TOPSPIN

SUNSHINE COAST TABLE TENNIS CLUB NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1 - SUMMER 2009

Welcome

Welcome to the first newsletter of the SCTTC.

The aim is to inform players, members, family and friends of the events and news from YOUR club.

The newsletter will be published around once per season, and placed on the Web site. Printed copies will available for those who do not have Email addresses.

We will be pleased to receive any articles for the next newsletter, and especially any photographs, please Email to Colin.Rule@Gmail.com or hand me a copy at the club.

The SCTTC Web Site

Have you been to the new web site yet? If not go to http://www.sunshinecoasttabletennis.org/ and have a look.

It includes news, photos, weekly results as well as the running table of player and team rankings.

We are looking for more articles for the web site too, to keep the information up to date and interesting.

The newsletters will be added here too.

Each page now includes a date last updated so that you know whether it's worth looking at for the latest information.

Summer 2009 Season

The 2009 season got off to a great start with 40 players split into 10 teams of 4.

Teams were named after table tennis equipment and include BUTTERFLY, CORNILLEAU, DAWEI, DONIC, DOUBLE FISH, JOOLA, MIZUNO, NATTAKA, NIMATSU and TIBHAR.

Players were coded 1,2,3,4, with players 1 and 4 playing 3 singles and 2 doubles and players 2 and 4 playing 4 singles and one double.

After 9 weeks of fierce competition, the 10th week of the season was a finals night which saw Mizuno as the Sunshine Coast Summer Season Champions, with an upset 9-8 win against Tibhar. Asif Iqbal and Greg Kiorgaard were solid under finals pressure for Tibhar, with 3 good wins each, but that wasn't enough to match the even contribution made by the Mizuno team of Steve Whiting, Pieter Poldervaart, Gordon Holden and Greg Watson.

See the web site for all the competition results, scores and weekly reports.

Pos	Team	Players	Weeks Won	Matches Won	Games Won
1	MIZUNO	Steven Whiting, Pieter Poldervaart, Gordon Holden, Greg Watson	10	118	292
2	TIBHAR	Asif Iqbal, Stephen Rowson, Greg Kiorgaard, Les Holm	8	97	241
3	DOUBLE FISH	Oliver McCully, Jimmy Yang, Rik Blande, Desley Payne	6	90	216
4	DONIC	Bernadette Caldwell, Dale Fenwick, Damian Allman, Simon Kiorgaard	6	81	199
5	DAWEI	Ken Hay, Ian Fenwick, Gary Kiorgaard	5	87	214
6	NIMATSU	Ian Oakley, Kevin Bell, Ross Anketel, Glenn Price	4	93	220
7	BUTTERFLY	Martin Tribe, Peter Kennedy, Matt Wilson. Blake Kennedy	4	81	290
8	CORNILLEAU	Christin Huen, Dale Parkes, Patrick Keating, Steve Cottingham	3	72	185
9	JOOLA	Paul Green, Brian Pearson, Ross Pearson	3	70	181
10	NATTAKA	Gerrit Fialla, Martin Kiorgaard, Ray Dunn	1	54	145

Tuesday Nights

Players are reminded that if you are not available for play on a Tuesday night that you contact other members of your team to inform them, and arrange for a reserve. Reserve player contact details are available from Gary Kiorgaard.

As a last resort, call the club mobile on 0434 977 354.

Let us know what you want to do, your preferences in competitions, events, ideas etc.

It is pleasing to see the assistance by helping with the collapsing of the tables, and the moving of the equipment to the areas near the storage room.

Ross will be most pleased for any assistance here in fitting all the tables into the tight space allowed, and allow all to go home earlier.

The Autumn season will be starting on Tuesday 21st May, and run for 8 weeks.

2008 Trophy Presentations

The 2008 presentation of trophies was held in Flaxton, courtesy of Ross Anketell. Despite the cool day there was a good turnout, with a BBQ, and several tables to play on.

Summer fixture winners:

Division 1: Pieter Poldervaart, Oliver McCully and Stephen Rowson with help from Key Hay.
Division 2: Simon Kiorgaard, Brian Pearson and Alastair McCulloch.

Autumn fixture winners (singles):

Division 1: Ian Oakley
Division 2: Gordon Holden
Division 3: Brian Pearson

Winter fixture winners:

Division 1: Ken Hay, Ian Oakley, Kevin Bell and Stephen Rowson.
Division 2: Brian Pearson, Rik Blande, David Eckerman and Alastiar McCulloch.

Spring fixture winners:

Division 1: Kevin Bell, Dale Parkes and Christin Huen
Division 2: Ray Dunn, Desley Payne and Ross Anketell

There are still around 10 left over trophies from last year, if you were a winner or runner up, have a scout through the trophy box.

Service Rules

Courtesy of the ITTF Handbook 2008/2009, here are some of the main points on serves.

2.6.1 Service shall start with the ball resting freely on the open palm of the server's stationary free hand.

2.6.2 The server shall then project the ball near vertically upwards, without imparting spin, so that it rises at least 16cm (6.3 inches) after leaving the palm of the free hand and then falls without touching anything before being struck.

2.6.3 As the ball is falling the server shall strike it so that it touches first his court and then, after passing over or around the net assembly, touches directly the receiver's court; in doubles, the ball shall touch successively the right half court of server and receiver.

2.6.4 From the start of service until it is struck, the ball shall be above the level of the playing surface and behind the server's end line, and it shall not be hidden from the receiver by the server or his doubles partner and by anything they wear or carry.

2.6.5 As soon as the ball has been projected, the server’s free arm shall be removed from the space between the ball and the net. Note: The space between the ball and the net is defined by the ball, the net and its indefinite upward extension.

2.6.6 It is the responsibility of the player to serve so that the umpire or the assistant umpire can see that he complies with the requirements for a good service.

2.6.6.1 If the umpire is doubtful of the legality of a service he may, on the first occasion in a match, declare a let and warn the server.

2.6.6.2 Any subsequent service of doubtful legality of that player or his doubles partner will result in a point to the receiver.

2.6.6.3 Whenever there is a clear failure to comply with the requirements for a good service, no warning shall be given and the receiver shall score a point.

2.6.7 Exceptionally, the umpire may relax the requirements for a good service where he is satisfied that compliance is prevented by physical disability.

2009 Open Competition

The SCTT Club are holding an Open Competition on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th May, at the University Sports Stadium. The events include aged, graded and open. Go to the web site to see the events, and to enter.

All club players are encouraged to enter; it is not just for players outside the club.

Graded events include Open, Restricted, B Grade and C grade, whilst aged events are Under 13, 15, 18 and 21. Veteran events are Over 40, 50, 60, 70.

The conditions and rules are available on the entry form, as are the entry fees and prize money, the highest in Queensland we believe.

The event is sponsored by the Sunshine Coast Regional Counci, AUDI have sponsored the Mens Open, and other sponsors include Unique Health Products and Jenkins Pty Ltd.

ON THE DAY: We will be looking for volunteers to assist with the running of the event, from setting up the tables, runners, umpires, and the like. Please spare some time for the club and assist where possible, and get to wear one of Ray Dunns (soon to be famous) red caps.

Make the most of it, get a doubles partner together and make up a mixed double as well.

Food will be available, including a BBQ, so bring the family and cheer the players along, and make a weekend of it. **It's all great fun. Be there!!**

Entries should be submitted as soon as possible and will close on Friday 1st May 2009

It's Your club

Get involved: help with the setup, get your teams organised.

Get known: introduce yourself to players you don't know, greet new members.

Skills: help players with their game, especially lower grade players, basic techniques, with playing spin etc.

Play: in the competitions, Open and Club, the more we have the better, and the club will prosper and grow.

Get the family involved in club events.

RESERVES: Gary Kiorgaard has published a contact list for all players and possible reserves.

Player Profile

The profile for this Newsletter is of Mark Jenkins, our club president.

"Started playing table tennis when I was about 10 years old. Joined this Club in Nambour in around 1984 located at the PCYC then. Have been involved with table tennis most of my life since then.

I have also played with the Noosa table Tennis Club and played A grade with the Brisbane Table tennis club in 2000. I have had a few unwanted injuries (from work) over the years that have prevented me from taking my game to a higher level. Have been mainly involved in the running of the club over the last 4years and have chosen not to play over the last couple of years to try and repair some returning injuries.

I am enjoying having a game as a reserve this season. Would love to return full time to the playing arena next year.

I have just started a new business called Mischief Toys & Hobbies selling Radio controlled toys and collectibles.

I also specialize in Table Tennis Gear, so if you're chasing new rubbers or a bat, even a table, give me a call 0412318055 or see me at the club."

White Balls

The orange balls have been replaced by white balls this season. The main reason is that the rear stadium wall and the floor are both orange/brown.

White shirts should not be worn to avoid players losing sight of the ball during play.

2009 Committee

The committee members are:

President: Mark Jenkins

Vice President: Steve Rowson

Treasurer: Gary Kiorgaard

Secretary: Ken Hay

Committee: Desley Payne, Ian Fenwick, Ross Anketell, Ray Dunn, John Dale, Colin Rule

If you have any comments or issues, please submit them for the next meeting.

Table Tennis to go ahead without 'Speed Glue'

PARIS (AFP) — Risks of birth defects, nervous system and lung problems brought about the end of the "speed glue" era in table tennis and next month's world championships will be the first without it for over 30 years.

The International Table Tennis Federation banned the substances from September 1, 2008, or just after China's clean sweep of gold medals on home soil in the Beijing Olympics.

That means the elite table tennis scene at the Yokohama world event from April 28 to May 5 will have changed markedly compared to previous championships.

Speed glue, first discovered by Hungary's Tibor Klampar more than 30 years ago, revolutionised the game, increasing spin and speed by up to 30 percent and making powerful shots easier to play.

Yet there was a darker side. While the game became a better spectacle because of powerful, yet effortless shotmaking, harrowing incidents started the warning bells ringing.

A player at the Scottish championships collapsed after his glue can fell over and he inhaled all the fumes.

Some athletes had nervous system-related disorders such as severe headaches, concentration problems, and poor awareness. A table tennis shop in Japan was even raided by youngsters who wanted to "sniff glue".

A respected German table tennis magazine "Deutsche Tischtennissport" even reported a chemist stating there had been at least five instances of birth defects in newborn babies after skin contact with toluene, one of the toxic solvents in the first generation of speed glues.

Former French national team doctor Christian Palierne, who carried out major research into the consequences of speed gluing, told "Deutsche Tischtennissport: "It has been proved beyond doubt that inhaling solvents during the speed gluing process has side effects.

"The coaches must ask themselves whether they really can be answerable for allowing 11- to 13-year-olds to use speed glue."

Of course all these claims were the extreme end of the spectrum and on a day-to-day level, health-related problems were rare. Yet in December 1992, the ITTF banned speed gluing.

Two months after the ruling, the ITTF rescinded the ban and instead found a compromise whereby dangerous glues, containing the most dangerous toxic substances such as toluene and trichlorethylene, were made unavailable through control of the market.

The glues were weaker meaning players had to put on more and more coats of it to get the same speed and spin-boosting effect, often just prior to each international match.

ITTF president Adham Sharara believed the repeal of the speed glue ban in 1993 was a mistake, saying the decision to ban it on September 2008 will stay.

"There's no going back," Sharara said. "We've made enough compromises and the end of the Olympic Games in China spells the end of speed gluing. It would be irresponsible to ignore all the reports about the danger of certain chemicals in our society and in our sport."

Social Table Tennis

As well as the higher grade competition players, the club also have many social players, who like to have competition games, but also who play for the fun and fitness, and socialising.

We hope to increase the number of social players, and organise more structured competitions for these and all new players, including coaching.

Social players are encouraged to suggest preferences for playing.

We like to have a different format for each season to provide entertainment, the chance to play against higher grade opponents, and getting to know each other. This will mean more games for all players, but also that we will need to be sure to have enough players to fill in the gaps when other players are not available on Tuesday nights.

We must thank Barbara and Alistair Pringle for looking after the new players, and getting involved.