



AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2009 NEWSLETTER

Round Two of the Gardens Box League

(by Keith Brogan)

The second round of the Autumn Box League is now published. Participants have been sent a soft copy, and a hard copy is posted on the club notice board.

Over 30 matches were played and some of the highlights can be seen in the scores.

Heino remains in the Australian Open after winning one match and scoring eighteen games. Hector, scored one less game and now joins the French Open to face Mark Holloway who went up.

Both Rob and Keith scored the same number of games but Keith goes down after losing the tiebreak. Keith still contends his concentration was broken after Rob accidentally threw his racket into Mr McConnell's garden.

A tie break also determined the movement for the next tournament box as James stays after winning 10:8 to Mark Phillips. Riveting stuff.

Dominic Simpson (a 16 year old junior) fared better than his father who is also a good player, to win both his matches. Neil, his dad, lost 8:10 to Hama on the tiebreak and stays to face Martin Wood who won his matches.

The girls matches were also tight with Julie winning on the tiebreak against Pam. Riette won both her matches and lost only five games in the process.

Eve McConnell (another junior) played her first competitive match and hopefully this will be the first of many, as did Suzanne Cole.

There were many more matches played; all enjoyable but too numerous to mention.

As you will have noticed, the nights are drawing in and people should aim to play their matches earlier rather than later. Also I have a further request to ask that people fill in the score as soon as the match is finished. Many people forgot as they rushed to the bar to rehydrate!

Best regards and best of luck for the next round.

Coaching

Junior Program

Monday After School	Age	Start Date	Time	Duration	Total
Red 3 Tiny Tots	4 - 6 yrs	September 7th	4.00 - 4.45	6 weeks	£36.00
Mini Red's	6 - 8 yrs	September 7th	4.45 - 5.30	6 weeks	£36.00
Orange/Green	8 - 13 yrs	September 7th	5.30 - 6.30	6 weeks	£42.00
Wednesday After School	Age	Start Date	Time	Duration	Total
Mini Red's	5 - 8 yrs	September 9th	4.00 - 4.45	6 weeks	£36.00
Orange/Green	8 - 13 yrs	September 9th	5.00 - 6.30	6 weeks	£60.00
Monday evenings	Age	Start Date	Time	Duration	Total
Junior Girls	13 to 16 yrs	ongoing	6.00 - 7.00	Session delivered by Keith Brogan (07905769230)	

Contact Ben on 07812 250921 for more information. It is possible to join the junior sessions anytime during the course, please call Ben to book a space, or you can download an application form to apply.



Adult Courses

Saturday Drop In	Day	Time	Members	Non Members
Drills & Skills Improvers	Sat	10 to 11am	£8.00	£10.00
Drills & Skills Intermediates	Sat	11 to 12	£8.00	£10.00
Drills & Skills Intermediates	Sat	Noon to 1pm	£8.00	£10.00
Monday Evenings				
Adult Intermediates	Mon	7.00 – 8.30pm	Session delivered by Keith Brogan (07905769230)	

Ben is keen to add more coaching sessions for 14 - 18 year olds, adults or private sessions. Please call Ben on 07812250921 to register your interest and discuss your requirements

Minutes of Committee Meeting (held on Thursday 3rd September 2009)

Finance

Subscription income continues to grow and is now close to the 2008 level.

The water bill was discussed and it is estimated that the actual bill is lower now that we no longer have shale courts to water.

Insurance for the club has been reviewed and it is proposed to increase the scope of cover to insure for the new playing surfaces. The increase in premium is not expected to be significant.

Membership

Juliet reported a big increase in the number of juniors, with overall membership numbers now standing as follows:

Full = 117 Junior = 58 Social = 11.

While the numbers are very healthy, Juliet noted there remains quite high turnover from one year to the next. Overall, 51 members did not renew from last year; and this year there are 31 new adult members.

The junior programme appears to be going well, with the coach Ben having made a good start as the club coach.

Due to the number of juniors at the club this season, the hosting of a junior tournament was discussed. This is to be discussed further with the club coach.

Club Maintenance

The contractor has returned to deal with the surface bumps that have emerged.

Suitable court surround netting is still being assessed.

The entrance lights in the driveway will be replaced with energy-efficient ones and put on a sensor/timer, so that they will switch on from dusk until 11pm.

The colour and wording of the new sign above the entrance and signs around the hall were discussed and are being pursued with the Club's designer.

Court Time

It was reported that there is increasing pressure on court time, especially on weekday evenings. While the box leagues are a great success, they generate significantly more matches a month.

After some discussion, it was decided to block out weekday-evening court use as follows:

- Monday – coaching on both lit courts (if sufficient demand)
- Tuesday – club social evening
- Wednesday – Free use (with 1-hour limit, see below)
- Thursday – Free use (with 1-hour limit, see below)
- Friday – Club social evening.

As a general rule, members will be requested to play for no more than one hour if other members are waiting to play.

AOB

The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday 1st October**.

Be aware!

It has been reported that a youth has been regularly stealing from bicycles and damaging cars in the driveway to the club. Ensure your cars and bicycles are suitably secured. Please be vigilant and report anyone acting suspiciously to a member of the committee if they are present, or if necessary contact the police.

Gardens Social Event

Tickets are still available for this weeks **Prohibition Ball**.
If interested please contact Julie on 07956 617565 or Nigel on 07711 846365



British Tennis Membership - attention all new Club members!

We would like to encourage you to sign up to British Tennis Membership. If you do so, you will be eligible to enter our draw for the Wimbledon tickets which are allocated to the Club next year (assuming that you are a fully paid up member of GLTC next year).

It is very straightforward to do so online, and is free of charge. <http://www.lta.org.uk/britishtennismembership/>. Registration ideally needs to take place by the end of November, in order to maximise next years allocation of Wimbledon tickets for the club.



Reminder about Guests

Tennis guest fees are payable at £5-00 per adult visit and £3-00 per junior visit.

Members bringing guests to the Club are responsible for collecting guest fees and passing them to a committee member. Non-members may play as guests a maximum of three times in any one season and must always be accompanied by a member.

For the convenience of members, the club has now installed a new guest fee box which should be used when the bar is closed.

Club Session Etiquette

Club sessions (Tuesdays and Fridays from 6pm and Sundays from 2pm) are the main opportunity to drop in and enjoy some social tennis (men's, ladies' and mixed doubles). Members should be prepared to mix in with whoever is there and at the end of a set come off court to mix again, or find out who is waiting to play. These sessions have priority on courts 1, 2, 3 and 4.

At all busy times, unless playing in a match, members are asked to be aware of others waiting to play and not to stay on court indefinitely. As a general rule, members will be requested to play for no more than one hour if other members are waiting to play.

All members (and their guests) to show appropriate consideration to other players and be respectful of neighbouring houses when playing their games. Please keep court noise to a minimum.

Interview with Club President "Julie Leadbeater"

What is the primary role of the club president?

Mostly to give out prizes I think.

What's your view on the new club playing surfaces?

Absolutely love them - and it's so nice not to have the washing machine filter full of shale.

What activities/events can members look forward to over the course of your presidency?

Obviously the Prohibition Ball if not too late and the quizzes will be starting again soon, with a President's Quiz set and delivered by me; the usual Christmas quiz in December and hopefully another evening of carols just before Christmas; triathlon in the New Year and hopefully the teams will continue to build on the success of recent seasons.

If you could change one thing at the club, what would it be?

I really like the club as it is, apart from the changing facilities. It has a really friendly and welcoming atmosphere, but I would like people to appreciate better that the club does not run itself and to help out with little things like tidying up after themselves and ensuring that recyclables get into the correct bins, switching off unnecessary lights and so on.

Who are you tipping to win the premiership this season?

Bolton obviously. No-brainer.

Congratulations



Congratulations to Sue-Ellen on her recent 40th Birthday. Judging by the photograph, guests attending the celebrations at her party, held at the Gardens clubhouse, were joined by some well-known celebrities.

Final Word from the editor

Good news! As an update from the figures reported in the committee minutes, we now have 121 adult tennis and 64 junior members as a result of two new families joining last week

Just to say that the men's showers are now working.

The club has installed a new external TV aerial, to stop the previous problems encountered with picture pixelation and to enhance the viewing pleasure of up coming sporting events.

Also did you know that members can purchase keys for the ball machine for £20.

And finally don't forget to come along to the Club's Prohibition Ball this Saturday!

Committee Members

Hon. Secretary	David Riggs	07720 774000	clonmore99@btinternet.com
Treasurer	Andrew Elliot-Frey	0208 785 6371	aefrey@btinternet.com
Men's Captain	James Wright	07976289619	james.wright@restorebrick.co.uk
Men's Vice Captain (Officer)	Vacant		
Ladies Captain	Sharon Gibson	07906 173 767	sharonj_gibson@hotmail.com
Ladies Vice Captain (Officer)	Sarah Groves		sarah.groves@emirates.com
Membership Secretary	Juliet Childs	0208 789 0865	childsfam@btinternet.com
Comms Officer	Michael Cole	07860 342803	michael.g.cole@bt.com
Facilities Manager	Brian Hoban	07973226443	brian.hoban@restorebrick.co.uk
Bar Manager	Tony McConnell	0208 789 8783	tony@mconnells.co.uk
Bookings & House Manager	Tony McConnell	0208 789 8783	tony@mconnells.co.uk
Entertainments Secretary	Nigel Tabbron	07711 846365	nigel.tabbron@tiscali.co.uk
Coaching Liaison Officer	Sarah Groves		sarah.groves@emirates.com