

Summer 2010 Newsletter to Tramore Tennis Club Members

31st May 2010

This newsletter aims to update our members on changes at the club since the lively discussion at our AGM on the 22nd of February. The committee hopes it will highlight progress being made in a number of key areas.

Replacement of court 1 and court 2

Courts 1 and 2 reopened for play on Sunday April 11th after replacing the carpets. We took this opportunity to replace the footings for net posts and to upgrade the wiring for our lights also, which did cause some delays but will benefit the club in the long run. Special thanks go to David Shepard for all his work in organising this upgrade. Our thanks also go to those members who helped clear out the area behind the courts, in particular Larry Lyons for coordinating this effort, which made it possible to update the landscaping.

Maintenance

A number of concerns were raised at the AGM with regards to security and sweeping of courts. In response to this:

- A court sweeping machine has been purchased. This will be used to maintain courts to a higher standard and to help us avoid incurring unnecessary costs with court suppliers.
- A new gate has been put in place for courts 3 and 4 and new padlocks are in place on all gates.
- The hooks and bands on the nets on courts 3 and 4 have been replaced.
- Additional sand was brought in to court 5 to address any concerns with dead bounces that were reported at the club.
- Following initial use, sand was added to courts 1 and 2 at end of May.
- A new shed is now in place to tidy away machinery and tools.

Clubhouse upgrade

Work on the bathrooms at the clubhouse commenced the last week of May. The bathroom upgrade will include changes to windows, ceiling, tiling, floors, partitions, toilets, showers, heating and drainage. The meeting area will also undergo some changes with new partitions, patio door, stove and furniture to be put in place. The work is due to be completed before the school holidays commence.

Grant applications

We are actively pursuing all options that may be available to us over the coming years for funding at the club. Our thanks go to Denis Leamy and the Waterford Sports Partnership who have been advising us in this regard. We intend to apply for grants from local and national funds as they become available. In particular we will be applying for funding for the replacement of courts 3 and 4 and further upgrades to the clubhouse. Currently no applications are being received but we are hopeful that this will change by the end of 2010, with the possible availability of Lotto funding in the following year.

Staffing at the club

During the 10 week summer holiday period we are pleased to announce that two members of Tramore tennis club will be sharing the role of groundsperson - Larry Lyons, in a supervisory role, and Craig O'Neill.

We have also been in contact with FAS discussing the provision of a staff member to perform maintenance duties at the club. If we are successful with our application a person would be made available from the end of November.

Following on from the summer staffing period and our application to FAS we will be in a better position to define the kind of management role that would benefit the club.

Child protection policy

Our child protection officer, Sandra Merity, has been busy creating CHILD PROTECTION & GOOD PRACTICE GUIDELINES for Tramore Tennis Club. The guidelines aim to provide both parents and children with the support they need and includes codes of conduct, an anti bullying policy and reporting procedures at the club. The policy will be made available from both the website and the office once final modifications have been made.

Court booking

To optimise court usage and availability we have begun operating a one hour booking system on court 5 every night of the week. The booking sheets have been updated accordingly and the waiting list, also suggested at the AGM, has been added.

New signage at the club

New signs are being produced for the club listing our rules with regards to disposal of rubbish, chewing gum and security.

Club Merchandise

We are currently organising Tramore Tennis Club merchandise that will be available to purchase at the club. More details will follow over the summer months.

Senior tournaments

The tournament committee kicked off their events calendar with the Preseason Meet and Greet in April. They have a busy time ahead with lots more action planned for the summer months including:

- American tournaments each Wednesday from 7:30pm - commenced 12th May and running until the end of August. €3 members, €5 non members.
- Open charity tournament to be held Saturday 24th July. All grades welcome. €10 per person. B.B.Q. and limited bar facilities.
- Senior Open Week - from Sunday 1st August to Sunday 8th August. Entries will close on Wednesday 21st July at 6p.m. Advance payment required.
- Club championships - from 18th September to 3rd October. Details to follow nearer the time.

There will be a number of other weekend tournaments during the Summer - details will be posted on the noticeboard at the clubhouse and on our website.

Junior news

The new junior committee has been very active this year, organising Easter tournaments, winter ladders, interclub friendlies, and club teams. Our congratulations go to

- The U14s team who were narrowly defeated, after five and a half hours of play, by Whitechurch in the semi finals of the Gilabbey Plate Munster Competition.
- The U12s team who made it through to the semi final of the Munster Tennis Maher Cup, but unfortunately lost out in the doubles to Limerick Junction away.
- The Holy Cross boys and girls (all Tramore tennis club juniors) for reaching the Munster schools finals, which took place in Bishopstown on Wednesday 26th May. Two Waterford schools won on the day - St. Declans Boys and St. John of God girls.

There will be lots more events organised over the summer months including

- A 6 week competition for the U10s - this commenced on May 8th and is to run on Tuesdays and Saturdays during May and June.
- Fun doubles from 3:30 to 5:30pm on Friday 11th June for those born in 2001/2002.
- Summer Leagues for teenagers and 10-12s - check noticeboard and website for details.
- Junior Open Week - this will run from 11-17th July. U8 and U9 mini midi included.
- Junior Club Championships - this will run from 22-28th August.

Juniors are also strongly encouraged to take part in other Open Weeks in the region. Information will be displayed on the notice board or you can view a list of open weeks in the locality under the events section of our website.

We are now into the 3rd session of group coaching at the club. We are looking for feedback from participants so that we can continue to improve on this service to our members. Coaching camps will be run by our coaches during the summer months as usual.

Welcome to Facebook

Tramore Tennis Club is now on Facebook. Users of Facebook can click on the 'like' button from our website to receive news updates from tramoretennis.com directly into their Facebook news stream.

2010 Committees

There have been a number of changes on our committees this year and the 2010 committees are outlined below for your information. Our thanks go to all committee members who volunteer to support the club in this way.

Officers: Tom Finnegan (President), Louise Grubb (Vice President), Gerald Reade (Treasurer), Olwyn Beresford (Secretary).

Senior: Rachel Mulcahy, Ger O'Sullivan, Gerry O'Sullivan, Bernard Pollard, David Shepard, Mary Walsh.

Junior: Susan Devereux, Viva Hayes, Katrina Hegarty, Sandra Merity, Joanne Moloney, Marie O'Neill, Sandra O'Reilly, Joe Power, Tresanne Shepard, Gwen Waagner.

Tournament: Gail Doherty-Brophy, Jackie Kennedy, Larry Lyons, Carol Power, Trevor O'Neill, Mary Smith, Elaine Tighe.