



NSW MASTERS SQUASH ASSOCIATION

A quarterly newsletter to bring everyone together - Spirit of Masters

ISSUE 4

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President's Report

What a better start we have all had to the Year of 2021. Finally, after a long draught due to this pandemic of 8 months, we were able to hold the Dapto Tournament at the end of last year and continue with our tournament calendar.

Member Profile—Davina Harding



Life after Work?

Adventure and living life to the fullest.

Could you give some personal background (relationships, children, etc.)?

I have two wonderful kids and a dog that my world evolves around. My mother and father have been integral in helping and supporting me during the crazy times of work and parenting especially when the state is in disaster.

President's Report



What a better start we have all had to the Year of 2021. Finally, after a long draught due to this pandemic of 8 months, we were able to hold the Dapto Tournament at the end of last year and continue with our tournament calendar.

I think you will all agree that it is fantastic to be able to travel the circuit and catch up with old mates as well as meet new players and welcome them into our wonderful community we have. Congratulations and thank you to the committees that organized and ran successful tournaments so far at Bathurst, Canberra, Bega and DGEN.

As we move into the middle of 2021 with our upcoming State Titles to be held in Dural over 27th and 28th June we look forward to seeing you all there again. Our wonder secretary Dianne has been busy with processing entries, which we are close to 120 early birds. You have until the 18/06/21 at 6pm sharp to get your entries in. Your new register Cole Wells will put the draw together for this event. You are reminded that this is gender and age based first. One of the most difficult draws to put together in our calendar year, so good luck and I'm sure you will have everyone's support. A reminder that you can choose to use a single dot ball between you and your opponent on the day if the weather is too cold for you (balls will be available, ask at the registration desk).

Wally Guerreiro is supporting our sponsors at this year's state titles, so keep your eyes out over the weekend. There will be raffles and \$100 club being run over the weekend and the band is warming up for you all to kick up a storm on the dance floor, as always.

Our promotional shirts will be ready at state titles for those that entered by 31/5/21. If you enter after 31/5/21, then you will still receive a shirt, however we may have to deliver this to you after the titles, due to our supplier and COVID-19 delays.

If you plan to play at this year's Adelaide Australian Titles "team's week", you are required to place your EOI by close of state titles to our secretary / treasurer. A form will be sent out and on our website in the coming weeks.

Criteria: *All participants in these titles must be current financial members of the NSW Masters Squash Association Inc and HAVE satisfied the selection criteria as passed at the 2001 AGM or gained an exemption from the criteria by supplying a medical certificate which must accompany your expression of interest form for approval from the NSWMSA committee. If not approved a \$70 EOI fee will be payable.*

This year, we will have a team photo in Adelaide on 17th October 2021, venue TBA at 6pm. All NSW Members are asked to be in State Uniform Shirts for the photo. This way we can all be there and not having to worry about teams on court and missing out or trying to get home to shower and doll up for party night.

Finally, it would be amiss of me not to mention that your committee is busy in planning the 2022 Australian Titles. Our turn has come around after 7 years (give or take a pandemic) to host the titles. As we move forward in our planning and organizing, we will be asking for volunteers to put up their hands to assist us leading up to and over the period of 2 weeks during the titles. This will include NSW hosting the Biennial Trans-Tasman Test series.

We look forward to seeing you at our next tournaments at Dural 27-28 June, Gerringong 31-1 Aug, Thornleigh 14-15th Aug.

Yours in squash,
Davina Harding

Member Profile—Davina Harding

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Could you give some personal background (relationships, children, etc.)?

I have two wonderful kids and a dog that my world evolves around. My mother and father have been integral in helping and supporting me during the crazy times of work and parenting especially when the state is in disaster.

Are you involved in any community organizations (charities, church, etc.)?

I grew up by the beach and was involved in surf lifesaving from the age of 5 until I was about 26 years old. I patrolled Thirroul, Coledale and Towradgi beaches across the Illawarra where I competed on the beach sprinting and in Winter, I raced IRB's.

Once I became involved in squash for a few years I became the local registrar for ISDRA for a period of 8 years, the registrar for ## years for NSWMSA and this is where I began to run tournaments.

My current employer NSW SES has me involved in the community. It's not just about going to work; it's about knowing you are there to support the NSW community in time of need.

What are your hobbies?

Do I have time for hobbies? Of course, I do! The kids (sometimes) and I love to go away camping, hiking, mountain biking and spending time at the beach, there is nothing better than sitting beside a campfire with a nice red wine.

Where did you grow up? Did you move around a lot? If yes, how did this affect you? If no, how did the stability of living in one place all your life affect you?

Born and bred in Thirroul, the 'olds' are still in the same house.

List your favourites (book, movie or play, quote, poem, website, type of food or individual dish, music genre, song, band or individual musician, clothing style or designer, etc).

I love to cook, it's quite rare in my house for us to get take away, the kids prefer it this way also. Homemade pizza and pasta are always a favourite.

Where have you travelled?

All over NSW a lot and across Australia due to Masters Squash. I always like to treat it like a holiday and throw in some extra days to go exploring.

My first overseas trek was 2 years ago to Nepal to trek to Everest Base Camp. Wow what an experience this was. The memories last forever, together with the friendships.

How do you keep a healthy work/life balance?

I am a big believer in balance, so I usually don't like to give up on exercise otherwise I become a cranky biatch! Just ask the kids.

So far what's been your most embarrassing moment?

Hmm good question, breaking my racquet on court during a game and turning around to see a particular person staring straight at me as I did it. I have never lived this down and probably never will. I have never broken a racquet again since this time.

Name one thing about yourself that most people don't know.

List three misconceptions that people often have about you (and, if none, why).

Only those really close to me could say they really know me well. Whilst you may think I come across strong and cold at time, I can honestly say that I have a kind and caring heart. I am a Cancerian probably a true one at that for those that follow that stuff.

Best compliment you've ever received?

This was recent compliment from Mrs Desley Rowley. Des said that she feels I have blossomed over the past 2 years after being made redundant and finding a new employer and career path and just loves to see my life through Facebook photos.

Tell me something about yourself that people might not readily know or anything that I haven't mentioned that you would like to add.

Do I dare say this!!! My next goal is an ultra-marathon in New Zealand next year. 300 km over 7 days. Why you say? Why not! Challenge yourself, set yourself a goal, go out there and strive for greatness and self-achievement!

I believe anyone can do anything that you set your mind to.

Social Pages

Cardiff – 30 & 31 January 2021

Cardiff Squash host the NSW Master Tournament at the start of the year. This is a great way to kick off any year.

Our venue is a full health and fitness centre all in one, with 8 squash courts plus mobility recovery centre, massage therapists and sport physios. We also have a wide range of squash shoes and racquets in our pro shop called "DYD Double yellow dot squash" so what more could you ask for!

All players that participate in the NSW Masters Tournament always enjoy their time playing at Cardiff Squash and most of all our staff look forward to seeing all these players as for most of them we only get to see them a couple times a year.

So, make sure you mark it on your calendar for 2022 and we can't wait to host the NSW Masters Tournament.



ACT – 27 & 28 February 2021

ACT Masters Squash held its 42nd Championships on 27-28 February 2021.

The event was very popular and attracted 120 entries from the ACT, NSW and further afield. After minimal squash-play during 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, players were keen to get onto the courts and to catch up with old friends.

Matches were held across both Woden and Weston Creek courts, with a full program each day. A highlight of the Championships was the tournament dinner and dance, held at the Federal Golf Club. At the dinner, Heather Campbell received the Keith Jones Memorial Award, for her many years of service to ACT Masters Squash.

See photos for some highlights from the event. Full results and more photos are available on the ACT Masters Squash website: <http://squash.actmasters.org.au/agm/2021-act-masters-tournament/>.



Bathurst – 17 – 18 April 2021

Whilst the Bathurst Masters has always been run by the committee of Bathurst Panthers Squash Club, it has been Dave Fuller who led the team and whose passion made this tournament special.

With the passing of Dave, the committee was left with the difficult decision of whether the tournament could run and be successful without the passion and leadership that Dave bestowed.

It was decided to allow a team of club members to put the tournament together and run it the way we perceived that Dave would have liked.

This year, 104 people entered and 109 were present at the dinner dance. With some help from NSWMSA, the draw was put together and everything ran smoothly.

I think everyone enjoyed the squash, I'm sure everyone enjoyed the dinner dance and the usual masters spirit was there in abundance. In short, another great Bathurst Masters tournament.

I would like to thank all the team members who put the tournament and entertainment together, all the players for playing with bonhomie, our sponsors for their financial support, and the NSWMSA for helping us with what was essentially our first try at organising such a tournament.

We hope that the tournament can continue to be conducted each year from now: first in memory of our friend Dave, and second, so everyone can have a great weekend. See you next year.



Bega – 1 – 2 May 2021

As the fog lifted over the golf greens on a cool Sat morning, Bega once again turned on a great weekend sunny weather, sizzling BBQ and some pretty spectacular games of squash. A highlight off the courts was the wonderful meal had at the Major sponsor, The Commercial Hotel where players from all over NSW and VIC praised the standard and presentation of the meal.

Division 1 Grand final on Sunday was a wonderful finale to the weekend. Named the "match of commitment" between Nathan Fuller and Corey Bedingfield. Not only long continuous rallies but aerodynamics and slides proved that it wasn't all about keeping the ball tight and deep in the court.

64 Players (with around 8 playing in their first ever Masters Tournament) attended the weekend at Bega, and we definitely appreciated them travelling to help support us.



Upcoming Events

Times and Venues are subject to change

26 – 27 June	Dural
31 July – 1 August	Gerringong
14 – 15 August	Thornleigh
18 – 19 September	Wyong
11 – 22 October	Australian Masters Adelaide
20 – 21 November	Dapto



Corinne Appleby	John Appleby
Barry Davis	Len Goodfellow
Ian Robertson	Peter Williams (Corrimal)

If this is not correct for yourself, spelling and month, please contact Dianne Elliott secretary@nswmsa.com so as to update the database.

Happy January Birthday to:		
George Barrie	Grant Bentley	Jackie Cousins
Hans Cremerius	Dennis Curtis	Irene (Giek) Gilbert
Jan Grant	Wayne Henderson	Garry Irwin
Stef Karagiannis	William Linton	William Vines
Happy February Birthday to:		
Alan Balout	Shane Byrne	Patrick Cole
Haydn Daly	Carla Fardell	Andrew Kelly
Vicki Kitchen	Michelle Mead	Troy Mountford
Tim Toohey		
Happy March Birthday to:		
John Appleby	Lindsay Ashby	Richard Best
Barry Davis	Len Goodfellow	Mick Hall
Leanne Heyhorn	David Khoury	Aaron Matthes
Steve May	George Roux	Adela Salter
Ken Sinclair	Robyn Stevens	
Happy April Birthday to:		
Andrew Chen	Paul Ditton	June Fong Kee
Grant Fraser	Stephen Fry	Phillip Grant
Martin Gunn	Geoff Hunter	Aaron Moulds
Sarah Nelson	Ian Robertson	Patricia Schuberg
Bodean Strachan	Desmond Wood	
Happy May Birthday to:		
Tony Atkins	Reuben Bates-Brownsword	Jill Bowler
Peter Chang	Drew Corbin	Paul Faulkner
Trace Johnson	Grant Lavers	Michele Pile
Catherine Roppa	Desmond Rowley	Alison Small
Robert Spooner	Peter Williams (Corrimal)	
Happy June Birthday to:		
Brian Botes	Craig Brann	Debbie Bryant
Brad Clark	Julie Collie	Janelle Curtis
Nathan Fuller	Andrew Harris	Jim Langby
Paul Lomas	David Lundberg	Leo Mackertich
Geoff Selby		



Committee Members 2021

Patron/s— Monica Rigby

President— Davina Harding

Secretary— Dianne Elliott

Registrar— Colin Wells

State Selectors— Scott Foster, Stephen Fry, Colin Wells

Committee—Mark Allison, Tony Bullman, Scott Foster, Wendy Fox, Wally Guerreiro & Tracey-Lee Hall

Vice President—

Garry Piggott

Treasurer—

Will Croker