

# Dalkeith Tennis Club

CNR VICTORIA AVE., & BEATRICE ROAD DALKEITH 6009

28 August 1996

Dear Member,

It's my pleasure as incoming President to introduce your new Management Committee and give you a brief outline of our goals for the Club over the coming months.

We are fortunate to have achieved a good balance between members of the previous committee, ensuring a measure of conformity and an influx of new, and dare I say it, slightly younger members, full of enthusiasm and promise! Overall, a good mix.

At the risk of stating the obvious, I'm sure that you'll all agree that we at Dalkeith have, over the years, enjoyed a very high standard of leadership and together with our great location and facilities this has contributed to Dalkeith being perhaps the State's premier tennis club.

However, I don't believe that we can be lulled into a sense of false security, particularly, as with most other clubs, we are experiencing a decline in membership. For example, at the end of the '95 year our family membership stood at 126, but at '96 had fallen by 21 to 105. The same is true of couple and single memberships. Obviously this has serious implications for our cash flow.

With this in mind the immediate goal of your committee is to implement a determined membership drive, details of which are now being finalised. We plan to channel our efforts towards our Opening Day on Saturday October 19th, and Junior Opening Day on the following Sunday as the focus for this membership drive! Lots of activities and excitement are planned, so please pencil this in on your calendar as a must attend event.

I'd also like to challenge all members to assist the Committee in their efforts to gain new members. Please talk to your friends and neighbours and any

new arrivals in your street. An incentive will be offered to anyone introducing a new member, details to be announced soon, but please make this a priority.

At our first committee meeting on August 6th our administrator, Brian Some, announced his retirement. In the short time that I've worked with Brian I've come to understand the tremendous contribution he has made to the club at all levels. His meticulous attention to detail and thoroughness are I think hallmarks of his time as Administrator.

Above all, I think that Brian's love of the Club and concern for the welfare of its' membership is an example for all of us, so on everyone's behalf I would sincerely like to thank Brian for his great contribution and of course to Margaret for her support. We wish you both all our best for a happy retirement!

The position of Administrator is currently being advertised, and Brian has kindly offered to assist in the changeover, so once again, many thanks.

Subscriptions for the coming year have increased marginally and compared with other clubs, I believe Dalkeith offers great value for money. Could I ask everyone to please get their subs. in early as this is the time of year when we dip into overdraft.

Our Club Captain Geoff Barker has included in this mail-out an outline of his plans for the Weekend Summer Tennis League, and I believe these will greatly improve the nature of competitive tennis at the Club. Could I draw your attention to an important facet of his letter, and that is the selection of teams based on merit. It would make the jobs of those people responsible so much easier if we can have your co-operation in this regard.

In closing, I'd like to wish you all a great year at the Club and invite maximum participation.

Sincerely,

**Harry Bakker  
President.**

## **Management Committee 1996 - 7**

<b>President</b>	Harry Bakker	<b>Vice President</b>	John Travers
<b>Secretary</b>	Kerry Warner	<b>Treasurer</b>	Richard Elsey
<b>Captain</b>	Geoffrey Barker	<b>Vice Captain</b>	Wendy Cottrell
<b>Junior Convenor</b>	Andrew Franklin	<b>Social Convenor</b>	Julia Allen
<b>Other Committee</b>	Susie Lau; Jan Muggleton; Fiona Palmer; Colin Relf; Gavan Sullivan; Steven Ward		

## **Weekend Summer Tennis League**

This year, thanks to the efforts of John Thorpe and others, Dalkeith will be fielding both men's and ladies' State Grade Teams which will prove a real boost to the Club's long term strategy of attracting and retaining quality players.

As part of this strategy, the Dalkeith Tennis Club has decided to take a more structured approach to the Tennis West Weekend Summer Tennis League competition. A competition committee, comprising Andrew Franklin, Glenn Smith, Wendy Cottrell and Geoff Barker has been formed to facilitate the smooth running of competition. The committee will draw on the expertise available within DTC members and coaching staff to ensure Dalkeith can field its best teams at all levels and at the same time foster and encourage the improvement of players.

Initiatives which will be instituted are:

- The introduction of squads and an organised mid-week training night for both juniors and seniors. Apart from assisting players to improved their tennis and foster team spirit, it will also increase the interaction of junior and senior players.
- Reaffirmation of the principles of team selection based on merit. We will try and accommodate personal preferences when these do not disadvantage the team or any other player.
- Reintroduction of the "bumping board" system whereby competition players can challenge each other prior to the final team selections.

Glenn Smith has offered to be the Summer Pennants co-ordinator as focal point for liaison with Tennis West, with primary responsibility for Saturday competition. A Sunday co-ordinator will be appointed shortly.

Nominations for the weekend Summer League (including Juniors) close Sunday September 8, (see form enclosed). After nominations have been received, preliminary team selection will be made and posted in the Clubhouse to enable challenges to occur. The conditions of challenge and date by which challenges must be completed, will be advised. Enquiries about the Junior League should go to Andrew Franklin.

**Geoffrey Barker - (Capt)**