

THE  
VICTORIAN TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION.



ANNUAL REPORT.

SEASON 1937.



## HONORARY SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

for

SEASON 1937.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Executive Committee are conscious of a deep feeling of pride in submitting this report of the 1937 Season of the V.T.T.A.

In reviewing the activities of the year, we are proud to report that everything within the Association's power has been done to popularise and promote the game of Table Tennis, and we are also proud to report that our efforts were rewarded, because at no time has our Sport had more players, or a larger following than it has at the present time.

In the year under review, 86 teams, divided into 10 grades, competed in Pennant Matches; 12 events were decided during the Victorian Championships; 2 International Matches were played in Melbourne; 6 International Exhibitions were given in country centres; and a Men's and Women's team competed at the Australian Carnival at Sydney.

Pennant Matches: The 86 competing teams enjoyed a very pleasant season. Competition between the teams was very keen; in fact, the least number of teams on record withdrew from the Competitions. There are still a number of Clubs who have not ideal playing conditions, but as time goes on, we hope that these faults will be remedied.

The following teams are congratulated on winning their respective grade competitions:-

A	National Mutual Table Tennis Club
A Reserve	South St. Kilda Table Tennis Club
B	Austox Table Tennis Club
B Reserve	McPherson's Table Tennis Club
C	Middle Park Surf Table Tennis Club
C Reserve	Kiwi Table Tennis Club
D	Myer's Table Tennis Club
D Reserve	Doutta Galla Table Tennis Club
Women's A	Jaici Table Tennis Club
Women's B	Austox Table Tennis Club



Victorian Championships: The preliminary rounds of the Championships were played at the Y.M.C.A. during the first four nights, then for the following two nights of play the venue was changed to Wirth's Olympia; here the players found ideal conditions with unlimited playing space.

Three new events were included in the programme, namely,  
 Special Doubles for Men  
 Novice Singles for Men  
 "B" Grade Singles for Women

These events proved a great success, as they catered for many players who previously did not enter for the higher events.

The Semi-Finals and Finals of the Men's Singles Championship and the Final of the Women's Singles Championship were again played at the Melbourne Town Hall. During this evening a record crowd witnessed one of the most gruelling finals ever played in this State. Jim Thoms (the ultimate winner) and Ken Adamson are congratulated on this memorable match, which went to four sets and took 105 minutes to play.

The results of the various events were as follows:-

Men's Singles Championship	J. Thoms
Men's Doubles Championship	H. Oakley & J. Thoms
Ladies' Singles Championship	Miss C. Hawk
Ladies' Doubles	" Misses B. Sarah & F. White
Mixed	" F. Matthews & Miss F. White
Junior Singles	" K. Adamson
Men's Special Singles	A. Houghton
Men's "B" Grade	" F. Masters
Men's "C"	" C. Dawson
Men's Novice Singles	V. Clark
Men's Special Doubles	R. Pape & McDonald
Women's "B" Grade Singles	Miss M. Miller

Congratulations are tendered to the victors.

### Third Australian Carnival:

The following teams represented Victoria at the 3rd Australian Carnival at Sydney from 31st August to 9th September:-

<u>Men's Team</u>	<u>Ladies' Team</u>
H. Oakley	Miss C. Hawk
J. Thoms	" J. Sampson
K. Adamson	" I. Crump
R. Lamont	" F. White
W. Lumsden	

In the Men's Teams Premiership, four States were represented, namely:- New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, and Victoria. We congratulate the Queensland team on winning this event; N.S.W. were second; Victoria filled the third position; and S.A. were fourth.



We extend our congratulations to our Women's Team for winning the Teams Premiership.

In the National Championship events, M. Szabados (Hungary) and his countryman I. Kelen, played off the Final of the Men's Singles Championship of Australia. M. Szabados won this event, again proving his supremacy over Kelen. The other events resulted:-

Open Doubles	M. Szabados & I. Kelen
Mixed "	Miss A. Jacobs (N.S.W.) and I. Kelen
Women's Singles	Mrs. Johnson (Qld.)
Women's Doubles	Miss A. Jacobs and Miss P. Hollis (N.S.W.)

The Carnival was conducted at the Sydney Stadium at Rushcutter's Bay. Victoria sincerely thank the New South Wales Association for the entertainment given to the Victorian party.

Exhibition Matches: Again during the past Season leading players gave many exhibitions, both in the City and Country, and wherever they played, the spectators were delighted with their displays. We offer our thanks to all these players.

Visit: Miss Phyllis Hodgkinson (ranked No. 9 woman player in England) played against some of our leading women players. This lady visitor was a little too good for our players, but it was proved that our leading women players are in a high class.

Visit of Miklos Szabados and Istvan Kelen: These two players from Hungary did more than words can express to popularise and improve the game in Victoria and Australia; not only did they, through their ability to play the game at its best, gain us many followers, but they taught our players many strokes which will materially improve the standard of Table Tennis here.

It is not possible to record here full details of the tour, but briefly: Two main matches were played in Melbourne, the first at Wirth's Olympia on 23rd August, when an Australian record crowd saw the visiting players compete against a Victorian team, and on the 11th October, when an Australian team comprising, H. Oakley (Vic.), K. Adamson (Vic.), M. Coleman (S.A.) and K. Baker (N.S.W.), played a match against the Hungarians. In both of these matches the home players did not gain a set.

During the visit, Messrs. Szabados and Kelen and leading Victorian players were taken to the following country centres to give Exhibitions:-

Geelong  
Moe  
Bendigo  
Beechworth  
Sale  
Ballarat



The Szabados - Kelen Tour was made possible through the generosity of Mr. H. N. Smith (ex Vice-President of the English Table Tennis Association). This gentleman advanced the full fares of Messrs. Szabados and Kelen, from Hungary to Australia and return, thus making the visit possible. Mr. Smith was repaid in full the amount he advanced, but as we owe him a debt of gratitude, we hope that when he visits Australia this year, we may be able to show our appreciation in some small way.

Annual Dinner: The Second Annual Dinner of the Association was held at Carlyon's Hotel on 1/12/37. Sincere thanks are due to Mr. Adrian Quist for presenting the Pennants on this occasion. Mr. Harry Hopman again proved his interest in our Association by attending when his time was most valuable, owing to the visit of the International Tennis players.

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

Beechworth T.T.A.	Cheltenham & District T.T.A.
Bendigo T.T.A.	Colac T.T.A.
Caulfield & District T.T.A.	Geelong T.T.A.
Central Gippsland T.T.A.	Oakleigh & District T.T.A.
Williamstown & District T.T.A.	

These Associations are doing good work for our game, and we wish them every success for the future.

Committee Meetings: The Committee had a very arduous Season, and gave up many hours in attending 26 meetings, which were attended as follows:-

A. Williams	20	
H. Oakley	22	
J. Sheehan	18	
A. Taylor	16	
C. Mayman	22	
A. Temme	21	
N. Jones	14	
L. Haycraft	18	
A. Pott	15	
M. Porter	-	(resigned 7/6/37)
C. Moroney	-	(resigned 9/7/37)
W. Lumsden	13	(resigned 28/2/38)
R. Pape	8	(appointed 21/6/37)
L. Tipping	5	(appointed 5/7/37)
Hon. Secretary	26	

Australian Table Tennis Association: Mr. Angus Taylor, who was elected as Victorian Delegate to the A.T.T.A. at the last Annual Meeting resigned from this position on the 5th July, 1937, and the writer was appointed to his place.



Business dealing with Australian matters was extremely heavy during the past Season. To the 31st March, more than 130 letters were exchanged between Affiliated States (N.S.W., Qld., S.A., Tas., and Vic.) dealing with such matters as:-

Uniform Laws of Table Tennis  
 Finalisation A.T.T.A. Constitution  
 3rd Australian Carnival  
 Szabados - Kelen Tour 1937  
 Barna - Bellak Tour 1938.

It is pleasing to report that the Australian Table Tennis Association, which is affiliated with the International Table Tennis Federation, has now been constitutionally formed,

Much work is to be done by the A.T.T.A. in regard to making Uniform Laws throughout Australia. The tour of V. Barna and L. Bellak this year, will be managed and controlled by this body.

Publicity: Our special thanks are due to Mr. Harry Hopman of the "Herald" and Mr. Mervyn Weston of the "Argus" for the publicity given by them through their papers to Table Tennis during the past Season; a lot of our gain in popularity is due in no small measure to these two sportsmen, and we will certainly miss them this year while they are overseas. We take this opportunity of wishing Mr. Harry Hopman every success with his Davis Cup Team, and we wish Mr. Mervyn Weston "all the best" during his trip to England.

We also tender thanks to Mr. Baillie ("Age") Mr. Frank Cave (Shell Show), Mr. Mel Morris (3 L.O.), Mr. W. Sharland (3 X Y), and Lawn Tennis in Australia for help given in publicity matters during the past Season.

Trophies: Our very sincere thanks are offered to Messrs. Burchnall & Gutch, makers of Riversdale Table Tennis equipment for very kindly and generously donating a handsome Cup for the Men's Singles Championship of Victoria; also to The Melbourne Sports Depot for donating a beautiful trophy for the Men's Doubles Championship of Victoria. This action by these two firms is very much appreciated, as the V.T.T.A. has now two trophies which every player will strive to gain, and be proud of holding.

Future Prospects: Nearly 30 new Clubs have already been in communication with us with the intention of entering teams in the 1938 Pennant Matches - this gives every indication that the coming Season will be another record year.

The number of personal enquiries from persons wishing to join Clubs are increasing weekly; the only solution to this problem is to have Association Club Rooms, and to satisfy this ever-growing demand, action in this regard must be taken in the very near future.

This year again, through the generosity of our benefactor, Mr. H. N. Smith, we are to have two more International players in our State. Viktor Barna, of even greater reputation than M. Szabados, and Laszlo Bellak, both Hungarians, who have won titles that cannot be recorded here, have thrilled thousands of people in England and America, and with this visit on top of the Szabados - Kelen Tour of 1937, the standard of play and popularity of the game should be increased beyond our imagination.

Appreciation: We are indebted to Messrs. J. Holbrook and F. Holzer for their work as Auditors.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the members of the Executive Committee for their help and co-operation during the past Season. The Association should be proud of having such a willing band of workers in control of the game in Victoria.

R. H. JONES,

Honorary Secretary.

Melbourne,  
1/4/38.

I desire to express my thanks to the Hon. Secretary for his very valuable help to the Association during a strenuous year and also thank members of the Committee for their valuable help also. All these officers have greatly helped to place our Association in the strong position it is in today.

A. WILLIAMS,

President.

4/4/38.



# THE VICTORIAN TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION.

## STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS FOR SEASON 1937.

### EXPENDITURE

To Postages and Telephone  
Printing and Stationery  
Entertainment  
Carnival Team  
Annual Dinner  
Sundries  
Victoria's portion loss 1936 Carnival  
Secretary's Honorarium  
Balance (being excess of Receipts)

22.12. 0  
21. 7. 4  
6. 3. 0  
64. 4. 0  
4.13. 9  
4. 6. 1  
4. 0. 0  
21. 0. 0  
51.14. 3

£200. 0. 5

### RECEIPTS

By Affiliation Fees  
Advertising  
Fines  
Victorian Championships  
Szabados-Kelen Tour  
Sale of Rule Books  
Sale of Blazer Pockets  
Sundry Receipts

71. 0. 0  
9.10. 0  
1. 5. 0  
51. 1. 0  
42.18. 8  
3.10. 9  
1.15. 0  
18. 0. 0

£200. 0. 5

A. TEMME, Hon. Treasurer.

JOHN HOLBROOK, ) Hon. Auditors,  
FRANK HOLZER, ) 5/4/38.

## BALANCE SHEET FOR SEASON 1937 AS AT 31/3/38.

Balance being surplus of assets over  
Liabilities

172. 0. 6

Cash at Bank  
Securities  
Stocks on hand

93.10. 6  
58. 0. 0

Handbooks  
Tables and Trestles  
Typewriter  
Duplicator  
Nets and Supports  
Rope

4.10. 0  
3. 0. 0  
9. 5. 0  
1. 5. 0  
1. 0. 0  
1.10. 0

20.10. 0

£172. 0. 6

£172. 0. 6

A. TEMME, Hon. Treasurer.  
Melbourne. 5/4/38.

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, ) Hon. Auditors.  
FRANK HOLZER, ) 5/4/38.