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**Townsville Table Tennis Association**

**Ext 1931**

## **TIGERS TALES**

**Newsletter: Vol 2 February 2026**

### **Newsletter**

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The following is a summary of the events that took place at TTTA and elsewhere in the Table Tennis World during February 2026.

#### **Vale Max Doolan**

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We regret to advise the passing of club member and former committee member Max Doolan in the early hours of 7<sup>th</sup> February.

His service was held at Morley's on the 18<sup>th</sup> of February. Max is survived by wife Helen and their sons, Steven and Rowan and respective families.

The club held a quiet "wake" on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> in honour of Max.

#### **Around the Club**

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The Come N' Try day at the Hall on 7<sup>th</sup> February attracted plenty of interest from the public.

A social night was held on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> with a Hard Bat competition to celebrate the recent movie "Marty Supreme". A good turnout from all reports.

You may notice that there is a new filter on the Cold Water Fountain in the foyer. Installing the filter was a bit of a challenge. Armed with the knowledge of how not to install it certainly made the 2<sup>nd</sup> attempt easier.

### **Upcoming Tournaments and Events**

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All the **QLD** Events will be held at the South Pine Sports Complex

#### **International Women's Day – 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> Mar - Townsville**

East Coast Veterans Teams – 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> Mar – Gold Coast

**QLD** Senior Closed – 2<sup>nd</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> April

**QLD** Junior Closed – 5<sup>th</sup> / 9<sup>th</sup> April

Townsville Open – 2<sup>nd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> May (inc Nth Qld Junior, Senior and Para)

Mackay Open – 8<sup>th</sup> / 10<sup>th</sup> May (inc Nth Qld Vets)

World Masters – 5<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup> June – South Korea

For all event dates, check TTQ website at [Events - Table Tennis Queensland](#) or our own Calendar at [Calendar and Events - Townsville Table Tennis](#)

### **Sausage Sizzles**

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We have been given opportunities for fundraising at Bunnings Fairfield Waters as follows.

22<sup>nd</sup> March

12<sup>th</sup> July

22<sup>nd</sup> November

We hope to get a few more dates in 2026.

## Chinese New Year Tournament

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We had an incredible turnout and such a fantastic atmosphere to kick off the year at Townsville Table Tennis. It was great to see so many players, families and supporters at the club.

A big thank you to our sponsor CLIX PIX MEDIA (Kevin Chun Tie) for capturing the day so beautifully. We're grateful to have your support.

We also want to give a special shout-out to Kevin, Norm Taylor and all the helping hands for the amazing catering. Everything was delicious and beautifully organised, and we truly appreciate the effort from those who helped make it happen.

Thank you again to everyone who participated and supported the event. What a way to start the year!

Main Event	
Winner	Taleisha Gaeta
Runner-up	Yatin Kumar
Women's Social Singles	
Winner	Angie Pace
Runner-up	Lauren Gregory
Senior Singles (30+)	
Winner	Brett Sprunt
Runner-up	Tarun Laghate
Young Gun Singles (<30)	
Winner	Taleisha Gaeta
Runner-up	Justin Cheung
Open Doubles	
Winner	Tarun Laghate / Justin Cheung
Runner-up	Brendan Gaeta / Alan Walsh
Senior Doubles (50+)	
Winner	John Sherriff / Mike Summers
Runner-up	Morrie Bligh / Gary Mantell

Plenty of photo's on our Facebook pages.

## Trivia

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The Sport That Trains Your Brain as Hard as Your Body

What if we told you table tennis isn't just fast...

It's one of the most neurologically demanding sports you can play.

Not running.

Not cycling.

Not the gym.

Table tennis.

Every rally forces your brain to:

- track a ball moving up to 70km/h
- predict spin, speed, and bounce in milliseconds
- coordinate eyes, hands, feet - instantly
- make rapid decisions under pressure

That's real-time brain training.

Here's the controversial bit

Most "exercise" barely challenges your nervous system.

Table tennis does - every single point.

That's why studies consistently link racquet sports with:

- sharper reaction time
- improved focus and memory
- better balance and coordination
- long-term cognitive resilience as we age

It's not just fitness. It's brain health in motion.

And the best part?

You don't need to be elite to get the benefits.

Whether you're 9 or 79, a first-timer or a seasoned player - every shot counts.

Your brain loves this game.

Your body will thank you too.

That's all for this edition, and until next month.

**The Tigers Tail**