

TETTENHALL TENNIS CLUB

Annual General Meeting 2019

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 afternoons are now a regular monthly feature (weather permitting) and Saturdays now appear to be the most suitable for the majority of members, and given the numbers that turn up, it is something we will continue with as members are certainly making the most of it. Many thanks to Simon for encouraging it and making the sessions both enjoyable and competitive.

We saw a repeat of the many Junior initiatives this year over the Spring and Summer; most notable being the Road to Wimbledon, The Quorn Red Ball Tournament and the 'Play Tennis' weekend – designed for all ages, open to non-members.

The now regular '**Adult and Child Tournament**' took place once again on **June 3rd** with large numbers attending and ably co-ordinated by Lyndsey and Simon, with sustenance provided this year by the Hamper Camper.

June 24th – July 1st saw the revised format for the **Open Championships**. This led to an intensive 3 weeks of tennis and a Final's Day on the 1st July which was once again another enjoyable occasion; the standard of tennis was as good as ever. The tweaked arrangements appear to have been met positively by the majority of members so we will be implanting it again this year.

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

The **Junior Championships** took place on **16th Sept** 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.

September/October saw the successful **Over 30s Championships** with the finals throughout October with on with a good number of entries.

The popular annual '**Devon Weekend**' once more took place in **October**, now an established event, with TTC joining forces with Stone Tennis club. A good time was had by all.

Our **Presentation Evening** took place on **8th Dec** back at WCC, but with TTC organising outside catering and offering indoor games. The more informal arrangement was met positively by many members although the logistics will need tweaking if this format is to be repeated. It did also raise much more money than previous event for the club.

Our Safeguarding compliance was approved in **December** by the LTA – a new and demanding requirement in the light of national concerns regarding the care of children and vulnerable adults in sport. Club Registration also was more onerous this year but was completed in December.

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. We've established regular monthly slot of the **table tennis** facilities available at WCC and will continue to monitor the take up.
2. We have a current, professional and active **Twitter** account, with regular updates and contributions as well as a new and more contemporary and user-friendly **webpage**. Our **Facebook** page is also more active, and our **text message** communication has been greeted positively as a way of getting information to all members.
3. **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 and his connections enabled us to have our excellent Twitter account. Please continue to give him your support.
4. We continue to have a monthly calendar which will be published on our webpage.
5. We have 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.
6. Once more we will be focussing on activities that are directly beneficial to the club and its members. We will filter out LTA initiatives which detract from this – and there are many – and use our volunteer resources to the best advantage.
7. CASC registration with the HMRC was completed successfully which now means we are eligible for tax rebates for certain areas of income.
8. The change in format to the various championships was general met positively and further tweaks following feedback from last year were implemented.
9. We are continuing to develop a close relationship with the **WCC** and the CC chair, Mike Elphick, is very positive about working together with TTC to the mutual benefit of both clubs. Mike still has a vision of using the WCC facilities for a wider range of activities both to get the CC profile out to a larger audience and to raise money. We see it as a benefit to TTC as it opens up a wider range of entertainment opportunities to our members and may give us greater leverage in our requests for support from WCC.
10. Sadly 2018 saw the passing of 2 of our members – Robert Purshouse in April and Mike Burton in August. Robert was a member of the club for many many years, and Mike served as Chair for several years and supported the club on the committee for many years after that. Our sincere condolences too, to Helen, Nathan and Luke Adams, who suffered the tragic and sudden loss of Hayden in December.
11. And we also saw the birth of Anna in November to one of our Ladies' Team players, Carmen Puchal. We will get her signed up as soon as possible.

Membership: this has increased slightly this year among both adults and juniors and we have more actively playing members. Juniors increases, which are very welcomed and largely due to the unstinting efforts of Simon. 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 of the Junior Teams, as well as many of the events above and taking on responsibility for Club Registration with the LTA. **Elaine** has ensured the Wimbledon ticket distribution has been done fairly and has been the driving force behind our table tennis evenings. We welcomed **Lisa** on to the committee and she will take over the Wimbledon ticket ballot. **Kate** our Membership Secretary and **Dave**, our Treasurer who keep us on the financial straight and narrow and makes sure all is transparent and above board. He also manages some necessary DIY at the Club. **Greg and Kate**, ably led the Men's and Ladies' teams, with the Ladies experiencing their highest table position yet. Greg also helps with our social media challenges. **Andrea's** energy and knowledge of hospitality has provided many useful insights and her links with the Junior and her commitment and contribution as club Welfare Officer are invaluable. She was also instrumental in our LTA Safeguarding approval.

Coach's Report – Simon Fellows

Another enjoyable year on court working with players of all ages and standards.

I seem to write this every year but I am very fortunate to work on a daily basis with some fantastic people at our club. We have an established programme in place of squads for juniors from the age of 4 upwards and the past 12 months have seen a welcome increase in adult participation in various groups.

We aim to offer something for both social and performance players and our monthly Club Afternoon has been a highlight of the year with players of all standards having fun on court!

A number of our young players compete regularly throughout the year and represent our club with pride. We insist on high standards of behaviour which can often be lacking in junior tennis players but our young people are a credit to our club.

We continue to have strong links with a number of local schools in particular Tettenhall College which is a great way of promoting our club.

Our various tournaments have been "streamlined" so that they are completed in a shorter period, hopefully with success. The Adult and Child competition was blessed with glorious sunshine, another highlight of the summer.

Many thanks to the Committee and members for all your support.

Here's to another super year!!

Simon.

Men's Team Report – Greg Phillips, Men's Team Captain.

Unfortunately, 2018 ended in disappointment for the Men's team as we were relegated from Division 3. There were plenty of positive performances throughout the season but a few poor matches along with some inconsistencies in player availability meant that we could never generate the momentum we were looking for to stay clear of relegation. We are now hoping that the 2019 season in Division 4 will be much more successful and we can try and make a push for promotion, especially with the addition of some very talented younger players that are coming through.

We are currently in the middle of the Telford Indoor Mixed Doubles League which this year is running from the start of February to the start of April. It is providing us with some fantastic preparation and match practice ahead of the summer season, as well as giving some invaluable experience to a number of players. We have played five out of the ten matches so far and have managed to win two although the majority of games have been very competitive. We're looking forward to picking up some more points and confidence over the last five matches, ready for a tennis filled summer

Ladies match report for 2017 season by Kate Sheldon, Ladies Team Captain

Once again, we had an excellent year and played some very competitive matches, on a range of surfaces including clay, and Astra turf. For once the weather was kind and we were able to play all our matches on the agreed dates. Overall, we came second this year as David Lloyd pulled out of the Division. We were given the option of moving up to Division 2 however we chose to remain in the Division 3, and consolidate our strengths of positive attitude, good consistency, good interceptions and clear communication and make a bid to come on top this year.

I would like to say a thank you to Coral, Sandra, Anne, Jas and Lesley who were the core players but also a special thanks to Dominique and Kate Spear for stepping in.

I would like to say a special thanks to Coral for playing in all the matches, for her dedication to the club and playing at a consistently high level despite at times carrying an injury and also I would like to mention to Lesley who has come on in leaps and bounds literally and I think even surprised herself how well she played.

I am delighted to welcome a couple of youngsters who will be hopefully be joining our team this year and give us a great chance of winning the league.

Junior Report on 2018 season – Lyndsey Wicks

Another eventful year! Our first main event was the LTA “Road To Wimbledon” held in April for 14U boys which was won by Harry Spear with Lewis Squires runner-up. The chance to represent TTC in the Regional Finals at Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis and Squash Club is always an opportunity!

The Quorn Red Ball Family Competition was held at the end of April and was won by Ola and Dami Onufowokan who beat Tobi and Jenny Onafowokan - family rivalry which will hopefully continue for a long time to come!

Sunday June 3rd was our Adult and Child Day with the weather and the tennis as perfect as it could be! It's great to see all the generations playing together in a really lovely family-oriented event – something we pride ourselves on at Tettenhall.

Throughout the whole Summer season (April – September) the Juniors have participated in the Team Tennis Staffordshire League with other Staffordshire Clubs – U18 Girls, U16 Boys, U14 Boys, U12 Girls, U10 Mixed and U8 Mixed – Our U10 Mixed team (Dami Onafowokan, Darcey Spear, Charlie Jones, Tobi Onafowokan and Theo Salter) narrowly missed being the overall winners of their division and came a credible 2nd to Burton Tennis Club, our U12 girls (Dami Onafowokan and Darcey Spear) were narrowly beaten by WLTSC and the U18 Girls (Coral Thacker and Hannah Barker) deserve special mention as they won their division! – Once again, TTC performed very well as we come up against the large clubs in this League. This involves a lot of help from the parents with driving to and from the venues, etc. and many thanks are due to them. It's nice to hear that our Juniors always behave impeccably and play in an excellent spirit – but we wouldn't expect anything less! Credit is due to Simon here and I thank him for all his hard work and enthusiasm. We would be a much poorer club without him!

The Junior Championships were held in September and October - the final big event of the year for the Juniors and the various winners were presented their prizes at the Prize Presentation Evening in December. The results were as follows:

Mini Red - 1st Henry Purshouse, 2nd Alex McNally, 3rd Finlay Baldock

Orange - 1st Alex McNally, 2nd Henry Purshouse

Green - 1st Tobi Onafowokan, 2nd Charlie Jones

U14 – 1st Nathan Adams, 2nd Joe Lee

U16 Girls – 1st Hannah Barker, 2nd Amy Kendal

Certificates of Merit were awarded to Dami Onafowokan and Coral Thacker – all for going that extra mile!

As I've said many times before, anyone visiting the club on a Wednesday evening at 5.30 pm at the free Junior session can see that our Juniors are in good hands and my thanks to Simon as usual for this - the new season approaches and support at the Junior home matches is always welcome!