

April 2017

Chairman's Report

Many apologies that the newsletter is a little later than usual this spring, it does mean however, that there is no time to lose the e-mail and delay renewing your membership (due on 1st April). Your committee has been busy over the winter, helping with coaching, running a Macmillian open day (£106 raised) and a number of Funday Sundays – hoping to get new members along to the club.



Unfortunately, we will be losing two members of the committee at the next AGM. After hundreds of years of service to initially the Dowgate club and then the combined Hildenborough Club Maurice is stepping down from the committee and as facilities manager. Julie, our treasurer, will be moving to Gloucester in the next few months, so we need someone to take over her duties as well as Maurice's.



Maurice has been looking after the courts, checking the fencing, keeping control of the weeds and giving the hut a coat of creosote (with Roger's help). What we need is someone to coordinate the maintenance and round up a team of volunteers to do the work.

The main duties of the Treasurer are: preparing the end of year accounts and liaising with the auditor, attending committee meetings and dealing with any expense claims. Familiarity with spreadsheets would be useful. Julie is happy to prepare the accounts for 2016/2017 and pass the spreadsheets on to the new Treasurer. Please volunteer for either or both posts.

Adam Reavely and Howard Phillips are bringing a huge new enthusiasm to the club with junior and adult coaching sessions and gradually the coaching is beginning to expand. They would like to run two adult sessions on Monday evening, one for beginners and one for more advanced players – the sessions are excellent and in the more advanced session help with both strokes and strategy in matches.



Sadly, in March, we lost a long-standing member; Brian Kay – there will be a memorial service for him at 1:30 on Wednesday 5th April at the Church of St John the Evangelist in Hildenborough.

Team results have been a little disappointing this winter with a number of injuries it has been difficult to get teams together on a regular basis; this is particular true for the men's teams and sadly it looks as though Andy will be departing for India for the next few years so more men are needed!

The committee are busy considering upgrading the club hut and with the help of the AGM have decided to purchase a new shed to store equipment in and tidy up the existing hut but are also looking at purchasing a new log cabin so that we can raise the level and put in a floor to relieve the problems of flooding in the winter. If we have a qualified electrician out there – it would be really useful for managing the floodlight electrics.

Subscriptions

Subscriptions are due 1 April. If you were in a Senior club membership category before 1 April 2012 you will remain in the Legacy Senior club membership categories. We are happy to say that the membership fees have stayed the same for the last three years. Please encourage your friends and relations to take advantage of some excellent courts and floodlights.

The Membership Renewal form and fee should be returned to Jo Garrett as soon as possible. Please print off and complete then either post or take a photo from your smartphone and send to jogarrett@talk21.com. On receipt, new shoe tags will be issued. Please wear them to make clear who is a member and to avoid embarrassment.

The preferred method of payment for subscriptions is by bank transfer, saving time and increasing security. Details are on the Membership Renewal form. If you pay by bank transfer, please advise on the form. Please add your email address to the form so that we can check we have your current email address on file and use it to send out the Newsletter and other information about the Club in future.

To encourage new members this year we are again offering a discount of 15% on Adult and Family membership fees to any new members who join as a result of being recommended by a Club member. Further, for the Club member who recommends them, we will discount their next year's membership fee by 15% so please encourage your family and friends to join the Club. If you recommended someone who joined the Club in the last year, please deduct 15% from your membership fee this year and advise on the Renewal Form who you recommended.

Attached is a separate Application Form for new members rather than the Membership Renewal Form.

Team players - see the separate email that sets out match fees due for the year's fixtures. Please add these sums to your fees. Any queries please speak to the team captain.

Visitor fees for the last year can also be added to the subs.

Wimbledon Ballot

Based on our British Tennis membership who opted into the Wimbledon Ballot with the LTA by 17th February, the Club has been allocated 5 pairs of tickets for the Wimbledon Championships to be held between July 3rd and July 16th 2017, including a pair of Men's Final tickets.

ALL Club affiliated members of British Tennis (aged 9 and over) as at 17th February **who Opted-In to the Wimbledon Ballot as at that date and who are paid up members of the Club on the date of the draw will be included in the Ballot.** The draw will take place on Saturday 29th April at 10am. It is therefore important that you renew your Club membership prior to this date.

Club members who become British Tennis Members after 17th February can be included in the Ballot as long as they are paid up members of the Club, are aged 9 and over, are affiliated to Hildenborough Tennis Club and Opt-In to the BTM ballot with the LTA at least 24 hours before the date of the Club ballot.

Kent LTA use the online Wimbledon ballot so payment of tickets and their distribution will mostly be via the online system. Therefore please ensure your personal details, especially email and address are up to date in the members' area of the LTA website: www.lta.org.uk/login or call 020 8487 7000.

Full details of the conditions of the draw will be advised to those who have entered nearer to the date of the draw. If you have any queries please contact Jo Garrett on 01732 832393 or jogarrett@talk21.com. Or you can refer to the LTA website: www.lta.org.uk/wimbledonballots

British Tennis Membership (BTM)

For more information or to join BTM go to www.lta.org.uk/britishtennismembership or call 020 8487 7000. Membership and benefits (including entry into the Club's Wimbledon ballot) are currently only free to members of affiliated clubs such as ours.

Balls and Floodlight Tokens for Sale

We are offering Head balls for sale. A tube of 4 balls for £3.50 or 3 tubes for £10.

Floodlight tokens are £2 for 30 minutes.

If you would like to purchase any please contact Jo Garrett on 01732 832393 or jogarrett@talk21.com.

Winter match results and fixtures

Please see the attached updates

Coaching

Please see the attached flyer for Easter coaching camps for juniors

Monday night adult coaching is well attended. Option to start a beginner's class is being considered

Feedback

Please let us know if you have any feedback, especially how we can promote the club. Various events happen during the year including the monthly Sunday Funday, American Tournaments, charity events and Open Days so please come along and support them as they are advised.

Dates for the diary

First Sunday of the month – Sunday Funday – 9.30 to 11 am

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 1 May | Open Day to coincide with the Hildenborough Road Race |
| 9 July | American Tournament – please come along and tell your friends |
| 22/23 July | British Tennis Weekend |

New website

Please take a look at the new website which we hope will attract new members and will offer a new court booking system which will enable coaching sessions and new member bookings. Further details will be provided in a separate email.

Hildenboroughtennis.co.uk