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# HILDENBOROUGH TENNIS CLUB NEWSLETTER

## MARCH/APRIL 2016

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### **Note from the Chairman**

Another year is upon us and we hope you are enjoying the courts.

Your committee are busy trying to look to the future and improve our facilities as evidenced by the Ecoloo and the new gate and paths. We are still managing to add to the court repair fund so that we can maintain the courts at the high standard they are at the moment.

We will have to do some maintenance on the floodlights at some stage and resurface the courts so it is important that we keep the membership numbers up, to which end our new secretary Karen has been putting together a new website and organising family friendly 'bring a friend' Sundays, with tea and cake. To encourage new members this year we are offering a discount of 15% on adult and family membership fees to any new members who joins as a result of being recommended by a Club member. Furthermore, 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.

We have been successfully applying for some funding for coaching as part of the Davis Cup Legacy programme from the LTA and we hope to have a new coach in place in the very near future offering both junior and adult coaching.

We have done reasonably well in the Winter Kent Leagues with the Ladies Vets team winning their section of the division and going on to the division final on 3<sup>rd</sup> April (away against Gravesend). We are pleased that this summer thanks to Sian's efforts, we are able to enter a second ladies team to sit alongside the two men's teams and the two mixed teams.

### **Subscriptions**

Your subscriptions are due 1st April. We are pleased to confirm we have not increased them this year. If you were in a Senior club membership category before 1 April 2012 you will remain in the Legacy Senior club membership categories.

The Membership Renewal form and fee should be returned to Jo Garrett as soon as possible. On receipt of these new shoe tags will be issued to you. Please wear them as it makes it clear who is a member and avoids any embarrassment.

You can pay subscriptions directly into the Club's bank account. Details are on the Membership renewal form. We would encourage this method of payment for security and to save time. If you are paying by bank transfer, you can just email the completed renewal form to [jogarrett@talk21.com](mailto:jogarrett@talk21.com) or continue to post it. 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.

**Team players also 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.**

**Visitors 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 19th February, the Club has been allocated 7 pairs of tickets for the Wimbledon Championships to be held between June 27th and July 10th 2016, including a pair of Ladies Final tickets.

ALL Club affiliated members of British Tennis (aged 9 and over) as at 19th 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 30th 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 19th 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](http://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](mailto:jogarrett@talk21.com). Or you can refer to the LTA website: [www.lta.org.uk](http://www.lta.org.uk)

### **British Tennis Membership (BTM)**

A reminder about free membership to British Tennis. For more information or to join go to [www.lta.org.uk/britishtennismembership](http://www.lta.org.uk/britishtennismembership) or call 020 8487 7000.

British Tennis membership includes a broad range of valuable benefits such as a player rating, membership card, advice from professional coaches and top players, an e-newsletter, special members-only website content, information on competitions and events, and most importantly **entry to our club's Wimbledon ticket ballot.** You can only join the Club ballot if you are a registered member of British Tennis, affiliated to our Club and have Opted-In to the Wimbledon ballot on the LTA website.

This membership and benefits 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](mailto:jogarrett@talk21.com).

### **KENT SLAZENGER LEAGUE Winter 2015/16 Results**

Men's 1 division 5B won 2 lost 2

Men's 2 division 10A won 2 lost 2

Ladies vets division 3B won all their matches playing a final against Gravesham

Mixed 1 division 5B won 2 lost 2

Mixed 2 division 7A won 1 lost 3

Ladies Vets will be promoted, Men's 1 and 2 and Mixed 1 should remain in the same divisions but unfortunately with only one win it looks as though Mixed 2 will be going down.

The summer season is starting the first weekend in April, fixtures list is attached. Anyone wanting to play League matches please contact Sian Todd or any committee member and we will pass on your details to the captains.

Thank you once again to all the team players and the captains.

## American Tournament

On Saturday 19 March we held a very successful American Tournament. It was a fun social occasion where everyone played 4 game matches with every other participant and had plenty of homemade cakes and refreshments to keep them going throughout 9 rounds of tennis. Congratulations to the winners Graham and Paula. We will be holding another tournament later in the Summer when it will hopefully be warmer so look out for details.



## Sunday Funday (previously Bring a Friend Sunday)

To make it clear you do not need to bring a friend to enjoy a Club session on the first Sunday of each month. We have renamed it Sunday Funday. This session from 9.30-11am and is for adults and children to enjoy some tennis and bring their family and friends along if they wish. Refreshments will be provided.

Due to matches the Sunday Funday session on Sunday 3rd April has already been cancelled. The next one is due on Sunday 1 May but as it is a Bank Holiday the following day and the Hildenborough Road Race and other activities will be going on at the Rec we will make it Monday Funday. Please note the slightly later start from 10am to 12 noon. Please come and have some fun and support your Club and the Village.

## Coaching at the club

Giles will be running Easter Camps during the Easter holidays so 2 courts may not be available during this time. The dates are Tuesday 29th Wednesday 30th March and Thursday 31st March from 9am - 12 noon and also on 7th April and the 8th April from 9am - 12 noon. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause to regular weekly sessions.

After Easter Giles will be leaving us and we are actively looking for a replacement to take the club forward. We will keep you informed and hope to have news shortly.