

# TETTENHALL TENNIS CLUB

## Annual General Meeting 2016

### Chair's Report

As another year is completed I am happy to provide a report for this year's AGM.

### Events:

Once again we managed to cover a range of events, designed to bring the members together and encourage the friendly club atmosphere of which we are deservedly proud and to provide a platform to promote the club and also increase our membership.

Our club nights, launched nearly 4 years ago are now a regular monthly feature (weather permitting), with a meal at the WCC or 'The Dog and Gun' afterwards.

Several new Junior initiatives took place this year over the Spring and Summer; most notable being the Highland Spring Tournament and The Quorn Red Bull Tournament.

In early **July** we attended the Round Table **Fair on Tettenhall Green** with the aim to both raise our profile in the local community and recruit new members. We succeeded in doing both, and as such it is something we will continue to do.

The now regular '**Adult and Child Tournament**' took place once again on July 19th with record numbers attending and ably co-ordinated by Lyndsey and Simon, with support gratefully received from several Junior parents.

We had tennis 'Summer Camps' throughout **July and August**, essentially for Juniors, organised by Simon Fellows. Many thanks to him for this.

**September** saw the **Open Championships**, once more in a mixed format, made necessary by the low entries for some of the groups. However, Final's Day on the 6<sup>th</sup> September was another enjoyable occasion; the standard of tennis was as good as ever.

The **Junior Championships** took place throughout October, highlighting the young talent we have in the club, and as such we must work hard to maintain their motivation and ability. Other tournaments were arranged throughout the year.

**November** saw the successful **Over 30s Championships**, with a good number of entries, as well as the now established TTC Annual Tour to Devon for an enjoyable, energetic, but also relaxing long weekend.

Our **Presentation Evening** took place in late November and we were back at the WCC for the occasion and once again the evening was a relaxed, enjoyable and entertaining. This was followed by a TTC Davis Cup Final afternoon back at WCC the next day.

### **Matches and Leagues (Men's, Ladies, Juniors, Mixed)**

Team Reports are attached. Once again we entered the Telford Indoor League – thanks to Kate Sheldon for co-ordinating this.

### **Other points to note:**

1. This year we have invested part of the club funds in a much needed overhaul of the floodlights. The committee did considerable research regarding the various options, finally opting for a full bulb replacement. We hope this will now last for a few years.

2. Simon continues to be an invaluable asset to the Club. He has increased our Junior membership enormously and also encouraged more adult members to join. In addition he has organised many club based activities and has plans for more. Please continue to give him your support.
3. We continue to have a monthly calendar that is distributed electronically.
4. We still have a substantial outdoor publicity banner which we can use on appropriate occasions, as well as publicity leaflets which can all help to promote the club and business card style/size hand-outs also with key information. These are located in the court cupboards for members to distribute as necessary.
5. Our website is still operational and contributions from all members gratefully received and it is a valuable tool for both existing and prospective members. Volunteers with IT skills to upgrade and maintain it would be most welcomed.
6. Our social media presence is increasing with a Facebook page for members established – thanks to Greg Phillips for this. A more active Twitter account would be desirable – again volunteers welcome.
7. We have a new supplier for club kit – accessible via our website. The clothing and service seems to have met with TTC approval by those who have used it.

### **Fond Farewell:**

This year we will be saying farewell to 3 Committee members; Scott Henry, John Mockler and our (very) long serving membership Secretary, Jos Devney, who has clocked up at least 15 years in that role and several more as a committee member. Thanks to all for their contributions. They will, however, continue to be members of the club.

### **Sad Farewell:**

Most of you are probably aware that a former club member and active player, Betty Pardoe, passed away at the end of last month. Our sympathies to her family, who also supported the club in many ways.

### **The Future:**

**Membership:** slowly increasing, most notably among the juniors which is very welcomed and largely due to the unstinting efforts of Simon. We also saw some new senior members join our ranks. We are financially sustainable, but maintaining a steady, particularly playing membership necessitates continued hard work. Again, a plea to all members: any part you can play, large or small to tell others what an excellent organisation we have and that they should give TTC a go, will ensure that the outlook will remain positive.

### **And finally...**

Thanks to **Lyndsey** for her organisational skills and the time she has contributed to the running the Ladies' Team and the Junior Teams, as well as some of the events above. **Jos** has been an excellent membership secretary, **Scott** and **John** co-ordinated the marketing and web pages and **Mike** uncomplainingly takes on the minor maintenance, **Kate** our Club Secretary who takes and writes up our committee minutes, books the rooms and notifies members of key issues throughout the year, and **Dave**, our new Treasurer who keep us on the financial straight and narrow and makes sure all is transparent and above board. Also **Pat** who, although not a committee member, supports the club and the rest of the team and ably organises our annual presentation evening with **Ken**, as well continuing to provide excellent scones. I would also like to record an additional thank you to **Barrie** from WCC, who goes well beyond the call of (his) duty to support and assist us where he can.

*Dominique Nield, Chair, Tettenhall Tennis Club*

### **Coach's Report – Simon Fellows**

It has been a great year for the club coaching programme. We have a fee paying programme that caters for all ages and standards as well as the ever popular junior free session on Wednesday nights. All adult and junior groups have been a pleasure to coach.

Junior participation is at the highest level for 4 years. We have youngsters playing in more tournaments and club matches. Thanks to Lyndsey's hard work we have a number of teams from U10s upwards and increased

competition for places. Some of our juniors have had considerable success throughout the year-members will be delighted to know that we have many promising young players between the ages of 5-16.

We have continued links with Tettenhall College, St Peters and Perton First School which helps us attract more players and our junior holiday camps provide another way of getting young players to our club.

The Adult and Child competition in July showed what a great club we have and its always a highlight when juniors and adults get together for a day of fun competition. We had a record turnout last year and as ever it was lovely to see everyone enjoying themselves.

The coaching philosophy at our club is simple-to help players become as good as they possibly can be in an enjoyable and caring environment. There are standards of behaviour that are not open to negotiation such as players always giving their best effort, respecting opponents, acting in a sporting way, never giving in, conducting themselves with dignity in success or defeat. We are fortunate to have supportive parents and youngsters that will work hard and conduct themselves properly, a trait unfortunately not always seen in the junior tennis arena.

I look forward to another good year-and hopefully promotion for our Men's and Ladies adult teams this summer! Many thanks to you all and the club committee for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Simon.

### **Junior Report 2015/6 by Lyndsey Wicks**

This year seemed a busy one for the Juniors and we now have a solid group of ever-improving youngsters, some of whom now join in the Adult sessions and keep us on our toes! We entered the Aegon team Tennis League U12 (**Nathan Adams** and **Angus Hamilton**), U14 (**Harry Froggat**, **David Naylor**, **Will Fletcher-Taylor**, **Ben Wright** and **Dan Skidmore**) and U18 girls (**Coral Thacker**, **Claudia Luca** and **Mia Salter**) and the U18 girls won their division with the boys not far behind. Congratulations to them all.

May 3<sup>rd</sup> Road to Wimbledon was won by **Luke Mockler** with **Harry Froggat** coming runner-up.

June 6<sup>th</sup> TTC held an U12/U14 invitation tournament - a great day with 14 entries. It was won by **Harry Froggat** who beat **Will Fletcher Taylor** in the final.

The turn-out for the Adult and Child on July 19<sup>th</sup> was the best ever at 70 plus and on Court 3 **Helen** and **Nathan Adams** beat **Pat Wootton** and **Miles Wellsbury**, On Court 2 **Mark** and **Dan Skidmore** beat **Anne** and **Richard de Prez** and on Court 1 **Dave Sheldon** and **Jake Mockler** beat **John** and **Luke Mockler**. It's great to see all the generations playing together at the club.

The U10 spent the year preparing for matches and on Sunday 18th October 2015 they went to Wombourne Tennis Club for their first proper match. **Theo Salter** from Tettenhall won every one of his matches in the Red Group and **Keiran Amos**, **Ben Dixon** and **Amy Kendall** did well in the Orange Group. We will have many more for them next season.

The Junior Championships were played over several days this year starting in October and ending on the day of the dinner! The winner and runner-up in each group can be found in the Presentation results.

We also tried a few new events this year:

- April 26<sup>th</sup> Highland Spring Mini Tennis afternoon - approximately 30 children attended and some of them decided to be members!

- Quorn Red Ball Competition Sat 16th May (10U plus a parent) - won by **Nick** and **Theo Slater** who went on to represent us in the Finals at Edgbaston Priory and had the most awful weather imaginable to contend with!

As always, my thanks to Simon for all he does for the Juniors. He ensures the numbers continue to rise and the standards increase. The Junior Free Hour on a Wednesday is a sight to behold and the numbers benefiting from squads and private lessons increase all the time. We would be a much poorer club without him.

### **Tettenhall Men's Team – Captain's Report 2015 by John Mockler**

We had a very tough season in our second year in a very competitive division 4. Unusually 4 of the 7 teams were very strong with few points between them in the end for promotion. We were in and around the relegation spots for most of the season and needed a 4-0 win in the last game to stay up. We actually won the match 3-1 in a season ending winner takes all match v our close rivals the Albert. However, this was not enough so we finished 1 point short of staying up. In view of our final points total and the withdrawal of some teams in the Divisions above, there is a small chance we may be allowed to stay in Division 4.

#### **Results in Staffs League Men's Division 4 South:-**

- **Played 12, Won 3, Drew 3, Lost 6**

We had 11 different players represent the club during the season (in order of appearances) **Greg Phillips** (11), **John Mockler** (8), **Glyn Sheldon** (6), **Jake Mockler** (6), **Luke Mockler** (5), **Simon Fellows** (3), **Josh Wicks** (3), **Matt Wiley** (3), **Scott Henry** (1), **Julien Jones** (1), **Alex Meddings** (1).

With 11 players we appeared to have the depth; however due to availability we did not have the same 4 players play more than one match together and we had 13 different combinations of pairs. The most any particular pair played together was 5 times. This may in part explain our lack of consistency and effected performance. Our aim for 2016 will be to try to get more consistent pairings - playing more frequently. Having worked hard to get to Division 4 two years ago we will try to get promoted back to Division 4 at the first attempt.

### **Ladies Team Match Report 2015 – Lyndsey Wicks**

Another year where we didn't cover ourselves in glory unfortunately! Not a brilliant result but the matches were all enjoyed. We have had to say goodbye to Emma Murray at the end of this season as she has gone to live in London and luckily we now have two of the Junior Girls ready to play (Coral Thacker and Mia Salter) so are hoping for better results next year! Thanks to **Kate Sheldon, Elaine Wheeler, Carmen Puchal, Lesley Lee, Dom Nield, Jaz Perks, Anne de Prez, Emma Murray** and **Coral Thacker** for taking part this year. Hopefully the winter training with Simon will result in a better season in 2016!