



# Empire Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2016

## Happy New Year

It is great to see so many of you back playing early in the season. Midweek in particular has got started with a “bang”. Monday, less so as there have been two Public Holidays since we opened!

## Subscriptions and fees...

**Fees :** We are pleased to say that the session fees for members are to remain the same for 2016. Cash charge is \$5.00 or you can buy a multocard for \$50.00 for 12 sessions.

For non-members the charge is now \$8.00 a session. We believe that this cost for players who only want to play very occasionally will be acceptable. For those people who come regularly we would encourage them to become members, take advantage of the cheaper session fee charges , and become eligible to play in Club events, tournaments and interclub.

**Subs:** Adult sub – this year \$60.00 (raised from \$50.00).

Concession sub (over 65, students, beneficiaries)– this year \$40 (raised from \$35.00)

These charges are reasonable given our regular out goings as well as the need to develop the premises. Payment of subs is due by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016, after this date all non-member players will need to pay \$8.00 per visit.

## Raffle

Once again we supplied a table to the James Cook for use by Rugby 7s players. Thanks to John Kane for arranging this and for transporting the table to and from the James Cook. This “hire” means we have a night at the James Cook to raffle. We also have prizes donated by members last year so this raffle has lots of prizes! Lookout for the raffle very soon, and support the Club by buying one or more tickets. If all members bought at least one ticket the raffle would sell very quickly.....

## Volunteers

We need you to help keep the Club going!

1. **Monday night session organisers.** A few people are unhappy that the Club opened one Monday in January, then closed the next one for Anniversary weekend and then the same again one week on and one week off with Waitangi Day. Well the reason for this is that there are not enough helpers. **Help is needed now to help** run Monday nights with Martin. With a pool of volunteers we may be able to keep the Club open on some holiday weekends. The current Board members are over committed and Monday night help is one way you could contribute to the running of the Club. There is no need to be on the Board to help out at Club sessions. If you can help please talk to Martin or Ian, our Activities Convenor.

2. **Parents for Friday night juniors.** Junior Club is expected to start after Easter and parent volunteers will be required to help each Friday. A shop is run each week and having extra adults on the premises is useful. If you can help out, even once or twice a term that would be great. Look out for further updates.
3. **Board members.** Positions are rotated on a two year cycle so that 3 “retire” each AGM. It is important to note that the positions do not have to do all the work described in each portfolio, but instead see that it is done. The present incumbents can be nominated again if they are willing.
4. **People with time or skills to help progress building redevelopment.** Can you think about any skills or time that you may have to help with this project.

## Coming up

### Monday Night Coaching

Depak Patel, our Club Coach is offering coaching on Monday nights for members. We would like to encourage as many players as possible to take advantage of this - the sessions are free for members, providing the night fee is paid. There are 6 spaces available each night – generally on a first in basis. We want to ensure coaching reaches as many players as possible so if demand exceeds capacity we may need to cap the number of sessions a player can have. Coaching is now under way on Mondays – put your name down when you arrive at the Club

### TTW Summer Interclub

Summer Interclub is the 2 person club team competition held most summers. It is to be played on Wednesdays for 6 weeks commencing Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February. Entries were due Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February so in theory the teams will be organised when you read this, although if you would like to play let Maggie know ASAP.

### TTW Vets Tournament

Empire Table Tennis Club, Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March. This tournament is for everyone over the age of 40 whether you are using it as practice for the National Vets or just keeping it local. There are several age groups – have a look on the TTW new website for more information. Entries close Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March. <http://www.tabletennis.org.nz/>.

### NZ Veterans Tournament

This is to be held in Palmerston North this year, 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> March, (Easter Weekend). For entry forms see TTNZ <http://www.tabletennis.org.nz/>

### TTW Autumn Open

More details later but pencil in the weekend of 23rd / 24th April for this event.

### ETTC AGM

This will be Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 8.00pm. See the attached notification for more details.