

SUNSHINE TENNIS CLUB

eNews 8th May 2020 No 87



Hi Everyone, welcome to week 8 of isolation, I hope you have not entered stir crazy mode !!

A little light relief for you in this newsletter features our coaches Dave and Kat and two articles you will find very interesting.

In addition, there is a puzzle and a crossword included in the newsletter. I hope you enjoy.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, our coaches have been very active in the isolation period which has been recognised by Tennis Australia. We at Sunshine Tennis Club are very proud of our coaches.

An article written by Leigh Rogers a few days ago on Tennis

Australia's website is headed:

COACH CHECK-IN: USING SOCIAL MEDIA TO STAY CONNECTED

Dickson Tennis owners David Dickson and Katherine Kelly share how they are using social media to engage with their tennis community during the COVID-19 shutdown.

Hobart, Tasmania, 6 May 2020 | Leigh Rogers

The Tennis Australia article follows or in a much more impressive setout can be read on the Tennis Australia website at:
<https://www.tennis.com.au/news/2020/05/06/coach-check-in-using-social-media-to-stay-connected>

Cheers, Mike Geard



Social distancing rules mean Tasmanian coaches David Dickson and Katherine Kelly can no longer run traditional lessons – but that is not stopping them from staying connected with their tennis community.

The Dickson Tennis owners, who run a thriving coaching program at Sunshine Tennis Club in the Hobart suburb of Howrah, are now embracing social media to encourage their students to continue enjoying the sport.

“COVID-19 has highlighted how much more we can do to extend the tennis experience into the home,” Dickson says.

“If you love something, you don’t just love it for one hour on Tuesdays and one hour on Thursdays. The love of the game comes home with you. As coaches we now have the opportunity to ‘pack a snack’ for the ride and something else for home.”

The coaches have been posting videos on their Dickson Tennis Facebook page of their own backyard tennis activities and encouraging their followers to share their own too.

“COVID-19 isolation lets us explore all the different interpretations of a tennis experience without fixation on court dimensions, surfaces, net heights, ideal racquets, balls and conditions,” Dickson explains.

“It allows every family to have a tennis court, their ‘own version’ of a tennis court and an experience to explore.

“Everyone’s backyard creates a different version of our great sport if you can be adaptive and explore options and creativity.”

Their Facebook followers are demonstrating that creativity.

“We have seen kids rallying over kayak paddles, shadow swinging at the beach, using practice walls, mini nets, and even the odd sheep sneaking into a photo,” Dickson says.

“We have received drawings, find-a-words and motivating video messages too.”

Despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their coaching business, Dickson says it is important to stay positive. He encourages all to do the same.

“We now need to reframe this and appreciate all the small things,” he says.

“We have learnt to celebrate what we have, over what we wish we had. No, we don’t have a perfectly dimensioned tennis court – but we have a flat paved space, a broom net and chairs just the right height, a hedge that catches balls, and a neighbour we hadn’t met until the hedge dropped a catch and they threw our ball back to us a day or so later.”

Engaging with their tennis community through Facebook is also proving rewarding.

“Our Facebook page may previously have had its own dreams of showcasing matches and results, but we need to be accepting of our situation and understand that the perfect tennis Facebook page right now is a community space,” Dickson says.

“We are sharing our love of the game through play and families are doing the same. We are seeing siblings rallying together, when once may have once sat idle in the clubhouse waiting for their little brother or sister’s lesson to finish.

“We now realise that what we have built is a supportive community of friends who share a love of tennis. This doesn’t suddenly dissolve just because we can’t get onto traditional tennis courts.”

They encourage other coaches to use social media to stay connected with their own tennis communities too

“What you thought was a business is actually a group of people who share a love for tennis,” Dickson says. “Our role is to shepherd them through the good times and the challenging times.”

Another article on Tennis Australia website:

HOME COURT TENNIS: MAKE YOUR OWN FUN

A rise in children playing tennis at home during the COVID-19 lockdown is pleasing many coaches, including Australia's Fed Cup captain Alicia Molik.

Melbourne, Australia, 29 April 2020 | Leigh Rogers



Like many parents across Australia, Alicia Molik is busy home schooling and trying to keep her children entertained during the COVID-19 pandemic.

With social distancing rules restricting access to tennis clubs and coaching lessons, more and more children are playing in their own backyards. Molik's children, aged eight and five, are among them.

According to the Western Australia-based Molik, a former world No.8 singles player and two-time Grand Slam doubles champion, it is a positive to come out of this challenging situation.

"I feel like we are living how my parents, my brother and I lived as children. We never went away. We played in the front and back yard and made our own fun," she said.

"It is not such a bad thing for young kids I feel."

Tasmanian coach David Dickson agrees.

"Backyard play allows everyone to enjoy their own version of tennis," he said.

“Imagine what will happen after this? Kids will be used to playing hours of home tennis and coming out of this, throw that into the mix with lessons and matches, this will be very powerful.”

Dickson, who runs Dickson Tennis and coaches at the Sunshine Tennis Club in Hobart, believes it is encouraging to see children using their imaginations to find new ways to play tennis.

“That courtyard out the back of the house that had a little too much concrete becomes a great practice wall or rebound tennis zone,” he says.

“Or a courtyard with half grass half pavers, with the addition of an ANZ Tennis Hot Shots net, gets them playing Wimbledon at one end and the Australian Open at the other. A serve-and-volley game becomes a must from one end, whether you like it or not, because that ball won’t bounce on the lawn.”

DICKSON TENNIS FACEBOOK

I would thoroughly recommend you follow David and Kat on their facebook page which can be found at:

https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=dickson%20tennis&epa=SEARCH_BOX

An example of one of their posts can be this little challenge they issued on 4th May:

DICKSON TENNIS ISOLATION CHALLENGE

The goal is to socially isolate these players!!!

You are only allowed to draw two perfect squares, but every player has to be isolated. (no rectangles allowed)

Good luck!!

Mike Geard



Covid 19 Isolation Challenge

DRAWING ONLY TWO SQUARES (NOT RECTANGLES) TO MAKE SURE EVERY PLAYER IS IN ISOLATION IN THEIR OWN SPACE. GOOD LUCK DICKSON TENNIS SUNSHINE KIDS AND FAMILIES - DAVE & KAT



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CROSSWORD CHALLENGE

Kat and Dave are pleased to announce their inaugural tennis crossword which they say is aimed at the younger members however can be completed by anyone.

Dave has kindly pointed out that all the work in doing this crossword was by Kat, well done Kat.

Mike Geard



Across

- 3 Which Australian player was the champion in the Women's singles at Burnie International 2020
- 4 Which grand slam has a trophy with a name that translates to 'The Musketeers Trophy'
- 6 Where is the US Open currently held Flushing _____
- 9 Which Australian player is the most recent to win doubles at the Australian Open
- 11 Which country won ATP Cup in its inaugural year
- 14 Which clothing brand sponsors Ash Barty
- 15 Who is Simona Halep's Australian coach
- 17 Who is the only male player to have won all nine of the Masters 1000 tournaments

Down

- 1 Which player won the Men's singles title at Indian Wells 2019
- 2 What surface is Wimbledon played on
- 5 The achievement of winning all four grand slams is called a _____ grand slam
- 7 How many gold olympic medals has Serena Williams won
- 8 Which country was the runner-up in Fed Cup 2019
- 10 Who is Bulgaria's number 1 tennis player
- 12 How many ATP finals has Kyrgios reached
- 13 What is Nadal's favourite surface to play tennis on
- 16 Who won the Australian Open Men's Singles title in 2017

HOME COURT TENNIS: TIME TO GET CREATIVE

Across the country, Australians are getting creative with how they play tennis while isolating at home.

Australia, 1 May 2020 | tennis.com.au



Social distancing and isolation does not mean tennis has to stop as Dave and Kat show here.

Dickson Tennis

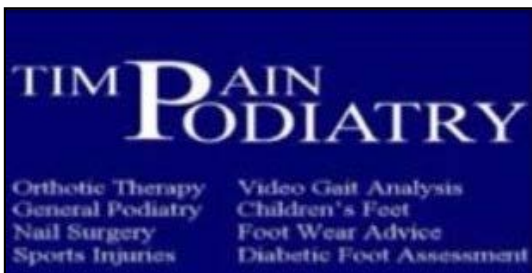
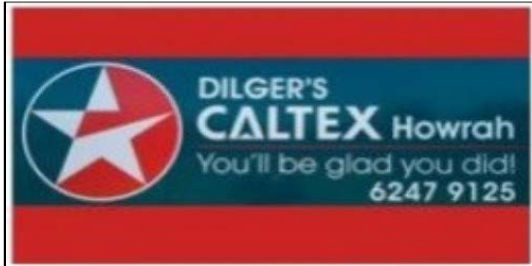


For all your coaching requirements please contact Kat or David on 0412 817 427.

SPONSORS

Just a reminder to support our valuable sponsors listed below, they are an important part of our club so let them know their support is worthwhile.

If any member would like to become a sponsor or knows of any business who would, contact Sean Kelly on 0448 329 771 who will arrange the requirements.





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Future Issues

If you have any tennis items of interest to other members, feel free to email sunshinetennis.tasmania@gmail.com with short description of the item.

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EDITOR: Mike Geard 0400 974 056 Contact me if you have any articles you would like included in the next newsletter.