

Northaw and Cuffley LTC Newsletter

Issue 3

May 2011

PRESIDENT

The majority of members have now rejoined and we have already replaced the few drop outs with new members so we are set for a record membership. Finances are strong and improving and the bar and the excellent social event calendar will ensure that they stay so. Our league teams continue successfully demonstrating the strength in depth of the club and helping attract new members. . Friday junior evening with the club house overflowing and Saturday afternoon where all the courts are occupied for hours with more than 50 members playing are vibrant and with all the other playing activities taking place we indeed have a thriving Club. Our new committee is functioning well, building on prior achievements and we are set for another great year.

TOURNAMENTS AND SOCIAL TENNIS

Main Tournament Finals day June 18th

The draw is on Saturday 7th May at 5pm.

Paul Rock will be running an American Doubles Tournament on Monday 30th May, starting at 10am. Please add your names to the list on the tournament notice board.

Cliff trophy

Sophie Stack and Greg Zacharia won The Cliff Trophy this year beating Louise Ward and Kim Patient 10-5



Vets Tournament

Last year's Vets Finals' Day on Saturday October 16th proved very successful with a lovely atmosphere, good food and drink and an excellent standard of tennis. Kay Parker beat Wendy Evans after a close first set 7-6. Wendy regrettably was then forced to retire due to a calf muscle injury. Mixed Handicap winners Jean and Steve Thomas beat Karin Churchman and Mike White 7-5. The Men's Singles was won by Paul Fitzsimmons 7-5 6-3 after a tough match against Franco Melidoro. Robin Brown and Kim Patient defeated Peter Thrussell and Colin Taylor 7-5 6-4 in the Men's Doubles. Ladies' doubles winners Jean Thomas and Claire Charalambos defeated Sheila Cooper and Di W.B. 6-4 6-4. The Mixed Doubles was won by Helen Flinton and Mike White who beat Jean Thomas and Kim Patient 6-4 7-6.



The Ladies' Singles Ladder is up and running. Please contact Shirley at shirlmulvee@hotmail.com if you are interested in joining.

It is good to see that some of the introductory ladies have now joined the main club section and are playing on Wednesday evenings.

HEAD COACH

The club has been extremely busy over the last few months with various league matches and the Road to Wimbledon. This News Letter gives me a great opportunity to thank everyone for their hard work and commitment in organising these matches. I know how frustrating at times organising these things can be but all your help is greatly appreciated. Junior night goes from strength to strength. A huge 'Thank You' to everyone who helps makes this a success. We now have 3 Cardio Tennis sessions and I'm very pleased with the response to my 'Tennis Munchkins' squads. After completing, a Disability Coaching course last year, and finding out what we can offer, I hope to start a squad for people with learning difficulties very soon. If anyone has any knowledge in this area, I would be very grateful for their suggestions. I was sad to see Ian Pottinger go but I know he wanted another challenge and was pleased to have the opportunity to work within the environmental business again and have a regular 9-5 job which will enable him to spend more time with his family. We still have a long way to go to develop the Club to its full potential but I feel we're well on track and I am very optimistic about the Club's future.

This year Cuffley are very pleased to be the venue for the 2011 Potters Bar Family Year 4 Tennis Tournament on Thursday 12th May. This is an annual tournament which is made up of children from local primary schools. All are welcome to come and watch, food will be available, and the bar will be open. Here's to a great summer!

FIXTURES

Herts Vets Ladies' Winter League.

The ladies over 40's A & B teams did very well this season and celebrated in the Oriental Star Restaurant. They only lost one match!! Well done to all who played.



N&C have entered a new summer league competition this year. The Datchworth League. A competitive but friendly league playing on Monday nights. So far we have played two matches and won both 2-1.

Thanks to Jean and Steve Thomas, Andrew Jones, Wendy Evans and Paul Lamming for their efforts so far. We have a number of other players lined up, Jon Mays, Di Solly, Lynda and Keith Harrington, Shirley Mulvee and Alun Davies.

Each team is made up of two men and one lady. Each match consists of 3 sets, 2 mixed doubles and a men's doubles. Each set is 13 games long. Its great format and good fun.

I would still like to keep a mixture of 'experienced' and 'new' players and would be more than happy to accept more offers to play. Please let me know by emailing me johnsimp51@gmail.com

Bill Osterburg Tournament

For those who are new to the club, this tournament is in memory of Bill Osterburg who ran the juniors and coached at our club for many years. As usual it will be running during the October half term week, Monday 24th to Friday 28th 9am -5pm.

JUNIORS

A huge thank you to all the parents that help out on Junior Night every Friday, preparing exceptionally good home cooked food with all profits coming back to the club! This has generated over £3,000 since this time last year in just food profit alone! Outstanding efforts!

The bar is seeing very healthy profits every Friday too, which has greatly helped the profit increase for the club overall. An average amount taken each Friday is over £300 (sometimes over £450) Thanks to Eric who has worked the 'Friday night early shift' voluntary for many years and is rushed off his feet these days! Paul Rock and the Coaching Liaison Committee have re-organised the weekly Junior Tennis Programme so that we now run a 'Club Programme' rather than each coach working independently. This is coming in to fruition at the start of the summer term and we are sure that the children will be able to improve their tennis in a much more structured way. We also aim to ensure that every child gets to know all the coaches and all children will be given equal opportunities to play team tennis if they wish to.

We were very sad to say goodbye to Ian who was with the club for over 7 years and wish him well in his new venture. Ian has promised to join as a player and so we will still see him around! Thanks to all the parents who have helped get teams out on time in both the Winter and Aegon teams this year. The SummerLeague is about to start and all help is as usual always welcome! Paul Rock has continued to show extraordinary efforts and commitment to the Junior Section ensuring that all children whatever their ability or age enjoy tennis at the club. The number of older children playing at the club is growing each week and with the assistance of Raf, who you may have seen around the club helping Paul on a Friday night, has greatly increased the number of kids coming down for drills. Every court is used now each Friday from 4pm-9pm, which is very pleasing to see! Paul has also instigated invited adult players to join in the older drills sessions ensuring that the juniors who are ready to play in with the adult sections get to know some of us to make that transition easier. I was so impressed with the level of play and slightly concerned as I'm sure the kids will beat many of us very soon!

It's a real buzz for me to see so many people enjoying the club of all ages and so many people volunteering their time to help in all the various aspects of running such a large, strong section of the club!

CLUBHOUSE MANAGER/MAINTENANCE

Last year we made very little improvements to the clubhouse and grounds due to financial constraints. This year, the Treasurer, Rob Mackay has granted a £7,000 spending allowance for more immediate improvements required. Eric Knight and myself will be doing as much as we can within the budget to get the more immediate work actioned. Maintenance to the courts and grounds are carried out daily as are various repairs to the clubhouse but if you have any jobs you would like to see done, inside or out, then please add them to the list on the Main Committee Notice Board and we will ensure they are done as quickly as possible! It's amazing how much rubbish is left around by members, so picking up tennis balls, rubbish and putting your cups away will save us many hours where we could be doing something more productive instead!

The bar rota continues to work well and again a huge thank you to everyone who helps out. This is saving the club £4,400 a year. The club continues to be a buzzy, friendly place to be and with lots of new members joining and offering their help we should see many years of stability ahead.

We would also like to take this opportunity to reiterate to members that rules are proposed by the members and voted in by the members at the AGM. The Committee is just a group of people who try and enforce this as best as they can.

SOCIAL AND FORTHCOMING EVENTS

So far this year we have had two great events, one was the popular Italian Evening hosted by Gino and the Live Music & Dancing Night which was new to the Club calendar and very much liked by the attendees. This has been requested to be added to next year's calendar.



Our next event NOT to be missed (another new one for the club) is on the 25th of June and is **Disco & Karaoke w/t Buffet**

Dates for forthcoming events

17th Sept – New Event (Watch this space)

22nd Oct – Our Gorgeous Pete's Quiz

20th Nov – Beaujolais Nouveau

3rd Dec – Very Popular Christmas Party

18th Dec – Tennis & Tinsel

Looking forward to seeing you all at these events supporting your Tennis club and having fun at the same time. I would love to hear from you if you have any ideas or want to work with me to host an event.

Uma Mays Social Secretary uma@mays.uk.com 07802 334000

CONGRATULATIONS

To Margareta and Martyn Bassington) who became proud first time parents of twins 3 weeks ago. Sophie (7.10lb) and Sally (6.5lb) were born on the 31st March 2011. They are thrilled to bits and all 3 girls are doing extremely well!!

SCHOOL VOUCHERS

Just a reminder that we are collecting Tesco and Sainsbury vouchers again this year and we would be extremely grateful if you could pop any vouchers you receive into the box on the window sill in the clubhouse.

Renewals

Your annual renewals were due on 1st April and we would like to remind any member who has not paid yet to do so as soon as possible please.

CLUBMARK Update

Clubmark was introduced by Sport England in 2002 and is currently being implemented across 34 sports. The LTA administers its own version of Clubmark based on the National guidelines and now has over 800 accredited clubs. The objective is to ensure that clubs operate a quality tennis "programme" and covers four areas: Operational Structure, Policies and Procedures, Coaching and Planning for future development and improvements. All this is currently documented in the Clubmark Binder and will shortly be available through the club Website. N&C was first accredited two years ago and undertakes a major annual review of the documents with the Herts LTA. For more information please talk to any committee member or Richard Mode our Clubmark Co-ordinator.

Editors Note

I hope you have enjoyed reading our newsletter. Any ideas/suggestions you may have or news that you wish to share in our next edition, please email shirlmulvee@hotmail.com

website

www.northaw-cuffleytennisclub.co.uk