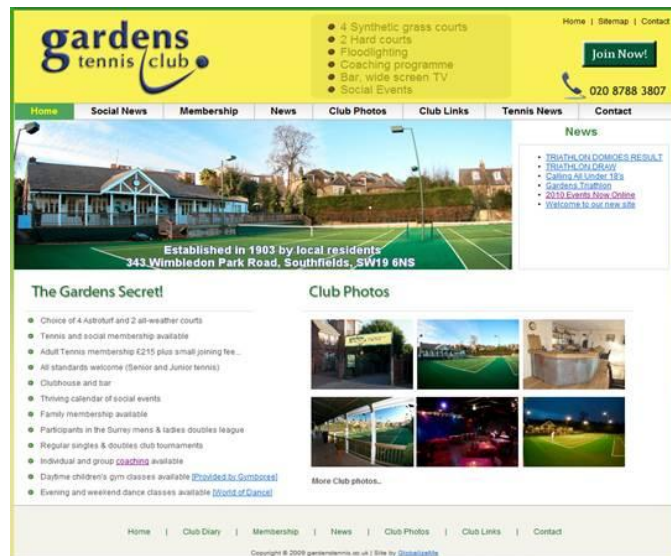




FEBRUARY / MARCH NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Gardens new look newsletter, and website. With a host of new features including social news, blogs, tennis team news, photos and membership details, our new website is our single source of everything our members need to know about our club ... AND MORE!



www.gardentennis.co.uk

We have lots of exciting developments in store for the website, which will be added to future releases. Please check it out, and give us your feedback.

2010 AGM

The 2010 AGM will take place on Friday 26th March. Please make every effort to come along and support the committee. Your support and feedback is invaluable in ensuring the continued success of the best tennis club in Southfields!

Although all members can be nominated for any of the committee positions, the roles of membership secretary and ladies captain for the 2010/11 season will be freed up by present incumbents. If anyone is interested and would like to know more about the duties of serving on the committee, please speak with any member of the committee.

It is hoped that one additional item on the agenda for this year's meeting will be the review and approval of a new set of rules for the Club. So please come along and have your say.

NEW TENNIS COACHING TIMETABLE

The new coaching season is about to commence. Full details of weekly, weekend and Easter tennis camps is available at the following url : <http://www.gardenstennis.com/2010-program.php>

For booking or further details, please contact Ben Halstead on 07812 250921.

THE GARDEN'S TRIATHLON

This year's annual Gardens Triathlon is well under way. It appears there is no stopping Robin, as he marches on to yet another final. Hopes are now pinned on John England spoiling his fun. The competition comprises: DOMINOES (Tuesday 9th February), TABLE TENNIS (Tuesday 16th February) and DARTS (Tuesday 23rd February).

For the latest results and roundup, visit

<http://gardens.websitters.co.uk/2010/02/triathlon-domioes-result-after-hard.html>

The Triathlon Champion finals night is on Saturday 6th March.

LATEST TENNIS TEAM WINTER RESULTS

Men's 1st Team

vs Leatherhead won 4-0

vs Epsom won 4-0

Men's 2nd Team

vs West Surrey drew 2-2

vs Ebbisham lost 4-0

Men's 3rd Team

vs Coombe Wood drew 2-2

vs Surbiton lost 3-1

Men's 4th Team

vs Grafton won 3-1

vs Spencer won 4-0

Ladies 1st Team

vs Bourne lost 1-3

vs Sheen lost 1-3

vs Epsom won 4-0

Ladies 2nd Team

vs Epsom lost 3-1

vs Wigmore VI won 4-0

NEW MEMBERSHIP RATES 2010

The new membership rates for next year have been approved by the committee.

	2009/10 Rate	2010/11 Full Rate	2010/11 Discounted Rate *
Adult	£185	£215	£200
Concession (note 1)	£115	£140	£130
Family (note 2)	£55	£70	£60
Student (note 3)	£90	£100	£95
Junior U18	£65	£75	£70
Junior U16	£45	£55	£50
Social	£40	£25	n/a
Adult Joining fee	£25	£25	n/a
Adult new shares	£10	£10	n/a

* The early payment discount is for memberships paid in full by 15 April 2010.

note 1: Concession rate applies to:

- Members 65yrs and over
- the spouse/partner at the same address as a full Adult paying member where family membership rate is also being paid

note 2: Family membership covers all children under 16yrs old at time of joining, living at the same address as a parent/partner who is also paying the full adult tennis member rate.

note 3: Under 25yrs, with Student ID to be provided

REMINDER CONCERNING GUESTS AND FLOODLIGHTS

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.

The club has invested considerable money into upgrading the quality of the tennis courts, and it isn't appropriate that guests should take advantage without any contribution. A fee of £5 is comparable to charges imposed by other clubs, and relative to charges for public courts. Payment can either be made to any of the committee members serving behind the bar, or when the bar isn't open, the club has now installed a new guest fee box which should be used when the bar is closed.

Non-members may play as guests a maximum of three times in any one season and must always be accompanied by a member.

Also a reminder for members to turn off the floodlights at the end of evening sessions, even when they go off automatically ... it has been noted that the lights have been left on three times in the past week alone, increasing the club's utility costs for no reason.

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 around 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.

Finally, junior members may participate in club sessions if they can play a reasonable game (including serving), but please note that adults have priority on court.



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SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 4th February 2010

Finance

It was stated that the club's books had been submitted to the auditors.

Membership & Club Etiquette

Current membership numbers as follows (last years figures in brackets):

Full = 130 (123)

Junior = 67 (35)

Social = 11 (8)

Discussion took place regarding etiquette and club rules during club sessions. It was suggested that using a prominent sign stating clearly that a club social session is in progress might help matters. This to be considered further.

Club Maintenance

No matters were raised for discussion.

Social Events & Newsletter Items

Reported the triathlon will take place over the next 3 weeks, to be followed by a Saturday night final.

The website has been elaborated and updated, in response to a number of requests in the wake of the recent re-launch.

New Club Rules

A revision of the club rules was discussed, including the timetable for preparing the new set of rules. It was decided to proceed on the basis of submitting the new rules for approval by shareholders on 26th March.

A.O.B.

Reported that the PE teacher at a local school had expressed an interest in using our courts for school tennis sessions, not least because the school is currently spending £150 just to bus pupils to tennis sessions in Barnes. This to be followed up, and considered further.

The next meeting is scheduled for 4th March 2010.

A VIEW FROM MARTIN WOOD

Editor - I hear you celebrated a rather special birthday recently ... could you elaborate ?

Martin- All my birthdays are special because it has been made a public holiday, I know no one will believe it but I did reach 50 this year.

Editor - I remember you being a fan of the Shale courts, but what's your view on the new artificial surfaces?

Martin - I did love the shale but I give ten out of ten for the new surface, it plays great and can be played in all weathers ... also now no one can check my dodgy line calls.

Editor - Obviously you've been a member of the Gardens club for some time ... what's your most memorable match?

Martin - The most memorable match I played, well now I am fifty I cannot remember the last time I won a memorable match. The two I can remember were both losses, Nigel and I lost in the dark to James and Stefan, and the other was a close fought fight when I played in the mixed double final with Wanda against Adrian and Nat.

But the most memorable game I watched has to be when Jean Martin spanked Mark Page 6 – 1, shouldn't think Marks forgotten either. Oops that me out of the third team!

Editor – who are you pipping for the Men's singles at Wimbledon this year?

Martin - I would like to see Juan Martin Del Potro win the Mens Singles at Wimbledon.

Editor - Being a Blues fan, do you think its right to strip John Terry of the England captaincy?

Martin - John Terry, well where do I start, are you referring to his Mother shoplifting, his Father drug dealing, him renting his England box out or the fact that he missed a penalty in the Champions League Final ... all hanging offences in my book. But having a cheating drug taking Mancunian as Captain is fine by me!

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FINAL WORD FROM THE EDITOR

I'm sure everyone would join myself and the committee in wishing Martin a happy 50th birthday , and also congratulations for our two members Karen and Simon (aka Des) for the birth of their daughter Stella Louise Desborough., born on 1st February.

As a reminder, the date of 26th March has been set for the AGM, and as reported last month, I have been reliably informed that there will be a vacancies on the committee for the role of membership secretary and ladies captain for the 2010/11 season. If anyone is interested and would like to know more about what this role entails, please contact either Juliet or Sharon respectively.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Hon. Secretary	David Riggs	07720 774000	clonmore99@btinternet.com
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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
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Entertainments Secretary	Nigel Tabbron	07711 846365	nigel.tabbron@tiscali.co.uk
Coaching Liaison Officers	Sarah Groves		sarah.groves@emirates.com