

In the **SWing**

Squash Wellington Newsletter

THE 'CHAMPS WERE BACK IN TOWN

This edition of In the SWing is brief, and arriving in your inbox a little later than usual, as there has been a lot of 'doing' in the Squash Wellington world, and just not enough time to write about it! SuperChamps has been a big part of that, so read on to hear more about the weekend.

We are also excited to announce our Senior Representative Teams, as well as looking forward to the big district-comps which cater for both ends of the age spectrum.

Russell Henderson, SW General Manager



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PARTICIPATION

DISTRICT SUPERCHAMPS

One of our favourite weekends of the year, and I'm sure the same goes for many squashies, our District SuperChamps went off with a bang on the weekend of 28-30 July. We had great numbers this year, up a fair bit from 2022, with 52 teams entered, made up of 360 players. Over the three days, they played 105 ties, consisting of 525 matches!

B Grades – Hosted by Thorndon

Not only did Thorndon host B Grades this year, but they took out both the women's and the men's titles, taking teams to both top tier national SuperChamps comps in September. With just two women's teams, they played a closely fought straight final on the Saturday afternoon. The Thorndon men went unbeaten over the weekend, although there were plenty of 3-2 ties played with tough matches all round.



Women's B Grade

Thorndon W

Hutt City RU

Men's B Grade

Thorndon W

Masterton RU

Khandallah 3rd

Island Bay 4th

PARTICIPATION

C Grades – Co-hosted by Red Star (women) and Masterton (men)

The co-hosting worked well this year, with the two Masterton-based clubs working in sync to host some excellent squash, along with some fun social times at Masterton on the Friday night, and at Red Star on the Saturday night. It's something we will consider in future years, as the C grade and D grade comps are very big, and struggle to fit in one club.

The women's comp at Red Star was close, with Upper Hutt coming close with four wins under their belt but losing out to hometown ladies Masterton. Down the road at Masterton, there were close battles all weekend, with the top two seeds meeting in the final on the Sunday afternoon, and second seeds Mana taking the win.



Women's C Grade

Masterton W

Upper Hutt RU

Island Bay 3rd

Red Star 4th

Mana 5th

Hutt City 6th

Men's C Grade

Mana W

Thorndon RU

Masterton One 3rd

Island Bay 4th

Upper Hutt 5th

Martinborough 6th

Red Star joint 7th

Wainuiomata joint 7th

Masterton Two joint 7th

PARTICIPATION

D Grades – Hosted by Tawa

The D Grades competition was huuuuge this year, with ten men's teams and seven women's teams taking part. Tawa did a great job of hosting, especially with the challenge of such big numbers, which resulted in some exhausted men finishing the finals well into the Sunday evening. Club Kelburn men shocked everyone by ploughing through the whole weekend without dropping a single tie and taking out Island Bay in the final, who were delighted to be there, having played with four fit players all weekend.

Meanwhile, the Thorndon women notched up yet another win, with their club taking four of the eight titles this year! Red Star played amazingly over the weekend but couldn't quite do enough in the final.



Women's D Grade

Red Star RU

Tawa 3rd

Kāpiti 4th

Mana 5th

Wainuiomata 6th

Martinborough 7th

Men's D Grade

Club Kelburn W

Island Bay RU

Kāpiti 3rd

Martinborough 4th

Hutt City 5th

Tawa 6th

Thorndon 7th

Mana 8th

Upper Hutt joint 9th

Khandallah joint 9th

PARTICIPATION

E Grades – Hosted by Island Bay



Numbers were up this year for the E grade comp as well, which is a great thing to see, with plenty of players experiencing the unique buzz of SuperChamps for the first time. Island Bay were consummate hosts, as always, with a special mention required for the fantastic kai rolling out of the kitchen all weekend – such an important part of the experience, especially when players are required to play multiple matches in a day.

Kāpiti men pulled off an amazing feat, taking out Masterton in the final while keeping everyone on the edge of their seat (or bench) by taking it to the final match. In the women's competition, Thorndon once again came through, this time winning all four of their ties and, in doing so, winning their third out of four women's district titles (B grade, D grade and E grade). Hutt City were close runners up, with three wins over the weekend making them deserving silver medallists.

Women's E Grade

Thorndon W

Hutt City RU

Tawa 3rd

Wainuiomata 4th

Mana 5th

Men's E Grade

Kāpiti W

Masterton RU

Hutt City 3rd

Wainuiomata 4th

Mana 5th

Martinborough 6th

Island Bay joint 7th

Khandallah joint 7th

PARTICIPATION

Wellington Junior Open

Not long to go until the premier junior event of the Wellington squash calendar, with Tawa once again stepping as hosts straight off the back of holding D grade SuperChamps. Be sure to come down to the club to check out the rising stars of our district and give them the encouragement and support they need.



Wellington Masters

The Wellington Masters returns to the well-oiled machine that is Mana Squash Club this year, so make sure you get your entry in. As well as being the premier Masters event in our district, it also forms the final round of the Master of Masters series, so there is a lot at stake! We have two awesome sponsors this year, with Skillsoft and Yellowhammer joint-sponsoring the Wellington Masters, as well as joint-sponsoring the MoM series. If you're still on the fence about entering, I hear there will be bacon and eggs on the Saturday morning, and no doubt some fun times after the last rally of the night.

SKILLSOFT & YELLOWHAMMER PRESENT

WELLINGTON MASTERS

31 AUG - 02 SEP 2023	\$40 ENTRY AGES 35+ EQUAL PRIZES ACROSS MEN'S & WOMEN'S DIVS	BREKKIE SAT MORN SUPPER SAT NIGHT	MANA SQUASH CLUB
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PARTICIPATION

Senior Representative Team Announcement

Our Seniors will be flying up to Hamilton on the final weekend of August to take part in the NZ Inter-District Teams Championship. We wish them the best of luck for the competition. Evan Williams will be there as coach, as well as playing, of course (just can't keep that man off the court)! A special mention goes to Taylor Jones, who has stepped in last minute after initially selected Mackenzie Tait was called up to represent her country in the NZ Secondary Schools, who are crossing the ditch to compete in Sydney that week.

Men's Team

Evan Williams
Oliver Dunbar
Matt Green
James Thompson
Mike McCarroll
Jack Shearer (non-travelling reserve)

Women's Team

Maiden-Lee Coe
Abby Wotten
Ellen Verry
Hannah Grimmett
Taylor Jones



PARTICIPATION

World Juniors

As you will know, two of our district juniors travelled to Melbourne to represent Aotearoa in the World Juniors last month. It goes without saying that they met some incredibly tough competition from across the globe, and they each did well to finish where they did.

Maiden-Lee Coe: Last 64 and Consolation Plate Winner

Oli Dunbar: 53rd

Check out the Squash NZ Facebook page for more information, and also to find the hilarious and informative updates provided by the boy's Team Manager.

HEAD Women's E&Below & HEAD Junior 9Hundy Finals

The final round is coming up on Sunday 10 September, hosted by Wainuiomata. Come and cheer on our ladies, and stick around for the prizegiving, where final placings for the whole series will be announced, and prizes given.

The junior series comes to a close at Hutt City on 27 August. We have seen awesome numbers this year, especially at our 'double points' rounds at Wainuiomata and Martinborough. And of course, points mean prizes, so we will be dishing out some HEAD swag at the conclusion of the matches.

