

THE
VICTORIAN TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION.



ANNUAL REPORT.

SEASON 1938.



HONORARY SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

- for -

SEASON 1938.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Executive Committee have pleasure in presenting the following report on the work which has been undertaken on behalf of the Association since the last Annual General Meeting.

Pennant Matches: The Pennant Competition again attracted a record number of entries - 112 teams competed in 15 grades. It is interesting to note the growth of the Association during the last five years:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>1934</u>	<u>1935</u>	<u>1936</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1938</u>
<u>Teams</u>	68	81	80	86	112
<u>Grades</u>	8	9	9	10	15

(Note: Since 1936, the Association has not accepted entries from teams without a Home Table.)

The following teams are congratulated on winning their respective grade competitions for the 1938 season:-

A	M.S.D.
A Reserve	Bank of New South Wales
B	Kiwi
B Reserve	Myer's
C	St. John's
C Reserve	Cash's
D Section 1	National Trustees
D Section 2	Government Printing
D Section 3	Caulfield
D Section 4	L'Arona
D Section 5	Bank of New South Wales
D Section 6	L.E.Q.
D Section 7	Ivanhoe Fireflies
Women's A	Jaici
Women's B	Government Printing

It was noticed during the Season that a number of Clubs had considerable room for improvement in their playing conditions; but generally, conditions were much better than in previous years. For the purpose of helping Clubs, your Committee has obtained from overseas such information that a booklet "Hints on Playing Conditions", "Lighting", etc. has been prepared, and will be distributed to teams participating during the coming Season.

Affiliated Associations: During the Season under review the following bodies were affiliated with the V.T.T.A.:

Victorian Railways Institute Table Tennis Assn.
Caulfield and District Table Tennis Assn.
Williamstown and District Table Tennis Assn.
Oakleigh and District Table Tennis Assn.
Brighton " " " " "
Frankston Table Tennis Association
Geelong " " "
Bendigo " " "
Central Gippsland Table Tennis Association
Sale Table Tennis Association
Warrnambool Table Tennis Association
Wodonga Table Tennis Association

These Associations have over 170 teams playing in Competitions.

Table Tennis in the country is becoming more popular and better organised each year, and these Associations are to be commended for the way they are advancing the game in their Districts. As many as possible of these Associations have had Exhibitions during the past two Seasons, by the visiting Hungarian players. It is hoped that during the forthcoming Season, matches will be arranged between Metropolitan Clubs and Country Clubs.

Committee Meetings : During the year, the Committee have met on 12 occasions, which were attended as follows:

A. Williams	10	A. Pott	10
H. Oakley	5	L. Haycraft	10
J. Sheehan	5	N. Jones	4
A. Taylor	11	H. McDonald	10
A. Temme	11	L. Tipping	8
C. Mayman	7	C. Rowe	3

Honorary Secretary 12

Victorian Championships : A feature of the 1938 Victorian Championships was the noticeable increase in the standard of play, especially with players just below Championship

class. This improvement, no doubt, is due to the benefit players obtained from the visit of Messrs. Szabados and Kelen, in 1937.

The Championships were played over six nights at Wirth's Olympia, under ideal playing conditions.

Results of the 12 events played were as follows:

Men's Singles Championship	..	K. Adamson
Men's Doubles "	..	H. Oakley - J. Thoms
Women's Singles "	..	Miss J. Sampson
Women's Doubles "	..	Misses J. Sampson - C. Hawk
Mixed " "	..	H. Oakley - Miss C. Hawk
Junior Singles	..	H. Sundercombe
Men's Special Singles	..	E. Sundercombe
Men's Special Doubles	..	W. Walker - A. Thompson
Men's "B" Grade Singles	..	A. Paterson
Men's "C" " "	..	R. Summers
Men's Novice Singles	..	R. Summers
Women's "B" Grade Singles	..	Miss A. Seeley

Congratulations are tendered to the victors, particularly to K. Adamson and J. Thoms, who again played off for the coveted title of Victorian Champion.

The attendance at the Final Night was very disappointing. Your Executive Committee considers this due to the poor response from Club members.

Australian Championships: The Australian Championships this year were conducted at Wirth's Olympia, where never before in Victoria have such a number of first class players competed. In addition to G. V. Barna and L. Bellak, of Hungary, (now of England and U.S.A. respectively) the leading men and women players of New South Wales, Tasmania, South Australia and Victoria competed in 5 Championship events, which resulted as follows:

Men's Singles Championship	G. V. Barna (Hungary)
Women's " "	Miss J. Sampson (Victoria)
Men's Doubles "	G.V. Barna - L. Bellak (Hungary)
Women's " "	Mrs. Ward (N.S.W.) - Miss Haycraft (Vic.)
Mixed " "	L. Bellak (Hungary) - Miss Hunter (Tas.)

Foreign Players' Tour: With the visit of Barna and Bellak, during 1938, our players had the opportunity of again competing against, and seeing, two more of the world's best exponents of Table Tennis. The main feature of the tour was a match, Hungary versus Victoria, played on the 18th August.

Although our players were defeated, they recorded a remarkable performance against players of such world renown. Other matches were played at Geelong, Ballarat, Albury, and Warrnambool.

The Committee wish to place on record their appreciation of the sporting way in which the two visiting players undertook the tour, and to H. N. Smith, Esq., of Hull, England, who financed the tour. Only through the generosity of this gentleman have the two foreign tours we have had, been possible.

Australian Table Tennis Association: The A.T.T.A., with whom Victoria is affiliated, had another extremely heavy year, in managing and controlling the Barna - Bellak Tour. It is pleasing to record that one of the main objectives of the A.T.T.A. has now been fulfilled, namely, all Australian States now have uniform laws of Table Tennis - a position without precedent.

Regulation Dress: An innovation during the Victorian Championships, was the compulsory wearing of regulation Table Tennis dress. Your Committee has also encouraged Regulation Dress for Pennant Matches. The response from Clubs has been very gratifying, many of whom now have registered colors.

Exhibition Matches: The demand last year by Clubs and Institutions for Exhibitions by leading players was greater than ever. The Association is deeply indebted to those players who gave their services on so many occasions.

At the commencement of the Season, leading players were so frequently requested to give Exhibitions that they could not cope with the demand. In fairness to these members, your Committee decided that no registered player of the Association should take part in any Exhibition Match, unless approval had first been given in writing by the Association.

Publicity: Once more our thanks are due to Mr. Harry Hopman of the "Herald", Mr. Mervyn Weston of the "Argus", and Mr. J. M. Bayley of the "Age", for the publicity given by them through their papers to Table Tennis.

Special appreciation is due to Mr. Harry Marshall for his splendid articles, in the absence of Mr. Harry Hopman.

Thanks are also due to one of our members, Mr. E. Sundercombe, for his work in the "Sun"; Mr. Holbrook, of the "Sporting Globe"; "Lawn Tennis in Australia"; and Mr. W. Sharland of 3-XY, and Mr. J. Gurry of 3-UZ, for their Radio Broadcasts.

New Rules: The International Table Tennis Federation's Rules of Play, which were adopted at the last

Annual General Meeting, have proved a success. With the lower net, the most noticeable factor has been the increase in the speed of play over the table, which has considerably brightened the game.

The elimination of finger spin service has not greatly affected many individual players, nor has the points system of scoring; there was a little confusion at the beginning of the Season, especially with Doubles Play; however, it was not long before players were fully acquainted with the new Rules.

Future Prospects: The prospects for the coming Season are exceedingly bright, indications having been received that many new Clubs will enter teams for the 1939 Pennant Competitions. The A.T.T.A. is negotiating with the New Zealand Association regarding the possibility of a visit to Australia, of a team of four this year.

Appreciation: The Association is again indebted to Messrs. J. Holbrook and F. Holzer, for their work as Auditors, and to Mr. Stuart King, our Honorary Solicitor, whose advice and help has been of extreme value to us.

In conclusion, I desire to record here my personal thanks to the Assistant Hon. Secretary and members of the Executive Committee, who so ably assisted me during the past Season, and also to those members of the Association who, throughout the Season, co-operated with me to the fullest extent.

R. H. JONES,

Honorary Secretary.

Melbourne,
12/4/1939.

ADDENDUM

I desire to place on record my appreciation of the good work of Secretary and Committee during the past twelve months. The strong position of Association is due largely to their untiring efforts.

A. WILLIAMS,

President.

Melbourne,
12/4/1939.

THE VICTORIAN TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31/3/1939.

EXPENDITURE

To Postages and Telephone
Printing and Stationery
Loss - Australian Championships
Trophies
Entertainment
Presentation - H. N. Smith
Victorian share Loss 1937 Sydney Carnival
Affiliation Fee, A.T.T.A.
Bush Fire Relief Fund
Honorariums
Sundries
Annual Dance

£18 0 3
22 6 10
39 11 11
38 4 0
6 11 0
4 10 0
11 16 0
2 2 0
2 2 0
36 15 0
6 13 6
5 11 9

BY Affiliation Fees
Advertising

£92 3 0
8 14 0
1 7 6
4 9 0
9 0 4
10 10 11
3 6 6
26 4 4
38 8 8

RECEIPTS

£194 4 3

£194 4 3

A. TEMME, Hon. Treasurer.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31/3/39.

LIABILITIES

Balance being surplus
Assets over Liabilities

£130 16 10

ASSETS.

£59 2 0
Cash at Bank
Sundry Debtors
State Associations
General
Rule Books
Typewriter
Duplicator
Equipment

£18 5 0
35 14 10

53 19 10

4 15 0
8 10 0
1 0 0
3 10 0

£130 16 10

£130 16 10

A. TEMME, Hon. Treasurer.

Melbourne. 12/4/1939.

This is to certify that we have examined the books and accounts of the V.T.T.A. and have found the same to be correct.

JOHN HOLBROOK
FRANK HOLZER) Hon. Auditors.
12/4/1939.