

## THE PREZ SEZ

By Lou Morsch

### 2022 VMSA COMMITTEE

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Allison Douglas: 0412 704 740

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##### TREASURER:

Clara Edney: 0419 376 843

##### TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR:

Darren O'Neill: 0418 362 909

##### PENNANT CO-ORDINATOR:

Mike Edney: 0419 584 550

##### RESULTS OFFICER:

Clara Edney: 0419 376 843

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Lynette Woodyard: 0422 874 825

Steve Franklin: 0450 417 639

Janine Mossop: 0403 027 980



Here we are shivering through Winter again. Fortunately, Jill and I were able to spend 10 days in sunny North Queensland for a bit

where the days were warm and the grey nomads were aplenty. Hard to beat those consistent 22 degree days all the time this time of the year. Little wonder there are so many caravans and campers everywhere. Maybe we should conduct a tournament somewhere up there. That could be interesting for all those retirees looking for an alternative to Melbourne this time of the year. I'll check with Darren and see if he can organise it. Although, I believe he is off to the Worlds in Poland which sounds even better than Qld (if you can afford it)

Speaking of Winter, hope everyone enjoyed Horsham in July. Did anyone notice the signage about the tournament erected on the side of the road as they arrived into town? We have to thank the local council for that and for the publicity promoting our event. The colder weather was certainly a different experience. But the cooler temperature didn't deter our faithful squashies as they battled it out during the day and danced their arses off at night. It was one of the most packed dinner dances I've attended for a while. So much energy at night after so much squash during the day. We are a playful lot!

Special mention about the squash on Sunday where we witnessed some fantastic finals highlighted by the Div 1 match between Peter Gilbee and Cam Penna. Richmond versus Geelong in an epic 5 set thriller. It couldn't have been scripted better with the local Mayor in attendance. Peter got there this time

but Cam really came of age and is getting closer to our more illustrious names in Masters ranks.

A shout out too to the Horsham squash committee and their volunteers providing us with first class treatment all the way over the weekend. Squash, food, drink, service and hospitality of the highest order. Well done guys.

Back in Melbourne and back to local pennant squash where the slow bleed of competing teams continues. There are now 8 grades in our pennant competition. What do we do about this? One thing about pennant is it feeds interest in our tournaments. If fewer players are competing, it's harder to get the message out about the fantastic squash tournaments we conduct during the year. It is imperative everyone playing Masters promotes our association and participates in squash to ensure its relevance. We don't want the love of this game to be lost. Give Masters a try -

### Your Prez

#### TOURNAMENT BADGES



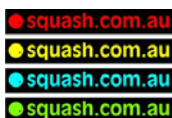
Dave Blacker -  
25 Tournaments



Launa Shilling -  
25 Tournaments



Wendy McWilliams -  
50 Tournaments



inform

#### UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS 2022

Inform Ballarat	Nov 25-27
<b>2023</b>	
Shepparton - Teams Event	Feb 17-19
Vic Champs - Lilydale	31 Mar-2 April
Masters Juniors - W'folds	27-28 May
Bendigo	21-23 July
Aust Champs - NSW	4-15 Sept
Inform Ballarat	24-26 Nov





## TOURNAMENT REPORT - HORSHAM 2022

Managing Covid and tournaments was certainly one challenge but completing Horsham 2022 proved to be another considering that tournament was meant to happen in 2020. But if you were there in July you would have had a great time, I couldn't believe how many people who committed last year still made the effort to come and celebrate this tournament, so to all thanks for hanging there.

Horsham Squash Club, thank you so much and that goes out to all of you that worked over the weekend to make our time there perfect. You all really put in 110% and nothing that we asked of you was a problem. You were a well-oiled machine this year.

The Horsham venue had air-conditioning to keep us toasty warm, plus the new lighting on courts 5 and 6 was very well received. It made sense to play our Section One final there on court 5 with the gallery full of onlookers. Congratulations to Peter Gilbee for taking out the section 1 Final against an extremely competitive Cameron Penna, Peter won 3/2 in a gruelling 5 setter. Well done, Peter.

Player entries totalled 85 which for 6 courts worked out very well. We had 10 Sections, everyone had time for some R and R even though there was no sunny Horsham at the time of year, players still sat outside socializing in the area set up with friends and squashies alike.

Significant effort VMSA Virgins, 8 of you have now played your first Masters Tournament. I hope you really enjoyed yourselves as you are so important to the VMSA going forward in squash and there's nothing like a fresh face to bring out the best in all of us. See you on the next tournament.

An impressive online entry response this tournament with 80% of you entering online, that is a significant effort, so keep it up please. A few teething problems with people trying to entry online but do not give up. I am here to help you through any stage of your entry process and it will get easier, I promise you that.

On Sunday I handed out 3 tournament badges to three people who are great supporters of Masters Squash.

Dave Blacker (Squash Logic) 25 Tournaments  
Launa Schilling (Horsham) 25 Tournaments  
Wendy McWilliams (Mulgrave Club) 50 Tournaments

Sylvania Park thanks so much for your support, the venue was perfect and a huge thanks to Peter Miller for setting us up with HARD FACED NANNA (The Band) I just love that name. They played great music, midnight was too early by the looks of the way people danced the night away, on the mini dance floor.

The VMSA Members draw was won by Andrew Shaw (TAS), congratulations Andrew I'm sure you and Tim (Andrews Brother) will enjoy the free dinner dance next time you guys fly in.

Helen, Janine, I cannot thank you enough for the support behind the desk that weekend.

A few thank yous' - Donna for doing the wine tasting, Ally for raffles and helping Donna, Woody for photos and Michelle for the things you do for us every tournament.

See you all in Ballarat Nov 25-27 for the last tournament of the VMSA 40<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary

Entries are now open at [www.vmsasquash.com.au](http://www.vmsasquash.com.au)

Thanks for supporting Masters Squash see you at Ballarat.

My Pleasure Darren O'Neill

Check out all the photos on our website at: <https://vmsasquash.com.au/gallery/Horsham%202022/22#.Y2CxkrZBzIU>

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**Presentations - VMSA INDIVIDUALS EVENT HORSHAM 2022**

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Event	Award	Awarded to
(1) SECTION 1	Winner	PETER GILBEE Lilydale
	Runner Up	CAMERON PENNA Bendigo
	Third/Special plate	MATT HOWARD Tonic
	Plate	TIM SHAW TAS
	Consolation plate	DARREN O'DONNELL Ballarat
(2) SECTION 2	Winner	MICK DYKE Mulgrave
	Runner Up	IAN TOMKINSON MCC
	Third/Special plate	ROBERT SIMS Squash Logic
	Plate	MICHAEL WALKER CORIO
	Consolation plate	MICHAEL BOATMAN Ballarat
(3) SECTION 3	Winner	NATHAN STOKOE Corio
	Runner Up	ROGER CHILD Bentleigh
	Third/Special plate	CLEM VINEY Squash Logic
	Plate	ANDREW SHAW TAS
	Consolation plate	LOU MORSCH Squash Logic
(4) SECTION 4	Winner	ANDREW CURWOOD Ballarat
	Runner Up	PAUL ELLINGHAM GLTC
	Third/Plate	LAUNA SCHILLING Horsham
	Consolation plate	RICHARD JOHNSON Moorabbin
(5) SECTION 5	Winner	MICHAEL BYRNES Tonic
	Runner Up	ANNE FORDHAM TONIC
	Special plate	ROBERT FILLISCH Ballarat
	Plate	LEANNE HALEY Mulgrave
	Consolation plate	ALAN MCRORIE Squash Logic
(6) SECTION 6	Winner	STEVE ASH Squash Melb
	Runner Up	PETER MILLER Horsham
	Third/Special plate	WENDY MCWILLIAMS Mulgrave
	Plate	JACQUI DYER Corio
	Consolation plate	CATHY COOMBS Corio
(7) SECTION 7	Winner	CASSIE LANDY Ballarat
	Runner Up	ALLISON DOUGLAS Squash Logic
	Third/Plate	DARRYL BALDWIN Ballarat
	Consolation plate	GEOFF MORLEY SALE
(8) SECTION 8	Winner	JEANNETTE VEAR Mildura
	Runner Up	SIMONE ROSSETTO Tonic
	Third/Plate	MARK DECKERT Horsham
	Consolation plate	ARTHUR SAMUEL Lilydale
(9) SECTION 9	Winner	JASON HAY Horsham
	Runner Up	PAUL BREALEY LaTrobe Valley
	Third/Special plate	JUDITH FOX TAS
	Plate	TIM DAVEY Horsham
	Consolation plate	STEVE MURRAY Moorabbin
(10) SECTION 10	Winner	RUTH ADDLEM Horsham
	Runner Up	JAN WILSON Moe
	Third/Special plate	KAREN THOMPSON
	Plate	HELEN LOCOCO Squash Logic
	Consolation plate	BRYCE SIMPSON Horsham

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# HORSHAM 2022 WINNERS



Organisers and Mayor of Horsham



Winner of Horsham Tournament—Peter Gilbee



Section 1



Section 2



Section 3



Section 4



Section 5



Section 6



Section 7



Section 8



Section 9



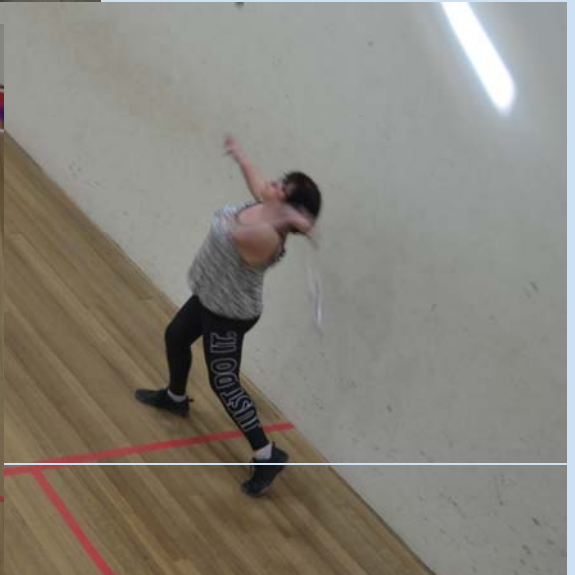
Section 10

# HORSHAM DINNER DANCE



# ACTION AT

# HORSHAM



# TIDBITS FROM HORSHAM



## **Cassie and Sue Landy**

Congratulations to Cassie and Sue Landy from Ballarat competing in a VMSA tournament together for the first time at Horsham. Sue is a great supporter of the VMSA and has played in many tournaments over the years. But it must have been special to see her daughter enter the ranks and now also playing Masters. For “virgin” Cassie it was a great occasion becoming eligible to play Masters and also winning her section in her first event. Cassie has graduated from playing as a junior at our Masters/Juniors tournaments. It is wonderful to see her continue with squash since that time. It has taken another 7 years for her to reach the eligible age requirement to play Masters. Well done Cassie and we look forward to seeing the mum and daughter combination at many more events.

## **Mal Rubinich**

Deaf as a post he might be but Mal had no trouble hearing his number called over all the noise when he won the first of the prizes at the dinner dance on Saturday night. Selective hearing I think Mal.

## **John Sands**

Best wishes from all your friends at the VMSA John as you go through some challenging times battling Prostate. John was present at Horsham enjoying the camaraderie before his return for an operation in Melbourne. He wanted to raise the awareness of Prostate and for men to get checked out as a matter of vital importance. We will be thinking of you John.

## **Team Support**

Congratulations to some of the clubs who supported our Horsham tournament in numbers. Something I love to see when a group can all get together and enjoy the good times as witnessed at the Dinner dance on Saturday night. Some big players from Corio especially – and not just the boys!!



*A bevy of squashies decided to support our Tassie counterparts in their Tassie Tournament in July this year, as they so often support our tournaments. This is an account of that trip given by James Wilson.*

## 2022 Tassie Masters



A funny thing happened on the way to the Tassie Masters.

A trip to Tassie; a chance to play at the Eastside courts that Ross Barnden invited me to so often; a guided tour and an excursion organised to Port Arthur on the Friday morning; a stress-free break in Hobart with flights and accommodation booked by Michelle for us; Jan & James are definitely in.

A wake-up call at 3.30 and courtesy bus to the airport to meet with fellow travellers: driver Rob Sims, Neil Tytler, Gary McPyke, Allison Douglas, Darren O'Neill, Michelle Rowles, Anne Fordham, Lori Fernandez, Greg Murphy and cheerleader Donna Fisher (recovering from injury). .....What could possibly go wrong!?!?!?

After nearly half an hour standing in line for a hot chocolate and coffee for myself a glance at the flight departure board shows "FLIGHT CANCELLED". Back to the group and Michelle and Allison are already at the service centre, (an anonymous voice whispered they were snarling and snapping) at the JetStar staff. Helpful alternatives from JetStar were: to wait 11 (eleven!!!!) hours and pay for a Qantas flight seeking a refund from JetStar; or catch a flight to Launceston leaving in 15 minutes (make your own way to Hobart). 5 minutes was spent deciding to go to Launceston leaving 10 minutes to take a 7-minute walk/run to the boarding gate before it closed. We were to get a call to advise about the luggage that had already been loaded onto the cancelled flight. All aboard.

At Launceston, Michelle and Rob were able to hire a 12-seater to take to Hobart via Port Arthur as we still had time for the excursion and tour. A leisurely, alcohol fuelled, drive with much discussion of what might be happening with our baggage, playing equipment, mobility and continence aids followed. After some unscheduled "nature stops" for the girls, we had a highly informative and enjoyable tour around the settlement, although I was sentenced to 100 lashes for insubordination.

After much in-bus debate it was decided to stop off at Hobart airport as we had not been contacted about the luggage. Again, Michelle and Allie were elected to press the enquiry. Upon explaining that we had been given no "paperwork" at Melbourne, Jetstar staff advised that they had received a number of bags for which they had no "paperwork". We took our paperless bags and left. After loading 11 people and all their luggage into a 12 person bus we headed for the motel and then the courts. Honourable mentions go to Rob Sims for driving despite about 5 navigators giving conflicting directions, Allie & Gary for booking Port Arthur, and Michelle for her organisation.

Did anything else go wrong you ask? Nothing significant I would say. I shall leave out the details of how I overslept and could not keep an arrangement made with RaRa and Neil to share an Uber to the courts: how the taxi driver I called took Jan & I to the wrong sports complex: how Gary dropped his phone in a taxi he had hired and was then charged \$25 by the company to bring it back to him; how Gary nearly left his phone in another taxi the following day: the difficulty Greg Murphy had keeping a partially full bottle of wine and a chiller while waiting for another bottle at The Ball and Chain restaurant: or the red face I had while ringing the Eastside centre to have the shoes I had left in the change room mailed back. ...Nothing significant.

Thanks to the Tassies for their hospitality. Thanks to all of our fellow travellers who looked after Jan & I, we both agree that we have not laughed so much for a very long time.

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**MICHELLE ROWLES WITH PETER WRIGHT WHO PRESENTED MICHELLE WITH THE AUSTRALIAN JUDITH GOADBY AWARD FOR 2022.**

WE ALL KNOW HOW MUCH MICHELLE DOES FOR THE VMSA BUT AS SECRETARY ALSO OF THE AMSA SHE TAKES ON EVEN MORE RESPONSIBILITY AND EXCELS AT ALL SHE DOES.

MICHELLE IS ALREADY A HOLDER OF THE VMSA JUDITH GOADBY AWARD AND A VMSA LIFE MEMBER.

SHE IS VERY DESERVING WINNER OF THIS PRESTIGIOUS AUSTRALIAN AWARD, AND WE THANK HER FOR HER TIRELESS WORK AND HER COMMITMENT TO SQUASH.



## **World-class Gilbee heads talent pool**

The talent pool for the Victorian Masters Squash Association's Winter tournament at Horsham this weekend, has never been so deep.

Heading the list is Melbourne's Peter Gilbee who was a finalist at the 2018 World Masters Squash championships in Charlottesville, USA. Gilbee will also be one of three players to represent Australia in a Trans-Tasman series later this year.

VMSA tournament director Darren O'Neill said Gilbee was one of several topline Masters players competing at Horsham for the first time this weekend.

Others included Tasmania's Tim Shaw, Mildura's Kevin Healy, Geelong's Corey Robertson, Ballarat's Darren O'Donnell and Bendigo gun Cam Penna. O'Neill said Melbourne players Mark Ascoli and Mick Dyke, who were finalists the last time Horsham hosted the Masters, would also return.

*For release: July 11, 2022*

# ADELAIDE TEAMS DINNER



## VICTORIAN WINNERS OF THE TEAMS EVENT IN ADELAIDE



### **Division 11—Runners Up**

Vic Team 11 Donna Fisher,  
Simone Rossetto,  
Jeanette Vear

Winners were ACT 6



### **Division 7—Runners Sup**

Vic Team 8 Tony Bennett  
Leanne Haley  
Trevor Walker

Winners were W.A.3



### **Division 2—Runners-up**

Vic Team 3 Gary Callaway  
Roger Child  
Michael Walker

Winners were Vic 2



### **Division 2—Winners**

Vic Team 2 Mick Dyke  
Gary McPyke  
Rob Sims

Runners-up were Vic 3





Jill and Lou Morsch with Jelena Dokic who spoke at the MCC dinner for squash players. Jelena has written a book about her experiences during her tennis career, and if you have the opportunity to get hold of a copy it is a very good read. You could have heard a pin drop during her talk – it was amazing.

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## NEW COURTS FOR BENALLA - INPUT REQUESTED

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You may have heard that the Courts 4 Sports Project to build six, glass back squash & racquetball courts with moveable walls within the redevelopment of the Benalla Indoor Recreation Centre is getting closer. **We want to get as much feedback as we can from the squash & racquetball playing community** as to what is required in this exciting new squash & racquetball facility. We would like to know what design features you feel should be included in this project, both of the courts themselves and/or of the venue in general.

Your suggestions will be used to generate information to put to the designers, architects and builders plus then to the Benalla Squash Club's fitting out of the new facility.

Also, please feel free to tell us of the features you have seen or done that **should be avoided**.

Submissions can come from anyone, anywhere, but **MUST** go to one place and that place is the e-mail address [info@bsara.com.au](mailto:info@bsara.com.au)

*Please do not just text somebody or put a comment on our FaceBook page* as this will clog up our page and the submission will be missed. Looking forward to hearing from you.

## TRANS-TASMAN SERIES 2022

A big congratulations to Victoria's three representatives at the 2022 Trans Tasman Series held in Adelaide during the Australian Masters Championships.

- **Shahroze Khan**
- **Peter Gilbee**
- **Warren Miller**

These players contributed to Australia's overall win at this year's event. You have done Victoria proud.

**Brief History of the Trans Tasman Series** After the success of two unofficial tours by Australian Masters players to NZ in 1982 and 1983, a meeting, under the Chairmanship of the Australian Squash Rackets Association (ASRA) President, Mr Vic Belsham, was held in Brisbane on 28 April 1984 between the ASRA Executive and representatives of the New Zealand Squash Rackets Association (NZSRA) with the object of the meeting being to rationalise the program of events between the two countries going forward. An item on the Agenda was the question of an official Masters Teams Series between the two countries. It was agreed that the inaugural official Teams Series would commence with a visit by New Zealand to Australia in Sept 1984. The Series was conducted on the Gold Coast during the Australian Individual Championships at Southport. The Trans Tasman Series was conducted on an annual basis (1984 to 1993). Apart from some slight variations in the calendar between 1995 and 2000 due to World Championships. The Trans Tasman Series has been conducted on a Biennial basis since 2001. There have been (24) Trans Tasman Series conducted since 1984 with Australia winning 20 and NZ 4.

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The **2023 Mountain District Open Squash Championships** will run from Friday February 3rd to Sunday Feb 5th 2023. This'll be our first MD squash tournament since January 2022. It's a great local event, with grades for all standards. Entry forms will be available by December 1st .

Hope to see you there.

**UPDATE ON JOANNE JOSEPH –**  
**PREVIOUS WINNER OF OUR MASTER’S APPRENTICE AWARD**  
**(Provided by Joanne’s father, Anil)**

I wanted to give you an update on Joanne’s achievements for 2022.

Joanne has been doing very well in the past 6 months. Below are some of her state and national achievements

- Winner - Under 19 Girls Doubles - 2022 Australian Junior Open
- Winner - Division 3 - Masters Juniors tournament along with Rob Sims
- Winner - Under 15 Girls Squash Queensland Junior Championships 2022
- Winner - Under 15 Girls South Australian Junior Championships
- Winner - Under 17 Girls South Australian Junior Championships
- Winner - U15 2022 Victorian Junior Championships

Joanne is currently the No 1 ranked player in the U15 girls in Victoria and No. 2 ranked player in the U15 Australia National rankings. I have only listed her achievements on a state and national level but she has done very well in many local tournaments also.

I wanted to personally thank and express my gratitude to VMSA for the continued support of juniors by the association. On behalf of Joanne a big, big thank you for all the love. It’s one of the fixtures she enjoys most in the calendar year.



**OUR CONGRATULATIONS GO TO JOANNE FOR A VERY SUCCESSFUL 2022. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.**

# SHEPPARTON

17th-19th February

# Teams Event

83 Archer Street, Shepparton  
(Closing date 2nd February 2023)

Tournament Hosts:

Goulburn Valley Squash Club Phone 03 5821 5050

Tournament Director - Darren O'Neil 0418 362 909  
[tournaments@vmsaSquash.com.au](mailto:tournaments@vmsaSquash.com.au)



Next tournament  
Vic Championships - Lilydale - 31st March-2nd April

[www.vmsasquash.com.au](http://www.vmsasquash.com.au)

# 2023

Shepparton Teams Event	17th-19th February
Vic Champs Lilydale	31st March-2nd April
Masters Juniors	27th-28th May
Bendigo	21st-23rd July
Australian Masters	NSW 4th-15th Sept
<b>INFORM</b> Ballarat	24th-26th November



[www.vmsasquash.com.au](http://www.vmsasquash.com.au)