

IN THE SWING

SQUASH WELLINGTON NEWSLETTER



From the Chair

Nau mai, haere mai e te whanau. A warm welcome to all players and supporters who have come together for the 2021 Oliver Sport NZ Squash Champs. This is the 2nd time Wellington has hosted this event with the last time a whopping 50 years ago. Thanks to all the volunteers at host club Hutt City who have worked hard behind the scenes with SNZ to get the event ready.

A special mention to all the Wellington players: 13 of them will be participating including defending 2020 Men's Champion, Evan Williams. Make sure you head down to Hutt City to get behind the team!

Last weekend Khandallah hosted the 2021 Wellington Open. Big thanks to the team for all its hard work. Congrats to Kaitlyn Watts and Evan Williams, 2021 Champions.

Make sure you check out the Racketlon article. Well done to Matt, James and Tawa on getting a shiny new partnership initiative off the ground and sharing with us. Let us know if you have ideas SW can support you in realising.

Lastly, you may have seen a recent FB post offering sponsorship opportunities for our district activities. If you are interested or know of anyone, please check out our Sponsorship brochure.

ANN SMITH

This issue's
special feature:

**JUNIOR
RACKETLON
@ TAWA- 3**



Wellington's showpiece squash event

Pelorus Trust Wellington Open 2021

INCORPORATING THE KHANDALLAH OPEN

Fantastic squash was on show last weekend at the 2021 Wellington Open, with over 130 entries from across the country battling it out at Khandallah Tennis and Squash Club. All matches were played in tremendous spirit and to a high quality. It was great to have Kaitlyn Watts, Willz Donnelly, Anthony Lepper and Tamsyn Leevey join us this to showcase their skills. Tamsyn, a previous Wellington Open Champion (2002) has still got the touch. Welcome back to the circuit Anthony; great to see you back on court. Our own Evan Williams continued his run of fine form taking out the Men's Open. Huge thanks to the committee and members of Khandallah Tennis and Squash for being outstanding hosts. We cannot thank you enough.



Congratulations to our champions, Evan Williams and Kaitlyn Watts

JUNE 2021

HUTT CITY AT THE COUSINS SHIELD

DEVOY SQUASH AND FITNESS, TAURANGA



L-R Cambell Webster, Matt Nation, Jonny Barnett, Brian Taparau, Tohe Wanoa, Kayne Espinosa, Evan Williams, Scott Galloway. Possibly the shortest entrants out of all Cousins Shield and Mitchell Cup teams, ever

BY JONNY BARNETT, MANAGER

On the first weekend of June 2021, the Hutt City Squash men's team competed in the Cousins Shield competition held at the Devoy Squash and Fitness Club in Tauranga, this being the prestigious national premier (A grade) men's interclub event. HCS went into the tournament with confidence after finishing runners-up in 2019. We were seeded second in a field reportedly the strongest on record. Our full playing squad comprised Evan Williams, Jonny Barnett, Scott Galloway, Matt Nation, Kayne Espinosa, Campbell Webster and Tohe Wanoa. Brian Taparau was instrumental in coaching the team throughout the event, showing dedication and providing valuable advice when the lads needed a lift during their matches.

www.squashwellington.org.nz



Being serious athletes, we organised a training hit on Friday morning at the venue. Our first round opponent was Bye Squash Racquets Club, the dark horse of the comp of unknown origin, presumably the Chathams. However we saw off that potential banana skin with ease, allowing us to rest until the quarter final on Saturday morning. Huge shout out to Palace Burger Mt Maunganui for a great team dinner that night.

We opened our Saturday account against the Auckland glamour club, Remuera, who'd upset North Shore in their first round. We were confident going into the matches and it showed on court, winning the round 4 wins to 1. A special mention to Matt Nation and Campbell Webster for making their Hutt City team debuts.

The semi-final was a blockbuster 2nd/3rd seed tie against the home club, Devoy. The winner was decided by the smallest of margins after 4 hours of incredibly tight play and the crowd was electric for the duration. Unfortunately, we couldn't overcome their young squad and Devoy progressed to the final.

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Numerous competitors and supporters were gripped by the action from the stands and old timers believed it was the best and most exhilarating Cousins Shield matchup in 20+ years.

A massive thank you to our sponsors - ANN + BRYAN SMITH, MIGHTY OAKS, TALL POPPY, HOME SERVICES, AUTOMARQUE, SLAB ART and REAL STEEL for making this weekend possible and allowing us to compete with passion and pride on the national stage.

District News

SW Office News

It is with sadness that I advise of Willie Bicknell's resignation as Squash Wellington (SW) District Manager.

Willie has been with Squash Wellington for over 10 years and has been a valued adviser to many clubs and committees over that time. His institutional knowledge of our sport and District has also been valued by the current and previous Boards.

He has agreed to working out a 3-month notice period while we work through a recruitment period, with his last day being 1 October 2021.

Over the next few weeks, the Board will work through SW requirements and look to provide an update in due course.

We will also arrange a fitting farewell for Willie before his departure date. For now, if you have any immediate questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Ann Smith

SW Chair, on behalf of the SW Board

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Court: MacMurdo Time: 1pm

COUSIN SHIELD AND MITCHELL CUP TIE SHEET

21 Cousin Shield/Mitchell Cup Round No: FINALS Order of Play: 4, 2, 1, 5, 3

Team A	Team B	Winners scores in full To be written up Team A first followed by Team B	Winning team A or B	Match Score
ANDERSON	HUTT CITY			
nce Beddoes	Evan Williams	A 8 / B 11 : A 11 / B 8 : A 1 / B 11 : A 6 / B 11 : A / B	B	A 1 / B 3
o Fathalofa	Jonathon Barnett	A / B : A / B : A / B : A / B : A / B	A	A 3 / B 2
son Smiles	Scott Galloway	A / B : A / B : A / B : A / B : A / B		A / B
il Rossin	Matt Nathan	A 3 / B 11 : A 2 / B 11 : A 11 / B 9 : A 11 / B 8 : A 5 / B 11	B	A 2 / B 3
a Fathalofa	Kayre Espinosa	A / B : A / B : A / B : A / B : A / B	B	A 1 / B 3

HUTT CITY

Signature: _____ Losing Mgr/Capt signature: _____

PLEASE RETURN SHEETS TO TOURNAMENT CONTROL AS SOON AS COMPLETED

Draw Updated
Results Entered into iSquash

squash fitnesscentre

Squash Your Way

Squash Your Way was our social media-based squash awareness and promotion campaign which ran from March to May 2021. Its objective was to reignite – or create – awareness on the ground that squash exists, is pretty cool actually and works with different lifestyles. We targeted social media users in the Wellington region and provided links to local clubs for the people who followed through for further information. Those smart people were also eligible for our promotion, which was to win a prize pack of HEAD squash gear.

By the numbers

224,364 Times ad shown on screen

51,090 People who saw the ad at least once

926 Clicks onto the promotion link

492 Young adults clicking through

319 Females clicking through

248 Squash club information email subscribers

99 Clicks on behalf of families

21 Juniors clicking through

\$0.89 Cost to SW per click



Dannah Mercado receiving her Squash Your Way prize pack at Island Bay



Women's 800 Series: Mana Edition

The June event for the Women's Head 800 series was held on a miserable rainy day at Mana, but inside the atmosphere was anything but miserable! We had 28 energetic ladies taking part, including nine who were taking part for the first time. Lots of fun was had on court, with all divisions being extremely competitive. Thanks to everyone who took part and congratulations to our winners. The final in the series will be held at Khandallah on August 8th so make sure you don't miss it!



