

MFTTA Inc 2026 Annual General Meeting

President's Report.

Board of Directors:

Thank you to the outgoing Board. This consisted of Max Coulthard (President), David Griersmith (Vice President), Tony Welbourne (Treasurer), Simon Dewar (Secretary), Lucy McDermott (Social Coordinator), Greg Price (Coaching Coordinator), Jim Ratnan (All Abilities Coordinator), Sarah Grant (Part) (Competition Coordinator). In particular I wish to thank those not seeking re-election. All have contributed greatly and will be missed. I note that there has only been one new nomination for the Board.

Committee Members, Volunteers and Staff

Thank you also to all those on our committees and volunteers who do much of our day-to-day workload. Without your help we could never run our organisation. Special thanks to Megan Bell, our Administration Officer who looks after general administration, bookkeeping, media and is the assistant secretary.

Membership

In August 2026 we had 353 members (331 in August 2025). The growth of our morning social groups to currently to 202 has been encouraging. Our hope that more competition grade people will be attracted to the MFTTA as we already have what every other club I speak to says are "best facility for playing table tennis in Victoria". We will continue to offer a diversity of competition options each week and Competition Coordinator Sarah Grant and her team including Paulina, Jim, Andy, Dale, Mat, Mal welcome ideas/feedback.

Regional Hub and stadium expansion:

The Board of Directors has continued to work toward a stadium expansion and has an in-principal agreement from Mornington Peninsula Shire via the Civic Reserve Master Plan to 2035. We still await firm commitment from Council to bring forward any works in the short-term and lobbying will be needed to keep a focus on Table Tennis not just Pickleball. Support from local State Govt member for Mornington Chris Crewther has been helpful, with Chris handing out medals at our recent Juniors Open Tournament.

Frankston Stadium Venue

We run sessions on Monday night and Thursday afternoon weekly with 8 tables available. Due to limited demand, we will be looking to reduce this to only Monday night in 2027 and negotiations are underway with Frankston Basketball to introduce daytime sessions on completion of their new stadium in Seaford.

Mornington Stadium Venue

The Board undertook the following during 2025-2026:

- Upgrade of flooring with Gerflor Taraflex international table tennis specific flooring installed at a cost of over \$100k with a 15-year warranty. Current issue with bubbles caused by glue not setting mid-winter is expected to resolve itself after a warm summer otherwise remediation will be undertaken to eliminate these bubbles early 2027.
- Further upgrade of lighting to enable all courts to register brightness (Lux levels) at nearly 1500 lux which is international level lighting.

Juniors and Ping Pong Play (PPP)

Friday night junior numbers are steadily growth after much concern last year. This has been an important area of focus the new Board. Inclusion of the junior lightning competition session has resulted in greater interest in juniors and PPP has 18 players enrolled for final school semester 2026. It is good to see local schools hiring out space with just over 100 students playing their interschool competition at MFTTA stadium (thanks Lucy and Juan) and Balcombe Grammer running weekly sessions for several weeks with an average of 50 students each week keeping 5 of our coaches per session very busy.

Stadium Hire

We are getting more interest by outside groups to hire our facility. We continue to host the Australian Defence Forces games – Table Tennis, and next year Mount Martha Probus will be here Monday weekly.

Social Players

We average between 25-55 playing each morning depending on time of the year. Thanks to Lucy and her team of volunteers our numbers are above pre-covid. Past celebrations like our Christmas breakup, significant birthdays and Seniors Week are important to ensure we remain engaged with our community.

All-Abilities

Numbers have been consistent throughout the year. We had 1597 (2025-26) visits from all-abilities users last year and this has grown from 1450 in 2025. Jim Ratnan now runs the Wednesday sessions with Megan Bell managing the Friday group. Thanks also to volunteers Mal and Dale providing backup support.

Coaching, Training and Development

A number of members attended TTA coaching courses, and we ran a TTV State Umpires Course at the Stadium. Our next First Aid Training Course is due early November with 19 participants enrolled. Lucy McDermott, who as our First Aid Person ensures all accidents and incidents are recorded appropriately by all staff and volunteers. On-line group training and team meetings are now available at the stadium after the purchase of appropriate equipment.

We continue with our commitment to host regular coach the coaches' sessions. Coach Bruce Carter, returned early in the year and Myles Collins runs coaching sessions every Sunday. Heads the Coaching and Participation Committee Greg Price, and VP David Griersmith are updating our Coaching Members Policies.

Closed Tournaments

Tournaments Coordinator Anna Wright ran a diverse range of closed tournaments throughout the year including a new social member tournament which also attracted some full member participants. Food was supplied by social members, and the event attracted nearly 40 players.

We run FITT and Pauline Hayes female specific tournaments each year as they are important events to encourage female participation in our competitions. The Anniversary Handicap and Harry Sharp Handicap events were low in numbers but provided an avenue for members to play a diversity of people from different grades and have fun. Our annual Closed Championship was also down in numbers but has been revamped for 2026 with extra events. Most trophies, with winners listed, have been updated.

Open Tournaments and Country Championships

The three open tournaments (Junior, Seniors and Vets) also attracted nearly 110 participants a day (up from 95 in 2025). We hired the multipurpose room from Belgravia on two days – but found it could only hold a maximum of 4 tables at best and we will look to move the Vets tournament to a two-day format in 2027 probably the weekend of the Melbourne Cup in November to enable us to get more Vets to play and eliminate complaints of always having the event fall on Father's Day. It is nice to see so many participants from other clubs, and a much bigger number of MFTTA players. Thanks to all the volunteers who worked on the 3 days to make these events very successful.

Four MFTTA teams went to the Country Championships held in Traralgon. Positive outcomes included winning E1 Shield, Second in C3 and 10 individual awards for our players including four gold and five silver medal results.

Max Coulthard, President and Board Chair 26th October 2026.