

CONTACT

THE DUNSTABLE TENNIS CLUB NEWSLETTER

MAY 2011

WIMBLEDON DRAW AND MUCH MORE

As we progress through the month of May the Wimbledon and Club Tournament draws have now been made. Congratulations to those who won the chance to buy tickets for the 125th year of the Championships and good luck to all members who have entered our Tournament.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

In organising the draws, it became apparent that some people have yet to renew their membership, due from April 1st. The committee allows one month for re-newals to be made which means that as from the beginning of May membership lapses for those who have not paid or made standing order arrangements.

As an 'all-members' club, lapsing and non members are not entitled to allocated Wimbledon tickets, enter tournaments, play

matches for DTC or use the club's facilities. To avoid embarrassment and the wrath of the membership secretary please ensure your membership is up-to-date.

VISITORS

Our constitution makes provision for temporary membership for visiting teams during matches and guests at social functions. However, for playing guests of members, please be reminded that your guest should sign the visitors book at each visit and there is a £2 fee, payable at the bar or in the 'honesty box' under the floodlight switches.



CHOOSE YOUR COURT

It is now six years since courts one - three were re-surfaced. We hope that these courts will give us in excess of 10 years of use and the finances of the club are projected to fund replacement in that time. As with every club in the country, the court nearest to the clubhouse wears out first and signs of this are beginning to show on Court 1. Would members please consider using Courts 2 or 3 as their first choice 'green' court, if available, to give Court 1 a rest. Similarly, consider Court 5 before Court 4.

TESCO VOUCHERS

Tesco have just stopped issuing Sport for Schools & Clubs vouchers. Please empty your glove boxes, wallets, hand bags, and donate your vouchers to the club to go towards equipment for junior tennis.

I hope all those who took part enjoyed the Easter Tournament, thanks to all of you who turned up to the club tidy day. Let's hope the sun keeps on shining and play some great tennis. *Graham*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tue May 24	DTC Golf Society Golf Day Whipsnade Golf Club 10.00 am Tee-Off
Mon May 30th	Martin Strange Memorial Tournament
Sat June 4th	Private party
Sat June 11th	French Evening
Sat June 18th	Private Party
Saturday July 16th	Summer Barbecue
August 4th to 7th	Porz visit
Sat Sept 11th	DTC club closed finals

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DUNSTABLE TEAMS PERFORM WELL IN U14 COUNTY CUP EVENTS

PHILIP MOSS reports that four of our juniors took part in the U14 county cup events during the Easter Holiday. Kirsten Dickins and Lauren Moss travelled to Malvern with the Girls team and Jacob Turley and John Hawkins were in action in Oxford with the boys side.

The new format is in two stages with the first stage an elimination event prior to a second stage grand final weekend. The up-side of this is that any team can get to - and win - the final in each year whereas the down-side is that some of the smaller counties such as Bedfordshire have to compete against the top sides in the elimination. Both teams performed well but did not make it to the final weekend

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Your membership fee is now due for the current year (2011-12) which started on April 1st. Please download a form from the website and complete and return to the membership secretary with your

fee. Also please complete a Contact and Medical form which is also downloadable from the web site.

JUNIOR ENTRY FORMS

Entry forms for the Junior DTC tournament are now in the clubhouse, so please sign up for this event. The closing date is Monday 30th May

JUNIOR ROAD TO WIMBLEDON

The draw is now up and all matches have to be completed by the end of May. Please make sure you have played at least the first match in the next week or so. It is up to you and your opponent to organise the matches which can be played at various times subject to availability

INTERMEDIATES GO UP

Congratulations go to Harry Adams-Rimmer, Imogen Snee and John Hawkins who have all been nominated as intermediate players. We hope you'll all welcome the three of them to adult social.

EASTER FUN

WITH MARTIN PECK

On bank holiday Monday we held what will hopefully become an annual fun tournament, with the emphasis on fun. On the Friday we had 18 entrants by Sunday this had increased to 25 and on the Monday 31 players turned up, plus friends and family.

Enter panic mode. Have we got enough food? We haven't booked enough courts! What about all the friends and family? Do they want feeding as well? How do you fit 31 entrants onto 24 court places and rotate everybody evenly?

So a sophisticated, precise and complex system was devised, which promptly fell apart. So we resorted to skullduggery manipulation and a rare form of organised panic.

After a few rounds including some unique rule changes and challenges to level the playing field. (Shame I didn't get the chance to penalise those taking it too seriously with kid's racquets!) Another complicated system was developed to calculate some quarter-finalists.

The resulting final was played probably with the absence of any fun at all. With Pete Hilliard and John Taylor eventually beaten by Kieran McMahon and Mike Bartlett.

Thanks to Anne Bartlett the Morgan's and of course the Smitham's for their help with the catering arrangements. Also to Jenny and AJ for their help with the complex systems!

The weather was brilliant, lots of people seemed to enjoy it, and we made a bit of money for club funds so all in all a successful event... (Me I'm viewing it as an educational experience).

The highlight of the day for many was seeing eight-times club champion Megan Taylor swinging a racket in anger for a welcome comeback to the court. Let's hope she enjoyed it too and comes out of retirement!

