



In Club

News from
Taylor Range
Country Club
Est. 1970

Taylor Range Country Club Ltd. A.C.N. 009 818 277, 28 Greenlanes Road, Ashgrove Qld 4060 Phone (07) 3366 1560 Fax (07) 3366 7430 SUMMER 2016

PRESIDENT'S COMMENT

A good start to summer at Taylor Range. Hot, fine days, busy pools, BBQs, squash and tennis with a lot of member activity. Our manager Mike and his staff have been busy with the start of the financial year and with new members as this is the time of year that shares change hands.

For the past few years, we have reached our full membership of 600 shareholders (and about 2400 members) somewhere around Christmas with a small waiting list building up in the New Year.

Last year, sales were a bit slow and we were not at full membership until late January so this year we have been advertising to move things along. One initiative was the Shop-a-Docket with Woolworths which gave a discount up until end December. So if you know any intending members when this newsletter goes out, tell them to use that process.

Note please that under our constitution, the Club is not responsible for selling the shares of departing members as that rests with the individual shareholder. Many shares are directly sold by members but the club facilitates sales by advertising & displaying the shares for sale in a list in the kiosk. If your share is listed, please think about whether you can sell it to someone you know.

Squash and tennis continue to get a good work-out. Squash Australia has been running an Ozsquash Academy on Saturday morning on our courts for juniors. It has been very successful and they are looking to extend it by having a training day during the week and possibly introducing junior competitions. It is a great way to maximise use of your Club membership for your family and squash is a very good exercise regime that can be followed for life. Our Squash Club is always keen for new members and can help with fixtures, social squash sessions, general coaching and casual squash. If you or anyone is interested in social or competitive squash, talk to Mike our manager or to Susan Hird who is the President of the Taylor Range Squash Club.

Tennis is also busy. The courts can be hired by non-members but lately, it has been hard for a non-member to get a court as members, who can reserve a court a week ahead, have taken to the courts enthusiastically. Tennis coaching is also available.

With summer coming, the pools are in high use and the top pool is looking spectacular as we emptied it and repainted it over winter. As many members know, we hire the pools to local primary schools during the day when membership activity is

low. We always keep one pool free for members and for that matter, one lap lane in the top pool. Not that many people use it while the kids are there as it is all a bit noisy. However it is good to have this sort of community involvement in the Club and it does promote membership when the kids tell parents about it and when the end of term parties are run.

While on the matter of community involvement, the CPL Respite group (Cerebral Palsy League) who are usually based up on the corner of Waterworks Road and Coopers Camp Road, had the need to find alternative accommodation while their centre was upgraded. It seems there are few wheelchair compliant function halls available locally and while Taylor Range is not compliant over the entire grounds, the hall, kiosk, toilets, kitchen and associated ramps as done in the latest refurbishment were ideal. CPL was with us for 10 weeks and were excellent "tenants" and indicated that they enjoyed the change. They moved out in early November, glad to get back to their refurbished premises where they didn't have to pack up every weekend.

Since our refurbishment, the function hall has become very much in demand. Our biggest drawback is that it is not air-conditioned. The board is keen to move on this but is progressing slowly (and prudently) as we need to live within our means and our recent refurbishments need to be paid down. Once the hall is air-conditioned, we think demand will be even higher.

And of course, the BBQs are busy and we need a few more of those and we will get there over the next few years. Our excellent deck is in high use and Elixir coffee from the kiosk is very popular. Mike's staff have all been trained and the coffee is both well priced and good.

The gradual upgrade and maintenance we have followed over the past decade needs to be continued to ensure we keep our facilities at a good standard. With careful management, we have done a lot of work while containing our debt to reasonable levels and the Club is well on the way to paying off its loans while keeping our fee increases as low as we can manage. The board has a list of projects that we would like to do but we need to progress as funds or the ability to repay become available. They include air-conditioning of the hall & possibly the squash area, upgrading the car park, re-surfacing the tennis court, solar power on the roof of the squash hall to drive the pool pumps, upgrading the old basket- ball court at

continued overpage »

»Continued from page 1

the back of the club, building extra BBQs, moving to town reticulated gas for BBQs and pool heating, upgrading the lights around the tennis courts and pools to longer life and brighter LEDs, upgrading the lights in the squash courts, various landscaping improvements: the list is long! We are obviously looking for government sponsored grants to assist in some of these but we will proceed on the key projects prudently.

One of these will be the car park. Last winter, we had discussions with our local Alderman Steve Toomey regarding our car park. As the land on which our cars are currently parked is mostly roadway, we need Council assistance in any improvement project. Alderman Toomey came down and inspected the situation with various council officers and decided that the Council's part of the parking area needed significant improvement. They proactively presented us with a proposal that would fit in with the creek crossing, ensure busses and cars can turn around, would define the boundary between Council and Taylor Range land and would improve the general finish of the roadway to the standards that should apply to an inner city road as well as provide 22-27 formal car parks. It looks good on the plans and is a great initiative. Taylor Range will wait until it is finished and then work out what sort of parking we can provide on our portion of the land. One of our members presented us with some useful sketches but we are restricted in what we can do as most of the Clubs land that side of the road is designated flood plain and cannot be filled.

The Council work is planned to be done before Christmas so there may be parking problems while this is going on and we may have to make available some temporary parking within the Club property. We will put up signs advising about this and an alert on our website.

Work on our website is progressing. Our current website is outdated and we had worked to build a new one with an IT Provider who went bankrupt and closed just as we were about to bring it up live. Unfortunately we had to start again but we are progressing towards a new version. Resources such as the Constitution and the new Club Rules will be there rather than in a paper copy in the kiosk.

We have a good team of directors; Sharon Webb as Club Secretary and Treasurer, Geoff James, Ken Carmichael, Tony Perkins, Jim Parsonage, Alistair Camm, Linda Devilee, Cathryn Lloyd, Andrew McQuarrie and myself as President.

There are 12 director positions available and we have two vacancies. If any member would like to have a say in the future direction and policy formation of the Club, please contact the Manager and then I will contact you. All positions are honorary and generally mean one meeting a month unless you get involved in a project or a sub-committee. Mike and the other staff do all the operational work and the board's interests are about finances, governance, policy and direction. It is good to have a strong board as the more ideas the better.

John Harvey

OzSquash

Squash Australia in collaboration with Taylor Range Country Club is piloting a new initiative to help make squash more easily accessible to children.

Squash Australia's OzSquash Program which has already been run successfully in many schools around Australia will be brought into TRCC to develop junior squash at the club.

OzSquash is a fun, play-based program designed to develop children's hand-eye coordination, striking and other sporting skills essential for squash, life-long health and wellbeing.

Some of Squash Australia's top 10 athletes have been organised to be the coaches for this program, generously giving up their time to help introduce more kids to the game.

Details:

- These sessions are currently being run on Saturday mornings at 10am and go for roughly 60 minutes.
- All children aged 5-15 are encouraged to come and give the world's healthiest sport a try.
- The program has been heavily subsidised by Squash Australia and will only cost \$5 per session, per child.

If you would like to support this initiative and have your children taught by some of Australia's best squash players, please email participation@squash.org.au to register your interest.

Jordan Till
Participation Coordinator, Squash Australia

WHAT'S ON AT THE CLUB?

SUNRISE YOGA

Monday 6.00am – 7.15am

Contact Bronwyn 0411 515 341

LAND BASED EXERCISE CLASS

Tuesday & Thursday 8.00am - 9.00am

& 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Contact Ruth 0401 492 340

AQUAEROBICS

Monday & Wednesday 7.45am – 8.45am

Contact Ruth 0401 492 340

Wednesday & Friday 6.00am - 7.00am

Contact Bronwyn 0411 515 341

CHRISTMAS SAUSAGE SIZZLE – COME ALONG!



Our hugely popular annual Christmas Sausage Sizzle is on Sunday 18th December, 10.00am-2.00pm.

The bouncy castle will be back – and yes, Santa is expected. He'll make a couple of appearances between 11.00am and 1.30pm, handing out ice-blocks and lollies!

There'll also be Face Painting and balloon bending to keep the kids occupied.

LIKE TO BECOME A DIRECTOR OF THE CLUB?

The club is a company limited by shares and is governed under the companies act. The honorary directors of the club have all the responsibilities applying in any normal company. Fortunately our business model is fairly straightforward and directors can understand and meet all their fiduciary responsibilities quite easily with the governance processes we have in place.

The workload is one meeting per month unless you get involved in specific projects. If you are a person with ideas for progressing or managing the club into the future, we would like to hear from you. While a vacancy may not be immediately available, we would like to have a list of interested people on file

If interested, leave a message at the office and John Harvey will call and answer any questions you have.

WATER SAFETY; YOUR CHILDREN ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

There's no better place to be than cooling off by the pool this time of year, but please remain vigilant at all times when children and water are concerned. We all know that it only takes a second for a tragedy to occur so please watch your children in the pool at all times. Parents are also reminded that all children under 12 years of age must be accompanied by an adult whilst using the club facilities. Let's make this a memorable Christmas for all the right reasons.

PLEASE ACCOUNT FOR YOUR GUESTS

As we enter our busiest period of the year please continue to sign your guests in on arrival. You can either use your visitor passes or pay casually. These payments help to ensure that our Club remains in tip-top condition for all to enjoy and keeps your fees as low as possible.

Remember, one extra book of ten passes can be purchased at the kiosk for \$40.00 or a book of 20 for \$70.00

Sporadic checks will continue to be carried out over the festive period to ensure that all guests are signed in. Thank you.

FAREWELL TRISH & WELCOME SERENA

After serving the club as your administration assistant over the past decade Trish decided to 'hang up her togs' and slide into retirement. Personally it has been a pleasure working with Trish over the years and the board, fellow staff and all members who knew her wish her well.

Serena has taken over the reins and has settled in well; please make her feel welcome when you cross paths at the club.

FANCY VOLUNTEERING FOR A WORKING BEE?

Once in a while it is necessary to have a purge around the club in order to assist staff to carry out daily duties more easily. If you have some spare time on your hands please send Mike and email trcclub@bigpond.net.au to register your interest. We are currently looking for assistance to regenerate the flora at the club entrance as well as tidy up areas of the creek bank. Currently we are targeting a Sunday morning in December/January (a date will be confirmed upon registering your interest).

MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Please be aware that office/kiosk hours are limited over the Christmas period with the office and squash courts remaining closed on the public holidays. Opening hours are published on the kiosk window. Although squash court availability is affected by these hours, the pools, tennis courts and BBQ areas are available on a pre-booked/first come basis.

If an emergency occurs outside of office hours, an on-site staff member is in the cottage at the rear of the squash courts. An emergency phone contact list is also in the kiosk window.

On behalf of all of the staff and the board, have an enjoyable festive season. If you're going away for Christmas, drive safely and we look forward to seeing you in 2017.

Mike Wilson
Club Manager

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