



# Tasmanian Masters Squash

Edition 32. September 2023

Annie Baker - Editor  
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Tasmanian Masters Squash

<http://www.tas.squash.org.au/w/masters>

*Merry Christmas  
and a happy and  
safe New Year  
for 2024*



**2023 COMMITTEE** • President - Andrew Koerbin. P: 0474 003 635. E: [andrew\\_koerbin@hotmail.com](mailto:andrew_koerbin@hotmail.com)

• Vice President Up for grabs	• Secretary/Publicity Officer Gaye Mitchell	• Treasurer Glenn Tremayne	• Tournament Director Michael Brown	• Newsletter Annie Baker
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• Committee Wendy Ashley, Elaine Boxhall, Sandra Fogarty, Garry Hulme, Alira Jackson.



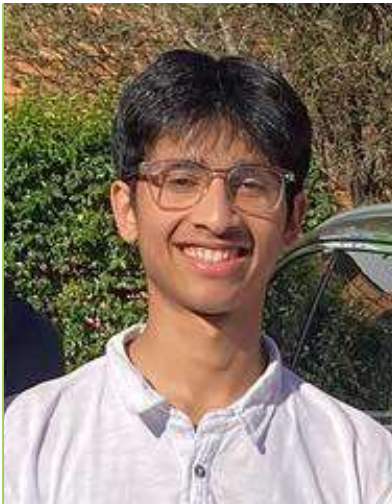
# PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

As usual the end of the year comes around quickly and we are all often happy to have a rest for a few weeks to enjoy the sunshine and participate in summer activities. For many this has been a long year, with injuries lasting many months and quite a few surgeries as well. It has been good to see many finally get back on court after a few setbacks

We have a number of Tournaments lined up for next year, some of them being a bit earlier than normal. The Australian Masters Championships are in Canberra in September 2024 and I would encourage you all to consider making up a big Tasmanian contingent to take on the rest of Australia in the national capital. So much to see and do in Canberra as well.

Have a good break and see you all in 2024, fit and ready to belt that little rubber ball around the court.

Andrew



## ASHANK GUPTA

Although Ashank is not a master, we support our juniors and we wish him all the very best in his upcoming tournaments in Edinburg and Birmingham.

**26 December-30 December: Scottish Junior Open, U17's @ Edinburgh.**

**31 December-8 January: British Junior Open, U17's with squash Australia, National talent squad members @ Birmingham.**

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# TMSA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

The TMSA annual membership fee of \$25.00 is due by 31st January 2024. Please pay this by direct deposit to the TMSA bank account.

**Tasmanian Masters Squash Association**

**BSB 632001**

**A/c: 100043193**

Please add "MSHIP+surname+initial" to the notes, e.g "MSHIPHulmeG".

## **Squash Australia and Squash Tasmania affiliation fees**

The TMSA has been affiliated with Squash Tasmania and Squash Australia since its inception. Among other benefits this gives members access to insurance against injury whilst playing squash, and is also a requirement of the Tasmanian Government when applying for grants, which is particularly apposite during our running of the Australian Masters Squash Championships.

Squash Australia has changed the processes for payment and disbursement of affiliation fees. Previously clubs would collect affiliation fees and pass them on to the State association, which would then pass on the relevant portion to the national association.

Individuals are now required to register and pay their affiliation fees, and optionally their club fees, to Squash Australia through the revolutioniseSPORT application. As outlined above the TMSA has decided to collect your membership fees outside of the Squash Australia system. To facilitate this the TMSA fee in the Squash Australia system is set to zero.

## **Registration**

If you are a member of a Squash Australia affiliated club, e.g. Eastside, Devonport, Kingston, Penguin, etc. you will receive instructions on renewing your membership and paying affiliation fees through the Squash Australia application, revolutioniseSPORT. Once you have completed club registration you should log onto the application again and register as a member of the TMSA. This will not charge any fee as your Squash Aus / Squash Tas registration will have been charged through your club registration, and your TMSA fee is paid separately as described above.

If you are not a member of another affiliated club, register on the Squash Australia application revolutioniseSPORT as a TMSA member. This will charge your Squash Aus / Squash Tas affiliation fees and register your Squash Australia and TMSA membership required to participate in TMSA events.

## **It's change, it happens.**

Squash Australia have decided to move to this national registration system to improve the management of member benefits and the organisation of Squash across the country. If you're a member of the tinfoil hat wearing community, you may imply other motives.

The other significant change is that Squash Australia has contracted the national squash rankings system out to a revolutioniseSPORT associate, SquashLevels. The transition from SportyHQ to SquashLevels has commenced, but SportyHQ will remain the rankings system, including registering Squash Australia events, until Squash Australia advise otherwise.



Garry Hulme

# Trans Tasman Test Series 2023

## AUSTRALIA V NEW ZEALAND AT WANAKA AND INVERCARGILL NZ (SOUTH ISLAND)

This biennial competition between Australia and New Zealand was held this year in Wanaka and Invercargill in the South Island of New Zealand. It was also held last year in NSW to bring it back into sync following Covid.

I was lucky enough to be selected in the team, with this being my 9th representation, making me the longest serving female on the team.

Sadly, we lost this test series 1-2 in the closest competition I have been involved in since I have been part of the team. Two out of the three test were equal on matches and we had to have a countback to games. I lost all three of my test matches, with two very tight five setters that I couldn't quite get over the line, though not for the want of trying. The New Zealanders are to be congratulated on putting up such a fierce battle and were well-deserved winners. Prior to this, of the 25 tests series played, New Zealand had only won 4 test series so, as you can imagine, they were very, very excited.

That same weekend NZ defeated the reigning world champions in the Rugby World Cup Semi Final and Paul Coll also won the US Open Squash so there was much celebrating!!

The first two tests were played at Wanaka, a beautiful lakeside town. The Squash Centre at Wanaka only had two courts but I think half the town squeezed in to watch the competition. The final count in these two test matches was:

### **First Test:**

New Zealand:	7 matches	29 games	483 points.
Australia:	7 matches	24 games	437 points.

### **Second Test:**

New Zealand:	8 matches	26 games	435 points.
Australia:	6 matches	24 games	439 points.

We then went on to Invercargill for the last test and to complete their national masters' championships. In Invercargill they used a four-court centre for the last test and then used that plus another four-court centre for their championships, which were played over three days with around 200 competitors.

### **Third Test:**

Australia:	7 matches	26 games	416 points.
New Zealand:	7 matches	24 games	427 points.

Sue Hillier from WA, representing Australia in the over 60W was outstanding, not dropping a set. Sadly, in the last match of the series Craig Brann from NSW, representing Australia in the over 45M was taken to hospital after snapping an Achilles tendon, but not before he won the necessary games to enable us to win the 3rd test.

In the New Zealand national masters' championships Australians to take out titles were:

### **Women's:**

Over 40 - Jane Kennedy (NSW)  
Over 55 - Sarah Nelson (NSW)  
Over 60 - Sue Hillier (WA)  
Over 70 - Gaye Mitchell (TAS)  
Over 75 - Marilyn Kennedy (QLD)

### **Men's:**

Over 50 - Jeff Bond (NSW)  
Over 65 - Jim Mobbs (QLD)  
Over 75 - Brian Cook (QLD)

Over this full week of squash I was lucky enough to see some fantastic squash and experience the wonderful hospitality of the New Zealanders. On the Friday night of their National Championships they did a Hangi for 200 people. This is a process where they dig a hole in the ground and make a huge fire and then place the meats in the ground for hours to cook it. Quite a sight to see and delicious meats!

# Trans Tasman Test Series 2023 - Cont.

Their squash centres are owned and run by their squash communities and it is good to see squash going so well in New Zealand, due in no small part to the work of these squash communities and many volunteers.

I would like to thank everyone back in Tassie who sent me messages of support and Tas Masters Squash for providing \$400 towards my expenses.



*Australian & NZ team photo*



*Craig Brann, our O45 rep who snapped his achilles after winning the game that we needed to win the 3rd test being picked up by the ambulance crew.*



**Australians who won age groups in the NZ national teams.**

*Left to right: Jim Mobbs (Qld) - O'65, Jane Kennedy - O'40, Marilyn Kennedy - O'75, Sue Hillier - O'60, Jeff Bond - O'50, Sarah Nelson - O'55, Gaye Mitchell - O'70, Brian Cook - O'75*



**Graeme Bradfield**  
**6220 2777**  
**[www.tlaw.com.au](http://www.tlaw.com.au)**





## Squash Australia Awards

Congratulations to our two national masters' players who won awards at the 2023 Squash Australia Awards held in Brisbane on 25 November 2023:

**Distinguished Service Award - Garry Irwin - NSW.**  
(Garry is on the Executive of AMSA).

**Masters Player of the Year - Sue Hillier - WA.**  
(Sue was the over 60s rep in the Trans Tasman Team).

# 2024 MASTERS SQUASH CALENDAR

## TASMANIAN

**Devonport, 2-3 March**  
Devonport Sports Centre

**Wynyard, 27-28 April**  
Wynyard Squash Centre

**Hobart, 21-23 June**  
Eastside Squash Centre

**Launceston, 5-6 October**  
Theogenes Sports Centre

## AUSTRALIAN

**Canberra, 2-13 September**  
Individuals 2-6 September  
Teams 9-13 September



[Tasmanian Masters Squash](#)



# 2024 AUSTRALIAN MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS - CANBERRA



**Individual Championships (2-6 September 2024)**

**Interstate Teams Series (9-13 September 2024)**

<https://squash.actmasters.org.au/2024-championships/>

If you are keen to participate in the Australian Masters next year, then check out the website by clicking on the above link. The website is very impressive at this early stage. There is information about every aspect of the two week event from venues, functions, accommodation, tourist information, calendar of events and so on.

There are two squash venues, the main one being Woden Squash Centre (8 courts) and Western Creek Community Centre (4 courts), and apparently only minutes away from each other.

**Accommodation - Pinnacle Apartments.** 11 Ovens Street, Kingston. Offering self-contained one, two, three or four-bedroom, comfortable, spacious apartments, with an outdoor pool, gym and barbecue facilities. This is where the majority of Tassie players will stay and it is recommended to book early as ACT Masters have indicated there will be high demand for this accommodation. The TMSA committee has made a decision to move away from booking and organising accommodation for our Tassie participants (as has been done in the past), so we are leaving it to participants to book their own apartments. Please feel free to speak to one of the committee members or email [quirkyannie33@gmail.com](mailto:quirkyannie33@gmail.com) if you have any queries.

Whether you are travelling alone, with friends or family, there are countless attractions for everyone - history, exploring, arts, markets, snowy mountains, food and wine and the beautiful displays of Floriade. It is the ultimate squash event.



## **FROM THE EDITOR - ANNIE BAKER**

I am always after interesting tid bits, news and suggestions to fill the newsletter and make it more interesting. Please contact me if you have any ideas, input, gossip, milestones, they will all be greatly appreciated.

[\*\*quirkyannie33@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:quirkyannie33@gmail.com)



# BALLARAT MASTERS

## 24-26 November

A very small contingent of Tassie Masters competed in the annual Ballarat tournament. There were 105 entries which consisted of four Tasmanian competitors. Matthew McConnell, Paul Brewtnall, Alira Jackson and Judy Fox.

Always a fabulous weekend with matches going into the late hours of Friday night and supper afterwards into the wee hours of the morning.

**Div 8.** Judy Fox was the winner of the consolation plate.

**Div 8.** Alira being her first Victorian tournament, had to wear the VIRGIN lanyard around her neck for the weekend. Although not winning any matches, Alira managed to win a few games and enjoyed herself immensely.

**Div 1.** Mathew McConnell was the winner of the plate carrying an injury throughout the tournament.

**Div 1.** Paul Brewtnall lost to Peter Gilbee in the final, but was beaten by the better player on the day. Look out in the future though, Paul doesn't give up easily and will be back with vengeance.

This is by far the best Victorian tournament of the year and sometimes up to 140 entries. The Victorians put on a great weekend with great prizes of racquets and bags sponsored by Steve and Lisa Walton from Squash.com.

Click on link for the Victorian tournament calendar for 2024.

<https://vmsasquash.com.au/uploads/files/General/AGM/2024%20Tournament%20Calendar.png>

