Association was Sam Binstead. As far back as the early 1950's Sam discovered table tennis and started playing at his home in Southport, on a big old kitchen table. He then formed the Gold Coast's first table tennis club, which was called Southport and District Table Tennis Association. Sam was the first President. Due to his enthusiasm the club grew too large for the small hall they were playing in and lack of a suitable venue caused a sudden decline. The Club died but not the Binstead spirit.

In 1967 he called a meeting at his house which resulted in the formation of Gold Coast Table Tennis Association. For the next 10 years or so the club flourished, under Sam's expert leadership. Looking through my first scrapbook I saw there were as many as 47 players for the Thursday night handicap competition, with a chicken prize for each table winner. Unfortunately in September 1981 Sam passed away playing the sport he loved, a fixture game that he won, at his home. He remained President till a few years before his passing.

My involvement with the Club began in September 1973 when after moving from Victoria to Queensland my late husband Barry and I first joined, playing in the old Community Hall in Marine Parade, Labrador. After about 12 months there the hall was condemned and we moved to Owen Park, Queen Street Southport, to a small hall that held only 3 tables and was cramped for room to move. Due to a big increase in players over the next few years some players were going to private homes to play their fixture matches etc. This proved unsatisfactory so we rented a second hall in Owen Park.

Around this time the name changed to Gold Coast Table Tennis Association (as it is now) and soon after in August 1984 became affiliated with Table Tennis Queensland and became an Incorporation. I was elected Treasurer in 1978 and served in that position for 12 years continuously. After retiring as treasurer I remained a Committee Member totalling almost 30 years. Barry was also a Committee Member till a few years before he passed away in 2010. Barry and I was given the honour of Life Membership of Gold Coast Table Tennis Association in 1984. I also received the Best Worker Award for 6 years from 1984 to 1990, which was the year I retired as treasurer. Our daughter Jill was also involved with the running of the club and became quite a good player as well, but had to give it up when high school came around.

After a number of moves to better premises, all of which we had to set up tables and pack away after the games, the club was in a financial situation where we were able to build our own centre, which to this day is one of the best, (if not the best) in Queensland. The centre in Herbertson Drive opened in September 1994 and in June 2010 we opened new extensions, doubling the size of the premises to hold 14 tables permanently set up. The street where the club is situated was unnamed, so we applied to council to have it named Herbertson Drive which was granted. A great honour for the Herbertson family.

I'm so privileged and proud to have been part of such a great club and association. I've been a participating and playing member for nearly 44 years and thoroughly enjoyed all those years of being involved. I still play 2 fixture nights and Friday morning social doubles. Table Tennis is a game for any age, we have had players as young as 7 or 8, and as old as 90 or over. (I'm not quite there yet!)

Just one more thing before I finish, I want to thank all those people who have made themselves my special friends over the years. I also want to thank those who have, in more recent years, made a big impact on my life and have become very special to me. You know who you are.





2017 Australasian Veterans Open

29th June – 1st July 2017

Gold Coast Table Tennis Association

Events Team: Team Events will be held for both male and female players in the following age categories; Over 40 - 49 / Over 50 - 59 / Over 60 - 69 / Over 70 +

Entries Team: ALL players must enter using the separate Team entry form available from the official website or from their State Association.

Trophies & Prize Money: Medallions & Prize money will be offered to each team in each age division as follows; Gold-Winner \$500 Silver-Runner-Up \$250 Bronze-Semi-Finalists \$125

Entry Fee: An entry fee of \$60 per person per event shall be payable when entering. To pay this entry fee go to: <https://www.tabletennis.org.au/eventsregister/8644/>

2017 GOLD COAST CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS & NORM KAY HANDICAP

Results

The Annual Gold Coast Club Championships was held on the Wed 3rd & Thurs 4th May.

The Winners of each Division were the following:

- Division 1: Lukas Kozak
- Division 2: Aldwyn Altuney
- Division 3: Phil Caldwell
- Division 4: Charlie Voges

The Norm Kay Handicap Competition was held on the Monday 1st May with 19 players participating in this year's event. The eventual

Winner was **Phil Caldwell** who defeated **Laurence Denoff** in the Final.

Well done to all who participated and Congratulations to the winners of these events.



Ping Pong-a-thon

The Pong is a dynamic and fun twenty-four hour table tennis event that runs in venues across Australia every October. Participants sign up to play for a minimum of three hours of table tennis at their venue of choice and invite their family/friends to sponsor their efforts.

The club will be playing host to a staging of the national Ping Pong-A-Thon, supporting organisations who are playing their part in bringing an end to human trafficking and exploitation of our world's most vulnerable. GCTTA will be one of several locations in Queensland participating in a 24-hour marathon. More details from www.pingpongathon.com

Gold Coast Table Tennis Centre

4pm October 27th to 4pm October 28th



TABLE TENNIS WORLD

www.tabletennisworld.com.au

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GCTTA would like to thank **Ashben Medical Centre & Table Tennis World** for its continuing support!





NEWS

Townsville celebrate International Women's Day

Once again Townsville Table Tennis celebrated International Women's Day in Style with a Tournament to showcase the many wonderful ladies we have playing at our Club – both young and mature. Plus a few special guests to spice the day up. There were over 30 visitors to the tournament.

Susanne & Matilda Alexandersson (Gold Coast), joined Rebekah Stanley (Mackay) as our guest players to liven up our premier players, Andrea McDonnell (Australian Paralympian), Larissa Brown & Anne Sellwood.

This group of ladies did not disappoint with many a 5-setter going to the wire throughout the afternoon rounds to reach what was to be few surprise playoffs in the latter part of the afternoon.

The tournament was played in 3 groups of girls and women. Senior women with 20 women playing rounds in the afternoon to gain seeding's for the evening play offs Quarter finals to the finals.

Townsville Spin Café lead by Norm Taylor successfully catered a stunning 3 course dinner for 60 attendees to showcase the quarters, semis and final match.

The evening began with the junior girl's final between Rayne Tarring and Sophie Woods with Sophie taking the win during entrée.

Next was a cracker final between emerging girls Matilda and Rebekah which was played between entrée and main course, with Matilda taking the win.

Most had thought the 2 young guns Matilda & Rebekah would face it off at the end, this how ever was not to be the case. The quarter finals saw a few surprise exits of Susanne Alexandersson who lost to Andrea McDonnell, and Matilda going down to Larissa Brown.

The Semi's saw an all NQ group of Ann Sellwood playing Larissa Brown and Andrea McDonnell playing Rebekah Stanley. The finals match rounded out what was a fantastic afternoon/evening of competition. This match of course was destined to be a 5 setter between Andrea McDonnell and Larissa Brown Final eventually won by Andrea.

Queensland Veterans take on the Kiwi's

A strong contingent of Queensland Veterans players travelled to New Zealand in mid-April for the New Zealand Open Veterans event. A number of the QLD team players represented Australia in a number of test matches against New Zealand. Congratulations to all players that represented Queensland. To view all results go to:

2017 New Zealand Veterans Team Open

(search for Veterans & alter the search date to April)



The True World Game

Is table tennis the true world game?

In West Africa, on Saturday 6 May, the Guinea Bissau Table Tennis Federation was founded; a significant date for the small developing country, a significant date for the African Table Tennis Federation but moreover a significant date for the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).

It means that the list of governing bodies affiliated to the ITTF is 226. What is unique about this number? It means every country or possible territory on planet earth is a member. It is an achievement no other international organisation can boast.

According to Australian, Glenn Tepper, who is the IITF Deputy Chief Executive Officer "Having every country as a member, has been achieved in a sustainable and progressive manner over the last 18 years; adding a small number of national associations each year and giving each the ongoing technical and equipment support to develop. It has been a great team effort from many people."

WELCOME
 GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY
 TABLE TENNIS CLUB
 OPEN TO STUDENTS & COMMUNITY



Tip of the Month

Keep your returns low over the net

In general, the lower over the net you place your shots, the less angle your opponent can use and the harder it is for him/her to hit it with power.

The one exception to this rule is if you use lobs, you will want to place the ball very high over the net (and as close to the end of the table as possible).

NEWGY COACHING

Rule of the Month

Touching the playing surface

Rule 2.10 also states that...

"Unless the rally is a let, a player shall score a point if an opponent's free hand touches the playing surface."

This means that if you touch the playing surface (i.e. the top of the table tennis table) with your hand which is not holding your racket whilst the ball is still in play, you lose the point.

So, if you're right handed and have your racket in your right hand, and you touch the playing surface with your left hand, you lose the point.

However, as long as you do not move the table, you can touch the table with your racket or any other part of your body without penalty.

Squad Coaching

Saturday Group Coaching

Coaches: Cathy Townsend

Georgy De Leon

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Cost: Adult \$14 Junior: \$8

Family Discount: \$20

Junior Squad Training

Tuesday & Thursday

Coach: Cathy Townsend

Assistant Coach: Van Cassis

4:15pm - 6:00pm

Cost: \$10 / \$15 family Discount

Please see website for details and training schedule.

PRIVATE COACHING

The following coaches are available for one on one coaching:

Georgy De Leon - 0416 619 516

Petr Klouba - 0414 930 519

Jordan Dequina - 0497 282 665

Ben Houghton - 0401 605 448

Jake Duffy - 0405 833 099

Naoya Yamamoto - 0411 707 504

Cathy Townsend - 0421 397 255

Profiles of the coaches can be viewed on the club website under private coaching.

Please contact for bookings and rates.

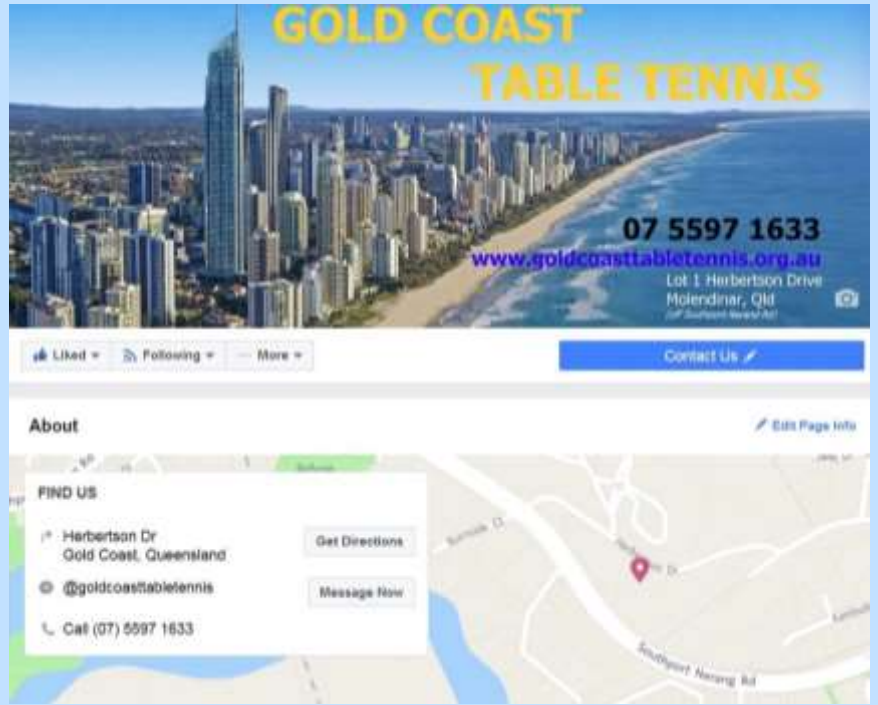


GCTTA Facebook Page

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. 2017 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, Phil Caldwell

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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

