

Secretary's Report 2009-2010

Last year we saw great progress being made both on and off the courts once again.

In February the **coaching and development committee** held an information evening for parents and following on from this group coaching was successfully rolled out for 85 junior members in September. Well done to Louise Grubb in particular for her role in putting this structure in place. We are now into the second session of this coaching and hope it will continue to be popular in 2010. Our coaches, Willie and Patrick, also ran camps during the easter and summer breaks. Thanks to them for their work throughout the year and their enthusiasm about the new coaching structure.

The **junior committee** had another busy year organising tournaments, ladders and teams. In the summer months they not only ran a very enjoyable open week and the club championships but also managed to fit in a 4 week mystery summer league for the U12s, U14s and U16s, which Alex and Steffi Brennan won.

A special mention should be made of Sinead Lohan's achievements this year, as well as those of Morgan Lohan and Harry Walsh. Willie Reynolds arranged a fundraising tennis tournament at Halloween and following on from this a presentation was made to Sinead Lohan in acknowledgement of her upcoming participation in the European Tennis tour. Our thanks go to John Crawford of John Crawford Scaffolding Ltd. for his sponsorship.

The **tournament committee** also had a busy year, which kicked off in style with Presidents Day on April 4th. The Wednesday night American tournaments, ran from the middle of May through to the end of August and proved very popular this year, providing a great introduction to the club for new members in particular. The July Whistlestop tournament was in aid of the hospice this year and €1300 was raised for this worthy cause. Senior Open Week and the Club Championships were also a great success thanks to the hard work of the tournament committee and all those who helped with catering, umpiring, groundwork etc.

The **website** saw an increase in traffic around tournament time this year as we were able to provide schedules online, aswell as results and photos. The link up with the tournament planner software being used by the club will hopefully make this even easier this year.

Two **winter ladder** formats have been available for senior members again this year and the committee will be looking for feedback and suggestions on both the senior and mixed ladders for 2010-2011. Given the temperatures in early January our courts had to be closed for a few days. I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight to members again that if frost is visible on the courts, please do refrain from playing. Aside from the obvious accident worries, it does damage the surface of the courts.

Our **club development committee**, David Sheppard and Tom Finnegan in particular, put in a lot of work again in 2009. The most notable change is the replacement of court 5 and the creation of our new midi court - court 6 - which is especially suited to the U8s and U9s. We want to thank those members who volunteered on a number of nights over the summer tidying up the grounds, cutting back the trees and removing rubbish from courts 5 and 6 before the new courts were laid. Thanks in particular to Wally Coffey and Gerry Murphy. The signage at the club has also been updated thanks to Brian Griffin and the clubhouse was painted during the summer months.

An upgrade to the bathrooms was considered this year but a longer term strategy, involving a phased development running from 2010-2012 was settled upon. In summary phase 1

involves replacing courts 1 and 2, phase 2 involves an upgrade to the clubhouse bathrooms, flooring and seating, and phase 3 involves replacing courts 3 and 4. Tom Finnegan will outline these plans in more detail and explain the phasing and costing.

A special thanks is due to anyone who **sponsored** events at the club over the past year in what is a tough economic climate. The following people deserve a special mention:

- Ronan Mc Carthy Life and Pensions for sponsoring junior open week
- Paul Kenny, Super Value and the Munster Express for sponsoring senior open week
- Denis Leamy of Pobol for sponsoring the junior club championships
- Garrett Dillon for sponsoring the senior club championships

Thanks are due also to Nuala and Mags, Eoin and Craig for their work throughout the year at the club. And finally our thanks should go to Rachel Mulcahy, our outgoing president, for all her work over the past 2 years. The best of luck also to Tom Finnegan in his new role as Club President and to the incoming committee for 2010.