The Official Organ of the VMSA Inc PO Box 1023 Newport Vic 3015 Mail contributions to: newslettereditor@vmsasquash.com.au

Volume 201 No. 4 Dec 2023

THE PREZ SEZ

By Lou Morsch

2024 VMSA COMMITTEE

OFFICE BEARERS -	
PRESIDENT:	
Louis Morsch:	0414 397 787
VICE PRESIDENTS:	
Mike Edney:	0419 584 550
Allison Douglas:	0412 704 740
SECRETARY:	
Michelle Rowles:	0407 838 572
TREASURER:	
Rob Sims:	0400 910 749
TOURNAMENT DIRECT	TOR:
Darren O'Neill:	0418 362 909
PENNANT CO-ORDINA	TOR:
Mike Edney:	0419 584 550
RESULTS OFFICER:	
Clara Edney:	0419 376 843
GENERAL COMMITTEE	<u>-</u>
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	
Lynette Woodyard:	0422 874 825
Janine Mossop:	0403 027 980
Gary McPyke:	0448 000 492



inform

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS 2024

Bairnsdale - Teams Event	Feb 16-18
Vic Champs - Dromana	Apr 12-14
Masters Juniors – Westerfolds	May 25-26
Corio Individual	July 19-21
Aust Champs – Canberra	Sept 2-13
Sguash.com.au Ballarat	Nov 22-24

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all Masters followers. I hope you relaxed, enjoyed a bit of family time and celebrated the New Year

New Year in style. May you all remain happy and healthy and continue squashing in 2024.

Thank you everyone who competed in our Masters tournaments in 2023. I hope you had an enjoyable time and will continue to support our events in 2024. Thank you also to our sponsors who have been so supportive of the VMSA as well. I was delighted to see so many new and returning players at our tournaments during the year. Ballarat in November was particularly pleasing with numerous new players competing followed by a great response to the dinner dance at the Golf Club. What an immense pleasure it was having Lisa Walton from INFORM at Ballarat too. Poor Steve is recovering from a hip replacement with our best wishes for a speedy recovery mate. Lisa stepped in for Steve and proved a great substitute with a unanimous vote of approval for her over Steve in future. While the cat's away Steve....

The Spring Pennant season was completed in December under a new format for the first time. The decision to create an East and a West pennant competition has been accepted well. We just need more support from clubs and players to build up the numbers again and breathe life back into pennant. There were just six grades with two of those in the west and four in the east. Congratulations to the teams who won the flag in each of the grades. The VMSA will continue to offer free team entry to all clubs submitting teams in our Autumn Pennant competition set to commence in February 2024. A reminder, an underage player can compete in Masters pennant subject to

approval from Mike Edney, our match and Pennant Director.

Our previous Newsletter was back in October. Since that time, the Trans-Tasman Masters test series was held in New Zealand. Unfortunately, the Australian squad which included Peter Gilbee from Lilydale Club and Sheroze Khan from Mulgrave Club was unsuccessful being narrowly defeated by our Kiwi friends. Congratulations to Peter and Sheroze for being selected from Victoria in the team again.

Finally, there is wedding bells in the air with Mark Ascoli and Leanne Haley set to tie the knot in Ballarat in November. Congratulations to a couple of lovebirds who discovered one another through mutual interest in squash and involvement with Masters.

Be a part of the VMSA and keep squashing in 2024.

Your Prez

TOURNAMENT BADGES



Greg Duncan 25+ Tournament (Attained at previous tournament)



Ray Mouw 50+ Tournaments



Peter Gilbee 50+ Tournaments

Heather Campbell – 25+ Tournament No photo

SQUASH.COM.AU BALLARAT CHAMPIONSHIPS TOURNAMENT REPORT by Darren O'Neill



To those who played at Ballarat, I hope you had a great time. A busy tournament no doubt, but we know and expect that every year. Thanks for feedback - it was sincere and welcomed. I received so many texts and emails about the weekend.

Entries to Ballarat came in steady although slowly, but a great effort. Players, give yourselves a pat on the back because the tournament went very well. The matches were played in typical master's sports person like manner. We had 119 Entries, 11 Sections, plus a 7 Virgins which is fantastic. Thank you to all the Interstate players who made the effort to cross the border - ACT 2, NSW 1, TAS 3, QLD 1 and believe it or not USA 1.

The Member's draw of 2 dinner dance tickets was won by Tashia Milhail from Mulgrave, to be used over the next 12 months, Congratulations Tashia, nice to see you win those.

Only 3 badges were given at Ballarat this year to great supporters of Squash. Heather Campbell 25+ tournament badge, Peter Gilbee 50+ and Ray Mouw 50+ Congratulations you guys great effort.

The Judith Goadby Memorial Award for 2024 was awarded to Clara Edney, oh my the surprised look on her face was a classic memory to be hold. Clara is a quiet achiever who never complains and is always there to lend a hand, so well deserved Clara.

110 people came along to the Ballarat Golf Club for the dinner dance. We had a fabulous night with food, drink, plus great conversation. Our band this year played some fantastic songs to help us dance the night away, so the dance floor was packed all night. Thanks to the Ballarat Golf Club for being so accommodating as it was very easy dealing with them.

To the court's President Michael Adamson, you were so helpful with all our requirements, you made my job easy so thanks for the support. To all the people who helped over the weekend, I know you were under pressure so thanks for the hours you put in to produce great food also for the wide range of beverages on offer to our players, Cheers to the Bar and Food Staff plus a special mention to John Tobin for his help.

Check the results page on the VMSA website for the all the finals match results – also listed below.

https://vmsasquash.com.au/uploads/files/Tournaments/Previous%20Tournament%20Results/44%20Masters%20Tournament%20-%20November%202023%20-%20Ballarat.pdf

Ballarat section 1 winner Peter Gilbee defeated Paul Brewtnall in 3 games in a great match with the gallery full to the brim. Peter gave a lovely speech to the crowd and to other winners. Oh wait, no he didn't. Jill Morsch stepped up to the mic and gave a lovely speech, so that was unexpected but well done Jill. We hope to see more players attend in 2024 to battle it out and to take home a number one place in their relevant sections. Virgins we are calling you to play in one of our tournaments so don't be shy - come see us.

As always Steve & Lisa Walton, who are a great supporters of master's squash and squash in general, supplied some fabulous prizes. But this year a breath of fresh air attended in Lisa Walton. Steve watch out, Lisa did a damn fine job haha. I'm sure all the people who won a prize will enjoy using them. Lisa manned the merchandise stand all weekend, so I hope you supported her by buying something you needed.

A special mention to Wali and Terry for their support over the years. Thank you for all the banners you supply to support the tournaments.

If you get 119 players to Ballarat 2023 why can't you get 150 plus in 2024, because our tournaments have created long lasting friendships which have stood up for decades since the VMSA started, and we owe it to ourselves to be a part of it. The VMSA is going to pull out all stops to make sure our tournaments are the best they can be. We hope to see past and present players reunite.

My Pleasure

Darren O'Neill

BALLARAT PRESENTATIONS





















Presentations - S	QUASH.COM.AU BALLAF	RAT MASTERS TOURNAMENT 2023
Event	Award	Awarded to
(1) SECTION 1	Winner	PETER GILBEE Lilydale
	Runner Up	PAUL BREWTNALL TAS
	Third/Special plate	CAMERON PENNA Bendigo
	Plate	MATTHEW MCCONNELL TAS
	Consolation plate	DARREN NAGEL Fitzpatrick
(2) SECTION 2	Winner	DARREN O'DONNELL Ballarat
	Runner Up	MICHAEL FLINT Fitzpatricks
	Special plate	KELVIN GRIFFIN Shepparton
	Plate	CHRIS PHOTIS Bright
	Consolation plate	MICHAEL BOATMAN Ballarat
(3) SECTION 3	Winner	DAVID GEE Fitzpatricks
	Runner Up	STEVE MORLEY Mulgrave
	Special plate	CLEM VINEY Squash Logic
	Plate	TRAVIS BRUNT Squash Logic
	Consolation plate	ADITYA GAUR Squash Logic
(4) SECTION 4	Winner	UMAR AZIZ Werribee
	Runner Up	ANDREW CURWOOD Ballarat
	Special plate	VINCE ANCORA Focus GP
	Plate	RAY MOUW Mulgrave
	Consolation plate	BARRY FITZPATRICK Bendigo
(5) SECTION 5	Winner	MICHAEL BYRNES Tonic
(<i>)</i>	Runner Up	DANIEL TITO Werribee
	Special plate	JANINE EEDY Mulgrave
	Plate	CASSIE LANDY Ballarat
	Consolation plate	NEIL TYTLER Squash Melb
(6) SECTION 6	Winner	JEANNETTE VEAR Mildura
	Runner Up	SUE LANDY Ballarat
	Special plate	ZIG SZAMBELANCZYK Squash Logic
	Plate	KAREN GRIFFITH Lilydale
	Consolation plate	ALLISON DOUGLAS MCC
(7) SECTION 7	Winner	INO WOBBES Lilydale
	Runner Up	DAVE HALL Ballarat
	Third/Special plate	KEITH WILSON Ballarat
	Plate	MAL RUBINICH Squash Logic
	Consolation plate	CHRIS KOOL Bairnsdale
(8) SECTION 8	Winner	JACKIE BANNON An Irish Lass
() ··	Runner Up	ROSS MEDDINGS Squash Logic
	Third/Plate	JEFF MARR Werribee
	Consolation plate	JUDITH FOX TAS
(9) SECTION 9	Winner	JILL MORSCH Squash Logic
.,	Runner Up	SALLY WINGETT Lilydale
	Special plate	STEVE MURRAY Squash Melb
	Plate	VIC STAFFORD Brighton
	Consolation plate	HEATHER CAMPBELL ACT
		-

AROUND THE COURTS



BALLARAT DINNER DANCE 2023





Judith Goadby Award 2023 recipient – Clara Edney





Congratulations to Clara Edney for being honoured with the Judith Goadby Memorial Award at the Squash.com.au Ballarat tournament in November 2023.

Clara has been a great contributor to the VMSA. Initially Clara joined the Tournament Committee as Records Officer in 2009, a role she still holds today. As players we see the results and ladders each week, what we don't see is all the work that Clara does in the background to make sure that Pennant runs smoothly for us.

In 2017, Clara kindly put up her hand for the role of Treasurer. Clara is very experienced in managing finances for a number of businesses and did a fantastic job of keeping our finances in order. We have been very lucky to have the benefit of her experience in this area.

Clara was involved in Masters squash long before joining the Committee. Moorabbin had a very strong masters contingent at Moorabbin, where Mike and Clara managed the centre from late 1990's to 2013.

Congratulations again Clara









VMSA Spring 2023 Individual Team Results Grand Finals					
Grade 01	Grand final	Lilydale 03	Lost	Mulgrave Club 01	1R3G117P-3R10G171P
Grade 02	Grand final	Werribee 01	Won	Squash Logic 03	2R7G159P-2R6G157P
Grade 03	Grand final	Westerfolds 01	Lost	Westerfolds 02	1R6G181P-3R9G200P
Grade 04	Grand final	Fitzpatricks 01	Won	Focus GP 02	3R10G203P-1R6G177P
Grade 05	Grand final	Westerfolds 03	Lost	Mountain District 01	1R4G145P-3R10G191P
Grade 06	Grand final	Mulgrave Club 06	Lost	Mulgrave Club 04	1R4G143P-3R9G180P

<u>PENNANT REPORT</u>

The VMSA implemented major changes to the pennant competition for the recently completed Spring season. An East and a West draw was created with PAR 15 scoring introduced and 7.30pm start times in all grades. One underage player is also permitted in a team to introduce new players to Masters subject to approval by the Pennant Director. There has also been free team entry to encourage clubs to enter more sides. These changes were felt as necessary to keep our struggling pennant alive as well as taking on board concerns raised about late nights and travel issues which seem to be big factors in the loss of teams from the competition. As a result, we had six grades with two in the West and four in the East.

The changes appear to be well received but the proof of a successful outcome cannot be measured just yet. We realise more time is required to see if people return to playing and grades increase as a result. The VMSA has done what it can to re-ignite interest in playing Masters but now it is up to you to encourage players new and old back to pennant.

Congratulations to the winners in the newly configured Spring Pennant and thanks to all clubs and players for participating. Autumn pennant in 2024 is set to commence in early February with clubs to be notified of the exact date.

BALLARAT PROMOTING SQUASH IN SCHOOLS

Ballarat Secondary Schools competition (BASS)

Since COVID the BASS competition has developed into a very vibrant competition. The competing schools are Ballarat Clarendon College, Grammar, St Pats, Loreto, Damascus and Mount Clear. Ballarat members such as the Landy Family and Marika Rawlings take responsibility for a school. They explain the rules, help with coaching and referee games.

Community Development

For the past three years, schools with programs for students who are "disengaged from the classroom" have been developed by BSRA. Phoenix, Yuille Park and Berry Street have participated in the program.

Primary Schools

Despite a lot of school visits, fifty-four primary schools in total 2 to 3 times, only two schools, Alfredton and Yuille Park have classes who attend BSRA. The Racquet Ball Rebels program, whereby you take the racquet and balls etc. to the schools was only taken up by Invermay Primary School, so this will be a priority going forward.

In summary, Ballarat is very fortunate to have a centre with 11 courts to cater for all class sizes.

There are many elite schools in close proximity to the centre so with over 3000 students at least coming into the centre through the Schools Program, the future looks very bright. Tara and John have done an amazing job in putting this together with help from others.

Editor's note: Thank you to John Tobin and Janine Mossop for this information

SPRING 2023 PENNANT FINALISTS

























VICTORIAN TEAMS REPORT DURAL NSW 2023

We headed to NSW last September and played out of one centre located in Dural. The squash centre was an older style complex which you would expect, but 12 squash courts and its inner lining were spotless, a very well presented complex and great centre. Congratulations to the owners and staff.

I would like to congratulate our Victorian Individual players who competed in the Individual Championships in the first week and to the players who produced a winning result.

Mens Open 40-44 defending Title Winner Shahroze Khan plus selection to the Trans-Tasman Test

Woman's 50-54 Div 1 Winner Anne Fordham

Mens 60-64 Open defending Title Winner Peter Gilbee plus selection to the Trans-Tasman Test

Mens 60-64 Div 2 Winner Lori Fernandez

Woman's 65-69 Open Winner Lynn (Biddy) McFarlane

Mens 65-69 Div 3 Runner up Neil Tytler

Woman's 70-74 Div 1 Runner up Lynette Woodyard

Woman's 70-74 Div 2 Runner up Helen Lococo

Mens 80-84 Open Winner Brian Lyons

https://amsc.australianmasterssquash.com.au/2023-tournament-information/

A similar group from Victoria went to the Australians Teams Series this year and enjoyed a great week, with some nice weather, actually stunning weather was enjoyed by all. The NSW committee had food trucks and a well-stocked bar. Shannon's Insurance (Sponsor) set up a simulator, I witnessed loads of players using it so it was a great addition.

The team's dinner was held at the Punthill Apartments, Norwest where majority of us stayed. We had a great commitment from players and partners who also came which was great to see. We had a 2 course meal, oh and a few drinks which sounds strange for master's squash people to do.

A huge thanks to David Shay for taking VMSA stock for us in his car. We only took minimal garments with us just in case and overall it was the right move. Players grabbed a second garment which saves the pressure of washing every day. Still can't believe how well received the VMSA jackets have been, so many wearing them out at night. Plus, during the week made it easy to spot the Vic's in a crowd.

Injuries and a viral bug stopped us dead in our tracks more so the later part of the week we had up to 10 players sustain an injury or an illness, but as always, we band together and chip in to get the teams through. A special thanks to Darren O'Donnell, David Shay, Trevor Walker and Donna Fisher for playing extra matches to get us through.

Out of our 15 teams we welcomed 5 new players Adi Gaur, Vicki Fox, Hans Kerkvliet, Kevin McDonald and Craig Gummersall. I hope you all enjoyed the teams and playing for Victoria. We had some pretty good results:

- Vic 6 won Div 7 and Vic 7 came runners up.
- Vic 8 won Div 8
- Vic 10 won Div 9
- Vic 12 won Div 10
- Vic 14 won Div 15.

Great effort and a huge congratulations to those teams.

A special mention to Brian Lyons and Frank Bugeja both 80-84 and completing two full weeks of competition an amazing effort gentleman. Brian took out the 80-84 Individual Championship in 5 games over fellow Victorian Tom Slattery.

Teams' selection is always a tricky thing to get right but overall, we did better this year and not to mention there were a few third place getters from that week, so not far away from a win for those teams either.

Congratulations to those Victorians who received badges for milestones achieved:

- Greg Duncan 10- years
- Pam Park 10 years
- Trevor Walker 10 years
- Neil Tytler 15 years

NSW Master's hosting the Tournament did a great job, I also thought the trophies were creative, so well done to the committee. Week One, NSW ran functions over the week with a Welcome function, VIP Night, Mid-week Trivia, Friday Night Individual Dinner Dance, Sunday bare foot bowls and a golf day. Week Two, was the Sydney Harbour Cruise and to finish was the Friday Teams Dinner Dance which featured a great band.

This year the Australians will be held in Canberra with Individuals 2-6 September and Teams 9-13 September 2024, so lock it in. They will be using 2 centres, Woden Squash Centre (8 Courts) and Weston Creek (4 Courts). This tournament will be well organised ,I know that as a given.

A huge thanks as always to Michele Rowles for all the things she did to get us there. I can't list them all as the list would never end. So, thanks Michelle.

To all the drivers who shared their cars to get us back and forward from the courts and functions alike ,you are amazing people. We introduced a What's App group this year which was great for organising transport and dinners.

Until we go to Politicians land, that's all from me.











AUSTRALIAN MASTERS—DURAL, SYDNEY

WINNERS/PLACEGETTERS—INDIVIDUALS WEEK





WINNERS/PLACEGETTERS—TEAMS WEEK













TEAMS DINNER











<u>TERRY BARLOW – RECIPIENT of the</u> PETER WRIGHT OAM AWARD



Terry received the Peter Wright OAM Award at the Australians in Sydney last September.

Terry has had a long association with Masters Squash spanning more than 2 decades, both as a player, administrator and sponsor.

Terry joined the VMSA Committee in 2000 and took on the top job as President in 2001 from Jim Bristow, which he held until 2009.



The Peter Wright OAM Award was established in recognition of Peter's exceptional contribution to squash and in particular Masters Squash to provide Peter with the opportunity to recognise people who have made a significant contribution to Masters Squash locally and nationally.

Terry was Championship Director of the Australians in Melbourne in 2009 and rejoined the Committee as Event Director for the Australians in Ballarat in 2017.

Terry has also held several positions on the AMSA Executive as a Selector from 2001-2020, Squash Australia Delegate 2013-2016 and Vice President from 2016-2023.

Terry has been instrumental in progressing Masters Squash not only in Victoria but also the Australian Masters Squash Championships including the change of teams to a graded competition in early 2000's and in more recent times the change of scoring from HiHo to Par15.

The support that Terry, together with his partner Wali, have provided and continue to provide to Masters Squash is nothing short of amazing.

Terry is a Life Member of VMSA and has also received the Victorian and Australian Judith Goadby Memorial Award.

As Terry said at the recent AMSA AGM, "Squash is a sport that I love so much, and it has been a great ride."

Congratulations Terry, very well deserved.

BAIRNSDALE MASTERS TEAMS EVENT

16—18 FEBRUARY 2024

TO BE PLAYED AT:

Bairnsdale Squash & Table Tennis Centre, 64 Great Alpine Rd, Lucknow Phone: 5152 7366



TOURNAMENT CONDITIONS AND INFORMATION

- 1. This Tournament will be a teams event with 2 players in each team depending on the number of entries received. Scoring will be open scoring, with a 5 min warm up and 15 min play on the individual play and the same for the doubles play. Two players per team, player one 20 min, player two 20 min then doubles play 20 min total 1 hour play per round. Eye wear for doubles is a non negotiable must.
- 2. Tournament Entry Fees are \$50 for Non-members, \$40 for VMSA Financial Members and \$35 for VMSA Financial Members who have played 25+ tournaments. Early Bird Rate gives a discount of \$5 for online entries only, received 2 weeks prior to the commencement of the tournament.
- 3. All players must fulfil their obligations to other participants by competing in all matches set down for them.
- 4. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to accept, decline or re-grade any entries.
- 5. Notice of withdrawal and requests for refund must be made to the Tournament Director 7 days prior to the tournament start date. Any requests for refunds after this date are at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.
- 6. No claims whatsoever will be recognised should any player receive an injury whilst participating in the tournament.
- 7. First round matches will be available on our website https://www.audit.com.au/first-match-times from Thursday 15 February 2024.
- 8. All teams must report to the Tournament Control Desk at least 30 MINUTES BEFORE their next scheduled match. It is your responsibility to check the draws for your teams next match time
- 9. All players are expected to be warmed up and ready to play as soon as the previous match is completed. Warm up time is 2 1/2 min per side, 5 mins in total, play is continuous for 15 min.
- 10. All players are expected to mark or referee a match as a part of the team commitment, or as directed by the Tournament Control.
- 11. Trophy presentations will be at approximately 4:30pm Sunday followed by a complimentary supper.
- 12. A social get together, including complimentary supper will be held at the Bairnsdale Squash & Table Tennis Club on Friday evening after the conclusion of the matches. ALL WELCOME
- 13. Snacks and refreshments will be available at the squash centre during the weekend.
- 14. A Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday 17 February at the Wy Yung Pub, 120 Bullumwaal Rd, Wy Yung VIC 3875 from 7:30pm till 12:00am featuring a live band and a 2 Course Meal, Drinks at bar prices. Cost: \$60 per person. PLEASE INCLUDE PAYMENT WITH YOUR ENTRY.

15. A Courtesy Bus will be provided to the Dinner Dance. Cost: \$10 per person. PLEASE INCLUDE PAYMENT WITH YOUR ENTRY. You will be advised of the pickup times on Saturday. Any queries contact Michelle Rowles on 0407 838 572.

- 16. Accommodation: The Riversleigh, Bairnsdale. 1 Nicholson St, Bairnsdale. Click the Link for a discount http://www.riversleigh.com.au/clientAuthenticate.html?autoUser=Squash&autoPass=SQUASH001 Otherwise see East Gippsland Shire Website for other accommodation options https://www.visiteastgippsland.com.au/client/utiln?autoUser=Squash&autoPass=SQUASH001
- 17. Please note playing in a VMSA Pennant Team does NOT automatically mean you are a financial member of the VMSA. Membership of the VMSA provides discounted entry fees to tournaments as well as many other benefits for just \$25 per year. Ask any of our Committee Members for details.

Early Bird Discount applies for entries lodged online only, cut off date 2 February 2024

Proudly Sponsored By :-

PAYNESVILLE BUSLINES 0418516405

	ns event with 2 pla	DALE TEAMS EV ayers or 3 to share pla will be determined by		Y FORM		
Date of Birth:		Gender:	Age	e at 1* th February 2	202(:	
			Given Names:	-		
			Mobile Phone N	o:		
Email Address:						
Emergency Conta	ct Name:					
Relationship:			Phone No:			
IMPORTANT: Plea	ase fill in all the de	etails of vour current p	ennant team, grade an	d position.		
	Midweek		Country		sters	
League						
Grade						
Position						
Club						
	nnant is not autom	natic membership – se	ee conditions)	YES:	□ NO:	
ARE YOU AVAILA	BLE TO PLAY FR	CIDAY NIGHT?		☐ YES:	□ NO:	
(We need as many	as possible to pla	ay Friday night – matc	hes start at 7.30pm	Time Availabl	e:pm	
V	on-Members MSA Members 5+ Tournament player		Financial Members only) 25+ Financial Members only)		
PLEASE COMPLETE:						
	ntry Fee:			Entry Fee: \$		
	inner:		No. attending	Dinner: \$		
	ourtesy Bus:		No. attending	Courtesy Bus: \$		
V	MSA Membership:	\$25 if due (check due d	late on website)	/MSA Membership: \$		
				TOTAL: \$		
			ease specifys of the tournament cor			
Signed:		Date:				
Send	Email tourname	nts@vmsasquash.com	leill, VMSA, PO Box 76 <u>n.au</u> Please do not se day 8th February 2	end cash by mail.	163	
My preferred metho	od of payment is:					
🗌 Visa 🗌 Mas	tercard Direc	ct Debit BSB 6330	00 A/c 130422223 Re	eference: < <i>eg</i>	YOUR NAME >	
Card Number: _		I	I	I		
Card Holder's Nar	ne (please print)	:	Expiry D	ate:		
Signature (Card H	older Only):		Paymen	t Amount: \$		

