Hi All,

We need your help!

With the squash season looming, I felt it was timely to update our members with some upcoming events and happenings at the club, and also where we may need some assistance.

Because there is a lot of exciting news and events, I have put the ‘help required in red’ and will give you a summary of things to do at the end.

**Squash Court make over:**

Starting this coming Thursday evening we plan to remove the existing partition walls above the courts, these are situated between the steel portals and the concrete playing walls on either side of court two and replace them with a see through steel netting which will increasing the overall visibility and feel of the courts from upstairs, whilst still preventing balls from traveling across courts.

Then on Saturday and Sunday we will paint the ceilings and existing side walls above the courts, with a big clean up planned for Sunday afternoon, evening.

If you are available Friday, Saturday or Sunday 24th – 26th Feb for any amount of time be it half a day or a few hours we would appreciate all the help we can get.

If you have any of the following: large paint rollers and or trays, drop sheets to cover the courts etc., they would be appreciated.

Please reply to this email or txt Bruce 0274 863 021 if you are able to help in any way or can lend us as above.

Melissa Shaw is going to organise lunch for the helpers on Saturday and Sunday, so if you think you can help out with that. Please Txt Melissa on 027 533 9092

You will also notice only one court is available over the weekend whilst we are painting the courts. After this work has been completed we will get contractor’s in to repair and repaint the courts during March before the interclub season starting in April.

We also will have some new club sponsors on board, watch this space!

**Court Bookings:**

You may notice a fair number of block bookings for club events, i.e. business house, junior’s and skills training. As these involve a large number of members at times we require all the courts, and although this does affect some peak times i.e. 5-7pm weekdays, Thursdays and Fridays are still freely available and Tuesdays will free up within a few weeks when business house finishes up.

**Squash Club Lease:**

Over the next few weeks we will be in the process of renegotiating a new lease with Eastlink Tennis Trust who own the squash club buildings, and one of the items we feel very strongly about and class as non-negotiable is upgrading the ladies’ showers and converting the men’s showers to cubicles.

This is following on from a number of complaints and comments from members and visitors.

Eastlink Tennis Trust have already approved the replacement of the cisterns in all bathrooms and this should alleviate the flushing issues we have had at times. We should see these replaced within a couple of weeks.

**Business house:**

We have had 19 teams consisting of approximately eighty players involved in business house on Monday and Tuesday nights, and as always it has been a popular competition.

So we are just finalising the details for a similar competition to be run on Monday nights in place of club nights, teams will consist of four players with three playing per night, business house rules and three rounds per night from 5.45pm to the last round starting at 8.05pm

More details to follow.

**Monday night club nights:**

Will be replaced by the competition as mentioned above, and we will review this after three rounds of the new competition.

We feel the pervious club night could be very hit and miss with the number of people attending and continuing the business house type competition will involve more club members and provide greater use of the facilities.

**Club Buddy System:**

As discussed at the AGM we would like to get a list of current club members / squash players that would like to help us set up and be part of the Lugton Park Squash Club Buddy System. LPBUDS will be group that will help with introducing our club and squash to new members.

We anticipate that when a new member joins the club a buddy will be allocated to them to help with showing them the game of squash (if they have not played squash before) and involving the new member in activities held at the club throughout the year, this can be at a time that is suitable to both people.

If you wish to be on The LPBUDS list, please email lugton.tournament@gmail.com

**Winter interclub:**

Entries for winter interclub close on the 17th March.

Winter Interclub is a 16-week competition that starts on 4th/5th April and finishes 18th/19th July. Games start at the new time of 7pm.

Men play on Tuesday night whilst Ladies play on Wednesday nights. It is a home and away competition, so half of the Games will be at Lugton Park Squash Club with the remainder being around Hamilton with the odd game further afield depending on the teams in your division.

All divisions are based on points (you must be on the Squash NZ grading list). We can help you with this if you are not on the grading list yet.

Games should be a fair match up where possible.

If you have any further questions regarding interclub please see

<http://www.squashwaikato.co.nz/content/Interclub/85.aspx>

or contact lugton.tournament@gmail.com with your enquire or entry.

**Cook Islands Open:**

Also as mentioned at the AGM a group of Lugton Park Squashies are heading back to Rarotonga in October for the Cook Islands open, this is a great fun event held from the 20th – 27th October (dates are now confirmed).

Really this is a week of playing some squash, in-between having a great time in the pacific with a few drinks mixed in.

If you are interested, please email Bruce on moose5five5@gmail.com

I will add you to the list and once we get a confirmation of costs and accommodation options I will be in touch. Registration of interest means you will get the info – it does not commit you to going, but we’d love to see you there.

**Membership renewal:**

Memberships are due for renewalby **March 26th.**

Fees, can be paid to the Club’s account direct.  Details below:

Lugton Park Squash Club Westpac, Victoria Street, Hamilton Branch

03-1555-0071624-00 Please pop your full name as a reference.

Any memberships paid before this date all go in the draw for one free membership drawn on Monday 27th March.

We are looking to simplify the process for membership renewals, but in the meantime it would be great if you could complete the new membership form found here: <http://lugtonparksquash.org.nz/join/> that way we can capture any changes in details.

**Summary of things to do**:

Email or text Bruce 0274 863 067 if you can help out with renovating the courts this Friday to Sunday

Text Melissa 027 533 9092 if you can help with lunch this Saturday or Sunday

Email lugton.tournament@gmail.com if you would like to be part of the Lugton Park Squash Buddy System introducing new members to the club.

Email lugton.tournament@gmail.com with your registration or query for Winter Interclub.

Email Bruce on moose5five5@gmail.com if you would like to register your interest for the Cook Islands Open (October 20-27th) – no points, just loads of fun.

Pay your annual membership by 12th March 2017 to go in the draw to win your fees back!

Book the important dates below into your calendar!

See you on court

Bruce

**PS:**

**Some important dates are listed below**

**Important Dates 2017**

**June 2-4th Cousins Shield – Herne Bay Rackets Club, Auckland**

**June 22-24th Lugton Park Squash Club B/j Tournament**

**August 6th Lugton Park Squash Club Werder one Day Series**

**August 11-13th Superchamps district Eliminations**

**August 24-26th Lugton Park Open**

**September 22-24th Champions of champions District Eliminations**

**September 27-30th Superchamps National Finals**

**B Grade – Cromwell Squash Club, Otago**

**C Grade – Royal Oak, Auckland**

**D Grade – Taupo Squash Club, Taupo**

**E Grade – Hamilton Squash Club, Waikato**

**F/j Grade Hawkes Bay Lawn Tennis Club, Eastern**

**October 13-14th Lugton Park Club Champs / AGM**

**October 20-27th Lugton Park – Cook Islands Open**

**(dates are confirmed)**

**October 27-29th Champions of Champions National Finals**