

Introducing Whats App Communities for Grafton

To help streamline club communications at Grafton, reduce 'noise' and ensure members only hear what's relevant to them, we are planning to introduce the new [Whats App Communities](#) feature to our club groups. If you're not familiar, this essentially allows one umbrella community for all members to hear club-wide announcements and groups that sit underneath that which members can enjoy to interact with each other on relevant topics.

What does that look like in reality?

We are proposing the following structure and groups for Grafton, based on how people use Whats App groups today and the type of information shared/discussed.

- The Grafton Notice Board (the community)
 - Broadcast only channel for admins to share club-wide announcements such as social events, bar closures/openings, AGM meetings and so on.
 - Everyone is a part of this and can join the respective groups they wish from the below list.
- Grafton Tennis Central (previously the Grafton Chronicle, act as a group)
 - Tennis specific content such as tournaments, share court availability/cancellations etc.
 - Open group which all members can discuss and post on tennis topics, but moderated to ensure we don't fill it with noise that should sit elsewhere.
- Grafton Squash Central (current squash group as is, act as a group)
 - As above but for squash purposes
- The Grafton Clubhouse (new group to be set up, act as a standard group)
 - All social and club chat, discuss sporting and topical events, share that you have some concert tickets up for grabs, a room to rent etc.
 - Removes this kind of chat being in the tennis or squash groups.
 - Largely unmoderated unless needed.

What do I need to do?

- If you're already in any of the above groups, you will automatically be added to the community and start receiving broadcast club-wide messages.
- Once in, you can see what other groups exist that you may want to join – not only those above but we will also be folding in some other well-established Grafton groups like 'Social Sundays' for tennis.
- Once live, we will share the Whats App link around and members who are not yet in any groups can join the community.
- For squash players currently in The Grafton Chronicle, once the community is set up, you may want to leave as this group will turn into the tennis group given the vast numbers in there currently.

What we ask of members

- Please be considerate of the usage of the groups and what you are sending – is it really worth notifying tens or hundreds of people about a topic that may only relate to 3 others?

- As with any such rollout, this will be a learning process for us all so please bear with us and share constructive feedback.
- We will have moderators, primarily Sarah Dickinson, in some of the groups to help ensure everyone is using it in the right way and overcome the initial learning process early on. This moderation will be done with the express intention of ensuring posts are placed in the most relevant forum.
- Remember Whats App does offer a mute feature – so if you would rather reduce the noise further, we encourage you use this rather than leave groups as you will be missing out on important club info!

We hope this acts a new way to inform everyone about what is happening in the club and allowing interaction, while hopefully leading to a few less notifications for everyone!