



# OFF THE BAT

*Newsletter of the Werribee Table Tennis Association*

**Issue 1, May 2015**

## **A Few Words From The President...**

Stage One of the Rec Centre re-development is almost complete and will open in late May. The new centre will be known as Eagle Stadium, and it will house all competitions whilst the current centre will essentially be demolished and re-built as part of Stage Two of the re-development. Later in May this year, we will move out of our current location and into an area of the new stadium. This will be our home for the next twelve months or so while Stage Two is completed. When Stage Two is complete, we will move into our new permanent location, where we will have a nine table set up. This is a very exciting time for all users of the centre. While we conduct our competitions over the next year, we will closely monitor progress on Stage Two and look forward to the completion of the entire facility.

*– Alan Thomson*

## **Wally Anderson Retires**

After 40 years of outstanding service to our Association, Wally Anderson announced his retirement at the end of 2014. As well as being a stand-out competitor, Wally was the founding Secretary of WTTA and went on to become President. He was a dedicated Committee member and is a highly respected life member of our club. We would like to thank Wally for his continuous commitment and support over the years. Wally has retired to Point Lonsdale and taken up golf, but is considering playing table tennis again at Ocean Grove. We are sad to see you go, but wish you all the very best for the future. Perhaps a Werribee vs. Ocean Grove challenge can be organised soon!



## **Jake Wins Gold!**

Congratulations to A2 player Jake Ballestrino for winning gold at the ITTF-Oceania Cup & Para Table Tennis Championships in Bendigo! Jake and his team mate Trevor Hirth were the doubles champions of combined teams in Class 6/7. Jake is now preparing to compete in the Thailand Para Open in late July. We are very proud of Jake's success and wish him the best of luck for his next tournament.



## Welcome To Our Club!

Welcome to our new members Akram Ansari, Daniel Desmond, Zahid Hassain, Raymond Kho, Simon O'Keefe, Dan Page, Harry Singh, Colin Thomas, Fiona Thomas and Cheryl Worthington who joined us during the Summer Season.

We are also pleased to welcome back Alan Fancourt, Brad Gibson, Mark Hammett, Russell McClelland and Charmaine Tumata who returned to our club this season after an extended break.

## Farewell Promod

Promod Raghavendran is leaving us for the bright lights of Seattle, USA. Promod has played in A2 for many seasons and is well regarded for his competitiveness and good sportsmanship. We wish Promod and his family all the best for their new venture.

## Are You Playing Next Season?

If you are interested in joining our club, please call Gerald Gallina on 0432 485 591 or email us at enquiries@wta.asn.au. We would love to hear from you! If you are currently a member and would like to play again next season, please let your Grade Supervisor know as soon as possible. **Players who compete in all three pennants this year will have the chance to win one of ten Affordable Table Tennis Gift Vouchers worth up to \$100.** This draw will take place at the Spring Pennant Grand Final Night.



**Please note:** A lot of effort goes into producing fixture lists for each season. If a player requests to be placed in a team, he/she is then required to pay the relevant fees for that pennant. If a player is no longer able or willing to play after their name has been placed on a fixture list, then they must explain the reason for this in writing. The Committee will then decide if fees are applicable. Any outstanding fees will be recorded and must be paid in order to be accepted for future pennants.

## Dates To Remember

- **Winter Pennant Grading:** 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> May
- **Annual General Meeting:** 20<sup>th</sup> May
- **Winter Pennant Starts:** 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> May
- **Eagle Stadium Opens:** 27<sup>th</sup> May
- **Eagle Stadium Official Opening:** 14<sup>th</sup> June
- **Annual Closed Championships:** 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> July
- **Winter Pennant Finals:** 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> September



## Coaching



**When:** Saturday mornings

**Time:** 9:00am – 10:30am

**Where:** Werribee Rec Centre

**Cost:** \$10 per session

Call Gerald on 0432 485 591

# 2015 Summer Pennant Results

Congratulations to this season's winners and runners up!



## A1

**Aggregate Champion:** Jack Bouchaud

**Winning Team:** Emfaton – Emmanuel Tongzon, Danny Siwek & John Lev

**Runners Up:** The Powerpuff Girls – Igor Plesko, Parthiv Valera & Bryne Disney

## A2

**Aggregate Champion:** Richard Lilly

**Winning Team:** Blizzards – Russell McClelland, Trevor Blackhurst & Brandon Ngo

**Runners Up:** Twisters – Michael Luong, Jasveen Singh & Jack Borgartz

## B1

**Aggregate Champion:** Dan Page

**Winning Team:** Tigers – Michael Turner, Mark Hammett & Darren Birkett

**Runners Up:** Gazelles – Alan Fancourt, John Dixon & Kevin Ngo

## B2

**Aggregate Champion:** Zahid Hassain

**Winning Team:** Penguins – Cleve Fryer, Tony Le & Colin Thomas

**Runners Up:** Eagles – Harry Singh, Orlando Canillo & Martin Draganski

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Grand Final Night. It was a great night and it was exciting to see such intense competition.



## WTTA Annual General Meeting

Werribee Table Tennis Association is holding its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May, at 7:00pm in the Werribee Rec Centre.

This year, each attendee will have the chance to **win an Affordable Table Tennis Gift Voucher!** There will be five \$100 vouchers and five \$50 vouchers up for grabs.

The AGM is an important event for all members, as YOU can contribute directly to how the club is run! The AGM is a good opportunity to provide feedback on the club's operations, to raise issues that significantly affect the club, and also to liaise directly with the Committee members.

At the AGM, you will exercise your right as a member of this Association to vote on your Committee members who will represent you throughout the next twelve months. You may also decide to nominate yourself as a Committee member if there are vacancies available.

Should you decide to run for a position in the Committee, please contact our Secretary Gerald Gallina on 0432 485 591 for more information on the process of nomination.

We look forward to seeing you then!

## Upcoming Tournaments

### 2015 Ballarat Open Veterans Tournament:

14<sup>th</sup> June

### 2015 Bairnsdale & District Table Tennis Association's Annual Keenagers Tournaments:

21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> November

For more information, please visit the Table Tennis Victoria Website:  
[www.tabletennisvic.org.au](http://www.tabletennisvic.org.au)

## Know Your Committee

This issue's featured Committee member is Alan Thomson!



Alan first joined WTTA in 2003. He was a competitor for eight years and has been the President of our club since 2004. In his spare time, Alan enjoys bike riding and coaches junior basketball.

## What Do You Think?



If you have any ideas or would like to see something included in the newsletter, please speak to a Committee member or send an email to [editor@wttas.asn.au](mailto:editor@wttas.asn.au). We are always open to suggestions and submissions.

## Stay In Touch!



**Phone:** Alan Thomson (President) - 0400 774 633



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**Facebook:** Werribee Table Tennis Association

## Did You Know?



According to Guinness World Records, the longest table tennis rally lasted 8 hours, 40 minutes and 5 seconds. It was set by Daniel Ives and Peter Ives in London on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2014.