



343 Wimbledon Park Road, Southfields, SW19 6NS • Tel 020 8788 3807 • www.gardenstennis.co.uk

NOVEMBER 2008 NEWSLETTER

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 29th November
Friday 5th December 8pm
Wednesday 31st December

Karen's Gourmet Evening
Xmas Quiz
New Year's Eve

See website and posters for details
See Nigel and Julie for details
TBC

COACHING

Junior coaching takes place from 12 noon to 1 pm on Saturday afternoons, immediately after the adult sessions. Keith can be contacted on 07905 769230

SATURDAY MORNINGS (ADULT)

09:00-10:00 Beginners
10:00-11:00 Intermediate
11:00-12:00 Intermediate

These sessions are pay and play costing £6 for members and £8 for non-members.

CLUB TENNIS

Club sessions are held on Tuesday and Friday evenings from 18:00 onwards and on Sundays from 14:00 onwards. These sessions comprise of doubles play (short set) on a rotational basis. Courts 5 and 6 can be used for singles or pre-arranged matches but only if the courts are free and no-one is waiting to play.

Any members wishing to play for the Men's or Ladies teams please contact either Sharon Gibson or James Wright. (See contact details at the end of this newsletter).

As a consideration to other members please will you ensure that your court is swept and watered after play. This will ensure that the courts continue to be in good condition for everybody to use throughout the year. If you are unsure how to do this, please ask .

THANKS TO

- Keith Brogan for organising the recent Junior competition. A good time was had by all, despite the inclement weather. The competition winner was Max Hinteregger
- Julie and Nigel for organising the End of Season Shale, as well as *Restrung and the Racquettes* for their magnificent contribution to a great night out.
- James, Karen, Tony and bar volunteers for their efforts once again on Bonfire Night.

NOW ON SALE

Bookings are currently being taken for Karen's Gourmet Evening on Saturday 29th November. Please refer to the website for booking details and menu.

The annual Christmas quiz will take place on Friday 5th December at 8pm. As usual be there early to reserve your seats as this always proves to be a popular evening

ALLOCATION OF TICKETS FOR WIMBLEDON 2009 - BTA SUBSCRIPTION

As many of you are already aware, the LTA has created a new membership scheme called British Tennis. The LTA has committed to keeping this membership scheme free of charge to the members of LTA-affiliated clubs for the first 3 years.

In the past, the LTA has allocated Wimbledon tickets to Gardens LTC on the basis of how many tennis members we had; and every tennis member of the club has been eligible to enter the ballot, but from next year onwards, the ticket allocation will be determined instead by the number of Gardens LTC members ***who have also signed up to the British Tennis Membership scheme***. It is therefore important that you understand that from 2009, membership of the Gardens will be only one of two requirements to qualify for entry to the Wimbledon ticket ballot. The second requirement is that you have signed up for British Tennis ***by 30th November 2008 at the latest***. (End-November is the cut-off date the LTA will use for determining the Wimbledon ticket allocations to individual clubs.)

You can sign up for British Tennis membership in one of three ways: by phone (membership line: 0845 873 7202); on the internet (visit www.lta.org.uk/membership); or by post (please collect a membership form from the bar).

If you have any questions relating specifically to British Tennis Membership, please contact the LTA on 0845 873 7202. .

FLOODLIGHTS

If you use the floodlights please ensure you know how to switch them off properly. The lights are programmed to switch off at 9pm, but if the key is not turned back to OFF they will turn themselves on again automatically at 4pm. If it is daylight or nobody is playing it is a shocking waste which contributes significantly to the club's fuel bills. Please remember that the floodlights must be turned off at 9 pm, should this not happen automatically.

KEEP FIT AT THE GARDENS

Beat the Credit Crutch and ditch your not-enough-used gym membership. Why not try the Gardens' own exercise class with music to put a smile on your face while weathering the political gloom? Monday evenings 8.15 – 9.15. £6.00 drop in or **£16 for a consecutive block of 4** for tennis club members' first attendance (usually £20). Qualified, experienced instructor. Call Linda on 020 8870 0583 for more info.

FELICITATIONS OF THE SEASON

As this will be the last newsletter of 2008 the committee would like to wish all members and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The club committee meets once a month to discuss a variety of matters relating to the maintenance and efficient running of the club on your behalf. If anyone would like to see the minutes of these meetings then please contact David Riggs at the following address clonmore99@btinternet.com A summary of November's meeting is outlined below:

Finance

Andrew reported that the club's financial position remains healthy. We have verbal agreement from Barclays (due to be confirmed in writing) that they will extend the previously-agreed loan facility until the end of January to enable the court refurbishment.

Membership

Juliet reported no change in membership numbers from the last meeting: Juliet asked for guidance regarding occasional requests she receives for the transfer of shareholdings through inheritance. It was decided to keep with past practice and not allow shares to be inherited. Moreover, it was suggested that when we update the club rules, we should – among other things – make this position explicit; and then publish the rules on the website.

Club Development & Re-development

Brian reported that we should receive a decision on our planning application in two weeks' time; we are not anticipating any objections. (*NB planning permission now granted – ed*) The work has been put out to tender and a number of quotations have already been received. Brian will report back at the next meeting with the costs and timescales received.

Social Events & Newsletter Items

There was a vote of thanks to Nigel and Julie for organising the recent "End of Shale" party. There were 92 attendees and the club took £1,700 between ticket sales and bar takings.

A.O.B.

David reported that the LTA had formally communicated that next year's Wimbledon ticket allocation to the club would depend on the number of our members who are also signed up to British Tennis by 30th November 2008. It was agreed to publicise the deadline both by a specific e-mail to all members, as well as in the newsletter.

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	07976 289619	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
Newsletter Editor	Nigel Tabbron	07711 846365	nigel.tabbron@tiscali.co.uk
Facilities Manager	Brian Hoban	07973 226443	brian.hoban@restorebrick.co.uk
Bar Manager	Vacant		
Bookings	Tony McConnell	0208 789 8783	tony@mcconnells.co.uk
House Manager	Tony McConnell	(see above)	
Entertainments Secretary	Aileen Wilson	07711 133640	mail@aileenwilson.demon.co.uk
Coaching Liaison Officers	James Wright, Sarah Groves & Aileen Wilson	(See above)	