

SQUASH WA NEWSLETTER: OCTOBER 2023





CONGRATULATIONS OSCAR Curtis

Australian Junior Mens Champion 2021-2022-2023



WELCOME





My hat goes off to **Tim Cowell** and **Leigh Kaye** for taking charge of the WA Junior Squash Team this year. I met up with them following the first day of competition for a Pizza Night. Tim has a young family and Leigh is the GM of Squash WA so to take time out of their busy schedules and commitments to help others is highly commendable ... they don't have their own kids involved so that is why I highly respect what they are doing.

I did it for 12 years and I know exactly what is required and how taxing the role can be. You coach all day, ferry kids to and from the courts, keep an eye on their whereabouts and welfare and then deal with various emotional roller coasters - the highs and lows of junior squash! You then go back to the units and unfortunately you can't just simply switch off - everyone has to be fed, there are team meetings and discussions and then the dreaded laundry and clean up! And one does that for 7 or so days. I must be mad but I miss those day immensely!!!

Below are photos from the Cambridge Junior Teams Event. First up was the Sportsmanship Awards: Chelsea Hawke, Eli Burdon and Jerome Tan were duly recognised. The Best and Fairest Awards were won by Millard Chong (absent for presentations) and





BEHIND THE SCENES with Leigh Kaye

September was another HUGE month for squash in Western Australia.

The **2023** 'Country Week' Teams Championships held from 22 to 24 September attracted the highest number of teams we have seen since 2010. 236 players registered for the largest tournament in Australia - a 12% increase in participation from 2022's 211 players.

15 towns were represented from across the State (Broome, Bunbury, Busselton, Dampier, Esperance, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Karratha, Katanning, Leschenault, Mandurah, Manjimup, Moora, Narrogin, and Wongan Hills) forming 14 grades of teams. The Mens grades ran from A through to J, and the Ladies from A through to D. You can read more about the event and see all the photos further on in this edition.

Then before you could blink, the Junior State Team, along with coaches and carers, were on a plane bound for Brisbane, Queensland to compete in the Australian Junior Championships at Daisy Hill Squash Club. It was a fantastic experience for these juniors, that I have no doubt they will never forget. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed financially and/or by volunteering their time to make it all happen.

Oscar Curtis took out the top spot as the #1 junior in the country. **Hannah Slyth** finished 3rd in the GU19 event whilst **Domenic Christou** also placed 3rd in the BU13 draw. Again, results and photos can be found further on. Due to the size of these events and wanting to do them justice, we will be covering the teams event in next month's edition.

Squashathon 2023 kicks off this weekend with 44 juniors registered, a record for this fun event. The participants will take turns in keeping a ball in play for 24 hours, from 2pm Saturday until 2pm Sunday. We've already raised over \$1,500 for junior squash initiatives, and welcome further donations via the website's Squashathon page here: https://squashwa.asn.au/squashathon/

A huge amount of progress has been made with the ladies change room upgrades here at the State Centre in Belmont. While they're not quite finished, they are looking fantastic already!







Lastly, we have confirmed the location for the 2023 WA Closed - Squashworld Mirrabooka! You can enter now via Sporty HQ here:

https://www.sportyhg.com/tournament/view/2023-WA-Closed-S.

BEHIND THE SCENES with Leigh Kaye



As with the WA Open, we have designed a tournament shirt available for purchase via the website for \$44. Orders received after 15 October 2023 will not arrive in time for the event.

Please also start nominating the wonderful people in your clubs as the Annual Awards Night takes place on the Saturday night of the WA Closed at Scarborough Sports and Community Club. Tickets can be purchased via the SportyHQ tournament sign up process, or by visiting the Squash WA website shop (https://squashwa.asn.au/shop/), where you can also purchase your tournament shirt.



| Fuel | to | Go | & | Play |
|------|----|----|---|------|
| | | | | |

| As at 30 September 2022 full year | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|-----|-------|--------|--|
| Club | Adult Junior Adu | | | Junior | |
| Esperance | 123 | 17 | 100 | 6 | |
| Mirrabooka | 97 | 42 | 118 | 31 | |
| Blue Gum | 96 | 15 | 82 | 21 | |
| East'n Goldfields | 91 | 20 | 81 | 6 | |
| Vic Park | 79 | 15 | 89 | 17 | |
| Kununurra | 77 | 6 | 73 | 6 | |
| Broome | 72 | - | 51 | 2 | |
| Mandurah | 74 | 14 | 63 | 9 | |
| Bunbury | 64 | 3 | 51 | 2 | |
| Belmont | 56 | 14 | 69 | 8 | |
| Busselton | 51 | 17 | 49 | 2 | |
| Marmion | 46 | 27 | 41 | 28 | |
| Geraldton | 46 | 6 | 59 | 7 | |
| Katanning | 40 | 3 | 29 | 3 | |
| Narrogin | 40 | 1 | 54 | 3 | |
| Karratha | 39 | 8 | 41 | 3 | |
| Cambridge | 38 | 9 | 51 | 16 | |
| Leschenault | 37 | 4 | 39 | 9 | |
| Manjimup | 35 | 2 | 25 | 2 | |
| Wickham | 30 | 8 | 35 | 6 | |
| Dampier | 22 | 170 | 24 | 2 | |
| Hilton | 12 | - | 18 | | |
| Moora | 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Madd/Gosnells | 9 | 8 | 12 | 10 | |
| Kensington | 9 | - | 13 | | |
| Subi-Kings | 8 | 1-1 | 1 | | |
| Wongan Hills | 4 | - | 4 | | |
| Totals | 1,305 | 240 | 1,273 | 200 | |

2023 Registered Players

Your quick guide to squash events being held in WA in coming months:

| 2023: October to December | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------|---|-------------|----------|----------------|--|--|
| OCT | 7 - 8 | Junior Squashathon: 24 hours: 2pm to 2pm | Junior | | Mirrabooka | | |
| ОСТ | 13 - 14 | Cambridge Open | Senior | | Cambridge | | |
| OCT | 27 - 29 | Busselton Invitational | | | Busselton | | |
| NOV | 11 - 11 | Code v Code <i>Teams</i> Event | | | Belmont | | |
| NOV | 17 - 19 | Great Southern Wheatbelt <i>Teams</i> Event | | | Katanning | | |
| DEC | 1 - 2 | WA Closed | Senior | | Mirrabooka | | |
| DEC | 1-2 | WA Closed | Junior | Silver | Mirrabooka | | |
| DEC | 2 - 2 | WA Annual Awards Night | Scarborough | Sports & | Community Club | | |
| DEC | 10 - 10 | Belmont Junior Tournament | Junior | | Belmont | | |













Thanks Tim Cowell. This year was the 5th year of running the Cambridge Junior Teams tournament, taking place on the 16th and 17th September. The build up was positive, Marmion lodged 6 teams, Mirrabooka had heaps and Cambridge's numbers were building. Busselton indicated early they had a novice team pumped up and keen to test their stuff in the novice division.

A few late withdrawals, some swapping of players, some even later withdrawals and finally the last 4 players added the night before gave us 20 teams and 60 entrants. The novice event took place on Saturday arvo; red dot ball, close enough is good enough on the serve and plenty of supervision for both players and the new parents experiencing their first event. The results; lots of fun, some keen kids for future events and a win to Cambridge with Busselton coming 2nd.

The main event also kicked off with round 1 for most divisions taking place Saturday afternoon with the tournament finishing on Sunday afternoon. We saw some impressive squash, especially from first timer who only started at the Cambridge program 2 weeks prior to the tournament, having a monster 5 setter against Antonin from Mirrabooka. Took out the female best and fairest award for her efforts across the weekend!

Jono from Marmion 1 had a rough start and had to pull out of the event with illness. Fin Galt (in his first tournament for a few years) reached out to good mate and history making, former state team mate Jaxon Wells (part of the first WA team to win the AJC teams event) to fill in. Somehow one of the shirts he traded for in 2018 still fitted him, although it was more muscle T than loose fitting! A few cobwebs early but he found some touch for the rest of the event.

The every point matters mantra also was 100% relevant, with the final match of the event in Division 1 coming down to the wire for 2nd place. The end result, 7 games all, 2 matches - 1, 137 points to 136, Mirrabooka's way over Vic Park! Can't get much closer than that!

As for our own Cambridge teams, a great result in the Novice grade, but found it tough going in the other

divisions. It was great to see a few of them playing an event for the first time and even better to hear them post tournament at how keen they are to play more events.

A big thanks to tournament sponsors Dunlop, The Racquet Shop, Squashworld Cambridge and The Cambridge Squash Club for their support.

Thank you to Amos and the crew for the delicious canteen snacks and of course tournament Ref Luke Jamieson for keeping things under control (in his words, it was a boring event as tournament ref as everyone was really well behaved!)

Division 1

W Marmion 1: Finlay Galt, Mathys Edery, Jonathan Groenewald, Jaxon Wells RU Mirrabooka 1: Luke Jamieson Jr, Jaden Huynh, Charlie Richardson

Division 2

W Mirrabooka 2: Millard Chong, Josh Reeves, Hayden Knox RU Marmion 2: Sydney Ennis, Jessica Jellis, Laney Rawling

Division 3

W Marmion 3: Evie Clark, Ruby Foo, Emmy Dunstan RU Marmion 4: Indigo Stapledon, Eli Burdon, Liam Cunningham

Division 4

W Mirrabooka 3: Antonin Cerny, Millie Rouse, Lillian Gallemore RU Marmion 5: Chelsea Hawke, Brielle Jackson, Olivia Lynch

Division 5 (Novice)

W Cambridge Novice 1: James Kuo, Rafael Bathurst, Theodore White RU Busselton Novice 1: Lucy MacKenzie, Leo Ferguson, Oscar Callegari

Cambridge Junior Teams











1-2 DECEMBER

@ SOURSHWORLD AIRROBOOKA



SOUASH WA

SQUASH WASTARS GALA
SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER
e scarborough sport acommunity club





Thanks Tim Cowell. It almost feels like the AJC has been and gone in the blink of an eye. It was six days of nonstop squash which for some was a pretty brutal week, physically. Leigh and I are pretty proud of the group with the way they went about things, there were some pretty inspirational efforts over the week.

It was acknowledged several times whilst away, the contribution that Oscar Curtis and Caitlin Pratt have made over many years in the team as they played their final junior teams event. Fingers crossed that we get to see them represent WA again in senior competition at some stage.

From an individuals tournament perspective, congratulations to **Oscar Curtis** for his 3rd consecutive under 19s trophy. This is something very unlikely to be repeated anytime soon, so will be a record that will stand for many years. Hannah placed 3rd in the under 19s and Domenic blitzed through the draw to also finish 3rd in the boys under 13s. Awesome work to both of you too.

As far as the teams event result, we beat NSW and SA whilst losing to VIC and QLD. However, on their new scoring priority, we were equal points with NSW and slipped below them on countback as they won more matches, as we had more bonus points. In the end it was a 4th place finish (3rd if you want to take the 'Piers Morgan' moral victory!).

At the end we got together as a group and spoke about that, as a State, we have enjoyed the highs of winning the teams event in the past and that we would like to see us return to that point. It will take some time and plenty of hard work, but it is certainly possible.

| Australian Junior Championships : Brisbane 26 September - 1st October 2023 | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| Event: Winner: Runner | | Runner Up: | Third: | | |
| U19 Boys | Oscar Curtis WA | Andre Lynn VIC | Kenneth Lamb NSW | | |
| U17 Boys | Haider Naqvi VIC | Jackson Wylie NSW | Darcy Hayes VIC | | |
| U15 Boys | Kasper Cheung NSW | Marcus Wang NSW | Henry Kross NSW | | |
| U13 Boys | Kaveen Kohombange VIC | Thomas Wang NSW | Domenic Christou WA | | |
| U11 Boys | Kai Dumbleton QLD | Benjamin Boardman NSW | Grayson Coleman QLD | | |
| U19 Girls | Madison Lyon QLD | Courtney Scholtz VIC | Hannah Slyth WA | | |
| U17 Girls | Lijana Sultana QLD | Joanne Joseph VIC | Emmy Lamb NSW | | |
| U15 Girls | Sarbani Maitra QLD | Tina Ma VIC | Emilia Scott NSW | | |
| U13 Girls | Olivia van Zon SA | Nadia van Zon SA | Isabella Wilcox QLD | | |
| U11 Girls | Yashica Jiwa Mohan VIC | Annette Chow NSW | Abbey Boswell QLD | | |

Oscar & Luke



Domenic & Tim



Domenic: 3rd in BU13



Individual Results for ALL WA Players

BU11 - Lucas Curry (Belmont) - 11th 3/4 seed Grayson Coleman 9-11, 4-11, 3-11 DEF 5/8 seed Bodhi Wratten 11-5, 13-11, 11-7 Jay Porwal 4-11, 5-11, 13-15 DEF Lucas Jones 11-6, 11-5, 11-8 GU13 - Carmela Christou (Vic Park) - 21st 9/16 Cleo Poulava 7-11, 4-11, 1-11 9/16 Lucy Roberts 6-11 5-11 4-11 9/16 Shara Sumanth 3-11 3-11 8-11 GU13 - Olivia Hibbs (Mandurah) - 13th DEF 9/16 Lucy Roberts 11-3, 11-5, 11-5 5/8 Timonalez Alarcos-Kriebisch 2-11, 5-11, 3-11 3/4 Elizabeth Wang 3-11, 2-11, 9-11 DEF 9/16 Mia Sundernathan 11-6, 11-6, 11-3 DEF Rebecca Caswell 6-11, 5-11, 11-6, 11-7, 11-1 GU13 - Teagan Scott (Belmont) - 5th DEF 9/16 Claire Bayley 11-1, 8-11, 11-4, 11-5 2nd seed Nadia Van Zon 11-8, 8-11, 6-11, 1-11 DEF 9/16 Riyo Kawabata 9-11, 11-4, 11-4, 11-7 DEF 9/16 Cleo Poulava 11-5, 10-12, 11-8, 11-6 BU13 - Charlie Richardson (Mirrabooka) - 5th DEF 9/16 Aidan Donnelly 11-6, 8-11, 11-6, 11-9 Top seed Kaveen Kohombange 11-5, 11-6, 11-3 DEF 9/16 Jet Lacquiere 11-6, 11-0, 11-7 DEF Cameron Ackroyd 4-11, 11-8, 5-11, 11-5, 11-8 BU13 - Domenic Christou (Vic Park) - 3rd DEF Oscar Morris 11-2, 11-3, 11-2 DEF 3/4 James Sanders 11-7, 11-8, 11-6 DEF Cameron Ackroyd 11-9, 11-9, 4-11, 7-11, 11-9 2nd seed Thomas Wang 13-11, 6-11, 10-12, 3-11 DEF 3/4 Max Jones 11-6, 12-10, 11-1 BU15 - Jacob Curry (Belmont) - 23rd 17/32 Josh Markham 7-11, 9-11, 6-11 DEF 17/32 Oliver Scott 3-11, 11-7, 11-7, 11-7 17/32 Max Aitken 12-14, 13-15, 11-13 17/32 Chase Rogers 11-6, 9-11, 6-11, 11-5, 5-11 DEF 17/32 Pierre Ibrahim 11-6, 13-11, 6-11, 4-11, 11-6 BU15 - Luke Jamieson (Mirrabooka) - 17th 3/4 Ethan Middleton 4-11, 10-12, 5-11 DEF 17/32 Riley Jones 5-11, 6-11, 5-11 DEF 17/32 Chase Rogers 11-6, 11-2, 11-6 DEF 17/32 Max Aitken 11-4, 7-11, 11-6, 11-6 DEF 9/16 Kieran Willathgamuwa 11-9, 11-9, 8-11, 9-11, 11-6 BU15 - Alexander Marsh (Belmont) - 21st 3/4 seed Henry Kross 8-11, 4-11, 1-11 DEF Omar Elkomy 11-4, 11-5, 11-8 17/32 Daniel Yanez M. 11-4, 6-11, 11-6, 8-11, 4-11 DEF 17/32 Pierre Ibrahim 11-2, 10-12, 11-8, 15-13

DEF 17/32 Chase Rogers 12-10, 11-7, 11-9

BU15 - Andreas Christou (Vic Park) - 8th DEF 5/8 Bryce Correa 11-7, 11-6, 10-12, 13-11 DEF 17/32 Ketan Porwal 13-11, 11-9, 11-4 2nd seed Marcus Wang 11-2, 11-3, 11-6 5/8 Connor Haberecht 6-11, 3-11, 4-11 9/16 Manaia Kara-Brown 6-11, 11-4, 11-6, 11-7 GU15 - Joey Scott (Belmont) - 12th 3/4 Madison Nargar 11-2, 11-0, 11-8 DEF June Steele 11-6, 12-10, 11-6 Jasmin Dumbleton 4-11, 5-11, 9-11 Eden-Alma Poulava 11-3, 7-11, 11-5, 11-4 GU15 - Jessica Jellis (Marmion) - 8th DEF Millie McLaren 3-11, 1-11, 3-11 Top seed Sarbani Maitra 2-11, 1-11, 3-11 3/4 Luka Cock 7-11, 11-5, 8-11, 8-11 3/4 Madison Nargar 3-11, 4-11, 6-11 GU17 - Josie Jones (Blue Gum) - 13th 5/8 Grace Commons 4-11, 5-11, 13-15 9/16 Kayce Hoani-Vincent 12-14, 11-13, 7-11 DEF 17/32 Indigo-Rose Lawson 11-7, 11-7, 11-6 DEF 9/16 Lucy Keogh 11-7, 11-8, 11-9 GU17 - Isla Harris (Moora) - 9th 9/16 Zara Shaw 11-4, 4-11, 8-11, 11-9, 8-11 DEF 9/16 Lucy Keogh 11-3, 11-6, 11-7 DEF 9/16 Halli O'Brien 11-1, 11-1, 11-8 DEF 9/16 Kayce Hoani-Vincent 8-11, 11-3, 11-8, 11-6 BU17 Luke Scott (Belmont) - 22nd 9/16 Prahlad Dev 3-11, 6-11, 5-11 9/16 Lucas Baumwol 9-11, 7-11, 5-11 9/16 Niall Boomla 11-7, 6-11, 4-11, 6-11 John Morris 7-11, 8-11, 10-12 BU17 Waldo Vorster (Mandurah) - 12th DEF 9/16 Niall Boomla 10-12, 11-8, 12-10, 11-6 Top seed Darcy Hayes 10-12, 2-11, 6-11 17/32 Alex McFarland 8-11, 5-11, 5-11 DEF 9/16 Prahlad Dev 11-9, 11-5, 5-11, 11-7 17/32 Eric Marsh 6-11, 9-11, 4-11 BU17 - Aiden Finlay-Mulligan (Esperance) - 6th DEF 17/32 Tobey Smith 11-3, 11-3, 11-0 DEF 17/32 Alex McFarland 11-8, 11-4, 11-7 Top seed Darcy Hayes 5-11, 11-5, 8-11, 12-14 DEF 5/8 Caleb Atkins 12-10, 5-11, 11-5, 1-11, 11-9 5/8 Aryan Madan walkover (injury) BU17 Alvaro Blackall (Mirrabooka) - 19th 3/4 Jackson Wylie 4-11, 4-11, 6-11 DEF 17/32 Sebastian Williams 11-6, 12-10, 11-5 9/16 Deeptangsu Maitra 11-7, 3-11, 11-6, 6-11, 6-11 DEF John Morris 11-2, 11-8, 11-4 DEF 9/16 Niall Boomla 11-6, 11-5, 11-6

Individual Results for ALL WA Players

BU17 - Eric Marsh (Belmont) - 11th

DEF 9/16 Deeptangsu Maitra 11-8, 11-6, 11-8

5/8 Aryan Madan 6-11, 3-11, 3-11

9/16 Liam Fascetti 8-11, 11-4, 7-11, 2-11

DEF 9/16 Henry Siviour 11-13, 11-8, 11-7, 11-6

DEF 17/32 Waldo Vorster 11-6, 11-9, 11-4

BU17 - Brendan Scott (Belmont) - 18th

5/8 Ashank Gupta 3-11, 2-11, 3-11

DEF 17/32 Blake Brewtnall 11-1, 11-8, 11-7

DEF John Morris 11-2, 11-7, 11-8

9/16 Deeptangsu Maitra 4-11, 3-11, 11-4, 6-11

17/32 Tobey Smith 5-11, 9-11, 3-11

BU19 - Oscar Curtis (Mirrabooka) - 1st

DEF 9/16 Lachlan Walmsley 11-1, 11-4, 11-2

DEF 5/8 Josh Porter 11-4, 11-2, 11-4

DEF 3/4 William Slade 11-3, 11-1, 11-3

DEF 3/4 Andre Lynn 9-11, 11-2, 11-2, 11-0

GU19 - Hannah Slyth (Blue Gum) - 3rd

DEF 9/16 Melanie Caswell 5-11, 1-11, 1-11

DEF 9/16 Saige Lawson 2-11, 5-11, 8-11

Top seed Madison Lyon 1-11, 3-11, 6-11

DEF 5/8 Shona Coxsedge 11-7, 11-9, 15-13

GU19 - Caitlin Pratt (Narrogin) - 5th

DEF 9/16 Isis Knight 14-12, 7-11, 4-11, 8-11

Top seed Madison Lyon 11-4, 11-2, 11-6

DEF 9/16 Matilda Morgan 4-11, 4-11, 5-11

DEF 9/16 Saige Lawson 11-6, 8-11, 9-11, 11-4, 10-12

DEF 5/8 Dakshyani Muniandy 11-7, 10-12, 8-11, 11-7, 8-11













AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Thanks Luke Jamieson (Tournament Referee)

Filled with excitement, the team reached the airport early on Monday morning. Amidst yawns and smiles, we embarked on our journey to Brisbane.

The competition varied from intense battles to easy victories, yet the players represented WA with pride on the court. Both at the courts and in the hotel, everyone displayed respect towards fellow players and accompanying adults.

Laughter filled the air, and I can happily say, there were no tears shed. We managed to navigate through a busy and chaotic week together.

Thanks Lisa Christou (Team Carer)

I was lucky enough to experience the 2023 Australian Junior Championships as a Carer for the WA state team.

What a great week of squash for our WA team. The camaraderie that was displayed by the team was amazing. They supported each other through wins and losses and it was fantastic to hear the booming voices (particularly Aiden and Waldo) throughout the whole centre cheering on their fellow team mates.

Long days of squash ended back at the hotel with ice baths, team debriefs, card games, music and laughs and some hearty meals to get them ready for the next day of matches.

I was proud to be part of the team and although I was exhausted at the end of the week I thoroughly enjoyed the experience!





State Team Raffle Fundraiser

We are delighted to announce the winner of the 2023 Junior State Team sponsorship raffle: National Travel (https://www.national-travel.com.au/). Thank you so much for your support!

National Travel are a premium full-service travel agency, who emphasise the details so their travellers can experience intimate encounters with real people and see the world's beauty. They advocate for a 'better travelled' world, believing it fosters wisdom and kindness. Through unparalleled travel experiences, they build trust and engagement, bridging communities and showcasing our world's warmth and beauty.



While National Travel were the winners of this raffle, and have become the team's major sponsor, we are SO grateful for all the other businesses that purchased an entry and helped a very worthy cause. To see ALL of the wonderful businesses that sponsor us in some way, visit our website here:

https://squashwa.asn.au/sponsors/ and throw some business their way!!

National Travel

National Travel is a premium travel agency based in Brisbane, Australia and operating since 2016. We specialise in bespoke holiday and business & event travel. Our 'customer first' service is backed by leading-edge technology, digital platforms and the best people in the industry.

Discover your next wanderlust





COUNTRY WEEK

236 players registered for the largest tournament in Australia – the WA Country Teams Championships - a 12% increase in participation from 2022's 211 players. 15 towns were represented from across the State (Broome, Bunbury, Busselton, Dampier, Esperance, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Karratha, Katanning, Leschenault, Mandurah, Manjimup, Moora, Narrogin, and Wongan Hills) forming 14 grades of teams. The Mens grades ran from A through to J, and the Ladies from A through to D.

Matches kicked off on Friday night this year from 6pm and the final matches took place on Sunday from 4pm before presentations took place on the lawn under a marquee, followed by a gourmet dinner and DJ entertainment. Players then made their way home to their respective hometowns on Monday morning. With 14 grades of four teams, and four players per team, in two and a half days a whopping 448 matches were played at the biggest squash centre in Australia - Squashworld Mirrabooka. The atmosphere, as per each and every year, was incredible. The squash community in WA is as strong and supportive as ever.

Huge thanks to the Country Steering Committee for their event organisation, Mirrabooka Squash Club volunteers for providing the canteen and dinner, Squashworld Mirrabooka for hosting, Neil and Luke for refereeing, and this year's fantastic sponsors: Illegal Tender Distilling Co., Stableviews Distillery Dongara, Spit Roasts & Catering Broome, Warthog Workshop Washers, Shark Lake Piggery and The Racquet Shop. Phenomenal effort everyone!

Mens A Grade

Bunbury 1 (Jamie Herring, Caillin Blackwood, Sam Henderson, Brad Grinter) def EGSRA 1 (Heddwyn Brahma, Cooper Kennedy, Shane Leknys, Marc Scott)

Mens B Grade

Busselton 1 (Daniel Taylor, Lincoln North, Nick Evans, Oliver Godson) def Karratha 1 (Preston Munro, Paul Orr, Daniel Mines, Gary Munro)

Mens C Grade

Geraldton 2 (Theo Bennett, Leon Wilson, Shaun Purslow, Thomas Finaske) def Karratha 2 (Derek Nunn, Andre Blignaut, Craig Leknys, Hannes de Beer)

Mens D Grade

Bunbury 3 (Ben Henderson, Dean Meredith, Jason Mennell, Derek Bird, Luke Brody) def Broome/Narrogin 1 (Greg Blycha, Michaela Pratt, Andrew Pratt, Dwayne Franks, Trigg Barrett-Lennard)

Mens E Grade

Narrogin 1 (Jarrod Denholm, Dwayne Franks, Victor Ranieri, Chris Allan) def Geraldton 3 (Mark Ramage, Robert Yeoh, James Quirke, Ben Wilson, Pete Winsor)

Mens F Grade

Esperance 1 (Callum Smart, Tim Sandy, Luke Christian, Callan Andrews) def EGSRA 3 (Ben Conroy, Mark Dalton, Peter Siebert, Jacob Summit)

Mens G Grade

Mandurah 3 (Brandon Kitt, Mason Craig, Clifton Risk, Josh Thomas) def Karratha 3 (Declan Munro, Caleb Munro, Kelsie Docking, Natasha Malek)

COUNTRY WEEK

Mens H Grade

Geraldton 3 (Damien Healy, Jacques Laurent, Jake Hendry, Jack Moyses, Gerald Laurent) def Katanning No Mercy 2 (Graham Bell, David McFall, Ryan King, Jane Richardson)

Mens I Grade

Busselton 3 (Tom Payne, Ben Edwards, Wes Johnston, Matt Suriani) def Mandurah 4 (Jeff Rose, Sharon Franklin, Ngarongoa Williams, Gary Herdsman)

Mens J Grade

EGSRA 5 (Vinnie Keynes, Ben Wilson, Darren Hovingh, Matt Davis) def Leschenault 4 (Phil Drain, Andy Fell, Owen Graham, Leah Currey)

Ladies A Grade

Narrogin 4 (Michaela Pratt, Caitlin Pratt, Alyce Smith, Kelsie Docking) def Esperanjimoorault (Isla Harris, Emma Cornish, Rebecca Herring, Danielle Scheer)

Ladies B Grade

EGSRA 8 (Kylie Siebert, Hollie Braid, Dianne Watts, Anne Truman) def EGSRA 7 (Belinda Gaulke, Lisa Cooper, Carrie Hosking, Sally Kelly)

Ladies C Grade

Esperance 3 (Tayah Gardner, Jess Heasman, Chantelle Hoffrichter, Emily Podmore) def Busselton 5 (Dani Mayors, Kelly Ferguson, Ngaire Ayres, Carmen Kutan, Kimberley Baker)

Ladies D Grade

Karratha/Geraldton 1 (Nat Tanoto, Jamie Nunn, Leah Price, Isla Quirke) def EGSRA 11 (Alisha Davis, Molly Rafter, Kristen Mitchell, Sarah Eldridge)









COUNTRY WEEK



















You are invited to submit an expression of interest to lease the iconic **Hilton Squash Centre** at 292 South Street, Hilton WA. The lease will be available from 1 February 2024 or earlier by negotiation, with the term and rent also negotiable.

This 7 hard-backed court centre with full mezzanine is located at the top of the hill with ocean views in the vibrant Hilton shopping precinct only 10 minutes from Fremantle with a vast catchment area of potential squash players. Hilton is the only squash centre South of the Swan River for the entire metropolitan coastal corridor.

Hilton Squash is ready for a dynamic, friendly operator to continue the legacy of a fun squash experience in a welcoming environment.

Don't miss this opportunity to be the next amazing squash court operator at Hilton, call

Rachel Percival on 044 9668 558 or email at rachel-percival@hotmail.com.





Vic Park Open

Thanks Lisa Christou. Once again, we ran the Vic Park Open which took place on 7th & 8th September. Given the number of courts, the event is capped at 64 entrants, which meant the tournament filled up incredibly quickly. Being so popular created a waitlist too.

The Vic Park Open continues to be a prestigious competition that attracts players from all over the state. There was a large contingent of juniors getting in some match practice in the lead up to the AJC, which was great to see!

The players displayed some exceptional skill and determination, with intense battles on court in all the divisions; the Best Match being awarded to Tom Everett and Caitlin Pratt in Division 3.

Our fairest and best award was very well deserved by Richard Grain aka "Grainy" who stepped up to reserve at the last hour and was also seen supporting at the courts for most of the weekend, as well as volunteering to mark and referee whenever needed.

The tournament wrapped up with some food and drink at the local Balmoral Hotel, which never fails to deliver some good entertainment off the courts.

A big thanks to everyone who helped out with the Vic Park Open! It was a huge success! Special mention to Bec Ilich, Lisa Christou, Chester Cutinha, Dani Scheer, Lou Cotter, Roger Schmidlin, and the Vic Park committee members for all their help running the tournament. Thank you to our tournament referee Luke Jamieson.

And finally, a massive thank you to our sponsors; Laika Cafe, Dominos Vic Park and VPS member Onnie Biswas.





| Vic Park Open Championships | | | Vic Park 7-8 September 2023 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Event | Winner | Runner Up | Plate |
| Open | Mike Corren | Jason Patmore | Heddwyn Brahma |
| Division 1 | Aiden Finlay-Mulligan | Joannah Hitch | Mark Wong |
| Division 2 | Jonathan Groenewald | Kyle Back | Wayne Bonner |
| Division 3 | Andreas Christou | Tom Everett | Chris Chiappazzo |
| Division 4 | Roger Schmidlin | Brendan Scott | Roisin Brennan |
| Division 5 | Cindy Parsley | Luke Missak | Pritam Patil |
| Division 6 | Onnie Biswas | Sydney Ennis | Teagan Scott |
| Division 7 | Jasmin Legge | Jessica Jellis | Kay Uchiyama |

Vic Park Open

















Australian Masters Championships

Thanks Sue Hillier. The 2023 Australian Masters Individual Championships was held at the Dural Squash Centre in NSW from 4-8 September. The event attracted 250 entries from all over Australia and a few from overseas.

The Dural Squash Centre has 12 courts – six glass back and six hard back. The centre is very large and airy with plenty of space out the front for festivities. I thought it was a great venue even though I had to travel an hour each way every day.

As with every tournament the draws are published, people query, and some get injured so there were a few redraws — great effort by the volunteers and Ron Smith (ACT) for all their hard work. Davina Harding as President of Masters NSW was the Tournament Director



and with her team, did a fantastic job organising and running the event. A tournament this big is hard to run from my experience, yet all those who helped were so friendly and accommodating. They did so much work in the lead up to the event. Many players competed in the individuals and then repeated their efforts for the Teams Event. The event had many sponsors, and I thank them all for their support. I did find it humorous that one sponsor, R J Sidney Craig, were funeral directors (getting in early!).





The two WA youngsters Ryan Eaton (Over 40) and Greg Laurence (O50) played their first Australian Masters Championship. Both had a tough first round, but Ryan managed 3rd place in O40 Division 1, and Greg the plate in the Open O50 in a five-setter.

I played in the O60 round robin draw against some lovely people I have never played before as well as Kiwi Liz Hamilton, who I have played before. I was lucky to win all my matches taking out the O60 title. It was great to see Division 2 (which was really Division 1) O60 3rd seed, Theresa Wilkes from WA, go undefeated to win this event.

The other O60 from WA was Danny Zande who played an entertaining five-setter in the Open final losing to Peter Gilbee (Victoria). The last game was possibly played on one leg, great game Danny!

Despite being seeded 4th in the O70 Division, Khris Wiacek won three out of four of her matches and finished runner up to Gaye Mitchell, which is a great effort.

Bob Price finished 4th in the O70 Division, and was very happy that he faired better than last year.

O70 Division 1 player George Reid, had a marathon five-setter on the last day to secure 3rd place, and to

Australian Masters Championships

finish, Jim Hine also had a marathon five-setter taking out the O75 consolation plate.

- O40 Division 1 3rd: Ryan Eaton
- O50 Open Plate Winner: Greg Laurence
- O60 Open Winner: Sue Hillier
- O60 Open Runner Up: Danny Zande
- O60 Division 2 Winner: Theresa Wilkes
- O70 Open Runner Up: Khris Wiacek
- O70 Open 4th: Bob Price
- O70 Division 1 3rd: George Reid
- O75 Consolation Plate Winner: Jim Hine

For me, the highlight was catching up with friends from previous years, and meeting lots of new people. The Masters Squash community is great, those older than me inspire me to keep playing. I also got to catch up with my Trans-Tasman teammates and Manager, and meet the newbies in the team.



The weather for the whole event was lovely and sunny, though some mornings were cold but not as cold as my next event representing Australia at the Trans-Tasman in Invercargill which at the time of writing this had a temperature range of 4-11 degrees, ah spring in South, South New Zealand.

Well done to all the WA players, and to those who played in the Australian Masters Teams Event following.















CLUB OF THE MONTH

This month we are showcasing the marvellous

Karratha Squash Club as Miss October! The Club is
based out of the Karratha Leisureplex, located
opposite Broadhurst Road on Dampier Highway in
Pegs Creek. It's a three minute drive from the
Karratha town centre, or roughly two hours in the air
and 1,500km away from Perth in the Pilbara region of
the state.

Co-host of the famous FeNaCING Teams Tournament in partnership with Dampier Squash Club, they run their annual Club Champs event in October, as well as a quarterly pennant competition. We had a great chat with Karratha Squash Club President Rhys Collins who beamed with pride about the fantastic squash club he is a part of.

What does a typical week look like for Karratha Squash Club? "We hold our junior program on a Monday afternoon, which is then followed by our pennants. Thursday nights are social night which is always great fun. Junior star Preston Munro provides coaching lessons on a Sunday for anyone wanting to improve their game." Now that's a classic example of one of the True Sport Values we promote to all juniors across WA - 'giving back'.

"We always run a social night on Thursdays. If you're ever in Karratha or nearby, head on down and join in!"

We asked Rhys who the MVPs were at Karratha Squash Club, to which he responded, "we have several awesome people at the club, which is what makes it so great. Steph is our Club Captain who does as much work as three people and is always coaching others and giving tips. Frosty is our Junior Co-ordinator and is always there to help out. Vice President John can always be relied upon, and Preston is our best player who is always friendly and coaching others. We have so many outstanding members who are always helping out that I could go on and on!"

We wanted to know why Karratha Squash Club is the best club in WA - what sets them apart from the rest?! Well, what a heartfelt response Rhys had for us! "At Karratha Squash Club, we believe that squash is more than just a sport, it's a way to stay fit, have fun, be social, and challenge yourself both physically and









mentally. That's why we're committed to providing our members with the best possible squash experience.

Karratha is a warm and welcoming club with a strong sense of community. We host a variety of social events throughout the year, so there's something for everyone. Whether you're a competitive player or just looking for a fun and social way to stay active, Karratha is the perfect place for you."

Now we all know that behind every great squash club, are a bunch of sponsors that are worth their weight in gold, and Karratha Squash Club is no different. Huge shout out to Chemdry Northwest, Joyce Krane, Pilbara Mitsubishi, Compass Group: Bay Village, and The Racquet Shop.











More shots from the AJC







COACHES CORNER with Tim Cowell

Coaches advice for selecting equipment

This one might seem a tad left field in a coaching article, but selecting the right equipment for you can make a significant difference to your game.

When you look at your kit bag, how would you rank items in terms contributing to your on court performance?

Warm up aids certainly help - skipping rope, resistance bands, reaction balls, foam rollers and maybe a bit of Dencorub or Tiger Balm for the sore spots in a tournament.



Drink bottles - gotta stay hydrated!

As far as on court equipment goes, I would rank shoes slightly ahead of racquets in terms of importance. What is the right shoe for you? That is entirely personal feel as to which shoe fits your foot. The type of shoe is important however. Court shoes are made to grip surfaces like floorboards, whilst also designed to allow the user to stop quickly and change directions, especially laterally. Running shoes are often designed with one direction in mind.. running forwards! Whilst running shoes can serve an initial purpose on court, if you are looking to play regularly then invest in some indoor court shoes.

If you keep them for the squash court, they will last longer (don't wear them whilst you take the dog to the park for instance). As a general rule I wear other footwear into the squash centre, change into my squash shoes, play/coach and then change out of them to leave. That way I'm also not bringing dust and sand onto the courts because I wore my squash shoes outside. Also don't make the mistake of giving them a wash and leaving them to dry in the sun (or exposed in the car!) Too much direct sunlight can in fact harden the gel sole making them very slippery to wear.

Another misconception is how long the shoes actually last you. I've heard guys say I've had these shoes for years, I'll get another year out of them for sure! Well you might still be wearing them a couple of years after you bought them and whilst the exterior of the shoe might still seem ok, chances are there are other parts of the shoe not so ok.

Recently I've been spending a lot more time on my feet coaching compared to playing, so the exterior of my squash shoes look in reasonable condition, however the sometimes 15-20 hours per week still impacts the cushioning and support available.

Whilst the younger lads might need to change their shoes because they have scuffed them up from throwing themselves around the court and dragging their feet a lot, I get to the stage that I feel a few of my joints pulling up a bit sorer as there is less impact being absorbed, meaning its time for a new pair. Maybe test it for yourself next time if you wear a pair of shoes still for sale somewhere, compare the height of the heel at the back and see how much lower yours is compared to a brand new pair.

As for racquets and advice, there are a couple of things to consider.

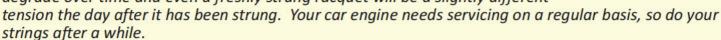
In the early stages I would recommend to beginners not to buy the lightest racquet available. Find something with enough weight in it that you can feel it when you swing. If the racquet is too light, players aren't 100% aware of where it is and can struggle to control it especially if trying to swing too fast. Really light racquets are great for flicking the ball around but can be hard to control when trying to swing a lot faster. Obviously head heavy racquets are the opposite to this.

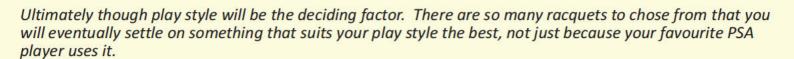
If you have a racquet sport background then considerations for this as well. Tennis players often progress

COACHES CORNER with Tim Cowell

to heavier racquets, so will probably find a heavier squash racquet easier to adjust to and gradually progress lighter. Whilst the nature of badminton and the play style will probably see badminton players going for a lighter squash racquet and potentially progress to a little bit heavier over time.

Strings are the final touch and can alter the performance of the racquet. Drop the tension down to increase power from the trampoline effect, whilst adding more tension increases the control. Consider your strings like the engine in a car, make a few tweaks here or there and see the performance change. Strings do degrade over time and even a freshly strung racquet will be a slightly different





For the record, if anyone by chance wanted to copy my set up, I'm currently playing with the Dunlop Sonic Core Ultimate, strung with Dunlop Iconic Pro AF string at 25 lb + a 10% pre stretch!



JUNIOR RANKINGS

STATE



Top 5 JUNIOR RANKINGS

NATIONAL



2 October 2023

| U11 Boys | U11 Girls | ĺ | U11 Boys | U11 Girls |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Lucas Curry | Jemi Martin | 1 | Benjamin Boardman | Elizabeth Wang |
| Abhin Behl | Michaela Sanyangore | 2 | Kai Dumbleton | Annette Chow |
| William Mennell | Meetra Gunalan | 3 | Wesley Correa | Yashica Jiwa Mohan |
| Jasper Tapley | Eleanor Jones | 4 | Grayson Coleman | Abbey Boswell |
| Ethan Skidmore | Miranda Clarke | 5 | Jenson Ooi | Preesha Dev |
| U13 Boys | U13 Girls | | U13 Boys | U13 Girls |
| Domenic Christou | Teagan Scott | 1 | Kaveen Kohombange | Olivia van Zon |
| Charlie Richardson | Olivia Hibbs | 2 | Thomas Wang | Nadia van Zon |
| Leo Van Straaten | Ivanka Lu | 3 | Max Jones | Timonaliz Alarcos Kriebisch |
| Arye BernSousa | Ella Clarke | 4 | Charlie Richardson | Jaida Wigley |
| Kaelan Penn | Emmy Dunstan | 5 | Domenic Christou | Gizele Josifoski |
| U15 Boys | U15 Girls | | U15 Boys | U15 Girls |
| Alexander Marsh | Joey Scott | 1 | Kasper Cheung | Sarbani Maitra |
| Luke Jamieson Jr | Jessica Jellis | 2 | Marcus Wang | Tina Ma |
| Andreas Christou | Kayla Clarke | 3 | Flynn Bartlett | Luka Cock |
| Jacob Curry | Ruby Foo | 4 | Henry Kross | Madison Nargar |
| Jaden Huynh | Holly Carver | 5 | Ethan Middleton | Lilly Wilson |
| U17 Boys | U17 Girls | | U17 Boys | U17 Girls |
| Aiden Finlay-Mulligan | Hannah Slyth | 1 | Darcy Hayes | Amelie Guziak |
| Waldo Vorster | Isla Harris | 2 | Haider Naqvi | Hannah Slyth |
| Alvaro Blackall | Josie Jones | 3 | Jackson Wylie | Lijana Sultana |
| Eric Marsh | Sydney Ennis | 4 | Jarrod Atkins | Joanne Joseph |
| Jonathan Groenewald | Jasmin Legge | 5 | Joshua Rahul Raj | Amelia Brigden |
| U19 Boys | U19 Girls | | U19 Boys | U19 Girls |
| Oscar Curtis | Caitlin Pratt | 1 | Oscar Curtis | Madison Lyon |
| Daniel Marsh | Cassandra Willsher | 2 | William Slade | Courtney Scholtz |
| Preston Munro | | 3 | Connor Hayes | Caitlin Pratt |
| Hamish Melvin | | 4 | Josh Porter | Shona Coxsedge |
| Harri Fox | | 5 | Daniel Marsh | Dakshyani Muniandy |
| Quiz Answer: c) 5 min | nutes (Rule 14.4.1) | | ACT NSW NT QLD | SA TAS VIC WA |





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STATE

NATIONAL

| MEN | WOMEN |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Mike Corren | Erin Classen |
| Blue Gum | Mirrabooka |
| Oscar Curtis | Zoe Petrovansky |
| Mirrabooka | Cambridge |
| David Ilich | Pascale Louka |
| Blue Gum | Cambridge |
| Remi Young | Sue Hillier |
| Mirrabooka | Vic Park |
| Jason Patmore | Jo Hitch |
| Blue Gum | Vic Park |
| Dylan Classen | Hannah Slyth |
| Mirrabooka | Blue Gum |
| Daniel Marsh | Clare Slyth |
| Belmont | Blue Gum |
| Mitchell Van Heythuysen | Emily Savic |
| Belmont | Marmion |
| Aedan Martin | Fiona Whooley |
| Cambridge | Mirrabooka |
| Lewis Christie | Linda Towill |
| Mirrabooka | Mirrabooka |

| MEN | WOMEN |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Rex Hedrick | Jess Turnbull |
| Victoria | Queensland |
| Rod Evans | Alex Haydon |
| Queensland | Queensland |
| Aaron Frankcomb | Tanvi Khanna |
| New South Wales | Queensland |
| Joseph White | Sarah Cardwell |
| Queensland | Queensland |
| Bryan Lim | Colette Sultana |
| Queensland | Queensland |
| Steve Finitsis | Madison Lyon |
| Queensland | Queensland |
| Mike Corren | Jennifer Condie |
| Western Australia | New South Wales |
| Rhys Dowling | Adele On Ying Fung |
| Queensland | New South Wales |
| Solayaman Nowrozi | Lijana Sultana |
| Queensland | Queensland |
| Jacob Robinson | Erin Classen |
| New South Wales | Western Australia |
| | |

| STATE U23 MEN | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|--|--|
| Oscar Curtis | Mirrabooka | | |
| Remi Young | Mirrabooka | | |
| Dylan Classen | Mirrabooka | | |
| Daniel Marsh | Belmont | | |
| Aedan Martin | Cambridge | | |
| Eric Gray | Hilton | | |
| Cooper Kennedy | Broome | | |
| Preston Munro | Dampier | | |
| Kiran Byles | Marmion | | |
| Aiden Finlay-Mulligan | Esperance | | |

| STATE U23 WOMEN | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|--|--|
| Erin Classen | Mirrabooka | | |
| Pascale Louka | Cambridge | | |
| Hannah Slyth | Blue Gum | | |
| Michaela Pratt | Blue Gum | | |
| Isla Harris | Moora | | |
| Caitlin Pratt | Narrogin | | |
| Jade Woods | Eastern Goldfields | | |
| Isabella van Emden | Bunbury | | |
| Josie Jones | Blue Gum | | |
| Aliah Al-Shabib | Blue Gum | | |











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