

## AGE DOUBLES TOURNAMENT – COMBINED AGE 50+

Although all Carvoeiro Clube de Ténis goes through a period of mourning, the staff and director felt that something had to be done to lift everyone's spirit and bring back this positive breeze the club always sent out to its members and visitors. So, a doubles tournament was organized, one in which youngsters and seniors alike could participate: *“Age Doubles Tournament with combined Age 50+”*.

The date was set for Saturday the 29<sup>th</sup> August at 12 noon.

The turn-out was amazing: 32 players! To organise a tournament for so many enthusiastic players already was a challenge and soon a climate of high expectation set in.

A draw of 4 groups was made, rules explained and a little after 12 the first round started. Each team had to play 3 matches in its group, time limit for each match was set on 40 minutes. Winners and runner-ups of each group then were placed in a knock-out draw.

Some very tight and competitive matches were played and, after the sound of the bell to indicate yet another end of a round, the matches were discussed whilst having a quick drink. It became clear which pairs were through to the knock-out draw after the 3 group rounds were finished. This was announced in great style by Graeme (he's simply the best in doing these things!) and Elke contributed with her nice touch to the distribution of the “Age Doubles – Combined Age 50+” medals for all 32 players.

The players who didn't make the knock-out draw decided to stay on and watch the remaining matches. This probably was the best part of the whole day: most of the players sitting around court 4 and 5, having a drink, watching some real good tennis and speculating who would be the winners and those players who were still in the race, playing their best tennis and trying to win the tournament.

After two close semi-finals, the grand final was disputed between Carvoeiro Club players Floris & Christopher and visitors of many years Andrew & Alexander. Floris and Christopher won the tournament after a very exciting match!

Winners and runners-up received an additional prize for their achievement, in the form of polo- or t-shirts of the Topspin brand for which Carvoeiro Club is the official importer.

The fact that everybody decided to stay and also the participation of the most unlikely pairs made this a truly great club event. It also gave us the assurance and willpower for the future, because we would like to organise many more events!



