



TTQ MEMBER PROFILE

Personal Information	
Name	John Sherriff
Preferred Name	John
Nickname	Big John
Date of Birth	7th July 1951
Place of Birth	Townsville, Queensland
Place of Residence	Townsville, Queensland
Current Occupation	Retired Accountant
University	University of Queensland
Education	Bachelor of Commerce



Table Tennis Information	
First Table Tennis Club	Townsville Table Tennis Association
Current Table Tennis Club	Townsville Table Tennis Association
Current Involvement	I am playing in our local fixtures, Association tournaments and competing in Queensland and Australian Veteran Championships
Age First Started Playing	12 years of age
How You First Started Playing	Next door neighbour and good friend, Peter Klumpp had a table tennis table at home. We then played junior fixtures, as did my 4 sisters Anne, Margaret, Therese and Bernadette. My parents bought a table for home so we could all have a "hit".
Why Did You Get Involved	A natural thing to do
Why Do You Keep Playing	It is Great fun. Some encouragement goes a long way. For example, Werner Borkhardt and Col Gradwell talked me into going to the New Zealand Veterans in 2010. I have been there eight times now.
Plays (Right or Left Handed)	Right handed
Style of Play	Mainly defensive
Type of Grip	Shake hand
Coaches	Mr Chen, Gary Walmsley, Brett Clarke, Bruno Levis, George Logothesis

Coaching Information	
Coaching Successes	Coach of Wynnum Under 12 team (Donna Burnage and April Ward) who won Gold at Queensland Junior Championships in Mackay in 1976
Coaching Highlights	Doing some junior coaching with Joyce Tregrea from Townsville and Jack Miles from Wynnum
Coaching Development Ideas	Coach all who want to be coached

Officiating Information	
Accreditation Types	Umpire Accreditation and Referee Accreditation
Accreditation Level	National Umpire in 2017 and State Referee in 2016
Year of Your First Accreditation	First Accreditation was in 1977 as a State Umpire
Major Events You Have Officiated	Deputy Referee at Australian Junior Championships Townsville 2018 Deputy Referee at Queensland Senior Championships Townsville 2019
Officiating Philosophy	Someone has to do it
Future Vision for the Sport	Retain players

Playing Information	
Current Rankings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Number 1 in the Queensland Rankings for Over 60 in 2019 ✓ Number 1 in the Queensland Rankings for Over 65 in 2019 ✓ Number 3 in the Australian Rankings for Over 65 Order of Merit Championships Adelaide in 2019
Career Queensland Event Wins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ First Queensland Closed Veteran Title was in the Over 50 Men's Singles at the Gold Coast in 2010 ✓ Most recent Queensland Closed Singles Title was in the Over 60 Men's Singles at Townsville in 2020 ✓ A member of winning Townsville Team in 11 of past 14 years ✓ The Team mates included Max Wellington (4), Paul Jones (3), Gary Walmsley, Terry Morato (2), Mick Wright (4), Wayne Wormald and Mike Summers (2) ✓ My Gold Medal doubles partners have included Tony Webb (2), Martin Solomons (2), Mick Wright (3), Dennis Rylatt, Karen Smith (3), Val Austin (2) and Saci Papp between 1996 and 2018
Career National Event Wins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Gold Medal at the Australian Veteran Championships Over 60 Men's Teams Adelaide in 2011. My team mates were Danny Schull, Tony Webb and Tommy Samuelsson
Career Awards Received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 2011 Qld Veteran Player of the Year Award
Career Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ranked Number 3 in Australian Over 65 Order of Merit in October 2019. My Personal Best ✓ Reaching the Finals of the Australian Over 65 Doubles with Martin Solomons for 3 years from 2016 to 2018 ✓ Playing in the World Veterans in Stockholm, Sweden in 2012 ✓ Playing in the World Veterans in Auckland, New Zealand in 2014
Career Ambitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Keep playing (To live long, play Ping Pong)
Career Debuts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Debut for Queensland at Australian Vets at Perth in 1994 ✓ Debut for Australia v New Zealand at Palmerston North in 2012
Memorable Moments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Representing Australia against New Zealand in Trans-Tasman Tests in 2012, 2016 and 2018 ✓ Selected for Test Match but was cancelled due to Covid in 2020
Your Future Vision	More players, better use of existing facilities

Committee and Volunteering Information	
Committee Positions Held	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ President at Townsville Table Tennis Association ✓ President at Wynnum Table Tennis Association ✓ Secretary at Wynnum Table Tennis Association ✓ Treasurer at Townsville Table Tennis Association ✓ Committee Member at Townsville Table Tennis Association
Committee Positions Years	✓ Between 1972 and 2018
Committee Held At What Clubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Townsville Table Tennis Association ✓ Wynnum Table Tennis Association ✓ Table Tennis Queensland ✓ Table Tennis Australia (National Veterans Committee 2016 to 2018)
Committee Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Getting State Grant for extensions to Townsville Hall in 1980 ✓ Jim Bond (TTQ) and I made representations to State Member Honourable Max Hooper. He said "You two look like Rugby League players, not Table Tennis players".
Volunteering Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ State Selector for Junior, Senior and Veteran from 1974 to 2018 ✓ Umpire at Association, State and National Finals
Volunteering Years	I have Volunteered from 1972 to 2020

Other Information	
Your Hobbies and Interests	Table Tennis, Tennis, Rugby League and the share market
Your Favourite Books	"Captain Cook's Epic Voyage" by Geoffrey Blainey
Your Favourite Movies	Forest Gump and Mamma Mia
Your Favourite Songs	Sitting on the Dock of the Bay
Your Favourite Music Artists	Beatles, Johnny Cash, Roy Orbison and Abba
Your Sporting Heroes	Raphael Nadal, Wally Lewis and Cathy Freeman
Your Personal Heroes	My family. Some good Table Tennis mentors were Jack Bordujenko from Townsville and Geoff McLaughlan from Wynnum
Your Influences	My wife Ursula
Other Influences	My Townsville and Queensland Team Mates
Interesting Facts	I held four TTQ Singles Titles in 2019. The Over 60 and 65 Men's Singles Titles from the Queensland Closed Championships held at Wynnum and the Over 60 and 65 Men's Single Titles from the Queensland Open Championships held at the Gold Coast.
Something We Don't Know	I played front row for University Rugby League premiership team in 1973 in Townsville. I won the Gold Medal in Australian Masters Games, in Tennis in the Over 65 doubles with Peter Klumpp in Burnie, Tasmania on the 24th October 2017.
Some Table Tennis History	Current Proserpine Table Tennis Open Singles Champion. I defeated Angelo Bonaventura from Mackay in the Final on the 3rd June 1979
Anything Else You Want to Share	Looking forward to 2021 Australian Veterans in Darwin!



Over 60 Men's Singles Champions at the Queensland Veteran Championships Townsville, Queensland in 2020
John Sherriff (Gold), Thomas Woltmann (Silver), Mike Summers and Martin Tribe (Bronze)



Test Match Australia v New Zealand Taupo, New Zealand in 2018
Trans Tasman Cup, Australia Won 32 to 18



In Action at the Australian Veteran Championships Caloundra, Queensland in 2015