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PRESIDENTS REPORT 2023

18 April 2024

I would firstly like to recognize all our hard working committee members who have helped maintain and grow the club throughout 2023.

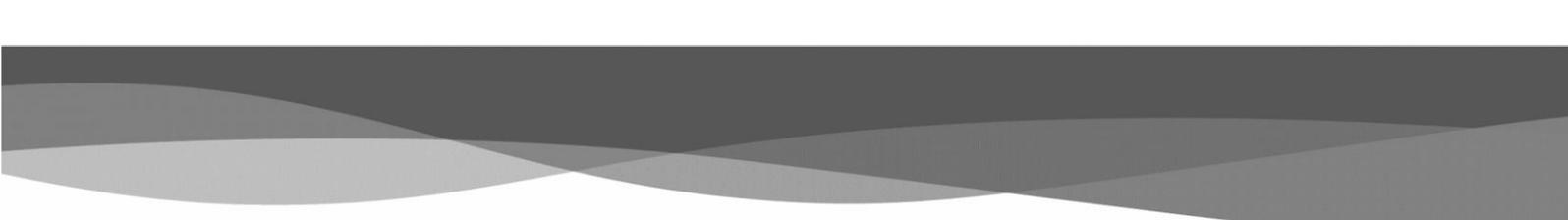
I would like to thank the committee for their dedication to the club and the enormous amount of paperwork, emails, phone calls and meetings to keep the club running smoothly. The members of the committee are Rodney Hee (President), Ann Webb (Treasurer), Deepesh Panchal (Secretary), Michael Yaxley, Graham Symons, Robert Ho, Christine Marshall, Patti Brown and Geni O'Brien.

Robert Ho continued to providing his excellent weekly newsletter, with his passion and commitment to making up the teams for A and B Grade and toward maintaining the individual and team ladders for each grade, also for organizing and purchasing the competition trophies and medallions. Robert also maintained our Facebook page through 2023.

Secretary and Public Officer Deepesh Panchal who keeps on top of the club's communications and our committee meetings.

Membership Secretary Ann Webb who also keeps the website up to date. She's also Treasurer but more of that later.

Graham Symons who provides wise counsel and support from TTNT as well as being CEO of TTNT and President of TTA.



Thanks to Michael Yaxley who was President for the first 4 months of 2023 before I took over the reins.

And to Patti Brown who has undertaken the role of security and maintenance for our Club.

Thank you to the 2023 convenors of A (Elfrida/Rodney), B (Andrew Barton/Rick Gibson) and C grades (Christine Marshall). And thanks to everyone who played in and supported Comp during 2023. Seasons 1 and 2 were very successful culminating in some exciting final matches at all levels.

There are other members that have consistently contributed their time and effort to maintain, improve and help promote our club.

Elfrida Kalich and Nick Pastrikos have been DTTA Junior coaches for all of 2023 and given so much time and effort to teach the young players how to play table tennis. Elfrida also cleans our facility on a weekly basis and helps out at our public displays at Australia Day and the Chinese New Year festival and other events that DTTA has been involved with throughout the year.

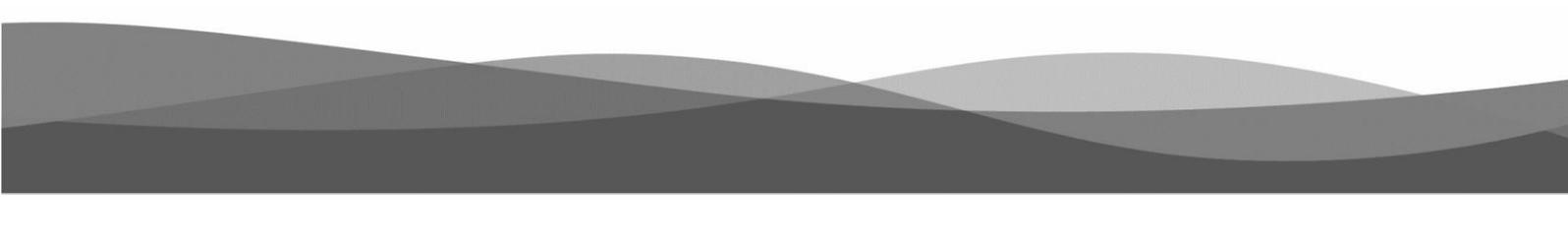
Thank you to Jono Tong for his commitment to coach the NT Junior squad on Saturday mornings and throughout the week.

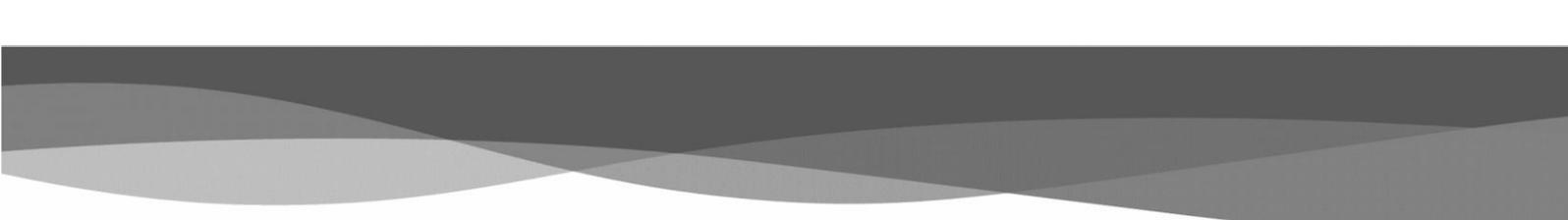
John Pudney for the use of his trailer and time to join me and Michael Yaxley last year in external events promoting our club and table tennis to the wider community.

The foundation of a functional, prospering club is the contribution of club members to volunteer some of their time to help out when required. For example, helping with the Club Open Day, running BBQs, distributing flyers, helping the public at Social Sundays.

Some of our members traveled to Canberra to play in the National Veterans competition, and performed exceptionally well, winning the following events:

Elfrida won Gold for over 70 womens singles, over 70 mixed doubles, and Silver for over 70 womens doubles, over 65 womens doubles, over 65 mixed doubles,





over 70 teams representing the president's team. TT won Bronze for over 80 teams, over 80 mens doubles, over 75 mixed doubles. Joe won Bronze for over 80 teams, over 80 mens doubles, over 80 mixed doubles, over 75 mixed doubles.

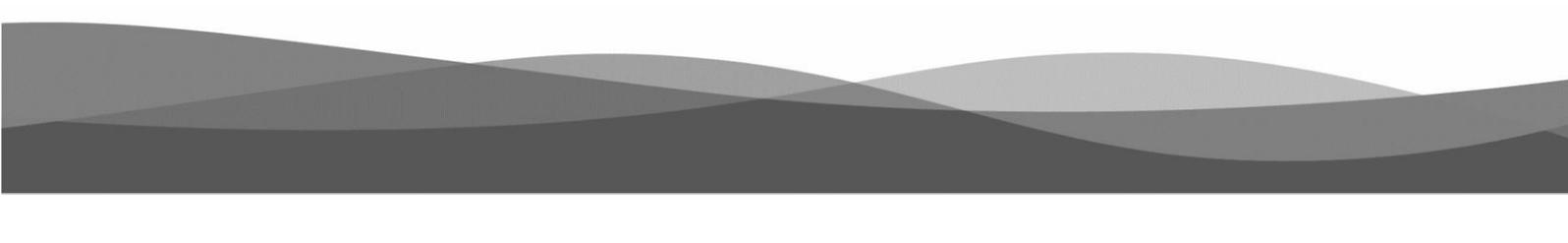
The 2023 club competition in all 3 grades was played in the spirit of our game with great participation, played in a friendly atmosphere with keen competition, and friendly rivalry between players. Age knows no bounds playing table tennis - the age diversity of our members playing active table tennis is quite remarkable.

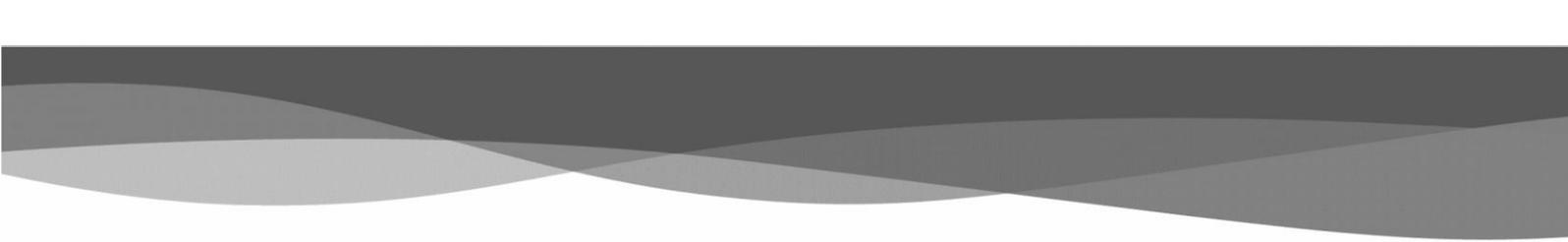
The number of young players playing in all 3 grades is heartening, the future of our club is in the development of our junior players, and providing a place for beginners to learn to play table tennis table tennis, with a pathway to develop the juniors playing skills and techniques to reach their full potential. It is especially heartening to see Monday Juniors progress to C grade and beyond.

The 2023 NT Junior Squad, comprising Martin Feng, Sebastian Lai, Renee Li and newcomer Antara Panchal, trained with coach Jonathan Tong. Martin, Sebastian and Renee competed in the Junior events at the National Championships in Sydney in July with some good results. All four of these top juniors competed with the club's top players in A grade in 2023 and this year.

Importantly, the older members of our club can still be social and active to join the weekly Tuesday and Thursday morning seniors program, with many of them also playing in C grade. I would like to thank Geni O'Brien and Ann Webb who have assisted Christine Marshall running the very successful seniors program. Last year, more seniors than ever joined our club to come along and play social table tennis. Many new Seniors joined us as a result of our popular Seniors Month program in August.

2023 and this year have been a continuation of strengthening and expanding table tennis in the Darwin / Palmerston area to more people in our community and providing a family friendly environment for all races, cultures, and like-minded people that love to play table tennis.





For the first time the club ran what we called *Sunday Social* sessions in 2023 aimed at attracting the general public to come and try out table tennis on a casual basis. We look forward to continuing these sessions in 2024 starting on 28 April. Please come and help if you can spare a Sunday now and again.

The TY Lee Perpetual Trophy has been donated to the club by the Lee family in recognition of TY's lifelong commitment to table tennis in the NT and notably at the Darwin club, and particularly for his work with the juniors. TY was a champion player, and a dedicated and expert coach, guiding the development of many of our leading junior players. We are delighted to accept this wonderful trophy which will be awarded for the first time in 2024.

The club has healthy financials, with many thanks to Ann Webb for keeping on top of both incoming and outgoing money. Overall we were slightly cash positive in the 2023 year. It costs the club approximately \$35000 per year for rent/power/cleaning/coaching and equipment expenses. It is my focus to keep the costs to members as low as possible, while making enough revenue to cover our expenses. Ann will expand a little more on this aspect of the club.

Rodney Hee

DTTA President

