

The Pines Tennis Club

October 2026



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF COMMUNITY TENNIS



You might think of the winter months as a time for a tennis club to slow down a little — a chance to have a break from the courts and enjoy a quieter few months.

Winter has been anything but quiet. There has been so much happening, with plenty of opportunities for members to get involved, play tennis, enjoy social activities, celebrate our 40th year and, importantly, volunteer their time and skills.

We have been absolutely delighted to see so many of you turning up to help at working bees, fundraising events and Club activities. Whether you were digging in the garden, planting bulbs, preparing the Club for Floriade, helping at the Bunnings BBQ, setting up for events or simply lending a hand when needed — thank you!

And, of course, there has been plenty of tennis. Our Gala sessions, social tennis, Canberra Tennis Leagues, coaching activities and special events have kept the courts busy throughout the colder months.

Our 40th anniversary celebrations have also given us plenty to celebrate. From our Ladies Wimbledon Day and Winter Round Robin to our hugely successful Trivia Night, members have embraced every opportunity to get together, have some fun and enjoy the wonderful community that is The Pines.

And just when you thought things might quieten down as spring arrives... think again!

We have a huge day planned for Saturday 26 September, with our One-Point Slam,. There will be tennis, food, flowers, fun and plenty of opportunities to catch up with fellow members and welcome people from our wider community.



And then it's time to get serious on the courts with our Club Championships on **Saturday 31 October** and **Sunday 1 November**. It's always a great weekend on the Pines courts, with plenty of competitive tennis, friendly rivalry and, of course, lots of support from fellow members. So start thinking about your entries and get ready to battle it out for Club Championship glory!

Thank you to everyone who has played, volunteered, organised, supported, cooked, planted, cleaned, fundraised, cheered and simply turned up. Our Club is thriving because of you — and we can't wait to see what spring brings!



CLUB AGM: Save the date

Tuesday 8 DECEMBER @ 6.00pm

The AGM is often thought of as something only Committee members need to attend, but we'd love to see more of our members come along this year.



Some of our members helping out with Floriade Prep

You don't have to be interested in joining the Committee. The AGM is a great opportunity to find out how The Pines has been faring over the past year, hear about what has been happening behind the scenes and, most importantly, find out what we have planned for the future.

It has been a very busy year at The Pines. Membership has reached 180, we have an increasing number of teams playing Canberra Tennis Leagues, our 40th anniversary celebrations have brought members together for some wonderful events, and our fundraising efforts have been very successful. We also have some exciting plans ahead, including our proposed court expansion and improvements to our facilities.

The AGM is your opportunity to hear about all of this, ask questions, make suggestions and have a say in the direction of your Club.

Could you see yourself getting involved?

While you are there, why not also think about whether you might like to become more involved in the Committee?

The Committee has an important role in keeping the Club running and planning for its future. This includes overseeing finances and membership, looking after our facilities, supporting tennis programs and coaching, managing governance and risk, applying for grants, organising events, promoting the Club and considering new ideas and opportunities.

But being on the Committee does not mean doing everything yourself!

One of the great things about The Pines is the willingness of members to pitch in and help. Committee members can coordinate projects, ask other members to help, and draw on the many skills and talents within our membership. Whether it is organising an event, applying for a grant, helping with communications, looking after a project or simply providing an idea or a different perspective, there are plenty of ways to contribute without taking on all the work.

You don't need to be an expert, and you don't need to have previous Committee experience. What matters most is an interest in The Pines and a willingness to contribute to the Club we all enjoy. Perhaps you have a particular skill you could share. Perhaps you have an idea for something we could do differently. Or perhaps you would simply like to understand a little more about how the Club operates.

If you would like to know more: Please contact Graeme Barnes (President) 0409 308 039



A big thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our Member and Participant Survey. We received an excellent 77 responses, providing the Committee with valuable feedback and plenty to think about.

Your responses will play an important part in shaping the Club's strategy and priorities going forward. We want to make sure that the views and ideas of our members and participants help inform the decisions we make about the future of the Club.

There is a lot happening at The Pines, and we are excited about the opportunities ahead. We will keep members informed about the outcomes of the survey and our future plans through upcoming newsletters and email communications.

Thank you again for taking the time to have your say. Your feedback matters and helps us build an even stronger Club for the future.

Around the Courts

Throughout the winter months, our hardy players have rugged up, braved the cold and stepped onto the courts for plenty of tennis, competition and socialising.

Our Tuesday Night Club Gala, Wednesday Night Flexi-Gala and Wednesday morning social tennis have all continued throughout winter. Numbers have understandably been a little lower during the colder months, but those who ventured out onto the courts did so with plenty of enthusiasm.

The Pines was also well represented in the Canberra Tennis Leagues, with six adult teams taking to the courts throughout the winter competition. It is great to see our members continuing to embrace competitive tennis and proudly representing The Pines across Canberra.

And speaking of representing The Pines, our new stylish Pines polo shirts have certainly been getting around! Over the past three months, our members have proudly worn their new shirts at Seniors tournaments in Batemans Bay, Forster and Orange. They have attracted plenty of comments about just how fabulous they look on court and players have also experienced a lot of success.



With spring now here, we're welcoming many players back to the Courts. We have 11 teams registered in the Spring Adult CTL competition and 3 Junior teams (who play on Sunday mornings). The competition starts this week and has attracted some new members just to play in the leagues.

"I joined up so I could play with my mate. We have not played a lot before but we are keen for a hit, exercise and some fun. In our first game, we had to play on clay when we had not expected that and one of our opponents turned up really late. We won one set. It was still a great day honestly, keen for next weekend and the next game now".

Tuesday Night Gala

Starts 7.00pm

Teams competition

3 sets

**\$60.00 per term
(Members only)**

Contact:

**Nicole Lock: 0439 907 005
(Starts 13th October)**

Wednesday Night Flexi-gala

Starts 7.00pm

Register week by week

3 sets

**\$6.00 members
\$10.00 non-members**

Contact:

Emma Phelan: 0414 300 871

Wednesday Social Tennis

10.00am-12.00pm

Format: Round robin

**Members free
Non-Members: \$6.00**

Contact:

Tony Bishop: 0404767556

Invitation to participate in Coaching and Cardio Tennis Sessions with Canberra School of Tennis

Our adult coaching program continues to grow, and we'd love to see more members getting involved. Whether you're looking to improve your technique or simply enjoy a fun, high-energy workout on court, our adult sessions are a great way to stay active, meet other players, and build confidence in your game.

We currently offer two weekly programs:

- Cardio Tennis — Monday & Tuesday, 6:00–7:00pm A fast-paced, music-driven workout suitable for all levels. No tennis experience required.
- Adult Stroke Correction — Thursday, 6:30–7:30pm A technique-focused session designed to help you refine your strokes, improve consistency, and build better fundamentals.

All adult players are welcome to trial any session for free, with no obligation to continue. It's the perfect chance to see which program suits you best.



Expressions of Interest – Saturday Adult Sessions

We are also collecting EOIs for a new Saturday adult session, which would run as either Cardio Tennis, Stroke Correction, or a blended format depending on demand. If a weekend option suits your schedule, we'd love to hear from you. Simply reply with your interest and we'll keep you updated as we finalise the session time.

Robert Jamieson
Canberra School of Tennis
Head Coach – Pines Tennis Club
Ph: 0432 118 204 | E: robert@csot.com.au
www.csot.com.au

This initiative is in response to feedback from the Member and the Participant Survey where people indicated they would like to see more cohesion between CSOT and the Club and more opportunities for members to participate in coaching.



Inaugural Ladies' Wimbledon Round-Robin and High Tea

Sixteen Pines ladies arrived, racquets in hand and dressed in white, for our inaugural Ladies' Wimbledon Day on a cool Sunday afternoon in July. As part of our 40th anniversary celebrations, the afternoon was all about tennis, friendship and a little bit of Wimbledon glamour!

Everyone embraced the theme, turning out in their finest whites and taking to the courts for a round of tennis using traditional wooden racquets. There was plenty of enthusiasm, some great tennis and lots of laughs as we discovered that wooden racquets certainly give the game a different feel!

After the tennis, we settled in for a lovely afternoon tea. The tables looked very Wimbledon-esque, with cucumber and cream cheese sandwiches, scones with jam and cream, Pimms and gorgeous Wimbledon-themed cupcakes, masterfully made by Helene Connor.

A big thank you to Linda Elliott, who led the 40th Anniversary Committee and did a wonderful job designing and coordinating the event. It was a lovely afternoon and clearly struck a chord with everyone who attended.

Congratulations to Matsumi Matsuoka, who was visiting from Japan, on winning the tennis! And a special mention to Leonie Ainsworth, who won the prize for Best Dressed. Leonie deserves full marks for demonstrating that considerable tennis talent can still be displayed while wearing an ankle-length dress!

The verdict at the end of the afternoon was clear — we want more! There was plenty of enthusiasm for Ladies' Wimbledon Day to become a regular fixture on the Pines calendar.

It was a delightful afternoon of tennis, friendship, food and fun.

Winter Club Round Robin

Now it was time for everyone to have an opportunity to join in!

On a cold and foggy Sunday morning in late July, 16 hardy souls braved the winter chill and turned up at The Pines for a morning of competitive fun and a round robin tournament.

With players divided into two divisions, there was some great tennis and plenty of competitive spirit on the courts. While everyone enjoyed the challenge of the round robin, the real reward came at the end of play when players gathered together to enjoy delicious pancakes, hot chocolate and mulled wine. Nothing quite like a warm treat after a chilly morning on the courts! Congratulations to Leonie Ainsworth and Akiro Sarili on winning their divisions.

Once again, the event was a resounding success, with everyone keen to see it return next year. There was just one suggestion — perhaps we could start a little later in the day when it's not quite so cold!

A big thank you to Di Barrett for leading the event, ably assisted by Sally Brunton and Karen Hawke. Your efforts helped make it another fun and memorable Pines occasion.

Stay tuned — there will be another opportunity to join in the fun next year!



Bunnings Barbecue

A huge thank you to all our wonderful member volunteers who gave up their time to help with our Bunnings BBQ. We were blessed with a beautiful winter's day, and the sausages were clearly a hit — we had completely sold out by 4.00pm!

Thanks to the fantastic efforts of our volunteer team, the BBQ raised an impressive **\$2,351.09** for The Pines Tennis Club. That is a terrific fundraising result and one that we can all be proud of.

A very special thank you goes to Tony Bishop for his extraordinary coordination and organisation. Events like this don't just happen, and Tony did a wonderful job making sure everything ran smoothly.

And, of course, a huge thank you to our BBQ team:

Aaron Sharplin, Justin Bishop, Max Kupke, Sally Brunton, Graeme Barnes, Craig McKellar, Leonie Ainsworth, Scott Fielding, Danielle Spiller, James, Di Barrett, Bron Heinrich, Caroline Inglis, Matt Pymont and Karen Hawke.

The Bunnings BBQ is a fabulous way for the Club to raise much-needed funds while having a bit of fun and showing off the wonderful community spirit we have at The Pines.

Keep your eyes open for opportunities to lend a hand next year — every volunteer makes a difference! And who knows, you might even get the chance to perfect your sausage-sizzling skills along the way!

Did someone say: "Trivia"?



What a fantastic night we had at our 40th Anniversary Trivia Night, the event was sold out, with an incredible 164 people turning up for an evening of trivia, laughter, competition and plenty of fun!

The evening was ably and humorously MC'd by John "Mac N Cheese" James McQuillan, who kept everyone entertained and the night moving along. The questions were created and the scores kept by Di Barrett and Kali McQuillan, who deserve a huge thank you for the work that went into putting the evening together.

There was also plenty of behind-the-scenes work, both in the lead-up and on the night itself, from our fantastic 40th Anniversary Working Party:

Linda Elliott, Tui Allison, Janelle Tansakovic, Karen Hawke, Rosa Cotta, Sally Brunton, Kali McQuillan, Di Barrett and Sue McKellar.

A special thank you also goes to Tony Bishop, who spent the evening selling raffle tickets.

And what a fundraising result! Thanks to the generosity of our members, supporters and sponsors, we raised just over **\$4,000** for the Club. More than 20 sponsors generously contributed prizes, helping to make the raffle and trivia night such a success.

We would particularly like to thank the Vikings Club, who generously provided the venue free of charge, and Rob Jamieson and the Canberra School of Tennis for their generous prize donations and for running the very popular Mini One-Point Slam.

Most importantly, we hope everyone who came along had a wonderful evening. It was fantastic to see so many members, families and friends enjoying themselves.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered, donated, sponsored, organised and supported the night.

We've certainly set the bar high for our next event.

Team Name	Running Score	Quiz - Logos	Quiz - Slogans	Quiz - Flags	Total Score	Rnk
Yellow Balls	66	12	13	19	110	1
What Nick is having	66	12	12	20	110	1
Not my Double fault	62.5	12	13	18	105.5	3
Kyrgios' white lines	63	13	12	16	104	4
Pines Evergreens	57.5	10	13	18	98.5	5
Pickleball	60.5	12	13	13	98.5	5
Boomers + 2	60.5	12	10	16	98.5	5
CSOT	55.5	13	9	20	97.5	8
MPs	58	9	11	13	91	9
Better eight than never	56.5	11	10	11	88.5	10
4 Aces in a Row	52	12	11	13	88	11
Smarty Bartys	48	12	12	16	88	11
Has Beens Up & Come	50.5	12	13	11	86.5	13
The Loud Racquets	46	11	12	17	86	14
Balls & Brains	51	12	9	14	86	14
Get Ya Balls on Court	41	12	14	17	84	16
Vikings Ship	54.5	10	9	10	83.5	17
Desparados	51.5	10	7	11	79.5	18

A Community Tennis Club run by and for our members



A Potted History:

Thank you to David Holloway for the text.

The Pennant competitions were becoming very successful with steady growth in the number of teams. The Committee were keen to offer tennis for members of all standards so it was agreed that social tennis would be offered on Sunday afternoons and, when lights became available, Wednesday evenings.

Tuesday Ladies

We were a young club comprising families with young children. A group of our female members were keen to start up a social tennis group for young mums, and older mums. The clubhouse and grounds were considered a safe place for children to roam without being able to hurt themselves or get into too much mischief. So, with the Committee's support, an advertisement was placed in the Holy Family School and Parish Newsletter inviting mums to join in.

Well, the response was overwhelming with over forty mums with kids in tow, turning up on the first morning. Not anticipating such numbers, organisers muddled their way through the morning ensuring that everyone got a match or two and a cuppa with their morning tea. However, there were a number of mums whose expectations needed to be reined in with them expecting full creche facilities to be available. After a while, the number of players became manageable and, while there were no creche facilities, there were always a number of mums not on court who happily would tend to the needs of the children.

Overall though, it was a resounding success with fond memories of rows of prams aligning the walls of the clubhouse, both inside and out, kids playing happily in the sandpit, others standing/sitting outside the court crying out for mum, come flooding back. It was such a success that it very quickly became Tuesday AND Thursday Ladies social tennis.

Fundraising and Social Activities:

As mentioned earlier, fundraising was going to be important if we were going to develop the club. The regular raffles were one avenue but the committee felt that a larger activity was needed to attract the quantum of funds needed initially for the erection of tennis court lighting and then the replacement of the granite courts with synthetic grass court. The Committee decided to run a Cake and Pie drive whereby orders could be sought from not only members but friends and work colleagues of members. The food was to be sourced from a local wholesaler and then packaged by committee and other volunteer members. The response was overwhelming with an abundance of orders being placed and the funds raised were sufficient to proceed with the court lighting.

Support from the Vikings

With the establishment and expansion of the Tuggeranong Valley, the Tuggeranong Valley Rugby Union and Amateur Sports Club (Vikings) was taking a lead role in developing and supporting other sports in the Valley. They formed a committee comprising representatives from all other Tuggeranong based sporting clubs. This gave Vikings a large representative base not only from Vikings' members but the hundreds and hundreds of members of their affiliated sporting organisations which was extremely valuable when negotiating with the ACT Government for funding for additional facilities for Valley residents.

Vikings supported their sporting affiliates financially in two ways. They provided funds under their sporting grants program and also organised meat tray raffles whereby the affiliated clubs could roster themselves on and when all the tickets had been sold and the meat trays were drawn, the club would receive \$100 for their efforts. There were many other activities that were supported by Vikings over the years, as discussed later.

In return, the Club provided support to Vikings initially by joining all our members up to Vikings annually and by attending social events run at their premises including the Red and White Ball and the Kid's Disco.



Haier One-Point Slam 23 September 2026

What a wonderful way to bring our 40th anniversary celebrations to a close! Our One-Point Slam was a fantastic day that brought Club members together to enjoy tennis, good food and plenty of birthday celebrations.

Congratulations to Oliver Begg from the Red Hill Tennis Club, who took out the One-Point Slam and received a \$200 Rebel Sport voucher, generously sponsored by the Vikings Club. Congratulations also to our runner-up, Rob Jamieson, who very generously donated his \$100 prize to the second runner-up, Scott Baker.

We were delighted to receive a wonderful donation from Haier, who provided a new refrigerator for our clubroom. We also thank Tennis Australia and Tennis ACT for giving us the opportunity to participate in the One-Point Slam and be part of this national event.

The day had an extra-special feel as we celebrated The Pines' 40th birthday, complete with our beautiful anniversary cake and a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday. It was a fitting culmination to a year of celebrations and a wonderful opportunity for Club members, families and friends to come together and celebrate everything that makes The Pines such a special community club.

A huge thank you to our organising team of Rosa Cotta, Janelle Tanaskovic, Sally Brunton and Tui Allison under the guidance of Di Barrett for putting together such a successful event. Thanks also to Katrina Burgess and Tony Bishop for looking after the BBQ

It was a terrific day of tennis, friendship and celebration – and a very fitting way to mark 40 years of community tennis at The Pines.

Message from winner, Oliver Begg: "Thanks for hosting such a great event. The atmosphere and vibe was awesome".



Congratulations Graeme on being named ACT Tennis Volunteer Achievement Award Winner 2026

Excerpt from the nomination:

Graeme has served as President of the Pines Tennis Club, Chisholm, for more than 12 years, having previously held the role of Treasurer from 2012–2013.

Throughout this time, he has demonstrated outstanding leadership, guiding the Club to remain financially sustainable while staying true to its vision of promoting tennis participation and fostering an inclusive community environment. In recognition of his exceptional service, Graeme was awarded Life Membership of the Pines Tennis Club in 2019.

Under Graeme's leadership, the Club has experienced sustained growth in membership, participation and community engagement. Social tennis has flourished, with Tuesday and Wednesday evening gala and Wednesday social tennis continuing to attract strong participation. The Club consistently fields teams in the Canberra Tennis League across both senior and junior competitions and has supported the continued growth of a successful coaching program delivered in partnership with the Canberra School of Tennis.

Graeme has overseen significant improvements to the Club's facilities and operations. These include court refurbishments, the installation of LED court lighting, electronic access gates, Book a Court technology, the construction of Hot Shots courts, a Kids Zone and hitting wall, online membership systems, and the introduction of a successful monthly subscription membership model. More recently, he has led the adoption of a modern, fit-for-purpose Constitution and overseen a comprehensive review of the Club's Strategic Plan to ensure it reflects the Club's long-term vision and future priorities.

Perhaps Graeme's most significant achievement in recent years has been leading the Club's ambitious court expansion project. He has invested countless volunteer hours coordinating the development of an Expression of Interest and a detailed Request for Tender seeking ACT Government investment in four additional tennis courts and dedicated pickleball courts. This work has required extensive consultation with Tennis ACT, ACT Government representatives, local politicians and other stakeholders to demonstrate the growing demand for tennis in Tuggeranong and the need for a Tier 4 regional tennis facility. His persistence, strategic thinking and advocacy have positioned the Club strongly for future growth.

Graeme has also strengthened the Club's partnerships with Tennis ACT, the ACT Government and the Tuggeranong Vikings Club. His vision, commitment and leadership continue to ensure the Pines Tennis Club remains a strong community sporting organisation.

Graeme has also devoted considerable time to modernising the Club's governance through the development of a new Constitution, Strategic Plan, Risk Management Plan and Maintenance Plan, ensuring the Club is well positioned for future growth and sustainability.

The long-term impact of Graeme's leadership is reflected in a financially strong, inclusive and progressive club that continues to grow participation, develop players of all ages and abilities, strengthen community connections and contribute positively to the ongoing development of tennis across the ACT.

The Committee and membership greatly value Graeme's unwavering commitment, professionalism and vision. His achievements have not only strengthened the Pines Tennis Club today but have laid the foundations for its continued success well into the future.

The Club would like to wish Graeme Barnes all the very best as he progresses to the Newcombe Awards, to be held in Melbourne in December.



Club Open and CSoT Come and Try Day Saturday 19th September 2026

We could not have asked for a more perfect day for our second Open Day of 2026. With beautiful sunshine, plenty of activity and the Club looking absolutely spectacular, it was a wonderful opportunity to open our doors and welcome the local community to The Pines.

Lots of children, some as young as three years old, came along with their parents to discover what our coaching provider, Canberra School of Tennis, has to offer. It was fantastic to see so many little ones getting onto the courts, having fun and taking their first steps into the world of tennis.

Our adult visitors were also able to get involved, with a number of people trying out Cardio Tennis and experiencing a different way to enjoy tennis and get active.

And, of course, the Club was looking its majestic best, with our gardens and flowers in full bloom providing the perfect backdrop for the day.

Open Days are a wonderful way for us to showcase not only our tennis programs but also the friendly, welcoming community that makes The Pines such a special Club.

Member Information Protection Officer

The Pines is committed to ensuring that our Club is a safe environment for all members. Importantly, we have a Child Protection Policy. All Office Bearers and coaching staff are required to have a Working with Vulnerable People Card.

Member Protection Information Officers (MPIOs) are there to listen to issues raised by members, before triaging and referring them to the right place to find a resolution. The MPIO is responsible for providing information about a person's rights, responsibilities, and options to an individual making a complaint or raising a concern, as well as information support during the process.

If you have any concerns or would like to discuss an issue arising at the Club, please contact :
Aaron Sharplin 0402 170 779



If you missed out on ordering a CLUB Polo shirt, or want to order another, here is your chance.

Everyone who bought shirts in the last round says how comfortable they are, and we've received many comments from other clubs about how stylish we look.

The closing date is Monday, 12th October

Prices are as follows:

Long Sleeve: \$55.00

Short Sleeve: \$50.00

No Sleeves: \$50.00

For orders and more information about styles and sizes, please contact **Rosa Cotta: 0404 766 468.**

Your committee

- Graeme Barnes: President
0409308039
- Tony Bishop: Treasurer
- Aaron Sharplin: Secretary
- Daniel Jimenez: Social Media
- Nestor Palma
- Rosalin Mawlanazada
- Craig McKellar
- Katrina Burgess
- Rosa Cotta
- Di Barrett (CTL Coordinator)
0431 771235

Robert Jamieson: Coach
0432118204



Coaching at the Pines

Coaching at The Pines, led by Rob Jamieson and his experienced team from CSoT, continues to thrive with a fantastic range of programs for all ages and abilities.

Adult sessions include the ever-popular Cardio Tennis—a fun, high-energy workout that gets you moving while improving your game—as well as Adult Technique Groups designed to refine your skills and boost confidence on court. One-on-one coaching sessions are available for adults.

For younger players, dedicated children's coaching programs provide a supportive environment that nurtures both tennis fundamentals and a lifelong love for the sport. Whether you're new to the game or aiming to take your skills to the next level, there's something for everyone at The Pines with CSoT!

Did you know that new members who pay for an annual subscription are entitled to one half hour free coaching sessions with the CSoT.

If you would like to know more, give Rob a call on 0432 118 204 or email Robert@Csot.com.au



Rob Jamieson Coordinating One Point Slam.



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