

WEST HEATH NEWS

April 2019

GRASS COURTS

The main winter renovation work took place as planned and the final touches to the courts will be made this month. Extra drainage has also been added to Court 3 as this had not been drying out well. Look out for an e-mail confirming the opening of the grass courts in May. Once open, the courts will initially be playable from 1 pm until 8.30 pm daily. Please **do not** play on them outside the opening or closing times as displayed on the sign near the courts, or if they are wet. This can do serious damage and undo all the groundsman's hard work.



HARD COURTS / SCHOOL USE

The hard courts will be fully power washed and repainted in May – date to be advised. To help maintain them in good condition please keep them clear of any debris or rubbish and play on them only in proper tennis shoes with non-marking soles.

The excellent arrangement we have with the school gives them use of both courts from 12 noon to 4 pm on weekdays in term time but check our website for the precise times which may be slightly different. Please do not do anything to jeopardise this arrangement.

NEW MEMBERS

Prospective members can come along any weekend from **4 May to 9 June between 3 pm and 4.30 pm** for a play-in. Or ask them to call Marjan on 07889 584567 or Moira on 07957 381036 to arrange an alternative time.

FREE DOUBLES COACHING

Improve your play by joining in doubles drills and coaching from Michal, on the **Tuesdays of 7, 14, 21 May & 4 June from 7 to 8 pm.**

VISITORS

Invite your friends to come along and play for **free in May** and experience the fun of grass court tennis. Perhaps they might also be interested in joining the club. At other times our visitor fee is £5 – please enter this in the Visitor Book before playing.

SOCIAL TENNIS / TEAS

From **4 May** social play is on **Saturdays and Sundays from 2.30 pm to 6 pm** and **Tuesday evenings from 6 pm.** Please make everyone feel welcome. Those who have been sitting out the longest should be invited to play before those who have just come off court. Arranged games can be played on the hard courts on Tuesday evenings.

Do help to keep our weekend tea tradition going by taking your turn on the rota. This is supervised by Lesley South.

WIMBLEDON TICKETS

The Championships run from **1-14 July** and we will be holding the ballot for tickets at around **2.30 pm, on Saturday, 11 May.** Tickets can go only to fully paid-up full / under 21 and junior members, aged 8+, who are also British Tennis members, with their membership linked to the club and who opted in to the Wimbledon ballot. Eligible members will be entered in the draw for one of the thirteen pairs of tickets we have been allocated.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All members are invited to our 110th AGM on **Tuesday, 4 June 2019** from **8.15 pm – 9 pm** in the clubhouse. Papers will be sent out by e-mail. Free refreshments provided.

TENNIS BALLS

New balls are put out at the weekend. Please make sure they are collected after play and left on the shelf for general use during the week.

SOCIAL TOURNAMENTS

Our social tournaments allow you to play with a variety of players in a fun, competitive environment. A small charge is made to cover tea and prizes. Please arrive promptly at **2.30 pm on Monday, 27 May; Saturday, 22 June and Monday, 26 August** to take part. Proceeds from the May tournament will be donated to a local charity.

TEAM TENNIS

Sultan Gangji & Marjan Denis are our 1st team captains and Tim Simpson & Julia Abbot are the 2nd team captains. Thanks go to James McKenzie who has now stepped down as men's second team captain and good luck to Tim in his new role.

Team play has continued over the winter and the men's team gained promotion to Division 1 whilst the mixed team retained its Division 1 position.

There are team practices for the new season at the end of April and matches from early May. A match fixture list is attached. Supporters at home matches are always very welcome.

CLUB TOURNAMENT

This year the annual Club Tournament is from **12-27 July** so be sure to keep those weeks free and join in. Entry is either via a list in the clubhouse or e-mail. The deadline for entering will be **Monday, 8 July**. The draw is posted in the clubhouse and on the website.



Sultan organises Gourmet Dinners from Monday to Thursday in the second week and all members are welcome to watch the later round matches before sitting down to a delicious meal in good company. Sign up for the meals on the lists in the clubhouse during the first week of the tournament.



Finals Day is on **Saturday, 27 July** when you can watch the matches and enjoy a slap up tea and evening BBQ. Volunteers are always needed to act as umpires or to make cakes, sandwiches, salads or desserts.

COACHING

Private lessons with our coach, Michal Forys, are available at a cost of £30 per hour. Call him on 07840 347730 to arrange a booking.

COURT CLOTHING / RACQUETS

Please wear proper tennis shoes and appropriate sports clothing at the Club. **Euro Sports** in Finchley Road (Swiss Cottage end) gives us a 10% discount on clothing and 15% on racquets. It is a small shop but very well stocked. They also do restringing, as does Michal.

BAR

Squash is free and a small supply of beer and wine is available to buy during the summer season. Please record your purchases in the Bar Book provided. We have always successfully managed to run an 'honest bar policy' which we are keen to continue.

FIRST AID BOX/DEFIBRILLATOR

The Club is equipped with both of these. Please ensure that you know where they are located in case you should need to use them.

LTA POLICIES

All the policies suggested by the LTA have been adopted and full details are in the clubhouse and on our website www.westheathltc.co.uk

CLUB WEBSITE / TWITTER

E-mail good photos or ideas for the website to jamesstuartmckenzie@gmail.com

You can also follow the Club on Twitter @HampsteadTennis

THANK YOU

Thanks to the committee and other volunteers who have helped in many different ways, as well as to our cleaner, Mariana and groundsman, Andy.

Here's to another great summer of tennis!

Moira

Moira Duncan

Club Chair

On behalf of West Heath LTC Committee