

Ace Report

The ASB Ace programme has completed its second season under the coaching of Andre. The focus has been on continuous improvement and development of well rounded all court players that are confident to compete and perform well.

The coach and committee have focused on attracting and retaining good players that will commit to the programme over a twelve month period. This helps to make it sustainable into future years rather than players coming in and out through the year making it difficult to manage. We believe this commitment and continuous learning process will foster depth, enjoyment of Tennis, and a good team spirit in the squads.

The programme this season included a grass court session at Allenton Tennis Club, regular Strength, Conditioning and Nutrition advice from Physiotherapist Shaun Clark and winter Hitting Squad sessions with Tennis Canterbury coach Matt Meredith.

The programme continues to include many players that are representing Mid-Canterbury with distinction at local and regional level. One recent highlight is the winning of the Wilding Challenge 10s competition by the Canterbury Country team which included four of our Ace players.

We also have three participants who regularly train in Christchurch in the Canterbury Player Development Programme (PDP), with one also recently invited to join a Tennis NZ Strength and Conditioning programme for top New Zealand juniors.

This illustrates the Ace programme continuing to develop some great junior talent in Mid-Canterbury.

I would like to sincerely thank our major sponsor ASB Bank for their continued support, as well as our other sponsors - Regular Rubbish Removal, Brophy Knight, Subway Ashburton and Sustainable Water.

Thank you to the other committee members Lee, Robert, Michelle and Cynthia for their fantastic contribution over the last 12 months. I would also like to thank Katherine for her dedication and professionalism in Ace administration and support.

Finally, thanks to Andre - who always provides a friendly, and professional approach to all his Ace coaching and is a great role model to Mid-Canterbury's young Tennis players.

Tim Parsons