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Townsville Table Tennis Association

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TIGERS TALES

Newsletter: Vol 4 April 2026

Newsletter

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

Around the Club

Over Easter, work was performed under the floorboards to try and strengthen the broken/cracked boards. Thanks Gary, Steve, Kyle, Ray, Mark (NSS), Michael, Morrie and Joan. Great efforts.

Trans-Tasman Test Match – Auckland

Harry Bligh, alongside Mick Wright (Victoria), secured a fantastic win in the Over 80 Test Match against New Zealand's top pair, Chip Eade and Willie Weinstock.

Unfortunately, it wasn't enough to stop the Kiwi's winning the Test Series 31-29.



New Zealand Veterans Open

Results from the Event:

Gold for Harry Bligh and Mick Wright in the O80 and O75 Men's doubles. Harry also picked up a Gold in the O80 teams.

Bronze for John Sherriff and Judy Chin in the O75 Mixed doubles and Bronze for John in the O75 singles as well as Silver in the O75 Men's teams.

A Gold double for Therese Chappell in the O60 and O65 Women's doubles with Helen Zhang, and a Bronze double for Therese in the O60 and O65 Women's singles as well as Silver in the O65 Women's Teams.

Marianne Orman picked up a Bronze Quad for the O60 and O65 Women's doubles and O60 Mixed doubles events as well as the O60 Women's Teams.

Qld Senior Results

Teams

Women

Paola and Taleisha Silver

Pippa and Manasee 4th

Singles

WOS Taleisha Bronze

U21 Men Mischa Silver

U19 Girls Taleisha Silver

Doubles

WOD Paola and Taleisha Gold

XOD Taleisha Silver

U19 Mixed doubles Taleisha Gold

Following the event, teams were announced for the Australian Senior and Youth Championships.

Men's B Team Peter Besnard.

U21 Men's A Team Mischa von Mellenthin.

U19 Girl's Team Taleisha Gaeta

Order of Merit

Women:

#3 Taleisha Gaeta

#5 Paola Lovera

#8 Manasee Sivayoganathan

#10 Pippa-louise Trass

Qld Junior Results

Doubles

U17 Girls Manasee Silver

U15 Girls Manasee Silver

U15 Mixed Manasee Bronze

U13 Girls Aarohi Silver

U11 Girls Aarvi Bronze

Lots of photos and more information is showing on the clubs Facebook pages. At time of publication, the Qld Junior team selections have not been made that will complete at the National Junior Championships.

Victorian Open – 11th / 12th April

Taleisha Gaeta travelled to Victoria to play the Women's Open Singles, U21 Women's

singles (Silver), U19 Girls singles (Silver) and the U2000 rating event (Bronze).

To advance through the group in the WOS, Taleisha had to defeat the #6 ranked woman in Australia, Sanaya Buddhadasa, which proved too difficult, although Taleisha did take a game from her losing 3-1.

TTA Hopes Tour Training Camp / Tour Victoria – 18th / 19th April

Taleisha and Manasee travelled down to Traralgon to play the Tour events, but prior to that, they along with Advik Tiwari and Coach Alan, took in the Hopes Tour Training camp.

Four days of high-level training, learning from elite coaches and athletes, and valuable competition experience. Great exposure and an important step in their development.

Also great to see our Coach Alan Walsh participating in the camp, collaborating with national-level coaches and engaging in a high-performance learning environment. The knowledge and insights gained will continue to strengthen and enhance our training sessions back at the club.

Taleisha won the Silver medal in the U21 Women's singles for the TTA Tour Victoria.

Upcoming Tournaments and Events

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

2026 Sturt Business Centre Townsville Open 2nd / 4th May (inc Nth Qld Junior, Senior and Para)

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

TTA NSW Tour – 30th / 31st May - Goulburn

World Masters – 5th / 12th June – South Korea

Australian Senior, Youth and Para Championships – 6th / 11th July - Goulburn NSW

QLD Veterans – 14th / 18th July

TTA QLD Tour – 22nd / 23rd August

Australian Junior Championships – 27th Sept / 3rd Oct – Moreton Bay

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

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

26th July

22nd November

We hope to get a few more dates in 2026.

Trivia

THE FASTEST BALLS IN SPORTS

RANKED BY SPEED OF THE OBJECT (BALL/SHUTTLECOCK)

RANK	SPORT	OBJECT	TOP SPEED (RECORDED)	HUMAN REACTION TIME (IN THAT SPORT)
1	BADMINTON Shuttlecock	Shuttlecock	500+ km/h (310+ mph)	0.20 – 0.30 sec (200 – 300 ms)
2	JAI ALAI Ball	Ball	~300 km/h (~186 mph)	0.25 – 0.35 sec (250 – 350 ms)
3	TENNIS Serve (ball)	Tennis Ball	260+ km/h (160+ mph)	0.30 – 0.40 sec (300 – 400 ms)
4	GOLF Ball (after hit)	Golf Ball	250+ km/h (155+ mph)	0.30 – 0.40 sec (300 – 400 ms)
5	TABLE TENNIS Ball	Ping Pong Ball	170+ km/h (105+ mph)	0.10 – 0.20 sec (100 – 200 ms)

THE FASTEST SPORTS BY HUMAN REACTION

These sports require extremely fast reflexes and split-second decision making.





TABLE TENNIS



Reaction time in elite players:
0.10 – 0.20 sec
(100 – 200 ms)

ICE HOCKEY



Reaction time in elite players:
0.20 – 0.30 sec
(200 – 300 ms)

FACT: A shorter reaction time means less time to see, think and respond. | 1 second (1,000 ms) = 1000 milliseconds

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

The Tigers Tail