

President's Report

TBT Inc.

Annual General Meeting – 20 October 2025

Summary

On behalf of the Committee, I am pleased to present the President's Report for TBT Inc. for 2025. This has been a period of growth, consolidation, and innovation for our club.

Highlights of the year included hosting a highly successful Brisbane Open 2025, the launch of our redesigned website, new initiatives to broaden participation such as Femme Fridays, and the trialling of a digital court allocation app to streamline our social tennis sessions. Membership has remained strong, with positive engagement across both social and competitive events.

The club continues to benefit from the hard work of our volunteer committee and importantly the dedication and support of our members.

Brisbane Open 2025

- We successfully hosted the Brisbane Open 2025 at the Queensland Tennis Centre with strong local, interstate, and international participation.
- Delivered three days of competition with 190 players from 28 countries, including 47 TBT members, making it one of the largest GLTA tournaments ever held in Australia.
- We received excellent feedback from players and the GLTA on the quality of the tournament, the organisation, the facilities, and the social events. The independent post-tournament survey, issued by GLTA ranked the event 4.41 out of 5 for 'Overall Tournament Rating', this was up from 4.0 in 2024.
- The tournament was delivered collaboratively by a dedicated committee of eight, supported by a wider team of volunteers across the weekend.
- A key objective for the 2025 tournament was to streamline operations, establish clear documentation, and create repeatable processes to ensure the efficient delivery of future tournaments for the club. We achieved this objective and hope to build upon this foundation for all future tournaments.

Member Achievements in GLTA Tournaments

TBT members proudly represented the club at GLTA World Tour events — both nationally and internationally — achieving outstanding results across multiple events and divisions.

- Luke Topp represented TBT at the prestigious GLTA World Championships in Puerto Rico in February, continuing his strong international form.
- We had strong TBT representation at the Tennis Sydney Open last December and at the Perth Lawn Tennis Championships and Canberra Clay Classic in January.
- At the Australian Open Glam Slam (Melbourne)
 - Andrew Macdonald and Ian Arthur Ridgway won the A Doubles title.
 - I won the D Singles title in an all-TBT final against Jaryd, Jaryd also finished runner-up in D Doubles alongside Jack Lam.
- In April At the Castlemaine LGBTIQ+ Championships
 - Scott Anscombe won the A Singles title.
- In July in Ballarat LGBTIQ+ Championships
 - Justin Lancaster and Tony B were A Doubles runners-up.
 - Ian Peters was C Singles runner-up.
- At the Brisbane Open
 - It was an all-TBT C Singles and Women's D Singles semi-finals lineup.
 - Callum Biggs defeated Ian Peters to win the C Singles title.
 - Kara Castles won the Women's D Singles title, defeating Lily.
 - Davide Wheeler and Brian Harman were the D Doubles champions.
 - Claudio and Tony were the A Doubles runners-up.
- In Bali at the G-Slam in August
 - Indra was runner-up in C Singles.
 - Davide Wheeler was runner-up in both D Singles and D Doubles.
- At the inaugural Radelaide Open in October
 - Luke Topp and Justin Hermann were crowned Open Doubles champions.
 - Davide Wheeler and Tiago Muniz won the C Doubles title.
 - Ian Peters and Geoff Dudley were the B Doubles runners-up.

- Tennis Sydney Spring Classic 2025 in October
 - Richard Evans won the D Singles title.

A huge congratulations to all our TBT members for representing the club with pride.

TBT Club Championships

- We held our Club Championships in June. The club championships provided an opportunity for members to compete locally in a friendly but competitive environment and we hope to hold more tournaments like this next year.

Membership

- We currently have 71 paid financial members.
- We have 101 casual members who play social tennis.
- Membership numbers have remained stable, with growth in female participation.
- Ongoing focus remains on delivering value to members through regular social play, competitive opportunities, and inclusive community events.

Website – tbt.org.au

- A complete rebuild of the club's website was delivered in mid-2025, improving design, functionality, and accessibility.
- Our aim is that the website becomes the central repository for all things TBT including all details for social tennis and the Brisbane Open.

Social Tennis App Trial

- We have been conducting an ongoing trial since August of a custom-built digital scheduling app for social tennis.
- The app enables smoother court allocation, balanced sit-outs, and greater transparency for members.
- Feedback from players has been constructive, and further development is underway to refine the system for future use.
- Linking to payment system, grading, visibility on who has signed up and automatic court allocation will be integrated as part of future upgrades.

Femme Friday

- As part of discussions with interstate LGBTIQ+ clubs we trialled a new initiative to encourage and support greater female participation in tennis.
- We trialled two Friday evening sessions with coaching, match play, and social activities.
- We attracted new female members and provided a welcoming environment for women of all playing levels.

- Feedback has been positive and a special thank you to Katie for leading this initiative

Governance, Processes and Member Involvement

- Over the past year, the executive Committee has made a conscious effort to simplify the way the club manages its affairs. This has been a time consuming process.
- Administrative processes have been streamlined — including membership renewals, event registrations, and communications — reducing the workload on committee members and improving transparency.
- Clearer policies and procedures have been introduced, helping ensure the club operates in line with best practice for Queensland incorporated associations.
- Importantly, the Committee has sought to open up the club’s activities so that members can be more actively involved in shaping and delivering our events and initiatives.
- By encouraging broader participation in decision-making and operations, we are building a stronger sense of ownership and inclusiveness across the club.
- This shift not only strengthens governance but also ensures the club remains sustainable, welcoming, and responsive to member needs.
- Once this structure has been setup we can move our focus back to social tennis, coaching, more club tournaments and social events.

Coaching

- Luke Topp is leading a new coaching initiative within the club.
- Including - An 8-Week Squad Program by grade
- A Racquet Tech Night
- A Match Seminar: “How to Win More Matches”
- And a Fitness & Conditioning Info Night
- We encourage all members to fill in the survey to gauge interest in what type of coaching you are interested in.
- We will be making announcements soon.

Sustainability — Ball Recycling Policy

- This year, the club introduced a new tennis ball recycling program aimed at reducing waste and promoting environmental responsibility.
- Used tennis balls from social and competition play are now collected for recycling to be recycled through a company called **treadlightly**
- We have also donated used balls to Griffith University Tennis Centre and Morningside Tennis Centre.
- We are selling new Tecnifibre balls at a discounted rate as we have moved to US Open as our preferred ball for tournaments and social tennis.

Racquet Donation Program

- We have received a very generous donation from Andrew Demasson of 15 tennis racquets. Thank you Andrew for your generosity.
- As part of our new social tennis committee – we will look at how best to use these racquets.

Looking Ahead

- The 2024/25 year has been one of consolidation and renewal, with a substantial effort made by the Committee to bring TBT's affairs into order and ensure full compliance with our obligations as an incorporated association.
- With these foundations now strengthened, the focus for the year ahead can shift toward growth and engagement.
- Priorities for 2025/26 include expanding membership, hosting more frequent club tournaments, and continuing to build a strong, inclusive, and vibrant tennis community.
- By maintaining the progress achieved this year and investing energy into growth, TBT is well positioned for an exciting and sustainable future.