



# Tasmanian Masters Squash

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Tasmanian Masters Squash

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

## President's Rantings

The first order of business is to congratulate the QMSA on a well-run and enjoyable 2019 AMSA Championships. Your Tasmanian representatives acquitted themselves well, with several podium finishes in the individual and team events. Huge thanks to our sponsor, Strategic Financial Planning for their support of the Teams Meeting BBQ held on the Sunday commencing the Teams event. A special mention also to the folks who organised a light-hearted awards presentation, more about which I expect will be in this newsletter. I am sure there will also be photos of the evening boat cruise on Tim Shaw's boat, a generous and much appreciated highlight of the first week. I also appreciated mother hen's hard-won efforts in supporting the players and holding my hand at my first Championships as TMSA President. Top job Ross.

We will be expanding our tournament offerings next year with plans to hold three Tasmanian Masters Squash events. We hope that with plenty of advance notice, some publicity material, a promotional campaign across the AMSA members with an emphasis on Victoria, and your support, we will gain the numbers to make this a viable offering into the future. The tournaments will be registered AMSA events that qualify players for the Australian Championships. Titles and some other details are being finalised, but the events will be;

- ♦ Devonport, 20-22 March 2020. The good folks at Devonport are keen to utilise their centre now that new heating is operational, and the club rooms refurbished.
- ♦ Hobart, 3-5 July, The Tasmanian Masters Squash Championships.
- ♦ Launceston, 28-30 August. Many of you will already know what a great tournament Launceston arrange, with Pizza and karaoke likely to feature again.

In late-breaking news; on Monday evening 11th November the Clarence City Council voted to approve the proposal to purchase and lease-back the Eastside Squash and Fitness Centre. Along with all the other Squash groups reliant on Eastside for our continued enjoyment of our great sport, on behalf of the TMSA I want to express our gratitude to the hard-working group who put together the options for maintaining Squash at Eastside. These folks put in an amazing amount of thought, work, personal commitment and passion into achieving this outcome.

As we head towards the end of 2019, I want to thank you all for giving me the opportunity to preside over such a great association comprising such beautiful people sharing a passion for our wonderful sport. There are a few challenges facing the TMSA, not least being the need to present its members with value for their participation. That's your lot, so any feedback to Chris Bennett's subcommittee or myself on what might get eligible Squash players to join us is encouraged.

All the best for the various Squash finals, end of year celebrations and the coming festive season. I'd wish you a happy Christmas, but I can't abide Christmas, so I'll settle for a happy new year. Be safe.



*Garry Hulme, President*

### 2019 COMMITTEE

• **President** - Garry Hulme. P: 0439 000 391. E: [garry.hulme@gmail.com](mailto:garry.hulme@gmail.com)

• **Vice President**  
Wendy Ashley

• **Secretary/Publicity Officer**  
Gaye Mitchell

• **Treasurer/Tournament Director**  
Michael Brown

• **Newsletter**  
Annie Baker

• **Committee** Leon Barnett, Christine Bennett, Sandra Fogarty, Andrew Koerbin, Hayden Steele

# Trans Tasman Test Series 2019



The Trans Tasman Test Series against New Zealand is held bi-annually. This year it was held in Timaru (about 1.5 hours drive below Christchurch). Timaru is a coastal town similar to Devonport. There have been 23 series between 1984 and 2019 with Australia winning 19 to New Zealand's 4. Australia are the current holders of the Trophy. The 2019 series brings the two countries together for the 24th time.

One male and one female from each five-year age group from over 35 to over 65 is selected for the team of 14 players who play their counterpart from New Zealand. Tasmania was lucky enough to have two players selected for the team – Gaye Mitchell and Michael Brown (both in the over 65 age group).

Teams were:

Age Group Over	Women	Men
35	Kym Phillips (Qld) – 1st series	Brad Freeme (Qld) – 1st series
40	Melissa Martin (Qld) – 3rd series	Mark O'Hare (Vic) – 1st series
45	Sue Davis (Qld) – 4th series	Jeff Bond (NSW) – 3rd series
50	Sarah Nelson (NSW) – 4th series	Peter Bastow (Vic) – 1st series
55	Sue Hillier (WA) – 3rd series	Warren Miller (Vic) – 7th series
60	Anne Richards (WA) – 5th series	Kelvin Smith (Qld) – 3rd series
65	Gaye Mitchell (Tas) – 7th series	Michael Brown (Tas) – 5th series

Our hosts at Timaru Squash club were wonderful. The opening ceremony was a traditional Maori welcome and went for nearly 2 hours! We were welcomed in the Maori language and it was then translated into English. An amazing school girls' choir sang some traditional Maori songs. The custom is that the men sit down in front and the women stand behind which some of our men found uncomfortable because they thought the ladies should be sitting! Then each player from both teams individually was welcomed by each member of the welcoming party – this involved rubbing noses and foreheads when it was a traditional Maori person or rubbing cheeks if not a Maori born person. As you can imagine, this took some time. It was all finished off by the national anthems of both countries and then the game was on!

**The first test on Monday, 14 October resulted in a win to Australia 11 matches to 3.**

**The second test on Tuesday, 15 October resulted in a win to Australia 10 matches to 4.**

**The third test on Thursday, 17 October resulted in a win to Australia 11 matches to 3.**

From all of the above it appears to be an easy win to Australia but there were some very tightly contested five-setters which all fell Australia's way, but could easily have gone the way of New Zealand.

**Results of Gaye's three matches - 3-1; 3-1 and 3-2**

**Results of Mike's three matches – 0-3; 2-3 and 3-1**

All in all it was a wonderful battle between the two countries but there was also great camaraderie. We played in good spirit and then had a drink with our opponent following each test.

The next test series will be in Australia in 2021 at the Australian Masters Champs in NSW.

We would like to thank the TMSA for supporting us by providing \$300 each towards the cost of the trip. This is greatly appreciated as, even though all uniform is supplied, individuals have to cover trip and accommodation costs.

Gaye Mitchell



## Sub Committee Report

Our committee (Hayden Steele, Chris Bennett, Andrew Koerbin) has been discussing and meeting on a range of topics (and responding to feedback) in the last few months and have a number of EXCITING events planned for 2020!

First, we will produce a 2020 CALENDAR of dates of all upcoming events related to Masters Squash in Tasmania. Secondly, the MASTERS tab on the Tasmanian Squash website will be updated.

Following the successful use of the Facebook Aussie Masters Group this year, we will make the Tasmanian Masters FACEBOOK page active to be used to remind people of upcoming events, ask questions, enable people to contact each other - this will be the main way of communicating what is happening. A number of TOURNAMENTS are planned including Devonport and Launceston. We will TRIAL a couple of MINI-TOURNAMENTS at Kingborough and Parsons. We will hold at least one SQUASH CLINIC at Eastside covering coaching, umpiring and administration of the game. The SOCIAL aspects of getting together all Masters age players will be EXPANDED with regular events on the Facebook page. We also look to have a CENTRAL DATABASE of all eligible Masters age players to enable contact and communication (with player's permission to be included of course). In Masters tradition we also intend to continue to PLAY HARD and PARTY HARD!



Andrew Koerbin



Tasmanian Masters Squash



# ROSS & MARGARET BARNDEN'S WEST COAST TRIP



This is to thank the Masters committee and members for the trip to the West Coast Including the Par Avion flights, accommodation at Strahan Village and the Gordon River Cruise.

The day started early to arrive at the Cambridge airport and board our flight to Strahan. Margaret was very apprehensive with the 9 seater but did get on, then held the back of my seat for the entire flight. A small amount of turbulence until above the clouds. A good flight but not much view until we approached the Strahan airport.

We were met by a staff member from the Gordon River Cruises, dropped our bags at accommodation, then boarded the ferry, ushered to upper deck and welcomed with a bubbles.

Unfortunately Geoff Eyers was having a busy day and was not able to travel with us.

The cruise was brilliant, extremely informative, open bar, great food and the staff were wonderful.

I stayed on board at the 1st stop at the Landing and Margaret said how good it was. The Sarah Island walk was broken up to short stops which suited me as the experience was quite tiring.

The staff knew of my condition and gave me a pair of embossed stemless wine glasses with chocolates in them, got a bit emotional (Thanks Geoff).

After the cruise we went to our accommodation where I catnapped for 2.5 hours, then went to a Panto, "The Ship that never was". A great skit with audience participation.

The next day we went on the ABT Railway but unfortunately the steam train broke down and they used a diesel which could only go to Double Barrel and turn around. Not able to do the ABT System.

Half a day was better for me as I was tiring rapidly.

Friday was veg-out day then back to the Strahan airstrip for the flight home. Margaret, white knuckled the trip home as there was a bit more turbulence, but all in all a great flight.

Once again we both thank you for this experience. Taken just in time as I ended up back in Hospital on the next Sunday night. Since then my Chemo has been misbehaving so very lucky to have been able to do the trip.

Thanks again to Geoff Eyers for his role in setting this up and to the President, Secretary and Committee along with our whole Masters family.

Yours in gratitude  
Ross and Margaret Barnden



# Australian Masters Championships Gold Coast

It was a rocky start for some on Saturday 30th September departing from Hobart Airport. Flights had been cancelled, re-routed and delayed. Surprisingly Tiger Air was the only flight on scheduled time. So for some a 2-3 hour journey was a whole day experience.

All eventually arrived safely and settled into their accommodation. The Broadbeach area proved to be a fabulous location for shopping, restaurants and close to the beach and surf clubs.

Our first official function was the Welcome function at the Southport Yacht Club. A fabulous location overlooking the Marina on a beautiful sunny evening. After the official welcoming and speeches we all settled into a few refreshments, hors d'oeuvres and socialising.



Before we knew it, Monday was upon us and the courts awaited the Individual matches. We had 20 entries from Tassie and 294 overall from Australia, NZ and even Japan and USA. Results and photos on following pages. Unfortunately Bob Simmons was unable to complete the week and spent a few nights in hospital due to a serious eye injury. We hope to see him back on the court next year in Adelaide so he can win that Australian title that he is hoping for.

To break up the week there were various outings on offer such as the eight ball night, top golf and the Australian Outback Spectacular, which really was spectacular. Probably the highlight for us was a sunset cruise on board Tim Shaw's luxury cruiser. There were around 28 of us on board, it was a stunning night and Captain Tim took us to Stradbroke Island and threw in a beautiful Gold Coast sunset. It was a generous offering and we all thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Photos to follow later on in newsletter.

After the week of squash, Friday night was the Individual Dinner Dance at The Home of Arts - A night of wine, dining and dancing.

On Sunday 8th September we had our Teams Meeting and BBQ at the Mantra Sierra Grande. What a great night with nearly everyone attending. After our President finished his official duties of welcoming everyone and a debriefing of the week to come for new and old, a few fun awards were presented by Wendy and Chris. Garry Hulme - received a mask because he wore an ACT shirt on court as if being in disguise. George Kovacs - received a captains hat for winning all his matches. Jan Hopkins - The Imelda Marcos award as she stole someone else's shoes off the boat and didn't even know. Roy Baker - received a target to wear and Annie a water pistol as Annie is always saying "I'm gunna kill him". A lot of laughs all round, well done girls.

We even managed to throw in a few theatre nights at our hotel over the fortnight.





# Australian Masters Championships Gold Coast

## VIRGINS

Congratulations to our new players or Virgins as we call them - DEBORAH THOMPSON, PAUL BREWTHNALL, TIM SHAW, ANN HINE and MARGARET McLACHLAN. It is always great to welcome new players and hope to have a few more for next year in Adelaide.





# Sunset cruise on board Tim's Cruiser





# AUSTRALIAN INDIVIDUAL RESULTS



**WOMENS 65-69 OPEN WINNER**  
GAYE MITCHELL



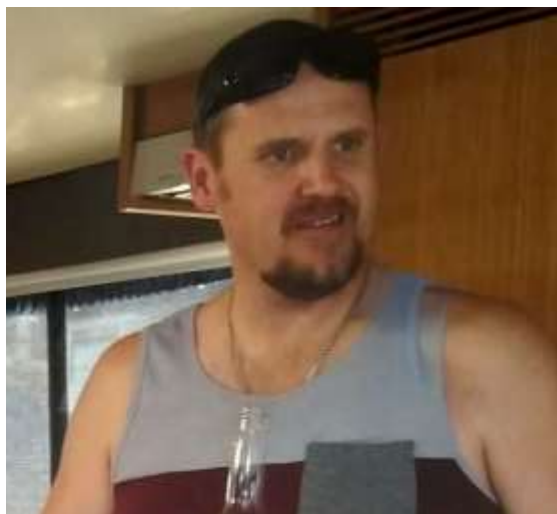
**MEN'S 65-69 DIV 3 WINNER**  
GEORGE KOVACS



**WOMENS 65-69 DIV 2 RUNNER-UP**  
CHRIS BENNETT  
**PLATE WINNER**  
JUDITH FOX



**MEN'S 65-69 OPEN RUNNER-UP**  
MICHAEL BROWN



**MENS 40-44 OPEN PLATE**  
PAUL BREWTNALL



**MENS 50-54 DIV 2 PLATE**  
TIM SHAW



# AUSTRALIAN INDIVIDUAL RESULTS



**WOMENS 70-74 DIV 2 SPECIAL PLATE**  
JULIE SMITH-KINGSTON



**WOMENS 70-74 OPEN PLATE**  
JAN HOPKINS

# AUSTRALIAN TEAM RESULTS



**TAS TEAM 9 DIV 20 WINNERS**  
LINDA PATTISON, LEON BARNETT  
RACHAEL ROBERS, MARGARET McLACHLAN



**TAS TEAM 2 DIV 3 WINNERS**  
TONY LAWRIE, TIM MELSOM,  
DARREN COWEN

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# Australian Masters Tournament Badge Presentations





# MONDAY MASTERS PENNANT

Monday night Masters at Eastside has continued fairly strongly throughout 2019. Numbers have ebbed and flowed between injuries, illness and, of course, holidays. Our Masters' retirees have enjoyed some fantastic holidays this year!

We have welcomed some new faces - Hayden, Tom, Will, Peter, Gerard, Brad, Peter, Mark, Ben and Stewart. It has also been great to have some past players returning. There is no doubt that 'squash is the healthiest' sport. As well as being good exercise, afterwards there is the opportunity for getting together in the clubroom. Chatting is healthy too!

Our last round of matches are on the 16th December. Remember to come dressed up in Christmas attire for a bit of fun, with Garry the exception.

On the 23rd December is our Christmas Dinner at the Waterfront Hotel at 7 pm. We have 42 so far. If you would like to join us, let Chris Bennett know. It will be a fun night, with a few surprises in store.

Thanks to Ross for being there. Thanks to Tony for his brilliant organization of the Pennants. Thanks to Cheryl for doing all the stats and emails every week. Thank you to Chris for being the voice and leading the chat in the clubroom.

We look forward to Masters continuing in 2020 and beyond.



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## THE IAN HOCKING MEMORIAL MEDAL

This medal is awarded to an individual for their outstanding services to Squash in Tasmania.

There is no one else that deserves recognition for their volunteer services in Tasmanian Squash more than Cameron, although he would argue differently. That is the sort of gentleman he is, very modest, humble and unassuming.

The 2018 Australian Masters Squash Championships were run from the Eastside Squash and Fitness Centre in September that year. In the lead up Cameron washed down and painted all 8 courts, got underneath the building and fixed the flooring and undertook extensive maintenance. Cameron helped Chris Doig immensely before his passing and afterwards, took over his role and with many other volunteers has helped keep the courts going. He also played a major role in securing the future of the courts with the Clarence City Council, with a team of other professionals involved in Squash.

Congratulations Cameron from all your Squash Family





## THE IAN HOCKING MEMORIAL MEDAL



Ian "Hock" Hocking was the driving force behind the establishment of Squash Rackets competition in Southern Tasmania.

He was the founder of the Southern Tasmanian Squash Rackets Association in 1960 and persuaded many players to become involved in the game and its administration.

Through the years, many would regard Ian as their mentor as he coached hundreds of young players, and his enthusiasm was instrumental in achieving the popularity of the sport.

It's unlikely that his number of State caps throughout the 60's and 70's will ever be surpassed, and most of these were as captain/manager. Later he led Masters' teams to Australian Championships throughout the 80's and 90's.

Whilst managing New Town Squash Centre, which incorporated the first Government Sponsored Tasmanian Squash Academy, and midway through his forty year "career", he became known to many as "Mister Squash". His respect as an Australian Coach resulted in several stints coaching top players and teams in Europe.

Earlier in his sporting career, Ian represented the State a number of times as a hockey player and showed his versatility and determination later as a serious pennant tennis player.

Ian helped attract Tasmania's first Australian Squash Championships to Hobart in 1965, which included a controversial South African Team during the Apartheid Period. Tasmania was the first State to televise the finals, where an 18 year old Geoff Hunt won his first Senior Australian Title, against the reigning Australian Champion Ken Hiscoe.

Some of Ian's on-court squash achievements included:

Tasmanian Champion	1963-64
Southern Tasmanian Champion	1961-68, 1972
City of Hobart Champion	1968-72
World Masters Champion	
Over 50	1985 Toronto
Over 55	1991 New Zealand (Captain of Australian Test Team)
Over 60	1993 Edinburgh
Australian Masters Champion	
Over 55	1988, 1992
Over 60	1993

Ian died on the squash court at the age of 75 in 2009, still giving his all in a Masters' Pennant Grand Final, respected by all who knew him.

The Ian Hocking Memorial Medal has been established by the Tasmanian Squash Rackets Association in memory of Ian, and to annually acknowledge the "Most Outstanding" Tasmanian players.





# 2020

TASMANIAN MASTERS SQUASH ASSOCIATION INC

## Calendar of Events

### TOURNAMENTS

**Kingborough Sports Centre, 28 February**  
Evening Lightning Tournament

**Devonport, 27-29 March 2020**  
North-West Tasmania Masters Squash Championships

**Hobart, 3-5 July**  
Tasmanian Masters Squash Championships

**Launceston, 28-30 August**  
Northern Tasmania Masters Squash Championships

### PLAYER DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

**Hobart 8 February**  
(with more to follow, tailored by demand)  
*Training techniques, Refereeing for dummies (and dummy-spitters),  
Administration (comps, tournaments, grading)*

For more information and contact details:  
<http://www.tas.squash.org.au/w/masters>





# Head To Poland In 2020

World Masters  
Championships  
**SQUASH**  
**23-29 August 2020**  
**WROCLAW**



## Join the Australian Team!

This is your opportunity to play for Australia – with a full Aussie kit to impress everyone in your local club and family, and a world travel experience that is unrivalled.

### The Championships

Every two years the World Masters squash championships are held as individual events for each age group, but with an overall point score championship for the large and small nation groupings.

In 2018, the Championships were played in Charlottesville USA with over 800 competitors. The Australian team with more than 70 came second to England in the large nation's competition. We don't want that to happen again.

### Am I good enough to play?

The individual championships in each age group are open to anyone to enter. In 2020, there will be local club players in each age group from Poland and surrounding European countries. If you are playing Masters competitively in your local competition or at the Australian Masters, you are certainly good enough. Plate systems apply, so you will have at least three matches, maybe many more.

Of course, most of the best players in the world over 35 will be there playing as well. Charlottesville saw Australian players such as Sarah Fitz-Gerald, Brett Martin and Sue Hillier carry on their squash careers by becoming world champion. In 2020, they could be your teammates.

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW](#)**

**[JUST TO RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION](#)**

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# 2020 SQUASH CALENDAR

## TASMANIAN

**KINGBOROUGH** Evening Lightning Tournament **Feb 28**  
**DEVONPORT** NW Championships **March 27-29**  
**HOBART** Tasmanian Championships **July 3-5**  
**LAUNCESTON** Northern Championships **August 28-30**

## VICTORIAN

**BAIRNSDALE** February 14-16  
**LILYDALE** Victorian Championships **April 17-19**  
**TEMPLESTOWE** Masters/Juniors **May 30-31**  
**BENDIGO** Individuals Event **July 10-12**  
**BALLARAT** Individuals Event **November 20-22**

## AUSTRALIAN

**ADELAIDE** Aust Masters Individual Championships  
**October 12-16**  
**ADELAIDE** Aust Masters Teams Championships  
**October 19-23**

## INTERNATIONAL

**WROCLAW, POLAND** World Masters Champs **August 23-29**

*Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe  
New Year to everyone*

