



Hampton in Arden Sports Club Tennis Section

Our new Chairman Geoff Redfern introduces himself

This is the perfect opportunity to put in print a huge THANK YOU to Steve Ray. Steve told us all at the tennis club AGM in November that he has decided to step down as Chairman of Hampton tennis club after 8 very successful years. We can all, especially Steve, be very proud of his contribution to the tennis club and how it has developed into a club that is enjoying one of the most successful times in its history. Steve has also developed many contacts over the last 8 years and has agreed to carry on with some of his previous duties. He will remain a most valued tennis committee member.

I was recommended to the tennis committee about 5 years ago because I love playing tennis, despite being a late starter to the sport, and equally enjoy joining in the social side of the game too. I don't know whether my lack of tennis background will be an advantage or disadvantage to my new role but one thing that won't be in question is my enthusiasm to get involved and encouragement to other people to do so too.

After many years of work to get the new courts in place they have now been tried and tested and thoroughly approved by us all. The court development project was started at just the right time for us to have a chance to see the artificial clay surface in use elsewhere and confidently recommend the use of this new surface for our new courts. All club members that I have asked are very pleased with the surface in all respects and sweeping the courts and lines after playing is a small price to pay to keep the courts in tip-top condition. It is also very pleasing that visiting team players have commented on the excellent facilities that we now have and how they have enjoyed playing on the new surface-even when Hampton win.

The goals that I will work towards are to: -

- Provide more opportunities for members to enjoy the courts through competitions
- Encourage more people from the village to enjoy playing tennis and become club members
- Try to encourage more sponsorship income to help the club
- Encourage the juniors to play competitive matches and join the senior teams

Both Rosalia (third team ladies captain) and I (fourth team men's captain) have already started including our juniors in the senior teams with great success. This has been very successful with Jacob "Shaky" Pratt establishing himself in the men's third team and Xander Barnes and Tim Jones becoming regulars in the men's fourth team. During this time, Will Shaw, Ollie White, Declan Jones, Wade Jolley, Chris Williams & Sam Walker all turned out for the men's fourth team too. For the ladies, Charlotte Brown, Emma Shalley, Kate Gregory, Lynsey Thomas, Maria Barnes and Sophie Cable were also picked to play for Hampton Ladies.

A big thank you to the parents that ferry the team all over Warwickshire when there are no members of the team that have a driving licence!!

I was very pleased when Steve asked me to take over as Chairman. I will endeavour to represent and promote this club as successfully as Steve did.

The Court Circular Spring 2010

John Eccleston wins Warwickshire LTA 2009 Volunteer of the Year



We are delighted to announce that John Eccleston won the 2009 Warwickshire LTA Volunteer of the Year award presented at the awards evening held at the Botanical Gardens in January. This success follows the award two years ago of the Warwickshire 2007 LTA Club of the Year award and keeps Hampton as one of the higher profile clubs of the 70 odd in Warwickshire.

As many of you will know, John project managed the new court development at Hampton. Many, many hours were devoted firstly in the areas of project specification, project estimates, raising funding and finally selection of the relevant contractor. During the project build phase, John was working on the project seemingly full time with some excellent support from Lee West (the LTA advisor). As ever in these complex projects, a number of issues arose that John dealt with in his stride with his normal, assured no-nonsense fashion.

The new courts were delivered on time and, most importantly, on budget - a phenomenal achievement when you consider the number of new-build projects that considerably exceed budget!

In addition to the above, John has been Chairman of the wider Sports Club at Hampton for several years. Where does he find the time!

2010 diary

- Tuesday February 23 - Sports Club AGM
- Sunday April 11 - Maxi Tennis final
- Sunday April 18 - 2010/11 subscriptions due
- Saturday May 1 - Play Tennis Day
- Saturday May 1 - Court Opening Ceremony
- Saturday May 22 - Quiz
- Saturday June 5/12/19 - Mini/Junior Tournaments
- Sunday June 20 - The ASICS Arden 9 Road Race
- Saturday July 3 - Finals day
- To be confirmed - Annual Dinner Dance
- Monday November 8 - Tennis Club AGM

Sports Club AGM Tuesday February 23rd

Thanks to John Eccleston and his team for all the hard work put in to improve club facilities. The major points noted in the meeting were as follows:

- Accounts: The club accounts for the year to April 2009 show that the club made a loss of £11k after having made a loss of £8k the previous year. The losses in both years are attributable to significant refurbishments of the bar (£14k) in 2008 and of the kitchen and changing rooms (£14k) in 2009. Bar profits were up £2k to £11k; the income less direct costs of the Sports sections was £3k down and £2k more was spent on administration costs. The club assets (ie cash less amounts payable) therefore reduced by £11k to £66k.
- President's Plate: Congratulations to Karen Juniper who was awarded the plate this year for her services to hockey over many years. Karen has been treasurer of the hockey section for over 10 years, a team captain for a number of years and is also currently a Director of the Sports Club.

Fund Raising

We gave a commitment to the January 2009 AGM to raise a total of £35,000 towards paying off the £75,000 loan from the LTA. At that time we had raised a total of £31,000 over five years and promised to raise the remaining £4,000 by the end of 2009. We are delighted to say that between the Quiz, the Arden9 and the Auction of Promises held at the Annual Dinner in November that we have now raised the promised £35,000.

2010 Subscriptions due Sunday April 18th

Payments are now due for the 2010/11 season. Before discounts for prompt payment, multiple family membership or membership of more than one playing section the full subscription rates are:

- **Age 65+** - £67.
- **Age 26-64** - £155. Daytime rate - £103. Family rate - £310 (The family rate benefits families with two adult members and two or more junior members living in the same house).
- **Age 18-25** - £67.
- **Age 7-17** - £36.
- **Age < 7** - free.

Full details of the rates payable are detailed on the application form. As the renewal documentation is later than usual in being sent out this year, **discounts** are offered for payments received by **Sunday April 18th**. Please send your completed application form and cheque made out to "Hampton-in-Arden Sports Club" to Chris Barnes at 68 Meriden Road, Hampton-in-Arden B92 0BT. Thank you!

Play Tennis Day and Court Opening Ceremony Saturday May 1st

An opportunity for everyone to come and play tennis - members of any playing section of the club and non-members all welcome. There will be a variety of activities held throughout the day so please invite your family and friends along. More details will be distributed shortly but in the meantime please make a note of the date in your diary.

Quiz Night Saturday May 22nd

Come to the beginning of season quiz which is being master minded once again by Julie Williamson and Geoff Redfern. It starts at 7.30pm. The cost is £10 per person including a fish and chip supper. Teams of 4 to 6 people - we can find a team for you if you wish. If you would like to come, please contact Geoff (01675 442447). It will help us with the administration if you would enter a team and nominate one person to collect all the cheques from the team and pass them to Geoff (32 The Crescent, Hampton-in-Arden B92 0BT) by **Thursday May 20th** so that we can order the right amount of food. Places are limited to the first 60 to pay. Thanks.

Tennis Club AGM Monday November 8th

The Annual General Meeting of the tennis section will be held on Monday November 8th commencing at 7.30pm in the clubhouse. Full details will be sent out by email and displayed on the tennis notice board during October.

2010 Club Tournaments – Finals Day Saturday July 3rd

The entry form for the 2010 club tournaments is enclosed with the Court Circular. Unless you are away on finals day please enter at least some of the competitions whatever your standard of play. Don't forget that the Mixed Plate is for all standards of play and a partner will be found for you so that all pairs have a reasonable chance of reaching the final - it would be nice to see all members enter this competition. The 2009 winners are shown in the table below.

Title	Winner(s)	Runner(s) Up
Open		
Mens Singles	Mark Joannides	Rob Yates
Ladies Singles	Jane Hodge	Charlotte Ray
Mens Doubles	Tony Eccleston & Ian Poole	Mark Joannides & Matthew Hunt
Ladies Doubles	Carol Grant & Jane Hodge	Sandy Wasse & Lucy Wasse
Mixed Doubles	Lucy Wasse & Mark Joannides	Kathy Hunt & Mathew Hunt
Plate		
Mens Singles Plate	Nigel Jones	Phil Turpin
Ladies Singles Plate	Chris Durbin	Wendy Jones
Mixed Plate	Wendy Jones & Paul Roper	Julie Williamson & Nigel Jones
Veterans		
Mens Veterans Doubles	Mark Walker & Savio Gaspar	Rob Yates & Nigel Jones
Mens Super Veterans	Joe Killeen	Wayman Morris
Ladies Veterans Doubles	Carol Grant & Terri Mason	Kathy Hunt & Chris Durbin
Junior		
Boys Singles under 16	Tim Jones	Jamie Turpin
Girls Singles under 16	Sophie Cable	Emily Hodge
Boys Singles under 12	Robert Yates	Lewis White
Girls Singles under 12	Emily White	-
Green	Robert Yates	Mason Jolley
Orange	Joe Warner	Jonathan Bartlett
Red	Jonathan Bartlett	Matthew Middleton

Mixed doubles winners

Lucy Wasse/Mark Joannides



Mens over 55's winner

Joe Killeen



Ladies doubles winners

Jane Hodge/Carol Grant



Team Tennis – Coventry league

The highlight of the season was a **third successive promotion for the Mens 2nd team** into the Coventry League second division. Congratulations also to the Ladies 2nd team who were promoted back to division 5 at the first time of asking. Unfortunately the mens 1st team were relegated from the premier league by the narrowest of margins on "goal difference". The 2009 playing records and 2010 contacts are as follows:

Team	Captain	Division	2009 final league positions
Mens 1st team	Mark Joannides	Prem	7th (of 8) - 19 points - relegated to division 1
Mens 2nd team	Mark Joannides	3	2nd (of 8) - 33 points - promoted to division 2!
Mens 3rd team	Steve Ray	5	4th (of 8) - 29 points - mid table security
Mens 4 th team	Geoff Redfern	6	5th (of 8) - 18 points - solid first season
Ladies 1st team	Terri Mason	3	4th (of 8) - 29 points - two points off promotion
Ladies 2 nd team	Chris Durbin	6	2nd (of 6) - 26 points - promoted to division 5!
Ladies 3 rd team	Rosalia Eccleston	6	5th (of 6) - 20 points - best season to date

If you want to play team tennis please call one of the contacts listed above. Practice sessions are held from 8pm to 10pm on Monday nights (Men) and from 6.30pm to 8pm on Wednesday nights (Ladies). The last practice nights will be in the week beginning Monday April 19th. Selection, which will be based on merit, is the captain's responsibility.

The long road to four new courts

It seems much longer than 7 years ago that a junior committee member urged that we try to find a way to increase from three to four courts. By the time we finally had a viable replacement scheme, the existing hardcore courts were breaking up, the fencing was only being held up by wooden poles and candles on a decent-sized birthday cake would have been more reliable and given more light than the existing flood lights.

Despite the crumbling facilities we had a growing and active junior programme and growing adult membership, both increasing year on year for nine years. However, the fourth court would enable us to do so much more: increase the junior programme, host larger tournaments, enter extra teams into local leagues and generally reduce some of the pressure during times of high court usage. One other advantage is that the new configuration left an oblong piece of land which could accommodate a red mini tennis court. The new surface, Euroclay, would also offer us an artificial surface which would play like a clay court, giving a lower bounce than the old courts not to mention being kinder on the limbs.

The cost was £300,000 which was raised from the following sources, mainly as grants: LTA (including a £75,000 loan); National Sports Foundation; Sport England and the George Fenthams Charity.

The fund raising activities not only have raised £35,000 towards repayment of the loan, but also showed we were serious about the project. It involved a sustained programme over the seven year period and included events such as quizzes, music nights including three with our own rock group, the Arden 9 road race (now an established event on the local running circuit) and auctions of promises.



We spent hours chasing a couple of large grants which we thought were almost certain to be approved. They were not. Disappointment was an under statement of how we felt. However, we ploughed on.

In the end, the key to getting funding from various bodies was our extensive junior programme. The large number of children playing sport at grass roots level is what many of the funding organisations wanted to see. We had great help and support in applying for LTA funding from Jayne Ashton and the Warwickshire County office team and also from the LTA Facilities manager, Donna Bickley.

A sound business plan was required, including future projections for membership, income and expenditure. We knew what we were planning was affordable, but we needed to prove it to other parties in a professional manner: in addition to our heart-felt belief in the project, hard facts and figures were required.

We used LTA expertise to specify the courts, fencing and lighting. The planning process was arduous, slow and frustrating. In particular, the lighting proved to be a problem. As the club is situated in green belt land, we had to prove that the new lights would not have an adverse affect on the environment. This process was lengthy and required expert and patient help from Tony Hill, the LTA's lighting expert, not to mention a tree and half's worth of paper.

Once the planning and finance were in place, the actual build began. We arranged for members to play at many and various other locations including a school, another tennis club, Billesley, squash courts, an astroturf pitch and a couple of halls in the village for the juniors. The ingenuity of our coach, Ian Poole, was a godsend as he managed to keep the children busy doing some sort of activities. The winter is a good time because not so many people tend to play tennis when it is cold and dark. Conversely, starting work in January 2009 was not so good because of the snow. Luckily it didn't disrupt things for too long, however, every day of work lost meant the members got to use the new courts a day later. Critically, in addition, it provided a huge stress as one of the bodies' funding requirements was that we spent its grant by 31 March 2009 otherwise we would lose it!



With any large building project, there are always a few things that go wrong. For instance we found the footings of a previous building on the site, plus the theft of heavy plant from the site was not at helpful. The LTA's technical expert, Lee West, was a brilliant help, who we could not have managed without.

Finally we opened the four new courts and red mini tennis court for use in May 2009. What a happy day! The hard work and set backs are soon forgotten, and we are getting to grips with how we maintain the new courts. Membership and usage is increasing. Perhaps we need another new court - please don't even mention it!

How to get tickets for international tennis in 2010

AEGON ladies classic at Edgbaston Priory Club - June 7th to 13th

Box office: 0871 230 7154 or 0871 231 0847 for groups of 8+. Ask if discounts are available for BTM members.
Further information at:

<http://www.lta.org.uk/Watch/British-Tennis-Series/AEGON-Classic/>

Wimbledon – June 21st to July 4th

If you would like to enter the Wimbledon ticket draw please tick the box on the Application form. You must be a club member, at least 8 years old on June 21st and a BTM member. Draw winners will receive a pair of tickets and are free to choose who to take with them, although if you are under 16 you must be accompanied by an adult. Please note that under LTA rules, tickets are not transferable so if you cannot go on the day allocated you should let us know quickly so that we can reallocate the tickets. Under no circumstances should you sell your tickets.

Barclays ATP Mens World Tour Finals - November 21st to 27th

Why not go to the O2 arena to see the top 8 mens singles and doubles players in the Barclays ATP Mens World Tour Finals? Further information at:

<http://www.barclaysatptworldtourfinals.com/Tickets/Campaigns/ATP.aspx>

British Tennis Membership (BTM)

BTM is free to members of affiliated clubs until at least 2012. It includes a broad range of benefits such as a player rating, membership card, advice from professional coaches and top players, an e-newsletter, a special members-only website content, information on competitions and events and entry into (occasional) BTM members-only ticket draws (e.g. for Stella Artois Queens Club tickets) in addition to the Wimbledon ticket draw held via the tennis club. Your BTM number is shown on your application form. If you are not a member there are two ways you can join:

- Authorise us via your membership application form and we will register you.

Maxi Tennis – 2010 tournament

After a gap last year while the new courts were under construction the Maxi Tennis tournament has returned this season. The final which will be played between the teams that finished first (Ireland) and second (France) in the league will take place on Sunday April 11th between 2.40pm and 4.10pm.

	Won	Lost	Games won	Points won
Ireland	4	1	56	789
France	4	1	49	762
Italy	3	2	53	753
Wales	3	2	40	724
England	1	4	30	655
Scotland	0	5	39	686

The ASICS Arden 9 Road Race – Sunday June 20th 10.30 start

The seventh ASICS Arden 9 road race will be run on Sunday June 20th and will once again be sponsored by ASICS and Hunters Estate Agents. The route passes through Catherine de Barnes, Eastcote, Barston and Bradnocks Marsh, returning back to the Sports Club via the lakes. 2009 winners of the Hampton Sports Club trophy were Gavin Davies in 60:16 and Kathryn Rayson in 76:11. Gavin set a course record for a Hampton Sports Club member while the ladies course record is held by Susan Lawrence who clocked 63:56 in 2008.

Online entries only please at www.runnersworld.co.uk with a cost of £12 including credit card costs. There is a £2 discount for running club members. See www.arden9.org.uk for more information. If you are around in the morning of June 20th and would like to help us marshal the course or man the drinks stations please could you let Chris Barnes (01675 443572) know?

Questions & Answers about Hampton-in-Arden Tennis Club

What organised tennis is there?

- We have four mens and three ladies teams that take part in the Coventry league during May, June and July. If you want to play please call Mark Joannides (07909 697718) or Carol Grant (01675 443610).
- Annual Club Tournaments take place in May and June with finals day in early July.
- There is a "Maxi Tennis" social tournament for teams of 6 that takes place in February and March.
- Social tennis sessions (mixed) take place all year round. It is rare for weather interruptions, so please come along! All standards welcome. Up to three (coach approved) juniors can play. Times as follows: Sunday 10.30am to 12.30pm; Tuesday 7.30pm to 10pm and Friday 8pm to 10pm.

Is coaching available? – We have a junior and adult coaching programme. Further details of the programme are shown elsewhere in this magazine and on the web site at www.hampton tennis.org.uk/coaching.asp Ian Poole, our head coach would be pleased to hear from you on 07968 451956.

When can I play? - You may book a court for a maximum period of two hours for which no fee is payable. Just write your name for the hours you want on the court bookings sheet on the tennis notice board in the clubhouse.

Please take care of our courts?

- Tennis shoes must be worn - running shoes, studs, blades, grooves or heels may damage the courts.
- When you finish playing brush the court, clean the lines, pick up any litter and slacken the net.
- Lock the courts if you are last to leave.

Please follow these court usage guidelines

- Wear sports clothing of any colour and tennis shoes.
- Use plastic bottles or cups to avoid broken glass.
- Wait until the point in play is complete before walking close to the court.
- Turn your mobile phones off when league or tournament matches are in progress.
- Avoid using foul or abusive language or abusing equipment.

Priority for court usage

- Adult members take priority on weekdays after 6pm, except for coaching courses.
- Junior members take priority on the mini tennis court before 8pm.

How do the floodlights work?

- Floodlight tokens can be bought at the bar for £2 each and provide 30 minutes lighting.
- To turn on the lights feed a token into the meter in the clubhouse.
- You will get 5 minutes warning from the coloured lights on the floodlight posts before the lights turn off.
- Once the lights have gone out they cannot be switched back on for around 10 minutes.
- Please note that the floodlights automatically turn off at 10pm.

How do I find out what is going on? – If you have supplied your e-mail address on your application form we will send you regular e-mails to keep you up to date. You can also visit www.hampton tennis.org.uk, look at the clubhouse notice boards or speak to one of the committee members.

Where can I buy tennis equipment? – Rackets, balls, sports shoes/trainers and some sportswear can be obtained from Widney Sports (on Widney Road, Bentley Heath) with a discount of 10% off normal prices to Hampton Tennis Club members.

Can I bring a guest to play? – You are welcome to bring guests three times each season per guest.

Where do I find the telephone numbers of other members? – A list of current adult members is kept up to date in the password-protected section of the tennis club web site www.hampton tennis.org.uk. A password can be obtained by emailing support@hampton tennis.org.uk. The list is also displayed on the tennis notice board in the clubhouse.

What facilities are available at the clubhouse? – The clubhouse has changing facilities, toilets and a bar. The bar area provides satellite television, ample seating, wireless internet access and good beer! The bar is normally open from 6pm until 11pm during the week and from 12.30pm to 11pm at the weekend.

How do I get into the clubhouse? – All members may purchase a key fob to allow access to the clubhouse through the outer front door at any time of the day. After 9:30pm the inner door will be locked and you will need to ring the bell to gain entry. The bar staff will release the lock after checking on the video monitor behind the bar that it is safe to do so. If you find yourself leaving at a time when there is no one else in the clubhouse please remember to lock all doors and windows before you leave so that security is not compromised. If you are 14 or over you may purchase a key fob from the bar on Tuesday evenings between 6pm and 9pm at a cost of £5 or alternatively have the key fob replaced free of charge if you return a faulty key fob. If you lose your key fob please report its loss to the bar on a Tuesday evening so that access to the clubhouse on that fob can be disabled to avoid compromising security.

Please take care of your belongings! – Please note that the Club cannot accept any responsibility for members' personal effects on the premises. Please do not leave valuable items on show in vehicles.

Are junior members important to us? – Of course! Junior members and children of members are very welcome. We are an LTA accredited "mini tennis centre" which means that we offer Under 10's great opportunities to learn and play tennis. We also offer 10+ year olds the chance to improve their game.

More Questions & Answers about Hampton-in-Arden Tennis Club

When do junior members need to be supervised in the Clubhouse?

Parents are asked to take responsibility for their children in the clubhouse and on the sports field and ensure that children abide by the licensing laws. Please be aware that the car park can be a dangerous place, especially for young children. The club's policy on use of the clubhouse by children is:

- **Children of 14 or over** can use the clubhouse without supervision provided that they are well behaved. They may also apply for a key fob to allow them access to the clubhouse provided that their parent or guardian signs for and takes responsibility for the key fob.
- **Children under 14** can use the clubhouse under the supervision of their parents or carers provided that they are well behaved. Supervision requires the responsible person to be in the clubhouse with their child or if the child is old enough they do not have to be with their child provided that they are accessible on the Recreation Ground. Parents who are not members may apply for a key fob to allow their children access to the clubhouse if there is a need to use the toilets or first aid facilities.

When do junior members need to be supervised on the Courts?

The club's policy on use of the courts by children is:

- **Children at Senior School** may use the courts without a requirement for adult supervision.
- **Children of Primary School age** may only play tennis if they are under the supervision of an adult. Children aged 7 or under must not be left unattended at the Club during coaching sessions unless there has been specific agreement with the coach. It should be noted that whilst children of 8 or more do not need to be accompanied by parents during coaching sessions, parents are responsible for their children **before** and **after** these sessions. All parents and carers who are not members are welcome to use the clubhouse and bar facilities when their children are playing tennis from one hour before their child starts to play tennis to one hour after.

What are the objectives of Hampton Tennis Club?

- To secure appropriate sporting and social facilities for all members.
- To provide opportunities for members of all sporting abilities including disabled members to play and enjoy tennis in a friendly and sociable environment.
- To encourage all members to play tennis and to develop their game.
- To identify tennis potential in members and guide them appropriately, liaising with the LTA and other interested parties when and where necessary.
- To provide a link with schools and other organisations regarding tennis.
- To identify, invite, prepare and encourage suitable juniors to play with adult members and to integrate them into the senior section of the Club. Such individuals to be selected and nominated by the Coach for approval by the main Tennis Committee.
- To secure a stream of new adult members via "maturing" junior members.
- To encourage the families of members to become social or tennis members of the Club.
- To provide opportunities for all members to play competitive tennis.
- To provide both sporting and social events for junior members during school holidays.
- To provide social facilities for members and foster a sense of being part of a friendly club.
- To identify, encourage and support suitable individuals who wish to train and develop tennis coaching skills. For example, those who wish to train as tennis coaches or assist on court.

How is the Sports Club run?

Hampton-in-Arden Sports Club Limited runs the Club as a **non-profit** making body. The club rules, which members are required to abide by, are set out at <http://www.hamptontennis.org.uk/reports.asp> The Sports Club AGM is held in February each year and the accounts are on display in the clubhouse or in the members' area of the web site. Each section of the Sports Club, including the tennis section, is run by a sub Committee that reports to the Board of Directors of the Club. The rules, which the tennis members are required to abide by, are also set out at <http://www.hamptontennis.org.uk/reports.asp> The Tennis Club AGM is held in November each year and the accounts can be viewed in the members' area of the web site.

Who is on the Tennis Committee?

The committee is as follows:

Chairman	Geoff Redfern	01675 442447
Secretary	Chris Barnes	01675 443572
Treasurer	Carol Grant	
Committee Member	Steve Ray	
Committee Member	Wayman Morris	
Coach	Ian Poole	07968 451956

Please address any questions you have to any committee member or by email to secretary@hamptontennis.org.uk

The Child Protection Officer is Julie Williamson who can be contacted on 01675 442758. A copy of the child protection policy can be found on the tennis notice board in the clubhouse.

Junior section news

The start of 2009 was difficult because the new courts were being constructed. However, despite the use of different venues we had great support and loyalty from our juniors, so we would like to say a huge thank you for this.

The new courts are proving to be a big success and the children are very much enjoying playing on them. Having a fourth court gives us flexibility to run more tournaments and provide more playing opportunities. The mini tennis court has proved very popular and acts as a visual testament to our commitment to younger players.

The coaching programme is flourishing and the children are playing more competitive tennis. For example, friendly matches with other clubs whilst some of our juniors are playing in the Warwickshire mini tennis leagues and LTA tournaments held at other clubs and here at Hampton. The results of competitive matches can be recorded and count toward your LTA British Tennis rating if you are a BTM member. If you are not a BTM member we strongly recommend you do so as it is free and has other benefits such as accessing Wimbledon tickets (for those aged 8 and over at 21 June 2010). Once you are a BTM member, they will contact you directly with your account details and you can monitor your progress on their website.

The older juniors are taking part in the Mens and Ladies Coventry Doubles Leagues. We have also entered four teams in the junior Aegon Team Tennis competition. Organising teams is something that parents could help with so if your child is interested in playing more competitive tennis, please get in touch with Head Coach, Ian.

We are excited to announce that we have successfully bid for £1,000 from the LTA and £10,000 from Sport England to expand our links with schools and improve our junior programme, for example by further improving competition at all levels of age and ability and offering training to older juniors to take their Tennis Leaders award.

So, a thank you to Ian, his team of coaches and tennis assistants, to our supportive parents and volunteers and not least to the children themselves who show such support to junior tennis at Hampton.

Welcome to Sam



We are happy to welcome a new addition to Ian's coaching team, Sam Peace!

Sam began playing tennis at the age of four with his grandfather. A talented player, Sam progressed as he grew up and represented his county, Avon. Sam eventually got to the qualifying rounds of Junior Wimbledon.

Sam then became an LTA licensed coach, and has been coaching for six years. He has worked in a number of places including Bristol, Kent and Kos, working for Mark Warner Holidays.

Sam is now settled locally and is looking forward to coaching members of all ages and abilities.

Tennis coaching at Hampton

Ian Poole and his coaching team, Sam Peace and Jane Hodge, are pleased to be working with our club, offering adults and juniors both group and individual lessons. The team is highly motivated and aims to provide quality coaching to members and also tennis coaching and PE to local schools. Ian is an LTA coach tutor helping to develop other coaches within Warwickshire. The team believes that sport plays a vital role in the development of individuals and is committed to delivering programmes to meet the needs of every player. Teams and individuals are entered into the appropriate leagues and competitions at all levels of play.

At present there are over 150 juniors and over 60 adults taking part in regular coaching sessions. The coaching programme works alongside the LTA's coaching initiatives progressing from Mini Tennis for the very young, to full court adult tennis:

Mini tennis - FUN coaching for ages 4 to 10. Learn all the basic tennis skills using appropriate sized courts, racquets and balls.
Older juniors - Enjoyable and lively coaching providing opportunities for beginners to experienced players aged 10 to 18.

Group junior coaching

- Tots Tennis (ages 3 to 5) - Coordination fun based activities introducing racket skills to develop the basic fundamentals of the game.
- Mini Tennis Red (ages 5-8) - Small court/rackets and soft balls. Beginning to learn the basic technical shapes and tactics.
- Mini Tennis Orange (ages 8/9) - Less than full-length court and transition balls to allow more time and lower bounce. Beginning to introduce more shape and spin technique and a wider choice of tactics.
- Mini Tennis Green (age 10) - Full court and slightly soft balls to allow more time and lower bounce.
- Under 14 - Full court, normal balls. Technical and tactical techniques appropriate to the group.
- Under 18 and Invitation only squads
- All age groups participate in regular competition. Full details of the coaching schedule can be found at www.hamptontennis.org.uk/coaching_schedule.asp

Adult coaching - Morning sessions catering for all levels of ability are held in term time on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. An evening session has now started on Thursdays.

Individual development - Individual development plans can be designed around specific playing and coaching requirements. Tournament schedules can be provided for performance players. Help can also be given with other areas of development, eg, Duke of Edinburgh awards and work experience.

Mentoring/coach development - Ian works closely with Warwickshire LTA in tutoring and mentoring young coaches in order to give them the knowledge and work experience needed to further their coaching careers. Any members who would like to become involved in tennis coaching should contact Ian about tennis qualifications and other opportunities.

Please contact Ian for more info ianpoole23@yahoo.co.uk or **07968 451956**