



HENSMAN HERALD



Official Newsletter of Hensman Park Tennis Club (Inc.)

OCTOBER 1985

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome to the 1985 tennis season - and to those of you joining Hensman Park for the first time a special welcome, we hope your stay with us is long and enjoyable.

The Opening of this season is the beginning of a new era for Hensman Park Tennis Club. Our newly altered building has given us a fully functional Clubhouse for the first time and we are now able to offer you a greater variety of off-court functions and facilities to enjoy. The fund-raising efforts of past years are now bearing fruit and I hope you will continue to build on this move to create a better and more complete Club.

Hensman Park is one of the great Tennis Clubs in Western Australia and this isn't something that has just happened - it is the result of the dedicated efforts of many of our members over the past sixty years. My message to you now as we enter this new season is "Think what you can do to make Hensman Park a Club to be proud of".
Happy tennis for '85.

Clem Overheu - Club President

COMING EVENTS

SATURDAY 19th OCTOBER 1985

The "Christening" of our new Clubrooms & Bar
Drinks after tennis followed by a Smorgasbord
Tea - low on cost, high on enjoyment.

We hope ALL members can share this SPECIAL
DAY & EVENING with us

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EDITORIAL

2.

Once again there is the usual flurry of organizing pennant teams and ranking of players on the opening day of season - as if our hardworking Captains don't have enough on their mind coping with the normal extra crowds at this time of the year. Our season can't open earlier and entries for pennants have to close in the first week of October if the matches are to get under way on the first weekend in November. Members anxious to improve their pennant grade are faced with revisions of the bumping board rankings based on Club Championship and other results, introduction of new members to the Club who are wanting naturally to establish themselves at their applicable capability level - and all this to be arranged in the opening two or three weeks of each new season. Friction is inevitable and it is doubtful if the end result is the most accurate, efficient and fair for all concerned. Obviously something has to give! Consideration should be given to reviewing the whole system. Could entries for the following pennant season close at the end of March each year? Any challenges could be arranged at that time of year when there is not the same pressure on courts and captains as there are in October. Players would be in form and the result could be a more accurate reflection of their standing on the bumping board. This could eliminate those new members who join the Club in October and wish to play pennants in that year - however if this rule was made known then players who genuinely wished to play with our Club could make arrangements to join the club prior to March in that year and establish their ranking in that period.

Two things emerge - one is that the Bumping Board should be the selector of our teams and the second is that the present timing needs revision.

Food Affair



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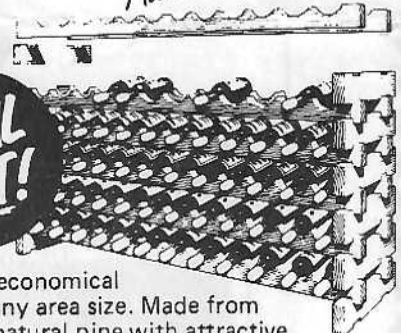
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MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

Bob Howman, our new Treasurer reminds members that the discount on subscriptions only applies to payments actually made to him before 1st November. Make your payment now and take advantage of this offer - you are of course helping the Club at the same time. Members are ineligible to play pennants until their subscriptions have been paid.

1985 W.A. STATE OPEN

This is to be held during the week 18-24 November, and the line-up of players for this years event should be the best ever. Stefan Edberg and Steve Davis who fought out last years memorable final will again be competing. They are in the top 20 in the world and will be joined by a number of others of equal calibre. Our Club are arranging a block booking for the final two days of this tournament which is to be held at Royal Kings Park Tennis Club - please let Dene Rundle or Gwyn Thomas know if you would like tickets for this feast of top international tennis. Luncheon is available at Kings Park and we suggest you make a social day of it and arrive early for the meal. Several members of our Club are involved in the staging of this event. The State Open is the major event of the 1985 tennis calendar and we ask all members to support our Association in this venture - it is important that tennis remains as one of the major sports in W.A. (in spite of growing competition from a number of new sports) and your help in making this event a success will do much to keep our sport to the fore in the minds of the public, the Government and the media.

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COACHING & PLAYING IN WEST GERMANY - by CLUB COACH ROB MURTON

During the past winter months I coached and played tennis for a small club in South West Germany. This was in the town of Edenkoben (pop. 5,000) - I lived in nearby Landau (pop. 35,000) which is about 80km. north of the French border in the wine growing area adjacent to the Rhine valley. The club have four clay courts. The Club and coaching systems in Europe and U.S.A. vary considerably with those in Australia and particularly Perth. During the four months of my stay I was provided with accomodation and a car to drive. I was required to provide 15 x 45 minute lessons per week and to play pennants for the Club - balls were provided by the Club for all the tennis coaching. I paid my airfare to Germany, petrol costs and living expenses (food). The tennis coaching was mainly for juniors and usually comprised small groups of four - in the 10-18 age group. Private lessons were arranged by appointment and were mainly with adult Club members. I averaged 25 hours a week coaching. The weather was quite a factor, the German summer being warmer but on a par in terms of rainfall with the Perth winter. The club system at the German clubs was arranged around less formal club play. No organized sets were arranged - members arranged their own singles or doubles with other members by appointment. The courts were open seven days a week and the peak playing times were from 5 p.m. until dark (about 9 p.m. with daylight saving). Members were required to book in their playing time on a courts time sheet and both players had to be present to make a booking. Singles play was restricted to 45 minutes and doubles play to 60 minutes. Much more singles play was organised than doubles. Having played once in an afternoon, you were allowed to rebook when you had finished playing. Ladies pennants were played on a Saturday afternoon and Mens on Sunday mornings. The team finishing on top gaining the pennant and promotion to the next grade. Club membership fees were approx. \$250 Aust. One of the highlights of my stay was actually being in Germany whilst Boris Becker pulled off his incredible feat of winning Wimbledon. Overnight he became a national hero and tennis as a sport received an amazing fillip in this country renown previously for its prowess in soccer. During my stay I was fortunate enough to have two days off to visit Munich and later on had a four day visit to Paris - both were most enjoyable. After very little training in German before I left, I had to work very hard at speaking and learning the language. You can now benefit from this by having a choice of taking your tennis lessons in either English or German!!

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