



## Features

### PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

🏆 If you haven't been following her journey, Emma Van Rooyen has continued to make waves with her fearless and expansive brand of tennis, claiming both the singles and doubles titles at the ITF Confederation of African Tennis Juniors event in Mauritius in June. Dropping just four games on her way to the singles trophy, Emma once again showcased her exceptional talent and determination. We at ETC would like to extend a huge congratulations on this outstanding achievement! Emma is well positioned to qualify for the TSA Junior Masters in September.

This prestigious event highlights the country's top junior talent and is proudly supported by local tennis outfitters. "UP THE MEAD"

### JUNIOR CORNER

Giulietta Smith from ETC and Hot Shot Tennis Academy recently received her WP colours. Congratulations Giuls! All your hard work is paying off. Giulietta is also the no 1 girl in tennis team Edgemean Primary School. She is no doubt well on her way to a successful tennis career.

Sophia Huang is our Edgemean Tennis girls champion for 2026. She also won the mixed junior doubles with Sven Haakestad, plus most improved for 2026 with Kyan Kuun. Triple award. Congratulations!



## BEHIND THE BASELINE

Furthering our coaching portfolios, Edgmead Tennis Club offers a variety of professional tennis coaching options to players of all ages and skill levels! Whether you're a beginner looking to learn the basics or an experienced player aiming to refine them, our qualified coaches are here to help you achieve your goals. With personalised training and expert guidance, you can improve your game in a supportive and friendly environment. Join us at Edgmead Tennis Club to enhance your skills, boost your confidence, and enjoy the sport you love even more. In **Behind the Baseline**, we step into their world to learn what drives them, hear what makes them love



being part of our club community, some advice, and to discover more about them.

First, introducing *Carlos Gomes*. Carlos is a dedicated member of our professional coaching squad and welcomes juniors and seniors to enrol in group and private classes at the club.

**ETC: What inspired you to become a tennis coach, and what keeps you passionate about the role?**

*My passion for the game of tennis and the privilege of developing young players and adults into tennis players.*

**ETC: Beyond technique and fitness, what life skills does tennis teach that players can carry off the court?**

*Attitude, dedication and discipline are key factors that are applicable to both tennis and life in general.*

**ETC: If you could coach anywhere in the world for a week, where would you go?**

*The Rafael Nadal Academy.*

**ETC: What's your favourite way to unwind after a long day on the court?**

*Just chilling with mates.*



Introducing *Máde Bouwer*, she is a senior and junior level coaching professional and is a welcomed new member of our community. Reach out to her for advice on racket stringing or gear options and she welcomes players of all levels and ages for lessons.

We chatted to Máde recently and asked her a few questions to help get to know her a little bit and what makes her tick.

**ETC: What's your favourite part about coaching at our club?**

*Edgemean Tennis Club is full of dedication and passion for the club, community, and the game of tennis. Not only does this make it a fun place to be, it also makes it an easy place to work and play!*

**ETC: If you could play a match against any tennis legend (past or present), who would it be and why?**

*Billy Jean King: she is iconic. Her passion for knowledge and willingness to unlock access to the court, the game, and the glory for so many! Always thankful for her courage.*

**ETC: How do you help players stay motivated after a tough match or loss?**

*It always depends on the player. I like to have a goal that is not measured by the end result. This allows players opportunities to recognize success and improvement despite the results. I try and remind the player to remember or "save" your own highlights and focus on the good before walking off the court!*

**ETC: What's your favourite pre-match ritual or go-to warm-up routine?**

*I have a playlist called "tennis time" and like to dress sharp for an extra pre-game confidence boost.*

Thank you Máde and Carlos, some great insight there from just two of our coaching pro's we have available at ETC. Please reach out to them by clicking on the links provided below. Thank you for the passion, energy, and expertise you bring to our courts each week.

- Carlos, ADD Academy: [email](#).
- Máde, ADD Academy: [email](#).



# News and Events



## MIXED LEAGUE

Our league teams enjoyed another competitive season with several strong performances across all divisions. Highlights included our Men's A team winning the Singles League shootout while retaining their place in the top division, and our Mixed A team topping League 2A. The Mixed B side also impressed, finishing runners up in League 3A before winning their shootout section. Our ladies' teams held their league positions, with the Singles A side securing an excellent third place finish. Congratulations to all players who represented the club.



## CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

ETC annual club championships was held over three weekends during May, showcasing some amazing matches in singles, doubles and mixed doubles categories. The format this year saw the singles compete in 4 round-robin pools in which the top 2 players of each pool advancing to 2 knock out rounds of QF and SF before the finals weekend. It was a whole host of fun for those competing, as well as for the spectators who get to enjoy some competitive tennis in their back yard.

Congrats to the following winners: **Ladies Doubles:** Aluis & Emma, **Mens Doubles:** Usman & Sasha, **Mixed Doubles:** Emma & Matteo, **Ladies Singles:** Emma, **Mens Singles:** Matteo.

**Girls Doubles:** Hannah & Giulietta, **Boys Doubles:** Liam & Jesse, **Mixed Junior Doubles:** Sven & Sophia, **Girls Singles:** Sophia Huang, **Boys Singles:** Sasha Green.



## **WHO HAS YOUR BACK AT EDGEMEAD TENNIS CLUB:**

While the action on court is certainly what brings us together, there is a dedicated team of volunteers working behind the scenes to ensure everything runs smoothly.

Our committee members generously give their time, skills, and energy to help create an enjoyable, well-managed, and welcoming environment for everyone at Edgemean Tennis Club. From organising leagues and tournaments to maintaining our facilities, managing finances, coordinating social events, and keeping members informed, each portfolio plays an important role in the success of our club.

Here's an introduction to the people who help keep ETC one of the premier tennis clubs in the Mother City.

### **CHAIRMAN: GERRIT**

Gerrit provides leadership and guidance to the committee while ensuring that the club operates in accordance with its constitution, policies, and governing regulations. He helps maintain the standards, values, and integrity of the club and serves as a key point of support for both committee members and members alike.

When challenges or disputes arise, Gerrit plays an important role in facilitating constructive discussions and helping to resolve issues fairly, ensuring that our club remains a positive and respectful environment for all.



### **SECRETARY: SABRINA**

Sabrina is often the first point of contact for new members joining the club. She manages membership applications, coordinates club communications, and ensures members stay informed about important announcements, upcoming events, and club activities.

In addition, she organises quarterly committee meetings and the club's Annual General Meeting, helping to keep the committee organised, informed, and focused on serving our members effectively.



### **TREASURER: CHANTAL**

Behind every successful club is sound financial management, and Chantal ensures that ETC remains financially healthy and sustainable. She oversees membership fees, manages invoices and payments, maintains financial records, and assists with budgeting and financial planning.

Chantal also manages court bookings through OpenActive for social tennis, league matches, coaching sessions, and tournaments, making her the go-to person for booking and OpenActive-related queries.



### **CLUB CAPTAINS - MÁDE & DANIEL**

Máde and Daniel oversee many of the club's competitive tennis activities. They coordinate and select league teams with the assistance of the selection committee, organise league practice sessions, and manage our annual Club Championships.

They also oversee the club challenge ladder, coordinate challenge matches, and ensure rankings remain up to date. Their careful planning, organisation, and scheduling help maximise court availability while ensuring fair, enjoyable, and inclusive participation opportunities for all members. For any league, ladder, or competitive tennis queries, Máde and Daniel will be your first point of contact and are always happy to assist.



### **JUNIOR COORDINATOR - CHRISTINE**

Christine is dedicated to developing and supporting our younger members. She organises junior social tennis sessions, coordinates inter-club social and league opportunities, and manages the annual Junior Club Championships.

She also oversees the junior challenge ladder, encouraging participation, development, and friendly competition among our future tennis stars. Juniors engaged in her academy are encouraged to participate in Friday junior socials at the club from 4pm to 6pm.



### **MEMBER ENGAGEMENT & FACILITIES - LANCE**

Playing a vital role in fostering club spirit and member engagement, Lance manages our WhatsApp groups, keeping members connected and informed about club activities, events, and important updates.

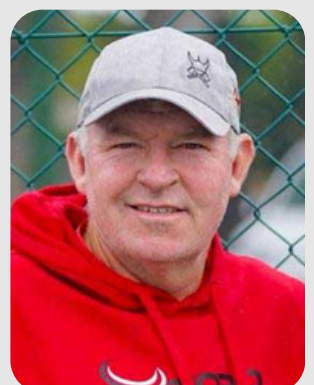
He is also responsible for security-related matters, and serves as the primary contact for venue hire and private function bookings. Whether it's socials on Thursday & Friday's or club braai's, Lance helps create the welcoming atmosphere that makes ETC more than just a tennis club.



### **GROUNDS & MAINTENANCE - BRAD**

A great tennis experience starts with excellent facilities, and Brad works tirelessly to ensure our grounds remain in top condition.

From court maintenance and lighting to clubhouse upkeep, gardening, fencing, nets, and general repairs, Brad oversees the ongoing care and improvement of our facilities. His efforts help ensure that members can enjoy safe, attractive, and well-maintained surroundings throughout the year.



### **SOCIAL COORDINATOR – ANTHEA**

Anthea is responsible for bringing our club community together through a variety of social and fundraising initiatives.

Whether organising social gatherings, family-friendly events, fundraising activities, or coordinating social tennis during league weekends, she helps create opportunities for members to connect both on and off the court. Her work strengthens the friendships and sense of community that ETC is proudly renowned for.



### **COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR – CARLOS**

The Communications Coordinator oversees the club's website, social media platforms, and newsletter while helping promote club events, achievements, and activities. The role also assists with sponsorship opportunities that support the club's long-term financial sustainability.



### **THANK YOU TO OUR COMMITTEE**

The committee serves as the engine room of Edgemean Tennis Club. Through their dedication, commitment, and countless volunteer hours, they help ensure that our members enjoy exceptional tennis, outstanding facilities, and a welcoming community atmosphere.

The next time you step onto the courts, attend a social event, or participate in a league fixture, you'll know exactly who is working behind the scenes to help make ETC one of the finest tennis clubs in Cape Town.



Edgemean Tennis Club is inviting local businesses to partner with us through our Court Sponsorship Programme. This exciting opportunity offers year round brand visibility to our members, visiting teams, tournament players, and spectators, while supporting the growth of community tennis.

Court sponsorship is a great way to showcase your business, strengthen your local presence, and demonstrate your commitment to community sport. Your support will help us maintain and improve our facilities, ensuring the club remains a welcoming place for players of all ages and abilities.

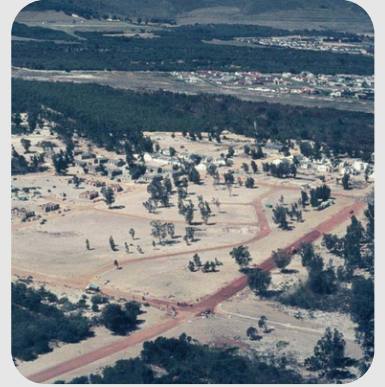
Whether you're looking to increase brand awareness or give back to the community, we'd love to work with you. Join us in making a lasting impact both on and off the court. For more information on sponsorship opportunities, please contact the committee. We look forward to hearing from you.

## **EDGEMEAD TENNIS CLUB TURNS 50!!!**

The Edgemean Tennis Club holds the distinction of being part of the very first formal sports organisation established in the Cape Town suburb of Edgemean. From its humble origins with just a single bench and court, it has grown into a premier tennis destination in the Western Cape.

### **1970s: Humble Beginnings**

- **Community Roots:** Following the 1972 unveiling of the Edgemean "Garden City" suburb, early residents began lobbying for local recreational spaces.
- **The Sports Association:** Enterprising resident Terry Healy founded the Edgemean Sports Association to centralize these efforts.
- **One Bench and a Court:** When the tennis club was initially founded, its entire footprint consisted of just one tennis court and a single bench.
- **First Official Games:** Corporate developer Garden Cities constructed the first infrastructure. Club members stepped onto the first two completed courts to play their inaugural matches early in 1976.



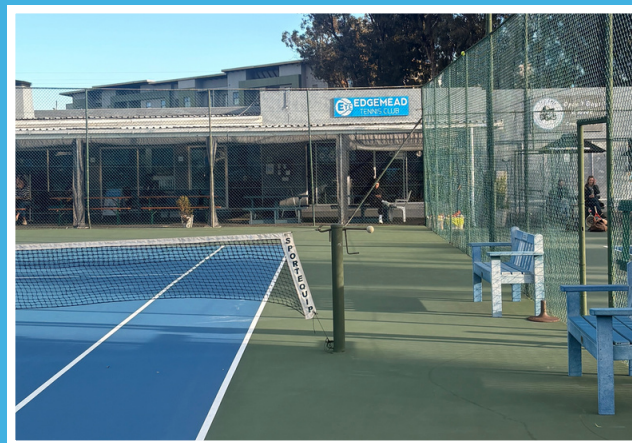
### **1980s: Growth and Expansion**

- **Fundraising Efforts:** To build out the facilities, the sports committees organized community-backed fundraisers. One notable early project included a raffle for a colour television set, which was highly coveted as TV broadcasting was brand new to South Africa at the time.
- **Facility Upgrades:** By 1983 the community's continuous financial backing quickly allowed for the installation of a third and fourth court, and the clubhouse extended. This alongside expansions for neighbouring soccer, bowls, and cricket facilities.

### **Modern Era: A Thriving Club**

- **After becoming a member of Western Province Tennis Association,** competitive matches on were in weekly rotation while social tennis became popular on Saturdays.
- **The club has expanded significantly from its initial mid-70s setup to accommodate social and high-level competitive athletes.**
- **Upgraded Infrastructure:** It wasn't until 1990 that another four courts were built bringing the number to 8 tennis courts. By 2003, with the numerous fundraising events, 3 courts were fully floodlit for evening play, with a significantly enlarged clubhouse and restaurant.
- **Competitive Success:** The club hosts numerous league teams across varying divisions, ranging from local social squads to high-ranking Western Province Premier League teams. It frequently has selected WP Masters players (veterans WP colours) to elite talent, including players selected for international stages like the ITF World Team Championships.

## ETC Then... and Now



**SAVE THE DATE:**



### **16-20 June: 50th Anniversary function:**

ETC continues to grow year on year, so to mark this memorable milestone we'd like you to join us for a week of celebration with events scheduled for the 16<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> June. It's guaranteed to get the heart pumping and laughter flowing, in a week to commemorate a wonderful 50 years of tennis, friendship, and community.

### **4 July: Wimbledon Day:**

Every year, on the middle Saturday of Wimbledon in SW19, ETC hosts it's own social format Wimbledon tennis tournament in harmony with the beloved Grand Slam. In the name of fun and Strawberries and Cream, the day is hosted by Christine with players encouraged to dress in all whites, with prize giving scheduled at 17:00.

### **1 August: Generation Gap**

From 9 to 79+ years olds. All playing with and against each other. Good fun and laughs.

### **7-11 September: Junior ITF hosted at ETC:**

ITF tournaments and the Trio Juniors Masters, providing a vital springboard for rising young stars to gain world ranking points and professional exposure.

### **22-25 September: Trio Masters hosted at ETC**

The Trio Tennis Masters is a prestigious annual youth tennis tournament featuring South Africa's top junior players. Hosted by the Edgemoor Tennis Club in Cape Town, it showcases the highest-ranked competitors across various age categories.

### **9 October: Golf Day Fundraiser:**

Get in touch with Lance Swingburn for opportunities.

### **28 November: ETC Boot sale:**

Tennis enthusiasts, local shoppers, and bargain hunters, mark your calendars. This annual event combines community spirit, fantastic finds, and a love for the game we all cherish. We are hosting our annual boot sale and need YOU to be a part of it!

Funds raised from the Boot Sale and the Golf day will go toward upgrading Court 4 with LED lights. To get involved, kindly consider donating items for us to sell on the day! We're looking for items in good condition such as books, toys, puzzles, clothing, tennis equipment or anything preloved as a few examples.

Join our team of enthusiastic volunteers to help set up, manage stalls, and ensure the event runs smoothly. It's a fun way to serve and showcase the club to the community.

Where: Edgemean Library | When: Nov 28, 8am - 12pm



## DONATION BOX

The club would like to thank the members who have generously donated items towards our tennis community box. The donation box provides a simple and effective way for members to give back, may it be big or small, old or new items. Located conveniently in the braai room, this box allows anyone to make contributions at their convenience. Donatable items include: tennis gear such as rackets, strings, grips and dampeners. Any clothing like shoes, shirts, pants or skirts. Accessories such as towels, sweatbands and tennis bags. Tennis balls can also be donated.

# Tips hints and Inspiration

## TOP TENNIS TIPS FROM THE PROS

- Aim high: Hitting the ball a few feet higher over the net provides a bigger margin for error.
- The "Rally Ball": Practice hitting with good topspin and depth rather than going for outright winners.

## FAQ

### How do I get onto the ladder?:

For those who have not yet played a challenge match, you get one free challenge anywhere on the ladder. If you win, you take that person's spot. If you lose, you have to start at the bottom of the ladder and work your way up.



ETC is excited to share the following SnapScan links for members who prefer not to use cash or EFT:

By **clicking on the links below** it will direct you to the SnapScan App. Kindly use your Name & Surname as prompted.

**LEAGUE FEES**

**VISITORS FEES**

**EVENTS**