

# Courtside August 2010

## SPRING GULLY TENNIS CLUB

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### **Announcing the Gary Russell Pavilion**

Some time ago the committee of the Spring Gully Tennis Club decided to honour Gary's exceptional contribution to the club by naming the new clubhouse after him. For many years Gary Russell has worked tirelessly to run many club activities, manage the courts and maintain the surrounds. The success of the club has, to a large extent, been built upon his efforts, and we are glad to have the chance to properly acknowledge his contribution.

### **Construction of Gary Russell Pavilion Now Underway**

Work has commenced on the construction of the long-awaited clubhouse. For the next few months players will need to negotiate a construction site to access the courts. For a few months of inconvenience, we will gain a wonderful building. The project is being generously funded by the City of Greater Bendigo and the Victorian government, with the club also committing \$50,000.

### **Court Lighting: Interim Power Arrangements Temporarily Restrict Access**

The controls for court lighting have been located in the power box which will service the site during the construction process. Powercor requires that access to this box is restricted, and has only provided the club with one key. This means that use of lights for private court hire will not be possible for the next few months. We regret the inconvenience.

### **2010 AGM and Election of Club Officers**

The 10 August AGM saw the re-election of the existing executive, with some club members also joining the committee for the first time. The committee for 2010-11 is:  
President – Deborah Simmonds  
Vice-President – Vic Tuckerman  
Treasurer – Graeme Roberts

Secretary – Ardel Shamsullah

Manager Night Competitions – Gary Russell

Club Coach – Jack Baker

Jason Osewald

Paul Lapham

Hally Wild

Roy Bateson

Len Coulson

### **Annual Club Membership Fees Rise To Incorporate Tennis Victoria Affiliation**

Members may recall that, when the club affiliated with Tennis Victoria last September, membership fees were not lifted to accommodate the \$24 (\$72 family) Tennis Victoria levy. That has been addressed this year. The committee is committed to keeping charges as low as possible, but the fee increases are unavoidable, given the impact of the Tennis Victoria *per capita* levies. Spring Gully annual memberships remain lower than comparable clubs. SGTC membership fees for 2010-11 will be:

Adult membership: \$70

Junior membership: \$40

Family membership: \$140

Allowances are made for members of more than one tennis club (see membership application form).

### **Playing Charges Reduced For Members**

In 2009 playing charges were lifted by \$1 to help cover the Tennis Victoria impost. With the membership fee increases imposed this year, we have returned playing charges to pre-existing levels: namely, \$5 for night competitions and organised social sessions (Saturday afternoons and Tuesday evenings). Non-members will continue to pay \$8. This will mean a \$3 discount for members each time they play, enhancing the attractions of club membership.

### **Gradings Day and Tournament for Juniors on Sunday 12 September, 10am-1pm**

Jack Baker, the club coach, will oversee the gradings process for those interested in playing in Spring Gully teams in the BTA

summer competition. Junior members and prospective members should bring their racquets and have a hit. A fun tournament will be organised for the afternoon for those interested in participating. Club memberships may be taken out on the day, and a sausage sizzle will be provided.

#### **Night Competitions Resume 30 August**

The night competitions kick off on Monday 30 August, with the Wednesday and Thursday competitions starting in the same week. There are still openings for more teams on Thursday nights – contact Gary Russell on ph. 54471445.

#### **Tuesday Nights To Be Run as 'Social' Tennis**

The Tuesday mixed doubles competition has been discontinued, to be replaced by a 'social' tennis evening beginning Tuesday 7 September. Members are encouraged to attend. The night social sessions run over the winter months were highly enjoyable, and the Tuesday night 'social' promises to be great way to play good tennis without the regular weekly commitment of the night competitions.

#### **BTA Summer Competitions – Junior Pennant Commences 8-9 October, Senior Pennant 2 October**

All players in Spring Gully teams **must** be current club members. BTA team registration fees should be paid direct to the BTA at the start of the season. These fees are \$105 per team (senior) and \$30 (junior).

#### **Tennis Victoria Appoints Jessica Hartland as Community Tennis Officer**

Jessica Hartland, a long-time member of the club, and an outstanding player in Spring Gully teams in the summer pennant over several years, has been appointed to promote tennis and assist clubs in the West Victoria region, based at Sports Focus in Bendigo. We welcome her to the role.

#### **Tennis Victoria: Speedy Registration Via 'MyTennis' Program**

Jessica has helped the executive to establish a Spring Gully presence in Tennis Victoria's

membership management system. This should enable immediate coverage and the rapid delivery of benefits, such as ticket deals for the Australian Open and the Tennis Victoria personal accident insurance policy. We intend to enrol our members in 'My Tennis' within a matter of days of receiving membership applications.

#### **Spring Gully Webpage**

The club has a fine, professionally-designed webpage up and running at [www.springgullytc.org.au](http://www.springgullytc.org.au) thanks to the efforts of Jason Osewald and his colleagues at BMP. We intend to make increasing use of the website to communicate with members and the broader community. Club officials may also be reached via email through the site. Regularly check out the news posted on our webpage in the coming months.

#### **Coaching – Club Coach Jack Baker**

Jack is offering coaching at the courts throughout the week, day and evening. If you are interested in tennis coaching - all ages and abilities catered to, individually or in small groups - contact Jack Baker mob.0437900824

#### **Court Hire Arrangements**

Neville and Millie at the Spring Gully General Store will continue to assist the club to provide access to the courts from Monday-Saturday. Book a court through the store and pick up the keys from there also. Please return keys promptly after use. Phone **Spring Gully General Store**, 5443 8933. The Store is open Monday-Saturday 7am to 6pm.

For **Sunday** court access, **Spencers Café** in Carpenter St, Quarry Hill, will provide keys to **members only** (on presentation of a current membership tag).