

**NEW SOUTH WALES
TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION**



EIGHTH

Annual Report

AND BALANCE SHEET



31st December, 1937

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DELEGATE TO AUSTRALIAN TABLE TENNIS
ASSOCIATION:
W. E. Robbins

POSTAL ADDRESS OF ASSOCIATION:
POST OFFICE BOX 5, GEORGE STREET NORTH, SYDNEY

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET to be presented to Members at the Annual General Meeting to be held at Railway Institute Hall, Devonshire Street, Sydney, on Wednesday, 23rd February, 1938 at 7 p.m. sharp.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The Eighth Annual Report and Balance Sheet of the New South Wales Table Tennis Association are presented herewith.

The year just concluded has been a most memorable one in every aspect relating to table tennis. The Association had the honor of conducting the Third Australian Carnival, which embraced the National Titles in the Teams, Singles and Doubles Championships, in which two outstanding Hungarian players, Miklos Szabados and Istvan Kelen, as well as all State champions in Australia, competed. In addition, a special exhibition was given by the Hungarians against the leading State players, which attracted a record attendance for any table tennis fixture in New South Wales. The entries in the first Winter Teams Competition constituted a record, and the number of contestants in the State Championships eclipsed all previous records by a substantial margin. The finals of the State Championships were staged at the Sydney Stadium, and were witnessed by the largest crowd ever recorded at this event.

MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL: There have been 27 meetings of Council during the year and attendances of members were as follow:—

C. Jarvis	26	S. Allen	15
G. Crowle	24	H. Whittle	15
W. Engel (appointed 16/2/37)	23	L. Whitehead (app. 22/2/37)	14
R. Masters	23	D. Phillips (app. 3/5/37)	11
R. Aikman (resigned 5/10/37)	22	R. Hurst (resigned 3/5/37)	11
G. Macpherson	21	E. Warner O'Leary (app. 10/5/37)	10
J. Clancy	21	D. Cooper (resigned 10/5/37)	9
S. Finikiotis	19	H. Schachtel (app. 5/10/37)	4
A. Roper	19	L. Beioley (resigned 16/2/37)	2
W. Kerby	16	M. Coates (resigned 22/2/37)	1

CHANGE OF OFFICERS: Mr. L. Beioley on account of a business transfer to Queensland resigned on 16th February, 1937, and his position was filled by the election of Mr. W. Engel. Mr. M. Coates and the two Assistant Secretaries, Messrs. R. Hurst and D. Cooper, were forced to tender their resignations owing to business reasons on the 22nd February, 3rd May, and 10th May, 1937, respectively. Messrs. Engel and Macpherson were elevated to the position of Assistant Secretaries and Messrs. L. Whitehead, D. Phillips and E. Warner O'Leary were appointed to fill the vacancies of Club representatives. Mr. Rees R. Aikman, following the completion of the Australian Carnival, acting under medical advice, resigned from the position of President on the 5th October, 1937 and Mr. H. G. Schachtel was appointed to fill the position.

TEAMS PREMIERSHIP: Ninety-one teams—representing the greatest number of teams to enter a No. 1 Winter Competition—commenced play on the 7th April, 1937. There were seven grades, and a pleasing feature was the reintroduction of the Ladies' grade which lapsed in 1936.

A No. 2 Winter Competition commenced on the 26th May, 1937, with eight teams. The total for the season was 99 teams, being only 3 less than the record entry of 102 in 1935-1936.

This opportunity is taken of congratulating the winning teams in the various grades. The results were as under:—

Grade	Winners	Runners Up
A	Insurance 1.	Insurance 2.
A. Reserve	Leica 1	Annandale 2.
B	Racqueteers 1	Carriage Works
C	Annandale 3	Ibis
D	Coles 1	Goldsbro 2.
E	Marines	Postal 2.
Ladies	Ellico	Leica 3.

The "A" Grade Competition proved to be the most interesting yet conducted, the rule adopted in the preceding year, of permitting only two of the first ten graded players to participate in any one team was again enforced. This gave general satisfaction to players and is in no small measure the reason for such an interesting and even competition. Three teams tied for first place; Insurance 2 eventually winning the Minor Premiership with Federal Tax 1 and Insurance 1 filling the other places. Insurance 1 defeated Steamships in the final and then went on to win the Grand Final from Insurance 2.

The Ladies' Grade also provided one of the highlights of a most successful season. Ellico and Leica played off for the Minor Premiership, the former winning. Leica turned the tables in the final, but were afterwards defeated by Ellico in the Grand Final. Ellico are to be congratulated for their meritorious victory in their first year of Competition Table Tennis.

INNOVATIONS: In previous years it has been the practice to conduct some of the important events such as the Title Championships, during the latter half of the season. Realising that the programme for 1937-38 was a particularly heavy one, it was decided to regulate the various matches of importance over a great portion of the season, thus preventing "staleness" of the State's representative players and providing members of the Association and the general public with better entertainment over the whole of the season.

ANNUAL MATCH, N.S.W. ASS'N. VERSUS INSURANCE ASS'N.: This fixture was played at the Y.M.C.A. Sydney, on the 14th May, 1937, much earlier than the preceding years. The Association side (C. Smith, M. Greene, G. Hodgson, V. Veinberg and R. Masters, with R. Aikman as non-playing captain) had a convincing victory by 14 sets to 3. The following players represented the Insurance Association:—E. K. Baker (Captain), M. Coates, C. Comber and W. Symonds. Each Association now has two victories to its credit in these series of fixtures. Between sets at this match Messrs. R. Aikman and R. Topham, the then Presidents of the respective Associations, presented the trophies won in the 1936 Winter and Summer Competitions.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS: Careful consideration was given to the question of playing the preliminary rounds of the 1937 State Championships. An innovation of arranging for them to be held at various venues throughout the city was decided upon. This innovation was entirely successful and met with the general approbation of players. The customary delay and waiting about in a large hall, in between rounds, was reduced to a

minimum and as the various events, in many instances, were scheduled for different nights, the strain on players was considerably lessened. A record entry of 406 was received. This eclipsed the previous record of 310 received in 1936. Semi-finals were played at the Y.M.C.A. on the 7th and 8th June and the Finals at the Sydney Stadium, Rushcutters Bay, on the 10th June. The vast undertaking of organising such a large band of competitors was successfully carried out.

The congratulatory messages received from the various sporting organisations, the press and broadcasting stations upon the splendid arrangements for the finals at the Stadium were indeed gratifying. The audience was indeed a splendid and appreciative one and the programme was so interesting that few had left before the completion of the final match at 11.10 p.m. This opportunity is taken of congratulating the winners of the various

events. The results were:—

Event	Winner	Runner-Up
Open Singles	C. Smith	G. Hodgson
Ladies Singles	Miss A. Jacobs	Miss D. Shields
Junior Singles	A. Bowe	C. Wilkinson
A. Reserve Singles	J. Wilson	D. Davis
B. Grade Singles	A. Bowe	N. Gazzard
C. Grade Singles	G. Henley	W. Paver
D. Grade Singles	D. Cameron	C. Pickering
E. Grade Singles	N. Coombe	A. Vaughan
Open Doubles	C. Smith & C. Comber	K. Baker & N. Coates
A. Reserve Doubles	Wilson & Davis	Bayliss & Fox
B. Grade Doubles	Walton & Jobson	Jones & Firth
C. Grade Doubles	Lewis & O'Rourke	Johnson & Allen
D. Grade Doubles	Cameron & Clark	Bray & Woolfe
E. Grade Doubles	Baldwin & Best	Coombe & Coombe

CITY OF SYDNEY CHAMPIONSHIPS: Permission was granted the Railway Institute Association to conduct City of Sydney Championships. These were held at the Railway Institute, the finals being played on the 8th July. The event was received with enthusiasm—291 entries being received. The Open Singles was won by the State Singles Title Holder, Cecil Smith and Open Doubles by the State Title Holders, Cecil Smith and Charlie Comber.

OFFICIAL BADGE: The official enamel badge of the Association to be worn on the lapel of a coat, has had a ready sale during the season. The supply is not yet exhausted and badges may be purchased at a cost of 2/- each. The design has been quoted by overseas players and players from other States as being the most attractive of its kind. All registered members of the Association are entitled to wear the official enamel badge.

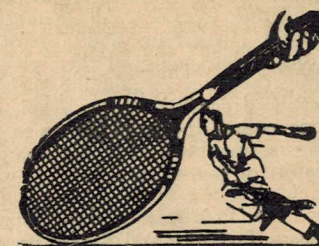
VISITS: Arrangements were made for Miss Phyllis Hodgkinson (ranked No. 9 lady player in England), to participate in matches against some of our lady players at the Railway Institute and the A.T.S.A. Club Rooms.

Our ladies benefited considerably by the experience gained in these matches. Six lady members of the British Empire Games team also met six of our lady players at the A.T.S.A. Club Rooms during January and a most pleasant evening was spent.

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SOCIAL ACTIVITIES: It was fitting that the Carnival Ball held at the Paddington Town Hall on Friday, 3rd September, proved such a wonderful success. All members of the visiting State Associations, the visiting Hungarians and a most representative gathering of players from N.S.W. clubs, enjoyed themselves thoroughly. It must be said that it was easily the most outstanding social success in the annals of this Association. Tastily decorated tables, a splendid orchestra, and an exceptionally good floor assisted the large throng to revel in the night's pleasures. A striking feature was the outstanding camaraderie that existed amongst the various groups of joy-makers.

The President of the Australian Table Tennis Association, assisted by Messrs. Szabados and Kelen, presented the trophies won in the State Championships and the Winter Competitions.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN CARNIVAL: With early knowledge that the Third Australian Carnival was to be held in New South Wales, the Association set out to leave no stone unturned in securing the best and most suitable premises.

All prospective venues in Sydney and the near suburbs were inspected. The lack of accommodation in Sydney with sufficient level playing area, and with provision of tiered seating, caused all those connected with the venture much worry, but eventually, it was decided to hold the Carnival at the Sydney Stadium at Rushcutters Bay. The State Championships Finals, held at the Stadium prior to the Carnival, provided the opportunity of a full dress rehearsal and, incidentally, registered the largest audience ever to witness a table tennis match in New South Wales. This record lasted but a few weeks before it was eclipsed by the new figures created at the Hungary versus N.S.W. fixture. Three courts were set out for the Carnival, each measuring 45 feet by 28 feet, equipped with special high powered lighting. The Carnival attracted the largest number of players and visitors from other States that has ever assembled for a Table Tennis meeting in Australia. The Lady Mayoress graciously received all visiting players at the Sydney Town Hall on Tuesday, 31st August. Her kindly words of welcome were much appreciated. The Association is indeed indebted to the Lady Mayoress for her generosity in officially welcoming our visitors to our fair city. A Ladies' Teams Premiership was conducted for the first time and entries were received from Queensland, South Australia and Victoria. New South Wales also entered its team. The N.S.W. Association congratulates the members of the winning Association, Victoria, which was represented by Misses C. Hawk, J. Sampson, I. Crump and F. White. N.S.W. secured second place with Misses Jacobs, Shields, Hopwood and Mrs. Ward, whilst Queensland (Mrs. Johnson, Misses Bright, Taylor and Mellor) was third and South Australia (Misses Rickard, Field, Turner and Morgan) fourth.

The Men's Teams Premiership also attracted entries from the four States, and this event was won by Queensland (Messrs. Shaw, Redhead, Wills and Champion) with New South Wales second (Messrs. Smith, Baker, Greene, Hodgson and Comber). Victoria was third (Messrs. Thoms, Adamson, Oakley and Lamont), with South Australia fourth (Messrs. Coleman, Lane, Fryar, Lyon and Godden).

The New South Wales Association's heartiest congratulations are extended to the Queensland Association and the individual members of the team for their meritorious victory. The particularly fine team spirit and co-operation coupled with the will to win were outstanding issues in Queensland's 1937 victory.

The National Championship events provided a wonderful array of table tennis talent, as they included the two Hungarians, Messrs. Szabados and Kelen, the four State Singles Title Holders and three of the Ladies' State Singles Champions. Miklos Szabados (Hungary) won the Singles Championship from his fellow countryman, Istvan Kelen, by three sets to one. Messrs. Cecil Smith (N.S.W.) and C. Shaw (Queensland), were the other semi-finalists. The Open Doubles was won by Messrs. Szabados and Kelen (Hungary) from Messrs. M. Greene and C. Comber (N.S.W.), in straight sets. Miss A. Jacobs (N.S.W.) and Mr. I. Kelen won the Mixed Doubles from Miss Sampson (Victoria) and M. Szabados. Mrs. Johnson (Queensland) had a most meritorious victory from Miss A. Jacobs (N.S.W.) in the Ladies' Singles Championship, whilst Miss A. Jacobs and Miss P. Hollis (N.S.W.) defeated Misses Hawk and Sampson (Victoria) in the final of the Ladies' Doubles Championship. New South Wales' congratulations are tendered to the winners of the various events.

The Australian President, Mr. Rees Aikman, presented the prizes at the conclusion of the play on the final night, September 9th.

History was made, so far as this State is concerned, by a running broadcast commentary being given by 2BL on the final night of the Teams' Premiership on September 2nd, and again on September 9th, in connection with the finals of the National Titles.

The Teams Premiership was played on the 31st August, 1st and 2nd September, and the National Championships on September 7th, 8th and 9th.

The Sydney weather ran true to form and gave the visitors a good opportunity of seeing New South Wales to advantage during the whole period of their sojourn here. A most extensive entertainment programme, which met with the hearty approbation of each visitor, was carried out.

Only those members actually connected with the organisation of a carnival can appreciate fully the hard work involved in the multifarious arrangements necessary to make a carnival a success. Months of preparation were necessary and we feel sure that, although improvements could have been made, the organisation was reasonably good. As is known, Honorary Officials have only a limited period of each day available in which to devote to the game, and consequently in ventures of this nature it cannot be expected that the Association should do better than other sports where there is sufficient money available to pay essential helpers. Six nights of play and the entertainment of visitors for eleven days creates a decided strain. However, all those responsible gave of their best. There are many who worked long hours prior to and during the Carnival, but it is refrained from mentioning the names of those who played a part, as it would not be just to name any unless all of those who assisted were mentioned. The Carnival Organiser (Mr. Aikman) suffered a breakdown in health on the opening night of the carnival, but was back again in harness, despite medical advice, a few days later.

The South Australian party comprised 25, Victoria 16, Queensland 20, and with Messrs. Szabados and Kelen made a grand total of 63 visitors to the State for the Carnival.

VISIT OF HUNGARIANS: Mr. H. N. Smith, Vice-President of the English Table Tennis Association, of Hull, England, was responsible for the visit of Messrs. Szabados and Kelen to Australia. He personally advanced the train fares and passage money to these players from their homes in Hungary to Australia and return. Mr. Smith was content to be reimbursed out of 25% of the gross gate receipts from Exhibition Matches.

Owing to the great drawing power of the two great ex-world titles holders and the support given by the table tennis public, Mr. Smith will be repaid the whole amount of his advance. Our benefactor, Mr. Smith, made no financial gain from the tour. He was satisfied to receive his money back. His generosity is greatly appreciated by the Association, particularly as he stood to lose anything up to £250 had the tour not proved a success.

Table Tennis throughout Australia will receive a marvellous fillip through the visit of Messrs. Szabados and Kelen. Players will benefit considerably by their matches with the Hungarians if they practise assiduously on the lines favoured by Szabados and Kelen. Exhibition matches were played by Szabados and Kelen at the Sydney Stadium against N.S.W., at Rockdale against an Australian team, and at Lithgow against local players, strengthened by leading N.S.W. players. The Sydney public also had an opportunity of seeing these fine players in action at Grace Bros., Broadway, and club members and friends saw them at Tattersalls and City Tattersalls, on two occasions at each club, and other occasions at the Road Transport Department when members of the various State teams opposed them.

Pages could be written about these overseas players, but space will not permit. Suffice it to say that on every occasion that they appeared Messrs. Szabados and Kelen, irrespective of whether the game was an exhibition one or not, they played "flat out" from the first service. Their all round exposition gave a new light on the possibilities of Table Tennis from a spectacular point of view. Our players have a tremendous amount to learn in regard to tactics and general play and, as they exploited all the known shots in the game, their visit has benefited Australia immensely. We take this opportunity of placing on record our sincere thanks to them for making the tour and to Mr. H. N. Smith for making the tour possible. We owe them all a debt of gratitude we can never repay.

EXHIBITION MATCHES: Owing to the very crowded programme of Table Tennis activities during the year it was possible to arrange only two exhibitions by our State players away from Sydney. These were given at Merrylands and Sutherland. The visit to both places was very successful and was much appreciated by the local talent.

AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS: In addition to the Insurance Officers' Association, Railways Institute Association and Southern Districts' Association, we were pleased to welcome and grant affiliation to a new Association in Lithgow.

The Lithgow Secretary, Mr. H. Gillard, is congratulated on his organising the visit of the Hungarian players to his Association Headquarters for exhibition matches. Cecil Smith (N.S.W. State Singles Champion), Keith Baker and the Hon. Secretary made the trip also, and the visit was a most successful and enjoyable one.

PUBLICITY: The large audiences which visited the numerous fixtures throughout the year were due in no small measure to the publicity afforded the Association per medium of the press and the Broadcasting Stations. The Association tenders its thanks and gratitude to the following for their valuable assistance—"The Sun" (Mr. Con. Simons), "Labor Daily" (Mr. Sid. Harper), "The Sydney Morning Herald" (Mr. King, Mr. C. Lush), "Daily Telegraph" (Mr. Allison, Mr. Ryan), The Australian Broadcasting Commission (Mr. Phillips, Mr. Kerr), 2KY (Mr. Andy Flanagan), 2UE, 2GB (Mr. Oscar Lawson), and "The Lawn Tennis in Australia," which provided a separate section of its magazine for Table Tennis, conducted by Mr. Ron. Jones of Victoria, and Dangar Gedye & Malloch for the loan of bunting.

TROPHIES: Mr. H. Satoh, the Association's Patron, donated another Cup for the Singles Championship of N.S.W., Mr. H. Schachtel donated a handsome trophy for the Ladies' Singles Championship of Australia, and Mr. R. C. Lacey also donated a handsome Cup for the runner-up in the Open Singles Championship of Australia. Healthy Games Manufacturing Co. presented a Cup for the A. Reserve Teams Premiership to be won outright in 1937. The Association desires to thank the donors for their generosity and the very practical interest displayed.

THANKS: The Association wishes to record its thanks to the under-mentioned gentlemen and organisations for their assistance and support during the season:—

The State Government, per medium of The Maritime Services Board, for making available the launch "Premier" for the entertainment of the visitors from other States during the Carnival.

The Road Transport Department Table Tennis Club for its entertainment of visitors at a Dinner and Smoke Social.

The members of the Adult Deaf & Dumb Society, who assisted so materially and so frequently in the transport, and the erection and dismantling of tables and equipment for the Carnival. The Society for permitting the use of its hall for the preliminary rounds of the National Title Events and also for the use of a room for a number of Council meetings.

The Railway Table Tennis Association for the loan of three tables used during the Carnival.

Messrs. H. Miller and A. Finn (Stadium Officials) for their untiring assistance and support at all times when the Stadium was used for matches.

Messrs. Tooth & Co. Ltd. and the Company's City Manager, Mr. W. A. Bentley, for permitting the visitors to make an inspection of the Brewery and for the entertainment at the conclusion of the inspection.

The Department of Agriculture and its Chief Clerk, Mr. Whitbread, for the use of the Assembly Hall for the majority of the final matches in the Teams Premiership and a large percentage of the 1937 State Championships preliminary rounds.

The Australasian Transport and Shipping Agency Co. Ltd. (Mr. Chatfield and Mr. Packer) and members of A.T.S.A. Social Club for the use of their Club Rooms for the entertainment of overseas lady players.

The various clubs which permitted the use of their rooms for the State Championships and Winter Competition finals, etc.

The Committees of City Tattersalls and Masonic Clubs for the privilege granted the oversea and interstate visitors and the entertainment provided in connection with the Carnival.

To Dangar, Gedye & Malloch Ltd., for the loan of bunting.

The following firms which assisted in advertising:—

Mick Simmons Ltd.	Bert Oldfields Ltd.	N.S.W. Sports Store
C. Hancock's Sports Store.	Slazengers Aust. Pty. Ltd.	Hotel Grand Central
Adelaide Steamship Co. Ltd.	Tooheys Ltd.	A. G. Spalding & Bros. Pty. Ltd.
	Healthy Games Manfg. Co.	

The following firms which arranged gratuitously for the booking of reserved seats for the several matches throughout the year:—

Mick Simmons Ltd.	Bert Oldfields Ltd.	N.S.W. Sports Store
C. Hancock's Sports Store.	Lou Kelly's Sports Store.	

HISTORY OF GAME: A very comprehensive souvenir history of Table Tennis was compiled during the season and supplied during the Carnival period. The Association desires to thank Mr. Corti-Woodcock (England) and the Delegates of State Associations for the furnishing of data for the Souvenir, and to Mr. Rees Aikman for his work in editing the booklet.

AUSTRALIAN TABLE TENNIS MATTERS: As all members are aware, the control of Table Tennis in Australia has been in the past, in the hands of the Australian Board of Control of Table Tennis. The Board consisted of Delegates, one from each State Association, in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria, and, although there were no written rules or Constitution governing the conduct of Australian business, table tennis matters of Australian interest were dealt with satisfactorily, including the conduct of no less than three Interstate Carnivals, Interstate visits and the tour of Australia last year by the two Hungarians, Messrs. M. Szabados and I. Kelen. It has now been agreed between the States mentioned, however, to adopt a written Constitution, because it has been felt that, with the growing importance of the game of table tennis in Australia, the control should be along definite and well-planned lines. The new controlling body is called the Australian Table Tennis Association, the management of which rests in a Council of Delegates, one from each State, each with equal voting power. Tasmania's affiliation is about to be effected. There is much work for the Australian Table Tennis Association to do. The management and control of the proposed tour this year (1938) by Barna, the Hungarian ace, who was world's Singles Champion five times, and world's Doubles Champion seven times, and Bellak, his partner will be entrusted to the A.T.T.A., which also must face up to the work of adopting wholly uniform laws of table tennis to be observed throughout Australia. Mr. Aikman was N.S.W. Delegate during the year up to the time of his retirement from the office of President when this Association was fortunate in being able to delegate this important work to Mr. W. E. Robbins.

GRADING OF PLAYERS: The Selection Committee has graded the ten best players for the year as follows:—

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. C. Smith (deceased) | 7. J. Hair |
| 2. K. Baker | 8. V. Veinberg |
| 3. G. Hodgson | 9. R. Weekes |
| 4 and 5 M. Green and C. Comber | 10. L. Grant |
| 6. R. Masters. | |

SPECIAL APPRECIATION: During the year just concluded, the Association had the misfortune to lose the official services of Mr. Rees R. Aikman who, owing to a breakdown in health, directly due to overwork and worry in connection with the Third Australian Carnival (1937), was obliged, by his doctor's most definite orders, to relinquish all activities relating to table tennis. As is well known, Mr. Aikman was President of the New South Wales Table Tennis Association during a period of four years, being elected in the first instance to that office in 1931. He was again elected to fill the office in 1935 and reappointed each successive year, holding the position until his retirement on the 5th October, 1937. He has always showed the greatest interest in table tennis matters, applying an energy, enthusiasm and determination of purpose, the extent of which had to be seen to be realised. Only those closely connected with the administrative affairs of the Association can realise the volume of everyday routine work in the life of a virile, growing Association such as ours is, and it would be difficult indeed for the average member of a Club to appreciate the great volume and variety of the additional work caused by the conducting of the Third Australian Carnival in Sydney, in conjunction with which was still more work brought about by the visit to Australia of the two Hungarian players, Messrs. M. Szabados and I. Kelen.

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As the Organiser of the Third Australian Carnival, Mr. Aikman bent his energies and spread his enthusiasm amongst the whole of the Council, his self-appointed duties and tasks absorbing all of his spare time for some months in the year. Possessing that rare gift of sustained ardent zeal in all matters relating to table tennis, he did not allow the extra responsibilities imposed upon him as a member of the Rules and Constitution Committee, to affect his capacity for meeting and surmounting all of the many obstacles and difficulties met in the course of organising the big Carnival of six nights' play at the Stadium, where New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria met each other in the keenest, though most friendly, rivalry for the honour of the Australian Teams' Premiership.

It is not possible to set down the value of the work and services performed by our ex-President, Mr. Aikman. It is only possible to here state broadly and generally a reference to his valued activities in every sphere connected with table tennis. He has, indeed, set a standard which will be most difficult to emulate.

Broad as his shoulders are, and unfailing in enthusiasm and ardour as he is, however, the tremendous call made upon his physical resources, and the worry appertaining to the year's work, culminating in the intense anxiety evinced by him as to a successful outcome of the Carnival, took its toll, with the result that his usual good health suffered a sudden and severe breakdown, necessitating his retirement from Official Table Tennis.

To the energy, enthusiasm and good work done, the New South Wales Table Tennis Association owes much to Mr. Aikman. Our appreciation would not be complete, however, without setting a very high value on the assistance given him by his popular wife who, by her unselfishness and by her considerable contributions of fine work, helped in no small manner in the success which was attained by her husband.

Mr. Aikman's health is again restored, and it is truly hoped that his recent illness has in nowise dampened the high table tennis spirit that has always burned within him, and it is hoped too, that if he cannot be persuaded to take up old activities again, his knowledge of administrative table tennis will be available for his successors.

GENERAL: As will be gathered from this report members of Council have had a particularly busy time during the year and it is now felt, after having conducted an Australian Carnival and organised a visit by overseas players, that much of the heavy spade work has been done. The game of table tennis is now among the most popular of organised sports and the retiring Council commends the important work of lifting the game still higher to those who will be entrusted with the control in future. There is every reason to expect that entries during the year 1938-39 will be heavier than ever, both as regards teams and individual championships, and it will be only by proper organisation and sound administration that the popularity and benefits already won will be maintained.

OBITUARY: It is with profound regret we have to record the deaths of Cecil Smith (State Singles and Doubles Titles Holder), Sam Walton (Secretary of "Racqueteers" No. 1 Team, which won the 1937 "B" Grade teams' premiership) and Llando Fergusson.

These three untimely deaths all occurred under most tragic circumstances and our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the relatives and friends in their sad loss.

Mr. Rees Aikman (ex-President) makes appropriate reference to the late State Champion at the end of this report.

C. F. A. JARVIS,
Hon. Secretary.

ADDENDUM

The members will notice in the Honorary Secretary's Report the very high tribute and praise in reference to the work that has been done by our retiring President.

I heartily endorse these remarks, which I do with great pleasure, knowing the time and work that he has given to his job, and the keenness and skill that he has handled everything with satisfaction and a credit to himself.

Although I have only been in this honoured position for 4 months, I cannot let this opportunity go by without expressing my thoughts to our Honorary Secretary, C. Jarvis, and Honorary Treasurer, S. Finikiotis, and all members of the Council. No words of mine could praise them too much for the time that they have given and work that has been done by them all.

Members will have noted also that Mr. W. E. Robbins was appointed to the position of Delegate to the Australian Table Tennis Association since Mr. Aikman resigned. Mr. Robbins accepted this position at the same time as I was appointed President of the Association and, after the short term of office, I feel that the Association is indeed fortunate in having an officer of the calibre of Mr. Robbins to attend to the duties delegated to him.

I desire to convey to Messrs. F. C. Foster and A. G. Parfett, the thanks of the Association for their services as Hon. Auditors.

Everybody interested in Table Tennis must view with satisfaction the good work that has been so ably carried out by the Association with credit to the Council, and I, personally, wish to take this opportunity of thanking one and all for their assistance and help to me, and hope that the good work will continue on during the 1938-39 season.

H. G. SCHACHTEL,
President.

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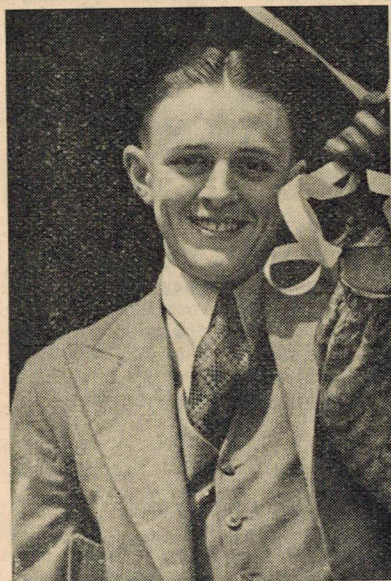
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An Appreciation
(By Rees R. Aikman)

No one who was privileged to witness the memorable final of the Singles Championship of New South Wales in 1935 will easily forget his great victory in his first year of competitive table tennis. It was a veritable triumph, especially as he was then playing "C" Grade with the Macdonald Hamilton Club.



In 1936 he was runner-up in the State Singles and also in the Doubles event. Selected to represent his State for the Second Australian Carnival, he was unable to secure leave to make the trip to Adelaide. He was, however, a member of the State team which decisively defeated Queensland in the match played in Sydney that year when the Northern State's representatives broke its journey on the way to South Australia.

Cecil represented his State in the three Interstate fixtures in the Third Australian Carnival in Sydney and reached the semi-final of the Australian Singles event, going down to Istvan Kelen.

News was received on the 26th September, the day of his death, that the Victorian Table Tennis Association had invited him to play with an Australian team in Melbourne against the Hungarians.

Under 15 years Singles Champion of N.S.W., 1933.

Schoolboy Singles Champion of N.S.W., 1934.

Schoolboy Singles Champion of N.S.W., 1934.
Schoolboy Doubles Champion of N.S.W., 1934.

Runner-up Doubles Championship under 17, 1934.

Defeated in Semi-final of Australian Junior Doubles with J. Bromwich in 1934.

Played for New South Wales Schoolboys against Queensland in 1933.

Under 15 Doubles Championship with J. Bromwich—Illawarra L.T., 1933.

Runner-up under 15, 17 and 19 Singles Championship Illawarra L.T.A. to J. Bromwich, 1933.

Junior and Special Singles Champion Illawarra L.T.A., 1936-37.
Member of Blackwall Cup Team Illawarra L.T.A., 1936-37.

At cricket too, he was an excellent junior bowler and batsman—in fact it is held that if he had not devoted himself so wholeheartedly to tennis he would have gone a very long way in the cricket world.

The splendid record recounted above tells of Cecil's achievements in the realm of competitive sport. For one so young he had achieved success that falls to the lot of very few: but, over and above these, he exhibited personal qualities which are admired by all. His splendid physique, his engaging personality, his unfailing cheerfulness and, above all, his complete unselfishness, will ensure a fragrant memory among his bereaved relatives and his friends. Each and every one will feel better for having known him. While still very young he went to his Great Reward. Let us all cherish his memory and, in building still further the success of our organisation, endeavour to keep it true to those ideals, of which he was the living example.

Income and Expenditure Account for 11½ months ended 31/12/37.

[illegible]

S. FINIKIOTIS,
Hon. Treasurer.

NEW SOUTH WALES TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1937.

ASSETS

Cash in hand	£	s.	d.
Cash at Bank—			
Current Account	14	1	4
Savings Account	23	9	0
Guarantee Account			
Interest Accrued			
Sundry Debtors—			
State and N.Z. Associations	43	16	2
Others	2	16	6
Stocks on hand—			
Stationery	2	5	6
Certificates	2	9	0
Badges	8	5	0
Result forms	3	15	0
Rules Books	9	19	1
Typewriter (less depreciation)			
Table and Trestles (less depreciation)			
Printing Blocks and Bag (less depreciation)			
Electrical Fittings, Shades and Roneo (less depreciation)			

26 13 7
3 15 0
2 0 0
1 9 6
1 5 3
£158 2 9

LIABILITIES

Guarantee Trust Account (as per Contra)	£	s.	d.
Sundry Creditor			
Accumulated Funds—			
Balance as at 15/1/1937	150	8	7
Less excess of expenditure over income for 11½ months ended 31/12/37	31	8	10

118 19 9

£158 2 9

S. FINIKIOTIS,
Hon. Treasurer.

We have audited the Books, Accounts and Vouchers of the N.S.W.T.T.A. for the period ended 31st December, 1937, and have been supplied with all the information and explanations we required. We hereby certify that the above Balance Sheet correctly sets forth a true and correct view of the Association's affairs as shown by the books, vouchers and accounts of the Association.

Sydney,
7th February, 1937.
F. C. FOSTER,
A. G. PARFETT,
Hon. Auditors.

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