

TETTENHALL TENNIS CLUB

Annual General Meeting 2020

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 2nd** with large numbers attending and ably co-ordinated by Lyndsey and Simon, with sustenance provided this year by the Hamper Camper.

June 10th – June 30th saw the revised format for the **Open Championships**. This led to an intensive 3 weeks of tennis and a Final's Day on the **7th July** (moved from the 1st July because of bad weather) and combining the Junior Championships 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.

September/October saw the **Over 30s Championships** with the finals throughout the rest of the year.

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 fundraising '**Barn Dance**' in **November** proved a success and a great time was had by all. Many thanks to Elaine for this initiative.

Our **Presentation Evening** took place on **29th Feb 2020** back at WCC with catering provided by the new chef who is working with the CC. This was fairly well attended and it was a lively and enjoyable evening.

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 have established regular monthly slot of the **table tennis** facilities available at WCC although very low take-up has put this option on hold.

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. Please continue to give him your support.
4. We continue to have a monthly calendar which is 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. We will try and capitalise on this at every opportunity, and we recently used the Gift-Aid option at our Presentation and Social Evening.
8. We are continuing to develop a close relationship with the **WCC** and the current 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.
9. Simon now has a key to the small CC room, facing the courts. This was necessary to support our LTA Safeguarding audit, and is a great benefit to the club. We are grateful to WCC for this concession.
10. We have registered for the '**Easyfunding**' initiative whereby a huge range of organisations and business will pay a percentage of any purchases made on-line to TTC. Members need to register as individuals with Easyfundraising and use the link when making any on-line purchases
11. We recognise that the courts are becoming worn with some paint and surface damage. This is inevitable for tarmac. We are investing in their repair, which should be completed early in the new 2020 season.

Membership: this has remained steady this year with an increase in juniors compensating for a dip in adult membership. 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. **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. **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** links with the Juniors and her commitment and contribution as club Welfare Officer are invaluable. And **Elaine** for her fundraising efforts with the 'Tuesday Group' and other initiatives. We are also grateful to Jodie Hughes for stepping up and volunteering to manage the Wimbledon Ballot this year. And thanks to other members who are always ready to take on tasks.

Dominique Nield, Chair, Tettenhall Tennis Club

Coach's Report – Simon Fellows

Coaches Report 2020.

Over the past 12 months TTC has been fortunate to work with more adults and juniors than ever before. The coaching programme has been in place for a while and continues to develop as do our school links. On an average week we see over 140 players of all ages and standards at the club or at schools.

Once again it has been a pleasure to be involved with some great people. Our goal is to make TTC a friendly club where everyone can enjoy tennis in a welcoming environment. We do however try to instil high standards of behaviour, respect and sportsmanship in our young players-this occasionally leads to conflict with parents who do not share these ideals. Rest assured we will not be changing...!

Members should be very proud of how they treat our young players. I do not know of another club that is as junior friendly as us. We may not have the facilities of other clubs but we have the best atmosphere! Members should also be aware that, at a time when all clubs are struggling to attract girls to tennis, we have a strong group of girls enjoying playing. I am sure that a lot of this is due to the role models at the club-Coral working with players, Dami playing so well, Lyndsey and Dom working so hard behind the scenes, Rachel volunteering. We are indeed very fortunate!

Finally many thanks to all the committee for all your support, Lyndsey and Dom for everything they do and to all the juniors who help me with various groups-Rachel, Joe and Nath. Please also be aware that our schools programme would not be possible without the hard work of Coral-thank you everyone!

Simon Fellows, Coach, TTC

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

2019 was a very successful year for the Men's team, as we finished 2nd in Division 4 and won promotion back to Division 3.

In the first few matches, we picked up quite a few draws, which gave a solid base to build on for the rest of the year, but equally left us frustrated that we couldn't convert some of those draws into wins. Midway through the season, we started to have much better player availability, which allowed us to have a run of games where we could play with the same partners and really gather some momentum and consistency. This led to us gaining some fantastic victories and pushed us up towards the top of the league. I must say a specific thank you to Matt Wiley, who has been injured for six months after herniating a disc in his back against Wollaston in a crucial match at the end of last season. He somehow managed to carry on to the end of the game, and was able to win and get us the all-important victory we needed to gain promotion. Thank to everyone that was involved with the team during 2019. Playing in Division 3 this season will be tough, but it's a challenge we're looking forward to.

Greg Phillips, Men's Team Captain

Ladies match report for 2019 season by Kate Sheldon, Ladies Team Captain

Despite choosing to remain in Division 3 last year we came across some strong opposition namely a new team Tipton A, with some excellent county young players dominating the league. One of their older players had competed in the Ladies England Doubles and her daughter looked like she would follow suit

We were pleased to welcome some young players in our squad including Hannah, Rachel and Dami alongside the core players: Coral, Anne de Prez, Sandra, Lesley and Captain Kate. Sadly, we were missing Jas, who still managed to join us for coaching over the Xmas break.

So we were up against it this year with strong opposition and some very consistent players from Quarry Bank, and Brewood so we were relegated to Division 4.

Once again Ladies team, thanks for all your loyalty, great play, humour and support last year.

I am confident with the young players growing ever more consistent backed up with the experience of our older players we have a really strong chance of being promoted to Division 3.

Bring it on!

Kate Sheldon, Ladies Team Captain

Junior Report on 2019 season – Lyndsey Wicks

Another eventful year! Our first main event was The Quorn Red Ball Family Competition which was held in early April and was won by Helen and Chloe Watson, closely followed by Ollie and Fin Baldock and Andrea and Trevor Strathmore.

Sunday June 2nd was our Adult and Child Day which was enjoyed by all despite the weather trying to put us off! It's great to see all the generations playing together in a really lovely family-oriented event – something we pride ourselves on at Tettenhall – successful family partnerships are often discovered at this particular event!

Throughout the whole Summer season (April – September) the Juniors have participated in the Team Tennis Staffordshire League with other Staffordshire Clubs – Tettenhall entered the 9U Mixed, 12U Boys, 14U Boys, 14U Girls and 16U boys. We had mixed results this year, primarily because our players were “in between” years and played in age groups where they were always the youngest – this didn't bother our girls' team though and the 14A Girls were overall winners – well done to Dami Onafowokan and Darcey Spear!

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 February 2020
The results were as follows:

Under 16 Boys

Winner - Nathan Adams

Runner-up Joe Lee

3rd Tom Frith

Orange

Winner - Alex McNally

Runner-up Tom Pickering

3rd - Chloe Darling

Green

Winner - Tobi Onafowokan

Runner up - Charlie Jones

3rd - Jack Chapman

Tobi Onafowokan was given an award for outstanding improvement over the year and

Certificates of Merit were awarded to Joe Lee and Rachel Evans – 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!

Lyndsey Wicks