



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 2018

PRESIDENT'S COMMENT

There has been a good start to the new membership year and the Club is looking good. Hot days make for especially pleasant swims and great BBQs.

The pools are in great condition after some pipe work in spring, probably caused by shifting soil in the dry conditions. The early morning swimmers are busy, the schools have stopped for the year and its all summertime.

Tennis has been very popular with members and people often find it difficult to get court so using your member prerogative of booking a week ahead is a really good idea.

Squash is doing well. The Taylor Range Squash club continues to welcoming new members and the social squash group is busy. Competition players are always welcome and the club has been running programmes for juniors and new players. It is a great sport with lots of cardiac benefits so if anyone is interested in learning to play, playing social or competition, ask at the kiosk and our staff will put you in contact with the appropriate squash person.

As advised in previous newsletters, the club's board continues to monitor our finances closely and works to ensure the Club remains a financially viable entity. In particular we were concerned by the approximate 10% reduction in membership during 2015-2018. To counter this drop, the board arranged more advertising in local school newsletters, undertook a number of letter drops and staffed a table at The Gap shopping centre on two occasions. Similar activities will continue in future. This campaign has been effective in that there has not been a continuing drop in membership and at the time of writing in early December, we have managed to sell almost all the share memberships from members who are leaving. We expect more memberships to be taken up over the summer period.

While we have reduced costs where we can, reduced membership means less money to undertake upgrades and improvements which is a problem shared with all sporting and recreational bodies. To address this, the board formed a Strategy Sub-committee that has been very actively looking at all aspects of the Club's operations and presentation and has sought member advice in a recent email based Survey-Monkey questionnaire. From this survey, we have identified a number of members who are prepared to give specialist advice or serve on the board and so on and a few new ideas that we will try.

Broadly the conclusion of the recent work is that we have a good product but we need to present it more effectively and

foster greater member involvement. Also we should look at ways of refreshing our image which could mean altering our logo and improving our website to make it possible to do tennis and squash bookings on line. Another matter being explored is a change to the Club's name. While this may seem like a trivial matter, many Club's with similar purposes manage to obtain grants from various government related bodies. We do not. We have come to the conclusion that the Country Club in our title may well be a factor. So, a not so massive change would be to rename us as Taylor Range Club.

Still, the main concern is to increase membership and existing members can help here by promoting the Club to people whenever the opportunity arises. Small measures such as finding a person to whom you can sell your share when you leave will help. The Club provides a listing service whereby shares for sale are displayed in the kiosk and given precedence over any shares held by the Club. Word of mouth and personal contacts are the best approach.

The other matter that members could help with is that we need some marketing material showing families having fun; playing tennis, having a BBQ, squash, parties, swimming and so on. With your permission we could usefully put this on our proposed updated website. If you have some photos that you think would display the Club at its best, then drop Mike an email at Taylor Range trclub@bigpond.net.au and he will advise you how best to get quality images across using a Dropbox folder.

As is obvious, we have a good & active team of directors; Sharon Webb as Club Secretary and Treasurer, Geoff James, Ken Carmichael, Tony Perkins, Jo Carey, Jim Parsonage, Alistair Camm, Cathryn Lloyd, Andrew McQuarrie, Leon Drewe, Lionel Poustie and myself as President.

There are 12 director positions available and all are full. A number of members have flagged their interest in serving on the board during our recent survey and I will drop you all a note in the near future and again when a vacancy arises to follow up. My thanks for this as a strong board is a good thing and new members bring new ideas.

In conclusion, Merry Christmas to all members, please enjoy but be safe

Regards

John Harvey

CHRISTMAS SAUSAGE SIZZLE – COME ALONG!



Our hugely popular annual Christmas Sausage Sizzle is on Saturday 22nd December, 10.00am-2.00pm.

The bouncy castle will be back – and yes, Santa is expected. He'll make a couple of appearances at 11.00am and 1.00pm, handing out ice-blocks and lollies!

There'll also be Face Painting and balloon bending from midday to 2pm to keep the kids entertained.

WHAT'S ON AT THE CLUB?

SUNRISE YOGA

Monday 6.00am – 7.15am

Contact Bronwyn
0411 515341



AQUAEROBICS

Monday 7.45am – 8.45am

Contact Ruth 0401 492340

Wednesday & Friday 6.00am - 7.00am

Contact Bronwyn 0411 515341

DEEP WATER RUNNING

Wednesday 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Contact Ruth 0401 492340

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.

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 (18 +) whilst using the club facilities. Let's make this a memorable Christmas for all the right reasons.

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 trclub@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 the area adjacent to the basketball court. Currently we are targeting a Saturday/ Sunday morning in February (a date will be confirmed upon registering your interest).

CLUB SURVEY

Thank you to all of the members who were able to complete this year's survey, there was a 30% response rate. The results and feedback were most encouraging and it offered an insight into what you currently think of the Club and which direction you would like to see the Club move in going forward. Here are some of the results from the survey.

- 93% of respondents are very satisfied/satisfied with membership.
- Over 50% of members use the Club at least once per week.
- Over 70% of members regularly bring guests to the Club. Don't forget to let them know that we currently have memberships available, the more members we have the more we can do to improve the facilities.
- Only 20% of respondents have used the function hall. This area was renovated several years ago and makes an excellent venue for kids parties, older birthdays (no 18ths), anniversaries or any occasion. Members can book the venue at a discounted rate to that of non-member bookings.

- The majority of members want to see a continued move to more online communication, including booking systems. This is one area that has been earmarked for development in the short-term.

- Having a gym was a popular suggestion but whilst this is desired it would involve a great deal of capital expenditure and liability issues which would also effect insurance premiums. Although not disregarded, if a gym were introduced it would be in the Club's medium to long term planning.

- The introduction of more social events/classes was also a very popular suggestion. A sub-committee has been set-up and has already met on several occasions to push forward with plans for scheduling more social events. Currently being discussed are events such as; family/kids movie nights, big sporting occasion screenings (e.g. State of Origin), annual open day and food van/truck afternoons/evenings.

WHAT'S NEW AT THE CLUB?

Hi everyone,

Allan Say here and I am the owner and director of Pro-Am Tennis. I have been the Head Coach at Marist college Ashgrove for 15 years and we also run lessons at Ithaca Creek State School and Hilder Rd State School.



I am now available for tennis lessons at Taylor Range Country Club also. We specialise in private tennis lessons from absolute beginner right through to and including high performance nationally ranked players. Children of all ages and right through to adults.

We don't mind what level you are at, WE WILL TAKE YOU TO THE NEXT LEVEL!

Special private lesson price over the holidays:

1hr private lessons normally \$110, now \$95!

If you have a group of friends that would like a lesson together, then we are happy to conduct group lessons or semi-privates (2-3 people) as well.

We supply the equipment, we agree on a time/day, you book the court and we get started on your tennis journey!

Please visit our website or feel free to ring or email me to book in.

Hope to see you on court soon!

Thank-you.

Regards

Allan

Director, Pro-Am Tennis Academy

0408 766 882 | Brisbane, Australia

allan@proamtennis.com.au | proamtennis.com.au

SQUASH

As you walk past the squash courts you will notice that there are so many people still playing this great game. Did you know that there are plenty of different avenues to play apart from having a hit with your friend?

Firstly there are fixtures. Fixtures are run Monday, Tuesday & Thursday nights and Friday morning. Fixtures provide you with the opportunity of playing in a graded competition against other clubs from the north side of Brisbane. If you would like to join a team, or even just be available as a fill-in, please call the club.

Wednesday night is social night. With two sessions; 6.00pm till 8.00pm and again from 8.00pm till 10.00pm small bands of eager players come along for a hit. There is no pre-booking involved... just turn up.

Thursday morning is social squash at its best; good squash plus morning tea (bring a plate to share.) As you can see whatever level you are at, there are many avenues available for you to continue playing squash...or maybe taking it up again. Please call Mike at the club or Susan Hird (Squash Club President) on 3351 2243 if you need any more information about squash.

Taylor Range also has Junior squash practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays (4pm-5pm) and Saturday mornings (10am-11.30am) Two Taylor Range junior teams also play competitive fixtures on Saturday mornings. Junior practice is run by Oz Squash. For more information on any aspect of junior squash contact Jordan at participation@squash.org.au or jtill@squash.org.au

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 2019.

Mike Wilson

Club Manager

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