



December 2023

# President's Update <sup>Newsletter</sup> Highlights

As we come to the end of another great year of pickleball and enjoying each other's company whether it be for coffees, dinner, lunch, a Melbourne cup party or a get together, we have all had a lot of fun.

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

We now have 8 venues across the coast where we play pickleball, the latest being at Coolum State School. Danny and Romy Papo have done an excellent job of creating such a friendly atmosphere every Friday, Saturday and Sunday – a wonderful place to play pickleball.

MEET THE COMMITTEE

Our other 7 venues have all grown in member attendances over the last 12 months albeit

COMPETITIONS COORDINATOR UPDATE

Caloundra had been closed for 4 months due to renovations. Even with the Caloundra closure,

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

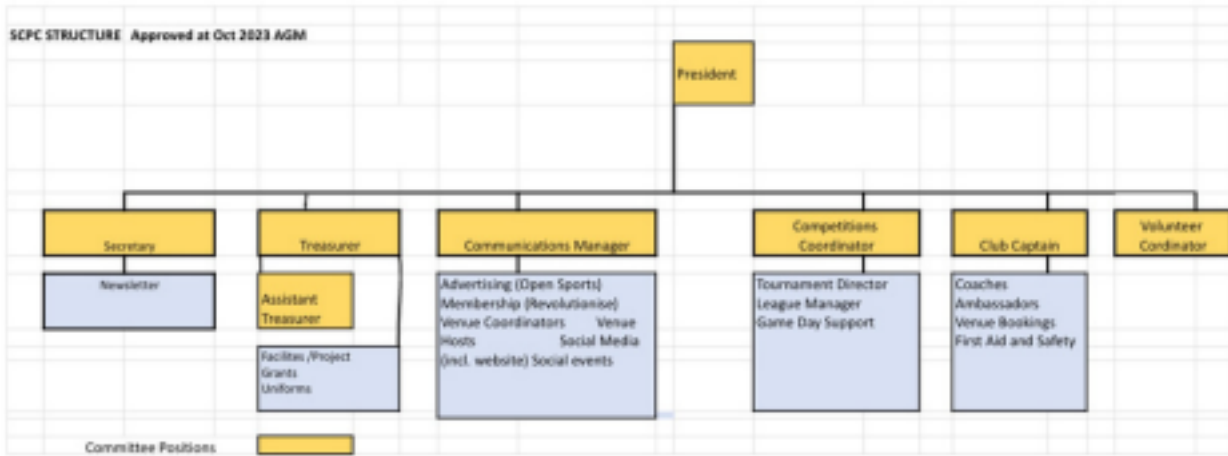
I have to say that the everyday activity at SCPC over the 8 venues is immense and none of this would be possible without the help of all of our hosts who make sure that 31 sessions every week run smoothly. A HUGE thank you to all of our hosts. You do such a great job. A big thank you for the efforts of our 2022/2023 departed committee members - David Evans (past President), Jen Wheeler (past Communications Manager) and Kathy Grudzinskas (past Secretary). I also cannot do this report without giving our current SCPC committee members the greatest accolades possible. Michael Drummond, Michael Clarke, Peter Nichols, Darren Munn and Bobbie Maton all do such incredible work for our club – Thank you, guys!

Finally, thank you to all of the members of our club for making it such a wonderful atmosphere to play pickleball. It is an honor to be President of our great club.

Merry Christmas everyone and have a great 2024!

PETER CAMPBELL

## Meet Your Committee



- Peter Campbell- President
- Michael Drummond- Secretary
- Peter Nichols- Competitions Coordinator
- Michael Clark- Treasurer
- Darren Munn- Communications Manager
- Bobbi Maton- Assistant to Treasurer and Grants Specialist
- Club Captain - vacant
- Volunteer Coordinator - vacant

## President **PETER CAMPBELL**

When Jill and I retired to the Sunny Coast in March 2016, we decided we needed to meet new friends, so we joined the very active U3A.

We started with a couple of years of learning tennis – not successfully, as a matter of fact, awful. A friend from tennis informed us that a small group from U3A were starting to learn how to play this weird name for a game – Pickleball. So in February 2019 we started our pickleball journey

After looking after the Thursday U3A pickleball group for 2 years, I moved into the committee of the newly formed SCPC (October 2020). We decided to celebrate World Pickleball Day (10.10.20) by having a Come and Try day. This attracted 99 people and from there, our game commenced its rapid growth. In the last couple of weeks SCPC HAD OUR 500th member sign up - incredible growth for just 3 years.

My major role over the last 3 years has been Club Captain. Now as president, I am privileged to be able to say that since we came to the Sunny Coast in 2016, we have so many friends who we play pickleball and socialise with away from the courts. This crazy named sport has done so much for Jill and myself in our retirement years. Long live Pickleball!

[president@scpickleball.com.au](mailto:president@scpickleball.com.au)

## Secretary **MICHAEL DRUMMOND**

After over 40 years with the Air force and Defence, Michael and



Veronica retired to the Sunshine Coast in January 2012. An avid tennis player locally, Michael first experienced pickleball at a Keith Bing session at Noosa in December 2018.

Like most 'Pickleheads', he was hooked on the sport from the get go. After running U3A Advanced Pickleball sessions for a couple of years (COVID notwithstanding), Michael has since assisted the SCPC club in the background by hosting and providing advice as needed.

While knee problems, culminating in double knee replacement, kept him off the court for a year, he is now back on the court and slowly building back his skill set. Michael brings to the SCPC committee over 30 years of sporting club experience across all club positions, and his active involvement is most welcomed.

[secretary@scpickleball.com.au](mailto:secretary@scpickleball.com.au)

## Competitions Coordinator **PETER NICHOLS**

Born and bred in Caloundra, now a retired builder. Work and family life didn't leave much room for sport. But now have found pickleball and enjoy playing, showing newbies how to play and socialising. I have been learning the ropes for the past year as competitions co ordinator and I am just happy to help out where I can.

[competitions@scpickleball.com.au](mailto:competitions@scpickleball.com.au)



## Communications Coordinator **DARREN MUNN**

Born in Yorkshire UK or the centre of the known universe. Spent 30 years working in the Far East and Pacific Regions for a large UK cookware company. Moved to New Zealand and then the Sunshine Coast after visiting the area on holiday, married to a very patient wife Jane, family of three boys who thankfully take after Jane. Retired at 49 bored by 50, spotted Pickleball on the ABC news 2020 and thought that's looks easy and I am bound to be awesome at it! Little did I know.

Communications Manager responsibilities include the Opensports app, set up and help with venues such as Meridan Plains, Mountain Creek and the CIS League. Apprentice working for the competition's director at his beck and call. Currently working on a new club website to be launched in early 2024. Always looking for help and suggestions from club members on how we can improve the SCPC experience.

[communications@scpickleball.com.au](mailto:communications@scpickleball.com.au)



## Competitions Coordinator



# Update

PETER NICHOLS

## SUNSHINE COAST PICKLEBALL CLUB V NOOSA PICKLEBALL CLUB CHALLENGE

An inaugural 'Club Challenge' was held on Sunday 29 October 2023 at Caloundra Indoor Stadium. The challenge was across 13 different events and 96 players competed.

Together the two clubs, SCPC and Noosa battled for the title of local Club Champions 2023, overcoming all obstacles including a fire alarm and evacuation 30 minutes into the first rounds. But through the patience and tenacity of the players we got through all the events. Some close fought matches were played throughout the day. Matches were won or lost in a great spirit of friendship and sportsmanship. It was also great to catch up for a social at the local after the event.

Thanks to the many hands, making a well run and fun tournament for all. Thank you to the Tournament Director, referees and support staff. Thank you to the willing band of referees volunteering to referee our medal matches Margot, Paul, Pete, Robyn, Ron and Gail. Apologies if someone has been missed.



Thank you also PAA and PAQ for your support and "Recognition" of this event. A big thank you to Jason Hunt MP, Member for Caloundra, for attending the event and presenting medals to our winners



Last, but certainly not least a big thank you to the Noosa Club for instigating and joining us in this experience. Miriam Brace is a wealth of knowledge in conducting such events, and her guidance is very much appreciated. Thanks to Ron Gatliff and all his team.

In the end it was Sunshine Coast Pickleball Club who reigned supreme winning the inaugural Challenge and claiming bragging rights till the next event. We look forward to the next Club Challenge with Noosa. Maybe on their home ground they will reign supreme??

# SUNSHINE COAST PICKLEBALL CLUB V NOOSA PICKLEBALL CLUB CHALLENGE



**Men's Doubles 3-3.49 (60+)**



**Women's Doubles Under 2.99 (60+)**



**Mixed Doubles 3.5+(60+)**



**Mixed Doubles 3-3.49 (60+)**



# Tournament Results

## AUSTRALIAN PICKLEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023

Congratulations to all SCPC member who participated in the 2023 Australian Pickleball Championships. There were fantastic results, considering 700 players entered and competed over the hot and windy weekend of 29 Sept - 2 Oct 2023.

Michael De Bartoli Jr GOLD - MENS DOUBLES 3.49 TO 3.99 (70+) Michael De Bartoli Jr GOLD - MENS SKINNY SINGLES 3.49 AND UNDER (70+) Stu Applegate GOLD - MENS DOUBLES 2.99 AND UNDER (18+) Tina Kessler SILVER - WOMENS SKINNY SINGLES 3.49 AND UNDER (35+) Glen Turnbull SILVER - MENS DOUBLES 3.0 TO 3.49 (50+) Dirk Kessler SILVER - MENS DOUBLES 3.0 TO 3.49 (50+) Erica Bacon SILVER - MIXED DOUBLES 3.5 TO 3.99 (65+) Gail Aiken SILVER - WOMENS SKINNY SINGLES 3.5 AND ABOVE (ANY AGE) Anita Smith SILVER - WOMENS SINGLES 3.5 TO 3.99 (50+) Gary Petterson SILVER - MENS DOUBLES 3.5 TO 3.99 (65+) Gary Peterson BRONZE - MENS SINGLES 3.5 TO 3.99 (60+) Kate Applegate BRONZE - MIXED DOUBLES 3.5 TO 3.99 (18+) Gary Petterson BRONZE - MIXED DOUBLES 3.5 TO 3.99 (65+) Anita Smith BRONZE - WOMENS DOUBLES 3.5 TO 3.99 (50+) Tina Kessler BRONZE - WOMENS DOUBLES 3.5 TO 3.99 (50+)

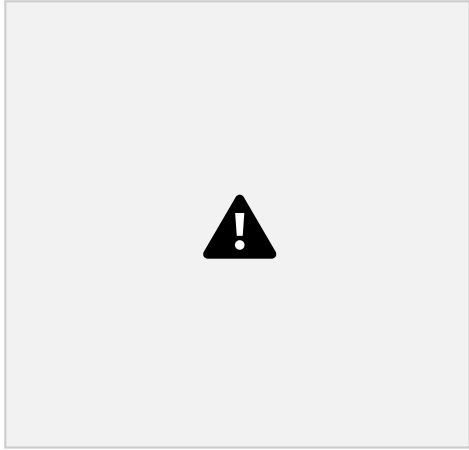
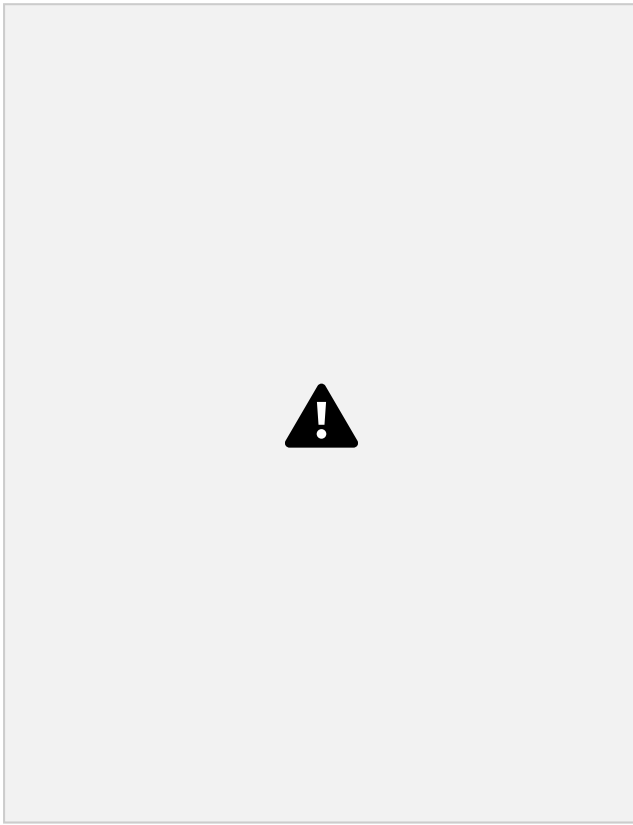


## NORTHERN RIVERS REGIONAL DOUBLES TOURNAMENT 2023

Congratulations to the SCPC members who recently travelled to Ballina to compete in the Northern Rivers Regional Double Tournament which was held at the Ballina

Indoor Sports Centre on 25 - 26 November.









Although the stadium is very kindly donating sandwiches for us to enjoy after the Round Robin, if you could bring a slice or fruit platter to share that would be appreciated. Could you call or text Jill on 0400796854 by Friday 8 December what you would like to bring that would be great.

## **PAA Seniors Sunshine Coast Tournament**

13-14 February 2024



The Sunshine Coast Pickleball Club

(SCPC) will be hosting a PAA Seniors Tournament over the Tuesday and Wednesday 13 and 14 February 2024 at the Caloundra Indoor Stadium. The tournament will be for all international, national and regional players 50 years and older and will feature Ladies and Men's Doubles as well as Mixed Doubles. Age divisions are planned to be 50+, 60+ and 65+ with skill levels of 2 - 3.0, 3 - 4.0 and Open. Due to court limitations singles events cannot be offered.

The tournament has been sanctioned by PAA and is expected to be loaded to the Pickleball Brackets Tournament list by first week of December. So, save the date now, start getting your partners together and arrange practice games as soon as practicable. Players or other interested parties who are unable to play, please consider volunteering your time to help run the event as check-in hosts, court scorer coordinators, first aid assistants, or qualified referees. Every willing volunteer will help make the event run smoother. If you want to volunteer, please drop an email to our Competitions Coordinator – Peter Nichols at: [competitions@scpickleball.com.au](mailto:competitions@scpickleball.com.au)

So as club members lets get the word out to all players nationally and help make this tournament a great success and credit to our club and the Sunshine Coast region. PAA will also be advertising the event as part of the Australian Seniors Tour.

## PAQ Player's Player Award 2023

Sunshine Coast Club Winner - Anita Smith

A very enthusiastic pickleball player that has been in the sport for less than two years, but has progressed rapidly and is participating in competitions and tournaments around Australia and in South East Asia. Despite her quick advancement in the sport, she still makes time to contribute to running sessions, encouraging our club members as well as volunteering for referee training and support duties. Anita has been highly successful in her competitive events and has been willing to partner with a range and diversity of players locally, nationally and internationally. She recently returned from a successful World Championships in Bali winning Gold in the mixed doubles with a player from India. She is a great ambassador for the sport and our club.

