



Fitzroy Tennis Club Inc.

Reg A0031103F

ABN 53918137542

100F St Georges Rd FITZROY NORTH Vic 3068

P.O. Box 1010 FITZROY NORTH Vic 3068

www.fitzroytc.net

FitzroyTennisClub@gmail.com

To:
Trent Carpenter
City of Yarra

Reference for Racquet Lab

Dear Trent,

I understand that the City of Yarra will soon be making a decision on the awarding of the contract for tennis coaching services for Clifton Hill Tennis Club at Mayors Park. FTC has had over 4 year's experience with the current coaching providers, Racquet Lab, and we would like to offer our perspective on their services.

The FTC Committee first awarded the coaching contract for our club to Racquet Lab in 2018. Over the last four years the club has become increasingly happy with their performance, for the reasons discussed below. More recently Racquet Lab took over the coaching duties at Clifton Hill Tennis Club. With the same provider serving both of the only two public tennis facilities in the City of Yarra, we feel that a worthwhile synergy has been created, and so are writing to commend a continuation of Racquet Lab's contract at Clifton Hill.

The FTC Committee agreed in August to an extension of our current contract with Racquet Lab for a further 12 months. (The upcoming redevelopment of the Brunswick St Oval Precinct prevents a longer commitment.) The reasons for our ongoing satisfaction with Racquet Lab can be summarised as follows:

- Professionalism - Coaches are qualified professionals who work within the TV and TA guidelines, and update their training regularly.
- Ethical business practices - Staff, both salaried and casual are paid award rates with the associated benefits.
- Working with the FTC Committee - Racquet Lab adheres conscientiously to contractual agreements re court usage and payments, also offering flexibility and support.
- Supporting club events - Coaches join in and assist with the various club social events, competitions and championships.
- Working with Juniors –
 - The popular Hot Shots program progresses juniors systematically through 3 levels, to achieve competition standard.
 - Coaches assist our Junior Coordinator with team selection, as well as the organisation of Junior Club Championships
 - School holiday clinics run each term, for both juniors and adults.
 - Emphasis is placed on developing important sporting values of fairness, effort, etiquette and support.



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- Expanding services - With additional coaches in the team, recent initiatives have included:
 - Cardio Tennis
 - Teenage holiday clinics...a new component of junior clinics
 - A weekly mentoring program, with experienced juniors supporting younger players
 - A weekly intraclub mini comp for Hot Shot players
- Community involvement - Racquet Lab shows a strong commitment to the City Of Yarra community through:
 - Providing free coaching for local schools
 - Working with Tennis Victoria to provide tennis clinics for Special School Students
 - Developing future leaders by training young coaching assistants and mentors, as well as supporting young people to partake in external leadership courses
 - Extending coaching classes beyond club members to the wider community.

Finally, with the impending closure of FTC for an indeterminate period while our redevelopment is carried out, an ongoing contract at Clifton Hill would help Racquet Lab's business to survive this severe disruption.

We hope that this perspective will be useful in your decision making.

Warm regards,

Christopher Ryan
President
FTC Committee