



PRESIDENT'S NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS - JANUARY 2021 -

Welcome

On behalf of the Townsville Table Tennis Association Inc, I would like to extend a welcome to all players and supporters for the 2021 table tennis season.

Let's hope that COVID-19 does not have the same level of impact on us this year!

This document is intended to provide members with all of the relevant information for the 2021 playing year to enable members to structure their playing year, both financially and from an organisational perspective. Any member is also welcome to contact me for further information.

COMMITTEE & VOLUNTEER MATTERS

2021 Committee

The Committee for our Club for the 2021 year consists of the following members:-

- Brendan Gaeta (President)
- Terry Morato (Vice President)
- Gary Mantell (Secretary)
- Zac Murphy (Treasurer)
- Olav Dahl
- Morrie Bligh

Welcome back Morrie!

Committee Casual Vacancies

We currently have two (2) vacancies on our Committee that we would like to fill.

The Committee has to provide purpose, leadership and overall strategy for the Club and its members, and it has the responsibility of assuring the public that the Club's finances are sound, its operations are legal, and its procedures work. In short, the Committee is responsible for all governance of the Club and all operations and management.

It is important that Committee members who wish to volunteer their time have the right values, skills, attitude and commitment. Even though this is a volunteer job, being a

Committee member is a crucial leadership role. It's not about "filling seats". There is a significant amount of volunteering that is completed by the Committee.

I would really like to see the two casual vacancy spots filled so that we have a full working committee. If anyone is interested then please let me know and we can discuss this further.

Volunteers

Our Club is fortunate in that we have many volunteers who are willing to volunteer their time to various matters associated with the Club. It is no coincidence that our Club has a strong 90 year history and every year we have volunteers to give up their valuable time to the improvement and furtherance of our Club.

The Committee is seeking expressions' of interest from members who may be willing to volunteer their time to assist the committee in general matters. This may include in relation to any of the following:-

- General building maintenance (existing building);
- Bunnings Sausage Sizzle organisation;
- Tournament travel coordinator for our junior players;
- General fundraising;
- Marketing matters;
- General IT;
- Facebook and social medial control;
- Website development and updating;
- Grant applications;
- Etc.

Being a Club that is very active, it takes considerable time to manage all of these matters, particularly in addition to general Committee duties (such as secretary duties, financial control, Club operations, management, tournament control etc.).

If anyone can assist the committee with this please contact myself and we can discuss this further.



COVID-19 MATTERS

COVID-19

Whilst Townsville is operating under Queensland Government eased business restrictions for COVID-19, we must still comply with the Industry Covid Safe Plan.

A copy of the Safe Plan has been circulated to all members previously and a copy can also be obtained at the hall or by contacting our Secretary, Gary Mantell.

This Safe Plan has been approved by the Queensland Government and Table Tennis Queensland.

The health of members, visitors to the hall staff and the community remains our top priority.



I trust that everyone is following the news and is aware of the latest Queensland Government restrictions.

As a reminder, a number of health and safety posters have been placed around our hall, which you should read and familiarise yourself. Please take the time to read the information posters carefully and follow the guidelines.

We will continue to make available the use of hand sanitizers at prominent areas of the hall. Please also note washing hands with soap and water as provided in our restroom facilities is essential.

If you are experiencing symptoms as illustrated in the health and safety posters around the hall then you should immediately contact a medical practitioner and follow their advice and notify a member of the Committee or our head coach.

If you are experiencing any systems you should also not under any circumstances attend our hall.



2021 CALENDAR AND ANNUAL FEES

2021 TTTA Calendar

The 2021 calendar is attached.

The calendar assists everyone in structuring their playing year and gives certainty as to dates for both the fixture seasons and tournaments.

Whilst it is often common practise to send emails to members and this will not change, all Club updates throughout the 2021 year will continue to be posted on Facebook.

All major tournaments for the year are posted on Facebook.

All general information on training sessions and other matters is also available at the hall.

As more information is released by our governing bodies this calendar is likely to be updated. The updated version will be emailed to all members as/when that is necessary.

2021 Club Membership Fees

In recent years we have seen significant increases in our affiliation fees with our State governing body, Table Tennis Queensland. This is as a direct result of increased fees from the national governing body Table Tennis Australia (with a very small portion of increased fees from Table Tennis Queensland).

Even with significant increases in our affiliation fees, our Club membership fees have had extremely limited increases. To the contrary, our junior membership fees have decreased in recent years.

Notwithstanding COVID-19, the increase from 2020 to 2021 in annual fees that our Club pays to Table Tennis Queensland for each member is as follows:-

	2021	2020
• Full membership:	\$81.98	\$72.35
• Full membership (concession):	\$74.25	\$64.65
• Junior membership:	\$74.25	\$64.65
• Social Senior membership:	\$81.98	\$72.35
• Social membership:	\$33.00	\$34.45

The Club also has GST liability in relation to these amounts.

The Committee has resolved to leave all annual membership fees for 2021 unaltered. This is as a direct result of COVID-19, which means that the 2021 annual membership fees will be as follows:-

• Full membership:	\$125
• Full membership (concession):	\$105
• Junior membership:	\$80
• Social Senior membership:	\$50
• Social membership:	\$50

Importantly, it is likely that the annual fees will need to increase in 2022 to ensure that our Club remains financially viable.

The full membership (concession) applies to all pensioners and tertiary students.

The social senior membership applies to members of our social senior fixtures who do not otherwise participate as a regular season player in our senior fixtures.



A social membership applies to social members only, being a social player who attends the hall irregularly and does not participate in any Club or other tournaments.

The 2021 membership registration forms have been emailed to all members by Gary Mantell already. This membership form can also be collected from the control desk in the hall.

Importantly, for various reasons (including for insurance purposes), you may not participate in 2021 fixtures, social seniors or our junior training programs until you are a registered member of our Club.

Payment may be completed by cash, eftpos or credit card facilities at our control desk.

Club Shirt

We are currently liaising with our Club sponsors. Subject to finalisation of these discussions, the Club shirts for 2021 will not change.



The cost of the Club shirt has also not changed i.e. if you order the Club shirt when you complete your membership then the cost is \$35 (based on the start-of-year bulk order) and is otherwise \$45.

If you wish to order a Club shirt please ensure that you complete the annual membership form appropriately.

2021 FIXTURES, TRAINING & SOCIAL HIT

Hall Opening Hours & Casual Hit

There are no changes to the hall opening hours, including in relation to the hours in which the hall is opening for a casual hit, other than with the introduction of the new Tuesday 'open training session' from 1pm to 3pm. This is detailed below.

All information is contained in the attached hall opening hours information sheet.

Casual Hit

There are no changes to the hall hire cost for members.

The hall hire cost for non-members will increase by \$5.

The cost for a casual hit or general training is now as follows:-

- Members \$10 for 1.5 hours
- Non-Members \$15 for 1 hour.

As a reminder, this is a 'total' table cost i.e. you pay per table and not per player. The person who books the table is responsible for payment of the fees. In saying that, if 2 players train and wish to each click their card then we would accommodate that request.

To secure a table you should book the table with George. Booking of tables is on a first-in-best-dressed basis. If you do not book a table then you risk that there may or may not be a table available at any given time

Practice Fees & Buy Your Hours Fees

Members may still use the 'buy your hours' scheme for all training sessions. The fees remain unaltered, as follows:-

- 200 hours \$3.75 per hour
- 100 hours \$4.50 per hour
- 50 hours \$5.50 per hour
- 20 hours \$6.50 per hour
- 10 hours \$7.50 per hour

You may group family members into the same purchase of hours. The hours cannot be used for tournaments or training camps conducted unless specifically stated otherwise.

Tuesday 'Open Training Session'

A new 'open training session' will operate from 1pm to 3pm on Tuesday of each week. This is for any member who may wish to practice with other members.



All members are welcome to attend the 'open training session'.

This 'open training session' will be conducted by Morrie Bligh.

The cost of attending the 'open training session' will be \$5.

Wednesday Night Fixtures

In light of the ongoing and ever changing COVID-19 situation, we will not pre-determine all fixtures seasons at the start of the year, as we would ordinarily do. We will 'set' season 1 only at this stage.

I completed a Facebook Post earlier this week informing members that season 1 of fixtures would commence on Wednesday, 20 January 2021, with the star of year ranking night. Since this time we have confirmed the dates for our hall closure for the installation of the new taraflex flooring, which is detailed further below in this document.

The ranking night will remain unaltered, being on Wednesday, 20 January 2021.

However, the first week of the season 1 senior fixtures will now be on Wednesday, 10 February 2021.

Therefore, the first fixture season for 2021 will now be as follows:-

- Ranking Night: 20 January 2021
- First Night of Fixtures: 10 February 2021
- End: 21 April 2021
- Duration: 11 weeks including ranking night.
- Cost: \$90.00 for 11 weeks

A single tournament night will operate on Wednesday, 13 January 2021.

The structure of each season will be determined by the Committee prior to commencement of each season having regards to various factors, including the number of registered players. It is currently intended that the first season be in teams format.

Anyone who wishes to nominate for season 1 please let me know as soon as possible. My email is brendan.gaeta@cosu.com.au



Upon nominations being received a tax invoice will be issued to you for the first season fixture fees. Payment will need to be completed before the first nights play.

Any fill-in player is required to pay \$10 prior to the nights play.

The first season for any new member will continue to be free upon that person becoming a member of our Club.

If anyone requires dispensation for the ranking night, then you should let me know as soon as is reasonably possible.

Social Senior Fixtures

The format and structure for senior fixtures on Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning remains unaltered.

There is also no change to the costs for the social seniors training program for Wednesday and Friday i.e. it will remain at \$8 per member.

Monday social seniors was previously introduced due to high numbers and demand on the Wednesday and Friday social seniors. The cost was reduced from the usual fee to encourage members to participate in the Monday social seniors, with the intention that it would always revert back to \$8 once numbers had settled. The cost for the Monday social senior fixtures will increase from \$5 to \$8 to align with the Wednesday and Friday social seniors.

The Committee will review the social seniors numbers further in around 6 months' time to ascertain if there is a demand for the introduction of a new social senior day on Tuesday or Thursday at a reduced cost.



Sunday Tournaments

The hall will be open for training and Sunday Tournament's will be conducted throughout 2021. The Sunday Tournament commences at 9:30 am, with registration to occur by 9:00 am.

The Sunday Tournament will continue to be managed by Peter Waddell.

This will be subject to player demand and Facebook posts will continue to be posted by close of business on a Friday specifying whether the Sunday Tournament will be held on that week.

The entry fees for the Sunday Tournament will remain the same i.e. \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

The points system will continue to be utilised with periodical prizes awarded.

Junior Training and Fixtures

The junior training programs will continue to be conducted throughout 2021. There is no changes to the junior training program, including to the days and times.

In this regard junior training will be conducted from 4:30 to 6:30 pm Monday to Friday and from 10 am to 1 pm on Saturday.

The Mini Juniors will continue to operate from 4 to 5 pm on Thursday and from 9 to 10 am on Saturday.

In attached flyer there is all information relating to the junior training program.

Flashback – do you remember our junior players when they were this young?



Spinneroos

We will continue to be actively involved in the Table Tennis Australia Spinneroos Program in 2021.

The Table Tennis Australia website includes the following information about the Spinneroos Program:

At Spinneroos our vision is for primary school children to bounce into table tennis with a smile and a group of new friends.

We do this by providing engaging and fun activities in a safe environment in which children

can get active, express themselves and create great memories with other Spinneroos.

Your child will go through 8 exciting weeks of table tennis, receive a personalised equipment pack and develop hand-eye coordination as well as social skills.

It'll be great fun!

Children and parents will be warmly welcomed by our team.

Every 1 hour session will consist of a warm-up, some off-the-table activities, on-the-table exercises and fun games.

The focus is on FUN. Spinneroos will quickly learn to love the great game of table tennis.

Our Club was one of the first associations to take part in the Spinneroos Program. We are passionate about growing our junior membership base and believe that Spinneroos is the perfect way for this to occur. The Spinneroos program is well branded, backed by Table Tennis Australia as our Australian Governing Body and is very well organised and run.



The Spinneroos program complements our existing junior training programs and we are seeing significant benefits from its implementation.

We are proud to be part of this Spinneroos program and understand that we are the only club in Australia to run the Spinneroos program in all terms in 2020. We also participated in the girls only Spinneroos program in term 4 of 2020.

The Spinneroos program for term 1 of 2021 will be conducted by Caitlin Woods under the direction of our head Coach, George Logothetis.

Good luck Caitlin!

We would certainly encourage everyone to be involved in this great concept, whether it be bringing along a grandchild, child or friend.

The children involved in the Spinneroos Program have a great time, whilst learning some basic technique.



2021 TOURNAMENTS & EVENTS

Get Active Expo

The Club is again taking part in the Get Active Expo in 2021.

However, in 2021 it has been moved from the Townsville Stadium to the Strand Precinct and will be held on Australia Day, being Monday, 26 January 2021.

Our Club will have a table set up on the Strand (near the Rockpool) during the Get Active Expo.

The Get Active Expo will run from 9 am to 12 pm.

GET ACTIVE EXPO

Come N Try Day

The Club will be conducting a 'Come N Try' Day on Saturday, 30 January 2021.

This will operate from 9am until 4 pm and will not effect usual Club operations.

Please note that this date may need to change depending on what occurs with the new flooring arrangements in our hall.

COME & TRY

2021 Chinese New Year Tournament

The 2021 Chinese New Year Tournament will be held on Saturday, 13 February 2021 commencing at 12pm.

This tournament celebrates the Chinese New Year and is open for all players to participate.

The promotional flyer has been circulated to all members already. You will have also see the below Facebook post earlier this week.

2021 CHINESE NEW YEAR TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT
SATURDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2021

SPONSORS
TCSAQ Air-Conditioning (Kevin Chun Tie)
SUN DOO
CHINESE RESTAURANT

DATE: Saturday, 13 February 2021
LOCATION: Townsville Table Tennis Centre, 60 Charters Towers Road, Hermit Park
START TIME: 12 pm
COST: \$10 adults and \$7 children
CONTACT: George Logothetis - 0414 135 031
EVENTS: Senior Doubles (over 50), Go Getter Doubles (Open), Senior Singles (30 and over), Young Gun Singles (under 30), Main Competition Singles Event

2021
HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR
YEAR OF THE WHITE METAL OX

新快
年樂
CHINESE
NEW YEAR
2021
YEAR OF OX

2021 International Women's Day Tournament

The 2021 International Women's Day Tournament will be held on the weekend of Saturday, 6 March 2021 and Sunday, 7 March 2021.

The promotional flyer will be circulated in the near future.

You will have seen my post on Facebook in relation to this tournament, which included the following:-

International Women's Day is a global day to celebrate the achievements of women and to raise awareness about women's equality. It is also a day to promote the growth and development of women in sport. What better way to do that than with a table tennis tournament!

The format will be similar to 2020. There will be a training session, junior event and main event on the Saturday. On Sunday there will be a tournament open for everyone.

Catering packages for the Saturday are available. Those who have attended before know that the quality and quantity of food at this event is not to be missed! Our members can also provide free accommodation and travel to the hall for anyone travelling to Townsville.

Don't miss out!

Brendan Gaeta

President - Townsville Table Tennis Association



Townsville Closed Eligibility

The eligibility of a member to participate in the Townsville Closed Championships is contemplated in our Club by-laws.

This will not be altered in 2021, despite the relaxation that applied in 2020 as a direct result of COVID-19.

There are strict rules that apply for a member to be able to participate in the Townsville Closed Championships and for good reason. This tournament is to determine the champions of our Club and is designed for our active members only. We

cannot have a situation in which an inactive member can registers with our Club and then becomes our Club champion.

In addition to being a full registered member with our Club for at least three months, there are specific performance eligibility that must be satisfied. This includes playing at least 50% of all available senior fixtures, 50% of Saturday morning junior training sessions, 50% of all social seniors, or 50% of all Sunday Tournaments. This is extensively detailed in the Club by-laws.

There are also dispensation rules extensively detailed in the Club by-laws.

STATE AND NATIONAL UMPIRE COURSE

TTQ Umpire Course

A State and National Umpire Course will be conducted by Dave Delpratt on behalf Table Tennis Queensland on the weekend of Saturday, 20 February 2021 and Sunday, 21 February 2021.

Full information can be found at this link:-

http://www.tabletennisqld.org/content_files/file/Courses/State%20and%20National%20Umpiring%20Course_Townsville_February%202021.pdf

We would encourage as many members as possible to participate in this course.



HALL WORKS UPDATE

Roofing Works

The Committee was able to obtain a grant in 2020 from the Queensland Government for roof upgrades and repairs. The works have been completed and hopefully, there will be no further water leaks in our hall.

Front Building Structural Works

The Committee was also able to obtain a grant in 2020 from the Queensland Government for upgrades to the stumps under the front part of our building (the Karate area) and for the timber wall. Quotes are being obtained and hopefully these works will be completed during 2021.

Flooring and Kitchen Works

You will all have received the emails from Gary Mantell in relation to the ongoing works to our kitchen and floors.

It is no coincidence that after 90 years our Club is one of the strongest Club's anywhere. We have an amazing membership base and a history of volunteers putting so much time and effort into our Club.

A huge thank you to both Gary Mantell and Zac Murphy and all of the volunteers for their massive effort in completing the hall flooring and kitchen works. Anyone who has already seen the works that have been completed would understand the enormous amount of hours that have gone into these works.



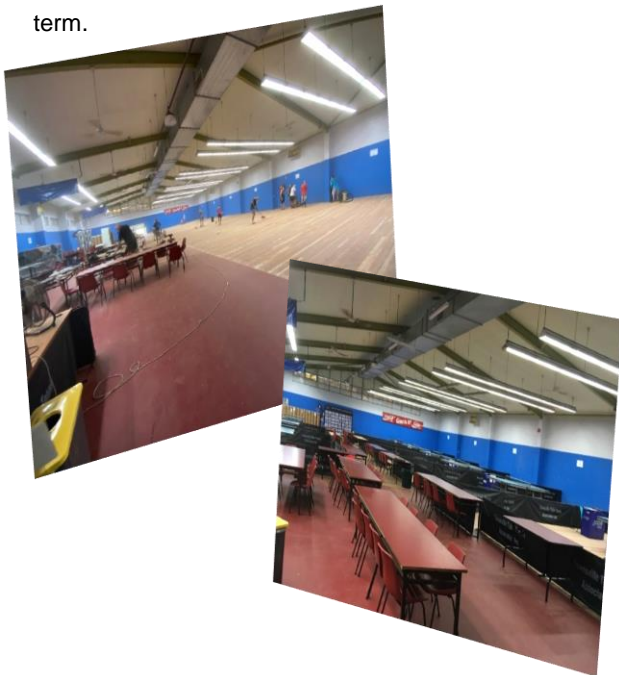
We were able to obtain a grant from Table Tennis Australia for \$3,000 to assist with the cost of the kitchen upgrade. We certainly appreciate this financial assistance.

The balance funds required to complete the kitchen upgrade were paid from our Club's general funds.

The kitchen works have been completed and the kitchen is operational.

The sanding of the flooring in the hall has now been completed and is operational (as a timber floor).

The hall will continue to be used with timber floors in the short term.



The new taraflex will be installed by the contractors over the 10 day period commencing on Wednesday, 27 January 2021.

Our hall will need to close when this occurs.

This is unfortunate, but it must be completed for the benefit of our club and all members moving into the future.

Therefore, our hall will be closed from Wednesday, 27 January 2021 until Friday, 5 February 2021 (inclusive).

It is possible that we may be able to reopen earlier than expected and we will keep members informed in this regard.



AWARDS

2020 Australian Club of the Year

On behalf of all of our members, I am truly honoured to have announced at our annual presentations in December 2020 that our Club was awarded the Australian association of the year in 2020.

This is a prestigious award and I would like to thank Table Tennis Australia for this award.

Every year we start off by asking ourselves how are we going to make our club bigger and better, provide more services and benefit to our members and developer and grow our sport not only in Townsville, but in general.

After cyclones and years of drought, we started 2019 like this:-



We are still today trying recover from the floods and have significant ongoing building and insurance matters that the Committee is attending to.

Despite this and also amid the threat of COVID-19, through the hard work and volunteering of so many hours by so many people, we were able to push through 2020 in style.

In 2020:-

- we still held the majority of our tournaments, which included all major tournaments;
- we still hosted the Queensland Veteran Championships as part of the Northern Table Tennis Carnival, being a concept created by us;
- we provided significant subsidy to our members travelling to tournaments;
- we still conducted numerous fundraising activities;
- we increased our Club's promotion, including at shopping centres, the Strand, market etc.;
- we still undertook the majority of our training programs and fixtures;
- we still undertook the Spinneroos program;
- we continued to work closely with local schools and the Clontarf Foundation;
- we were able to remain financially viable.

This award is something which all of our members can be proud of.

2020 Townsville Perpetual Award Recipients

Congratulations to everyone who was the recipient of one of our Club's perpetual awards at the December 2020 annual presentations.

The winners are contained on the attached document.

2020 Table Tennis Queensland Awards

We are fortunate to have four of our members receive recognition in the Table Tennis Queensland 2020 annual awards.

These members are shown below. Congratulations to each of these members, it is certainly well deserved.

Andrea McDonnell:



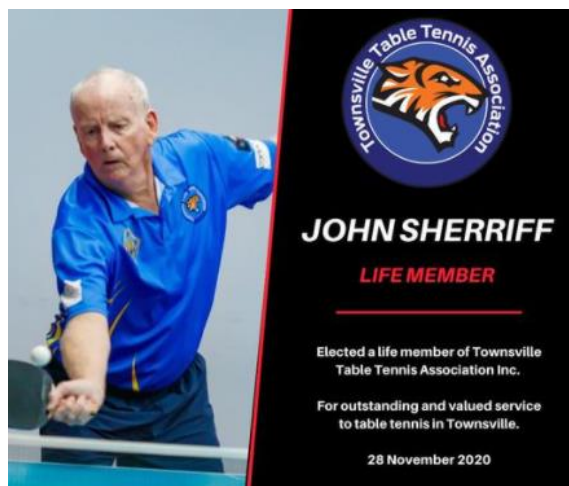
George Logothetis:



Brendan Gaeta:



Sharon Murphy:



John Sherriff Life Membership

As announced at our presentations in December 2020 and on Facebook is with great honour that on behalf of all members of our Association I announced that John Sheriff has been admitted to the roll of honour as a life member of our Association.

It is a great mark of respect and a significant sign of distinction for a member to be admitted to the honour roll as a life member of a sporting organisation.

To be admitted as a life member of the Townsville Table Tennis Association, a member must have served the Association with distinction, esteem and furtherance of the objectives of the Association and whose contribution for the Association has been outstanding.

Becoming a life member of our Association can only occur when a member has demonstrated a significant, sustained and high quality service to the Association over a prolonged period of time, which has also enhanced the reputation and future of our sport and the Association.

John has been a role model for our Association on and off the table for many decades. A unanimous motion was passed at a management committee meeting before a unanimous resolution was also passed at our Annual General Meeting held on 28 November 2020.

John first started playing table tennis in Townsville in 1963, at the age of 12. John has represented Townsville, Queensland and Australia on many occasions. John's achievements include:-

- representing Townsville at multiple Queensland senior championships;
- representing Townsville at Queensland veteran championships since 1994, including being part of the gold medal team for John's age category for 11 of the last 14 years;
- representing Queensland on numerous occasions in the Australian veteran championships, including winning gold medal in the over 60 men's in 2011 (also being the Queensland veteran player of the year in 2011);
- representing Australia many times since 2012 in the Australia v New Zealand test match.

John has been winning gold medals at the Queensland veteran championships since 2010, winning a gold medal in the over 60 men's singles and being part of the gold medal

over 65 men's team in this year's Queensland veteran championships.

John is currently the Queensland Open and Queensland Closed champion for both the over 60 and 65 men's. John is currently ranked 3rd in the Australian Order of Merit for the over 60 men's.

In addition to John's achievements, John has also served on many management committee's between 1972 and 2018. This includes Townsville Table Tennis (general committee, President and Treasurer), Wynnum Table Tennis (President and Secretary) and Table Tennis Queensland (general committee and Vice President).

John was also a member of the Australian veterans committee from 2016 to 2018.

John has also been a Queensland umpire since 1977, an Australian umpire since 2017 and a Queensland referee since 2016. Since 1977 John has been an active referee and umpire in our sport.

John is a very deserving recipient of the life membership for Townsville Table Tennis. Congratulations John, certainly well deserved.

TIGERS ON TOUR

Tigers on Tour Recap

With COVID-19 having such a significant impact on our sport in 2020, in addition to their being no National Championships, we organised the 'Tigers on Tour' road trip in December 2020.

The road trip was structured in such a way as to stop at Northern Associations for training camps and competition, before being part of a larger training camp and competition in Wynnum, South East Queensland.

The concept was for our players to have an opportunity to complete some serious training and competition, whilst being in a team environment and undertaking fun activities.

The road trip went for 14 days in total and involved training camps and competition in Mackay, Rockhampton, Bundaberg and Wynnum.



The players had a great time and learnt a lot, whilst being in a team-bonding environment. The feedback from both players and other associations has been exceptional.

A huge thank you to those involved in organising this road trip, George and also to Sharon for travelling with the team and looking after all of the junior players.

Brendan Gaeta
President
Townsville Table Tennis Association



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