



TENNIS WESTERN B.O.P (Inc)

ANNUAL REPORT AUGUST 2020



I am pleased to present the 2019 / 20 Annual Report on the activities of Tennis Western BOP.

The Tennis WBOP website contains a copy of the current strategic plan developed by the Executive last year and this provides an analysis of the season's progress against each of the objectives of the organisation. The following comments therefore, provide more of a summary of what has happened in our region this season.

Looking back, tennis was going fairly well until April of this year.

- Premier interclub had picked up a notch from last season and Papamoa managed to go back-to-back with titles.
- Club Open Days to bring in new players had been assisted by a publicity campaign covering different sorts of media by Whare PR. While it brought mixed results in terms of new members it did at least spread the word about tennis as a game more widely in modes that young generations access.
- Specialised support workshops for current and prospective coaches were made available in the Sport BOP initiative and this coupled with a growth in the number of people prepared to be tournament umpires, lifted the level of expertise available to players.
- The review of the junior development programme contributed to new contract details for the reappointed coaches including the need to support players at important tournaments.
- The primary and secondary tournaments led by Sport BOP again provided the opportunity for emerging talent and these gained more importance with the change to the national tournament structure by TennisNZ. Effectively the Aims Games were to be the national primary level finals.
- The intention of the long-time convenor of the Aims Games to step backwards early this year meant that individual sports had to contribute more to the management of the event. Jody Robertson accepted this responsibility on behalf of TWBOP and committed many hours to its organisation, working especially with the Papamoa Club to host the tennis at its facility. All of her sacrifice was for nothing with the cancellation of the event in June, but her planning will be able to be carried over into 2021 when Aims hopefully returns. Thanks Jody.
- The Tennis Waikato Bays Board had a change of personnel after the election of John Penny to the Board of Tennis NZ earlier this year. Andrea McCartney is the new Waikato Chair and current Chair of the Waikato Bays region, Debra Dowland the Bay of Plenty delegate and Sarah Shand represents Tennis Eastern. The constitution was also revised to bring it into 2020 thanks to some painstaking work from Warwick.
- Juniors representing TWBOP continued their progress that was noted in last year's report with some excellent performances at national level. The delay to the Rosebowl (now in September) means that the seniors have not yet had the opportunity to follow the lead given by the juniors. It was pleasing to see Caelan Potts playing with Michael Venus in the Aotearoa competition.
- Supporting many of these events has been the grant application expertise of Warwick Brew. The money that he has secured has been used to support coaching in various forms and to pay accommodation and travel costs for representative fixtures. It also supports a manager who works on behalf of all clubs to run tournaments, organise and oversee interclub tennis, communicate on a local, regional and national basis, enter results, provide information for team selection, administer day-to-day finances for TWBOP and many other things. TWBOP is fortunate to have the capacity to support this role.
- Tecnifibre banners / windbreaks became available during Covid along with a clarification as to what type of tennis centre was required to display them. While there was one for each club, many chose to donate their allocated banner to Omokoroa, a generous gesture towards the newest club in our area.

Then came Covid that pushed everything into the background and shattered the professional and personal wellbeing of the country. As is often the case, an event of this magnitude also provides an opportunity for people to step forward as the need to re-establish some sort of normality becomes evident. This is certainly what I saw as the club committees and officials took charge of their clubs' destinies. Their approach to clarifying the regulations as we shifted from level to level, their determination to provide for tennis with safety paramount, their resourcefulness and commitment to the common good, their cooperation with and support for each other, their problem-solving, resourcefulness and energy, saw tennis able to be restored safely to the delight of so many. Congratulations and sincere thanks to all of you.

Also coming from Covid was the need to hold Executive and Delegates' meetings on Zoom. While the platform has its advantages and irritations, it also had an unanticipated bonus: all clubs were now able to attend delegates' meetings without the need to travel. This brought more consistency of attendance and the voices of Homewood and Omokoroa were added to those from other clubs. The Delegates' Committee has agreed to hold the rest of its meeting via Zoom for the rest of the year with a review in 2021.

Finally, thanks to the members of the Executive Committee who are generous with their time and skills to help TWBOP run as smoothly as it can. Thanks are also due to the club delegates who continue to make sure that their club's voice is heard and contribute their time for the benefit of tennis. Our association is the envy of many because of the efficiency and effectiveness of the volunteers.

Best wishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R Naumann". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

Robert Naumann
Executive Chairperson
29 July 2020.