



Empire Newsletter

October 2019

Welcome to another update from the Club, highlighting upcoming events and news.

Our Anniversary

It occurred to me the other day while out walking (yes not while playing table tennis!), that 2019 was another significant year in the Club's history. It is our 85th birthday! We do have a few members who were born then, although they certainly were not old enough to be playing table tennis. There are no plans for any celebrations aside from a mention in this newsletter - so happy birthday to the club!

Congratulations

Hot off the press is the good news that Kevin Haines has been awarded the TTNZ Official of the Year award. This is well deserved as Kevin is not only the TTW Chair and Treasurer and the Empire Finance Convener, but also Onslow Treasurer and he puts in a huge number of hours to undertake these roles. Kevin can also be seen helping out at many events in our region. Congratulations Kevin!

Coming up....

Club Champs

These will run much later than usual owing to "staffing" issues ie the unavailability of administrators! As previously mentioned there are not many of us and it has been hard to schedule these this year. Anyway we are pleased to say we have a date:

Saturday 23rd November

More details will come out soon, but in the meantime please keep the day free.

TTW 4 Wednesdays Interclub Competition

This will run over the 4 Wednesdays in November - 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th November. While it is great if you can commit to all 4 weeks it is not essential. The event is suitable for players of all levels and we hope we will get entries from a range of players as it makes a healthy competition.

Time 7.00 pm at Empire and cost \$7.00 per person per night. This is run differently from other interclub events - check out the link for full details. To enter email interclub@empirett.org.nz by 31st October.

<https://ttwellington.org.nz/2019/10/14/november-four-wednesdays-spring-competition-2019/>

Winter Interclub Series Two

This has now finished. Empire had teams in all the grades, and there seemed to be a good spirit of competition this season. In Premier, the Enforcers made the final but lost to a very strong Titan. Well done to Depak Patel, Daniel Rosner, Darrell Brown and Ryan Cronin. Grade champs were held for Premier once again and James Harter was the winner of this competition.

In Division One the Enigmas team of Tony Rutledge, Om Thakur and Simon Jung also made the final. A repeat of Series One in that the team finished top of the Round Robin and then lost in the finals both times! First to a Titan team, and this series to Onslow.

Division Two saw the Egrets finish second. There was a grade champs for this grade too and all five Egrets came along. However young Dennis from Titan won this, although not without a fight from Kevin Haines (playing for Onslow) and Aaron Lan (Titan).

Division Three saw a better result with the Empire Energisers beating the Waterloo Wolves in the final. This was the opposite situation from Division One as this team finished second in the round robin but triumphed in the final. Well done Casey Pearson and Kyle Stapelberg. It was good to see several Empire players in this competition.

Midweek Tournament

About 70 players from all around the region convened at Empire for the annual Midweek Tournament. Raffles were held as usual and the entry fee was increased to \$10.00 this year. We received generous sponsorship from New World Wellington, meaning a healthy profit of \$725.00 was made. This year there were 7 groups and the winners can be seen below. Full results will appear in the annual report.

Group One: Winners - Maurice Pau / Charlie Talumepa (Levin); Runners-up - Wai Chung / William Yang (Empire)

Group Two: Winners - Tony Rutledge / Maree Murphy (Empire); Runners-up - Charles Chun / Anna Chung (Empire)

Group Three: Winners - Peter Jones / Bob Knight (Kapiti); Runners-up - Kaz Witko / Peter Highsted (Tawa)

Group Four: Winners - Sonny Kamariera / Gandabhai Vallabh (Peak); Runners-up - Heather Paul / Paki Taramoeroa (Kapiti)

Group Five: Winners - George Geris / Nancy Chan (Empire); Runners-up - Margaret Norris / Tina Maarhuis (Waikanae)

Group Six: Winners - Grahame Delaney / Perry Joe (Empire); Runners-up - Graham Robinson / Anna Gorman (Empire)

Group Seven: Winners - Frank Dawber / Glenn Payne (Upper Hutt); Runners-up - Trevor Plaisted / Anna Wong (Peak)

Congratulations to all winners. Also a huge thanks to Merv Allardyce for co-ordinating the event and running it on the day. Kevin Haines, Sommee Gee and Colin Gray also assisted on the day. Philip Yee and Ken Chung took photos of the occasion. Thank you to you all and anyone else who helped in any way.

Xmas Functions

Yes two of these....and the same week by chance!

Saturday 30th November - Xmas Dinner

At Ayutthaya Thai Restaurant, 149 Jackson Street, Petone at 7.00 pm. Full details to come but we would like expressions of interest by return email so we can get an idea of numbers attending. Cost to be confirmed.

Thursday 12th December - Midweek Xmas Lunch

At Naenae Bowling Club, 25 Vogel Street, Naenae at 12.00 pm. The meal is a 3 course buffet costing \$27.00.

Tournament Results

Wellington Open

A good entry in the end, thanks to a lot of last minute entries. There was a good spirit of competition both days and an enjoyable atmosphere. A few spectators came along, do remember if you are not playing you are still welcome!

Open Men's Singles Plate: Winner - Andrew Maguire

B grade singles: Winner - James Harter

B grade doubles: Winners - Depak Patel and Daniel Rosner; Runners - up - James Harter (with Mark Page)

C grade singles: Winner - Harry Chen; Runner-up - Tony Rutledge

C grade doubles - Runners-up - Tony Rutledge (with Andrew Palmer)

D grade singles: Winner - Martin Young; Runner-up - Michael Stechman

D grade doubles: Winners - Andrew Maguire and Michael Stechman

Over 30 singles: Runner-up - Daniel Rosner

Over 30 doubles: Winners - Heath Murdoch (with Callum Rusbridge); Runners-up: Depak Patel and Daniel Rosner

Over 40 singles: Winner - Daniel Rosner ; Runner-up - James Wang

Over 40 doubles : Winners - Depak Patel and Daniel Rosner; Runners-up - John Gan and Heath Murdoch

Over 50 doubles: Runners-up - John Gan and Heath Murdoch

Over 60 singles: Runner-up - Tony Rutledge

Over 60 doubles: Runners-up - Martin Young (with Malcolm Wong)

Under 15 singles: Runner-up - Yufeng Wang

Under 13 singles: Runner-up - Yufeng Wang

Under 13 doubles - Winners - Yufeng Wang (with Aaron Lan)

Junior Development - September

This was held recently at Empire and there was a good turnout of our players in all events under 12, 14 and 17 competitions. For some players it was their first experience of a table tennis competition and we hope everyone enjoyed it. From the organisers point of view there seemed to be a great atmosphere - and some very good games with a lot of 4 and 5 setters!

Congratulations to Oscar Craig, who won the under 14 grade. Oscar has been a club member for many years so it is great he has this victory and a medal.

Important Dates

- Monday 21st October: Kapiti Club come to Empire Midweek (morning)
- Monday 28th October - Club Closed for Labour Day
- Wednesdays 6th; 13th; 20th and 27th November: TTW Interclub competition
- Saturday 23rd November: Club Champs
- Saturday 30th November: Xmas dinner (evening)
- Thursday 12th December : *Midweek Xmas lunch*

2019 Closing dates for the Club:

Friday 29th November: Last Junior Club night for 2019

Monday 16th December: Last Monday night for 2019

Thursday 19th December: Last official Midweek session for 2019.

There may be casual sessions running over January with official club opening dates likely to be Tuesday 21st January for Midweek and Monday 27th for Monday nights.

For more information on membership, remember to also direct people to our Website. and keep an eye on this yourselves! <http://www.empirett.org.nz/to-play.html>

Maggie Dyer

Membership and Communications