



EMPIRE NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2013

Welcome to 2013 and hopefully another year of good table tennis, both competitive and social. Hope you all had a nice break over Xmas and New Year. Those in Wellington would have experienced a very hot day – hope it didn't spoil your Xmas eating!

Club Sessions

Most parts of our Club are now operational with Monday night's Official opening night on **28th January** and Midweek on **Tuesday 5th February**. The Junior Club's official opening is coming up very soon on **Friday 8th March**.

Raffles

The last raffle of 2012 was drawn at the last Monday night session. The lucky winners were:

St Ives / Body Shop bag – Mary Law

Avon pack – Bobby Mason

Wine pack – George Barris

Wine and glasses – Tony Rutledge

Lantern and batteries – Pat Todd

Thank you for your support once again!

There will be a new raffle very soon as we have once again secured a night at the James Cook to raffle as a result of loaning a table to the Hotel for the 7's tournament time. We have also got a voucher for two to attend a Circa play of your choice as a result of loaning a table and equipment to Circa for their latest play. If you are keen on the theatre support them with this latest comedy Kings of the Gym – you will need to be quick however as it finishes on the 16th February.

These donations both provide excellent prizes and we will add another prize to the raffle to make it more attractive. Once again we request your support, as although the Club is keeping afloat financially on a daily basis, we still need to eventually redevelop our premises. Making a profit from our regular activities, hall hire and fundraising is important as we will not be able to fund any development exclusively through grants. Members also need to be aware that our Insurance costs have increased enormously in the last couple of years – those of you who are fortunate to own their own house will fully understand that with your personal insurance costs.

Subscriptions

These are now due and are the same rate as last year.

\$50.00 for all adults under 65 years

\$35.00 for those aged 65 years and older, students and beneficiaries

To clarify this as there has been some confusion over the last couple of years - "retired" does not qualify for a \$35.00 subscription.

This year we will offer payments in instalments but you will need to pay \$10 a time and \$5.00 for the final payment. We do not want everyone electing to do this but if this really does suit your budget talk to your session organiser.

Night fees

\$4.50 for Midweek and Monday. Concession cards are \$45.00 for 12 sessions.

\$5.00 per session for Friday night junior club, but please remember there is no subscription charge.

Help!

We need your help on the Board. There are simply not enough of us to run the club for you. Don't be frightened by the word "Board"- it is simply a fancy word for a committee. What our structure does allow for members to focus on one particular activity of the Club's functions. However this does not mean the incumbent has to do all the work! For example the Activities portfolio is aided by our very capable and dedicated volunteers who run both sessions of Midweek and Friday nights.

If you feel there could be some way you can help please talk to a Board Member or Session Organiser. Our **AGM is on Monday 18th March** and although we are recruiting for the positions of Chair, Activities, building, Communications and Finance there could be some flexibility and changing of roles.

Coming up

Wednesday 20th February – **TTW Summer Interclub** starts. Clubs are to enter 2 person teams. If you would like to play let Raewyn know stating any team preferences, otherwise you will be given a partner. Contact Raewyn at home 232 6657 or by email raewyny@nzno.org.nz

Grading Night – the first of these nights for 2013 is Monday 4th March. Come along for the usual fun night with a little bit more of a competitive bend. If you feel you are wrongly graded be there!

Friday 8th March – **Opening night for the junior club**. Parents and caregivers our organisers would welcome some more help for the organising roster. You would be rostered on with 2 other volunteers and the more help there is, the less pressure on everyone. Contact Pep at [home 938 2562](tel:9382562), [cell 027 663 0143](tel:0276630143) or by email pepoconnor@gmail.com if you can help out even once or twice a term is useful.

Veterans Tournament – TTW is running this event in 2013 not Empire. Again more details later although it will be one day of the weekend of Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th March. This can be a fun day and is open to anyone who has reached the age of 40!

AGM – Monday 18th March, 8.00 pm – all members welcome. Supper will follow.