



Annual Report

1948

THE VICTORIAN TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

THE VICTORIAN TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

(Affiliated with the Australian Table Tennis Association)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SEASON 1948

President:

H. H. OAKLEY, ESQ.

Vice-Presidents:

MESSRS. A. WILLIAMS, A. COOPER, H. HOPMAN.

Life Members:

MESSRS. A. R. TAYLOR, H. H. OAKLEY, A. WILLIAMS.

Executive Committee:

MESSRS. H. BASHFORD, L. CLOUGH, W. HARRATT, J. HOOPER,
J. HOSKING, F. WALBRAN.

Honorary Secretary:

R. H. JONES.

Assistant Honorary Secretary:

R. H. SUMMERS

Honorary Treasurer:

L. HAYCRAFT, A.I.C.A.

Delegate to A.T.T.A.:

R. H. JONES.

Auditors:

E. ADKINS, A.F.I.A., C. A. CHAMBERLAIN, A.F.I.A.

Editor "Table Tennis":

L. K. TIPPING.

THE VICTORIAN TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT

To be presented to the Annual General Meeting of the Association
to be held on the 6th April, 1949.

Ladies and Gentlemen.—

In reporting on the 1948 Table Tennis Season, your Executive Committee has pleasure in recording that the past season saw the greatest activity undertaken since the inception of the V.T.T.A. As most of these activities have been reported fully in our official publication, "Table Tennis," we briefly summarise the season as follows:

PENNANT COMPETITIONS: 171 teams (a record entry compared with 116 in 1947 and 73 in 1946) competed in 22 grades. The reduction in the number of players from a minimum of four to a minimum of three per team, resulted in a number of clubs entering extra teams; likewise, the innovation of playing on two evenings in each week, made it possible for some clubs to enter teams when otherwise they would not have club rooms available for matches. However, the affiliation of new clubs was the main reason for the increase of teams for 1948.

At the last Annual General Meeting, on the recommendation of your Executive, Match Regulations were amended to provide for a new order of play, in which each member of a team played each member of the opposing team, and we are now pleased to record the success of this method of play in Pennant Competition.

Playing conditions at a number of clubs leave much to be desired; the major problems to be overcome being associated with the difficulty of obtaining playing space and modern tables.

A complete list of premiership points for 1948 was published in the October edition of "Table Tennis." The following teams are congratulated on winning their respective grade competitions:—A. Grade, St. Kilda Cricket; A Reserve, Ivanhoe; B Section 1, St. Kilda; B Section 2, Golds. Mort; C. Section 1, City Mutual; C. Section 2, Commonwealth Bank; C Section 3, Dorcas; C Section 4, V.R.I.; D Section 1, Trocoop; D Section 2, Cyclone; D Section 3, Kraft Walker; D Section 4, Ajax; D Section 5, Nonporite; D Section 6, Hak. J.R.C.; D Section 7, Lauriston; D Section 8, Pt. Phillip; D Section 9, Constitutional; D Section 10, Foy's. Women's A. Hak. J.R.C.; Women's B, Shell; Women's C.1, Bank N.S.W.; Women's C.2, Lauriston.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS: The 19th Annual Victorian Championships were played over eight nights, at Wirth's Olympia, from July 21 to July 30. Interstate entries from New South Wales and Tasmania, together with competitors from the country, added interest to the event.

A decided improvement in the lay-out of playing tables at the Olympia was achieved by arranging the tables with fences between and at the end.

A packed house on the finals night witnessed the conclusion of another successful tournament.

Congratulations are offered to the following players on winning their respective events:—

Men's Singles Championship: W. Lowen.
Women's Singles Championship: Miss D. Shipp (N.S.W.).
Men's Doubles Championship: H. Oakley (V.)-M. Dankin (N.S.W.).
Women's Doubles Championship: Miss Suran-Mrs. Defris.
Junior Singles Championship: E. Donaldson.
Mixed Doubles Championship: Miss F. White-A. Champion.
Men's Special Singles: D. Woodley.
Men's Special Doubles: L. Haycraft-A. Hamilton.
Men's "B" Grade Singles: A. Andrews.
Men's "C" Grade Singles: L. Zeltzer.
Men's "D" Grade Singles: L. Zeltzer.
Men's Novice Singles: I. Foster.
Women's "B" Grade Singles: Miss C. Holden.
Women's "C" Grade Singles: Miss N. Buckland.

AUSTRALIAN CARNIVAL: We have every reason to be proud of the results of the Fourth Australian Carnival which your Association had the responsibility of conducting during the period September 6th to 10th, 1948. Salient features were:—

This Carnival marked the first occasion on which every State Association has competed.

The issue of an informative souvenir programme.

The success of the Victorian Men's and Women's Teams.

The success of the Victorian men players in winning the major titles.

Complete results were issued in the October edition of "Table Tennis."

Special congratulations are offered to the Victorian players: Dr. Walter Lowen for winning the National Singles Title; Reg. Summers for being runner-up to National Singles Title; R. Summers and H. Bashford for winning the National Doubles Title, and our men's team, consisting of Messrs. Summers (captain), W. Lowen, K. Evans, H. Bashford and J. Phin, for winning the Men's Team Premiership of Australia, and Miss E. Nichols (captain), Miss A. McClelland, Miss F. White, Mrs. K. Defris and Mrs. J. Thomson, for winning the Women's Team Premiership of Australia.

Our thanks are due to all the interstate players who entered for the various events, and for their co-operation in helping the matches to be played on schedule; to the members of your Executive Committee who took part of their annual leave so that they could devote full time to the event, and to our club members who gave valuable assistance as umpires and stewards. In all, this was responsible for the carnival being such an outstanding success.

ATLAS SHIELD COMPETITION: The first post-war Atlas Shield Competition for affiliated associations was played during the season. Twenty-two Associations competed, and the event was concluded by bringing the two interzone winners, Albury T.T.A. and Geelong T.T.A., to Melbourne for the play off, which resulted in Geelong T.T.A. winning the shield for 1948.

JUNIOR COACHING CLASSES: During the season under review, for the first time, the Association conducted coaching classes for juniors. Thanks are due to Messrs. H. H. Oakley and R. Summers for the guidance they gave to their pupils, as a result of which many improved their standard and technique.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION: An important event in the history of the Association occurred in June, 1948, with the first issue of the V.T.T.A. publication, "Table Tennis." This little publication has met a long-felt need of members for a regular source of information on the game. For economic reasons, its size has been kept to

a minimum, but should the demand increase there is no reason why a book on a larger scale should not be published. The editor, Mr. Len Tipping, is congratulated and thanked for his work in presenting five issues for 1948.

ANNUAL BALL: The 1948 V.T.T.A. Cabaret Ball was held at the Dorchester Ballroom on September 11th. As this event coincided with the conclusion of the Carnival, a large number of interstate visitors was present, and opportunity taken for the presentation of trophies won during the National Championships.

SZABADOS-RIGGS EXHIBITION: On December 16th, at Wirth's Olympia, a large crowd was thrilled by a programme of first class exhibition matches. As well as the visiting players, M. Szabados (N.S.W.) and Bobby Riggs (U.S.A.), leading Victorian players participating were W. Lowen, R. Summers, Miss E. Nichols and Miss F. White.

VICTORIAN RANKINGS: The selection committee, Messrs. H. H. Oakley, R. H. Jones and R. H. Summers, announced on October 1st the Victorian Rankings for 1948. They are as follows:—

MEN

1. W. Lowen
2. R. Summers
3. K. Evans
4. H. Bashford
5. A. Champion
6. H. Osborne and
J. Phin
8. L. Phillips
9. D. Labb
10. A. Walker

WOMEN

1. Miss F. White
2. Miss E. Nichols
3. Miss D. Payne
4. Mrs. S. Defris
5. Mrs. J. Thomson
6. Miss A. McClelland.

AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS: The following 29 bodies, representing 513 teams, and over 4100 registered players (1948—16, 240, 1600) were affiliated with the V.T.T.A. during 1948. These associations are again commended on the manner in which they are organising the game in their respective districts, and through their contact with the Association, the game is being placed on a uniform basis throughout Victoria:—Albury, Alexander, Ararat, Bacchus Marsh, Ballarat, Benalla, Bendigo, Bright, Camberwell Churches, Castlemaine, Colac, Geelong, Horsham, Kyabram, Lang Lang, Leongatha, Maryborough Churches, Merrigum, Northern Suburbs, Oakleigh and District, Parkside, R.S.L., Sandringham and District, Stawell, Tatura, Victorian Public Service, Victorian Railways Institute, Williamstown and Footscray, Wodonga.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: During the year ten committee meetings were held, the attendances of members being:—H. Oakley 10, A. Williams 2, A. Cooper 9, H. Hopman 3, R. Jones 10, L. Haycraft 10, R. Summers 8, H. Bashford 6, L. Clough 7, W. Harratt 5, J. Hooper 5, J. Hosking 9, F. Walbran 7.

During visits overseas, Messrs. Hopman and Harratt were granted 6 months' leave of absence.

Various sub-committees were formed to attend to the several categories of business pertaining to the business of the Association.

AUSTRALIAN TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION: Delegates to the A.T.T.A., besides being in constant meeting by correspondence during the year, held a General Personal Meeting at the time of the Australian Carnival in September. This body, which is affiliated with the International Table Tennis Federation, is doing a tremendous amount of work in furthering progress of the game in a National sense.

LAWS OF TABLE TENNIS: Since the conclusion of the 1948 season, the International Table Tennis Association has amended the Service Rule as follows:—Laws of Table Tennis—Law 10, Second paragraph, delete "either" and "or dropping away." The object of this change is to simplify the rule of making the server project the ball upwards with his palm; the I.T.T.F. states that some servers were smuggling a form of hand spin in when "dropping away" the hand.

DONATION: It is fitting that it be recorded in this report the magnificent gesture of our English friend, Mr. H. N. Smith, in presenting to the V.T.T.A. a Jaques championship table. This table was used in all important fixtures during the year, and Mr. Smith is again thanked for his generosity.

In appreciation of this gesture, our Association presented to the A.T.T.A. the "H. N. Smith Trophy," a perpetual trophy for the Men's Singles Championship of Australia.

ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS: It is regretted that your Executive Committee is not able to report that the Association has now its own headquarters and club rooms. The lack of such facilities is severely retarding the Association's progress, and the matter has been constantly in our minds. It appears that until more space is available in the city, this ambition will remain unfulfilled.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: The financial position of the Association is sound, and again your Executive Committee is confident that the funds of the Association have been wisely administered with the object of promoting the game.

It is anticipated that expenditure during 1949 will be heavy, as it is possible that a visit will be made to Australia by international players. Further, if the Australian Carnival, as scheduled, is played in Brisbane, this Association will have heavy expenditure in sending Victorian teams to Queensland.

In conclusion, Ladies and Gentlemen, your Executive Committee is of the unanimous opinion that it should be placed on record the untiring work performed by Mr. H. H. Oakley in his first year as President of our Association.

OBITUARY: It is with regret that we record the death last November of our Honorary Solicitor, the late Mr. W. E. C. Treyvaud. Mr. Treyvaud was the Association's solicitor for over two years, and although no heavy demand was made on his services, his advice when solicited was of valuable assistance.

For and on behalf of the Executive Committee,

R. H. JONES,
Honorary Secretary.

Melbourne, 21st March, 1949.

ADDENDUM

Following an unprecedented season of activity in table tennis, the Executive Committee wishes to place on record its appreciation of the sterling work of our Hon. Secretary, Mr. Ron Jones. As usual, he carried out his many and arduous duties, including that of Hon. Secretary of Australian Association, in a thorough and efficient manner, sparing neither time nor energy in his work of advancing the best interest of the game.

In this tribute, I wish to include Mrs. Jones, who has rendered inestimable assistance to her husband in his many tasks.

Melbourne 21st March, 1949.

H. H. OAKLEY,
President.

THE VICTORIAN TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Revenue Account for Year Ended 15/3/1949

EXPENDITURE		RECEIPTS	
Printing & Stationery	£26 13 3	Affiliation Fees—Associations	£7 5 0
Postages	18 19 7	Affiliation Fees—Clubs	136 16 0
Nets	18 0	Registration Fees—Players	111 0 0
Telephone	15 7 10	Fines	6 7 6
Handbooks	9 15 10	Victorian Championships	90 5 10
Dance	17 0 6	Sale of Scorebooks	7 0 1
Food for Britain	3 0 0	Riggs-Szabados Exhibition	31 10 4
Premiership Pennants	9 9 0	Sundry Receipts	16 15 2
Scoreboards, etc.	22 17 1		
Balls	9 14 0		
Atlas Shield Competition	4 10 6		
"Table Tennis" Publication	33 1 2		
Trophies	25 12 6		
A.T.T.A. Affiliation Fees	10 10 0		
Australian Carnival	34 9 8		
Honorariums	78 15 0		
Trophy Orders 1948	25 18 0		
Sundry Expenses	41 16 9		
Excess for 1948	18 11 3		
	<u>£406 19 11</u>		<u>£406 19 11</u>

Balance Sheet as at 15/3/1949

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
Trophy Orders, 1948	£25 18 0	War Savings Certificates (at cost)	£363 0 0
Honorariums	78 15 0	Bank of New South Wales	16 12 3
Excess of Assets		Typewriter	5 0 0
Brought Fwd. £349 19 3		Tables	42 0 0
Excess for 1948 18 11 3		Australian Carnival—	
	<u>368 10 6</u>	Bal. due by State Assns.	39 15 9
		Sundry Debtors	6 15 6
	<u>£473 3 6</u>		<u>£473 3 6</u>

Audited and found correct,
 E. ADKINS
 C. A. CHAMBERLAIN } Auditors

L. HAYCRAFT, Honorary Treasurer.
 Melbourne, 21/3/1949.