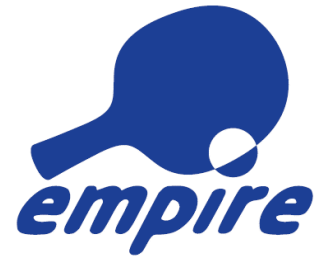


EMPIRE NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2015



Hi all

The year is going fast and a lot is going on. A lot of you will be keeping up to date by reading the email updates and keeping an eye on our website www.empirett.org.nz but it is time to share our news with everyone including those without electronic access.

Results

Here are results from some of the events played this year - some local and others further afield. Congratulations to all our winners named below, but also to everyone who has played in these events or other events we may have missed.

Summer Interclub

Empire had two teams win their grade in this competition:

Division Two : Empire Echoes - Reg Feuz / Om Thakur

Division Three: Empire Eskimos – Jessica D'Áudney / Diana D'Áudney

New Zealand Vets

Empire had a few people travel up to this annual event this time held in Whangarei at Easter. Once again Empire players did us proud as follows, with special note our over 80s Merv and Eddie:

Merv Allardyce / Eddie Moore silver medallists over 80 doubles

Eddie Moore silver medal over 80 singles

Ian Talbot bronze over 50 mens doubles

Ian Talbot bronze over 60 mens doubles

Depak Patel silver over 40 mens B grade

Ian Talbot bronze over 60 mens teams

TTW Autumn Open

This tournament was run over the weekend 2nd / 3rd May at Empire. Successful Empire players this time:

Depak Patel winner B grade singles

Harry Chen winner C grade singles

Zhidong Yu runner-up C grade singles

Jimi Nelson winner under 14 plate singles

Depak Patel winner over 30 singles

Harry Chen runner up over 30 singles

Depak Patel runner-up over 45 singles

Depak Patel runner-up over 55 singles

TTW Veterans Tournament

This was held on Saturday 23rd May, also at Empire and we had several players taking part and also people from around New Zealand as there was a TTNZ meeting in the Hutt the next day. Empire players featuring in the placings were:

Depak Patel runner-up over 40 singles

Depak Patel winner over 50 singles

Paul Solt / Zhidong Yu runner up over 40 doubles

Depak Patel / Zhidong Yu winners over 50 doubles

Martin Young runner-up over 50 doubles

Tony Rutledge runner-up over 60 doubles

Junior Development

Hot off the press from the latest tournament some successes for our Empire juniors. This was held with 10 keen players on Sunday 14th June at Empire.

Travis Dyer winner under 14 singles

Jimi Nelson runner-up under 14 singles

Trixie Pena runner-up under 14 girls singles

Travis Dyer / Jimi Nelson winners under 14 doubles

Trixie Pena runner-up under 14 doubles

Jet Hogan winner under 14 plate

Jimi Nelson winner under 17 singles

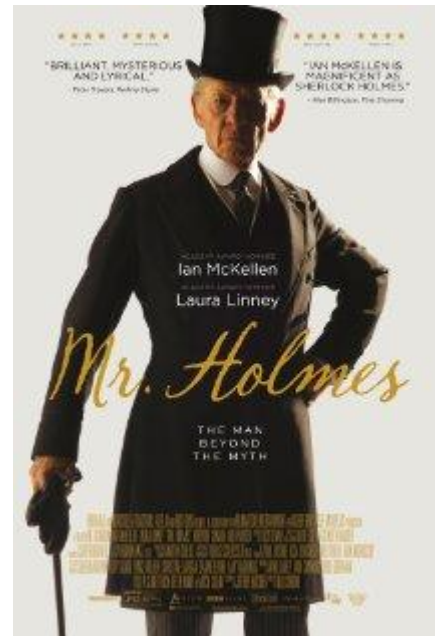
Travis Dyer runner-up under 17 singles

Fundraising

This is an important part of our activity and we need your support with everything we do. Our subscriptions basically cover affiliation fees, while session fees go towards our operating costs, which are high (particularly power). As you are aware, we need to do some serious repair work on the new building and there are other costs in just keeping the buildings functional. For example, our electrical switchboard barely manages with the load on it and should be replaced. This will be a significant cost. Fundraising helps toward such costs and means less money is needed to be taken from our cash reserves. We would very much like to preserve these reserves for the eventual redevelopment of the old stadium. At present this means:

1. **Raffle** – Tickets have sold quite well for this, but we would like to maximise profit and sell all of the tickets. There were still nearly 50 left at last count so please support the raffle by buying tickets and be in to win one of 4 prizes (a night at the James Cook in Wellington, a cookbook, two bottles of wine or an Empire multi card).
2. **Movie – Mr Holmes** – our annual trip to the movies is Thursday 23rd July for the 6.30 pm session at the Lighthouse Petone. We have taken the 100 seat theatre and would like to see it full to maximise profit! Tickets \$20.00 and available from all session organisers and Board members. We think we have selected a movie to suit everyone – it stars Ian McKellen and is rating highly with reviewers. Here is a brief synopsis: *“Mr. Holmes is a new twist on the world's most famous detective. It's 1947 and an aging Sherlock Holmes returns from a journey to Japan, where in search of a rare plant with powerful restorative qualities, he*

has witnessed the devastation of nuclear warfare. Now, in his remote seaside farmhouse, Holmes faces the end of his days tending to his bees, with only the company of his housekeeper and her young son, Roger. Grappling with the diminishing powers of his mind, Holmes comes to rely upon the boy as he revisits the circumstances of the unsolved case that forced him into retirement, and searches for answers to the mysteries of life and love - before it's too late."



Club Sessions

Friday Junior Club

Friday nights are still fun and social but this club is not well attended at present so we are currently running a membership drive. We have dropped advertising brochures in letter boxes in Petone, Alicetown and Normandale and put posters up in likely places. We would also appreciate anyone with children / grandchildren / children of friends and neighbours to promote the sport and ask them to consider coming along and having a go! For more information contact Pep O'Connor pepoconnor@gmail.com phs: 938 2562 / 027 663 0143.

Midweek Club

This Club is going well on both Tuesdays and Thursdays with the biggest number of the season so far being 69 attendees on a recent Tuesday. There are regularly around 50 attendees with all playing needs being catered for – the more competitive players and those just wanting social doubles.

Monday Club

This is also going well this year with much higher numbers attending this year, including several new members. This is good to see as our numbers were very low the last couple of years.

Sunday Club

Our casual Sunday Club is also going very well with good numbers coming along most weeks. There are no organised games here so this is a good opportunity to come along with your family or friends and have a hit.

Interclub

Winter Interclub is under way with 11 Empire teams competing. The spirit on both Tuesdays and Wednesdays is good with some very close matches being contested.

Volunteers

We have 6 people on the Board now which will potentially help with the workload in time. We still need people to help out with running the sessions, particularly on Monday and Fridays and at various other times. Using some of your time to support our fundraising activities and events also helps, so please do this where you can. We want to keep the Club running but at times it is hard work.

Coming up

Interclub - Look out for a request for Interclub players for Season 2 which will start late July. Some of the teams are likely to change for this round and there will be opportunities for new players to join the competition.

Movie Night – Empire at the Movies **Mr Holmes** on Thursday 23rd July – see above for details.

Wellington Open – this is on the weekend Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd August. More details on this see the TTW blog soon.

Manawatu Veterans Tournament – Saturday 15th August in Palmerston North. This is a doubles tournament for players 40 years and over. You can enter with a partner or request to be allocated someone of a similar ability. See the entry forms at the Club for more details.

Remember you can keep **up to date** through the Empire Table Tennis Club website <http://www.empirett.org.nz/> and through the TTW blog <https://ttwblog.wordpress.com/>