



Mountain District Ladies
Tennis Association Inc
Reg: 0020766V

President's Report 2024

Tuesday August 15th, 2023 @ 1.30 pm @ Gisborne Tennis Club

Good afternoon, everyone. Thank you all for being here today. It's fantastic to see so many familiar faces and a few new ones as well. I'd like to start by expressing my gratitude to each of you for your ongoing support and commitment to our Association and our Volunteers.

As many of you know, my daughter is approaching her teenage years, and it's been both inspiring and concerning to watch her and her friends navigate the world of sports. Too often, young girls start to drift away from sports for many reasons, and it demonstrates to me how important it is to create spaces where women, regardless of age or life stage, can continue to play, stay active, feel safe and most importantly, enjoy each other's company. This association is that space for so many of us, but we can always be better and do better.

This past year has been an incredible journey for our association. We had two fantastic grand final days with some fantastic competition. What made these events even more special were the luncheons that followed, where we had around 80 attendees each time. These gatherings were more than just meals; they were celebrations of our achievements, our camaraderie, and our shared love of tennis.

Of course, we've faced some challenges as well. One of the biggest has been the lack of new volunteers. We know how vital fresh energy and new ideas are to keep the association thriving, and we'll be focusing on ways to encourage more members to get involved. But I want to take a moment to sincerely thank everyone who has contributed over the past 12 months. Your dedication, whether it's been on the court, behind the scenes, or in any capacity has been invaluable. We couldn't have played this game without you.

Looking ahead, our goal is to continue growing and ensuring that this association remains a welcoming, empowering place for women of all ages, skill and confidence. We'll be exploring new pathways, reaching out to potential members, and advocating for more support so that we can keep breaking down those barriers and make tennis accessible to even more women.

Now, more than ever, we need to rally together. In tennis, as in life, we shouldn't be knocking people down or dismissing their ideas. Instead, we should be lifting them up, embracing everything they bring to the table, and working together to make our association stronger.

I encourage each of you to think about how you can contribute to our association's future. Whether it's volunteering, spreading the word, or simply showing up with kindness and enthusiasm, every bit helps. Together, we can ensure that our association not only survives but thrives, making a lasting impact on everyone who steps onto our courts.

Thank you again for being part of this journey. I'm excited for what the next year holds for us, and I'm confident that, with your continued support, we can achieve even greater things - game, set, and match!