



# TABLE TENNIS WELLINGTON

Newsletter 2019/1 – June 2019

Welcome.

This is the first of a series of newsletters to the table tennis community of the Wellington region. It is designed to keep players and supporters in touch with who Table Tennis Wellington is and what we are doing.

I am Kevin Haines and I was elected Chairperson of Table Tennis Wellington at a TTW meeting a couple of months ago. I am also the Association's Treasurer and have been for most of the last decade. I have been a long time member of the Onslow Club and for the last couple of years have been on the Board of the Empire Club.

Others on the TTW Executive Committee are Matthew Hobbs (Secretary), Martyn Barry, Chris Boaden, Ben Collins, Maggie Dyer and Tim Wilson. They contribute in different ways, but all have demonstrated their commitment to table tennis in our region.

We also have several people working outside the committee, notably Robert Chung who looks after administration of the Newtown Stadium and assists with our tournaments and college and school events. Mention should also be made of Gabrielle Telfer who was Chairperson of our Committee for seven years and still assists with our various events and activities.

## A Brief History of 2019

What have we been up to so far this year? Some of the things that have happened include:

- Summer Interclub: Ten rounds played over five weeks in a new format that generally seemed to be appreciated by the players.
- Wellington Veterans Tournament: Not a big entry but with most players playing in two age groups, a good day resulted.
- Autumn Open: A tournament attracting over 70 players from various parts of the North Island for the last weekend in April.
- Winter Interclub: Part way through Series One with 10 two player Premier teams and 14 three player teams, plus five two player teams in a junior interclub grade.
- College competition: Part way through a six week after college competition held at various locations, Upper Hutt, Porirua, Petone and Newtown.
- Tim Wilson is energetically working (with support from others) on promoting table tennis to a younger age group and working (again with others) on developing the skills of these new players. Tim is doing a great job in this area.

- Players have also been involved in tournaments outside Wellington, including the New Zealand Masters and the New Zealand Veterans Championships. Some excellent results were achieved. We had three representatives in a Veterans test against Australia, Sabine Westenra, Lindsay Ward and Ian Talbot. Congratulations to them all.
- We hosted the National Universities and Tertiary Institutions teams event in May. TTNZ did much of the work, but TTW and Empire assisted with the running of the event which went well and had some of New Zealand's best players on show up close.
- Lisa Yue (who also played in the Universities Tournament) represented New Zealand at the World Individual Championships held in Hungary in April. This follows Hui-Ling Vong attending the Youth Olympics in 2018. Our congratulations go to Lisa.
- Anna Wilson will be attending the Australian Junior Championships in July as part of a selected New Zealand squad. We wish Anna every success on this trip.

### What's Coming Up?

There is always something on the horizon with table tennis now virtually a year-round occupation.

- June 16, a Junior Development Tournament. Good experience for young players starting out.
- Mid July, the North Island Championships in Whanganui.
- July 27 and 28, the Wellington Open. Our flagship tournament, but one that our locals always do well at.
- End of September, early October, the NZ Championships in Christchurch. This is for representative teams and individuals and we hope to send a solid group of players.
- The Second Series of Interclub commencing late July/early August.

As you can see, table tennis is active at the top level. However, table tennis is both a sport and a recreation and our clubs are now well into their seasons. I hope that you enjoy your association with your club and invite people to join us of the TTW Executive in our programme. (This is not an invitation to join the Committee, but more than happy to accept anyone that wants to join us.)

We can always make use of a willing volunteer, even one who can only spare a couple of hours occasionally. Whether it is assisting with the smooth running of a tournament, offering expertise around building maintenance or helping with aspects of grant applications, or anything that you are keen to see happen or happen better, we would love to hear from you.

Happy to hear via [haineskj52@gmail.com](mailto:haineskj52@gmail.com) . Otherwise catch me at interclub or tournaments.

All the best.

Kevin